

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 30, 2011  
“Final”

The meeting started at 10:10 AM. Those present were Lyman and Karen Platt, Ian Crowe, Jim Harlan, LoAnne Barnes, Carol Christensen, Elaine Tyler, Richard Kohler, Susan Crook, Doug Alder, George Cannon, Terri Saunders, Bill Wilkin and Lynne Johnston.

**Minutes of February 23, 2011 – Lynne Johnston**

Lynne handed out copies of the Minutes from the February meeting. The Minutes were approved as corrected. All present said “Aye”.

**Treasurers Report – Carol Christensen**

On Wednesday, March 30, Carol, Richard, George, and Lyman went to Sun First Bank and State Bank of Utah to fill out new Signature Cards – to take Lyman’s name off at Sun First Bank. Lynne went later in the week and took a copy of the Minutes from November 2010 which showed Richard Kohler had been voted President and Carol Christensen voted as Treasurer for 2011 for the WCHS. On March 31, 2010, George Cannon was asked to be Vice President, so that he could be a Signatory on the Bank Accounts.

Carol mentioned that she had transferred the funds from Village Bank and Sun First Bank to State Bank of Utah. She left the CD Account at Village Bank, because the Account had just renewed for the next year – WCHS would have to pay a penalty to take the money out early. It was suggested that Carol should pay the fine, as it wouldn’t be too much that close to the time it had renewed.

Carol also mentioned that she did not know who paid their dues each year vs. Lifetime Members. She does not have a membership list. She wondered who the Membership Chairperson was. She said not very many Board members had paid their dues. Some said they were Lifetime members. She said she had received money from eight paid members.

Carol will be out of town until October 2011. She will be at the October meeting. She wanted to make sure she had the proper money in the checking account. Elaine Tyler stated that there may be three Grants coming up – so that approximately \$3,000 may be needed.

### **Utah Heritage Foundation – George Cannon**

Congratulations are in order to George! He will be honored with an award for his exceptional work on the WCHS Website, at the Utah Preservation Conference. It is going to be held in Salt Lake City – May 12-14, 2011. Richard Kohler will accept the UHF award on behalf of George and the WCHS. George mentioned that he had two tickets to the UHF lunch. He would give one to Richard Kohler and one to Karen Platt.

### **Richard Kohler – Elaine Tyler - Ian Crowe**

Ian Crowe, Terri Saunders, and Bill Wilkin are representatives from Dixie State College. They have asked WCHS for help in creating a documentary film about the historical community of St. George. Their crew is a group of Dixie State College students who are making a film, for the Water Conservancy District. Their film will be about how pioneers settled the local area and dealt with the water issues. Students are working on this low-budget student film in an educational environment so they can learn their trade. They are asking WCHS to provide actors who have pioneer costumes. They are looking for families and people of all ages. They will be filming the reenactment on May 9, 11, and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The film concerns the history and heritage of Southern Utah. It is good exposure for the local area and for the people who paved the way for us. You would be helping the community, Southern Utah's film industry, and the local economy, along with Dixie State College and the students who go there. Phil Tuckett is the Executive Producer.

A discussion came up about the possibility of WCHS giving them a Grant in the amount of \$1,000 to help towards their project. It was decided that that might work – they would need to join WCHS in order to facilitate that. Richard said he wondered if he could represent them on our Committee. The Committee agreed that he could.

In order to facilitate their request, Elaine pointed out that the committee would have to vote on extending the date for Grant requests to the end of April. Doug Alder made a Motion to extend the date to the April Board meeting for Rebel Media to turn in the Grant Proposal. LoAnne Barnes seconded the Motion. All those present said “Aye”. Elaine gave Ian the necessary paperwork to fill out to get the process started.

They asked for suggestions as to where they might get some help in finding “extras/stand-ins” of all different ages, and costuming. Some of the suggestions were:  
Gary Sanders – St. George City Arts Director – phone # 703-1009  
Mr. Paxman – Director of Theatre at Dixie High School  
Clive Romney  
WCHS Webpage – Listed under Re-enactment Resources  
DUP Museum – Teresa Orton – Women with Pioneer costumes  
SUP – Robert Thornley – Men with Pioneer costumes

### **Lyman and Karen Platt – San Daniel Monument**

Lyman stated that Monument base had been poured on March 29<sup>th</sup>. He also stated that Al Matheson would install the Plaque. The San Daniel Monument is part of the Spanish Trail. Lyman would let the Committee know when the Monument would be dedicated.

