

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors' Meeting
September 26, 2012
"Final"

Dick Kohler opened the meeting at 10:10AM. Those present were Milt Hokansen (CCPNM), Paul Furr, Eric Fleming, LoAnne Barnes, L. Karen Platt, Lyman D. Platt, Richard Kohler, Marti Hafen, Richard Lee Hafen, Elaine Tyler, George Cannon, Jennifer Kohler, and Lynne Johnston.

Our thanks for a job well done, goes to Carol Christensen, who has resigned as Treasurer of WCHS. Elaine Tyler has volunteered to take Carol's place. Thanks to Elaine also, for her willingness to be the new Treasurer of WCHS.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Elaine Tyler

Elaine had previously sent out the Treasurer's Report via e-mail to the WCHS Board Members. There is \$350.00 in the Checking Account at State Bank of Southern Utah. There were checks totaling \$365.75 deposited into the Money Market Savings Account – leaving a balance of \$24,939.50 in the Account.

BART ANDERSON'S SLIDE PRESENTATION – Ian Crowe

Ian explained that Bart Anderson's Slide presentations were being digitized with a slide scanner – at Dixie College. There are 100 carousels, with 80 slides on each carousel. Ian asked for volunteers to help digitize the pictures. The slides are located in the Administrative offices. Lyman Platt volunteered to help.

Someone at the meeting said that there used to be articles called "Bart's Ballads" in the Spectrum and/or the Sr. Sampler.

Some of Bart's slide presentations are being shown on KCSG (St. George Community Education Channel) – on Sunday's at 7PM.

LoAnne wondered if Ian has Mike Empey's stories. Ian stated that right now they are working on gathering information about the Doctors' here in St. George – it will be the 100 year old birthday for the McGregor hospital. Richard Hafen stated that he was born at that hospital and Dr. McGregor delivered him.

Ian stated that they are working on two different movies for the Department of Water. One of those is on the WCHS website – waiting for approval from the Department of Water. There are three "aquifers" in Harmony Valley – Pine Valley – and the old St. George water came from Cottonwood Springs.

NEW MEMBERS – Richard & Marti Hafen – Paul Furr

Richard and Marti Hafen are new members of WCHS. They are presently living in Las Vegas, NV. They own two homes at the corner of 100 S. and Main Street. They are restoring the red brick home next to the green home. It was built in 1940. The green home which is on the corner was built in 1905. At some point they may restore the green home. Richard said he would write a history of the two homes for George Cannon – George will post the histories on the WCHS website. The original builder of the home was Coach Leland Hafen and his wife Elsi Frei. Leland dug the basement with a team of horses. Richard told about some of his memories of “the good ole days” in St. George. He went to Kindergarten in the little building across from the Tabernacle – which is presently “One Hot Grill”. He talked about playing Basketball at the old Arena in 1957-1958.

Paul Furr and his wife came from the Provo area. He told a little about his ancestors and some of his hobbies. He enjoys photography. He is a descendant of the following families: William Henrie came in Brigham Young’s wagon train in 1847; John D. Lee who came to Southern Utah in Brigham Young’s 2nd Company in 1848; and George Prince who came from England to South Africa and then to Southern Utah in 1860. Sarah Bowman Prince is buried here in St. George. Henrieville is named after Paul’s Grandfather’s cousin. Paul’s Grandfather is James A. Henrie and his Grandmother is Agatha Manetta Prince Henrie daughter of William Prince. William Henrie was asked to settle in the Muddy Mission. William said “no” but his wife Myra Mayall Henrie and their two sons – Samuel and James settled in Panguitch.

LEEDS – SILVER REEF - LoAnne Barnes & Eric Fleming

LoAnne talked about Leeds Tithing House. At present the Beasley Family own the Tithing House. Ken Bushman offered the purchase of the Tithing House.

Eight Interns have spent ten weeks – designing a trail from the Silver Reef Museum to the Adams House – picking up some old mines along the way.

