

Chapter XX

Answering Another Call

January 1, 1964 – May 19, 1964

1964 began with high hopes and a lot to look forward to and what other surprises that might come with the new year. It began by watching the Tournament of Roses Parade live from Pasadena California, followed by dinner. The next day, it was back to school and on Friday, another win for Magicians. Sheffield and Ramona had to travel to Charlottesville for a conference on Saturday and Sunday. So far the new year was off to a good start.

The next weekend was busy as well. For starters, on Friday Sheffield traveled to Staunton with the Magicians for a match with the ever tough Staunton Military Academy. Although the Magicians lost the match, it was a respectable loss by only a few points.

Saturday the 11th was a busy day, even though Sheffield didn't have any out of town meetings. Rather his business kept him in Roanoke for the public open house for the new mission home.. The day began with a luncheon in which President White and Sheffield and others met with reporters from the local newspapers and radio and television stations, including Bart Wilson from WSLC Channel 10 News.

Following the Luncheon, President White took the reporters on a tour of the mission home. After giving them a head start, Sheffield conducted the first public group trough. Several hundred people showed up throughout the afternoon to see the spacious, lodge type structure that sat on three beautifully landscaped acres.

The mission home could comfortably house up to twenty five adults. The spacious kitchen was well equipped with the most modern conveniences and facilities to cater meals for upwards of fifty people. The home had a living quarters for the mission president and his family, guest facilities for visiting authorities and other overnight guests, office space and housing for the mission staff, and housing for missionaries in transit.

Plans were already in the works for it to be dedicated, whenever a General Authority from Salt Lake was in the area.

During the middle of the month the first of the new calves started showing up at the Two Star Ranch, just in time for Janet to come home on Saturday the 18th. Because it was lambing season at the ranch in Utah for Jerry, she and Wesley came without him. Since it was the dead of winter, and the snow really piles up in Clarkston, Janet's plans were to stay for few weeks.

Rather than coming during the holidays, she waited until then for a very special occasion, but first they celebrated her twenty eighth birthday on Monday. It was the first time that she had been home for her birthday in the five years that she had been married. Wesley was now two and half years old and into everything. The whole family was thrilled when she told them that she and Jerry had applied for another

adoption, but it was anyone's guess when it might take place.

The special occasion that she came for was Sheffield's and Ramona's twentieth anniversary on the 22nd and the kids had planned a special celebration to mark the occasion. It was Norma's idea to hold an open house for their anniversary and who did most of the work. It wasn't meant to be a surprise as Sheffield and Ramona knew about it, although they weren't involved in the planning. They even went so far as to have a nice announcement printed featuring a photograph of when they were first married and a current one. These were mailed out to everyone on their Christmas card list.

The open house was held on their actual anniversary, which was on Wednesday. First the house had to be decorated. While Sheffield and Ramona were at work, Norma, Janet, and Edith transformed the large open family room into a reception hall with some folding tables and chairs borrowed from the church. The day before was spent in Edith's kitchen baking a simple wedding type cake and some sheet cakes. They brought it all over and set out a number of framed photographs that they had enlarged depicting their years together, including during their courtship. There was one of them both in their Navy uniforms and a favorite of both of them, one of Sheffield, Ramona and Geannie that had been taken in November 1941, just three weeks before she died.

When Sheffield and Ramona got home, all they had to do was get dressed up in their finest clothes. For Sheffield it was his navy blue suit. For her, the new dress that she bought just for the occasion. The day before, Ramona went to the beauty shop to get her hair done. Over the years she had always worn it short, between her chin and her shoulders. For years she combed it back to one side in a wave with moderate curls. As she got older, it began to lose some of its body which made it more difficult to style. When she returned from the hair dresser, she was sporting a new look. Rather than curls, she wore it straight with only the ends curled forward. Rather than the combed back wave, she had bangs that swept to the left. Over all this style promised to be much easier to maintain

When the guests began arriving at seven, Sheffield and Ramona took their assigned position in front the fireplace. While they greeted their guests, the kids and grandkids mingled and visited. The guests included all of the Brasons, of course, members of both the Salem and Roanoke Branches, which included all of the Austins, and several other friends and acquaintances in the area. Mace and Pat Owen even came down from Arlington, while Jacob and Paula Messner came over from Norfolk.

