

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors' Meeting
March 28, 2012
"Final"

Dick Kohler, has accepted the nomination for President of WCHS for the 2012-2013 year. Thanks Dick !!!!

Dick opened the meeting at 10:10 AM. Those in attendance were LoAnne Barnes, Milt Hokanson, Jim Harlan. Jennifer Kohler, Eric Fleming, Bonnie Wan-Kier, L. Karen Platt, Lyman D. Platt, George Cannon, Ian Crowe, Dick Kohler, Elaine Tyler, Doug Alder, and Lynne Johnston.

For your information – The WCHS hold their monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of each month, with the exception of June, July, and August. They are held at the Washington County Library (St. George) from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

MINUTES – Lynne Johnston

The Minutes for the November 2011 and January 2012 meetings were approved but Lynne did not get the names of those who made the Motions to approve them. Do you remember who made the Motion and who seconded the Motion?

The February Minutes need to be approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Carol Christensen

Carol was not at the meeting, so we did not have her report.

**ANNUAL JUANITA BROOKS LECTURE – “One Room School – One Teacher”
Doug Alder**

Dixie State College and the endowment established by O.C. Tanner will present Charles S. Peterson, who will discuss the life of Nels Anderson. Little is known about Nels Anderson in St. George, today. Nels was a Boy Hobo, Desert Saint, World War I Diarist, Public Servant, and an Ex-Patriot Sociologist. The meeting will be at the Tabernacle at 7:00 PM, tonight. There will be free admission, and the meeting is open to the Public.

Doug invited the Historical Society to a meeting on April 2, 2012, to be held at the Taylor Medical Building which is East and behind the Intermountain Medical Center on River Road. Dixie College has 421 personal interview/histories of people who have lived in the St. George area. Those speaking will be Ed Bowler, Steve Sullivan, Born Hall, and Dixon _____. They will be sharing the history of their ancestor - one of those histories which has been collected. The meeting starts at 12:00 Noon.

ST. GEORGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM – Jennifer Kohler

Jennifer wants to invite everyone to the “Friends of St. George Children’s Museum” activity, which will be held on Friday, March 30, 2012. It will be held at the Social Hall. The purpose of the event is to have those attending become acquainted with the Museum.

APRIL FIELD TRIP – BAR 10 RANCH ON THE ARIZONA STRIP – Milt Hokanson

Milt sent the following e-mail to the Board members of the WCHS: Here is a tentative itinerary for the proposed field trip to the Bar 10 Ranch on Saturday, April 28, 2012. We will leave the parking lot of the BLM Arizona Strip District around 9:00 AM. The address is 345 E. Riverside Drive. We will arrive at the Bar 10 around noon. Possible stops include Wolf Hole, Little Tanks, Mt. Trumbull (Bundyville) School House and the head of Whitmore Canyon. We will eat lunch at Bar 10. You may bring your own or make a reservation (recommended). Gavin or Ruby Heaton will give a short presentation on the Bar 10 and answer questions. If we have adequate transportation and people choose to do so we may drive down the canyon to the overlook. This is well worth seeing as it is one of the few easy access points to the river from either North or South Rims. There may be some air traffic both helicopter and fixed wing hauling river runners.

TRANSPORTATION:

This trip is not recommended for passenger cars although an all wheel drive Subaru would do just fine. A high clearance vehicle like a pickup or SUV is better. Four wheel drive is not mandatory. We will need to sort out vehicles before we leave. A full gas tank and air in the spare tire are mandatory. A cooler with water and snacks is a good idea as is a warm coat. No open toed shoes. Sun screen and a hat are recommended. Don’t forget your camera. We will try to have available the small tri-fold map of the Monument (the free map). We will be able to leave vehicles in the BLM parking lot.

BAR 10 RANCH:

The phone number for the Bar 10 is (435) 628-4010. Please try to make your luncheon reservation by Tuesday, April 17. You can pay by credit card over the phone or at the Bar 10. Please let them know you are with WCHS. It was decided that those interested to join WCHS for the trip should call and make a reservation. Lynne Johnston said she would keep track of those who called. She also volunteered to put an ad in “The Spectrum” – local newspaper.

Milt also said another interesting field trip would be to see the Mt. Dellenbaugh Monument which is also on the Arizona Strip.

LoAnne Barnes wondered if someone could video the trip.

Interesting Note - Mohave Green Rattlesnakes are the most poisonous of the rattlesnakes.

HISTORY OF MEDICINE – Ian Crowe – Terri Draper

Ian talked about the making of a Documentary on the History of Medicine in Washington County. Doug Alder said he had a little book about the history of Medicine here. Doug said in the early days there were 40 little towns and about 200 people. St. George had two Doctors and Hurricane had one Doctor.

The Pioneers did not know what “Germs” were. In 1890 they figured that they shouldn’t drink water out of the ditch. In the 1900’s the water from Cottonwood Springs came down the Cottonwood Canal. It was approximately 18 miles long towards St. George. The water was clean and pure until it reached the settlement pond at the end of the canal. Someone mentioned that “pah tempe” – water with sulphur in it, could turn you blue if you drank it.

Since the deadline to apply for the 2012 Grant was today (March Board meeting) and no one applied for it, a Motion was made by Elaine Tyler to designate Ian Crowe’s Grant be the WCHS Grant for 2012. Doug Alder seconded the Motion. The money went to “The Center for Media Innovation” at Dixie College.