LoAnne will send information to George for the Website in regard to an upcoming presentation about the Trail from the Silver Reef Museum to both historic cemeteries.

Zion Park’s “App” has information about Zion’s trails.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Do we have a membership with the Chamber of Commerce? They sponsor lunch meetings. They offer information about Historic Places here in Washington County. They have helped with the Historic Home/Building Tours.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM – Jennifer Kohler

The Lied Museum in Las Vegas, NV donated \$1000's of Dollars worth of exhibits to the St. George Children's Museum. Jennifer stated that the opening will be in the Spring of 2013. They are planning on having a Historical Section, together with "period" costumes so that the children can "role play". George said he would set up a web page on the WCHS Website for the Children's Museum if someone would send him some information.

FORT HARMONY – Karen & Lyman Platt

Karen decided she would clean out the weeds at Fort Harmony– 60,000 sq. ft. It took her approximately two weeks. When she was done, she could see where the West ? Wall had "melted" as told in different histories about the Fort.

She wondered if it would be possible to get a "builder" to look at the area of the Fort and get a better diagram – Dick Kohler volunteered to do that.

Karen said the well is falling in and getting bigger. It is filled with water – 2' deep and takes about two weeks to go down. She said the "City would investigate" (Karen is that New Harmony or Washington County/St. George?)

Karen found 25 pieces of corn growing in a circle – it is blue corn but not getting the proper nourishment so they fertilized – it is a small corn which has already tasseled and growing ears. Lyman wants to send a sample to Utah State to see how old the corn is.

Lyman said that he had read about corn taken from a New Mexico Cave site – it was purple corn. It would be interesting to find out about Indian Corn in the Americas. He is interested in sending seeds from the corn to Ireland where they have a "seed database – DNA of corn" to see what he can find out.

Todd Thompson has written a book about Jacob Hamblin – the history of Black Ridge, and Peters Leap – how difficult it was for the Pioneers to navigate.

Someone said there were notes from Juanita Brooks on the Utah State Historical Site – Native American Mission.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP – ROCKVILLE – Jim Harlan

Meet at the old Church in Rockville at 9:00-9:30 AM. The parade starts at 10:00 AM – there might be a Historical Tour of the area at 10:30AM – they are planning on having a "Chili Cook-Off".

WEBSITE – George Cannon

George has a big screen in his living room and would be happy to give customized tours of the WCHS Website to groups of up to six people. He is available most afternoons and evenings. If interested, contact him by e-mail or phone to schedule.

There is a page for each museum in the county on the Website. If he is supplied the information about it, he will add a web page for the new Children's Museum.

GRANTS – Elaine Tyler

Elaine said things were moving along with the two Grants. They are both due in January 2013 – one of the Grants is for Fort Harmony (Platt's) and the other Grant is being used for Bart Anderson's Slides (Ian Crowe).

Karen Platt said they would like to extend the Signage for Fort Harmony. Harmony Valley was settled in 1852.

FIELD TRIP IDEA – Milt Hokansen

Milt has spent some time talking to Virginia Tobiasson (Beezy) who is the Curator of the Logandale Museum – at the old Logandale School. Logandale, Overton, St. Joseph and St. Thomas were part of the Muddy Mission.

He wondered if we would like to plan a field trip to visit the Museum, and listen to "Beezy" talk about the history of the area.

Milt also told of other areas that would make good field trips – St. Thomas, Grand Canyon Parashant Monument, Grand Gulch Mine, Mathis Ranch, Gordon's Panel and Showman's Panel (Kaibab Paiute Tribe), which are on the Tuckup Trail (6 or 7 miles).

No definite plans were made but those present thought the ideas were great for future field trips.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. Washington City took over the care and maintenance of "The Covington House"
2. ICL Classes from Dixie College - \$40.00 to join – A variety of classes are taught, along with some monthly field trips. One interesting class is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday – "The way it Wuz" at the Tanner Building – Rm. 319
3. The Next Meeting of WCHS will be held on October 31, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the St. George Library in the Basement – Rm. A

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Johnston