

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
October 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by the President Lyman Platt. Those in attendance were Jeanine VanderBruggen, LoAnne Barnes, L. Karen Platt, Lyman Platt, Richard Kohler, and Lynne Johnston. Those asked to be excused were George Cannon, Jennifer Kohler, and Doug Alder.

There weren't many members present at this meeting. It was suggested that Lynne e-mail everyone on the Board and remind them about the November 17, 2010, meeting which will be held at the Washington County Library in Room A at 10:00 AM. Jeanine stated she will not be in attendance at that meeting.

Approval of September 29, 2010 Minutes

The Minutes from the September 29, 2010 meeting were discussed. They were approved with the mention of some corrections. Lynne did make the corrections and e-mailed everyone the final copy. She mailed George Staheli a copy of the Minutes as he does not have computer access.

Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's Report given at this meeting.

Lyman Platt – Various Subjects

Brinkerhoff Collection

Lyman asked, "Where is the best place to store the Brinkerhoff Collection of Native American Information"? There were several different suggestions.

1. Needs to be stored where those who are interested in the information can gain access.
2. Special Collections at the Washington County Library in St. George
3. Have George Cannon put a scanned version of the information on the WCHS website with links to St. George City, SUU, Dixie College, Utah Heritage Foundation, all Washington County Libraries and DUP websites
4. The basement in the St. George City Hall has public access
5. Store with the WCHS items in the basement of the old Zion Bank
6. Jeanine and Richard both stated that it would take many "little steps" to have the information stored in the best possible manner so that those interested would be able to gain access and enjoy

Lyman Platt - continued:

Fort Harmony

Two weeks ago Lyman and others finished weeding in preparation for the Sons of Utah Pioneers National bus tour. In and amongst the weeds they found two broken pieces of a china plate. As they looked at the pieces, they realized that they were pieces with a portion of the Nauvoo Temple on them (dedicated on May 1, 1846). Lucius Nelson Scovil was on his mission in England in 1846. While he was there he commissioned the Twigg Poppery Company to make a commemorative plate celebrating the Nauvoo Temple. Lyman took a current commemorative plate which was done for the dedication of the Nauvoo Temple (dedicated on June 29, 2002) and they discovered that the two pieces were part of the Temple spire. They were an exact match. They have in their collection – 33 dish parts which have been found at Fort Harmony. One had a gold and red painting of an orange blossom on it. They have shards of dishes from Nauvoo and Kirtland, Ohio, Japan, France, Germany, England and some which were made locally.

On the day of the SUP tour it was raining so most of the talking was done at the Church. There were about 55 people who signed up for that particular tour.

The Burgess home at Mountain Meadows used to belong to Lyman Platt's ancestors. One of Lyman's grandmothers owned a ranch on the road from Pinto to Enterprise. In the early days when they were traveling from Salt Lake to St. George, they would stay there – it was at Modena. Joseph F. Smith stopped at the ranch and was sitting there to be waited on. He asked for a glass of water and Lyman's Grandmother said, "go get your own damn glass of water."

"Muddy Valley Reflections – 145 Years of Settlement"

The above book was written by Virginia (Beezy) Lani Tobiasson and Georgia May Bagshaw Hall in regard to the early settlement of Logandale, Overton, St. Joseph and St. Thomas, NV. Beezy is selling the Books for \$75.00 each. The second Volume (\$75.00) she hopes will be printed by Christmas. Beezy's address is the following:

Beezy Tobiasson

Phone # (702) 236-0635

PO Box 4

Logandale, NV 89021

Beezy@mvdsl.com

Daughters of Utah Pioneers – Jeanine Vander Bruggen

Jeanine Vander Bruggen stated that they had a Docent training meeting – and some Tours. There are 3 Companies, and 25 Camps. Each Docent has an opportunity to come work at the Museum once or twice a year. The Museum has the Legacy Book, prints of early Washington County Historical Buildings, and a map showing the travels of Jacob Hamblin for sale. They also sell handcrafted items made by some of the members. They continue with the training process for the Docents. There were more visitors to the

Jeanine Vander Bruggen – DUP continued:

Museum because of the Huntsman Games. There is still a lot of interest in the Artifacts. The donations to the Museum have increased.

Jeanine stated that the Heritage Choir gave a concert at the Tabernacle and approximately 300 SUP members attended.

