Chapter 02 LDS Church membership



I was borne of goodly parents who taught me right from wrong. I started my life living on a Farm, north of Idaho Falls. We attended church in a rural church-school located in a community that was called Lincoln where dad served in the Bishopric. The Farm Boys at church were different from the City Kids that I went to school within the Idaho Falls Elementary School.

My Father was first Counsellor in the Lincoln Ward Bishopric. The population of Lincoln was 500 people in 1930. Lincoln was located east of the city of Idaho Falls. The Lincoln Ward was part of the Idaho Falls stake. Our farm which was located on Highway 91 was located five miles northeast of Idaho Falls in an area called Beaches Corner. The LDS church members who lived on farms in our area attended church at the Lincoln Ward. I remember that the Lincoln Ward meetings were held in the old small rural schoolhouse which was first built in 1899 by people living in the Lincoln area.

I remember going to the Idaho Falls Stake Center for my baptism and shorty after moving to Garland, Utah. I don't remember much about the church or facilities in Garland or later when we moved to Morgan Utah.

We moved to St. George Utah in 1939 and I was nine years of age. We lived in three different homes in the northwest area of St. George and the St. George elementary school served as our Chapel-meeting place for church. I remember in the fifth and sixth grade I could say I sat in the same seat six days a week and that was because my priesthood class also met in the same room that I was using for school. During these years I was active in the various activities of the ward and attended church regularly.

I remember the Sunday that Pearl Harbour was bombed, I was at church when we heard the news and church was dismissed early. It was difficult



Washington County news 1939

to get news during this time as the only newspaper available was the weekly Washington County news.

In the daytime, there were no radio stations that we could pick up on our radios. In the evening, we could pick up Los Angeles California station

and a Denver station and I don't remember but possibly a Salt Lake station. I don't know how we received the news about Pearl Harbour except it was brought up and announced during church on Sunday. The news had to come in by telephone to St. George.

No one ever encouraged or even talked to me about going on a mission. I honestly felt the boys were sent on a mission to reform them. Many of the boys that were 19 were called on missions and from what Shortly after the start of World War II my father was transferred to Cedar city. We lived in the Eden Apartments; we belonged to the Cedar City Third Ward



OLD ROCK CHAPEL

where my father was the Group Leader in the High Priests Group.

When we lived in the apartment on Main Street, we were
members of the Cedar First Ward, the chapel was in the NorthWest part of Cedar city. When we moved from the Eden
Apartments to the apartment above Mullet Jewellery store on

Main Street, we changed to attend church at the famous "Old Rock Chapel."

Returning to St. George we again attended church in the old St. George Elementary School.

A few months before I reach the age of 16 (1946) a man by the name of Fred Booth who owned a repair garage befriended me. Although I didn't realize it at the time, I later found that he was a member of the Ward and made a project to encourage me and my activity in the church.

I expressed an interest in having a car when I become 16. He found A 34 Ford that didn't have an engine, any upholstery or tires and I was able to purchase it for \$75. Working with me we acquired a rebuilt engine tires and other things and he help me restore this two-door coupe. (see chapter on my cars) He spent a lot of time on me and later I wondered if I had really expressed my appreciation for all that he had done for me. Many years later, his son

Dr. Booth was speaking at a meeting that I attended, and I was able to relate to him how much I appreciated what his father did for me.

My last two years in high school I was managing the projection booths in the two St. George theaters, working as a custodian at the telephone company, and working at several other jobs,



Apostle Joseph F Merrill

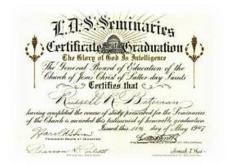
made it difficult for me to attend my meetings. Sunday morning was the only time I could find to service the projection equipment in both theaters. My mother was very upset due to my inactivity in the church. I did live my religion other than that, except I hadn't been converted to pay tithing.

I remember my Mother was very excited that her uncle was coming to visit. I didn't understand as we had relatives come to visit us on occasions. I remember meeting my mother's uncle but again I was busy rushing off to work and didn't stay to visit. My mother's uncle's name was Apostle Joseph F. Merrill who was the visiting general authority at the conference held in the St. George tabernacle. I think that he only visited a couple of times. (My mother asked me to stop by and see her uncle when I was passing through Salt Lake when I was headed over seas. I walked into the main church office entry area and asked the receptionist if I could see Joseph F. Merrill. I was asked if I had an appointment and I said no. She said sorry you must have an appointment to see Elder Merrill so I asked if I could leave a message for him and she said yes, I'll take the message, tell him that I stopped by and I am a son of Idella Van Orden Bateman. She said wait just a moment and I'll check. And it did not take long for uncle Joseph to came out and invite me into his office. As soon as we were seated in his office he reached back and got the Merrill history book and he said let's see, do you know what page you are on. I had a nice visit with Uncle Joseph, and it was quite an experience to meet an Apostle in his office.)

My last two years of high school, I was only attending my church meetings occasionally. I was working at three jobs and had very little time to do anything but work. I have been ordained as a deacon, teacher and a priest as the normal age as set by the church.