Phil Tuckett, is Associate Professor at Dixie College. He is making a film about Juanita Brooks and would like a recording of her voice. The Utah Historical Society has most of her writings. Dudley Leavitt was Juanita’s Grandfather. A good word of advice given to Juanita from her Grandfather, was to “never stay around the edge of cattle”.

LEEDS TITHING HOUSE – LOANNE BARNES

A question was raised about the old Tithing House in Leeds. The owners still want \$100,000 for it. Would the owners take payments with no interest? The Beesley family in Salt Lake City, is the owners (Beesley Music). It was suggested that someone interested in buying the property would have to hire a Realtor, would need a partner, and would need a committee. Doug Alder reminded everyone that in order to make the project work there would need to be a steady income. Some of the suggestions that were talked about would be a branch library, and a health clinic with a Physician’s Assistant (PA).

Doug also stated that it takes two times as much money to restore an old home/building than it takes to build a new home/building. City landmarks need the City’s permission to make changes.

ROCKVILLE – Jim Harlan

Rockville was founded in 1862. On September 14-15, 2012, Rockville will be having a Happy 150th Birthday Party – along with a Reunion of the descendants of the original settlers and their families.

Rockville continued – Jim Harlan

Toquerville and Rockville are the only two towns that are LDS - “original form”, compared to the 200 people sent to Santa Clara - “urbanized”.

Jim said, “Rockville loves its’ smallness”. Jane Whelan tried to get Rockville listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Dick said that if Rockville did have growth, they would be making tax credits “dollar ready”.

A representative from Zion National Park came to the Rockville City Council and told them they wanted to tear up the main road into the Park. They wondered if Rockville could use the asphalt to pave their roads. Rockville did just that. It turned out to be a good project.

UTAH HERITAGE FOUNDATION – SNOW COLLEGE – SUSAN CROOK

Susan will be working 30 hours per week for Utah Heritage Foundation and 10 or more hours a week for Snow College until the end of June, at which time she will be working full time at Snow College on a one-year appointment as the Interim Director of the Center for Heritage and Tradition. The Center for Heritage and Tradition at Snow College is the hub for preserving and promoting the rich history and traditions of the Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area, and beyond. The Center oversees the Traditional Building Skills Institute (TBSI) and the Mormon Pioneer Heritage Institute (MPHI) as well as coordinating with the Heritage Works Utah initiative and the administration of the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area.

The Utah Heritage Foundation’s Annual Preservation Conference will be held in Salt Lake City, UT from May 3-5, 2012. LoAnne Barnes said that because Leeds is a CLG town, they could pay for one person’s fees for the Preservation Conference.

FORT HARMONY – Karen Platt

Karen has done research and has found some very interesting facts. The Williams family from North Dakota, who live part time in Kanaraville, have a copy of original ward minutes of Fort Harmony from their great-grandfather Bishop Davies. When Betsy Davies married Williams they were given a beautiful set of Blue Willow dishes. They settled in Salt Lake and had six children. Her husband was killed in a sawmill. She came to Harmony to live with her brother who was the Bishop. Betsy had set her table with those Blue Willow dishes. Her son was playing marbles under the table. He hit one of the legs and it broke. All the dishes came sliding off of the table and were broken.

Fort Harmony – Karen Platt

William Palmer had talked about this little boy while a professor at SUU. He told about how the people were poor and didn't have nice things. The Platt's have uncovered at the Fort, 37 different plate-type shards of lovely dishes, all different patterns.

Karen has also done research on whether Heber C. Kimball did or did not make a Prophecy about a Temple in St. George. In 1854 Heber C. Kimball came to Harmony with Brigham Young. They came to open up the first Native American Mission. Heber C. Kimball told the Saints that they needed to quit fighting with the Native Americans. There was too much contention between them. Brigham Young said to "feed them, not fight them". Heber said if they could quit doing that, a Temple would be built in their vicinity. Is it true that Heber C. Kimball said that, with the idea of the St. George Temple in mind? There are several sources for this comment. One of them is Thomas D. Brown's journals; another is Juanita Brooks, and the last would be James Bleak in "Annals of Southern History". She is still doing research on the above matter.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE FIELD TRIPS

- May 19, 2012 – Hurricane Canal – Built 1906 – Where will we meet and what time?
- Victor Hall gave the Hurricane Canal video to LoAnne Barnes
- Clover Valley – Is Barclay, NV in Clover Valley?
- November 2012 – Barclay, NV – Kelton Hafen (Lyman and Ed Hafen's father)
- Smith Mesa Road, Hurricane – Paul Furr would be able to take the WCHS up to see the site – to go inside the area. Smith Mesa is the site of a working rocket sled test track for a private company. Kim Anderson wrote a book "Project S.M.A.R.T."
- March or April 2013 – Colorado City – Elaine Tyler might be able to take the WCHS to Centennial Park
- Leon Lewis – old Water Master – 1960's
- Orderville, Mt. Carmel, Glendale – Lyman and Ed Hafen – their Grandfather was Warren Foote. Warren Foote started Orderville. This could be done for the June 2012 Field Trip

SWISS DAYS

Susan Crook said she would check on the date for Swiss Days. Sherrie Anderson sent Lynne Johnston an e-mail about Swiss Days. It will be held on **September 28 & 29, 2012.**

LEEDS – SILVER REEF – LoAnne Barnes

LoAnne handed out a Flyer in regard to the “Adam House”. It is the Schedule for 2012 indicating the days the Adams House will be open for tours.

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Johnston