

1st Quarter 2016
Volume 21



Sons of Utah Pioneers

Ogden Pioneer Messenger

President:
Bill Reese

President Elect:
L. Nate Pierce

Vice President:
Paul L. Child

Past President:
Stephen L. Richey

Secretary:
Jeff Booth

Treasurer:
David G. Hart

Calendar Highlights:

Chapter Lunch
Comfort Suites 12:05
03/14 - Mon
04/11 - Fri 6pm
w/Partner
05/09 - Mon

Board Meeting
South Ogden Library 2:00
03/28 - Mon
04/25 - Mon
05/23 - Mon

Upcoming Treks
04/18 - Mon
Church History Museum
& Joseph Smith
Memorial Building

President's Message: First Impressions

A few weeks ago in our priesthood meeting I noticed a teenager walk in wearing a tee shirt with some logo on the front of it and some old Levi's. He was with another boy about his age dress in Sunday clothes. I wonder how many of us in that meeting, without knowing the circumstances, made a wrong first impression. *He should know better than to come to the Lord's house dressed like that.* I was reminded of a story I recently read which was taken from the journal of Edwin Rushton and found in the book: "Best Stories of the LDS People, Vol. 1." To save space, I will paraphrase the story.

Edwin and his family arrived in Nauvoo April 13, 1843. Entering the city his father met a man riding a beautiful black horse. The man accosted him saying, "Hey, Bub, is that a company of Mormons that just landed?" His father answered, "Yes sir." "Are you a Mormon?" the stranger asked. When his father answered yes, the stranger asked "what do you know about old Joe Smith?" "I know that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God" was the reply. The rider then told him he was Joseph Smith, upon which the father said, "If you are Joseph Smith, I know you are a prophet of Go.

In a gentle voice the main explained, "I am Joseph Smith. I came to meet you people dressed as I am in rough clothes and speaking in this manner, to see if your faith is strong enough to stand the things you must face. If not, you should turn back right now."

I still do not know about the young man I saw that morning in priesthood meeting. Was he someone the family, doing some missionary work had invited? Was he a young man who had been kicked out of his own home and was staying with the Mormon family? It is not for me to judge or make fast first impressions.

For a great example of wrong first impressions, you can read about Sister Al Fox, "A Tattooed Mormon Girl."

<http://alfoxshead.blogspot.com/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5Cxa_gDg-w

William Reese

December 14, 2015 – Christmas Luncheon; David Stephenson

Ken Richey introduced today's program as entertainment provided by David Stevenson. David is a lawyer by profession with talents as a trombone player in the Junction City Band which plays at Weber State University in January.



David and his wife also sing in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir having traveled the world singing with the choir. He loves kayaking and playing the piano.

David mentioned that Ken plays a beautiful Saxophone in the Junction City Band and should perform sometime for the group. His neighbor DeLoss Eggleston is also musically talented. David played on his keyboard two Christmas songs to start the program. He then sang "Here Comes Santa Claus".

David then played a rendition which he composed called "Thanksgiving", which reminded him of growing up in Virginia. He then gave away several tickets to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Christmas Concert for this week to those

who knew what song he played. Next he played a piece he composed this week for us and sang "I Wonder as I Wonder". David then sang "Merry Christmas to You".

David said that he has pioneer heritage as 8 sets of great-grandparents came to Utah as pioneers. David's most famous great-grandparent was James Olsen. When 21 years of age, Jim as he was called, was confronted by an Indian Chief named Mountain Sheep who threw a tomahawk at him. He shot the chief in the arm and left. The Chief pressed attempted murder charges against him and took Jim to court. Jim was acquitted on self-defense, since the Chief threw the tomahawk first. A woman came to see the trial which later became to be his wife. They settled in the St. George area. One of his ancestors, the Cottom family became the President of the St. George Temple. David stated that trials of ancestors and of our own are all a part of

Heavenly Father's Plan. He then sang "Heavenly Father's Plan" which concluded the program.



Pioneer of the Month

January 2016 – Kenneth J. Alford

Kenneth J. Alford presented about his Great-Grandfather William Henderson to the members of the Ogden Pioneer Chapter of Sons of Utah Pioneers, January 11, 2016

William was born on February 11, 1841 in Penston, Scotland and came to America with his parents in 1863.

They docked in New York harbor in July, 1863 right while the Civil War draft riots were going on.

Their first introduction to America was seeing people rioting and setting buildings on fire to protest the draft. The family made their way to Florence, Nebraska where they joined the company of Horton D Haight and left for Utah on August 8th with 200 people and 42 wagons and arrive in Salt Lake City on 4 October 1863.