I knew of their lives it was an effort to reform them. Although I was not attending meetings as I should or paying tithing, I still felt that I didn't need to be reformed.

In my last year of high school, I was engaged to Ora Larson, but we were not planning a temple marriage. We were both somewhat active in the church but did not have the testimony of the truthfulness of the church and Temple Marriage. Both of our parents had been married in the Temple, there was no moral problems, but we did not have the testimony of paying tithing.



We both attended seminary and in my last year of seminary and she kept up my notebook so that I could go to work and not attend class. I did not realize at that time that I missed one of the greatest opportunities as my instructor was Brother Corbett a very special person. We both graduated from seminary.

One of the church assignments I did enjoy when I was called to work on the New St. George West Ward Chapel building. This was to be the second LDS chapel in St. George at the time. The other Chapel was called the South Ward Chapel and it was located just over two blocks south of the tabernacle.

Ora broke our engagement after I moved to Salt Lake. This was very hard on me as she had been my High school' sweetheart. The move to Salt Lake was at the suggestion of her aunt who felt that Ora's dominating mother would limit a successful marriage. I lost any interest in getting married for the next six years.

Living in Salt Lake I did attend church with my brother and his wife. I attended dances and other activities.

I realized the need for additional education and working in the Sears and Roebuck tire shop was not the level of work that I wanted. I had no money to continue to college or go on a mission. I investigated the military to see if I can find the education that I needed. A Navy recruiter promised me the education and electronics that I was seeking, and I enlisted in July of 1948.

While in boot camp in San Diego we were required to attend church of our faith. At that time in my life, religions seemed not to be very important to me and I think I may have been opened to about anything. The first time I was permitted to leave the base, I remember getting off the bus at the foot of Broadway not having any idea where I was going go or what I was going to do. While standing on the street another sailor came up to me and told me he was from Salt Lake City. It seemed good to be able to talk to someone from Utah. He encouraged me to go with him to the reception center that was located near that location.

After arriving at this reception center, he told me he had to go somewhere and wait there, and he would be back shortly. He did not return and later I realized he was not from Salt Lake City but was conning me to get me up into this reception center. A young male in a suit, carrying a Bible, came in and headed directly for me. This was his first words to me, "you are going to hell unless you are re-baptized". He told me that no matter what I had done in my life, lied, stole, murdered, I could be baptized -- born-again and I would be saved. What he preached to me was certainly different than anything I had ever heard in my lifetime. After being preached to for a couple hours I was happy to leave and get back on the bus to go back to the base.

Back in boot camp I was being constantly asked questions about the Mormon Church. I will never forget the time I was asked do you believe in the "Joe Smith story?" I said that I had never heard the Joe Smith story. I guess I was a little dense, but it took me a while to realize they were talking about the Joseph Smith story.



The questions on my belief seemed to never quit. And I even started asking myself what I believed.

I don't remember being impressed with the LDS meetings held on the base that I felt I needed to get contact with the church. Looking for a chapel telephone number in the telephone book or maybe somebody told me about an LDS serviceman's home. The next time I was permitted to leave the base I headed for the address of the LDS serviceman's home. I was able to meet some very special LDS military members, some of them were return missionaries.

This was the time of my true conversion to the principles of the LDS Church and the next few months I was very active with the LDS group and attended LDS dances. By the time I had completed my basic training and the Naval Radio School I had a strong testimony of the Church.

Bishop Paul Robert Chessman ordained me an Elder in the Melchizedek Priesthood. I had met Navy Lt. Chaplin Chessman through my church activities in the San Diego Area and we became good friends. He had a lot to do with my testimony. He encouraged me to be ready to be ordained an Elder and gain a strong testimony. I was surprised that he moved to St. George and became a Bishop in a Ward that we in the same Stake of my membership. As I recall, he was about 30 years of age at that time and knew the procedure to get authorization

for my ordination. My St. George home ward was where my records were kept, and the procedure had to be approved by my home ward bishop and stake president.

Paul Robert Cheesman was not just an ordinary Bishop or Navy Chaplin.

People From St. George, Utah: Asia Carrera, Jeffrey R. Holland, Paul R. Cheesman, Bruce C. Hafen, Bruce Hurst, Jay Don Blake, Anthony W. Ivins

Books LLC

Cheesman was born in <u>Brigham City</u>, <u>Utah</u> and was a member of <u>The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints</u> (LDS Church). His parents died while he was still young, and he oversaw his own education.



Paul R. and Millie Cheesman, wrote and produced two films used in LDS visitors centers: "Ancient America Speaks" and "Refore Columbus"

He received a degree in education from <u>San Diego State University</u>. In California, he was also a public school teacher, and he later worked as a <u>seminary</u> teacher for the LDS Church. During the WWII War, he served as a chaplain in the United States military. In

1944, he married Millie Foster, with whom he had six children. Cheesman taught in BYU's Department of Religious Education from 1963 to 1986. He received his master's degree in 1965 and doctorate in 1967, both in Religious Education at BYU. For a time, he served as director of scripture studies and director of Book of Mormon studies in BYU's Religious Studies Center. Cheesman was known for research of correlations between the Book of Mormon and pre-Columbian American discoveries.