Washington County Chapter of Old Spanish Trails Association

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 4, at 6:30 PM at the St. George Public Library, downstairs in Conference Room A. Dr. Steven Heath, newly installed Utah Director of OSTA, will be speaking on the Founding Explorer-Trader Antonio Armijo's journey over the trade route from Lake Powell to Nevada in 1829.

December 4, 2010 will be the next field trip for the OSTA. Time and place will come in a later e-mail from Leo Lyman.

L. Karen Platt – Chairman of Fort Harmony Historical Society

The San Daniel Camp is now cleaned up. It took two days with a backhoe and 98 hours of work to clean it up. Prior to that, several of us spent several weeks trying to determine who owned the property. Washington County denied that they owned the property, but in fact they do. There is a marker in the Southeast corner which we didn't see for a long time. The sign is being printed, it will be about 20 by 30 inches. The Sons of the Utah Pioneers, under the direction of Al Matheson are helping to print the sign because they can do it so much cheaper than going directly to the printers. We anticipate that the sign "Franciscan Fathers" will be put on a rock rather than a cement marker. The sign costs about \$780 which leaves about \$200 for a picnic table and some sort of a fence. We are not sure it can all be done for that amount. I would like to see the entire site fenced with a nice pioneer fence which may be done in the future with more additional money or help from donations. The site does need some sort of a fence to keep people from parking and driving around. It would also be nice to have gravel pathways. There is another or two more Eagle Scout Projects that could be done with this site. The Scouts have 20 bags of cement that have been donated for the project. This site will be dedicated in the near future when the sign is installed. It should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The actual plot of land was saved by Washington County Historical Society. The original sign was installed back in 1950's. It was one of the earliest markers in Utah.

An interesting Note: Karen went to the Washington County Recorder's Office. There is an old map in the basement. She talked to the County Clerk – there are old documents which can be looked at. The information is in Book 1,

The San Daniels Camp is located at Exit 33 – it is located on the East side of I-15 Freeway. You need to make two right hand turns as you come off the offramp.

Karen Platt - continued

Fort Harmony entertained the Sons of the Utah Pioneers for a lunch (they provided) and tour of the Fort. There was a brief break of the storm, so they could walk around.

The Fort Harmony website has several new histories and other information. We continue to sell CD's. At the Apple Fest we sold about \$300 worth of CD's and we also sold a beautiful quilt that had been donated for \$500. We have another quilt to be sold which has been donated.

We are trying to set up the schedule for the archaeologists to return in the spring. We have about \$5,000 available and will try to raise enough for a week's work.

LoAnne Barnes – Leeds – Silver Reef

LoAnne invited everyone to join the Dixie Arizona Strip Interpretive Association for their annual dinner, which raises money for their organization. The dinner is being held on November 10, 2010, at the Gardener Center from 5-8 PM. The tickets cost \$35.00 each. There will be a program and silent auction. LoAnne told about the program. This year they will show a preview of Phil Tuckett's DVD regarding the Civilian Conservation Corp in Dixie National Forest and on the Arizona Strip. The CCC Camp in Leeds is the only standing CCC Camp in Utah. The DVD will be for sale \$15 each or two for \$25. There are still 10 or 11 former CCC members alive.

The Tithing House is still for sale. It is owned by John Beesley family who live in the Salt Lake area. He has had some offers, but has not sold it yet. The building needs work done on it. The roof is failing and water damage to the building.

LoAnne handed out a new brochure for the Wells Fargo Silver Reef Museum. Annette Densley applied for and received a "Grant" from Utah Humanities Council to have the brochure made. They have a new display of photos which have been restored, digitized, and framed. They tell the story of old Silver Reef. Annette has done a wonderful job of displaying the photos and other items in the Museum. Jeanine suggested to LoAnne that they could distribute the new brochure to hotels, motels and the Welcome Center at the Dixie Center by Rosenberg Museum. This Museum is worth a second visit even if you have been there in the last two months.

LoAnne said Leeds has received another "Grant" written by Martha Ham. The Certified Local Government Grants (CLG) are funded from the Utah office of Historic Preservation. Leeds will be using the funds for additional repairs at the CCC Camp – and other historical signs.

LoAnne Barnes – continued

What happened to the idea of moving WCHS to Leeds – using the Wells Fargo building? What is the status of that idea? LoAnne stated that the owner of the building is Washington County. Dean Cox is a contact person for Washington County. Paul Sullivan is the maintenance person for the Cosmopolitan Building at Silver Reef and by appointment will let you see the building. The kitchen has been re-done, it is vacant and available. Washington County could use for weddings, social events, reunions, Bureau of Land Management Lectures, etc. Could it be used for an Indian Museum – Gary Tom?

