

Late News From The Meadows
The Mountain Meadows Association Newsletter
Honoring the Dead, Historic Preservation, Fellowship, & Reconciliation
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Meetings In Utah

Please e-mail Terry Fancher at tnf49@aol.com to register for the activities that will be held on May 29th and 30th, 2009 in Utah. On this weekend, we will honor those who died and the children who survived the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Part of the ceremony will memorialize Brevet Major J. H. Carleton and his men for collecting the bones that were scattered on the Meadows, burying them, and building a cairn to protect them. Another segment will remember the beginning of the children's long journey home to Arkansas. During this weekend, plans will be discussed for still another memorial that will be held in September to recapture the children's arrival home in Arkansas.

Salt Lake City

We hope you will join us in our visit to the Church Historical Department where we will be able to see some of the new documents that Ron Walker, Richard Turley Jr., and Glenn Leonard discovered in researching and writing the new book, *Massacre at Mountain Meadows*. The number of people who will be able to see the documents will be

limited to twenty per association or a total of sixty people.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please e-mail Terry Fancher to let him know. **Also, you may send him any questions you want to ask about the sources for the book.** The documents will be arranged on tables, so we will be able to ask questions and then move to the next collection.

Salt Lake City Motels

Elder Marlin Jensen said the LDS Church has negotiated rates at the following motels and may offer additional discounts based on the number of rooms the Church is using. He added, "I'm confident the Radisson would be very nice. There are other motels that offer an LDS rate, but we don't have official signed agreements with them."

For motel reservations in Salt Lake City close to the LDS Church office buildings, Elder Jensen recommended we contact one of the following motels: [1] Radisson Salt Lake City Downtown at 215 West South Temple [801-531-7500] \$81.00 including parking and internet access; [2] Embassy Suites at 110 West 600 South [801-359-7800] \$109.00 including parking, airport

shuttle service and breakfast; [3] Marriott Salt Lake City Downtown at 75 South West Temple [801-531-0800] \$99.00, parking \$12.00 per day, internet \$9.95 per day; [4] Marriott Salt Lake City Center at 222 South State Street [801-961-8700] \$105.00, parking \$12.00 per day, internet \$9.95 per day; [5] Hilton Salt Lake City Center at 255 South Temple [801-328-2000] \$89.00 including parking and internet access; [6] Homewood Suites by Hilton at 423 West 300 South [801-363-6700] \$119.00 including parking and breakfast; [7] Residence Inn at 285 West Broadway [801-355-3300] \$94.00 including parking and breakfast.

Motels in St. George

It is urgent that you make your motel reservations soon for the Annual Meeting in St. George at the Holiday Inn Resort on 850 South Bluff Street, St. George, Utah 84770. When you call either 435-628-4235 or toll free 1-800-457-9800, please indicate you belong to the Mountain Meadows Association. Room rates will be \$74.95 plus tax. **Reservations need to be made prior to May 16th, 2009.** A continental breakfast served in their restaurant from 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. will be included.

Activities at the Meadows

We will meet with the

MMMD and MMMF at Mountain Meadows where the 1999 memorial was erected. We will then tour various locations where members of the wagon trail may have been buried. In the process, we will also see the land that is currently being considered for National Historic Landmark Status. We will then assemble at the 1999 monument for a program that will commemorate Brevet Major J. H. Carleton's reburial of bones that had been scattered throughout the Meadows.

Meeting in St. George

After reaching the Holiday Inn in St. George, we will hold a reception at 6:00 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., we will have a dinner which will cost in the range of \$25.00 per person. There will be comments on the master plan, the

National Historic Landmark Status, disposition of the skull, viewing of the northern grave site, and the annual treasurer's report.

We have planned an informative program. We will hear Will Bagley comment on his new book, *Innocent Blood: Essential Narratives of the Mountain Meadows Massacre* from the Kingdom of the West series. Richard Turley Jr. will report on the National Historic Landmark Status, the archival collection, and his new book. Elder Marlin Jensen will deliver the keynote address on the master plan for the Meadows, the new archives, and the partnership in managing the site among the three Mountain Meadows associations and the LDS Church. Also, the re-enactments that will occur in Arkansas in September will be discussed.

Update on Skull

Terry Fancher and Alison Wallner held a teleconference with Ken Reid, the Idaho State archeologist. Terry took detailed notes on this conference and urged us to develop a protocol for handling any remains that people may claim belong to the wagon train.

Reid indicated there were serious problems certifying this skull belonged to a person in the massacre. Some of the problems include the difficulties using DNA testing, tracing the location of the skull prior to 1982, certifying if the person died from a gun shot, dealing with evidence that points to the individual being an Asian, and explaining why the skull had no etching from grass stains or teeth marks from animals.

Annual Dues and Pre-Registration Forms

Renewal of membership in the Association is due each January (rather than September 11, the date of the Massacre). Please fill out all of the details on these forms at the end of this newsletter and e-mail Terry Fancher at tnf49@aol.com or mail to the Mountain Meadows Association at 12703 Whisper Spring Cove, Draper, Utah 84020. You also now pay your dues online at http://www.mtn-meadows-assoc.com/dues_form.htm or make a donation at <http://www.mtn-meadows-assoc.com/donations.htm>

Mountain Meadows Association Membership Mail-in Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Dues are \$20.00 per year. Check the following categories:

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Additional Donation \$ _____ for _____

If you plan to attend the meetings in Utah on May 29 and 30 to view the documents, please RSVP by e-mail Terry Fancher at tnf49@aol.com or call him at home 781-848-9668 or his cell phone 617-774-9041.