Cheesman served in various callings in the LDS Church. He served as a <u>Bishop</u>, <u>District president</u>, twice as <u>Stake president</u>, and as <u>president</u> of the <u>Louisiana Baton Rouge Mission</u> from 1980 to 1983. After retiring from BYU, he was director of the church's New York Visitors Center. In New York, Cheesman suffered a massive heart attack and returned to Utah for surgery, when he died in 1991.

We maintained contact with Paul and his wife, Millie over the years and visited at their home in St. George a number of times. They lived less than two blocks from where we lived in St. George.

Cheesman was heavily involved in <u>Central America</u>, where he developed a collection and strong interest in pre-Columbian archaeology.



Paul wrote over 20 books, many Illustration manuals and Paul Cheesman's legacy remains not only in his family, but also in his publications and contributions to the academic fields he loved. Cheesman's life was a constant quest for truth. This

journey took him through various research related experiences that allowed him to use both his temporal and spiritual knowledge. As a devout Latter-day Saint, the spiritual side of Dr. Cheesman consistently remained in the forefront of his work. The temporal evidence supplied by archaeological records complimented his religious convictions. By popularizing the study of scriptural archaeology, Cheesman's work opened the doors for a number of foundations and organizations to maintain the groundwork he laboriously laid throughout his scholarly life. He will forever be remembered as an early pioneer and "popularizer" of Book of Mormon archaeology, a scholar, teacher and true missionary of the Lord. His collection of writings is stored in the Harold B. Lee Library.















I have a great appreciation for Paul Robert Cheesman for what he did for me.

I was going steady Virginia Headlund, a very beautiful Blonde. We never talked about engagement or marriage or anything of a serious nature. I knew that I would transfer somewhere after my Navy schooling. She was a special friend and very active in the Church, she went on to marry David Martin, who later became owner of Martin door and a Stake President.

My overseas duty station was Adak Alaska which was in the Aleutian Islands. After arriving I could only find very few members of the church stationed on Adak Island. A roster of the church members was requested and forwarded to the Church headquarters in Salt Lake City. I was appointed as the LDS group leaders as I was the only one ordained as an Elder, the others were Priests. I wrote to the church military LDS serviceman coordinator's office and they sent me material and assigned me as official LDS group leader for the island of Adak.

It is very difficult on Adak to organize a regular meeting schedule due to the limited transportation available from the various Navy facilities on Adak. We were able to get the group together occasionally to hold a meeting. I was the assigned as the group serviceman's coordinator for the two years that I was on Adak. I didn't feel very comfortable due to the remote assignments of the personnel on the island.

As an example, I was stationed at the Great Sitkin Navy base (see my Adak History, Chapter 7) an island about 20 miles by sea from Adak. Another time I was assigned at Radio City which is on the other side of the island and made it very difficult to try to commute to the main base. I was not comfortable with trying to be the LDS Servicemen's Group leader when I was limited in my ability to set up meetings. By time I spent my six months at radio city, the group was disbanded, and we lost track of each other.

I was given 30 days leave, When I arrived back in the lower 48. I went to the St. George temple for my own endowments



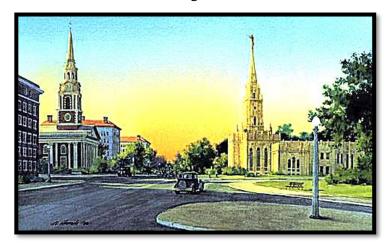
After leaving Adak I was still an LDS Military Group Leader but had no opportunity to function in that capacity while attending school at Cheltenham, Md., which was only a few miles out of Washington DC. Washington DC and was a great place to be active in the LDS church. One

of my greatest experiences was when I arrived at the Washington DC 16th St., Chapel (sometimes called "The Washington Chapel"), about an hour early due to available transportation. I was in uniform and waiting in the entryway to the chapel before the meeting started. I was startled to see several other men that had arrived early and one of the men came over to talk to me. I recognized him immediately as being Pres. David O McKay. We chatted for somewhere between 20 minutes to 30 minutes with no one else involved in the chat. This was a very special experience that I have always remembered.

The Washington, D.C. Chapel: Sometimes called the Washington Ward, and the 16th street chapel. It was one of "the most visited chapel in 20th century Mormondom".

Amidst opposition from Protestant ministers, the land for the Washington Chapel was purchased from Mrs. John B. Henderson and the deed was sold to President Heber J. Grant (as trustee for the church) on April 9, 1924. Building commenced in 1931 under the direction of two Mormon architects: Don Carlos Young, a grandson of Brigham Young, and Norwegian immigrant Ramm Hansen. The construction strongly echoes the design of the temple at Salt Lake City with a single spire terminating in a ball on which stood the figure of the angel Moroni. The ten-foot-tall Moroni, fashioned by Torlief Knaphus, and covered in gold leaf, was a replica of the angel atop the Salt Lake City temple, making it the only chapel in the Church ever to have a statue of the Angel Moroni on top.

