

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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SUMMER TALK SERIES CONTINUES

The Summer 2003 History in the Park, Stories from the West continues with a presentation on the Mormon Battalion in Nevada on Tuesday, July 1st 7:00 p.m. on the lawn in the City Park immediately behind the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko.

“The Mormon Battalion was formed in July 1846 and served under General Stephen Watts Kearny – General of the Army of the West,” said David Jamiel, BLM Chief of Interpretation for the California Trail Center. “Kearny’s orders were to take California and New Mexico for the United States during the Mexican-American War and to build a new wagon road between Santa Fe, New Mexico and San Diego, California.”

Jamiel continued, “They were sworn in at Council Bluffs, Iowa. The 500 volunteers of the Mormon Battalion made the longest infantry march in U.S. history from Council Bluffs to California – a distance of over 1400 miles. The Battalion members were involved in many of the benchmark historical events of the American West 1846 and 1850; and influenced the settlement of Nevada.”

The Summer 2003 History in the Park, Stories from the West program is a free lecture series reflecting the wealth of history of Nevada and the American West. Several of the talks focus on stories of the California National Historic Trail.

Sponsored by the Northeastern Nevada Museum and the Bureau of Land Management Elko Field Office, all talks begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held behind the Museum in the City Park. In the event of inclement weather, the talks will be moved indoors to the Museum theater. All talks are free and the public is encouraged to attend. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for open seating on the grass.

“The first talk on the Donner Party was a great kick off to the next three stories we have planned in the park,” said Museum Archivist Amber Johns. “We are hoping that these stories will create quite a stir in the community for this is something both the Museum and the BLM would like to do every summer.

For more information about the series, contact Amber Johns at the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko, (775) 738-3418.

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