

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

<http://wchsutah.org>

"The Coming Storm"

Photo courtesy of Chad Bennion, WCHS Board Member

THE EDITOR'S PEN

The autumn season is upon us and what a beautiful time of year it is in Southwest Utah! The Washington County Historical Society (WCHS) Board members are working on two unique projects: the David H. & Wilhelmina Cannon Statues and the Lynne Clark photo collection. You will learn about these projects in this newsletter. Bits of our past are lost when they are not passed on or recorded, so the oral history project is continuing under the capable hands of Loren Webb. We are restarting the liaison effort; again, look for more information in this newsletter and consider representing your city or organization in this endeavor. Having worked with the Board members for almost a year, I am amazed at their knowledge, talents, and the deep love they have for Washington County history. It is a pleasure to learn from them! To see the Board members in action and to share your knowledge of this area, please attend the Community Meetings; the schedule is in this newsletter.

Happy Reading!



MAUREEN PARKS
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

President: Ian Crowe
Secretary: Loren Webb
Treasurer: Teresa Orton
Webmaster: George Cannon
Vice Presidents: Brad Bennett, Chad Bennion,
Richard Kohler, Maureen Parks, Jesse Stocking

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Website Committee



George Cannon, Chairman

Some of the most important subjects in our history are the people who have lived in Dixie and contributed to what Washington County is today. On the WCHS website, we are capturing and recording the histories of these people. We give priority to those who lived here the longest time ago, but even recent residents will be old history to future generations.

Each individual or family is documented on a separate webpage. The general format is illustrated by the webpage for Daniel D. McArthur and his family, but each webpage can be tailored to the information that is available for those people. A biographical summary is included with more detailed information in the references. There is a place for the genealogy of the families, including their children and ancestors. Links to related people are a valuable aid in tracing relationships. Question marks and strings of x's provide place holders for information that is wanted, but not yet available. A few key photos can be shown on this page with links to other related photos if available.

The primary list of people currently documented can be reached with the People link near the bottom of the left hand column on every blue webpage. You can use the Google search bar on the website Home Page (best) or the Search WCHS Website link in the left column of each blue page to search for names anywhere on the website. Spend a little time exploring the people documented on the website and you will be surprised with all you find.

If you have information about people that ought to be included, please let us know. You can contact me at webmaster@wchsutah.org or any other way that is convenient. I will be happy to give you suggestions or work with you in any way I can. It would be especially useful if you can provide information about your own ancestors that lived in the county.

This and previous editions of the WCHS Newsletter can be found at <https://wchsutah.org/documents/documents.php#wchs-newsletters>.



COMMUNITY MEETINGS SCHEDULE

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO ATTEND.

These monthly meeting are for WCHS officers, members, and any others with an interest in Washington County history.

It is an opportunity to hear about what is going on with the WCHS and to exchange ideas with others having similar interests.

Meet in the downstairs meeting room of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers (DUP) McQuarrie Memorial Museum, 145 North 100 East, St. George, UT.

For more information, check the website at <https://wchsutah.org>, e-mail info@wchsutah.org, or call and leave a message at (435)275-7409.

Washington County Historical Society Community Meetings schedule:

Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Wednesday, October 30, 2024, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 - 10:00 a.m. - Noon



PHOTO OF THE GUNLOCK CCC CAMP.
COMPANY 585, SCS-2.

JOHN DE JONG, CAPT. SIG-RES., COMMANDING.
LAWRENCE J. ALEXANDER, 1ST LT. CAV-RES.
A. A. NELSON, PROJ. SUPT.

TAKEN 6/11/1936

CONTRIBUTED BY LOANNE BARNES

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Special Projects

David H. & Wilhelmina Cannon Statues

The project is to create a life-sized bronze sculpture to honor the sacrifices and hardships the original settlers faced when they arrived in December, 1861 to establish a city that would become St. George. The life-sized bronze sculpture piece tells the story of Wilhelmina Cannon, one of many women who felt the hardships were almost too difficult to bear. Her story is based on a talk given by her great grandson, Stephen D. Schmutz, and other documents held by the Washington County Historical Society.

Willie, as she was called, during one of her toughest days, complained to her husband, David H. Cannon, "There is just no beauty in this forsaken land. If you could just show me one thing of beauty I would be happy to remain here and face these difficult living challenges." Her plan at that point was to return to Salt Lake City where they had left a home and surroundings more fitting to the lifestyle to which she was accustomed having been educated in the East.