President of the Washington Branch at that time was Edgar B. Brossard, a member of the U.



S. Tariff Commission. Music was under the direction of Edward P.
Kimball, senior organist of the Salt
Lake City Tabernacle, who had been sent to Washington to become organist of the new chapel. Until his untimely death in 1937, Kimball gave free organ recitals in the church six nights a week, a custom continued by

his successors, one of whom was Alexander Schreiner, until 1949.

In 1940, the branch became the Washington Ward. During World War II, the church sponsored Saturday night dances in the cultural hall. It was still the case when I was there in 1951 where our LDS group attended the weekly dances.

About the first Sunday that I came in to attend church at the 16th Street, Chapel (as it was called then) and met several other members most of been somewhat older than I. I was invited to spend my weekends with

Sheridan street

them, leave my Civil Cloths, and I would have a place to sleep on weekends. I was able to be active in various church activities. They lived in a large four-story apartment that was called the Sheridan embassy. That was because it was located on Sheridan Avenue.

There were about sixteen male members living in that facility and they had a couple of extra empty bedrooms and invited me to stay there on weekends. The "house mother" was J Moyle Anderson. He made the assignments as to who fixed the meals, washed the dishes, cleaned house, etc. and also the room assignments. Most of these male members were employed in the Washington D. C. Area. J Moyle Anderson was a Department of Agriculture employee. Some others worked for the FBI, CIA and other government agencies. They were all between the ages of 20 and 31 years old.

It was a special opportunity to be a member of the 16th Street active LDS group. This group including female members were very active in the church but were busy with their occupations and the average marrying age was over the age of 30.

It was neat to be there at the Christmas season and our group of about 30 members sang Christmas Carols in various areas of Washington DC. I was invited to make the annual trek



to New York for the big New Year's Eve celebration at times square. There was a group of LDS girls that had two large apartments in the New York area. Our group of guys from the Sheridan Embassy in Washington DC would drive up to New York City parking the car on the outskirts of town then take the

Time Square in 1951

railway or buses into where the LKS girls had their two apartments near the middle of New York. The girls would leave the upper apartment for us to use and they would all get together in the lower apartment. These apartments are in the Times Square area so as a group we would go out for the big celebration at times square.



I was assigned to the U. S. Navy Department, London, England and served on three Destroyers in the European area. I could not find another member on any of those three ships that I served on.



London Mission Home was damaged in WWII

When I arrived in London, I had a two-week layover waiting for my ship to reach the British Isles. I was able to work with the missionaries and accompany them on some of their visits. I enjoyed spending time at Hyde Park with the missionaries we'd stand on the box and proselyte to those passing in the park.

I met Margaret Singer, a member of the

local ward in London. I also spent time with her mother and her brother learning a little more about London. Her mother had been waiting months for some surgery which was required for her to regain her health and was



bedridden most of the time. She was a member of the British health system and had waited months to get this medical health.

Margaret would always get on the "tube" to return home after church and church activities. I offered several times to accompany her and she was very reluctant to accept the offer. However, one time she agreed, and we got on the tube. The tube is British Underground Railroad and we got to her apartment arriving about 9 PM. We had hardly got there when she started encouraging me to start heading back to my hotel which was located near marble arch in Downtown London. I felt she was just trying to get rid of me. However, I found out why she was so concerned about me getting on my way. I had to transfer two different train routes. When I arrived at one of my first point of changing trains there was a conductor waving to me to hurry to get on the train. When I arrived at the next transfer point the agent told me "sorry Laddie, there is no more trains tonight". As I left the underground train station, they closed the metal gate behind me. Arriving up on the main level thought I would look for a bus or taxi to get me back to my Hotel-Park House. It was nearing 11 PM London time and the streets were empty I couldn't see any buses or taxis available. So, using a map that I had, I started walking through the dim lighted streets on the way to my hotel. Her concerns were real, and I had no idea that London would close up at 11 PM. It took two or three hours for me to walk the distance to get back to my hotel.

I was in downtown London at the time the British government terminated the restrictions on advertising and other downtown store lighting. Streetlights, dimly lighted streetlights. There was a lot of excitement for this event but when they turned them on. I could hardly see a neon light or any other type of advertisement. I realized that the citizens had not seen lighted signs or streetlights for the previous 10 or 12 years due to the blackouts.

I was able to attend the Golden green ball in London at that time. And then probably due to divine intervention this ship that I was assigned to, arrived at Glasgow Scotland so that I



could



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Hull District

GOLD & GREEN BALL

TO BE HELD AT THE CHURCH,
BERKELEY STREET CORNER, HULL

Saturday, 31st March, 1951.

SOCIAL REPREHMENTS, DANCING.

7-30 p.m. to 10-30 p.m. Tickets 2/6 Each.

attend the golden green ball in Glasgow and then again, the Ellison DD864 pulled into Hull, England and I was able to attend of that Golden Green Ball.



