

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Board of Directors Minutes  
January 26, 2011

Richard Kohler opened the meeting at 10:10 AM. Those present at the meeting were the following: Lyman D. Platt, L. Karen Platt, Jim Harlan, Carol Christensen, LoAnne Barnes, Elaine Tyler, Susan Crook, George Cannon, Richard Kohler, Doug Alder, Ian Crowe, Bill Wilkin, and Lynne Johnston.

**Approval of November 26, 2011 Minutes**

The November 26<sup>th</sup> Minutes were discussed. Susan Crook made a Motion to approve the Minutes as amended. LoAnne Barnes seconded the Motion. All present said “Aye”.

**Grants – Elaine Tyler**

Elaine Tyler gave Carol the Printer’s bill for the WCHS Brochure. She also reminded Carol that the Domain Name renewal needs to be paid.

**Treasurer’s Report – Carol Christensen**

Carol showed the fireproof box she had been given. She did not have a key for it. Richard had the key, and Lynne Johnston said she would be able to get a duplicate or two of the key for the box. The box was for storing documents pertaining to WCHS.

Richard did a survey of the banks in Southern Utah, as to their “worthiness”. It was noted that Town & Country Bank and Heritage Bank were the best listed. Some of the other banks were considered “troubled asset” banks.

Carol wondered who the signers are on the two accounts at Village Bank. It was suggested that Carol call Connie Childs (past president of WCHS) and have Connie take the remaining money out of the Village Bank account. Carol could then take the money and open a new account in a bank that pays more interest.

**Upcoming Events**

1. Susan Crook told about the Utah Historic Preservation Conference in Salt Lake on May 12 – 14, 2011.
2. The Mormon History Association will be having their Convention here in St. George on May 26 – 28, 2011.
3. Family History Expo – St. George – February 25 – 26, 2011 – to be held at the Dixie Center.

## **WCHS – Historical Tour Schedule – Richard Kohler**

Richard handed out a “tentative” Field Trip schedule. He stated that the first three months of the year 2011 were mostly arranged. The remainder of the trip locations and times are subject to change and the input of the committee. The following dates have been scheduled:

January 15<sup>th</sup> – Saint George Historical Home Tour (150<sup>th</sup> Celebration)  
This was a great success!

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Bloomington - Heberville and Price  
Blake Farm House, Petroglyph Park, Jacob Peart Inscription  
Price Remnants, Bloomington Canal Company  
Connie and Jeff Morby  
Meet at 9AM at the Mulberry Church in Bloomington

March 26<sup>th</sup> - Dixie College – 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration – Meet on the third floor  
o the Dixie College Library – at the Archives  
Dixie Academy  
Doug Alder Author/Ex-President  
(Phil Tuckett’s “Rebels Forever”)

The remainder of the dates are a work in progress – both the trip locations and the times are subject to change – the Board’s input is needed.

LoAnne Barnes said that the Board should re-visit the Wells Fargo/Silver Reef Museum, as there have been new items added. It was also suggested that the Adams House in Harrisburg should be visited. Restoration work has been done there. She suggested that May would be a good time of the year to plan this field trip.

The Harrison Hotel may be turned into a Bed and Breakfast facility.

Another item that was discussed – should there be a charge for the Field Trips? If so, the money could be split between the Town and WCHS. There would have to be advertising to get the public to turn out – more than just the Board members.

## **WCHS Website – George Cannon**

Elaine said that PayPal is up and running on the WCHS Website. PayPal charges 2% a transaction. She donated \$1.00 to test the system. George Cannon paid his WCHS dues of \$15.00 on the website. Online donations generate more money. It was suggested to put in a “text box” for the dues. A “shopping cart” can be added online for the CD’s and Posters. If there was a shopping cart and the CD’s and Posters were sold off the WCHS website, who would do the packaging and shipping. Bill at Star Printing in LaVerkin will do the shipping – Richard said he would check on that.

### WCHS Website – George Cannon cont'd.

George's name was submitted to the Utah Heritage Foundation (Heritage 2011 Award) for the work he has done for the WCHS Website in preserving the history of Washington County.

George mentioned the Website – namesinstone.com – regarding cemeteries. There is also another website – findagrave.com – which has researchers listing graves all across the United States.

Indexing a cemetery would be a good Eagle Scout project. Carol Christensen said the city of Toquerville could use something like that - they need the information.

### **Rockville – Jim Harlan**

Jim told about the 2010 rain in December and January 2011. He thought the 2010 rains were worse for the area than the 2005 storms. There were loose big chunks of stone and dirt which caved in. The Corp of Engineers was called in. They felt that the area was secure – but they did call for an evacuation South of State Hwy. 9. They were afraid the dam would break. In the 1961 flood – water came up to the hotel in Springdale. Two houses East of where the Mayor of Rockville lives, the river took two turns. The Mayor lost three acres of his property. The next flood will go beyond the work the Corp of Engineers did. The area is all sand – nothing to stop the water. The channels changed and there is nothing to stop the meandering channels – they will continue to change.

