

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER, SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS - 1936-1982

By Richard Bert Carter, Jr.

Two former presidents of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have been members of the Salt Lake City Chapter, Sons of the Utah Pioneers (SLCSUP). The charter luncheon of the group, held March 10, 1936, at the Lion House in Salt Lake City, Utah, was attended by Apostle George Albert Smith but he is not listed in the membership roster until 1946 after being sustained as President of the Church May 21, 1945. Heber J. Grant, who served as Church president from 1918 to 1945, joined the Chapter in 1939, a little over three years after its organization.<sup>1</sup>

### 1936 - 1938

Gaylen Snow Young, a descendant of both Brigham Young and Lorenzo Snow, is credited with giving the major leadership to organizing the SLC Chapter. Gaylen contacted State SUP President Nephi L. Morris during the evening of February 28, 1936 to get his reaction concerning the formation of a luncheon club in SLC through which the SUP county organization could function. Morris was in full accord and gave his approval.

On March 3, 1936, the following met in an organizational meeting for a new chapter: Gaylen Snow Young, Nephi L. Morris, B. A. (Bruce) Reynolds, I. J. Strong, William M. Ericksen, Christopher E. Layton, A. D. Wiscomb, John D. Giles, J. H. Wood, E. B. Phippen, R. B. T. Taylor, and LeRoi C. Snow. The group agreed to establish a chapter and a charter luncheon was held a week later at 12:15 p.m. in the Lion House Social Center, attended by 78 persons. At the luncheon, a chapter organization committee was appointed which comprised Wilford C. Brimley, chairman; Marvin O. Ashton, V. Clyde Cummings, Dr. W. H. Pyott, and Heber Q. Hale. Three ex-officio members were Gaylen Snow Young, Ernest C. Winn and I. J. Strong. The eight men were to make a report March 17, 1936. On that date, about 75 persons met at the Lion House and effected a permanent organization under the name Sons of Utah Pioneers Luncheon Club.

The first elected officers were: **Gaylen Snow Young**, President; Nephi L. Morris, 1st Vice President; George A. Parry, 2nd Vice President; Don B. Colton, 3rd Vice President; Albert J. Elggren, Treasurer; and David B. Moench, Recording Secretary. These officers plus six elected directors, constituted the Executive Board. The Board, at its first meeting, appointed an Executive Secretary, B. A. (Bruce) Reynolds. From this point on for a considerable time, luncheons were held weekly at the Lion House, and many distinguished persons were invited to speak. The official charter from the State SUP was presented at the meeting on May 3, 1936. A constitution and bylaws were adopted.

Each week more than 500 invitations were mailed to SUP members of various chapters in the city and county and to potential members indicating the name of the speaker and the 50¢ charge for the luncheon. Attendance the first year ran as high as 135 which was about the maximum the Lion House could readily serve. Because of lack of reservations by attendees and erratic attendance, it was almost impossible to know how many persons would attend each meeting. The cost of such a large mailing became oppressive, and the officers were not too happy about being billed by the host facility for meals when attendance fell below a guaranteed minimum. The matter of collecting dues in advance to include the cost of meals was discussed but not then put into effect.

Under these unfavorable conditions, **Albert J. Elggren**, head of a food brokerage firm, was elected the second President of the Chapter. Later, up to the time of his death, he served as treasurer for the group. The third President was **Harold C. Reynolds**, owner of the Reynolds Gift Shop. A five-dollar-a-year

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membership fee in advance was now being charged and the mailing was drastically reduced to save money. Members were not supportive in paying their dues. Attendance fell to from 8 to 15 per week by the spring of 1939.

### 1939

Gaylen Young became quite outspoken in favor of stabilizing the chapter on a firmer foundation, and he was named President again during the fourth year. A new constitution and bylaws were adopted. The principal changes made were: luncheon meetings once a month; annual dues of \$10 paid in advance to cover 12 meals, an annual banquet, dues to the State organization and local costs, with no refunds for missed meetings; and limiting the number of members from any one business, occupation or profession. These changes engendered enthusiasm and brought new blood into the chapter. On June 20, 1939, 31 fully-paid members were in attendance, including Herbert S. Auerbach, a prominent local merchant. Within four months, the paid membership was up to 66 representing some 50 different vocational pursuits. A list of 597 business classifications was prepared and used as a guide in recruiting new members.

