



Phineas Wolcott Cook Newsletter

Phineas W. Cook Family Organization

September, 2015

Cook-O-Rama Fireside To Feature Bryson Cook

Former Cook Family organization genealogist and recently returned mission president Bryson Cook and his wife Janice will discuss Missionary Work in Zimbabwe at the annual Cook-O-Rama on Thursday, October 1 at 7 p.m. in Bountiful, Utah.

A soup and salad dinner will begin at 5:30 that evening followed by the fireside at 7 p.m. in the Bountiful 28th Ward Building, 2285 S 200 W in Bountiful, across from the cemetery.

Brother Cook will talk about the blessings and challenges of missionary work in Zimbabwe. In addition he will talk about some Cook family history. He is a descendant of Phineas W. Cook and an avid Cook Family genealogist.

Brother Cook says that when he and his wife were called to the Zimbabwe Harare Mission there were 120 missionaries with a mix of 70% North American and 30% African. When they left, there were 200 missionaries, about 90% African with 125 from Zimbabwe and 10% from North America and Eu-

rope. Two stakes were created while they were there, but still about 30% of the Saints in Zimbabwe were under the direction of the mission president.

The country has a population of 14 Million. There were 21,000 Saints when they arrived and 25,000 Saints when they left. The country is very poor but the people are generally happy and predominantly Christian. They are required to read the scriptures in school and know their Bible pretty well. The Book of Mormon resonates and many recognize it instantly as the word of God

Bryson Caldwell Cook was born in California and has ancestors who came on the Mayflower and were in the Revolutionary war. They helped settle Jamestown, Virginia and were

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A Message From Dan Ditto, President

Please come to the Cook-O-Rama on October 1st in Bountiful, Utah. You will not



regret it! It will be an inspiring and enlightening evening that you won't forget!

Members of the Cook Family Organization, we need your help!

There is much to be done in our family organization. Please volunteer to work with us, even if it can only be for a few hours a month. Here are a few things that we are working on. You can probably help in one or more of these areas.

Family Representatives. We need more direct involvement from

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Goshen: Phineas and Salt Creek Settlement

The following is part of a continuing report on the Personal and Historical information about the efforts of Phineas Wolcott Cook to build a settlement in Goshen, Utah, in the mid to late 1850s

By Janet Porter
Part 8

Phineas Wolcott Cook received permission from President Brigham Young to establish a settlement on Salt Creek near the south end of Utah Lake. Interrupted by objections from a church leader at Payson, contentious herdsmen who had controlled the area previously, and threat of war as Johnston's Army approached Utah, the settlement was almost abandoned. Nevertheless, due to the tenacity of Phineas, the continued support of Brigham Young, and the great need of 35 families for land, plans for the town of Goshen continued.

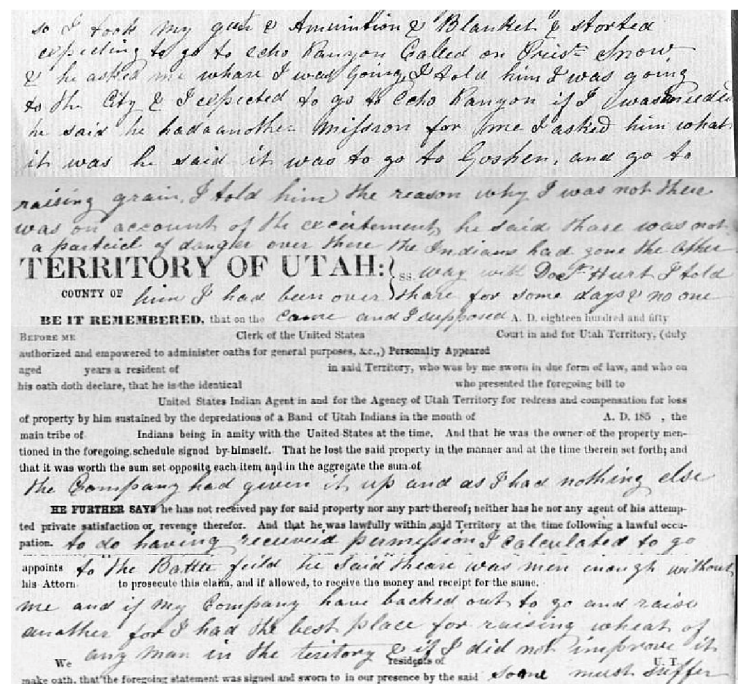
On August 31, 1857 Phineas began preparations for the return of the brethren to Goshen to build a fort. He had lived inside the fort at Salt Lake City and was aware that the back of each house had been braced against the outside wall of the fort, and no doubt that is the way he planned the Goshen Fort because he obtained logs for the fort but began making adobes for the houses so as to be ready when the fort was completed.

