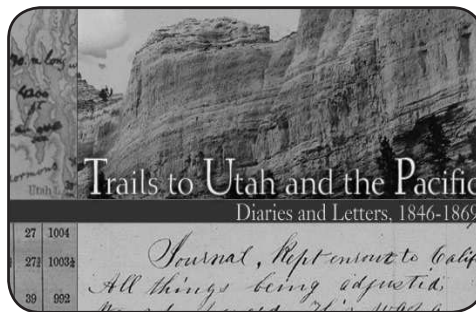


SALT LAKE CITY CONFERENCE

May 24-27, 2007

MORMON HISTORY RESEARCH FAIR

MHA announces its first Mormon History Research Fair to be held on Thursday evening (5:30-8:00 p.m.) in Ballroom A (near both the registration area and site of the evening's plenary session). In a rapidly changing world of global and local access to resources, new opportunities and possibilities abound. Revolutionary changes have occurred in historical research. This Research Fair is designed to introduce attendees to the new realm of Mormon History. Digital collections and on-line indexes



Source: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award99/upbhtml/overhome.html>

will be spotlighted. The Fair boasts exhibits and demonstrations from the following eleven repositories: Brigham Young University, Lee Library; Center for Family History and Genealogy at Brigham Young University; Family History Library; LDS Church History Library; Mountain Meadows Massacre Digital Archive at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Southern Utah University, Sherratt Library; University of Utah, Marriott Library; Utah Historical Society; Utah State Archives; Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library; Weber State University, Stewart Library; and Westminster College, Giovale Library. All are invited to attend and upgrade their knowledge of Mormon History resources

EARLY MORMON QUILTS, PIONEER MEDICINE SPOTLIGHTED IN PRE-CONFERENCE TOUR

Although Brigham Young's geographical "State of Deseret" did not survive, his vision for self-sufficient communities played out in everyday lives of Saints in the Utah Territory. Attendees of the "Life in Territorial Utah" pre-conference tour will encounter much physical evidence of their social, political, economic, and religious culture.

This pre-conference tour will include a visit to The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum. Mary Bywater Cross, quilt expert and author of *Quilts and the Mormon Migrations*, will lecture on early Mormon quilters and their quilts. Attendees will have the remarkable and rare opportunity to see in detail these pioneer quilts (which are not exhibited).

A motor tour through historic *Fort Douglas* (a U.S. Army outpost founded in 1862) will address its impact on the lives of Saints in Territorial Utah. Other highlights of the tour will provide glimpses of historic sites and events throughout the day.

The workings of a pioneer community will then unfold in "Old Deseret Village" at *This Is The Place Heritage Park*. Participants will look at pioneer life literally from birth to death and everything in between, exploring many historic buildings and stories of those who lived and worked inside. Included will be a lecture on frontier medicine by Jared and Bre Cornell, experts in 19th century medical procedures. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable shoes, and be prepared for walking a few pioneer blocks with a slight incline. Lunch will be included. This tour will be conducted by Ron and Nancy Andersen, local historians and docents at both *The Museum of Church History and Art* and *This Is the Place Heritage Park* in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Old Pioneer Cemetery
Courtesy This Is The Place State Park



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Association*

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Please send news items,
announcements, calls for
papers, and letters to
Larry & Alene King

Volume 42
No. 2

President's Message

Salt Lake City has just wrapped up another General Conference, a semi-annual event broadcast to Latter-day Saints around the world from the “Crossroads of the West,” as it has been called. Next month we hope to see many of you at this same crossroads to look at “Crossroads and Confrontations,” a theme that will be explored by many of the papers at this year’s annual conference. Some of the events whose 150th anniversaries we will remember—and explore— were confrontational, even violent. But many of the events at the Crossroads of the West were constructive encounters and beneficial exchanges. These, too, will receive attention.

