

HISTORY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What Cottonwood Heights resident owned and operated the “Black Rock Resort”?

ANSWER

James John Latses was born in Ageon Vaseleon, Greece June 2, 1892. He emigrated to America October 6, 1906, arriving on the ship “Caroline” at New York, New York. He moved to Utah that same year. He was naturalized March 31, 1914. He was a veteran of World War I, enlisting in the infantry on June 15, 1918. He was honorably discharged Dec 17, 1918. He and his wife, Virginia, moved to Cottonwood Heights about 1932. Mr. Latses was a Salt Lake real estate man. He opened the resort at Black Rock Beach on the south shore of the Great Salt Lake in 1934 and operated it until his death February 5, 1944. He was a member of the Greek-American Progressive Association, the American Legion, the Arcadian Greek Organization, Kolokotronis Lodge, the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce and was former trustee of the Greek Orthodox Church and former president of the Salt Lake Greek Community. His wife Virginia remained in the area after his death.

Published December 2015 – Gayle Conger

Published June 2018