At the Golden Green Ball in Glasgow, I met Helen Eleanor Junor. She was a member of the very dedicated LDS family. I took several days leave and came back to Glasgow to see Helen, work on the refurbishment of the Glasgow Mission Office and attend Area Conference. I slept in the same bed that George Albert Smith slept in several months before when he was

visiting Glasgow.

It was interesting, the different dialects, in just a small area of that mission. Helen could identify just where people were from by listening to their accent. Helen was a very special, talented girl. She had her papers filed to immigrate to the United States, sponsored by her Aunt in Salt Lake City.

I wanted her to be a special friend as Margaret in London was a special friend. Helen lived a very sheltered life; she had never had a boyfriend there were very few LDS boys in England or Scotland. And I'm afraid that she read too much into our friendship as we never talked about engagement or marriage. I really feel bad about the possible hurt that I may have caused her. I was only able to see her once after she moved to the United States. My Navy obligations limited my access to Salt Lake. Another major restriction was that I was in naval intelligence and we were not permitted to marry a noncitizen.

England and Scotland were the only places I had contacts with members of the church. In Bergen, Norway, I found the Chapel in downtown Bergen's but when I got there the doors are open but there was nobody there. The Chapel and offices were located above a store. The facilities appeared to have no classrooms so I was curious how they would run the church program with only a Chapel and a couple of other rooms.

When I couldn't find any church activity or members, I would look for ham radio operators and I did find a few of those in various countries.

I was in Portland England's when my replacement came aboard. I left the ship as soon as I could and returned by railroad to London and reported into the Navy Department. I didn't even get a chance to stay overnight or visit any of the friends I'd made before I caught a flight returning to the United States.

For the next two months I was stationed at the naval security station in downtown Washington DC. I had picked up the new 1951 DeSoto so I had plenty of transportation and got a chance to get back into the LDS communities. (See Chapter 18)

Because of what they called a hardship duty being on the ships I was asked my choice of duty stations that I'd like to be transferred to. Because of the really great time I had with the church group in the San Diego area, I requested to be assigned to the naval security station at Imperial Beach California which was just south of San Diego.

I attended church in Chula Vista, and I was asked if I would come early to where they held church and help clean up the rented building beer bottles and other stuff from the night before. The Ward rented space to hold their meetings in what was kind of a pool hall environment.

I don't remember why I attended Ward just north of Chula Vista Called the National City Ward. I seem to really fit in and really liked Bishop Vincent Willardson. I enjoyed attending meetings. Most every Sunday I was invited to attend dinner at the bishop's home along with several other servicemen.



I love to go the dances in the LDS activities in the San Diego area. It was a little difficult getting a date with the LDS girls, partly because I was in the military. Some of my friends encouraged me to run for the elected the M-men & Gleaner San Diego area president. I can't remember the name of my campaign manager, but she was a good

friend and gave me some good guidance for the campaign. At the meeting where they elected the next years president and M-men and the Gleaner represent, my campaign manager wrote

up a few suggestions that I should say when I gave the speech before the group and after my speech I went over to the table and sat down and there was something about getting ready to go to work. The gimmick I had was some kind of a pencil that held water and we put some dry ice in this pencil, and it was smoked, and I guess I was quite impressive but some way I was elected president for the coming year.

A friend of mine, Dean Stokes was elected M-men Representative and a girl that I didn't know was elected Gleaner Representative.

My bishop, Vincent Willardson, called me into his Office. He told me that I was at an age that I should be planning to be married. My failed engagement six years previous was noted as the reason I still wasn't interested in marriage. I total him I was having too much fun to be married and I wasn't in any hurry to marry and hadn't found the girl that I wanted to marry. He asked me what I wanted in a

girl that I would marry. I answered that I wanted a girl from a small town with a strong pioneer background that was beautiful, highly intelligent, talented, and would make a good mother.

He kind of indicated with a question whether I had the qualifications for such a girl. He challenged me to earnestly pray for a girl that would be a good wife. And I followed and did

a lot of praying as suggested by my bishop.



A short time later, I was up visiting my Mother and there she was. Everything that I had ask for packaged into a bright red headed girl. She sang at a talent program. This was too good to be true, but the Lord blessed me.

About a year later, just before I was discharged, we were married on 20 March 1954 in the Saint George Temple.







Bro. and Sis. Russel Bateman were married in the St. George Temple on March 20, 1954. Sister Bateman was the former Myrna Gay Barton of St. George, Utah. They will reside in National City Ward.



