

## HISTORY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Who were a few of the young people who lived in our area during its early years to receive recognition for winning various contests that were held in the Salt Lake area?

### ANSWER

The Jordan School District Marble Tournament sponsored by the Midvale Kiwanis Club was an event that was eagerly awaited by the boys in the area. The tournament held in May of 1941, was no exception. The tournament was divided into two classes. Class A was for boys ages 11 to 14. Class B was for boys ages 6 to 10. Boyd Smith of Butlerville took second place in Class A and Robert Covington, also of Butlerville, took first place in Class B.

John Mc Crea, a seventeen year old who was living with the Ormand Coulam family of Cottonwood Heights and a student at Jordan High, represented the Jordan Post of the American Legion and won the Region No. 3 Oratorical Contest sponsored by the Americanism Committee of the American Legion. The contest was held, March 25, 1944. The oratorical subject was "The Constitution of the United States as guardian of the nation." Winning this contest was even more significant since John had only been in the United States for 9 months. He was from Birmingham, England, and had been sent to Utah, by his mother, shortly after Birmingham was bombed during WWII.

Ardis Erekson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Erekson, was crowned queen of the Freshman Class at the University of Utah, in September of 1950. She was chosen from a field of 15. She was described by the Salt Lake Telegram as the most beautiful of the U. of U. freshmen.

*Published May 2017 – Gayle Conger*