



St. George Conference Set for May 26-May 29, 2011

The Mormon History Association returns to St. George, Utah, in 2011 for its third conference in Utah's Dixie, during a year in which St. George City marks its sesquicentennial and Dixie State College celebrates its centennial. In addition to the remarkable program of papers and plenary speakers, pre- and post-conference activities will engage the attendees in the history, scenery and sites of St. George, southern Utah, northern Arizona, and southern Nevada.

Attendees are urged to arrive early on Thursday for an all day bus tour to "Las Vegas and the Mormon Corridor" and the following pre-conference activities in St. George's historic downtown:

Historic St. George LIVE tours— Tours begin at the Pioneer Center for the Arts at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. At the Center (Main Street and 200 North across from the Post Office), through the skill of reenactors, Jacob Hamblin will welcome visitors at an original adobe house in the courtyard. Entering the Pioneer Opera House, visitors will meet Orson Pratt who has the odometer he helped designed on the 1847 trek to Salt Lake Valley and is eager to describe his role in founding St. George. The St. George LIVE bus will take the group to the St. George Tabernacle to join Erastus Snow, then on to the Old Courthouse, where a trial is in progress with Judge John Menzies Macfarlane presiding. The last stop is Brigham Young's home to meet with St. George's most famous winter resident and tour his house. Pre-registration to required.

Art Gallery tour. Guided tours of the St. George Art Museum and six art galleries will also be conducted Thursday afternoon, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tours begin at the Museum at the Pioneer Center for the Arts. Tour participants will visit the museum for a half hour and then stroll down Main Street for two blocks, visiting the galleries in various historic buildings, and ending at the St. George Tabernacle and the Town Square. While there is a small entrance fee to the museum, the tour is free.

Research Fair. At the Washington County Library on the south side of the Town Square, MHA will host a free research fair from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. University, state and church librarians, archivists, and curators will be

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*St. George Public Square Looking Toward the
Washington County Library*



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last October's issue of the "Newsletter" (see it at "Publications" on MHA's website) contained a great deal of information about the coming annual conference in St. George, Utah. There is more such information elsewhere in this January issue, and there will be a very detailed description of the meeting in the preliminary conference program that you will receive in late February. Accordingly, I am not going to dwell on this subject here.



The main message that I want to communicate now is about leadership.

MHA's Board is presenting elsewhere in this "Newsletter" a slate of four people nominated to be considered and elected at our annual business meeting during the St. George conference. I refer to Glen M. Leonard, nominee as president-elect (succeeding Richard L. Jensen, who will succeed me as president) as well as Polly Aird, Gary J. Bergera, and Christopher C. Jones, who are standing as nominees to the Board to succeed J. Spencer Fluhman, Noel A. Carmack, and Jenny Reeder, respectively, whose terms are expiring. The nominees' biographies appear below. To this material I want to add two thoughts: (1) the Board considers determination of this slate as the most important decision that it made during 2010; and (2) the Board (as well as its the Nominating Committee) has been struck by the truly remarkable number of women and men who would make outstanding members of the Board and, for that matter, presidents. The four MHA members whom we are presenting as candidates now are, we believe, the best of the best. Our [MHA] cup runneth over!

With this decision, and those staff arrangements announced in the last "Newsletter," the Board has provided for renewal of first-rate leadership that will continue to chart the Association's course through this period of turbulence. I have had my fair share of sleepless nights during the past year, but one of the bright spots has been awareness that Glen, Polly, Gary, and Chris are willing to join in the effort to keep MHA on an even keel while taking it to the next level of excellence. For this, I thank not only my Board colleagues--especially the soon-to-depart Spencer, Noel, and Jenny -- but Paul Anderson and his nominating committee members, Ronald O. Barney, Sherilyn C. Bennion, Kathryn M. Daynes, and Susan S. Rugh.

Before leaving the subject of leadership, I want to share the thought that

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the Board and our “JMHA” editor, Martha Taysom, have gone the extra mile in the face of substantial personal and family upheaval. There are at least ten people in this group who have continued to serve MHA effectively while dealing with the challenges of birth, death, divorce, job relocation, and serious illness. For this fortitude and grit, I am deeply grateful.