### 1940 - 1942

In May, 1940, George A. Parry, the principal owner of the Industrial Steel Co., was elected the fifth President. He had been a charter member and a diligent supporter of chapter activities. He was closely associated with the leaders of the Chamber of Commerce, and it is believed he was instrumental and responsible for the first suggestion coming from that organization that this SUP chapter be the "managing force behind the 24th of July celebration."

Parry was succeeded as president in the sixth year by Don B. Colton, former U. S. Congressman, Stake and Mission President. Under his administration, the chapter sponsored a new street numbering system for the city which is known as the Lyman Street Markers System and which was adopted by the city commission after much persuasion. Richard R. Lyman, an engineer and originator of the system, was elected the seventh president in May, 1942. In that same month, a letter was received from Covered Wagon Days, Inc., which had charge of the 24th of July celebration, inviting the chapter to sponsor the Covered Wagons Days celebration up to and including the week of July 24, 1942. It was proposed that 45% of the receipts go to Leo Cramer for producing the rodeo and the other 55%, after expenses, be divided equally between Covered Wagon Days, Inc. and the SUP chapter. This met with agreement and the Corporation had charge of and directed the celebration under SUP sponsorship, sale of tickets, and other details. The affair was a good financial success, and the chapter invested its earnings in government savings bonds.

### 1943

In May, 1943, dues were raised to \$12.50 per year, in advance, to cover 11 meals, annual banquet and membership fees. George L. Woodbury, legal investigator, was elected president for this eighth year. Under his administration, the Daughters of Utah Pioneers (state organization) joined forces with the SLC-SUP chapter in taking over sponsorship of the July 24th celebration and named it "Days of '47." A corporation was formed with co-presidents, Thomas B. Childs for the SUP and Kate B. Carter, DUP. Leo Cramer was again invited to produce the rodeo portion of the celebration. Manifold problems developed. Officers and members of the two pioneer organizations had to be considered plus the governor of the State, the State Fair Association, the officers of the Covered Wagon Days, Inc. and others. Woodbury, Child and Carter all handled

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their assignments well and were ably assisted by chapter members Sheldon N. Heaps, SUP vice president; B. A. (Bruce) Reynolds, executive secretary; and Sheldon R. Brewster, manager of the State Fair Association. It was found necessary to cut in the latter organization for a share of the profits in return for use of the Fair Grounds.

In previous years, Covered Wagon Days had failed to make expenses on many occasions and had to go to the city and county governments for a subsidy. The first year the DUP and SUP handled the event jointly, a profit of \$25,000 was netted.

By the summer of 1943, the chapter had over 100 paid members, including such persons as Julian Bamberger, Samuel O. Bennion, Earl J. Glade, Antone R. Ivins, Alvin Keddington, Oscar A. Kirkham, John O. Simonson, Levi Edgar Young and Dr. Walter M. Stookey.

### 1944-1945

In 1944, Seldon N. Heaps became the ninth president. He was a talented organist and successful business man. During his term, the meeting place was switched from the Lion House to the Hotel Utah to better accommodate the large attendance at meetings. A few weeks after arrival, Heaps was told by the Hotel chef in substance: "This is the most unique luncheon club in the country. Nowhere else could you find a hotel luncheon and find no coffee, tobacco nor liquor used. It is a joy to have you here. We are very much pleased to serve you. It is the only club we serve where, after the meal, we find no cigarette burns or stains on the table linens." Dues were increased to \$20 that year. Fred W. Schwendiman was among the new members.

William E. Nelson, architect, became the tenth president in May, 1945. During his tenure, the practice of binding and filing the chapter's minutes of board and chapter meetings in the Church Historian's library was initiated. Elsie Van Noy, wife of chapter secretary Ray Van Noy, had taken back records, typed them, and kept them with newly typed minutes, all of which were combined for binding and preservation.

### 1946-1947

On March 1, 1946, the first monthly newsletter was prepared and sent to chapter members under the title, The Voice of the Pioneers. Bound volumes of these were also turned over to the Church Historian's department. Bryant S. Hinckley was the first editor.