### **Field Trip to Kanab – the Platt's**

We will meet in the parking lot of the Pioneer Museum in Hurricane at 9 AM on April 30. If you can't meet at the Museum in Hurricane, you could also meet the group at Mosdell Mortuary in Kanab – it is located at 676 US Hwy. 89. The phone # there is (435) 644-2214. They will be meeting there at 10 AM. Lyman will show you Johnson Canyon – where there is a big panel of Indian Petroglyphs. He will also show you some big stones which were used by the Ogham people to cover their burial sites. You will tour the Pink Coral Sand Dunes where there is a Native American Site being covered with a reservoir. You will also see a collection of Artifacts found by Neil Judd.

### **Leeds-Silver Reef – CCC Camp in Leeds – LoAnne Barnes**

LoAnne mentioned that the National CCC Legacy Conference will be held in St. George from September 22-25, 2011, will be at the Lexington Hotel (old Holiday Inn). There will be day trips to Pine Valley and Zion's National Park with stops at Leeds and other CCC Camps along the way. LoAnne will update the Board as details are completed.

The Tithing House in Leeds is owned by the Beesley estate. John Beesley has listed the building for sale. They at one time owned the Beesley Music Company in Salt Lake. They are asking \$100,000 for the property. They rejected \$70,000. The value to the property is "historic". It is not a large building but is structurally sound. The building needs extensive repair both inside and outside. LoAnne requested suggestions from the Board.

Does the City of Leeds have the money to buy the building? NO! Lyman Platt suggested contacting Brent Beesley who is President of Heritage Bank and administers the Beesley Trust. Richard mentioned that the Virgin River Land Preservation Trust acquires land and easements. The State of Utah has a 20% tax credit. Doug also reminded LoAnne that every historical building has to have a use to earn its keep.

## **Mormon History Association – Doug Alder**

Doug handed out the Brochure for the Mormon History Association's Convention here in St. George – May 26-29, 2011. The title of the Convention is "From Cotton to Cosmopolitan: Local, National, and Global Transformations in Mormon History".

William P. MacKinnon, MHA President 2010-2011 states:  
"What awaits you at MHA's St. George conference is an unusual, stimulating opportunity to see and learn about a stunning series of transformations. It is a story that is both stark and richly colorful, just like our conference site and the region that surrounds it. Welcome to an opportunity to take part in: pre and post-conference tours to canyons, rivers, deserts, pioneer towns, and golf courses that draw visitors from throughout the world; plenary session speakers as diverse as an emeritus General Authority of the LDS Church to the keeper of some of the great documents of Mormon history to one of the leading chroniclers of the American vacation experience; conference papers that break new ground on subjects ranging from Utah and the Civil War to the changing face of polygamy in the West to the Mountain Meadows Massacre; and a sneak preview of an exciting new film-in-progress on the life of St. George's Juanita Brooks, a historian and MHA member who did as much as perhaps any chronicler of that latter subject to change it."

Doug also mentioned about the MHA's Research Fair which would be held in the basement of Washington County Library from 3:30-6:30 PM on Thursday, May 26. University, state and church librarians, archivists, and curators, will be available to discuss their Mormon history collections. Representatives will be there from Brigham Young University, LDS Church History Library, and other Universities in Utah.

Evan and Rhea Racker have asked for help from the WCHS Board Members. They will need help at the Registration Desk and other places throughout the Convention. Some of the WCHS Committee members did volunteer to help.

## **WCHS Website – George Cannon**

George handed out some of the new WCHS Business cards and suggested people post them on Bulletin Boards in Museums and other places where they might be seen by people who would be interested in our history.

George mentioned some new features on the WCHS Website. There is a "Subject Index" with a link from the WCHS website home page. It provides another way to easily find topics of interest on the website. <http://wchsutah.org/subject-index.htm>

There is now a web page for "Volunteer Opportunities" where people can list tasks that could be done by volunteers. This might include museum docents, movie extras, people to work on organizing archive documents, etc.  
<http://wchsutah.org/miscellaneous/volunteer-opportunities.htm>

All the Juanita Brooks lectures are now online.  
<http://wchsutah.org/documents/documents.htm#juanita-brooks-lectures>

## Website - George Cannon

When the Dixie State College people were talking about the need for extras and costumes, he suggested they take a look at the "Reenactment" web page on the WCHS website. George also suggested they let him know the resources they locate so he can add it to the list for future people who need that information.

<http://wchsutah.org/greenactment.htm>

George has listed all the Board Minutes since January 2009, on the web site.

<http://wchsutah.org/wchs/board.htm#bmm> The Minutes of the first five Board Meeting - 2009 - have not been approved and George wondered if he should put them on the WCHS Website.

## **Susan Crook - Utah Heritage Foundation Field Representative, Central and Southern Utah WCHS March 2011 Activities**

Susan met with St. George Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Greg McArthur on Friday, April 1, 2011. They discussed the following items:

1. Website Link. The Chamber is redoing their website to make it more focused on their mission and purpose, so they will be getting rid of a lot of links, but Greg said he did think the WCHS link would be a good one to include. Susan left him one of the business cards George made up with the website link, along with her Utah Heritage Foundation card.

