

## WHY DOES HIGHLAND CELEBRATE AUGUST FIRST?

By Charles Greenland

The story of Highland cannot be written without mentioning the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They have been inseparably connected from the beginning. Of the 37 original homesteaders, all except three or four were members of the Church and they began meeting together very early. When the school was built in 1888 they received permission to use the school for all their meetings (try that in today's atmosphere).

There were a number of different organizations started and then discontinued, including Sunday Schools and a Branch. The branch was officially disbanded in May of 1906.

In September 1907, Orville C. Day started a Sunday School. He was Superintendent with William Westwood as Assistant Superintendent and Charles Greenland was Chorister. The Sunday School struggled at first but attendance soon increased and during the years 1913 - 1915 the average attendance was 98.

On July 18 1915, a special meeting was called for the Church members. Stephen L. Chipman, Alpine Stake President, James H. Clark and Abel John Evans his counselors, and Bishop John R. Hinckley of the American Fork Third Ward, organized the Highland Ward with members from the Third Ward and Alpine plus a few from Lehi. Slips of paper were passed around for the membership to write the names of three brethren they would like for a Bishopric. George Albert Zabriskie was chosen as Bishop, Orville Cox Day as First counselor and Stephen F. Beck as Second counselor with Archie R. Taylor as Ward Clerk. These brethren were ordained and/or set apart on Sunday, August First, 1915 by Apostle Francis M. Lyman.

Thus August First has been remembered (and celebrated) ever since as the official beginning of Highland.