The next day as David returned from the fields he noticed a beautiful Sego Lily in full bloom. He hurried down the hill where it lay and picked some of the beautiful blooms. On his way back up the hill, he slipped and severely injured his leg. Some coworkers found him and took him home to Willie. Seeing his badly injured leg and overcome by the beautiful Sego Lilies he had brought her, the outlook and purpose of her future completely changed. Like so many other of the women she now became totally committed to the task at hand.

The two-figure life-sized bronze shows David presenting Wilhelmina with the flowers and her reaction to his gift. Famed sculptor Jerry Anderson has taken on the project, which consists of researching the subject and coming up with a plan. The figures are then sculpted in clay and refined until every detail is complete. A mold is made of the clay statues and bronze metal is cast into the mold. The individual parts are welded together, and the final touches are added. A base and bronze explanatory plaque are produced before final installation.

Arrangements have been made with the City of St. George to place the statue at the new City Hall currently under construction at 100 South Main Street, which is on the property originally platted to David H. Cannon and Angus M. Cannon.

The Washington County Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has agreed to accept and handle the donations. They have opened a dedicated bank account and are now accepting donations.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
THIS WORTHY PROJECT
AND TO DONATE, [CLICK HERE.](#)



HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Special Projects

Lynne Clark Photo Collection

The WCHS is working with the Lynne Clark family to help preserve and administer the extensive photo collection of Lynne Clark. We are looking for volunteers to help with this process and to be part of the planning committee to ensure this collection is preserved for future generations to enjoy.

If you are interested in being part of this important work, please contact Loren Webb at 435-698-0774 or Teresa Orton at 435-862-9282.



LYNNE CLARK

WANTED: LIAISONS

We are assembling a list of those who would be willing to participate in our Society as liaisons representing their cities. We would ask they attend our Community Meetings occasionally and keep us informed of how the WCHS may benefit their efforts with historical projects going on in their cities or organizations.

The Society incorporated this idea several years ago and several cities had representatives who attended the Community Meetings and worked jointly with the WCHS for support of their historical projects. For some reason, it went by the wayside, and the Board would like to restart this project. So far, Zola Hunt in Enterprise has agreed to represent her city, and we look forward to hearing from her at the next Community Meeting she attends.

If you would be willing to participate, please contact Maureen Parks at parks@infowest.com to volunteer.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

GRAFFITI INCREASING IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

BY

CHAD BENNION, WCHS VICE PRESIDENT

Washington County is a cultural, scenic, and recreational wonderland! You can find histories of everything from early inhabitants and explorers, to archeological information and geological samples and more in our museums. You can participate in sporting events and tournaments throughout the year in Washington County. If you're like me, besides enjoying those previously mentioned items, you love getting out on the trails and meandering through the scenic wonders and sites found all around us. Many of these places I'll visit multiple times each year. During the time when I'm out, I capture images of these places and moments. Depending on the time of day, the weather conditions, the time of year, I can stand in the same place and rarely ever get an identical or similar photograph.

But in recent years in these scenic areas, I have been able to capture some images that demonstrate a troubling trend in Washington County - graffiti!

An article in January of 2023 talked about St. George "having a roughly \$700 a day graffiti scourge in the city." (<https://gephardttdaily.com/local/st-george-police-say-city-has-a-graffiti-problem/>). The problem has spread beyond the city. When we think about graffiti, it generally conjures images in our heads of rail cars, buildings, or fences with spray paint in metropolitan areas. We don't think of it occurring out in more rural or scenic areas, but it is happening. Whether it is spray paint on the red rocks, writing or drawing at pictograph sites, or carving/etching in stone, graffiti is occurring with disturbing frequency even at protected sites within Washington County.

Cities generally have ordinances for graffiti or defacing property. At the protected pictograph and petroglyph sites on federal land, there are fines and penalties if someone is caught defacing the sites, but seeing or catching someone in the act is difficult at best. I spend a significant amount of time on trails and at different sites. Yet, even with all the time I'm out in the county, never once have I come upon someone in the act of defacing a site.

WHAT DO YOU DO?