Joel Richards, a charter member of the chapter, ex-bishop and highly successful life insurance salesman was elected president in May, 1946, to start the 11th year of the group. This was the pre-Utah Centennial year. Although the chapter did not have much to do with the celebration, many of its members played key roles in the planning and execution of it. Members did assist in reenacting the trek of 1847 using covered automobiles. R. H. Wooten, a charter member, is believed to have been the one who made the suggestion for this event. During the State SUP encampment later in the year, the State organization and other chapters became enthusiastic over the trek and joined together in motivating 143 men, three women and two children to take part in the trek. Chapter members got behind the producers of the Centennial parade and the youth parade, thus making the events so noteworthy they received national attention.

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At the 1946 State encampment, chapter member Wendell J. Ashton was elected president of the State (now National) organization, SUP. He became the leader of the reenactment of the trek of 1847, starting at Nauvoo, Illinois and ending at Salt Lake City. Special guests were Apostle Spencer W. Kimball and his wife, Camilla.

On May 7, 1947, members of the SLC-SUP approved the awarding of a gold SUP lapel button inset with a small diamond to the current and past presidents of the chapter. At the next meeting, the nine living presidents were so recognized.

Through the work of chapter member, Julian Bamberger, and his committee members, the State Tax Commission agreed to place on the 1948 license plates the words: Utah The Friendly State.

### 1948-1950

Effective January 10, 1948, the chapter became an official Utah corporation under the name "Sons of Utah Pioneers Luncheon Club No. 1." The following May, Fred E. H. Curtis, former bishop, chairman of Senior Scouting and member of the Executive Board, Great Salt Lake Council, Boy Scouts of America, was elected the 13th Club president. He directed a strong membership drive and was instrumental, with other chapter members, in getting the old State Prison property converted into a public park. A printed roster of members was begun while Curtis was president and distributed in July, 1949.

Joseph S. Bennion became the 14th president on June 1, 1949. Annual dues went from \$20 to \$25 and the initiation fee was reduced from \$25 to \$5. About 40 new members joined under Bennion's tenure. At a Board meeting July 18, 1949, Wendell J. Ashton proposed that the person holding office as first vice president of the chapter, move up automatically the following year to president. This took effect with the incumbent, Alvin Keddington, on June 7, 1950. He had spent most of his adult life in the public service, including 23 years as County Clerk, and singing at more than 10,000 funerals, most of the gratis. He had an outstanding bass voice.

Keddington's term featured the honoring at SUP meetings great living pioneers in various fields of endeavor. The first was Mahonri M. Young, a sculptor and artist of international fame. He was presented an SUP life membership and given a glowing tribute.

### 1951-1953

On June 6, 1951, Ray L Alston was elevated to president after serving in most of the other official positions. The Club went on record as being opposed to the disposal by the City or State of any old historical landmarks. First vice president Nicholas G. Morgan presented a Utah State flag to the chapter and President Alston donated a staff and stand for it. Morgan became president in May, 1952. The board passed a resolution to permit wives of members to be guests at the monthly meetings. Honoring of living pioneers was continued and embellished by having each sit for the preparation of a bust to be cast in bronze by Dr. Avarad Fairbanks of the University of Utah School of Fine Arts. This activity added greatly to the attendance at meetings and chapter recognition.

Virgil H. Smith, vice president and actuary, Beneficial Life Insurance Company, was elected president of the chapter in May, 1953 during the tenth anniversary of the organization of the "Days of '47." Since its

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founding, Thomas B. Child was the chapter's REPRESENTATIVE as president of that organization. He was largely responsible for its success. He reported a profit for the 1953 operations and asked to be relieved of his assignment which had been done gratis. During Smith's tenure, The Voice of the Pioneers issues up to that time were bound into volumes and turned over to the Historical Department of the Church. Those in the Club who had done outstanding work were honored. Among them was chapter member Horace A. Sorensen and his wife, Ethel, who had donated a museum, lands, buildings and their entire collection of pioneer relics to the National Society, SUP. With 20 new members, the total for the year rose to 175.

### 1954-1956

The year 1954 brought LaVerre V. Adams, a prominent businessman to the presidency. His tenure featured a group of outstanding speakers. He was succeeded by Dr. Carl J. Christensen, Coordinator of Research at the University of Utah and head of the Engineering Experiment Station. He formerly had assisted Philo Farnsworth in the development of television. During 1955, Christensen was instrumental in having settled an unpaid loan the chapter had made to the "Days of '47". He was assisted by Lynn C. Layton. At the January, 1956 meeting, former mayor and KSL station founder, Earl J. Glade, was honored. A traditional summer party was held in the spacious sunken gardens at the home of Ethel and Horace A. Sorensen. Three hundred members and guests attended the dinner and later toured the museum on the premises.

