



The **Pioneer Postman!**



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Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park Breaks Ground On New Replica Sawmill!

*It wasn't long ago when the state parks
wouldn't even let us display the cannon. Now
they asked us to fire the cannon at the ground
breaking ceremony for the new sawmill!*

° **Celebrating 150 years of California State Parks**

° **Groundbreaking for the New Sawmill Site**

° **Rededication of Fort Stockton in San Diego**

Major Milestones

It wasn't long ago when it was impossible for us to display the replica of the cannon that was purchased by the departing Saints from Captain Sutter. It took a number of years to convince the state to allow us to use it as a prop, and almost as much time to be able to fire the cannon at events. Now we are asked many times a year to fire the cannon at certain state functions and historical re-enactments. The most recent was at the 150th celebration of the California State Parks system and the groundbreaking for the new sawmill. A multi-million dollar project is underway at the Marshall Gold State Historic Park in Coloma where gold was discovered on January 24, 1848. A new replica of the sawmill will be built very near to the actual site of the original mill. The commemoration of the State Park, the dedication and ground breaking occurred on January 24, 2014 and the cannon was fired twice. The cannon is handled by Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneer group under the auspice of the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation as part of their living history demonstrations.

Additionally the State Park has asked the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation to participate in the design and building of two new cabins that will be located near the sawmill. The two cabins are significant to the State's history and to the history of the L.D.S. church. One will be the Mormon Cabin and the other the double Wimmer cabin. Our foundation has brought in an award winning architect, Mark Gomm, to work in conjunction with the state and the CPHF to design the cabins as close to the originals as possible.

Once the designs are accepted and the project gets all the necessary approvals the CPHF in conjunction with the El Dorado Stake leadership, under President Spencer Weston, will donate the labor and materials to raise these two new cabins. It is being contemplated to build the cabins with period appropriate tools, wearing period attire and video the endeavor as a documentary. We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in this significant project.

Fire In The Hole – Watch out Mt. Murphy!



It's a Family Affair – horses too!

Fort Stockton Rededication in San Diego!

Two years ago, Martha Gresham, who was then president of the San Diego Company of Daughters of Utah Pioneers, became troubled by the lack of maintenance and the vandalism on the plaques and monuments honoring the Mormon Battalion.

She approached the city for funds to restore the site but due to economic shortages they could only allocate a small amount.

Martha approached the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation regarding the project and the Foundation raised sufficient funds combined with the cities to completely landscape, remove graffiti, replace missing plaques, and rebuild the steps to the site.

On January 25, 2014, at the event in Old Town San Diego known as Mormon Battalion Day, the refurbished site was rededicated.

This is one example of the successes the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation has accomplished. Without the fundraising and donation of funds projects like this would not happen.

Fort Stockton is significant in church history as part of the Mormon Battalion was stationed there while they served out their enrollment in the U.S. Army of The West.



Why Is The Living History Program So Important? Why Should You Consider Serving A Service Mission?

The L.D.S. Church has recently established new Service Missionary callings and the El Dorado Stake, under the guidance of Stake President Spencer Weston, is leading the way!

Service Missions are not new; they have been in existence for a long time. But what is new is where the service is being identified. One of the programs, unique to the El Dorado Stake, is the Helping Hands program. The mission is to identify non-profit organizations that need assistance with projects and send Service Missionaries and members out from the church to assist with completing the projects.

The idea is to build bridges between the LDS Church and the community. To allow the community to see that the members of the church are not isolationists but are interested in participating in making our community better.

The other Service Mission, which is dear to my heart, is the Living History Service Mission. The agenda for this mission is not new; in fact the Living History program in California has been going strong for years, as the Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers, The Ship Brooklyn Saints, and the Pioneer Brass Band, all of which are under the umbrella of the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation. The difference is that now it gives the programs validation and an official line of authority.

In the past the volunteers who have been involved in the Living History program were not recognized as having a calling. Now, under the Service Missions of the Church it is a calling that is initially set for two year increments.

One unique aspect of both of these callings is that neither are proselytizing missions. We are not out in the public to convert people (directly) but to teach the history of the church in California which the Mormon Battalion and the Ship Brooklyn Saints participated in. We are breaking ground, softening the hearts of the people, so that when the Missionaries of the church knock on their door they will be more inclined to listen. We are softening hearts and are indirectly assisting in converting people. It is a public relations outreach to show that the LDS Church is not as strange as they might have thought.

If you are interested in becoming a Living History Service Missionary make an appointment with your stake President and ask him to call you to it. If you, or your stake President need more information send an email to ThePioneerPostman@gmail.com This is a calling that the whole family can be involved in.

Become a part of this exciting new calling and help us present the early Church history.

**Do You Want To Make A Difference?
Do You Want To Help Fulfill Prophecy?
Do You Want To Help Preserve History?
Then We Can Help!**



**We Need You To Help Support What
We Do. Please Join, or donate, to The
California Pioneer Heritage Foundation.
www.CaliforniaPioneer.org**

If your passion is the history of the church in California ... have we got a calling for you! You can serve a two year service mission as a Living History Specialist. We need people to work in the Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneer group, or participate in the Ship Brooklyn re-enactments, or be in the Pioneer Brass Band. It is a Missionary calling that the entire family can participate in. Contact your Stake President or send the Pioneer Postman an email to find out how. www.ThePioneerPostman@gmail.com

