

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
January 28, 2012  
"Final"

Dick Kohler opened the meeting at 10:15 AM. He asked everyone to introduce themselves, as there were several visitors. Those present were LoAnne Barnes, George Cannon, Bill and Emma Fife, George Staheli, Carol Christensen, Dick Kohler, Susan Crook, L. Karen Platt, Lyman Platt, Jeanine VanderBruggen, Elaine Tyler, Lynne Johnston, and Enessy Ficklin.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Paul and Marlene Furr  
Valerie Bailey Johnson

**MINUTES – Lynne Johnston**

I am not sure the Minutes of the November 30, 2011, meeting were approved. If there was any discussion, I missed it.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Carol Christensen**

Carol reported that there is \$3373.76 in the Checking account and \$21,503.35 in the CD account. Both accounts are at State Bank of Southern Utah.

**SILVER REEF – LoAnne Barnes**

The April Field Trip will be led by Milt Hokanson, a BLM Ranger, to the Bar 10 Ranch. He is very knowledgeable about the activities on the Arizona Strip. He will have details at next meeting.

LoAnne talked about the Silver Reef Mining District Heritage Trail group. This trail will connect the Washington Co. Park property (which includes the Wells Fargo Museum & other historic buildings) to the Red Cliffs NCA (which includes Adams House & Red Cliffs Campground) following the White Reef. It will be an Interpretive Trail describing the mining history, geology, paleontology, and Anazazi sites in the area.

The SR Mining District Trail groups have contacted Form Tomorrow, a non-profit group. They offer a 10-week Internship program to graduate level students majoring in Landscape Design, Trail Design, Engineering to do local "real world projects". The trail groups have made application for a Feasibility Study of this proposed trail to Form Tomorrow.

## Silver Reef continued

BLM has set up a Docent Program to keep the Adams House open. It will be open 4 days per month. Please call Ben Cramer, an Interpretive Ranger, if you are interested. His phone number is [\(435\) 688-3354](tel:4356883354),

## **WEBSITE – George Cannon**

- Jim Kemple contributed photos and biographies for John Kemple, Amelia Leicht Kemple and John Orson Kemple to the website.
- Ben Kramer got permission from the BLM to give us copies of their photos of the Orson B. Adams home. The first batch has been put on the website.
- Alex Wood, a student at SUU, submitted a biography of Jacob Hamblin and some photos for the website as part of a history class project.
- Craig Harvey and the Community Development Department of the City of St. George updated their “Landmarks & Historic Sites” book using a lot of the material on our website. In return, they gave us permission to post the book on the website.

These are examples of recent contributions to the website. George hopes to spend most of his time formatting and putting data up on the website and not going out to dig up that data. Anything that can be done to encourage contributions would be appreciated. The purpose of our website is to capture and provide easy access to our historical information.

There are three ways to find information on the website:

- All subjects are listed alphabetically in the “Subject Index”
- Pick a subject area on the left side of any page and click to go to an index of topics on that subject
- Follow the links embedded in the text of each subject page to related subject pages

George has done a 5-month upgrade of the WCHS website. He has used the things he learned at the classes he took last summer to conform to HTML standards and make the website more maintainable. As an example: 1,970 htm files were recorded as php files. The website includes 2,912 jpg images, 16 gif images, and 237 pdf files.

## **MCQUARRIE MEMORIAL MUSEUM – Jeanine VanderBruggen**

Jeanine thanked George Staheli for the “Cow Bone Collection”, which she said the children loved. George told her they weren’t as easy to find anymore.

## **WASHINGTON CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM – George Staheli**

George stated that the Washington City Historical Museum will loan out certain things, especially if they have duplicates. There was some discussion as to the safety and security of some of the “Collections” that are donated to the Museum.

## Washington City Historical Society - continued

Dick suggested that George turn in the progress report and receipts for their Grant. Lyman stated that they should submit receipts for the total dollars they have spent so WCHS can close out the Grant. Lyman made a motion that George bring all the receipts and proper paperwork to the February 2012 meeting. Susan seconded the Motion and all members present voted and said "Aye".

George also talked about the Grant Money which WCHS has given to the Washington City Historical Society. He said they have found receipts for approximately \$950.00. They are willing to return the money, but would like to keep it to finish the project.

## **FORT HARMONY – Lyman and Karen Platt**

Lyman said he is processing all of his genealogy books: Spanish, Native American collection etc., to be placed at Southern Utah University Special Collections Department. Karen stated that they had submitted their proposal for Camp Harmony to the "Caretakers of LDS Church Property". Dane Leavitt, an Area Seventy from the LDS Church, came to take a look and loved the project. There is a possibility of having 80 campsites and maybe some cabins.

Leo Lyman and Lyman and Karen Platt would like property by the Fort to build a Museum.