Scott Taggart was elected president May 2, 1956. During a board meeting, it was pointed out that the project of greatest significance in which SLC-SUP participated was the "Days of '47" and that this should continue. On May 30, 1956, members of the Mormon Battalion, including quite a few from SLC-SUP were inducted into active service as a unit of Civil Defense at services held in the rotunda of the Utah State Capitol. Beginning January 1, 1957, dues were raised from \$25 to \$35. The year 1956 marked the 20th anniversary of the chapter, and 18 of its presidents posed for a photograph. Only two had died.

### 1957-1958

The 22nd president was Edwin Q. Cannon, one of 33 children of George Q. Cannon. He took office May 1, 1957 after having served as an LDS stake president and county commissioner. One of the chapter projects that year was to donate funds to help restore the machinery that rang the chimes in the tower of the City-County building in Salt Lake City. The chimes had been silent for several years. In the spring of 1958, chapter member John O. Simonson and his wife, Velma, were called to preside over the South Australia Mission.

In May 1958, D. Crawford Houston ascended to the presidency. At the time, he was Director of Public Relations, Utah Copper Division, Kennecott Copper Corporation. His theme for the year was "The pioneers of the future and brotherly love." Houston and his officers organized the first fathers and sons luncheon ever held by the chapter and had a very successful event on the roof of the Hotel Utah. Houston also served as president of "Days of '47" until he was succeeded by Eugene P. Watkins early in 1959. Other members of the SLC-SUP who were on the board of the "Days of '47" were T. Quenton Cannon, Graham H. Doxey, William A. Dunn, Joseph S. Francom, Richard Keddington, Frank M. Openshaw, Lee E. Nebeker and Joel Richards. At the end of Houston's term there was a feeling in the chapter he had truly exemplified the theme he espoused by his "enthusiastic and lovable personality."

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### 1959-1961

The next president as of May 6, 1959, was Graham H. Doxey, ex-missionary, bishop, mission president and business man of note. He organized and established the first large shopping center in Utah which was known as The Foothill Village. Doxey led the chapter in the kind, benevolent manner of his predecessor. Succeeding him on May 4, 1960 was William A. (Bill) Dunn who had been one of the first five recipients, along with LDS President George Albert Smith, of the Silver Beaver award, the highest given by a Boy Scout Council to a volunteer leader. In addition to his work in Scouting, Dunn was a volunteer Santa Claus for many years and thrilled the children in hospitals and in his neighborhood. The following spring, chapter member Fred W. Schwendiman and his wife, Lillian, were called to preside over the New Zealand South Mission where they had served some 40 years earlier. In February, 1961, it was announced at a chapter meeting that the Club's sponsored project to have the road to Henefer, Utah finished was "now on the way to completion."

The next president, Thomas Matthew (Mack) Woolley, was a retired accountant and Secretary of the National Society, SUP. As the 26th president of the chapter, he asked for unity among chapters of the Society. A month later, Bryant S. Hinckley, editor of The Voice of the Pioneers for many years, passed away at the age of 94, thus ending a brilliant career of service in many fields. That spring, the Club initiated a plan to advertise Pioneer Village. Signs were placed in strategic places throughout the city to catch the eyes of natives and tourists and to alert them concerning the importance of that historical place. Past chapter president D. Crawford Houston was elected president of the National Society, SUP.

### 1962-1964

On May 5, 1962, Sheldon R. Brewster, former bishop, business man and civic leader became the 27th president of the Club. The following month, a Silver Anniversary luncheon honored 20 past presidents who were all seated at the head table. In July, members of the board of directors voted to change the logo on The Voice of the Pioneers from a pony to a covered wagon. President David O. McKay was honored at the September luncheon near his 89th birthday and responded with a beautiful letter of appreciation to the Club. Club membership grew to nearly 200.

Charles R. Bird became president May 1, 1963. He was employed as the Industrial Relations Representative of Kennecott Copper Company. In May, chapter members were given a tour of the Granite Mountain Records Vault of the LDS Church.

