



NEWSLETTER

Washington County Historical Society

Jan/Feb/Mar 2000

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Bart Anderson. Dear members, The Washington County Historical Society is healthy! These are the reasons: 1. We are the only county historical society that holds monthly board, individual town meetings, and a monthly luncheon meeting. 2. The Utah State Historical Society in Salt Lake City considers our chapter the most active in the State. According to Dr. Kent Powell, membership director, our chapter does more to plug the

State Historical Society. 3. We are seriously working to complete the "jail cells" in the Old Pioneer Courthouse, thanks to Larry Eck. 4. The Washington County Historical Society is a major player in the preservation of the Woodward School. We have Heber Jones writing a history of the building. 5. Ann Shaw and Verdell Hinton are well underway with an audio tape history of our county. 6. The Grafton restoration project is also well underway. 7. Our membership is

slightly ahead of last year at the this time. 8. Bloomington Country Club Gala raised quite a bit of money and was a great success. With all this we still need your help. Give us suggestions on monthly luncheon speakers and programs that will give you insight into our history. Thanks, Bart.

UPCOMING AND PAST EVENTS:

HISTORICAL SOCIETY GALA BALL at Bloomington County Club was very

successful. Attendance was perfect and all events went very well. The food & entertainment were superb and everyone enjoyed themselves. It was a truly elegant event. Many expressed desires that this become an annual event.

W O O D W A R D SCHOOL in Washington. A historical book is being written by Heber Johnson.

JAIL CELL: The Mesa Southwest Museum in Arizona will take photos of restored jail cells and give to us. We can then move forward on a design for cell doors and estimate labor costs for presentation to Mayor McArthur.

AUDIO TAPE TOUR PROGRAM for identifying historical sites in Washington County is progressing very well. The tapes are to

be used in a self-guided tour in a bus or car. Several graphic designs have been made for the outside cover of the tapes. Various grants have been submitted to cover cost of the project. Vignettes from Virgin, Grafton and other sites need to be written. All pertinent information on history of sites needs to be included.

For additional information please call Anna Shaw 628-2497 or Verdell Hinton 635-0360.

THE 14TH ANNUAL JUANITA BROOKS LECTURE will be given by BYU Historian Ronald W. Walker on "TONY IVINS - DIXIE FRONTIERSMAN" on March 15 at 7:00 PM in the St. George Tabernacle. This lecture is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served Dr. Walker

will discuss the early life of Anthony W. Irving, one of Dixie's most distinguished citizens. As an adult, Ivins served as mayor of St. George. He was a cowboy and major rancher on the Arizona Strip. He supervised the LDS Colonies in Mexico. Then he was an apostle in the LDS Church and finally a member of the LDS First Presidency. This lecture is part of the Tabernacle History and Music Series. Following the speech there will be a reception in the Greene Gate Village across the street. Copies of his lecture and past lectures will be available.

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES:

LEEDS: Mike Empey. CCC Memorabilia donated. Merland Grant

a veteran of the Leeds CCC Camp has donated old photos of the Camp to the Leeds Area Historical Society. Mr. Grant is a resident of St. George. He recently came across about 100 old photos and negatives dating back to the 30's when he was a "CCC Boy" at the Leeds Camp. Many of his photos show close-ups of the barracks area. The Historical Society has not had these kind of photos before and they show the camp in some interesting new ways.

Some of the best of Mr. Grant's photos have been copied and will be placed on display at the Leeds Town Hall.

HURRICANE: The Hurricane historical Canal project is moving along very well. A grant for \$39,000 will fund 13 young people from

Americorps in the San Diego Area to come and live in Hurricane for 5 weeks to help prepare the canal trail. This grant was funded by the Utah State Trails Agency.

Hurricane Historic Preservation week will be held the first week in May in support of the national Historic Preservation week. Governor Leavitt has been invited to be the **key speaker**. Hopefully, he will accept the invitation.

The Governors task force seminar on the over-all historic preservation of Utah has had one meeting in March and will have another in April and May. A representative from the Hurricane Historic Society has attended the seminar and efforts will be made to attend the April and May

meetings.