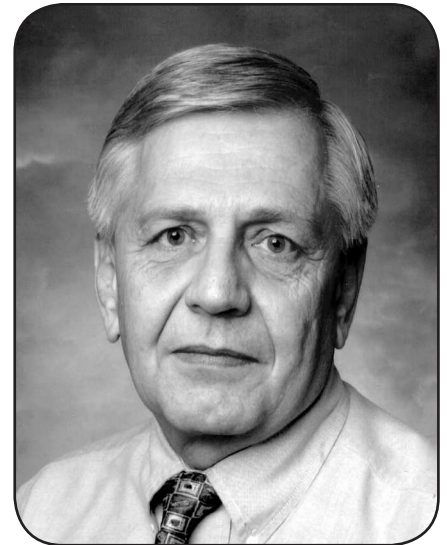
When pioneer leader Brigham Young first entered the Salt Lake Valley in the summer of 1847, and reentered it in 1848 to make it his home, he welcomed the distance and the isolation. He had long envisioned such a place where Mormons would not be surrounded by the “old settlers” but *be* the old settlers—a place where the young religion could develop, “mature our institutions,” as he once put it, without constant friction and opposition.

But distance was not enough to ensure isolation. The time that Young and his co-religionists had the region to themselves was short. Though they remained in the majority for generations (in many parts of the region they still do), the distant western territory soon saw travelers, traders, even settlers of every stripe. Some were merely passing through. But numbers of them came to call the area home. Though the region arguably served nonetheless as a place where the Mormons could “mature their institutions,” much of that maturing occurred not in isolation but in proximity to others, and was influenced by relationships—often unwelcome relationships—with others.

Some relationships were welcomed. From the pulpit Brigham Young invited the good and honorable, promising protection and freedom of conscience to good men and women of other faiths. Many came and some lived peaceably among the Mormons. But the reality also was that deep religious, political and social differences divided the Mormons from many who came to Utah. Friction and confrontation were never far distant in the early years, not surprising, of course, given that some came precisely to contain or change or oppose Mormon institutions.

Looking back from a distance on those difficult and often turbulent times, filled with sometimes incompatible hopes, dreams, and perspectives, we can appreciate the challenges faced by those on both sides of a religious divide and draw lessons from their experiences that hopefully make us more understanding, more compassionate, more Christian than we would otherwise be. That is my hope as we come together in May from many places and many perspectives to share an invigorating social and academic exploration of a history that still has relevance today and that we, in various ways, find meaning in.

See you in Salt Lake City!



*Ronald K. Esplin
MHA President*

2008 Sacramento California Conference Call for Papers

Growth and Gateways: Mormonism in a Wider World

The forty-third meeting of the Mormon History Association will be held at the Red Lion Hotel in Sacramento, California, May 22-25, 2008. Although proposals for papers on a wide variety of topics related to Mormon history are welcome, this meeting in Sacramento presents a unique opportunity to consider Mormon pioneer history in the broader context of the settlement of the American West, as well as issues related to twentieth-century LDS expansion to California and beyond. The theme “Growth and Gateways: Mormonism in a Wider World” reflects these areas of inquiry.

Northern California was the point of arrival for the first Mormon colonizers in the West when Sam Brannan and his group on the ship *Brooklyn* arrived in Yerba Buena, present-day San Francisco, on 31 July 1846. Brannan established the first Mormon newspaper in the West—the *California Star*— and the first west-coast Mormon community, New Hope. Mormon Battalion veterans helped discover gold near Sacramento, and Brannan operated a store there as the city became the booming supply center for the Gold Rush. The small Mormon branch established in Sacramento in the 1870s—the only LDS branch in the state at the time—was a way-station for late nineteenth-century missionaries bound for San Francisco and the Pacific Islands. In the twentieth century, California became the home of the first large concentration of Mormons outside of the Intermountain region. As rapid growth continued, California was the place where Church leaders first confronted the challenges of integrating and organizing a substantial membership in the midst of a larger community with diverse cultural and religious values.