After the Club had grown to 212 members, Virgil V. Peterson became president May 6, 1964. He had served three years as a vice president and four as editor of "The Voice." He had been archivist of Colorado and was well versed in journalistic matters. In November, Peterson recommended the name of the chapter be changed to "Sons of Utah Pioneers Salt Lake Chapter." The proposal was tabled without action after some discussion. Peterson suggested a history of the chapter be written. The assignment was made to Gaylen S. Young.

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### 1965-1966

**W. Lowell Castleton** became the 30th president of the chapter May 5, 1965. He was the principal owner and founder of Castleton's Inc., clothing and furnishings stores. He had been a club vice president for three years and had served well in other capacities. The chapter took on the responsibility of helping to preserve the memory of the late Lawrence T. Epperson, the first president and leading founder of the State (now national) SUP organization. The sculptor, Torleif S. Knapus was commissioned to do a bust of Epperson but died before completion. The commission was transferred to Mrs. Alice Morrey Bailey. Upon completion, the bust was presented by Mrs. Bailey on the suggestion of Castleton to Horace A. Sorensen for display at the Pioneer Village. Epperson's widow was present and was given a bouquet of flowers. Former president Graham H. Doxey was presented the "Outstanding Member Award for 1965" by Castleton. A total of 260 members and guests attended the Sweetheart Party of the chapter in February, 1966 at the Hotel Utah.

**C. Lamont Felt** took over as president May 4, 1966 after having been a member since 1939 and serving well in positions with the chapter and Days of '47 organization. He presented necklaces to the Royalty of the Days of '47 at the chapter summer party held in the Sorensen Gardens. While serving as the 31st president of the club, Felt and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. About 200 pioneer and LDS Church books were presented to the Salt Lake Public Library by the chapter in the name of President David O. McKay.

### 1967-1968

On May 3, 1967, **Lorenzo S. Young**, a prominent Utah architect, became president. He arranged for the publication of the chapter history written by Gaylen S. Young by installments in *The Voice* beginning in June, 1967. He designed a certificate of appreciation featuring a buffalo head, and a copy was given to each speaker who was on the monthly program. LDS President McKay wrote:

*"The members of the Days of '47 Committee are to be commended for their accomplishments in perpetuating and preserving the history of our intrepid Pioneer forefathers as depicted in the Days of '47 Pioneer Day Celebration each year. They, no doubt, have the admiration of every patriotic citizen of the State of Utah for the efforts put forth in honoring the Pioneers of Utah. The Days of '47 Celebration is a credit to the State as well as to the Church."*

Thereafter, the board of directors of the chapter passed a resolution that at least one-half of the male members of the Days of '47 board be selected from the chapter officers

On June 7, 1967, Milton V. Backman, National SUP President, stated that "the SUP Luncheon Club Chapter leads the way for the national organization and that it had contributed many of the national presidents."

In the fall of 1967, Dr. Carl J. Christensen, past president of the chapter, received awards for distinguished service from Brigham Young University and American Chemical Society. Club director Fred W. Schwendiman received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Ricks College, Rexburg, Idaho.

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Shortly before the end of his term, President Young died in the hospital following an operation for a hip ailment. He was the first incumbent to die in 32 years. He was succeeded as president by Hoyt W. Brewster on May 1, 1968. Three months later, the chapter joined the Sugar House chapter in co-hosting the National Encampment in the Sorensen Gardens. Two of the chapter members were honored: Edgar B. Brossard was named Man of the Year by the Utah State Alumni Association; and Dr. Francis W. Kirkham was recognized for his outstanding work in education by the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce. On January 8, 1969 an amendment was made to the Constitution and By-laws to provide for the progressive succession of all vice presidents each year so they each may advance to the office of president. First vice president LeGrand P. Backman was elected Chairman of the Utah State Board of Education and later was recognized by an award from Utah Technical College for more than 30 years' service to education.