Cordially,


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available to discuss their Mormon history collections, to spotlight their records of the Colorado Plateau region, and demonstrate internet access to their on-line registers and digital collections.

Linger in downtown St. George for dinner at one of the nine restaurants in the area before attending the opening plenary session and then the opening reception.

In addition to these pre-conference events in St. George, there will be a scenic bus tour of Las Vegas and the Mormon Corridor (see p.5).

The Opening Conference Session will be held in the St. George Tabernacle at 7 p.m., Thursday evening, May 26. The program features the St. George Heritage Choir in concert and Nonnie Sorenson and cast members performing excerpts from her musical about Anthony W. Ivins, a St. George rancher colonias and mayor who befriended the Paiutes, and later presided over the Church in Mexico before becoming an LDS apostle under Heber J. Grant. Admission is free.

The MHA Opening Reception will follow the concert at 8 p.m. on the Town Square adjacent to the Tabernacle. A tour of the nearby Old Dixie College building will be available and a light dessert will be served. Please check the box on your reservation form indicating that you will be attending.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Co-Chairs Patrick Mason and Matt Grow report the following results from the 2011 conference's Call for Papers: Thirty-seven complete sessions (panels) were proposed with twenty-four accepted, and eighty-three individual papers were proposed with fifty accepted. The results are a solid, high quality conference program for Friday and Saturday. Topics range from the Latter-day Saints and the Civil War, to the national parks, to music and folklore, to Mormon fundamentalism and women's history. The preliminary program will be posted on the MHA website by mid-February and mailed to all MHA members by the end of February.

MORMON BATTALION LECTURE ANNOUNCED

On Thursday, May 26, 2011, Lt. Col. Sherman L. Fleek, U.S. Army (Retired), MHA member and the Command Historian at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, will be speaking at the St. George Tabernacle from 5:00-6:00 p.m. His lecture is titled, "The Mormon Battalion: A Unique Military Unit in American History." This free lecture is sponsored by the Mormon Battalion Association.

Wanted Conference Interns

MHA is seeking to hire two student interns with computer skills to work on the 2011 St. George Conference. For more information call 801-521-6565 (ask for Pat) or e-mail mha_slc@msn.com.

NEW MHA NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

The MHA board announces the nominees for president-elect and board members for the coming year.

Glen M. Leonard

President-Elect

Glen has worked as a journalist, a publications editor for the Utah State Historical Society, as senior historical associate in the LDS Church's History Division and director of the LDS Museum of Church History and Art for 26 years. Glen received B.A. and M.A. degrees in history and journalism and a doctorate in history and American Studies (1970) from the University of Utah. He has authored or co-authored four books: (1) with James B. Allen, *The Story of the Latter-day Saints* (1976); (2) *A History of Davis County [Utah]* (1999), (3) award-winning *Nauvoo: A Place of Peace, A People of Promise* (2002), and in 2008 (4) *Massacre at Mountain Meadows*, with Ronald W. Walker and Richard E. Turley Jr. Glen has published several dozen articles on Utah and Mormon history. He has served MHA as a member of several committees, and as associate editor of the *Journal of Mormon History*.



Polly Aird

Board Member and Awards Committee Chair

A native of San Francisco, California, and resident of Seattle, Washington, Polly Aird attended Wellesley College and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University with Distinction in History. She worked as a scientific editor for the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D. C., for the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory at the University of Arizona, and later managed communications for the computer science division of The Boeing Company. Ms. Aird has written award-winning articles for the *Journal of Mormon History*, the *Utah Historical Quarterly*, *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*, and the *Nevada State Historical Quarterly*. Her book, *Mormon Convert, Mormon Defector: A Scottish Immigrant in the American West* (2009), won MHA's Biography Award and was a finalist for the Western Writers of America's Silver Spur Award.



