

# JUNE 2005

## MEET BOB OLSEN!

Having represented Toquerville for several years Bob graciously said YES when asked to serve as our President for the year 2005. We are pleased to have him in that capacity and equally pleased to know that his wife, Virginia, comes as part of the package! They received the Washington County Pioneer Award and were honored at the 2004 Washington County Fair.

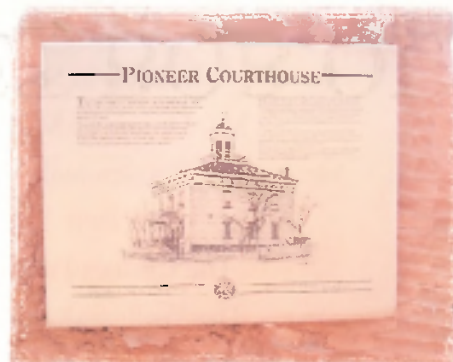
The Olsens' home has also been recognized by the Sons of the Utah Pioneers as one of the oldest buildings in Toquerville. The Olsens have lived in their home for the last 36 years and raised their family there. The yard is landscaped beautifully with birdhouses that Olsen has made through the years since retirement. Members of the Board of the Washington County Historical Society were granted leave to visit their lovely home and enjoy an old fashioned backyard dinner last summer. Could it be that we are hankering for another such event this summer? Wouldn't be surprised!

Bob has indicated his pleasure in serving as the society president, and will do double duty as the Toquerville representative as well. Because he is so generous of nature, he hopes to find others who share his love of history, and will offer their services as representatives of their communities and organizations. If you feel the urge, be sure to contact Bob as quickly as possible so that he might include you in the Fall line up of volunteers.

The monthly meetings, September through June, are held the last Thursday of each month at the Old Courthouse on St. George Boulevard. Within the past couple of years, the Historical Society has shared in the work of preservation of this historic building and feel gratified that the City of St. George was a partner in this work. Mrs. Joyce Whittaker, immediate past president, convinced her son, Robert, to fulfill his Eagle Scout obligations by painting the fence that surrounds the Courthouse. And a fine job it was, too! In fact, he was so enthusiastic that he painted part of the fence surrounding the DUP Museum next door.

Everyone can play a part in preserving the history of St. George and the surrounding towns. Mayor McArthur's son, Eric, also an Eagle Scout, made the iron fence that embraces the stone arch at the entrance to the Temple Quarry Trail. It is gratifying to see young people active in the work of preservation and President Olsen has high hopes for more of the same

REMEMBER: Last Thursday of each month, 12:00 noon. Bring a sack lunch if you would like. Come meet the President, Bob Olsen, and all those who enjoy the work of historic preservation!  
No admittance charge!



ZIONS BANK Plaza is the location of this interesting depiction of the Pioneer Courthouse, where the Historic Society meets each month. You will find other depictions elsewhere in this Newsletter. The walk-about is worth the time!



**WASHINGTON COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
Preserving--Protecting--Restoring



"Let's all go to the  
Washington County  
Historical Society meeting!"

All pictures courtesy of the  
Donald Whittakers.

PRESIDENT, BOB OLSEN  
635-2747

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If interested contact Bob Olsen

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653-5376, and  
JEANETTE NIELSEN - 674-0412

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NEWSLETTER - POSITION AVAILABLE  
Please contact Pres. Olsen

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879-2050

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CARVER - 674-9750

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KOCINSKI-PUCHLIK, 628-1650

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628-7759

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!**



Mr. Melvin Smith, St. George  
Ms. Donna L. McCrimmon, Leeds  
Mr. Neil C. Roosendaal, Midway and Toquerville  
Mr. Ben Everett, Ivins  
The Carhart Family, Toquerville  
The Wellsandt Family, St. George  
Mr. Harlon J. Cooper, Hurricane

# ST. GEORGE DINOSAUR DISCOVERY IS...

Visiting the site from Monday through Saturday, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 pm in air conditioned comfort will bring you a world of knowledge about the first residents of the St. George areas 200 million years ago. Now, THAT'S HISTORY! And the scientists called it the beginning of the Jurassic Period. A small fee of \$2.00 will admit adults and children from 3 to 11 pay only \$1.00.

OLDER

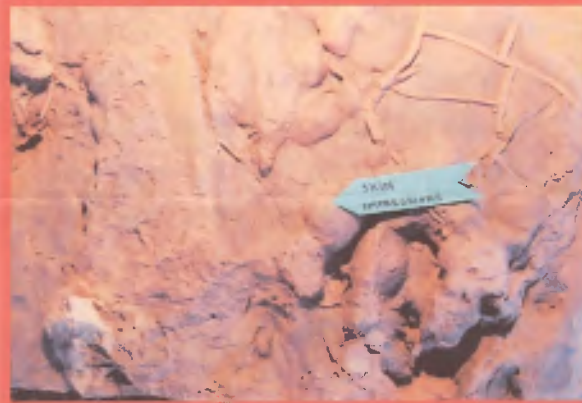


Arlene Yensen, volunteer, works on exhibit. Husband Bill is active as well. Join them!



Size 11 D in dinosaur? This is a natural cast of the dinosaur foot.