It is still believed that the flood in 1861 was the biggest on record. It rained for 40 days and nights. Karen Platt said that Brigham Young's prophecy was fulfilled. The original Fort site on Ash Creek was 15 feet above the flood plain. Harmony had 20 inches of rain in 2011. In 1861 Ash Creek filled up in 4 days.

### **Property East of Fort Harmony**

Dave Davis – the vesting has been destroyed, which creates a public easement or State or Archaeological easement in favor of a public easement.

Dean Cox's standpoint - Silver Reef – Ft. Harmony

Preserve

Documentation

Place to put

Money to do

## **Silver Reef/Leeds – LoAnne Barnes**

LoAnne Barnes had a three ring binder with her to share with the Committee. The Notebook/Binder represents the final work in regard to the Leeds Master Plan (“Form Tomorrow”). A 2009 CLG Grant was used to have a Reconnaissance Level Survey to be done. Twenty-nine of the properties surveyed were 50 years or older.

Doug Alder suggested that the Notebook/Binder be archived at Dixie College. LoAnne pointed out that the Notebook/Binder (hard copy) belonged to the City of Leeds. It would be kept in their City Offices.

It was suggested that a “PDF” copy of the Notebook/Binder be made – digitized so that others could benefit from the information. It is a basis for the historic ordinance in Leeds.

## **Video Project**

Class review treatments – substance abuse, etc. Some of the good suggestions were:

- Go to the Sponsors
- Photos
- Documentation
- Certain time/length
- Run three times a week
- Need a good organizer
- Funding

Richard Schmutz is doing a study on the St. George Temple. Other ideas were suggested:

- Tabernacle
- Court House
- Opera House
- St. George Live
- Old Dixie Building
- Water Conservation
- Early Pioneers
- Indians

Ian Crowe suggested “The Doug Show”. Doug Alder could/would be the celebrity – invite guests to the Studio – ask historical questions – a game show. Enlist the help of Jennifer Kohler and Phil Tuckett.

### **An Interesting Note**

Jennifer Kohler is the Student Submissions Director for DocUtah Film Festival at Dixie State College and recently completed course work for an MFA in Screenwriting. She is currently teaching screenwriting at Dixie State College. She is the author of three screenplays, has written and directed two very short films, and is a passionate promoter of independent films.

Phil Tuckett is an associate professor at Dixie State College and the Director of the Dick Nourse Center for Media Innovation. He is also the Director of the digital film track in the Communication Department.

Prior to coming back to his alma mater to teach, Phil was vice president of special projects at NFL Films for 21 years. He was also a producer, director, and writer for NFL Films (1969 to 1986) and a journalist and professional athlete (1967 to 1969). Phil is the recipient of 30 Emmy Awards for shows like "Football America", "The 100 Yard Universe," "Autumn Ritual", and "Lost Treasures of NFL Films." He has also produced non-sports related programming like "Blood from a Stone" for the History Channel, "Faces of Evil" for TNT, and music videos for a wide variety of artists including B.B. King, Santana, Def Leppard, and Stevie Ray Vaughn. Phil and his wife Judy also have their own production company, Bristlecone Films.

DocUtah Film Festival will be held here in St. George September 8 – 17, 2011. This past Film Festival over 400 entries were submitted and archived. 175 of the Films were shown.

### **Bart Anderson's Collection of Slides/Stories**

Bart Anderson had a collection of the stories he told, along with the slides for each story. What happened to the collection? Doug Alder suggested that someone call Bart's wife – Dolores and ask about the collection.

Susan Crook thought it would be good if the collection were digitized for future reference.

Dixie College has the ability to scan collections. Ian Crowe thought he could help to digitize Bart Anderson's collection.

Jon Van Wagoner used to read the scripts and then do the videos.

### **Susan Crook – Utah Heritage Foundation**

Susan told about an upcoming Conference – training for CLG. It will be held in Panguitch, UT on August 4, 2011. The Conference is being held specifically for all the towns in Southern Utah.

### **Richard and Karen Platt – Youth Camp**

Thoughts about the Youth Camp - Camp Harmony – Fort Harmony? Who would do the actual planning of the Camp. Would the Stake President in the valley be a good one to ask? It should be someone in the valley who has the know how. It was suggested to organize a small committee – a steering committee for expansion. The Leavitt and Schmutz names were discussed. The activities at the Youth Camp could be patterned after the Pioneer experiences.

Joan Ford wrote a script – could have a pageant to raise money. Another idea was to have a story about the beginnings of Washington County. The pageant could be sponsored by Fort Harmony. It could be a traveling pageant. Jon and Ann Smith at SUU could help.

### **Water Conservancy – Ian Crowe**

Pah Tempee Hot Springs in Hurricane  
St. George East Spring  
St. George West Spring  
Pine Valley  
Santa Clara

Ron Thompson said that it would be “not the water, but the land that would limit the growth in Utah”.

Respectfully Submitted – Lynne Johnston