Gary J. Bergera

Board Member and Publications Committee Chair

Gary is managing director of the Smith-Pettit Foundation, headquartered in Salt Lake City. Previously, he was managing director of Signature Books (1985-2000) and managing editor of *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought* (1992-98). He is the author of *Conflict in the Quorum: Orson Pratt, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young*; co-author (with Ron Priddis) of *Brigham Young University: A House of Faith*; editor of *The Autobiography of B. H. Roberts* and *Statements of the LDS First Presidency*; co-editor (with Devery S. Anderson) of *Joseph Smith's Quorum of the Anointed and The Nauvoo Endowment Companies*; among other publications. He is twice a graduate of Brigham Young University (psychology; public administration), where he also taught French at the Missionary Training Center and worked as an editorial intern at BYU Studies.



Christopher C. Jones

Board Member and Student Representative

Christopher is a doctoral student in History at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He earned a B.A. (2007) and a M.A. (2009), both in history, from Brigham Young University. In addition to Mormon History, his research interests include the intellectual, cultural, and religious history of the early modern Atlantic world and the early American republic. He has published essays and articles in *Mormonism: A Historical Encyclopedia*, *Mormon Historical Studies*, and the *Journal of Mormon History*. He worked for three years as a student research assistant for the Joseph Smith Papers Project and at BYU's Religious Studies Center, and blogs at The Juvenile Instructor: A Mormon History Blog (juvenileinstructor.org) and Religion in American History (usreligion.blogspot.com).



Two New and One Renamed MHA Awards Announced

MHA has annually given awards in the past for the best new books and articles written on Mormon history. This year the MHA board announces some important changes to the annual awards, including two new ones and the renaming of an existing award:

Silver Award for Mormon Women's History. This new award, sponsored by the Mormon Women's History Initiative Team and funded by the Silver Foundation, will annually recognize a significant article on Mormon women's history in the 19th and 20th centuries. The awardee will receive a citation and a \$350 cash award.

Andrew Jenson International Article Award. This award for articles complements the existing Geraldine McBride Woodward International Mormon History Award, which has traditionally recognized books. This new award sponsored by Joseph and Julia Todd, will annually recognize a significant article exploring international Mormon history. Preference will be given to articles examining indigenous perspectives rather than American missionary accounts in the international setting.

Winchester Family and Community History Award. This award has been recently renamed after the sponsoring family. The award is funded by the Scott family in memory of their mother, Marjorie J. Winchester Scott, a local historian, museum curator, and MHA member. The Winchester award will continue to recognize the best commercially or privately published family or community history relating to the Mormon experience prior to 1980. A citation and a \$500 cash award will be awarded.

Also, we alert MHA members to a significant transition for some of the long-established annual awards. Whereas in the past MHA awards subcommittees were expected to canvass the entire field during the selection process, several awards will now adopt a submission/nomination format. (This will substantially reduce the burden on the subcommittee members. Some awards have transitioned to this format in the past couple of years already.) See the awards section of the MHA website (www.mhahome.org) for updated information about awards and submission processes.

CALL FOR AWARD SUBMISSIONS

The Mormon History Association will present its annual awards for the best books, articles, theses and dissertations published or written on Mormon history during 2010 at its annual 2011 conference in St. George, on May 27, 2011. All nominations must be received by **February 15, 2011**, to be considered. See the MHA website for guidelines and procedures for making submissions (www.mhahome.org/awards-announcements).

The John Whitmer Historical Association Issues Its 2011 Call for Papers

The John Whitmer Historical Association has announced the theme of its annual conference, "*E Unum Pluribus*" (*Out of One, Many*) scheduled for September 22-25, 2011, in Nauvoo.

Its program committee has issued a call for papers. Please send your brief proposal by February 28, 2011 with a 1-page vita, to jwha2011@hotmail.com. For additional information on the conference and full text of the Call for Papers see: www.jwha.info/

2011 CONFERENCE TOURS

The scenic beauty of the Colorado Plateau region plays a key role in all MHA tours. Two post-conference bus tours are planned to depart from the St. George Tabernacle after the closing devotional. The first is a three-day, two-night tour, "We Call It 'Color Country': History and Scenery of Southern Utah and Northern Arizona." In three days and only 450 miles, attendees will visit: the Pipe Spring National Monument; the North Rim of the Grand Canyon; House Rock Valley (that borders the Vermillion Cliffs); Lee's Ferry; Glen Canyon Dam; Lake Powell and Kanab; Maynard Dixon's Mt. Carmel home; and Zion National Park. We will travel along the Honeymoon Trail, and see film locations made famous by movies from the 1920s to the present. The tour will return to St. George on Tuesday afternoon.