Proposals addressing the theme, as well as proposals on other topics of interest to the field of Mormon history, are due October 1, 2007. Please include a proposal form (available as of July 1 at www.mhahome.org) with your submission. Due to the growing number of submissions for MHA meetings, the Program Committee prefers proposals of full panels (three papers and a commentator), but, as always, single papers are also welcome.

Proposals should be mailed to the Program Committee chair, Susan L. Fales, L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602. Electronic proposals may also be sent, by the deadline, to susan_fales@byu.edu (underscore after susan). Notifications of acceptance or rejection will be mailed by January 15, 2008.

MHA Program Committee

Co-Chair: Susan L. Fales,

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Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

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Claremont, California

W. Paul Reeve,

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University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

“Crossroads and Confrontations”

By Craig Fuller,
Associate Editor, Utah Historical Quarterly.

The Utah War (1857-58) and the congressional hearings to seat Mormon Apostle and Senator Reed Smoot (1904-1907) are two significant events that shaped Utah, Mormon, and American history. Each brought the nation, Utah, and the Mormon Church to a crossroad of sorts: the Utah War establishing federal authority over the affairs of the territory; the Smoot hearing, soothing a highly charged political atmosphere and enhancing the public image of the Mormon Church.

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the Mexican War in 1848 brought the Mormon Saints who had fled Babylon into the frontier wilderness of northern Mexico again within the domain of the United States government. For a short time Brigham Young had established an autonomous self-government with a strong direction from the church in the vast State of Deseret. However, the passage of the Compromise of 1850 the enactment of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which establish an unwelcome principle of squatter's or popular sovereignty in many quarters of the United States, set the church and the federal government to a crossroads of military confrontation.

Denied statehood (home-rule) in part because of reports being circulated in Washington, D. C., from a handful of unwanted federal officials, of the abuse of power and the peculiar marriage practice among the Saints, Young and Jedediah M. Grant stiffened the hearts and minds of the Saints towards outsiders. From Washington, D. C., territorial delegate John M. Bernhisel observed that government officials were blinded by the reports from Utah. “The ignorance of the collected wisdom of the nation in regard to our region of country is most profound,” Bernhisel wrote Young.¹

Concerned with the political conditions and the possibility of statehood being achieved by the Mormon populous, the *New York Herald* asked: Would squatter sovereignty ensure the Mormon saints statehood; “Does Congress or does squatter sovereignty cover the question of polygamy?” The *New York Times* editorialized: “They [southern politicians] have been fond of asserting, lately, that Congress was bound to admit new States, without regard to the character of their domestic institutions. If this be true concerning slavery it must, also, be true concerning polygamy. Utah cannot be excluded upon any theory of power which would not, also authorize the exclusion of any new Slave State.”²

The political unrest in Utah and the dissatisfaction over squatter sovereignty formed an important plank in the

newly formed Republican Party's political platform: purge the nation of the Mormon marriage problem and associated with it the territory's disregard for American institutions and laws, and limit the expansion of slavery.

Blunderings and missteps by Brigham Young and political miscalculations of newly elected James Buchanan drew Utah and the nation to a point of confrontation, identified variously as the Utah War, Buchanan's Blunder, the Echo Canyon War, the Contractor's War, the Mormon Rebellion, the Mormon War, the Utah Expedition, and Buck and Brigham's Blunder.

Reacting quickly to solve the Utah problem, Secretary of War John B. Floyd ordered the Commanding General of the Army on June 29, 1857, to organize an army of 2,500 men to put down the Utah rebellion, and ensure the safety and security of the new territorial governor, Alfred Cumming.

