

MOUNTAIN MEADOWS MONUMENT FOUNDATION, INC.
8002 Wind Rock Lane, Harrison, AR 72601
(870) 437-2718 (mmmf@eritter.net)

Volume 23

May 6, 2005

William W. Hatch, News Editor

Our Purpose

As I continue my task as your Newsletter Editor, I am again reminded of just how large our Foundation family has become. Each of our family members has a part to play. Our diversity is our strength. What we currently lack in members is soundly solidified in mutual purpose. That purpose has not changed. The Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation received its name, elected its officers and held its first meeting September 11, 1999 in the old American Legion Community building in Kingston, Arkansas. My purpose, like all of you, is to continue to seek the truth about what really happened at Mountain Meadows, Iron County, Utah Territory, September 7-11, 1857, and why? We do this through research and common sense. We refuse to be anyone's pawns in a cover up. We expect all like minded people of good faith to support our worthy efforts. God willing, may we not rest until that task is complete.

The Editor

BOARD MEMBERS and OFFICERS for 2005

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| President | Dr. Burr Fancher | (541) 926-3125 | Albany, Oregon |
| Secretary | Harley Fancher | (870) 743-2385 | Omaha, Arkansas |
| Treasurer | Phil Bolinger | (479) 789-5263 | Hindsville, Arkansas |
| Newsletter Editor | Dr. Bill Hatch | (479) 738-6315 | Huntsville, Arkansas |
| Board Member | Pat Stroud | (479) 738-2484 | Huntsville, Arkansas |
| Board Member | Jim Fletcher | (479) 248-1164 | Bentonville, Arkansas |
| Board Member | Mary Migliore | (210) 320-5259 | San Antonio, Texas |
| Board Member | Robert Paul Wilson | (918) 676-3876 | Fairland, Oklahoma |

DUES for 2004/2005

If you have not paid your 2005 dues, please mail \$20.00 to the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation, 8002 Wind Rock Lane, Harrison, Arkansas, 72601. Any additional donations will be greatly appreciated. As of January 1, 2005, dues will be \$20.00 annually.

MMMF PRESIDENT REPORT – Burr Fancher

As we continue the new year, perhaps we should review recent accomplishments and future plans. We had a successful fall meeting with 85-90 members in attendance. The membership approved a program of work in the form of a long range plan.

New Board Members

Cheryl Gremanx and Scott Fancher completed their terms as board members and were replaced by Harley Fancher and Pat Stroud. We wish to thank Cheryl and Scott for their contributions and welcome Harley and Pat to our group. Harley Fancher will be our new MMMF Secretary to replace Scott.

Cemetery Marking Project

Board member Jim Fletcher continues to search out the final resting places of the massacre survivors. The final 3-4 grave sites will be a major challenge but together we can find them. If you have ideas on the burial sites of Nancy Sophrina Huff Cates, John Calvin Miller, Mary Miller and Louisa Dunlap Lynton, please let Jim know. Jim Fletcher has done a wonderful job finding and marking sites. We owe him a debt of gratitude.

Carrollton Lodge Restoration Project

During the past few years, our Foundation has cooperated with the VFW in restoring the Old Yell Lodge. Our groups have shared proceeds from a joint money-making auction. The Lodge will house interpretative materials related to the 17 surviving children. Sponsors have contributed plaques for four of the children. We expect other sponsors to pick up the other 13 in the future.

Arkansas History Project

Materials have been provided to history teachers in Alpena, Berryville, Eureka Springs, Green Forest and Huntsville Schools. Teachers will use some of these materials for teaching a unit on Mountain Meadows. Larry Fry of Green Forest is the local coordinator for this project.

Interpretative Center

The Foundation has begun to pull together materials for an interpretative site at Carrollton. An interpretative sign will explain the significance of the replica to tourists who travel Highway 412. The replica will be 2/3 scale of the Carleton grave that Brigham Young ordered destroyed in 1861. This replica will give Arkansas relatives a connection with the wagon train victims without traveling to Utah.

