

SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

Salt Lake City Chapter

August 2013 Newsletter

Our next meeting: Thursday September 5, 2013

Time: 6:30 PM Place: 10th Ward 4th south and 8th East



List of Officers

Past Pres. Pres. Larry Stucki - 801 485-4521
Pres. Chris Christensen - 801 582-7025
Pres. Elect Michael Reed - 801 530-4882
Sec. David Horne — 801 583-1776
Treas. David Smith Sr.— 385 218-7738
Membership Chr. — Alonzo Cook— 801 599-6314
Historian Ron DeWaal — 801 582-3295
Treks & Dinner arrngmt. LaVon Day 801 521-0777
Chaplain. Brent Nilsen — 801 485-5759
Newsletter, Program - Bill Tanner — 801 266-2090
Brd Members at large: Robert Pollei, Steve Sorenson

Are there words enough to describe the marvelous time had by all on our Trek? I don't think so. Glenn Rawson and Dennis Lyman provided us a



Glenn Rawson

once in a life time experience as we traveled the pioneer trail. We were taught from the time we stepped on the bus, stopping at Fort Bridger, Fort Supply and then following the hand-cart trail back to This is the Place Heritage Park, by way of Henefer, Big Mountain and Emigration Canyon. There we had a wonderful dinner and wrap up. Our only regret is that our noble leader Chris Christensen and his lovely wife Barbara were



Dennis Lyman

not with us, after all they did to make it happen. What a crummy time to go to the emergency room Barbara. Our prayers were offered in your behalf, and we are so grateful you are getting better.

Once again LaVon Day and Mary Ann saw that all of the arrangements were taken care of to perfection. Alonzo Cook has provided us with a wonderful set of photographs of the trip, which can be viewed at his website. It will bring back some wonderful memories. Go to alonzocook.smugmug.com/SUP/Trek-2013 . You will love it. Thank you Lon for sharing.

Next month we will be fortunate to have Brent Herridge as our speaker; his topic will be: "UNKNOWN - The Life of Sally Young". He writes as an introduction the following:

Let me take a few minutes to give you a little background on myself. I was raised around the

South Temple and 8th East area of Salt Lake City, Utah. I attended Salt Lake Schools including East High School. I served a mission in the New England states under Truman G. Madsen. On my return I attended the University of Utah and then studied privately with several well known and established photographers throughout the United States. I have had my own company for thirty years and have been involved in turnkey marketing for a large group of well respected retail real estate projects from San Diego to New York. During this same period of time I had a passion for collecting well known late 19th century and early 20th century photographic art.

In 2006 I received a call asking me to value a daguerreotype that had been brought into the Antique Road Show, that was being held in Salt Lake. The image was extremely rare. It was one of three images containing Brigham Young and a second individual. Upon accepting the challenge I contacted an associate of mine in Chicago who had been educated at the George Eastman House in New York. We spent the next few days reviewing publications that included family trees, and stories of Brigham Young's wives and daughters. We spent additional time looking at possible creators of the image which included photographers known to be active in Deseret from 1847 through 1860. During that brief period we also looked at current valuations of celebrity daguerreotype's which would have included Lincoln and the civil war images. All of these sources gave us very interesting possibilities, but lacked what I felt was the unique quality that caused this image to exist in the first place. In the end we were able to establish a fair market value based on the celebrity format, the image was acquired anonymously for the church.

After a period of two years, I visited with the church historian who at the time, was Mr. Marlin K. Jensen and asked if anything came of the daguerreotype. Elder Jensen indicated that no additional work had been done, and that it appeared it was not a high priority. I indicated that I was interested in the potential of finding who the additional person in that image was. I told him that I wanted to spend some time researching it.

Thus began an ongoing process that has contributed over twenty thousand pages of personal research, which has consumed five and one half years of my life and has produced some wonderful information. During this extensive research I located an author that had spent three years of her life on a similar topic. (The author is now deceased) The combination of her manuscripts and my research, combine in a total nine and one half years and will provide one of the most unique stories of the early Mormon experience.

During this visit we will discuss the first part of the pending book to give you an understanding of the uniqueness of the person in the photograph as well as the importance of her life to the history of the church.