### 1969

LeGrand P. Backman moved up to president of the chapter May 7, 1969 and on that same day a special program was held commemorating the 100th anniversary of the laying the last rail May 10, 1869, connecting the east and west segments of the railroad. On June 4, 1969, the name of the chapter was officially changed to "Salt Lake City Chapter, Sons of Utah Pioneers." In addition to President Backman, the first group of officers under the new name were: 1st vice president, Wilbur C. Parkinson; 2nd vice president, Donovan H. Van Dam (who later became president of the Jordan River Temple); 3rd vice president, Francis M. Gibbons (Executive Secretary to the LDS First Presidency); and directors: Louis S. Leatham, Fred W. Schwendiman, J. Henry Volker, Elmer C. Jenkins, George C. Lloyd, Frank D. Parry. Gaylen S. Young, chapter historian, was instructed to extend the history he was preparing so as to cover activities through December 31, 1970. The chapter presented to the National SUP the names of Wilbur C. and Darlene S. Parkinson as nominees for the outstanding couple award for meritorious service and the name of Hoyt W. Brewster for the individual award. At the 1969 National Encampment held in Ogden, chapter members elected to office were: Eugene P. Watkins, national president; J. B. Horrocks, vice president; Joel Richards, life membership chairman; W. Lowell Castleton, a member of that committee. Special literary awards were given to Harold H. Jenson and S. Grant Young for their biographical Sketches of Pioneers.

From its inception, the chapter operated on a sound and stable financial basis. The bank and savings account had grown to \$7,455.78 by June 30, 1969. A drive to raise funds for a Mormon Battalion monument in San Diego, California was oversubscribed in excess of \$1,000. It was dedicated 12 days later. Chapter membership was 160 in November, 1969

### 1970-1974

Wilbur C. Parkinson, Director of Environmental Health, Salt Lake City-County Health Department, became chapter president May 6, 1970. He had been prominent in public and civic affairs in the State for many years. For several years, he was the chapter's representative and Co-President of the Days of '47. In September, he reported the 1970 celebration had been a great success financially and otherwise. Attendance reached an all-time high. The performances of the rodeo in the new Salt Palace for the first time brought the highest attendance ever for that event. First vice president Francis M. Gibbons, an attorney and author, received his assignment with the LDS First Presidency as Executive Secretary in 1970. This plus his responsibilities as a bishop precluded him from continuing as an officer with the chapter.

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The chapter history prepared by Gaylen S. Young continued to the end of President Parkinson's administration in May, 1971, when Frank D. Parry became president. The commission to write the history was made during the tenure of President Virgil V. Peterson and the other officers of 1964-1965. Most of the information in this new chapter history up to this point is a summary of the writing of Gaylen Snow Young, and the chapter is indebted to him for the fine work and great amount of time he devoted to preparing the history. Gaylen remained a member of the chapter until his death in 1981 at the age of 88.

Chapter member Fred W. Schwendiman and his wife, Lillian, were called to be President and Matron of the New Zealand Temple and departed in May, 1971. Dr. Charles C. Rich and Mrs. Rich were called to direct the activities of the Visitors Center at that Temple.

The SUP national organization asked the chapters to change their election schedule so new officers would take over January 1st, effective in 1974. This cut the tenure of President Richins and his fellow officers to a term lasting a little over seven months. Major projects included raising funds by assessment of \$25 per member to beautify and preserve the burial plot of President Brigham Young on First Avenue. To perpetuate and revitalize the heroic endeavors of our pioneer ancestors, a contest with medal awards for first, second and third places in both junior and senior divisions was instituted to promote the writing of interesting stories about some of the pioneers.

J. Howard Dunn was chapter president during calendar year 1974. At the National Encampment that year, chapter member Eldred G. Smith, Patriarch to the LDS Church, was one of the speakers.

### 1975-1979

During 1975, Heber G. Taylor was the presiding officer of the chapter. He was a great grandson of LDS Church President John Taylor and a grandson of President Heber J. Grant. He and his wife were over the Eastern Atlantic States Mission in 1963-1964 until his wife, Dorothy Swenson, died. He and his second wife, Lueen King, filled a mission at the Los Angeles Temple Visitors Center in 1970. In 1975, he was Chairman of the Board, Heber J. Grant and Company. The chapter again participated in the Pioneer Story Contest which was under the sponsorship this time of the National, SUP.

Preston W. Parkinson was elected president for 1976. He is a former bishop and member of two LDS high councils. Vocational pursuits included outdoor advertising, managing a rock wool insulation business and property management. He is a member of the Rotary Club and serves as a Host at the Temple Square Visitors Center. Chapter member Eugene P. Watkins audited the financial records of the National, SUP. Members of the chapter recognized the passing of Kate Bearson Carter, 84-year old president of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

Clyde Johnson Summerhays, retired vice president and former director of agencies, Beneficial Life Insurance Company, was elected president of the chapter for 1977. He and his wife, Sarah Dixon, presided over the Ireland Mission for four years. He formerly was a bishop and member of a stake presidency. In 1977, he was a counselor in the Temple Square Mission presidency. Chapter member and former SUP national president, Horace A. Sorensen, died May 2, 1977. He established Pioneer Village Park but later donated his collection of 40 restored, pioneer era buildings to the SUP which sold them to the Lagoon Amusement Park. He was instrumental in preserving the 100-acre site of the old Utah State Prison in Sugar House which later became Sugarhouse Park.