2. Doors Open Event Proposal. Susan explained that a "Doors Open" event is like a cross between a historic homes tour and a gallery stroll, and that it encourages people to visit businesses located in historic buildings by giving them a chance to learn more about the old buildings while patronizing the businesses. It could be held after hours using a reception format or during regular business hours as a promotion. She will prepare a proposal and submit it to Greg for him to take to the Chamber's board for consideration. WCHS could play a role by helping with research on the buildings and by being day-of hosts at the businesses. She recommended the first "Doors Open" event be held in the St. George Downtown Historic District. If it is successful, a similar event could be held in other areas in the County where there are enough businesses concentrated in historic buildings. Here are a couple of links to Doors Open events elsewhere:

Doors Open Lowell: <http://www.doorsopenlowell.org/>; Doors Open Denver: <http://www.denvergov.org/doc/ DenverOfficeofCulturalAffairs/DoorsOpenDenver/tabid/440781/Default.aspx>; Doors Open Toronto: <http://www.toronto.ca/doorsopen/>

Susan Crook - Continued

Utah Heritage Foundation: <http://eee.utahheritagefoundation.com/supportus/join-uhf>

Preservation Action: <http://perservationaction.org>

National Trust for Historic Preservation: <http://www.preservationnation.org>

The three Websites above are wonderful organizations promoting "Historic Preservation". You will be amply rewarded if you join any or all of them. If you are already a member, thank you!

1. Utah Arts Council Grant Writing Workshop, February 28, 2011. Washington County Arts Council (WCAC) will be launching a CARE (Community Arts, Recreation, and Education) tax proposal this year. WCHS needs to work with WCAC and the Washington County Commission to ensure that historic preservation can share in the revenue, either by creating a Washington County Historic Preservation Commission/CLG or by allowing WCHS to apply for grants to help fund historic preservation. Susan Crook and LoAnne Barnes introduced the idea of a Washington County CLG to Commissioner Denny Drake at a meeting with him on February 8, 2011.
2. Santa Clara Heritage Committee/Certified Local Government (CLG). Susan met with Chair Kathleen Nielson Thursday, March 10, 2011. Kathleen introduced Susan to the Heritage Committee/CLG staff at the Santa Clara City Hall. Susan went over the Santa Clara CLG audit report and grant paperwork from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with Kathleen and answered questions. The audit report had to be returned prior to the CLG grant deadline to be eligible for this round of regular CLG grants, but the deadline had already passed, so Santa Clara will have to wait until the next round of grants to apply. Susan will give a CLG Basics presentation at the Santa Clara Heritage Committee meeting Tuesday, April 12, 4:30 p.m.
3. Henry Graff & Barbara Staheli Graff House, 1370 Vernons St., Santa Clara, Utah. Susan and Kathleen talked to Vicky Frei Lasswell about rehabilitation ideas, uses, and funding for the historic house. Kim Campbell did a rehabilitation feasibility study under a 2005 Utah Preservation Initiatives Fund (UPIF) grant to the Santa Clara Heritage Committee. The Graffs brought the board and batten-sided house to Santa Clara from Silver Reef in the late 1800s and placed it over a cellar on a stone foundation.
  - a. Update: When Susan visited Vicky Friday, April 1, 2011 and left a written list of recommendations she learned that Vicky is considering demolishing the house rather than rehabbing on advice of her grandson from Arizona who does not have a background in preservation.
4. Susan wrote a blog for Utah Heritage Foundation laying out best practices for Historic Preservation Commissions with Leeds as a case study, "Leeds Historic Preservation Commission Leads the Way". Read the blog online at: <http://www.utahheritagefoundation.com/news/uhf-blog/leeds-historic-preservation-commission-leads-the-way.html>

## 5. Utah State Legislature Advocacy

a. SB 243 Substitute 1, Historic Areas, or Sites Amendments. Utah Heritage Foundation advocated against this bill throughout the 2011 legislative session, because it threatened the state statute that authorizes local governments to preserve historic resources. This was the final blog post by Utah Heritage Foundation Executive Director Kirk Huffaker: <http://www.utahheritagefoundation.com/news/uhf-blog/sb-243-signed-into-law.html>

Despite the advocacy of Utah Heritage Foundation and our constituency requesting a veto of SB 243 Substitute 1, yesterday, Governor Herbert signed the bill into law. This will put a one-year moratorium into effect for the Yalecrest neighborhood of Salt Lake City starting on May 10th for considering any local zoning tools for teardowns, right-sizing additions and garages, or design guidelines, and while the moratorium is in place, implements a restriction against demolition by not allowing permits for wholesale "demolition" within the neighborhood.