Annual MMMF Meeting

Our 2005 meeting will be held in St. George, Utah on September 9-11. Our members voted to alternate between Arkansas and Utah to give our western friends an opportunity to attend. Our group will gather for a planned activity on the evening of September 9th. Saturday will be open for members to visit historical sites in the area. Our annual meeting will start at 4:00 p.m., followed by dinner and auction. Sunday will remain open for further site visits, spit and whittle sessions or heading home. Negotiations are underway for meeting rooms at the Best Western Abby Inn in St. George where we congregated in 2003. Final details on motel accommodations, agendas and tours will be spelled out in the May newsletter. See below for an update and current details.

MMMFM PRESIDENT REPORT – Burr Fancher

Board Meeting

We will have an MMMFM Board meeting on Saturday, May 14 to set direction for our annual MMMFM meeting in St. George this September. What will be the focus of our annual meeting? Who should we have as a speaker? What would you like to see in the St. George area as part of a group tour? Brigham Young's summer home, Hamblin's home, the iron works near Pinto, Hamblin town site and Mountain Meadows are a few of the options. Let a Board member know what you would like to see, hear and do at St. George.

Motels in St. George

Our annual MMMFM meeting will be held at Best Western Abby Inn, 1129 South Bluff Street, St. George, Utah 84770. The meeting will start on Friday evening and end by Sunday noon. A meeting room has been reserved for Saturday evening with a catered meal. We will have a speaker and auction during the evening function. Daytime will be devoted to visiting and touring the area. Zion National Park and other scenic attractions are close by.

The Abbey Inn is holding 16 rooms for Friday and Saturday nights at \$79.00. You may arrange for one of these rooms by calling 435 652-1234 and telling them that you are a member of the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation. There was some confusion in 2003 because MMA booked the same Motel. When the motel brought this to my attention, I assured them we were the happy group. If you wish to come early or stay longer, you can work that out with the motel. The 16 rooms at the Abbey will be first come first serve, so reserve early.

There are many other motels in the area. There are two other Best West motels in St. George with somewhat lower rates. Best West Coral Hills has 98 rooms and can be reached at 435 673-4844. Best Western Travel Inn at 435 673-3541 has 30 rooms. There are many other motel options in the St. George area. As the agenda for our September meeting becomes further finalized, we will send specific motel information to our members. We look forward to good attendance and a fun time.

UPDATE

On February 23, 2005, the editor received the following letter from Don H. Staheli, Secretary to President Gordon B. Hinckley. The Foundation accepts Mr. Hinckley's explanation and his apology for the oversight. We in the Foundation wish the prophet continuing good health and much happiness in the years ahead.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1700

February 23, 2005

William W. Hatch
c/o Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation, Inc.
8002 Wind Rock Lane
Harrison, AR 72601

Dear Mr. Hatch:

I have been asked by President Gordon B. Hinckley to acknowledge with thanks the copy of the *Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation Newsletter*, which he recently received from you, and to extend an apology for our oversight in responding to your letter of November 7, 2004. Please know that he appreciates your thoughtfulness and generosity in so remembering him.

President Hinckley also asked that I extend to you and your family his warm regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,



Don H. Staheli
Secretary to the President

From: "Larry King" <klarry@comcast.net>
To: <bdhatch@madisoncounty.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 5:03 PM

Hi Bill,

I got your note along with your newsletter today. Sure, I would be happy to continue to receive your newsletter, but I am not sure just what it is you expect from us. MHA's newsletter is devoted to news about MHA and the Journal is for researched articles. If you have an article you want published about Mountain Meadows, you can submit it to our editor for publication. Info on our website www.mha.home.

After reading your letter to President Hinckley, I have to wonder what your intentions and motives are. Are you trying to build relationships or just simply to take jabs and swipes at the Mormon Church. If it is a relationship you want, I will return in kind, but I am not interest in listening to caustic jabs. As I have said before, what happened at Mountain Meadows was a tragedy of the worst kind and the memory of those people should forever be preserved. No question about it, but it should be done through relationship building not by continually grinding the ax.