- If you come across an area or site that has been defaced, take photos of what has happened. Report it to local authorities, letting them know what you discovered and the date and time you discovered it.
- Practice "leave no trace" when you go to these sites or out on the trails throughout the county.
- Do your best to educate others to protect and maintain these historic sites and scenic areas.
- Volunteer with local agencies to restore these areas. (Cont'd on next page.)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS (CONT'D)

GRAFFITI INCREASING IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

We live in a beautiful area with a rich heritage and history. Let's all do our part to help keep it that way, not only for today, but for future generations!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHAD BENNION

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

WASHINGTON COUNTY RAP TAX



Submitted by Teresa Orton, Treasurer

WCHS is a RAP Tax Grant Recipient!

The Washington County Historical Society (WCHS) has been the recipient of the Recreation, Arts and Parks (RAP) tax grant funds. These funds help the Society to fund important projects such as the Oral History Project, Roundtable Discussions, Field Trips and Walking Tours. We are very grateful that these funds are made available to us.

The RAP Tax began 10 years ago as an initiative on the ballot to charge .01 of 1% of restaurant and hotel charges. The measure passed by 51%. In the 10 years it has been in effect, the impact to our County and Community has been outstanding. These funds have helped to build and maintain the walking and hiking trails around the County, supported the Arts community, local Museums and other non-profit organizations. They have been able to distribute \$300 million overall to the Washington County applicants.

The RAP Tax is going to be on the ballot in November 2024 for another 10 years. As a recipient of the funds, we encourage everyone to consider voting for this initiative and help our non-profit organizations continue to expand their efforts.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal is coming up soon. Annual memberships expire on December 31, 2024, so it is important to renew your membership before the end of the year.

The Washington County Historical Society has four options for membership:

Annual membership for a single person is \$25.

Annual membership for a married couple is \$35.

Lifetime membership for a single person is \$250.

Lifetime membership for a married couple is \$350.

To join, go to the Donate page, <https://washcouthistory.org/donate>, and follow the instructions.

You can also join by giving a check made out to the Washington County Historical Society to any WCHS Board member or mailing it to Washington County Historical Society, P. O. Box 404, St. George, UT 84771-0404. Please include your name(s), address, phone number, and e-mail address.

WCHS is a non-profit (IRS 501c3) organization. Our tax-exempt ID number is 87-0465878. We appreciate the support of community members who are interested in the history of Washington County.



WASHINGTON COUNTY MUSEUMS



ROSENBRUCH WILDLIFE MUSEUM

Explore the wild world of animals at the Rosenbruch World Wildlife Museum, displaying incredible taxidermy animals from all over the globe, right in the comfort of St. George. Learn about over 300 species of animals in a beautiful naturalistic exhibit, featuring everything from tiny glittering insects to towering giraffes. Safari through the African Serengeti, climb through a cave, scale the mountains of Asia, and travel the rivers of North America. Something for everyone from the seasoned senior scientist to the toddler explorer -- including our interactive children's room.

Attached to the Dixie Convention Center, accessible from exits 5 or 6 on I-15. Admission fee (see website.) Last admissions sold at 4:30 PM. ♿

**Open Monday – Saturday
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

For more information: rosenbruch.org



1835 Convention Center Drive, St. George, Utah 84790
(435) 301-7777 | staff@rosenbruch.org

ROSENBRUCH
WORLD WILDLIFE MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP



ST. GEORGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Step into the captivating world of the St. George Children's Museum, featuring 15 interactive exhibits designed to spark curiosity in all ages. Beyond traditional learning, our dynamic haven emphasizes the transformative power of play, fostering meaningful and interactive experiences. Join us on a journey where education and play seamlessly intertwine, inspiring children to discover more, imagine a brighter future, and unleash their creative nature. Explore with us, where learning becomes a shared adventure for the young and the young at heart. Admission fee (see website.) ♿



**Open Tuesday – Saturday
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

May – August open on Mondays

For more information:
sgchildrensmuseum.org



86 South Main Street Street, St. George, Utah 84770
(435) 986-4000 | stgeorgeqm@gmail.com

ST. GEORGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
DISCOVER • IMAGINE • CREATE

EVENT IN SEPTEMBER

**A GENTILE
ACCOUNT
OF LIFE IN
UTAH'S DIXIE,
1872-73**

*Elizabeth Kane's
St. George Journal*



Preface and Notes by Norman R. Bowen
and
Profile of Elizabeth Kane by Mary Karen Bowen Solomon

PUBLISHED BY TANNER TRUST FUND
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH LIBRARY
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Thursday, September 26, 2024

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Lecture at the St. George Branch Library

Trevor Cox speaking on Elizabeth Kane's
"A Gentle Account of Life in Utah's Dixie, 1872-1873"

Free and all are welcome to attend.

