

MORMON TRAILS ACROSS WYOMING AND UTAH

“WE’RE GOING TO THE MOUNTAINS OF EPHRAIM TO DWELL”

MTAWU Officers

Jonathan Browning	President
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Linda Griggs	Secretary
Craig Anderson	Treasurer
Jolene Allphin	Newsletter
David Parker	Newsletter
David Day	Legal Counsel
Laura Anderson	Executive Director

Upcoming Events

Pioneer Trail Excursions:

May 17 – Camp Floyd and Pony Express

June 14 – Henefer to Salt Lake Valley

Sept. 26-27 – Split Rock to South Pass

(Willie handcart company)

General Membership Zoom Meetings

with Guest Speakers:

Zoom meeting links will be sent prior to meetings. Meetings are generally recorded for later viewing.

All meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. MDT:

June 19 - (TBD)

August 21 - (TBD)

October - (TBD)

Executive Staff Meetings, 8:30 p.m. MDT:

September 18 / November 20

Board Meetings, 7:00 p.m. MDT:

October 23

Other upcoming events:

May 2-3 - Nebraska Trail Symposium

(September 8-13 - Pueblo Symposium)

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear MTAWU Friends,

At the heart of our mission in the Mormon Trails Across Wyoming and Utah Association is a simple but profound goal: “[to] share the stories and experiences of those who journeyed the Mormon trails in a way that helps [us] vicariously understand [their] motivations, challenges, and accomplishments.” These were not just travelers—they were seekers of faith, builders of community, and examples of perseverance. To truly grasp the depth of their sacrifice and strength, we must do more than read their stories—we must walk where they walked.

As Ronald O. Barney once reflected, “When the celebrated Middle Eastern scholar James Henry Breasted... first walked the region of the Tigris River he exclaimed: ‘I learned more in these four hours than I had gained at home from the most intensive study of local topography through maps, photographs, and the descriptions of other travelers.’ So it is with the Mormon Trail. To understand today, there is no book-learning substitute for witnessing the places, the sites.”[1] That truth is what fuels our upcoming excursions, and we invite you to save the following dates and come and experience it for yourself.

We hope you’ll join us on May 17 as we explore Camp Floyd, a place where military presence and pioneer purpose once met. [More information to come.] On June 14, we’ll explore the final miles of the trail from Henefer to Salt Lake City, tracing the path of thousands who arrived with weary feet and faithful hearts. Then on September 26–27, we’ll experience the sweeping landscapes from Split Rock to South Pass, a place of both hardship and transcendent purpose for those early Saints.

These are not just hikes—they are sacred opportunities to connect with the people whose lives shaped our faith and our nation. Come with us. Walk the trail. Feel the dust, hear the wind, and sense the spirit of those who came before. There’s no better classroom than the trail itself.

Pioneer Strong!

Jonathan E. Browning

Our mission is to help the public understand and appreciate the national significance and impact of the migration along the Mormon trails between the years 1846-1868.