High school best friend Karl Barton, best Friend from San Diego- Lloyd Ellsworth, My parents Alfred and Idella Bateman, Russ & Gaye (Myrna Gaye Barton) Bateman, Gaye's Parents Alice & Ross Barton, Gaye's Sister MarGenne (Barton) Rowley, Carol Jean Stocks(Lundberg),Rita Rae Haywood (Webb),Betty Seegmiller, Carol Terry (Formaster), Shirley Larkin (Schmutz) Jeanenne Cox (Jones). In the front are Rebeca and LuWen Kenworthy ______ my

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Barton suggest the pleasure of green company at the redding reception of their daughter Myrna Gays Mr. Russell R. Baleman un of Ma and Mer. Mond H. Bateman of St. George, What as Saturday the twestieth day of March minuteen hundred and fifty five seven-thirty to ten o'clock in the econing in the L. B. S. Institute Building St. Thomas Work Open hours at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Altred 2525 L. Show National City, California Munday, March 23, 1954 NAPSHOD IN THE STORGE L.D. S. TENPLE MARCH 20, 1954

Sister's Daughters.

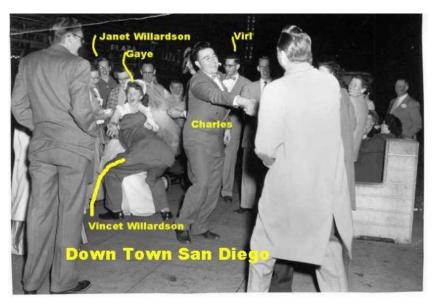
Miss Myrna Gaye Barton.

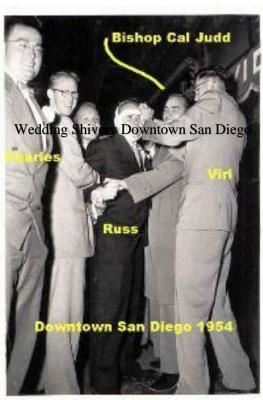
Weds Russell R. Bateman

Miss Myrna Gaye Barton,

Miss Myrna Gayen,

Barton-Bateman
Rites Read in
LDS Temple Here
Popular St. George couple recently married in a beautiful
LDS temple wedding were Myran Gaye Barton, daughter of Mr.
and Mrs. A. R. Barton, and Rusand Mrs. A. R. Barton, and Rusand Mrs. Alfred H. Baternan, all
of St. George.
The wedding were performed
pick Harold S. Snow, in the presence of the immediate family
and close friends of the couple.
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Following the wedding a dia
sheld at the Barton home and
a reception at the LDS Institute
was held in their honor in the
Siridesmalds and attending
matrons of the bride were Mar
Genne Barton, Carol Jean LundGenne Barton, Carol Jean LundWorth of San Diego and Karl
Barton of St. George, Flowerstrik were Rebekah and LuWen
Guest were greeted by Mr.
and Mrs. Alfred V. Bateman, In
hard of the guest book was
sking in the gift rooms were
Rula Bonaduerer, Rayda Barton,
Karen Cameron and Judtih Kay
bear and the Wellyn
poured with LaRenne Morten
son, Margaret Snow, Laurell
Lead and Carnon, Emily Foremaster, Carolyn and Karlyn
Louise Wedworth and Keylyn
poured with LaRenne Morten
son, Margaret Snow, Laurell
Lead And Carnon, Emily Foremaster, Carolyn and Karlyn
Louise Wedworth and Keyly







Our "Honeymoon" was traveling up north to see family and temples as we travel to Salt Lake Logan and up to Idaho Falls Temple. In Logan my uncle Merlin Van Orden who is in a supervisory position took us on a tour through the complete Logan Temple.

The memberships were in the national city Ward, but we had rented a small very small house in National City. My church calling was teaching teenage members and we had such limited

classroom space that sometimes we had to teach the class sitting out in a car or on the lawn. Shortly after we remodeled the Chapel and in this is something done by the members and I spent a lot of time in construction the additional classrooms. We purchased a new home and lived in National City when our first son was born.

We purchase the Delmar Mesa Ranch which is located south east of Delmar about 4½ miles from the ocean. My calling was clerk at that time at the San Dieguito Branch. The San Dieguito Branch covered a large area starting from where the San Diego Temple is presently located running North to The Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton and West to Escondido.

We purchased a new home in the Claremont area of San Diego and most my church callings of the time were in a program called the Adult Aaronic Priesthood program. This program was finding in-active members and working with them to get them active in the church again. This program was very successful as we activated many members of the church back into activity.

I was also active on the construction of two ward chapels back in the time where members built their Ward chapels.

When we moved back to St. George, I was called the as a home teacher supervisor in the St. George 7th Ward.

I don't remember that I had a church assignment other than home teacher when we lived in Littleton Colorado, we lived a long distance away from the closest Chapel and I know it was somewhat over an hour drive to that location.

My assignments while living in Salt Lake, Rose Park area and then Bountiful were working with the youth. I was called to be the priesthood advisor of the boys in the teachers Quorum. They were having a hard time finding an interest for these boys to keep them active in the church. As an activity for these boys I started to give them training classes to pass their amateur radio license. They all passed the FCC requirements for a general class amateur radio license and we got them active in various amateur radio activities one of the major

activities was putting together the State of Utah Emergency operating communication center which is in the basement of the Jackling Hall National Guard Armory in Salt Lake.