## **UTAH HERITAGE FOUNDATION - Susan Crook**

Susan told of the Traditional Building Skills Institute (TBSI) at Snow College that trains students, professionals and building owners in the restoration of old buildings. Those interested in learning traditional skills like stone masonry and stone carving, adobe, timber framing, and other building arts can sign up for a single workshop or enroll in the two-year Associate of Applied Science degree program. TBSI is being restructured to offer a one-year certificate in traditional building skills, and an Associate of Science as an undergraduate transfer degree that could lead to a career in construction management, facilities management, architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, historic preservation consulting or related fields. Check the TBSI website for more information.

There is going to be a Bicycle Barnstorming tour sponsored by the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area, Utah Heritage Foundation, and Utah Pioneer Heritage Arts June 10-13, 2012. Cyclists and an affiliate group on a tour bus will visit old barns in Sanpete and Sevier Counties on the backroads and rural communities in the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area. "The tour will bring together cyclists, heritage and history buffs, and barn aficionados" to explore how old barns contribute to the rustic aura of central Utah. These old barns are some of the most distinctive remnants of our pioneer heritage.

## Utah Heritage Foundation continued

They reflect the area's agricultural flavor, the industry and practicality of the early Mormon colonizers, and pattern of settlement they established", said Monte Bona, executive director of MPNHA. (Read the articles at the MPNHA and Utah Heritage Foundation websites).

Susan mentioned that one purpose of the tour is to point out the options for saving old barns through their continued use on working farms, rehabbing them for heritage tourism-related businesses or other local businesses, and helping barn owners find funding and labor to stabilize barns in disrepair until further restoration work can be done. Heritage barns are falling down or being torn down at an alarming rate, sometimes to sell the wood for paneling in high-end homes and businesses. Many of these barns could be saved with the investment of a few thousand dollars to repair roofs and foundations to stabilize them until further restoration can be done. Santa Clara has barns that are older than some of the homes.

### **SANTA CLARA – Sherri Anderson**

Sherri (via e-mail) told about their progress on their Museum project. Construction should start in about two weeks. They have been working on digitizing their histories and pictures.

### **FUTURE WCHS PROJECTS – Dick Kohler**

Dick mentioned that Silver Reef/Leeds (LoAnne Barnes), National Heritage Foundation (Susan Crook), and Fort Harmony (Lyman & Karen Platt) are/have ongoing projects. In fact most of the projects at present are ongoing. Dick suggested that we make up a list of future (2012 and beyond) projects/ideas.

Susan found a whiteboard and wrote down the following suggestions:

- Update DUP Histories and compile them by subject – Jeanine Vanderbruggen
- Movie – History of Medicine – Ian Crowe
  - Find sponsors, coordinator
  - George Staheli has old prescriptions
- Provide historical and technical advice on movie projects – WCHS
  - Children's Museum
  - Coordinate with Janet Seegmiller (Special Collections at SUU) for student interns
- Historical Music – record events
- Topical County Histories (see above)
- History and education of water use – Dick Kohler
- Scan records in Washington City Relief Society Building – George Staheli and Jeanine VanderBruggen

## WCHS Projects continued

- WCHS Website - public meeting
  - Steering committee
  - George C. – Presenter
  - Scheduling – Jennifer Kohler
  - PR/invitations
  - Targeted audience
  - Member Recruiting

### Action Item:

- Project Coordination – All
  - List people who could help with projects; list personal areas of interest

### Other Comments Regarding “Projects”

1. George mentioned that he could do a “walk thru” – connecting his computer to screen. Would he need a list of things people might be interested in – from the Website?
2. Karen wondered about getting support /help to get the projects done. She said we would need to “Lobby” for support.
3. Roger Simister has made video’s of all the towns in Washington County. Ian is going to help him “break them down”.
4. Sons of Utah Pioneers made a CD about the Hurricane Canal – we could find out who made the CD and when it was done.
5. It was suggested that Dean Cox might be a possible help
6. “Temple Dressed in White” is on our Website
7. What is the possibility of making a movie/documentary on the old “Arrowhead Highway”
8. Wait until after “Parade of Homes” to work on the showing of WCHS Website – how big of an event should it be?

## **FUTURE FIELD TRIPS**

February 25<sup>th</sup> - Val A. Browning Archives – Dixie College – 10:00AM  
Daphne Selberg – Doug Alder

March - Washington Fields

April – Arizona Strip – Milt Hokanson – BLM

May – Hurricane Water Canal

## **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

1. Emma Fife and Lynn Clark made their recent books with their own money – WCHS might have been able to get help for them
2. George Staheli might be able to find out how to preserve his old “Walgreens” prescriptions by calling Utah State Historical Society
3. George Staheli said his brother (Ralph) knew 60 years of the history of Washington Fields Dam.
4. Edd Hafen (Lyman Hafen’s brother) has a real interest in the history of Washington County.
5. Is Mike Empey open to some involvement on our committee?

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lynne Johnston