The second is a two-day, one-night experience, "The Incredible Passage: the Hole-in-the-Rock Expedition and More." This tour will spotlight the remarkable 1880's Hole-in-the-Rock Expedition to settle what is now Bluff, Utah and 2011 marks the 130th anniversary of the opening of Hall's Crossing of the Colorado River. Attendees will visit Parowan's Rock Church (the mission's departure point), Panguitch, Bryce Canyon, Escalante; hear the tales of these remarkable pioneers; travel the amazing "All American Highway (Highway 12) to Boulder (one of the most remote areas in the continental U.S.), and return through Salina and Richfield with a visit to Cove Fort. This tour will return to St. George on Monday afternoon.

Complete descriptions of both post conference tours and the pre-conference tour of Las Vegas and the Mormon Corridor will be posted on our website during the first week of February.



BOOK NOTICES
SELECTED ARTICLES

Book Notices Compiled by

J. Michael Hunter

- Baker, Shane A. *At Rest in Zion: The Archaeology of Salt Lake City's First Pioneer Cemetery*. Occasional Paper No. 14, Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Brigham Young University. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2010.
- Baugh, Alexander L. and Susan Easton Black, eds. *Banner of the Gospel: Wilford Woodruff*. Provo, Utah and Salt Lake City: Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University and Deseret Book, 2010.
- Black, Susan Easton, ed. *The Best of the St. Louis Luminary*. Provo and Salt Lake City: BYU Studies and University of Utah Press, 2010.
- D'Arc, James V. *When Hollywood Came to Town: A History of Moviemaking in Utah*. Layton, Utah: Gibbs Smith, 2010.
- Hedges, Andrew H., and Richard Neitzel Holzapfel. *Through the Lens: The Original 1907 Church History Photographs of George Edward Anderson*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2010.
- Lyman, Edward Leo, ed. *Candid Insights of a Mormon Apostle: The Diaries of Abraham H. Cannon, 1889-1895*. Significant Mormon Diaries Series. Salt Lake City: Signature Books in association with the Smith-Pettit Foundation, 2010.
- Mason, Patrick Q. *The Mormon Menace: Violence and Anti-Mormonism in the Postbellum South*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- Östman, Kim B. *The Introduction of Mormonism to Finnish Society, 1840-1900*. Åbo, Finland: Åbo Akademi University Press, 2010.
- Peterson, Dorothy W. *All Things Right: A Biography of Vilate Murray Kimball*. Bloomington, Ind.: Xlibris Corporation, 2009.
- Swinton, Heidi S. *To the Rescue: The Biography of Thomas S. Monson*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2010.
- Taysom, Stephen C. *Shakers, Mormons, and Religious Worlds: Conflicting Visions, Contested Boundaries*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010.
- Turley, Richard E. and Steven C. Harper, eds. *Preserving the History of the Latter-day Saints*. Provo, Utah: Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 2010.
- Willes, Laura F. *Christmas with the Prophets*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2010.