With this as a preview, it will be interesting “to hear the rest of the story” as stated by Paul Harvey.

This week there are many of our friends who will be attending the National Meeting in Rexburg, Idaho. They should have a great time as a wonderful meeting and treks have been prepared.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Larry Stucki shared with us recently a story about one of his ancestors, Joseph Taylor, who was involved in the Utah War which we talked about when we were coming through Echo Canyon. From the journal of Joseph Taylor we read the following.

The day after Van Vliet left Salt Lake City, Brigham Young declared martial law. Twelve hundred and fifty men of the territorial "Nauvoo Legion" were immediately ordered to Echo Canyon. Instructions to the militia, signed by Daniel H. Wells indicated they were to annoy the incoming army in every possible way.

*"...Use every exertion to stampede their animals and set fire to their trains. Burn the whole country before them, and on their flanks. Keep them from sleeping by night surprises; blockade the road by falling trees or destroying the river fords where you can. Watch for opportunities to set fire to the grass before them that can be burned. Keep your men concealed as much as possible, and guard against surprise. Keep scouts out at all times, and communications open with Colonel Burton, Major McAllister and O. P. Rockwell, who are operating in the same way. Keep me advised daily of your movements and every step the troop take, and in which direction."
God bless you, and give you success."*

Your brother in Christ,

Daniel H. Wells"

A post script emphasized that they were to take no life, but destroy the government trains. A copy of these instructions were sent to Joseph Taylor who was a Major of the 5th Battalion and over 100 men. They left for Echo Canyon on 18 Sep 1857.

These instructions were found on Joseph Taylor when he was captured by the United States troops Friday, 16 Oct 1857. Joseph Taylor had led his men to the Oregon Trail near the bend of Bear River. After they left Fort Bridger, he and a companion, William Stowell, had to return to the fort on important business. Near the fort they were surprised by Johnston's Army, surrounded, and taken prisoner. (One source indicates that a "group of riders" was captured.)

In captivity these two men had reason to fear for their lives. Once their captors put poison in the soup. Although the men were starving, Joseph said, "Don't drink; it's poisoned." Stowell just tasted it, but became deathly ill. Another time the army tried to smother the prisoners by putting them in a tent and building a smoking fire by the tent. The captives escaped being smothered by hollowing out small holes in the ground large enough for the nose and mouth, then holding their hands closely about their faces as they breathed in the holes.

One day Joseph said, "I'm leaving here tonight." Stowell warned, "You'll be killed if you do."

That night Joseph told the guard to build up the fire and he pretended to be cold. Then he took off his shoes, supposedly to warm his feet. After the sentinels came together, turned, and strode in opposite directions, Joseph bolted into a herd of cattle and horses, causing a stampede. The guards fired, but Joseph made his escape, running for what seemed to him miles.

With Johnston's Army hopelessly trapped for the winter, the Utah militia was withdrawn to the Salt Lake Valley, maintaining military units only at the canyons leading to their valley.

The complexion of the war was changed by the appearance of Thomas L. Kane as a messenger from President Buchanan. Kane used his personal influence to help Brigham Young avert

otherwise certain bloodshed during the ensuing year. Kane persuaded President Young to permit U.S. appointed Governor Alfred Cumming to enter the valley and assume his duties. Also, President Young then announced a change in strategy. The Saints were directed to leave their homes and move south, taking their supplies with them and leaving their homes with kindling material ready so if the invading army should molest one person or dwelling, every building would be torched.

Weber county residents were instructed to move to the area around Provo. The move was underway in April 1858, and the people stayed in Utah County for approximately three months before returning to their homes. Fortunately, Johnston's Army gave no reason for applying the torch when they marched through silent Salt Lake City on 26 June 1858 and moved on to Cedar Valley to set up camp.

With the Utah War concluded, Joseph Taylor could return to support his growing family. They returned from Utah Valley where his family had been living since the evacuation and it was probably at this time that he moved his family from Ogden to the western part of Harrisville, later called Farr West, and took up a farm adjoining Slaterville, where he lived the rest of his life.

Thank you Larry for sharing.

Bill Tanner , Editor



Echo Canyon Breast Works, the site of the stand off of Johnson's Army