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In 1978, O. Claron Aldredge presided over the chapter. He formerly was a bishop, high councilor and member of a stake presidency. He was vice president of Zions Securities Corporation and general manager of the ZCMI Center. As a director of the Days of '47 and the chairman of the historical section—Days of '47 parade committee, he continued a long tradition of having one or more chapter members involved in this famous annual celebration. A series of interesting programs was presented during the year.

Taking over the presidential rein for 1979 was Herald L. Carlston who had been a chapter director and first vice president. Herald was a graduate of the University of Utah with a bachelor degree in Business Administration and masters in Educational Administration. He later served as director of placement at the University. Following retirement he organized Career Information Center, Inc. He was set apart as a sealer in the Salt Lake Temple by President Spencer W. Kimball and has served for many years in this capacity. Herald's administration was noted for the able manner in which he organized and conducted the chapter meetings.

### 1980-1981

Evan Pettit Wright joined the chapter in 1976, was a director in 1977 and 1978, second vice president, 1979, and president 1980. His fast rise to fame was preceded by many years of service in a variety of fields. He spent 25 years of his life in South Africa as a missionary, mission president for five years and as a businessman. Evan commissioned Richard Bert Carter, Jr. to head a committee to compile and edit a book of biographies of the chapter members. Forty-three participated. A hardbound volume of 153 pages was prepared which contained photographs of each member and his wife and a narrative about their lives. One field trip to the DUP Museum was conducted during the year. The closing meeting of the year featured 12 of the surviving 20 presidents of the chapter, and to each was given an engraved plaque with his name and the year he was president. A group photograph was taken and copies were made available to each. Gifts were given to all wives of members and guests that evening.

David Markley Mayfield became a member of the chapter in 1979, was named first vice president in 1980 and president in 1981. His political acumen might be attributed to his good looks, his youth (age 37 when he joined), being a member of Phi Beta Kappa, being the director of the LDS Genealogical Library, having two masters degrees (one in German and one in Library and Information Science), or all of these combined. Under the organizational leadership of Bertram T. Willis and Joseph T. Lindsey, an automobile trek was prepared for July, 1981. Stops were made at Welfare Square, DUP Pioneer Memorial Museum and Pioneer State Park. Another project of the year was the raising of fund to help pay the remaining \$65,000 cost of the million dollar pioneer memorial building housing SUP headquarters. A large number of chapter members contributed \$100 or more toward the pioneer name memorial plaque at the NS-SUP building and several became members of the \$1,000 Club by donating or collecting that amount or more to cover at least ten names of pioneers. Gifts were given to the ladies at the December chapter meeting.

### 1982

Richard Bert Carter, Jr., better known as Bert, whose great grandfather William Carter plowed the first half acre of land in the Salt Lake Valley on July 22, 1847, two days before the arrival of Brigham Young, became president of the chapter in 1982. Bert retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Seattle, Washington in 1975 after 34 years as a Special Agent and communications official in 11 field offices and

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headquarters. He then served a two year mission for the LDS Church as Associate Director, Stakes and Missions Office, Public Communications Department, at Church Headquarters. He holds the Eagle, Silver Beaver and Vigil Honor awards in Scouting and was council vice president (finance) and council commissioner in Seattle. One of the projects of NS-SUP this year was to turn into the library at the NS-SUP memorial building biographical sketches of pioneer ancestors. The Salt Lake City chapter decided to carry this one step further by publishing a hardbound book with these biographies for those members who wanted to participate and make these books available to the membership at cost. Bert commissioned David M. Mayfield to co-edit the book with him. Each member prepared a sketch of his ancestors who came to the valley before 1900. Copies of the book were made available to pertinent libraries. Bert also wrote a chapter history from 1936 through 1982, which included a summary of part of the data prepared by Gaylen Snow Young in 1971. This history was to be incorporated into an NS-SUP history scheduled for publication in 1983 on the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the organization. Another project of 1982 was to raise additional funds to place pioneer names on the memorial plaque. Several thousand dollars more were donated to the NS-SUP for this worthy cause.

