

SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

PIONEERING YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW"

May 2011 Vol. 23 No. 5 St. George, Utah

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This Month Trek: May 10-12, Program: In Lieu of a Trek, we will be participating in “Cotton Days” in Washington City. We need everyone's help with this project. If you can help, please call Don Burton, 986-1706 to schedule some time. (See Below)

We Need Your Antique Items for Display at Washington Cotton Days May 10-12.

Dean Terry would like to invite others in our chapter to bring antiques, pioneer relics, and other interesting items to put on display during the event. We will have Dean's wagon collection there and chapter members are invited to dress in pioneer costume and help tell the elementary school classes about pioneer life. It's one of the greatest ways to interest our young people in our pioneer heritage. Contact Dean Terry for display information 673-5879 or Don Burton to volunteer 986-1706.

Speaker for June 21 Dinner Meeting is Naghi Zeenati

Our next dinner meeting speaker is Naghi Zeenati. Born in Iran, he was forced to flee the country during a period of unrest and came to America where he obtained his college education and began a career. He joined the LDS Church and moved to St. George in 1991. He is now translating the Book of Mormon into his native language for the LDS Church and serves as a translator for General conference. He is married to Tweet Gardner and has spent many years as a community and civic leader in the St. George area.



Scholarship Donors Still Needed Several Chapter Members have stepped forward to support our scholarship drive. Those who attended the scholarship dinner know what a great blessing this is to the needy and worthy young people in our area. We are inviting individuals and families to donate \$250 each year for scholarships. Or you might consider a full scholarship in the name of one of your ancestors or deceased family members. Contact Dean Terry for information 673-5879.



Photo caption: Roy Taylor, Andrew Justvig, Kyla Mercier, Dean Terry, Peter Heredia, Bob Thorley, Riley Pearce, Vanessa Flint, Jandi Hansen.

Brief History of Joseph William Rondo

I was born September 1, 1924 and grew up in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. I was the seventh child of seven boys and four sisters from parents of which my mother was born in Tecumseh, Canada and my father born in Chateaugay, in Northern New York. They met and were married in Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

When a boy from 11-13 years I worked in my father's machine shop, in Mt Clemens, next to our house on North Avenue. During the perilous years of WW II, I served in the U.S. Navy on two Destroyers 13 and 101 guarding convoys from German Subs in the North but mostly South Atlantic waters. I also served out my final years in 1945-46 at the New London Submarine Base in Connecticut and managed to come back alive by the grace of God.

I made the choice to travel to Ventura California in 1948 and there joyfully joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter -day Saints. I served a mission in France and Switzerland in 1954-56 and graduated from BYU June 6, 1958 with a BA and a teaching degree. The next day I was married to Mary Jane Clove in the St. George Temple and spent our honeymoon at Zions and Bryce Cannon.

We took up residence in West Covina California to began my teaching profession in the Covina Valley School District in September of 1958. Mary gave birth to two boys Burton and Allan who shared our home with Paula Jean, daughter from Mary's first marriage. I was elected President one year of CUE A teachers's organization and retired June 16, 1984. After 26 years of teaching we moved to St. George, Utah arriving June 17th at 1:00 P.M.

Mary and I filled three full time foreign missions in France, Germany and Madagascar located in the Indian Ocean 1500 miles east from the coast of Africa. Both of us filled several church positions in West Covina and St. George.

Paula our oldest daughter had one son Derek, our oldest grandson who had one son Justice, our great grandson. Our oldest son Burton has two sons and a daughter which will soon make 6 great grand children. Burt's oldest son Burton Joseph Rondo Jr. and his wife Kattie has a son named Zepharin. Leah Burt's Daughter has two sons Peyton and Benjamin. Our youngest son Allan and Shannon has four boys Lance, Cameron, Chase. Three of them has filled a mission in Mexico, the Phillipine Islands and England. So we will have three more great children and more coming this year.

Over ten years ago my wife had a stroke so I have not been as active in the SUP - now a care giver than when an officer in the Sons of Pioneers (Cotton Mission) before 1996. I'm truly grateful for the men and women of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers who are also member of the Utah Sons of the Pioneers. They are choice men and women that God is pleased to bless. We hope to see you when ever its's possible. We love you.



Joseph W. Rondo

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