In the days leading up to the open house and for a few days afterwards cards and letters came in from their friends from out of town such as Ramona's cousin Harvey, Shorty and Wilma, Freddy and Susan, Hank and Teri Terry, Dan and Daphne Kirk, the Morleys, and the Govers.

While most couples their age were at or approaching forty years of marriage, twenty years was a significant accomplishment for Sheffield and Ramona to celebrate. He loved her every bit as much as he

had love Geannie and still did. It was a far cry from his twentieth anniversary with Geannie, for that was the day that she was killed.

For Ramona, she was left a widow after only a few months of marriage to either of her first two husbands. She had been in love with Sheffield for nearly thirty five years, ever since Tom was killed. She never would of dreamed that she could have him, let alone to one day celebrate their twentieth anniversary. She got to have her cake and eat it too, and the kids and grandchildren, that she thought that she would never have, were the icing on the cake.

The sentiment offered by many of the guests was for twenty more years. "Why not" Sheffield said. "After all that would make me eighty five and her eighty. We could live that long."

After it was over, everything was left to be taken down the next day. Ramona didn't have class so she helped Norma, Janet, and Edith take everything down and put the house back in order. The open house had been everything that they hoped it would be.

Over the next three weeks while Janet was there they got to enjoy her company and that of little Wesley. Since she didn't get to come home often, she liked to stay a while when she did. Other than Sheffield's job and Ramona's two days a week at Hollins they got to spend a lot of time with them. During that time Sheffield's team had one out of town match and two at home. They continued to make a strong showing, promising to make his last season a very successful one.

One Sunday evening after dinner, they turned on the television to watch the Ed Sullivan Show, one of their favorite programs. Toward the end of the show, a rather peculiar act, or so Sheffield thought, took to the stage. The four young men from Liverpool England, with mop top haircuts, dressed in suits styled after the Edwardian period from the first decade of the century. They called themselves The Beatles. With three of them playing electric guitars and one on the drums they began with "All My Loving".

"What on earth is this?" Sheffield asked. "They call this music."

"I think its rather snappy." Ramona replied.

"Just look at all those young women in the audience." Sheffield continued. "Its like mass hysteria. Just look at them carry on. You'd naturally think that that one had a bee in their hair." he said pointing to the girl on the screen. Then the scene switched to another young lady. "Look at that poor girl. She nearly passed out."

Sheffield sat back and suffered through "Till There Was You" but when they got to "She Loves You" it was just about more than he could stand, especially all of the repetitions of "yeah yeah yeah".

After a commercial break, Georgia Brown & the Oliver Kids, with eighteen year old Davy Jones, performed two scenes from the Broadway musical "Oliver". Next was Frank Gorshin, an actor and

impressionist. "Now thats entertaining." Sheffield said part way through his act. He was followed by Tessie O'Shea, a Welsh entertainer.

After another commercial break, the Beatles came back for two more numbers. Sheffield carried on some more as they sang, "I Saw Her Standing There."

"What's got into you tonight, Babe?" She asked. I've never seen you complain so much."

All he said was, "I just hate to see stuff like this drag the young people of this country down like that."

"Oh pooh."

As they concluded with "I Want To Hold Your Hand", Ramona caught on to the chorus and took Sheffield's hand and sang along, "I want to hold your hand. I want to hold your hand."

Janet stayed one more week and on the 17th she flew home to Utah. It was nice to have her home for a few weeks. Sheffield and Ramona had talked of stopping off to spend some time with her on their way to or from Hawaii during the summer.

During the middle of March, the Magicians finished a rather remarkable season with only two losses and pulled off an upset over Patrick Henry to win the district tournament. They had two weeks off in which to prepare for the state tournament in Richmond. The following week was the round up at the Two Star Ranch. Then first weekend in April, Sheffield took his team to Richmond for his last opportunity for a state championship. The team wanted him to have it and gave it their all. In the end, it came down to a match between a Jefferson wrestler and the wrestler from the Staunton Military Academy. The match was too close to call as it went back and forth. In the end Jefferson won, taking home the state championship. It was a perfect way for Sheffield to end his second career.

The following weekend Sheffield and Ramona were assigned to attend a conference of the Virginia Stake in Richmond on the 11th and 12th of April. They had initially planned ongoing over in the Stagwering so they could get back earlier but because of inclement weather, they ended up driving.

Although their role at this conference was minor, they did have one very important assignment. Apostle Harold B. Lee presided, accompanied by Elder ElRay L. Christiansen, an Assistant to the Twelve were there to divide the Virginia Stake and create the Norfolk Stake. Sheffield's assignment was to bring Elder Lee back to Roanoke to dedicate the new Mission Home.