Chapter member W. Lowell Castleton was not only chapter president 1965-1966 but also has had a long affiliation with the national SUP organization. He was a national officer 1967-1972 until called with his wife, Laura, to preside over the Oakland LDS Temple. He was a national vice president 1978-1979 until named a director and chairman of the Name Memorialization Committee in which capacity he served through the time this was written. Lowell and his associates have coordinated the raising of over \$600,000 through donations of members and friends to place the names of pioneers on a memorial plaque in the main hall of the SUP headquarters and memorial building and through other donations of labor and materials for the building.

Thirteen SLC chapter members qualified for the \$1,000 Club by raising that amount or more to memorialize pioneer names. Their combined total at the time of this writing was in excess of \$25,400. One member and wife team donated \$3,200 for 32 names. Names of chapter members in the \$1,000 Club are: Mr. and Mrs. LaVerre V. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Alston, Mr. and Mrs. Ora H. Barlow, Dr. and Mrs. Ray H. Barton, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bert Carter, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. Lowell Castleton, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Carter Cornwall, Mr. and Mrs. Steven G. Covey, Mr. and Mrs. Alma V. Decker, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Everton, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer C. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. Seth W. Pixton, and Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Wimmer. Some of the above are now deceased or no longer are active in the chapter.

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### Presidents of the Salt Lake City Chapter, Sons of Utah Pioneers (from this history)

1-Gaylen Snow Young	March 17, 1936	25- William A. (Bill) Dunn	May, 1960
2- Albert J. Elggren	May, 1937	26- Thomas Matthew (Mack) Woolley	May, 1961
3- Harold C. Reynolds	May, 1938	27- Sheldon R. Brewster	May, 1962
4- Gaylen Snow Young	May, 1939	28- Charles R. Bird	May, 1963
5- George A. Parry	May, 1940	29- Virgil V. Peterson	May, 1964
6- Don B. Colton	May, 1941	30- W. Lowell Castleton	May, 1965
7- Richard R. Lyman	May, 1942	31- C. Lamont Felt	May, 1966
8- George L. Woodbury	May, 1943	32- Lorenzo S. Young	May, 1967
9- Seldon N. Heaps	May, 1944	33- Hoyt W. Brewster	May, 1968
10- William E. Nelson	May, 1945	34- LeGrand P. Backman	May, 1969
11- Joel Richards	May, 1946	35- Wilbur C. Parkinson	May, 1970
12- ??	May, 1947	36- Frank D. Parry	May, 1971
13- Fred E. H. Curtis	May, 1948	37- ??	May, 1972
14- Joseph S. Bennion	June, 1949	38- President Richins	May, 1973
15- Alvin Keddington	June, 1950	39- J. Howard Dunn	January, 1974
16- Ray L Alston	June, 1951	40- Heber G. Taylor	January, 1975
17- Nicholas G. Morgan	May, 1952	41- Preston W. Parkinson	January, 1976
18- Virgil H. Smith	May, 1953	42- Clyde Johnson Summerhays	January, 1977
19- LaVerre V. Adams	May, 1954	43- O. Claron Alldredge	January, 1978
20- Dr. Carl J. Christensen	May, 1955	44- Herald L. Carlston	January, 1979
21- Scott Taggart	May, 1956	45- Evan Pettit Wright	January, 1980
22- Edwin Q. Cannon	May, 1957	46- David Markley Mayfield	January, 1981
23- D. Crawford Houston	May, 1958	47- Richard Bert Carter, Jr.	January, 1982
24- Graham H. Doxey	May, 1959		

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<sup>i</sup> In 1982 Richard Bert Carter, Jr. wrote a chapter history from 1936 through 1982, which included a summary of part of the data prepared by Gaylen Snow Young in 1971. This history was to be incorporated into an NS-SUP history scheduled for publication in 1983 on the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the organization. The chapter history prepared by Gaylen S. Young continued to the end of President Parkinson's administration in May, 1971, when Frank D. Parry became president. The commission of Gaylen Snow Young to write the history was made during the tenure of President Virgil V. Peterson and the other officers of 1964-1965.