WASHINGTON CITY: Washington City Historical Society's monthly Educational & Historical Events.

March 15: Pioneer musical story with zither music by Kaye TOBLER Troupe at Stahel's Barn, 25 North 300 West, Washington City "ON THE ROAD TO CALIFORNIA". 7:00 PM. Free Public Welcome.

April 19: A musical featuring Katy Salter, Nathan & Amy Warby, "Portrait of a Prophet" Joseph F. Smith. Written & directed by Nonie Sorensen. Staheli's Barn, 25 North 300 West, Washington City at 7:00 PM. Free Public Welcome.

May 5: A fund raiser for Washington City's New Museum "HOE-DOWN". Soup,

Scones, dancing & entertainment. Quilt Raffle drawings. Per Person \$12.50 donation. Reservations Required. Staheli's Barn, 25 North 300 West, Washington City. 7:00-9:30PM.

May 6: GOOD MORNING BREAKFAST, 5-K RUN at City Park. Hot air balloon aloft at Nisson Park.

9:00 AM Parade, Pet Show, Games, Car Shows, Pie Sale.

10:00 AM Vendor & Craft Booths, Entertainment.

11:00 AM Unveiling of George Washington Bust by Avard Fairbanks. This is a gift from the David Fairbanks Family.

12:00 Noon Annual Children's Essay/Art Contest Awards. Photographic Exhibit "The History of the

Cotton Factory" -- Star Nursery.

There are guided tours of the Relief Society Hall & Research Library . Open Wed. from 10:00AM-2:00PM.

May 18: "GOURMET DINNER" AT Rick & Peg Young's home in Washington Fields. There will be Entertainment. This is a fund raiser for Washington City's new Museum. Reservations Required by May 1. Tickets \$50 couple \$35 single. Call Carolyn Gubler 673-2186 or Darlene Neilson 673-3392.

The Millcreek High School building will eventually become a museum if the Washington City Historical Society can fulfill a much desired goal. The school is red sandstone and was built in 1909 as an elementary school

house. The school house has been listed on the State and National Historic Register for many years. The historical society would like to have the building as a museum with antiques and artifacts as well as part of a walking tour of the city. Other historical activities, including educational functions could be part of the proposed useage of the building. The building is in good shape but will need some remodeling. If plans go well, there will be requests to gather artifacts from all over the area. Several collections have already been donated and need to be displayed in an appropriate setting. (Spectrum 3/13/00)

SANTA CLARA:
Santa Clara has received a grant for \$1700 which will be used to purchase a computer or copy

machine. Emma Gubler passed away at 98 years old and her niece has donated some of her treasures including the deed to the Gubler House.

Several historical markers will be put on different sites in Santa Clara.

SWISS DAYS will take place on Sept. 22 & 23.

VIRGIN/ROCKVILLE/GRAFTON: The construction work on the school building at Grafton has been completed on the outside and the inside. The building looks very nice with the restoration. The new adobe matches the old in color and texture. New doors and windows have been installed as well as a new floor. The Parks Service is working on the bridge but it will be some time before this project is completed.

One million dollars is needed to purchase the property east and south of the schoolhouse. Fund raising is already underway and contributions have started to come in.,

NEW MEMBERSHIPS & RENEWALS: Please fill out the following membership form to become a member of the Washington County Historical Society. And if a member please send in your yearly dues. Designate the year dues are paid! Remember your membership and dues make it possible for the Historical Societies' on-going success and support of history projects.

Washington County Historical Society
P. O. Box 404
St. George, Utah 84771-0404

**TO CURRENT AND FUTURE
MEMBERS
OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

As you may already know, the purpose of this society is to record and preserve the vital and exciting history of our county. Meetings will be held monthly, the last Thursday of each month at 12 Noon in the Old Court House.

Yearly Membership for Couples	\$15.00
Yearly Membership for Singles	\$10.00
Lifetime Membership	\$150.00

Please mail this form with your year 2000 dues to:

Washington County Historical Society
c/o Irene Hoyt
82 East 300 North
St. George, Utah 84770

NAME _____

TELEPHONE # _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE, ZIP _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