After the meetings and lunch, Sheffield loaded the two general authorities into his Buick. The first stop was to take Elder Christiansen to the airport for his flight back to Salt Lake City. On the three hour drive back to Roanoke, Elder Lee, who was not quite four months younger than Sheffield, engaged them in conversation. He asked about their background and then sat back and listened, asking a few questions as they told of how they came together and eventually joined the Church. He seemed to be particularly

interested in their connection to Hawaii, Sheffield's military career, and church leadership service. Then he asked them what their plans were for when they retired in the spring. They didn't know it but their conversation was actually an interview, with ulterior motives. Once in Roanoke, they turned their special passenger over to President White at the mission home.

The next morning, a special meeting was held at the mission home to which as many of the local leaders who could attend and all of the missionaries within close proximity were invited. Being a member of the Mission Presidency, that included Sheffield and Ramona. They had both arranged for substitutes for their classes so they could attend. Following Elder Lee's dedicatory prayer, the kitchen and dining facilities were put to the test in serving the seventy five or so people in attendance. It was by far the largest gathering since the building had been completed. Following the meeting, Elder Lee was taken to the airport for his flight to New York City for the opening of the Mormon Pavilion at the World's Fair.

With only a few more weeks until school let out for the year, Sheffield and Ramona began looking forward to kicking off their retirement with their trip to Hawaii. They began to make plans as to all they wanted to do. Their best planning took place sitting beneath Diamond Head in the bathhouse. They definitely planned on going to Laie to see Takara and Teancum. The list of things they wanted to do in Hawaii would require at least a month. They planned on leaving around the 22nd of June and stop off to see Janet and spend a week in Utah first.

Then during the middle of May with a week and half before school was to let out, their plans had an abrupt change. On the evening of May 14th, Sheffield and Ramona had just finished dinner when the telephone rang. Ramona answered the telephone and handed it to Sheffield. "It's for you, Babe." she said.

"Who is it?"

"I don't know. They asked for Brother Brason."

Sheffield took the receiver and answered, "Hello"

"Hello Brother Brason. This is Joseph Anderson from Salt Lake City."

"Yes Brother Anderson. What can I do for you?"

"I am the secretary to the First Presidency."

That got Sheffield's attention as he waited to hear what he had to say.

"Would it be possible for you and Sister Brason to meet with President McKay in New York City on Tuesday?"

"On Tuesday? Where?"

"He will be at the Church Pavilion at the Worlds Fair. That's right close to LaGuardia Airport."

"I'm sure that we can arrange that. What time?"

"Twelve thirty would work in perfectly with President McKay's schedule. He has reserved between

twelve thirty and one o'clock to meet with you. Would that work for you?"

"We'll make it work."

"Very well. President McKay is looking forward to meeting with you. Thank you for your time.

Goodbye Brother Brason. Have a good evening."

"And you too. Goodbye."

Dumbfounded, Sheffield hung up the telephone and just looked at Ramona.

"What was that all about? Make what work?"

"Can you go to New York on Tuesday?"

"New York? What for?"

"To meet with President McKay. He will be at the World's Fair on Tuesday and wants to meet with the both of us from twelve thirty to one o'clock."

Now it was Ramona who was dumbfounded. After she had chance to process what she had just been told, she asked the obvious, "What on earth does he want to see us for?"

"I have no idea."

"Alright, what did you do?"

"Its more like, what I get to do. I've been around long enough to know how these things work. I guess we'll have to go and find out. You don't have class on Tuesday, but I'll have to get a substitute."

"If we're going all the way to New York to the World's Fair, it had better be for more than just a thirty minute meeting. Why don't we take more time and see the fair?"

"I have a feeling that by the time he's through with us, we'll have a lot on our minds. I don't think this is going to be a social call."

"You're probably right. It would be too much to ask on such a short notice. The fair will be there for a whole year and we'll have plenty of time once we're retired. Just promise that you'll take me sometime."

For the next four days, Sheffield and Ramona were feeling a bit anxious about what the meeting held in store. It's not everyday the President of the Church wants to talk to you. They couldn't even begin to speculate on what it might be. The only ones they even told were the kids. When Sheffield arranged for a substitute teacher for Tuesday, all he said was that he had some out of town business to attend to. He did however confide in President White who he thought had more experience with that sort of thing. All he could say was, "Go and find out."