Even as the 2,500-man army and accompanying teamsters and camp followers made their way to Utah there were various opinions aired concerning Buchanan's actions. Georgia Senator Robert Toombs said: “As to the Mormon war, it is not yet a fact. Congress, which alone has the power to make war, has not spoken, and it is very certain unless our country

has undergone a silent revolution, that the President cannot make that war.” Senator Alfred Iverson, also from Georgia, said: “It is not a war in the technical sense of the term; it is a rebellion on the part of the Mormon people, which it becomes necessary and proper on the part of the Government of the United States to crush.” New York Senator William H. Seward said of the matter: “I see in their [Mormon] religious and political constitution two martial elements—the elements of resistance to law and to authority such as have never yet been successfully overcome when combined....”³

President Young was so furious with the action taken by the nation that in a speech in the Bowery in Salt Lake City in July 1857, he admitted: “I can not see and hear well enough to report things straight.”⁴

This first physical confrontation between the United States government and the Mormon controlled Utah territory left lasting scars on the face of Utah's physical landscape and on the nation's political landscape. Fortifications located high on the north walls of Echo Canyon and at Mormon Flat can still be seen, and the Camp Floyd cemetery, a National Historic Site, is a reminder of the ante-bellum rebellion.

The Mormon problem, however, continued. It would not



“Witches Rocks” in Echo Canyon
Courtesy BYU Special Collections



Brigham Young
Courtesy BYU Special Collections

be fully resolved until after the issuance of the Manifesto, the achievement of statehood, and the Senate hearing to seat church apostle and newly elected Senator Reed Smoot. Smoot's election challenged the moral and political sensibility of many in the U. S. Senate and elsewhere. On January 27, 1904, the U. S. Senate authorized itself "to investigate the right and title of Reed Smoot to a seat in the

Senate as Senator from the State of Utah."⁵ Many in the Senate wanted to accomplish what the House of Representatives had done a few years earlier, deny duly elected B. H. Roberts his seat.

Opinions for and against the seating of Smoot were many. The *Wilkesbarre* (Pennsylvania) *Leader*, asked: "Shall Smoot sit in the Senate? 'Yes,' says Utah; 'No' says the rest of the United States... He is the representative of a practice that would not be tolerated anywhere else in the country." Said another of many who spoke before the Senate committee: "the Mormon authorities constitute a band of conspiracies, whose object is to set aside and nullify the laws of the land when in their judgment such laws are in conflict with duties which they owe to their organization...."⁶ Out spoken Idaho Senator Fred T. DuBois critics said: "the Mormon authorities constitute a band of conspirators, whose object is to set aside and nullify the laws of the land when in their judgment such laws are in conflict with the duties...[and] to make the state subservient to the church...."⁷

Smoot's response to his challengers was "I owe no obligation to any church or any other organization which in any way interferes with my supreme allegiance in civil affairs to my county, an allegiance which I freely, fully, gladly give."⁸

Members of the U. S. Senate eventually voted forty-two to twenty-eight not to deny the Mormon Apostle-Senator his seat. For the nation, the long drawn-out hearings finally put to rest the "Mormon problem." Smoot would serve in the U. S. Senate for thirty years (1903-1933), rising to positions of influence in the national Republican Party and in the U. S. Senate.

(Endnotes)

¹ Quoted in Richard D. Poll, "The Mormon Question Enters National Politics, 1850-1856," *Utah Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 25 (1957): 117.

² Both newspapers quotation are in Poll, "The Mormon Question," 125.

³ LeRoy R. Hafen and Ann W. Hafen, eds., *The Utah Expedition, 1857-1858: A Documentary Account* (Glendale, Calif.: The Arthur H. Clark, Co., 1958), 248-49.

⁴ Hafen and Hafen, *The Utah Expedition*, 179-80.

⁵ U. S. Senate, Report 4253, Part 1, "Reed Smoot," 59th Cong., 1st sess., p. 1.

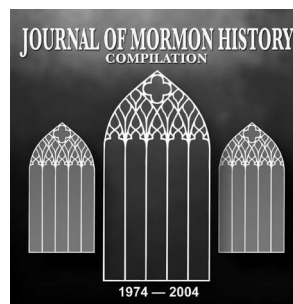
⁶ Quoted in Milton R. Merrill, *Reed Smoot Apostle in Politics* (Logan: Utah State University, 1990), 33.