Downstairs in Community Room A at the St. George Library,
88 West 100 South, St George UT 84770
For more information, call the library at (435) 301-7580.

EVENT IN SEPTEMBER

SWISS DAYS

SEPTEMBER 25-28, 2024

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**26
SEPT**

Thursday, September 26th

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Santa Clara Museum Open
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Community Dinner \$7.00/Plate
7:00 p.m. Opening Ceremonies
Grand Marshal, Volunteer of the Year, Santa Clara
Royalty, Swiss Dancing

**27
SEPT**

Friday, September 27th

8:00 a.m. [Santa Clara Kiwanis Golf Tournament at Sunbrook](#)
1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Continuous Entertainment, inflatables, 3-Point
Shooting Contest, Historical Society Silent Auction,
Puzzle Sales
1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Santa Clara Museum Open
1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Vending for Food & Crafts
1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Santa Clara Founding Families Booths
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Children's Hands-On Pioneer Activities @ Heritage
Square 3020 Santa Clara Drive
6:00 p.m. Swiss Miss & Mister Introductions, Mooing Contest
7:00 p.m. Concert under the Entertainment Tent
8:00 p.m. [Volleyball Tournament - SC Rugby Field](#)
9:00 p.m. Drone Show after SCHS Homecoming Football
Game @ SCHS Football Field

**28
SEPT**

Saturday, September 28th

6:30 a.m. 5K Run Warm-up (<https://runnercard.com/roadrace/public/raceGroup/977240>)
7:00 a.m. 5K Shot Gun Start
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast \$3.00/plate
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Vending for Food & Crafts
9:30 a.m. Parade along Santa Clara Dr.
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [Red Rocks Car Show @ Canyon View Park](#)
[1400 Canyon View Dr.](#)
10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Santa Clara Founding Families Booths, Kids Games Booths
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Santa Clara Museum Open
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Santa Clara Royalty Meet & Greet
12:00 p.m. Yodeling Contest
1:30 p.m. Bingo held in Council Chambers
4:00 p.m. Close of Swiss Days 2024

HIGHLIGHTS:

\$7 KICKOFF DINNER ON THURSDAY NIGHT.

FOUNDING FAMILIES BOOTHS

Visit with the descendants of the Swiss founders.

ALPINE HORN

The Santa Clara Historical Society has purchased an alpine horn and hopes to have it played during Swiss days.

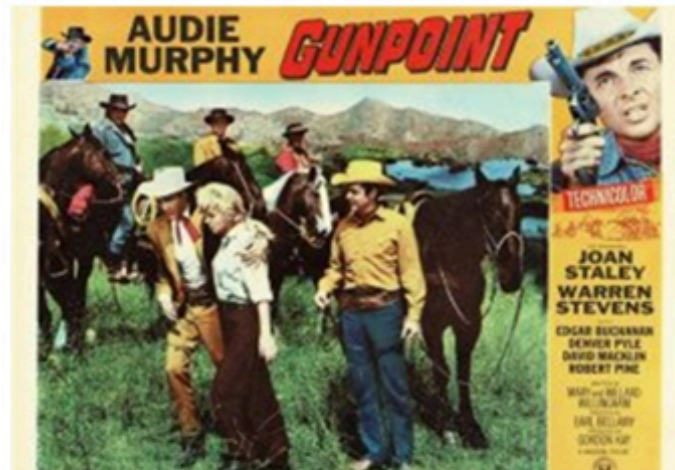
PARKING: Parking is off site and a shuttle ride is required. Follow signs and park to participate in the town's celebration.

EVENT IN SEPTEMBER

SILVER REEF MUSEUM

Cosmopolitan Event

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 -10 am



When Hollywood Came to Silver Reef

Through the years, Washington County's rugged and colorful scenery has been a natural attraction for many Hollywood filmmakers. Scenes from two particular movies - "Gunpoint" (1964 starring Audrey Murphy), and The Appaloosa (1965) starring Marlon Brando - were filmed at Silver Reef and are thus a little-known part of The Reef's unique and interesting history.

About The Presenter: Ken Howell

Ken Howell, along with his father Jack and brother Breck, lived at Silver Reef (population 3) during the decade of the 1960s, long before its residential development.