All the eight boys received their individual awards and went on to be very productive citizens. Several went on to get their FCC commercial licenses and remained active in the communication field. One of them enlisted in the military in the communication field. I was a member in the Air National Guard 130th insulation squadron and was the squadrons LDS



group leader. Our National Guard drilled two days a month and was part of the Salt Lake International guard unit which had facilities of the Salt Lake City airport. For several years, I would conduct a meeting before normal working hours at the National Guard base. The base chaplain required me to be re-set apart for this assignment via my High Councilman from the

Stake that this facility was located.

When I was transferred to the Richfield area, I was still serving in the Air National Guard unit and conducting meetings as an LDS group leader for our squadron

We were members of the Monroe 4th Ward. I was called to serve as a high councilman in the Monroe Utah Stake under President Hyrum Ipson. I was assigned to the Joseph Ward. Our stake had a Stake



center located in Monroe Utah. It was an older building but considerably better than any of the chapels in the Monroe Stake. All the other buildings in the Monroe stake area where old structures with a limited classroom capability.

The church identified these buildings as inadequate for the existing church program and that



they all needed to be replaced. However, these were specified to combine wards into one building, and this created some major problems with many of the old-time members. Some of the members in the Joseph Ward said they would refuse to drive to the new Chapel to be located in a community near them called Elsinore. Some older members wrote letters

to the President of the church threating to leave the church and offering to purchase the old chapel. I don't know of any Joseph Ward members that did leave the church. It took a while, but the members of the Joseph Ward were successfully relocated to share the new Chapel that was located in Elsinore.

At the time I served as a high Councilman in the Monroe Stake, we would have Sunday school and priesthood in the morning and return in the afternoon for sacrament meeting. The church guidance

was that the sacrament meeting should last one and a half hours. I remember one Sunday when I was the high Council speaker in the Elsinore Ward, the meeting was scheduled to start at 4 PM and it 10 minutes after 4 pm, sacrament had been passed and everything was completed and the time was turned over to me to speak. To meet the guidance, I would've had to speak for one hour and 20 minutes. We had a very short meeting that

Sunday.

In 1996 our RV Club was asked to participate in the Utah Centennial
Wagon Train, celebrating the celebration of Utah's 100 statehood birthday
and the Saints wagon trains that settled Utah. The wagon train started in
(Logan) Cash County Utah and traveled to Iron County (Cedar City). I thought I could be of



help in organizing my experience. My assignment was to be a Water Boy. I was assigned Cove Fort to Cedar City. We drove to Cove Fort to be there when the Wagon Train arrived.

A State of Utah truck pulling a large National Guard water trailer

was turned over to me. It was my assignment to drive to



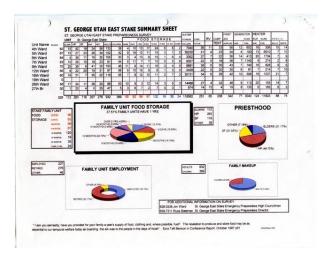
designated locations where the wagon trains would stop. I need to arrive in time to set out the watering troughs for the horses and fill them with water.

My wife, Gaye would follow me driving our station wagon which we lived in while

supporting the wagon train for several days until we reached Cedar City.



St. George Utah East State Emergency Preparedness Bo



St George East Stake President Randy Wilkinson called me to work under High Councilman Dan McArthur. Dan was the current mayor of St. George and I was asked to help him with some of his church assignments. The main project was to create The East Stake Emergency Preparedness plan as directed by President Earl C. Tingey, Utah South Area Presidency. Later In preparing this plan, Dan McArthur was released, and I was

assigned to work with Dale Larkin, Second Counselor in the Stake Presidency, in developing this plan. We did several studies developing the plan so that we knew the needs of the members. Dale Larkin went on to be President of the St. George Temple. President Larkin requested that I develop a Manual to be used by the Stake. I was given the Title of St. George East Stake Emergency Service Director, an assignment that I held for several years. Later, I was also assigned to work under High Councilman Jim Ward.

We had our own "EBS" radio station K232CY 94.3 FM and our own Amateur Radio repeater-K7SG 145.49 located on Scrub Peak South West of St. George. I owned these facilities and could dedicate them to the East Stake Emergency Service plan.

In 1994 wife Gaye was working at the Temple typing names until the procedure changed and she became a guide. When I retired from Bonneville International, I started doing some shifts as a guide to fit the same schedule that she had. It wasn't long before were recruited as temple ordinance workers working two shifts a week. I was very reluctant in this assignment because I had such a difficult time memorizing and to be a temple ordinance



worker there's a lot of memorizing required. When I was set apart, I was given the blessing that I would be able to do this memorization that would be required. The blessing worked as I was able to learn short time memorize all the Information that I needed to know. I served in

about every position that ordinance workers accomplished. I also served as assistant supervisor.







As we completed our four years, we were set to go on a full-time mission at the Temple visitor center. I was offered the full supervisors' position which is a year assignment, but we had already agreed to serve a full time Mission at the St. George Temple Visitors' Center.