⁷ U. S. Senate Report 4253, Part 2, "Speech of Hon. Fred T. DuBois in the Senate of the United States, December 13, 1904," 59th Cong., 1st sess., p. 10.

⁸ Quoted in Merrill, *Reed Smoot*, 78.

MHA Awards Committees Need You!

The Mormon History Association has several committees which serve the needs of the organization for one to three years. These include the award committees for books, articles, and student publications. If you have a desire to serve in these or other capacities for MHA, please identify the area in which you would like to serve, along with submission of your resume/curriculum vitae to the Executive Directors of the Mormon History Association



New Journal of Mormon History DVD

Available at the Salt Lake Conference will be the updated Journal DVD containing the additional articles published through 2004. You can purchase your copy for \$40.00.

Book Notices & Selected Articles

Book Notices By J. Michael Hunter

- Arrington, Leonard J., Reid Larkin Neilson, and Ronald W. Walker. *Reflections of a Mormon Historian: Leonard J. Arrington on the New Mormon History*. Norman, Okla.: Arthur H. Clark Co., 2006.
- Bushman, Richard L. and Mormon Artists Group Press. *On the Road with Joseph Smith: an Author's Diary*. New York: Mormon Artists Group Press, 2006.
- Cowley, Patricia F. and Parker M. Nielson. *Thunder Over Zion: the Life of Chief Judge Willis W. Ritter*. Salt Lake City: The University of Utah Press, 2006.
- Dorius, Guy L., Craig K. Manscill, and Craig James Ostler. *Regional Studies in Latter-day Saint Church History: Ohio and Upper Canada*. Regional Studies in Latter-day Saint Church History, 6. Provo, Utah: BYU Religious Studies Center, 2006.
- Freeman, Robert C. *Saints at War: Nineteenth Century*. Provo, Utah: Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 2006.
- Haslam, Reed Berg. *Translating Scripture: the Thai Book of Mormon*. Sandy, Utah: H-town Pub, 2006.
- Howick, Edward Keith. *A Concise History of Nauvoo*. Silverton, ID: WindRiver Pub, 2006.
- Jones, Garth N. *Missionary James Thompson Lisonbee to the South: His Last Testament, Settlement of Manassa, Colorado (1878-80)*. Logan, Utah: Mountain West Center, 2006.
- Kettley, Marlene C. and Arnold K. Manscill Craig K. Garr. *Mormon Thoroughfare: a History of the Church in Illinois*. Provo, Utah: BYU Publications, 2006.
- Rushton, Jack L. *Arise and Shine Forth: Laboring Among the Lamanites: Missionary Experiences in Central America 1958-1961*. 1st ed. Kearney, NE: Morris Pub, 2006.

Selected Articles By Jennifer St. Clair

- Brown, Samuel. "The "Beautiful Death" in the Smith Family." *BYU Studies* 45, no. 4 (2006): 121-150.
- Grow, Matthew J. "The Life and Death of Parley P. Pratt" *Pioneer* 54, no. 1 (2007): 24-29.
- Hale, Van. "I am Liberal In My Sentiments Towards All Men": Exploring the Mind of Joseph Smith on Diversity Among the Saints. *Sunstone* 144 (November 2006): 41-54.
- Lyman, Edward Leo. "Caught In Between: Jacob Hamblin and the Southern Paiutes During the Black Hawk-Navajo Wars of the Late 1860s." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 75, no. 1 (Winter 2007): 22-43.
- Kerry, Paul E. "Thomas Carlyle's Draft Essay on the Mormons." *Literature and Belief* 25, no. 1-2 (2005): 262-288.
- MacKinnon, William P. "Loose in the Stacks: A Half-Century with the Utah War and its Legacy." *Dialogue* 40, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 43-81.
- Mays, Kenneth R. "Following the Trail of Zion's Camp: Training Ground for Brigham Young." *Pioneer* 54, no. 1 (2007): 2-20.
- Nelson, Mark B. and Steven C. Harper. "The Imprisonment of Martin Harris in 1833." *BYU Studies* 45, no. 4 (2006): 113-119.
- Paulos, Michael H. "Political Cartooning and the Reed Smoot Hearings." *Sunstone* 144 (November 2006): 36-40.
- Potter, Dennis. "The Sacramental Worldview: A Philosophical Comparison of Joseph Smith's Magical View of Ordinances With a Liberation View of Sacraments." *Sunstone* 144 (November 2006): 41-54.
- Richards, A. LeGrand. "Moritz Busch's *Die Mormonen* and the Conversion of Karl G. Maeser." *BYU Studies* 45, no. 4 (2006): 47-68.
- Valentine, Mary E. "Western Maine Saints: A Newry Family Who Joined the Latter-Day Saints in Seeking a Home in the West." *The Courier* 29, no. 2-4 (2005).
- Valentine, Mary E. "Western Maine Saints: A Newry Family Who Joined the Latter-Day Saints in Seeking a Home in the West [Part 2, concluded]." *The Courier* 30, no. 1 (Spring 2006): 7-8.
- Valentine, Mary E. "Western Maine Saints: Mormon Missionaries in the 1830s." *The Courier* 29, no. 1 (spring 2005): 7-8.
- Wood, David Lyle. ""The Dearest Laborers": Pilgrims on the Lightning Road to Zion." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 75, no. 1 (Winter 2007): 44-62.