Following a church mission and education at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and court reporting school in Denver, Ken enjoyed a 40-year career as a circuit court reporter for the South Dakota Unified Judicial System, based in Sturgis, South Dakota. Upon retiring in 2013, they left the beautiful Black Hills and moved to northern Utah to be closer to their family. Ken and his wife Celia are the proud parents of six children, fourteen grandchildren, and one great-grandson.



Reservations suggested:

<https://tinyurl.com/HollywoodcametoSilverReef>

or 435.879.2254 Donations appreciated!

<http://silverreef.org>



Funded by
Utah Legislature

Utah Division of
Arts & Museums

Silver Reef Museum

1903 Wells Fargo Rd

Leeds, UT 84746



EVENT IN OCTOBER

October
Tours!

ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL WALKING TOURS...



Sign-up for Your Spot!



Town Square:
10:00am 10/12/24



Green Gate Village:
10:00am 10/26/24



Ancestor Square:
10:00 am 10/12/24



Pioneer Court House:
10:00 am 10/19/24

Town Square Tour by Jim McArthur
Green Gate Village Tour by Susan Crook
Ancestor Square Tour by Loren Webb
Pioneer Court House Tour by Bruce Pickett



Scan me

WCCHS Tour Coordinator Loren Webb, lorenrwebb1980@gmail.com

EVENT IN OCTOBER



3rd Weekend Event

Saturday ~ October 19, 2024 ~ 10:00 AM

NEW CASTLE RECLAMATION PROJECT



JERRY ATKIN, Author
&
Presenter

Jerry wrote about the New Castle Reclamation Project which was a water project that was proposed around the New Castle area in Southern Utah.

FREE ADMISSION & HANDICAP ACCESS, PUBLIC WELCOME!

McQuarrie Memorial Museum
145 No. 100 East, St. George, UT
Phone (435) 628-7274

Events supported by grants from:



EVENT THRU OCTOBER

**SILVER REEF
MUSEUM
PRESENT:**

**LAWMEN &
MUDDY RIVER
GANG**

**Every 2nd
Saturday
of Each
Month**

**Starting:
11 am - 12 pm
Top of the Hour
March- October**

**1903 Well
Fargo Rd
Leeds, UT.
84746**

KID FRIENDLY

**Old Wild West Shootout Shows
(with a bit of comedy)**

Western Reenactors

Www.LAWandMUD.com



EVENT IN NOVEMBER



3rd Weekend Event

Saturday ~ November 16, 2024~ 10:00 AM

NAVAJO RUG WEAVING AND HISTORY



Ginny Sparks

Ginny Sparks, a retired nurse and author of children's book about her Navajo Indian Reservation upbringing is going to demonstrate weaving techniques used by the Navajos. She will also share her history and stories about living on the Navajo Indian Reservation.

FREE ADMISSION & HANDICAP ACCESS, PUBLIC WELCOME!

McQuarrie Memorial Museum
145 No. 100 East, St. George, UT
Phone (435) 628-7274

Events supported by grants from:



EVENT IN DECEMBER



3rd Weekend Event

Saturday ~ December 21, 2024 ~ 10:00 AM

PIONEER CHRISTMAS BAKING



Given by Natslie Familia

We will learn about the equipment and ingredients used in Christmas pioneer baking. Recipes taught include: fruit and nut quick bread, English bread pudding, German gingerbread cookies and Danish Aebleskivers. Samples will be available.



FREE ADMISSION & HANDICAP ACCESS, PUBLIC WELCOME!

McQuarrie Memorial Museum
145 No. 100 East, St. George, UT

Events supported by grants from:



WILLIAM GUNLOCK HAMBLIN COMMEMORATIVE RIDE RECAP

SUBMITTED BY TODD TAYLOR, WCHS MEMBER

Our commemorative train ride on July 3-4, 2024, to honor William Gunlock Hamblin from Barclay, NV, to the Gunlock Rodeo ended up being quite an adventure.

I know that Gunlock Bill was appreciative of our efforts to remember and recognize him. We look forward to doing this ride and tribute again next year. I hope we can have some interest and participation from more of Gunlock Bill's descendants. Just coming out to the rodeo for the tribute would be a great family activity and a great way to teach the young ones who their great, great...grandfather or uncle was.

Many, many thanks to our riders: Brent Hafen, Kerry Hafen, Lyman Hafen, Kyle Preston and Jesse Sims. This was not a trail ride for the weak!! They were the right people for experimenting how to make this ride doable each year. We learned a lot. We had to improvise to make it work, but we got the riderless horse to the rodeo for the tribute!

