

Washington County Historical Society Annual Report
January 1 to December 31, 2020
Submitted by Jesse Stocking

This growth has surely come - - - From pioneers who first came



Officers

President, Jesse Stocking
Past President, Susan Crook
Vice President, Loren Webb

Secretary, Jeanine Vander Bruggen
Treasurer, Debi Barmonde
Vice President, Frank Lojko

Committee Chairs

Publicity, Patricia Cundick
Programs, Doug alder
Field Trips, Susannah Nilsson
Social Media, Debi Barmonde

Pioneer Courthouse, Jeanine Vander Bruggen
Grants, Susan Crook
Website, George Cannon
Juanita Brooks Project, Jesse Stocking

Accomplishments

- Collaborated with Juanita Brooks family/friends, Washington County Rap Tax, Art Around The Corner Foundation and various community members in holding fundraiser for Juanita Brooks Statue at the DiFiore Center for the Arts. Selected Speakers shared personal stories along with additional stories and comments by many others, and a great time was had by all! Thank you to our videographer Mike Gardner who filmed the event which can be found on our youtube channel at <https://youtu.be/UzglkMsASyl>
- DSU Archivist Kathleen Broeder successfully held the 37th annual Juanita Brooks Lecture series. Kathleen made history by holding the first ever online/virtual Juanita Brooks annual Lecture. The lecture is available here in this link to a youtube video <https://youtu.be/KsGcm2yeQms>
- A special review committee was formed consisting of the Washington County Historical Society and the Washington City Historical Society. This was done to address the aspects related to the formal request by local area citizens to "Washington City" to remove the Robert Covington Statue (first bishop of Washington City) from public view.
- Upon invitation from "Washington City Historical Society" we collaborated to honor our history and promote "Our Historical Societies". In pioneer outfit each with a sheriff's badge Loren Webb, Mike Harlass and Jesse Stocking walked and rode with the float provided. Two wagons, one drawn by horses, were filled and surrounded by approximately 47 pioneers. This Parade was held in Washington City as the opening event for the especially historic 2020 Washington County Fair. This year celebrated the 160th Anniversary of our first county fair that was held in Washington City which was the county seat at the time, and a great time was had by all!

- Very welcomed by both Washington City Council members and the Washington County Sheriff's Office on behalf of W.C.H.S. Jesse Stocking confirmed the validity and lack thereof in the various concerns about threats or possible threats to historical sites, monuments and statues in our county related to passionate civil activity that arose this year. In maintaining personal contact with the County Sherriff's Office 2nd in command who is the Deputy Chief over Patrol throughout the year Jesse has been able to easily keep tabs on any potential issues. Glad to report that to my knowledge no vandalism was done to any of our historical sites or monuments of any type in Washington county.
- Allison McCord, Loren Webb and others developed a new a historical walking tour in the St George Historic District. This was developed to take place in conjunction with St. George City Founding day held each year in January. Although neither founding day or the tour was not held this year to Covid-19 restrictions it is now a great resource that will be used going forward.
- Added approx \$40,800 to the \$19,600 raised previously for the Juanita Brooks Statue. Paid out \$20,000 to Sculptor Annette Everett for the maquette to be sent to foundry and full size cast clay and sent back to her for final sculpting and design.

Grants Received and Approved

- Art Around the Corner - \$10,000.00 (Received)
- Wa. County Rap Tax - \$8,000.00 (Received)
- Sorensen Foundation - \$7399.00 (Received)
- St. George City Rap Tax- \$3200.00 (Approved)
(To be allotted in 4 Quarterly payments in 2021)
- Walmart- \$500.00 (Received)
- Beckam-Ashe Foundation - \$200.00 (Received)

Pioneer Courthouse Project

- Pioneer Courthouse Project had a great turnout in January when partnering with the Arts to Zion annual Art Studio tour and the wild west shootout put on by the "Lawmen and Muddy River Gang". Historical lectures, musical performances, a city council meeting, DAR book club and Historic St. George Live characters along with numerous board meetings from multiple historical organizations in our county were held throughout the year. Fantastic displays in rotation, a large piano from years ago was donated and returned to its home in the building and over \$11,000.00 in grants approved for this project. Overall a great first impression made by us to the city of St. George garnering further support to continue occupancy of their building.

Thanks to each who have given so much time and energy to work on the various projects and committees you have served in. You are greatly appreciated! Although Covid-19 and the civil and societal issues of 2020 had such an impact on all areas of life we were able to adapt well and continue to operate and be productive. It was a great year overall and we look forward to another great year in 2021.