Come Tuesday morning Sheffield and Ramona took off at eight o'clock in the Staggerwing. Because of the nature of who they were meeting with, they wore their Sunday best. It took just over two hours to fly the approximately four hundred miles to New York City. A little after ten they landed at the LaGuardia Airport

in Queens. After securing the plane, they took a taxi the three and half miles to Flushing Meadows Park where the World Fair was held.

After being dropped off at the main gate, the Church Pavilion was just inside and wasn't hard to find. The facade on the front of the building replicated the front of the Salt Lake Temple, complete with the Angel Moroni, set amidst flower gardens and a reflecting pool stood in front of the building. It was just after eleven o'clock and a large crowd was exiting the building. As it turned out, the dedication of the pavilion had just concluded. There appointment wasn't for another hour and half so they still had time to look around.



They strolled among some of the nearby pavilions and exhibits. As it got close to noon, they were to nervous about their appointment to want to eat. They ended up going back to the Church Pavilion to have a look around. Just inside the entrance was a sculpture depicting Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

“Aren't they supposed to be naked?” Ramona asked.

“Yes, but what kind of impression would that leave on folks.” Sheffield answered.

“I suppose you're right.”

As they were admiring the sculpture that had been commissioned just for the occasion, they were approached by a missionary who offered to show them around. Next to Adam and Eve was a diorama of Old Testament prophets. The missionary explained the various displays as they went along. Next they came an impressive eleven foot tall replica of the Christus. The Elder explained to them that contrary to what some believe, that Mormons were indeed Christians. To the left was another diorama depicting Christ ordaining the Apostles.

Down through the center of the pavilion were three carousels, the first featured the Old Testament, the next on featured the apostasy, and naturally the last one was the restoration. The young Elder did a good job of reciting his memorized presentation as he explained each display. At the other end was a three dimensional depiction of the young Joesph Smith in the sacred grove. To the right were two dioramas depicting scenes from the Book of Mormon. Beyond that were two statues, one of Joesph Smith and one representing the restoration of the Melchizedek Priesthood.

That brought them to the end of tour and the Elder bore his testimony and asked them if they would like to know more. He was almost disappointed when they told him that they were already members of the Church. After completing the tour they sat through a new film titled “Man's Search For Happiness” that the

Church had produced just for the World's Fair.

After the fifteen minute film, it was nearly time for their appointment. They looked around and found someone at the information desk who looked like they were in charge and checked in.

"We're the Brasons and we have an appointment with President McKay at twelve thirty." Sheffield announced.

"Oh, I'm sorry. President McKay wasn't able to be here. I'm not aware of any appointments, but let me go find out. Several of the brethren from Salt Lake are here. I'm sure one of them will know." The man said and then promptly disappeared down a corridor.

"Do you think we came all this way for nothing?" Ramona wondered.

"I'm sure someone is covering his appointments."

Just then, they were approached by the man that they had given a ride to just a month earlier. "Hello Brother and Sister Brason." Elder Lee greeted. "Its so good to see you again. Come with me, we're expecting you."

"So President McKay wasn't able to come?" Ramona asked.

"No. Unfortunately his health hasn't been good lately and his doctor advised him not to come. However, President Brown will meet with you." Elder Lee said as he ushered them down a side corridor and into the office of the Pavilion Director.

As they entered the office, they were greeted by the eighty year old First Counselor in the First Presidency, Hugh B. Brown. Having never seen him in person, they instantly recognized his smile and wavy white hair from from the photographs of him that they had seen. Since the General Conference broadcasts did not reach them in the east, they had never seen any of the brethren on television. Nevertheless they knew who he was. His countenance radiated with the Spirit, which instantly bore witness that they were in the presence of one of the Lord's chosen servants.

"Ah. Brother and Sister Brason." he greeted. "I'm Brother Brown. Thank you for coming all this way to meet with me." As he looked into their eyes, it was as if he was looking directly into their hearts, discerning their spirits.

"We're pleased to meet you, President Brown." Sheffield said for both of them as he shook his hand.

"Please, have a seat." he said, gesturing to two comfortable looking wingback arm chairs positioned next to each other. As they sat down, he took an identical chair that was angled toward them. "President McKay regrets not being here to meet with you, but has asked that I visit with you in his stead. Have you had a chance to look around the pavilion? Isn't it marvelous?"