The Mormon History Association is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to the study and understanding of all aspects of Mormon history. We welcome all who are interested in the Mormon past, irrespective of religious affiliation, academic training, or world location. We promote our goals through scholarly research, conferences, awards, and publications.

MHA Executive Director Position

Larry and Alene King will soon be retiring as Executive Directors of MHA. For those who may be interested in applying, the following is a description of the Executive Director position.

The Executive Director of the Mormon History Association (MHA) is appointed by the President and approved by the Council. The term of office is three years although said term can be extended for additional three year terms at the discretion of the Council. The Director is to be the collective memory of MHA by maintaining all organizational, membership, and financial files, records, and correspondence. The person filling this position should be computer literate and demonstrate a skilled proficiency in word processing, financial management, database programs, and the operations of electronic mail and website management. The financial integrity of the organization is to be maintained by the Executive Director by possessing a high level of detailed knowledge and technical skills with financial reports, budgets, investments, tax returns, and in negotiating contracts and agreements for conference sites, facilities, services, equipment, advertisers and exhibitors.

The candidate must have the ability to conceive and execute successful conferences with speakers, tours, awards, and exhibitors. Required people skills include working with and coordinating the responsibilities, activities and objectives of the Council members and officers to assure a smooth and efficiently run operation; to work, communicate, correspond with, and take care of the needs of MHA members thereby maintaining an informed, growing, and loyal membership base; and with skill and diplomacy represent MHA in the public arena. The Executive Director is a voting member of the Council and is to give reports and make recommendations to the officers and Council on his/her duties, responsibilities, and activities as identified in the Bylaws of the organization, Council and Presidential directives in keeping with the Mission and Vision Statements of MHA.

All applicants for this position should submit their name and qualifications to Donald Q. Cannon, Chair of MHA's Search Committee, at donald_cannon@byu.edu. Questions about the position can be addressed by calling Larry or Alene King 1-888-642-3678 or by email at klarry@comcast.net. A professional stipend is paid by MHA for these services commensurate with experience and qualifications of the applicant. While it is not required, the position is suited for an older, perhaps retired, couple. The time commitment varies throughout the year. Winter and spring months are the most active months with summer months requiring less of a time commitment.

The selected person(s) will train with Larry & Alene King through the 2008 conference in May and then officially take over in June 2008.

Western History Association

2008 Call for Papers Salt Lake City, October 22-25

“Risky Business”

Salt Lake City is a welcome venue for both this talk of risk and for risky talk. Carving a new mountain home for generations of faithful is surely a chancy endeavor, not to mention the grit required to journey thousands of miles from one's birthplace to pound railroad stakes for a living.