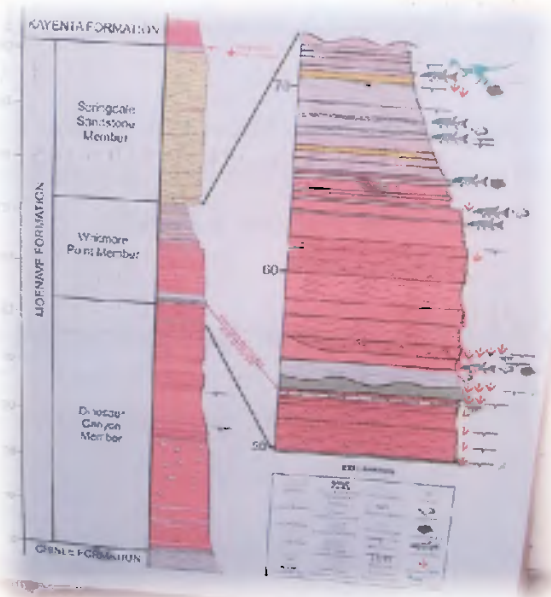
In addition to the skin impressions shown here, other findings of interest include "very rare dinosaur swim tracks." This site contains the worlds largest



collection of swim tracks. You will also see squatting tracks and tail drags. One other squatting track of a meat-eating dinosaur has been found in the world. Who'd of "thunk" it!

THAN

Within the boundaries of the track site, twenty-five layers (or horizons) of rocks containing several thousand dinosaur tracks have been found. At this site at least 5 different types of footprints are still waiting for proper identification by researchers.



Three tracks found, however, have been tentatively identified as follows: 1. Eubrontes, first and largest found; 2. Grallator, smaller, 50 to 75 pounds; 3. Batrachopus, a non-dinosaurian track made by a small upright-walking crocodilian. (All info courtesy of material from Dinosaur Discovery)

DIRECT

# DID YOU KNOW.....?

Hurricane notes that it has been 100 years since the completion of the Canal and the City plans to recognize this event on Labor Day Weekend, 2006. More to follow.



Floods were not kind to the well-done Toquerville Park. President Olsen notes that it is in the planning stages for redoing portions destroyed by rains.

Leana Hall, Le Verkin, has friends in high places. Her son is a member of the City Council, Recreation Commission, City Park organization and has been instrumental in getting a sports program going. Hip, Hip, Hurrah!



Harold Pulaski Cahoon,  
1921-2005



The Washington County Historical Society extends its condolences to the family of Mr. Cahoon. He and Priscilla had been very active in the Washington City Historical Society. His other activities included Boy Scouts, the Mormon Battalion, Sons of the Utah Pioneers, and they served on three missions for the LDS Church.



SEMPER FI!



## QUAINT BUT CURIOUS:

In her later years, Florence Nightingale kept a pet owl in her pocket!



Albert Einstein never knew how to drive a car.  
Forty percent of people who come to a party at your house will snoop in the Medicine Cabinet!

One in every four Americans has appeared on television.





# HAUNTED PLACES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

FROM SHADOWLANDS HAUNTED PLACES INDEX - UTAH

Thanks to Spooky Lucia Christensen!

## GRAFTON

Witnesses report hearing footsteps, pacing on the floor boards, feeling warm breath in their faces and feeling whisks of air as though someone had just passed them. A little info: The town of Grafton was settled by Mormon Pioneers and the remains of the town can be seen today just outside of Rockville.

## SILVER REEF

Just outside of Leeds

Old Catholic cemetery. Young girl seen late at night. A man heard the voices of people, mostly children, asking to be taken home. Several people have had the feeling of being watched and heard footsteps in the old cemetery at night.

## ST. GEORGE

Hardy House Restaurant - a shadowy ghost has been seen there. (But where is/was the Hardy House Restaurant?)

Do YOU have a haunted place to tell about? Nows the time!

## A Miracle of Modern Science?



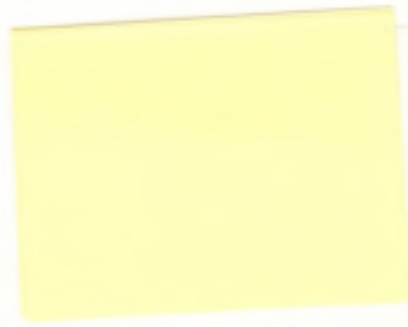
Mr. Donald Whittaker, being of sound mind and good spirits, indicated to this writer that "I have multiple toes and fingers." Now that's a spooky idea! This collection of fingers and toes can be found in a protected area between Santa Clara and Ivins. Other petroglyphs can be found in the Bloomington area as well. Each year a new find is made which adds luster to the history of Washington County.



**WASHINGTON COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Preserving--Protecting--Restoring

Post Office Box 404  
St. George, Utah 84771



84765+5560



**WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM**

- Yearly Membership                      \$15.00
- Corporate Memberships                \$100.00
- Lifetime Membership                    \$150.00
- Other Contribution                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

"Don't make me come after you!  
Join this very day!"



Please mail this form with your dues to us at  
P. O. Box 404  
St. George, UT 84771

(Brigham Young by  
Edward Hlavka on the Zion  
Bank Plaza)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meetings are the 4th Thursday of  
each month, Old Court House)