Selected Articles
by
Jennifer St. Clair

- Addams, R. Jean. "Early Sociological Issues Confronted by the Church of Christ (Temple Lot): African Americans, Native Americans, and Women." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 109-132.
- Alvord, Trevor. "Certainty to Distrust: Conversion in Early Mormonism." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 133-155.
- Baker, Matthew. "Selling a State to the Nation: Boosterism and Utah's First National Park." *Journalism History* 36, no. 3 (2010): 169-176.
- Barber, Ian. "Dream Mines and Religious Identity in Twentieth-Century Utah: Insights from the Norman C. Pierce Papers." *Princeton University Library Chronicle* 70, no. 3 (2009): 433-469.
- Baugh, Alexander L. and Richard Neitzel Holzapfel. "'I Roll the Burthen and Responsibility of Leading This Church Off from My Shoulders on to Yours': The 1844/1845 Declaration of the Quorum of the Twelve Regarding Apostolic Succession." *BYU Studies* 49, no. 3 (2010): 5-19.
- Brimhall, Clinton Robert and Sandra Dawn Brimhall. "The Goshen and Mona Water Dispute, 1873-1881: A Case Study of the Struggle between Ecclesiastical and Secular Authority in Utah." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 78, no. 4 (2010): 326-343.
- Dorn, Harold. "Saints and Scientists." *The Journal of the Historical Society* 10, no. 3 (2010): 367-378.
- Forsberg, Clyde R., Jr. "Kirtland Through the Christian-Masonic, Neo-Hebraic, Neo-Pagan Looking Glass: Architecture, Ritual, Gender, and Race." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 176-205.
- Hammond, John J. "Re-Examining the Adams/Quincy May 1844 Visit to Nauvoo." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 66-95.
- Mason, Patrick Q. "Opposition to Polygamy in the Postbellum South." *Journal of Southern History* 76, no. 3 (2010): 541-578.
- Nichols, Jeff. "'In defence of God's people if Need bee': Brigham Young Hampton." *Utah Historical Quarterly* 78, no. 4 (2010): 344-358.
- Östman, Kim B. "Mormons, Civil Authorities and Lutheran Clergy in Finland, 1875-1889." *Scandinavian Journal of History* 35, no. 3 (2010): 268-289.
- Penrod, Don L. "Edwin Rushton as the Source of the White Horse Prophecy." *BYU Studies* 49, no. 3 (2010): 75-131.
- Phillips, James C. "'As Sisters in Zion': Mormon Women and the United Order in Arizona's Little Colorado Colonies." *Journal of Arizona History* 51, no. 2 (2010): 155-172.
- Sheperd, Gordon, Gary Shepherd, and Natalie Shepherd. "Gender Differences in the Early Patriarchal Blessings of the LDS Church, 1834-1845." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 39-65.
- Shepard, William. "Wingfield Watson's Sixty-Five-Year Adversarial Relationship with the Reorganized Church." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 1-38.
- Smith, George D. "Persuading Men and Women to Join in Celestial Marriage." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 156-175.
- Vanel, Chrystal. "The History of the RLDS Church/Community of Christ in France." *The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal* 30 (2010): 206-221.
- Woods, Fred E. "Halldór Laxness and the Latter-day Saints: The Story behind the Novel *Paradísarheimt*." *BYU Studies* 49, no. 3 (2010): 46-74.

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St. George Conference Hotel Changes Name

It has just been announced that the St. George Holiday Inn has changed its name to *St. George Lexington Hotel and Conference Center*. It has made some renovations and added a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast. Check their website for more details: www.lexingtonhotels.com

St. George Municipal Airport Dedicated

After nearly two decades of planning, studies and financial challenges, the new St. George Municipal Airport was dedicated Wednesday, January 12th with more than 2,000 people present. The new airport, located five miles southeast of downtown St. George, is five times larger than the previous airport and is able to accommodate larger airplanes. Currently, all flights fly between Salt Lake City and St. George. On March 6th, United Airlines will inaugurate a new six-day-a-week flight (not on Saturday) directly from Los Angeles to St. George. For more information on the airport see: www.flysgu.com.

IMPORTANT Membership Notice

Renewal notices have been mailed. The membership year runs from Jan.-Dec. Please help us by renewing now so that we know how many copies of the *Journal* to print. We will mail the newsletter to all 2010 and new 2011 members. **The Winter 2011 *Journal* will only be mailed to the paid 2011 members.**

LDS Church History Department Hires Seven New Scholars

The LDS Church History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has announced the hiring of seven new historians with doctorates in 2010:

Reid L. Neilson has been appointed as Managing Director for the Church History Department, D. Kurt Graham joins the department as Director of the Church History Museum; Matthew J. Grow is Director of Publications; and Matthew C. Godfrey, Andrew H. Hedges, Michael H. MacKay, and Gerrit J. Dirkmaat each join the department as scholars on The Joseph Smith Papers Project.