"Yes, we got the tour." Sheffield replied. "and we did get to see the film."

"Oh, you mean 'Man's Search For Happiness'? We hope that it will appeal to what people are

looking for in their lives and help them understand that we can tell them where they came from, why they are here, and where they're going when this life is over.”

“Those are the very things that my late wife was looking for for a good many years. She died before she found it, but her searching led us to it.”

“Please, tell me about it.”

He listened intently for ten minutes as Sheffield and Ramona gave him a condensed version of the story, making sure to cover the important parts, including Geannie appearing to them.

“What an inspirational story.” he commented when they were through. “I don't believe I've ever heard a story quite like it.” Then he said, “So you spent a number of years in Hawaii. In President McKay's opinion, it is heaven's garden spot. He's been there a number of times, especially over the last few years.”

“I love it there.” Ramona said. “I almost consider it my home. We're going back next month after we retire to spend a month.”

“I see.” he said. “How would you like to stay for three years?”

Sheffield and Ramona looked at each other and back at him. Before they could respond, President Brown continued. “Brother Brason, the Lord has called you to preside over the Hawaii Mission. And you Sister Brason are called to serve with him. Will you accept the call to serve.”

“President.” Sheffield began. “All of my life I have answered the call to serve. For twenty seven years it was the call of our nation and since joining the Church, I have always answered the call. The answer is yes. We accept the call to serve.”

“Very good. Can you be in Salt Lake City by June twenty fourth?”

“Yes sir.” Sheffield resisted saluting as he gave his answer. “We will be there.”

“And you Sister Barson?”

“Absolutely. I'm not quite sure what we're getting into, but I too accept.”

“Marvelous. I promise you the work won't be easy, but it will be rewarding.”

“I'm sure that it will be easier than fighting a war.”

“My dear Brother Brason, we are fighting a war. A war that has raged since the pre-existence. A war for the souls of men and women. A war that we will win. As you know ever so well, wars aren't fought without casualties. We loose too many in the battle but the fight must go on.”

“I understand what you're saying.”

“I understand that you're currently serving as the first counselor in the Central Atlantic States Mission Presidency. I'm sure you have a good idea of what is entailed.”

“Pretty much.” Sheffield said. “Although I haven't worked directly with the full time missionaries that much.”

"I do apologize for the late notice but we have had difficulty finding the person the Lord wanted. When Elder Lee returned to Salt Lake after his assignment here in the east last month, he told us about his visit with you. That is when we knew who we were looking for. We felt it best to meet with you here rather than having you come all the way to Salt Lake.

"Now as I said, you will need to be in Salt Lake on the twenty fourth for three days of orientation and training. Are you familiar with Temple Square?"

"Yes."

"Then you know where the Assembly Hall is. Be in the chapel at eight o'clock that morning. Your assignment will begin on July first. I do hope that will give you time to get ready."

"We'll be ready." Ramona assured him.

"Good. Now I trust that you will have sufficient funds to live on. The Church will pay your travel expense and provided you with a home, similar to the Mission Home there in Roanoke."

"Yes. We have sufficient funds available to us." Sheffield assured him.

"Now, Sister Brason. I know what you are thinking. Three years is a long time to be away from the grandchildren. It is permissible that your family can come and visit you for a week each year."

"Thank you. I was wondering about that."

"Now do you have any questions?"

"Yes, as a matter of fact I do. To be a mission president, don't I need to be a high priest?"

"Yes. You're not?"

"No sir. I'm an Elder."

"I suppose that's right. I forgot that you live in the mission field. Most of our mission presidents come from the established areas in the west. That's not an issue. We will ordain you when you're set apart. You have been endowed, have you not?"

"Yes, of course." Ramona answered. "We were endowed and sealed in the Salt Lake Temple about a year and a half after we were baptized. We make it a point to attend the temple whenever we are near one. All three of our children have been married in the temple."

"You'll have plenty of opportunities to attend the temple in Laie. It's a lovely temple."

"Yes it is. We've had the opportunity to attend there a few times over the years as we've been in the Islands."

"Have you been to the Polynesian Cultural Center?"

"No, we haven't been back since it was established."

"You'll be working indirectly with them. They're a great missionary tool."

"I'd love to see it." Romona said.

“Now are there any other questions or concerns?” President Brown asked.

“I don't know if this is concern or not, but I'm not much of a scriptorian.”