With Kind Regards,
Larry King
Mormon History Association


Larry King
Mormon History Association
581 South 630 East
Orem, UT 84097

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your acknowledgement and receipt of our current Newsletter. Larry, we now have some 180 paid members in our Foundation and humbly, since my tutorship began as Editor, we appear to be gaining new membership each quarter. Why not join us? I send you and other members of the Church a complimentary copy of our Newsletter to apprise you of our activities; however, I am always hopeful that you and Alene, like so many other Mormons, who I believe sincerely seek the truth regarding the tragedy of Mountain Meadows, will join us and together work for an honorable solution. Larry, "Mountain Meadows", unlike Hawn's Mill is not going to fade away. Hawn's Mill was emotionally settled after the Missouri State Legislature and present Governor freely admitted and apologized, though belatedly, both the horror and wrongness of Governor Lilburn Boggs fateful "extermination order" and its subsequence consequences. The Mormons can do no less regarding Mountain Meadows.

Larry, yes I want to have a pleasant and meaningful relationship with you and Alene, but not at the price of truth! De Anna and I have personally invited you to come here to Arkansas and visit with us. We have room to accommodate you folks. I will introduce you to many of the descendants of the surviving children of the Massacre. We can disagree, but still remain friends.

With kind regards, I am



Bill Hatch, Editor,
MORMON HISTORY ASSOCIATION

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Dr. Stan Larson, Manuscripts Division
The University of Utah
J. Willard Marriott Library
295 South 1500 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0860

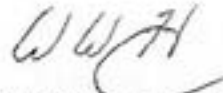
Dear Dr. Larson:

Thank you for your letter of 1 March 2005, acknowledging receipt of the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation Newsletter. I believe that you have previously received some back issues. If you desire, I will include the J. Willard Marriott Library on our quarterly mailing list and, or, you may become a subscriber for \$20.00 annually.

As editor of the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation newsletter, I have been authorized to sign the Deed of Gift for the Foundation. We appreciate your willingness to include our research and reported findings in your Manuscript Division of the University of Utah.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



William W. Hatch, Ph.D.
Newsletter Editor, MMMF

cc: file

Dear Fellow Veteran Members,

Over the past several years, the various veteran and auxiliary organizations at Carrollton have been working to restore the Carrollton Lodge. Many of our members have selflessly donated their time and talents to this project and we can all be proud of their collective accomplishments. We have tried to keep you abreast of our progress and hope that you share our commitment to finish what we started.

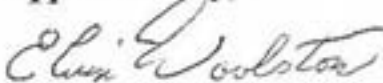
To date, the State has invested \$66,333 in this restoration project which required that we cost share with \$33,167 in order to qualify. This amount does not include the costs of placing water into the buildings, septic system, bathrooms, kitchen facility or the tables and chairs. All of this is operational and fully paid in full. However, we did make two loans totalling \$24,000 and we have a balance of \$20,000 remaining. Our objective now is to pay off these two loans and reduce our indebtedness to zero.

As with all non-profit organizations, our financial resources is limited to the generosity of the members and the community it surrounds. We have worked hard and have been blessed with great members and friends. The restoration is complete and we have a building that we can be totally proud to say this is "our" post building. It is also a show case building for the Arkansas Historical Restoration Projects.

Please join with us in the final effort of this restoration project - paid in full. Many hands make light work not only physically but also financially. We need everyones support in this final stage of the work to put it all to rest. All donations whether small or large helps in the end result. And remember your donation is completely tax deductible.

Please take a moment to complete the attached pledge of support and return in the self-stamped envelop.

Appreciatively,



Elvin Woolston

Commander, VFW & AM Legion Posts

CARROLLTON LODGE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Pledge Of Financial Support

I hereby pledge my financial support to the Carrollton Lodge Restoration Project in the following manner and amount:

Amount Pledged = \$ _____ .00

- Payment Schedule
- Lump sum included with this pledge.
 - Lump sum by this date _____.
 - Weekly installment.
 - Monthly installment.
 - Other (describe) _____.

Signature

Date

Cash donations can be hand delivered to an Auxiliary, Legion or VFW officer. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Carrollton Lodge Preservation Association and hand delivered or mailed to this address:

VFW Post 300
P.O. Box 267
Alpena, AR 72611

Please be sure to provide your mailing address if you wish to receive a receipt for IRS reporting purposes.

Name: _____
Address: _____