To explore the risky businesses of Western history, the 2008 program committee solicits proposals for sessions that themselves seek to re-imagine and re-invent the standard conference format. Possible sessions could follow new formats that give fresh legs to the faltering three-paper standard. Workshops could belly up to a range of topics: the perils of public history; the pitfalls of peer review; the problems and pleasures of crossing disciplines; books we couldn't and could, do without; museum exhibits we would like to see funded, movies we'd like to make. Other sessions could consider a variety of media such as essays, web pages, dissertation chapters, etc., that might be pre-posted electronically and made available through the WHA website.

Submissions may be for an entire session, a panel discussion, or an individual paper. For entire sessions, submit an abstract that outlines the purpose of the session. Each paper proposal should include a one-page abstract and one-page c.v. including address, phone and email for each participant.

Send all program submission materials to: Karen Merrill, Department of History, William College, Williamstown, MA 01267 (kmerrill@williams.edu) Submissions should be post-marked by 31 August 2007.

For more information visit www.westernhistoryassociation.org.

BYU Student Symposium MHA Best Paper Award

On February 23, 2007 at the Symposium luncheon, Spencer Fluhman, representing MHA as an awards committee member over student awards, presented to Christopher C. Jones, the award of \$250.00 for his paper “*Daniel E. Jones - Latter-day Saint Settler of the Southwest.*”

Christopher is a senior from Plano, Texas, majoring in history. He also receives a one year membership in MHA. Congratulations Christopher.

Mormon History Association
c/o Larry & Alene King
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

AML Call for Papers Irreantum Contest Deadline: May 31, 2007

The Association for Mormon Letters is pleased to announce the seventh annual Irreantum fiction contest. Because Irreantum is a literary journal dedicated to exploring Mormon culture, all contest entries must in some way relate to the Mormon experience. Authors need not be LDS. Any fictional form up to 8,500 words will be considered, including short stories and excerpts from novels. First place award is \$250, second place \$175, and third place \$100. Winners agree to give Irreantum first publication rights.

Please go to aml@aml-online.org for submission instructions. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Please email your entry to submissions@irreantum.org. Winners will be announce August 31, 2007.

A Glimpse of a Stovepipe Hat and Sounds of the Virginia Reel 20th Annual Civil War Re-enactment

Keokuk, IA. Keokuk's Rand Park will become the center of activity when the 20th Annual Battle of Pea Ridge Civil War Reenactment takes place April 27-29, 2007. Thundering cannon fire, the sounds of charging horses and the smell of gunpowder will add to the glory given to Major General Samuel R. Curtis, former mayor of Keokuk and the winning General at the Battle of Pea Ridge. The reenactment, named the Iowa Tourism Event of the year in 1991, 1994, 1998, and 2000, will feature more than 600 re-enactors portraying everyone from civilians to artillerymen. The Battle Reenactments, considered the highlight of the event by many, are at 3:00 PM, Saturday, April 28th, and 2:30 PM, Sunday, April 29th.

**For more information: Keokuk Tourism Bureau - 800-383-1219
keokukia@interl.net www.keokukiowatourism.org**

New Mormon studies venture formed: European Mormon Studies Association

Ronan James Head, a British Mormon grad student in Near Eastern Studies and one of the organizers of a new Mormon Studies venture, The European Mormon Studies Association, writes:

Due to the scattered nature of such scholarly activities in Europe, we are now seeking to gather together both European scholars interested in studying Mormonism in general from various perspectives and any scholars interested in studying the European manifestation of Mormonism in particular. The new association aims to operate on a purely academic basis, welcoming people regardless of religious affiliation. A website has been launched to serve as the hub of the initiative: <http://www.euormonstudies.com>. This website will serve as a portal to gather and share information about Mormon studies activities related to Europe. Associated with the website is an e-mail list for information sharing. We warmly invite you to participate in this initiative to any extent you feel comfortable with. We will be holding our first conference this August in England. A call for papers will be going out next week.

Contact Ronan for call for papers