“Knowing the scriptures is important, but when it comes right down to it, it doesn't make much difference how many scriptures you know, its the power of your testimony that touches people. From what I understand, you are responsible for bringing a lot of people into the church, and it was by the power of you testimony. What we need are missionaries who can teach and testify. I promise that the scriptures will come. There is a book that I highly recommend that you read. It is titled 'The Challenge' by Elder Dyer, one of the Assistants to the Twelve. I think it will be of great benefit to to. I'll tell you what, when I get back to Salt Lake, I'll send you a copy.

“My, look at the time. I'm afraid I have another appointment.” President Brown said as he stood up, indicating that the interview was over. Taking their cue from him, both Sheffield and Ramona stood up as well. He extended his hand and continued, “Thank you again for coming to meet with me and for accepting the call to serve. I'll be seeing you in Salt Lake in five weeks.”

“We look forward to it.” Sheffield said as he showed them to the door.

Just outside of the office were a number of other men, most of who Sheffield and Ramona recognized from having seen their pictures as well.

“Brethren,” President Brown said, “This is Brother and Sister Sheffield Brason from Roanoke, Virginia. They have just accepted the call to preside over the Hawaii Mission.”

He then turned to Sheffield and Ramona and said, “You already know Elder Lee. Let me introduce you to these brethren.” They shook hands with each as they were introduced. “This is President N. Eldon Tanner, the Second Counselor in the First Presidency. This is President Joseph Fielding Smith, the President of Quorum of the Twelve. And These are Elders Ezra Taft Benson, Delbert L. Stapley, and Richard L. Evans of the Council of the Twelve.” President Brown turned to two other men and said. “This is Elder Franklin D. Richards and Elder Bernard P. Brockbank, Assistants to the Twelve. Now if you'll excuse us, we have another matter to attend too.”

They had actually met Elder Benson when he came to dedicate the chapel in Roanoke some fourteen years earlier.

Sheffield and Ramona found themselves back in the main part of the pavilion. “What do you want to do now?” Sheffield asked.

“Go home and get ready to move to Hawaii, I guess.”

“You don't want to look around some more while we're here?”

“No, you were right Babe. I've got to much on my mind to enjoy it.”

“It doesn't look like I'll be able to make good on that promise to bring you back, after all.”

"That's alright. Let's get something to eat and head home."

Good idea." Sheffield said as he took her hand as they walked to the exit. "Look, there's a food booth over there. Will that work?"

"Sure. I'm hungry all of a sudden."

They went over and ordered lunch and sat down to talk about what had just taken place. "So much for all of the plans we have been making." Sheffield said.

"True, but we get to go back to Hawaii for three years. I'm so excited."

"You now what's funny about it?"

"No. What?" Ramona said as she picked up her pulled pork sandwich.

"When I retired from the Navy the first time, we had a chance to go to Hawaii with American Airlines and turned it down. Instead we chose to move to Roanoke and we got the kids. Then the second time I retired from the Navy, I was offered a three year command assignment in Hawaii. We turned that one down too. As it turned out it moved to San Diego soon after. I came home and was called into the branch presidency, then as the branch president, followed by the last three years in the mission presidency. All of that leading up to this, and now the time and circumstances are right for us to go back."

"You're right. Even though we have been back a few times over the years, this will be quite an adventure."

"Yes it will. Let's finish our lunch and get home and start getting things figured out."

After lunch, they went out the front gate and hailed a cab to take them back to the airport. On the two hour trip back home they talked about what they had ahead of them and began to lay out all that they needed to do.

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The information about the new mission home and the open house are from the Church Section of the January 18, 1964 Deseret News. The open house actually took place "at year's close." No information was available about the dedication, so it is all hypothetical.

Although, the conference in which the Norfolk Stake was created on April 19th is factual with Elders Lee and Christiansen in attendance. Elder Lee was in New York City three days later for the opening of the Mormon Pavilion at World's Fair in New York City. Having Elder Lee dedicate the mission home at that time fit the story.

The sculpture of Adam and Eve was later placed in the North Visitor's Center on Temple Square in Salt Lake City. The replica of the Christus was later placed in the Los Angeles Temple Visitors Center.

According to the account of Elder John H. Groberg, he received his call to serve as mission president in 1966 in the mail. Others were called in person. This makes a nice story. President McKay was not at the World's Fair on May 19, 1964 but the other general authorities mentioned were and the dedication went as described according to the May 23rd Church Section of the Deseret News.