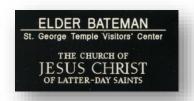
St. George Temple Visitors Center Mission

My wife and I, started work at the visitor center under Elder Thomas. He was replaced by Elder William Critchlow, III. I served as an Assistant to Elder Critchlow for over seven months which gave us some additional experiences. This mission gave a lot of varied experiences and opportunities. It was neat to study each of the Historic Sites and learn the history behind them. Our study gave us the



opportunity of traveling to many of the locations where there were special things that happened in the building of Southern Utah. We could feel the Joys, hardship and dedication that those pioneers experienced in those early days.

I collected a lot of information and combined it into a mission book. The book was use as a missionary manual for several yeas and a copy of the manual at placed at each of the historic site for the missionaries to expand their knowledge of the history. I also so developed a book for each sight for those who couldn't climb the stair to be able to see the information on the upper floor. (see "App-01 LDS Church of this History Book.)

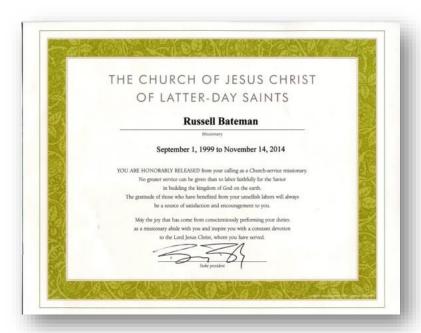


It was special to work with those exceptional missionary couples and feel of their sprit. They have taught us so much. They are such dedicated, loving and willing to be giving of their time to the Lord. It will take us some time to get used to not running to a schedule to see where we will be today and

who we get to serve with. We serviced under two great director couples. Our farewell party was attended with all the Senior 54 Missionaries that were serving at that Mission. They had many good things to say that we're sure far exceeded what we have done. What we have accomplished we are grateful to our Heavenly Father for the opportunity and his trust in us. My wife Gaye and I have felt of his love all the way and are so thankful for having served.

We completed our 15-month mission and were released. Shortly after being released, I was called by Elder Critchlow to meet with him. He told me that Salt Lake advised him that we

needed a website. He extended a call to me to be the webmaster as a service missionary. I told him that I knew nothing about coding websites. He put his hand on my shoulder and said that's you're new calling. Again because of the blessing I received so I could do that assignment I was able to in a short time learn the coding of the websites.



Not long after that I was also assigned as a service missionary to do the Cove Fort website concurrently with my existing assignment. And then later I was called to do the St. George family history website in addition to current Assignments. So, for several years, I was serving three Service Missions at the same time.

The St. George Temple visitor website and Cove Fort website I served as a Service Missionary until 14th of November 2014. My Mission release covers 14 years continuous service. I continue as webmaster for the www.covefort.info and www.stgeorgetemplevisitorscenter.info, however, they are no long official LDS web sites.

A St. George City program to publicize the historic sites in St. George. This program is supported by LDS members role-playing various parts of early pioneers in the various historic sites such as the tabernacle and the Brigham Young home. My assignment was role-playing for Erastus Snow as shown in the picture are my wife and I in the St. George tabernacle. We participated in this program for several years and one year I was the day

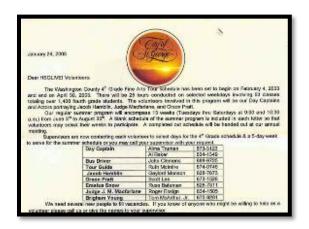
captain for Erastus Snow part of historic St. George



life. I also did their web site for

a couple of years.





Senior sampler

St. George Cedar & Mesquite Friday, July 3, 2009 Vol 21 issues 27

SUP Holds Dinner Meeting by Charles





Modern Pioneer Awards Given



Those attending the dimes also enjoyed entertainment provided by Valerie Wainwright. She same times coverain somes.



Summerhays.

men outlined their years of ser-

vice, accomplishment and integrity that exemplified the ex-

inples of the early pioneers.



The June meeting at the Cotton Mission Chapter of the sons of Utah Pioneers was held at Staheli's in Washington on June 16, 2009. At the meeting Russ Bateman was presented with modern-day pioneer awards. The tribute to Russ was presented by William Critchlow, the former director of the Temple Vista centers and historic sites mission. Attributes Russ outlined his years of service, accomplishment and

integrity that amplified examples of the early pioneers

My Brother recruited us into the cotton mission chapter of the sons of Utah Pioneers shortly after we moved back to St. George. We were both active many years in the chapter. I have served on the board for over 14 years and presently I am this time the technical director for the chapter. This is an organization that my wife can participate in with me and we have traveled on many treks with the chapter. One time we traveled back east for one of the national encampments and with the Critchlow's, toured many of the historic sites throughout the Eastern states.

In 2011, I was called to be the Ward clerk and served in that position for two years. Due to my hearing abilities and not being able to understand what was said in meetings to take notes I was changed to be an assistant clerk and assigned to keep the Ward history.

At age 88, I have been released from all my church assignments except tor Home Teaching. I am at the dusk of my life's work. My wife and I will be buried in the old Section in the St. George Cemetery next to my parents.