Ken shared from William Henderson's very detailed journal about his experience of being called on a mission to the British Isles in 1885. William Henderson's journal can be found on file at Brigham Young University, Provo Utah.

28 August 1885, William received a letter from F.D. Richards requesting that William prepare to serve a mission. Prior to that time William had been persecuted for living the laws of the gospel and imprisoned the previous winter for a period of two months.

Upon settling his business, William, with the help of his fellow saints in his ward, set off for his mission. He went to Salt Lake City to receive his ordination. After finding lodging he attended a meeting where Bishop O.F. Whitney addressed the saints in the large tabernacle.

While in the Salt Lake William was given many valuable instructions and wise council in regard to his labors and the utmost necessity of keeping themselves unspotted from the world.

His missionary labors helped him to see the contrasting effects of those who faithfully lived the gospel and those who didn't. Two individuals specifically, the one full of life and thankfulness, the other depressed in mind and ashamed.

Upon his return to America and after his mission he moved to Alberta, Canada to get away from the legal pressures he was under. He died in Cardston, Alberta Canada on June 2, 1934.

February 2016 – Dr. Leo Stevenson

I would like to tell you about my Great Grandfather, John Griffin Stevenson, his wife, Harriet Cam and my Grandfather, Leopold Griffin Stevenson.

I am aware that the request was for a single ancestor, but because my history has some interesting aspects, I thought you might find what I have to say interesting.

John Griffin Stevenson was born 30 May 1830 in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England and was christened four months later in the Saint Paul's Anglican Church. As was his father, he was trained as a die sinker (surgical instruments) and ornamental chaser. He was designer of industrial buildings (Mechanical Engineer). He also had inventions in the process of vulcanizing of rubber and various processes of distillation.

He married Harriett Cam 25 June 1854

in the Saint Paul's Anglican Church at the age of 24 with her being age 18. Together they raised six children, three boys and three girls.

John joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 19 August 1845 at the age of 15. Harriett joined the Church on 19 April 1854, at the age of 17, just prior to their marriage.

For the next sixteen years, both were busy raising their family and working Sheffield. The idea of immigrating to America must have been on their minds. John's friends had encouraged him to patent his ideas and inventions in England. However, he was impressed that America was the future land of opportunity, both economically and spiritually. This was not to be so, as John died of testicular carcinoma on 1 Oct 1870.

For Harriett, this must have been a very emotional time, husband's death, loss of financial support, and the thought of leaving her family and her area of birth. However, she was true to the faith. She obtained help through the Perpetual Emigration Fund for herself and 5 children, 1 boy having died at age 2. The cost was \$97.85 for herself and youngest child, my Grandfather, Leopold Griffin Stevenson. The other children sailed for \$151.42 each, making a total of \$694.24. They sailed to America on the steamship Brooklyn leaving 31 December 1870. Upon arriving in New York City and prior to taking the train to Salt Lake City, Utah, she opened their trunks only to find them empty except for several stills. The pending patents and potential source of income had been lost.

Upon arrival in Salt Lake City they set up housekeeping. Shortly thereafter, she

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January 11, 2016 – Iain B. McKay

Kent Petersen introduced today's speaker, IAIN B MCKAY.



Brother McKay, in his role as Director of International Media for Bonneville International he traveled extensively with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and he related many very interesting stories of his travels with the choir. Some of the places he visited and told us about included a trip to Northern Europe in 1982 with stops in Norway, Sweden, Holland, and London. He told of a number of miracles that occurred that

allowed for great success of this Choir tour.

In 1992 he accompanied the Choir to Eastern Europe which included Prague, Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic). Shortly after singing at the Bolshoi theater in Moscow, Russia officially recognized the Church. He spoke of the Choir's success in Hungary. The Choir also visited East Berlin and we heard of some of their experiences there.

When the Choir visited Austria, they were told, "Do not expect a standing ovation here. Austrians are extremely sparing with this kind of ovation", but after the concert they received an overwhelming standing ovation.

He spoke of Israel and reminded us that in 1841 Orson Hyde dedicated

Jerusalem for the return of the Jews. When President Kimball visited Israel, he selected the spot for the BYU Jerusalem center and was told that it was impossible that that spot would be available to the church, but by miraculous events, the Center now sits on that beautiful spot. The Choir took 3 tours to Israel. On one occasion they had requested the opportunity to sing at the "Garden Tomb", but were told by the Evangelical overseers, "No, No, No". However the leadership of that church in England had had a very favorable experience with the LDS church and when they appealed to him, he wrote a letter saying "yes" and the choir was able to perform at that beautiful and sacred place.