George Cannon – Website

Lyman asked everyone present to think of an award that could be given to George for all his untiring, dedicated work on setting up and continually adding information to the WCHS website. The Utah Heritage Foundation was mentioned. The deadline to enter an application for this award is following:

Nominations are open for the 2011 Heritage Awards! Submit by January 14, 2011.

The purpose of the Heritage Awards is to recognize those projects, organizations, agencies, and individuals that exemplify the highest standards within the preservation movement. Utah Heritage Foundation distributes and accepts nominations from December through January for projects completed in the previous year (2011 awards honor projects completed in 2010). Click below for more information on Heritage Awards categories, jury, and presentations. You would need to look at the appropriate categories. If you have questions please call UHF Public Outreach Director [Alison Flanders](mailto:Alison.Flanders@utahheritagefoundation.com) at (801) 533-0858. There are different categories for awards. Their website is <http://www.utahheritagefoundation.com>

Dick Kohler – DocUtah (Southern Utah International Documentary Film Festival)

Dick wondered if WCHS could come up with an idea, pick a subject, do the research, donate the time and make a documentary to enter in this Festival. Helen Whitney's name came up in the discussion. She has made a documentary about the "Mormons" which aired in two parts on PBS. Some suggestions were talked about - during the 1930's – 1940's the Government and LDS were not friends and promote and preserve the history of Southern Utah. Names that came up were John Smith and Steve Gibby. It was mentioned that a "story that stands like a dam" would be necessary. The submission for the documentary is March and April of 2011.

When a "dam" was mentioned Dick said that he has been searching for a power plant on the Santa Clara Creek. It was built in the 1920's. He can't find it and the local power companies don't know where it is.

The Utah Heritage Foundation Home Tour is on January 15, 2011 here in St. George.

Dick Kohler - continued

Dick told about Doug Alder's talk to the Sons of Utah Pioneers Convention. Doug Alder talked in the voice of Erastus Snow. He gave a history of Dixie College. January 2011 St. George will be 150 years old. Dixie College will be 100 years old.

Susan Crook – Utah Heritage Foundation

The St. George Historic Preservation Commission is planning tours of six historic properties to help kick off the City's year-long sesquicentennial celebration. The tours will be held from 1PM to 5PM Saturday, January 15, 2011 in conjunction with annual Founders Day activities. St. George Live will have costumed cast members at each home to help conduct the tours, along with St. George Preservation Commissioners and possibly, volunteers from Washington County Historical Society. Susan Crook, Utah Heritage Foundation Field Representative, is writing the scripts to be used by the volunteers staffing each home. Tour guides will be available in advance, or can be picked up the day of the tour at the Opera House. The tours will be free and open to the public.

Interesting Items Which Were Discussed

1. People are getting more conscious of old history here in St. George.
2. Why is Harmony named Harmony – named after Harmony, PA?
3. Why is Kolob named Kolob – Church song “Nye onto Kolob”?
Dick said it was named “Nuestra Senora del Pilar” by Dominguez and Escalante in 1776.
4. Hunt went to Zion in 1870. It was named Zion later by Behunin.
5. The Court of the Patriarchs was named by a Presbyterian Minister.
6. The granaries project was done by the St. George Preservation Commission. Susan Crook and Doug Alder were involved. On the brochure Doug handed out – the map in the background showing all of the granaries, was a Jeanine Albert Miller map.
7. Steve Heath – Senior Sampler?
8. Ebenezer Bryce is not from Australia, as was previously noted.
9. Winter Quarters (an old Pioneer town) was near Schofield, Carbon County. In 1900 a coal mine exploded and killed 200-300 people. They shut the mine down. A man was using his metal detector and found a commemorative dollar which had been minted at Winter Quarters.

The next Board meeting will be held on November 17th at the St. George Library in Room A – in the Basement.

The December meeting will be on January 5th and then the January meeting will be January 26, 2011.

The next field trip will be to Grafton on Saturday, October 30, 2010. Please meet at 10:00AM at the Church (old one) on the left of the highway as you are going thru Rockville. Jane Whelan and The Platt's will be our tour guides.

Respectfully submitted
Lynne Johnston