However, the biggest change may come after the Land Use Task Force begins meeting during the summer to consider changes to the state statute for local historic districts. Proposals that come from the LUTF can easily get made into bills for the next legislative session and are widely considered by Legislators as a vetting process for statewide land use policy, though it is a closed process from the public.

## 6. Preservation Action Advocacy Day, Washington, D.C.

a. Susan Crook is currently the only Preservation Action board member from Utah, although there are half a dozen other regular members. She joined fellow PA members, State Historic Preservation Officers, Preservation Commissioners from around the Country, and National Trust for Historic Preservation staff and leadership for Advocacy Day in Washington D.C. March 6-9, 2011. Susan advocated for preservation programs and funding at the offices of Congressman Jim Matheson, Congressman Jason Chaffetz, Congressman Rob Bishop, and Senator Mike Lee, but was unable to get an appointment at Senator Hatch's office. Amy Cole, Mountains/ Plains Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, joined her for the visit with Congressman Bishop. Bishop, Chair of the House Public Lands Subcommittee, was the speaker at the Advocacy Day luncheon on Monday, March 7, 2011. Read the blog Susan wrote about his speech, "Utah's Rob Bishop Applauded for Historic Tax Credit Support", on the Utah Heritage Foundation website at: <http://www.utahheritagefoundation.com/news/uhfblog/utahs-rob-bishop-applauded-for-historic-tax-credit-support.html>

Susan wants everyone to know about the "Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument Workshop" which is going to be held here in St. George. It is May 17-19, 2011, in the Orchids Conference Center at Lexington Inn. If you are interested you can find out about it at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JZLZNQL> by May 1, 2011 or you can contact [windy.greer@nau.edu](mailto:windy.greer@nau.edu) (928) 523-8129. This Conference is hosted by

### Susan Crook - Continued

Members of The Nature Conservancy, BLM, Grand Canyon Trust, Ecological Restoration Institute-NAU, National Park Service, and The Wilderness Society. There will be an overnight field trip on the monument to discuss diverse user group interests, ecological conditions and management opportunities facing the monument. The monument is out on the Arizona Strip.

### Santa Clara - Sherri Anderson

George Cannon posted an interesting article titled "How the Swiss Founded a Mormon Town", which was in The Spectrum Newspaper. You can go to [http://swissinfo.ch/eng/culture/How the Swiss founded a Mormontown.html?cid=29937810](http://swissinfo.ch/eng/culture/How_the_Swiss_founded_a_Mormontown.html?cid=29937810) the Website and view the article.

Sherri and her Committee are working towards a GREAT SWISS DAYS in Santa Clara. There will be many activities planned for everyone to enjoy, along with lots of good food and music. Talks will be given about each of the original Swiss families by one or more of their descendants.

### Washington City – GeorgeStaheli/Yvonne Kendall

They are bringing and collecting donations for a new Bell Tower on the old Schoolhouse in Washington City. They want to install a replica of the original Bell, for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party of the school. They have used a portion of the Grant money to have copies made of some of the old pictures to have in the Museum. Lynne Clark has been helping them.

They are also getting ready for the Cotton Fest which will be held May 7 to the 14<sup>th</sup> of 2011. In years past they have had as many as 10,000 4th graders visit their Museum. They want to tell stories of the original pioneers. Some of the events for Cotton Days are the following: old Tractor Pulls, Rodeo, Fishing Derby's at the old fishing holes in Washington City, "Hell Hole" 5k Run, new Cotton Fest Princess, Movies in the Park, Parade, and Softball games.

Originally, the pioneers started holding school underneath Mesquite bushes. Then they moved into an old Granary, and then they used an old Church. Eventually they built the school building which is the building they are commemorating now. They have done research and found pictures of all the places where their original school classes were held. With the research they have done, they will be able to make a big book of stories and pictures for the Museum. They have asked some local Artists to draw sketches from memory of how the buildings looked. They will include these sketches in the book also.

### Fort Harmony - the Platt's

Fort Harmony will sponsor a Historical Musical this coming summer.

**Richard Kohler - Jim Harlan - Rockville**

Richard told Jim that he would like to come to Rockville and do a little "animation of the Water Turns" - who got the water and when. He would like to do a video of it.

**Field Trips - Richard Kohler**

The May Field Trip will be on May 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be at Bloomington (Heberville and Price) - Blake Farm House, Petroglyph Park, Jacob Peart Inscription, Price Remnants, and the Bloomington Canal Company -Jeff and Connie Morby. Please meet at the LDS Church on the corner of Man of War and

Respectfully Submitted  
Lynne Johnston