February 8, 2016 – James C. Hurst

James C. Hurst, current National President of Sons of Utah Pioneers and his wife were introduced by Kent Petersen.

Brother Hurst began his presentation with a quote from Will Durrant from his "Story of Civilization."

"Civilization is a stream with banks. The stream sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting and doing things historians usually record; while on the banks, unnoticed people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry and even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happened on the banks."

Among us today we have Diversity and Sameness. What links us in our sameness is the commitment to preserve the legacy of our Pioneer Ancestors.

Jim then shared 5 characteristics of Legacy and why we honor our pioneer ancestors

1. Courage in the face of adversity
2. Unwavering commitment to a higher good
3. Honoring promises and covenants made with their God and each other
4. Readiness to sacrifice for the welfare of others
5. Foresight to choose the promises of future over the security of now.

Jim shared 5 brief life vignettes and after each, he posed the question:

"What would you do?"

Jim also shared a quote that he has framed in his office:

"The important thing is this - -

To be able at any moment
To sacrifice what we are
For what we could become"

With each story we are left to ponder in terms of the Legacy left to us:

1. Courage in the face of adversity
2. Unwavering commitment to a higher good
3. Honoring promises and covenants made with their God and each other
4. Choosing the "promises of the future" vs. "security of the present & past"
5. Willingness to sacrifice for the welfare of others.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

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January Swearing in of Chapter Officers



Ogden Pioneer Chapter Officers 2016

President	William N Reese
President-elect	L. Nate Pierce
Vice President	Paul L. Child
Past President	Stephen L. Richey
Secretary	Jeffrey G. Booth
Treasurer	David G. Hart
Chaplain	Neil B. Baliff
Chapter Awards, Personal History & Name Memorialization	T. Lorin Thompson
Directory	Douglas B. Young
Historian	N. Dwight Stevenson
House Captain	George E. Cobabe
Landmarks Chairman	D. Edgar Allen
Mailing Coordinator	Rich H. Blake
Membership & Communications	Leo M. Stevenson
Membership Assistant	James Albertson
Chorister	Deloss M. Eggleston
Pianist	L. Hal Stoddard
Newsletter Editor	Kenneth R. Richey
Pioneer of the Month	Don Beesley
Programs Chairman	Kent B. Petersen
Publicity	Mark E. Walker
Scholarship Chairman	David H. Jacobs
Scholarship Assistant	Aaron L. Hatch
Treks Managers	Morris R. Sterrett
Treks Managers	D. Kent Draper
Area Vice President	David H. Jacobs

was approached to participate in the practice of polygamy or plural marriage. This she said she could not do! From that point on, she and her family were forgotten or ostracized.

She worked hard as a single mother for five years before remarrying a non-member, to help provide for her family, while at the same time repaying her loan from the Perpetual Emigration Fund. According to the family stories, she was a good neighbor, providing for the Relief Society various food items when asked, but most likely did not attend or take the children to regular Church meetings. The children were taught to work and be self sufficient, study the scriptures and be worthwhile citizens in the community. My Grandfather, Leopold Griffin Stevenson was reported to be a serious student of the Bible, having read it completely through three times. Because of the ostracizing, remember Brigham Young had encouraged the members not to purchase items from the less active or non members, she did not have any of her five children baptized into the Church.

In summary, the family remained in Utah; Living in Lehi and Salt Lake City. Here too I was born, having been trained by loving parents and grandparents in the ways of the community. I joined the Church 3 August 1946. I am the first individual in my family in nearly 100 years to be in the Church. It was meant to be. My ancestors had the faith to join, to come and to stay, and I had the faith to join, and thus complete and close the gap as all are now members in good standing.

In closing, remember, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is true! This I testify, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Leo Monte Stevenson

Mark your Calendar

Chapter Lunch
March 9th at 12:05pm

21st Century Pioneers
Bob Wallentine and
Don Erickson

Upcoming Birthdays

March

Kenneth Alford
Craig Anderson
Larry Blanch
Raymond Knowles
Richard Moyle
Ed Walker
Steve Young

April

Ed Allen
Reid Brown
Barney Chapman
Steve Richey
Curtis Smout
Pat Stallcup
Hal Stoddard

May

Rich Blake
Russell Carruth
Richard Carter
Dexter Farr
Jay Jarvis
Eugene Larkin
Val Lofgreen
Lynn Penrod
Joe Smith
Gary Swenson