Unfortunately, he was to be stopped again when news reached Utah that the US Army was gathering at the Missouri River with the

intent of marching against the Mormons. President Buchanan had also sent federal appointees to replace any Mormon in office. All mail bound for Utah was held at Independence, Missouri, so it was not until three months later, at the end of July, the people of Utah even found out about the approaching army. Phineas was to find that Johnston's Army and the counsel "to gather instead of scatter" were the newest obstructions to the settlement of Goshen:

31st I started to summit Mountains[1] to git (get) logs to take to Goshen for ribs for houses(.) Got a load ready to be on hand as soon as the company come on to build till the 4th Sept(.) Finding the company did not come I started and went down to Battle Creek (Pleasant Grove) and upon inquiring I learned that Prest John Young had been there and held a meeting about the 30th of August and he had counseled (counseled) the brethren not to go to Goshen atal (at all) for this was a time of gathering instead of scattering.[2] He said it was Brigham's mind and he knew if anyone was to go

and ask him he would say so. Some of the brethren told me that after preaching was over the Bishop whispered in his ear some time and they thought it was likely the Bishop asked him to say it because he knew that a number of the brethren ware (were) going and sometimes manifested a feeling to stop them and hering (hearing) also that he arose and gave the council (counsel)(.)3



Phineas' Sept. 30 journal entry, written on the paper he had available.

Phineas was convinced all powers of heaven and earth had conspired to deprive him of a farm. For the fourth time he returned to the city to seek out Brigham Young and ask what he should do. By this time he had lived in Utah for 8½ years and had worked for other people the whole time. Others seemed to have been granted land on their

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Featuring *Triumph of Testimony* Life History of Phineas W. Cook

Imagine you had an ancestor who came into the church at the critical period of Winter Quarters and became friends with the early church leaders. Further imagine he was quickly accepted by the Brethren, and invited to be among the first pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley.

Then imagine every possible piece of bad luck which could come up to discourage him and cause misunderstandings among church leaders about him.

If you can imagine that, you have thought of Phineas Wolcott Cook. He was not a man of persuasive words or demeanor. In fact, he was often misunderstood and even defamed. There was no more honest, hard-working, selfless man alive, but others seemed inclined to take advantage of his good nature and trusting friendship.

You won't read about Phineas Wolcott Cook in any church history book or hear his name in discussions of the grand councils of the church. He will be overlooked in every instance. Yet his life is a study of someone overcoming the hard knocks of life to become a strong, servant of God. Maybe he's a lot like the rest of us: a quiet servant of God overlooked by almost everyone around him.

If you identify with this man, you'll be inspired at his strength. Born 28 August 1819 at Goshen, Connecticut, his family's trauma during the financial panic of the mid-1830's brought them to Richland, Michigan where they heard the Mormon missionaries in 1845. From the day he was baptized until the spring of 1846 he and his wife Ann Eliza worked to provide a way to join the Saints.

Their departure from family and from the worldliness of their environment is one of the great stories anywhere in church literature about the power of the Spirit in our lives. Yet you won't read about it in Church History books, and you won't hear it in General Conference.

The only place you'll hear these stories is in the book *Triumph of Testimony*, published by the Cook Family Organization in 2002. Thorough endnote documentation cites church history, journals and a variety of docu-

ments. You'll find the life of Phineas Wolcott Cook both interesting and inspiring—for yourself and for your family members.

Triumph of Testimony

The Life history of Phineas Wolcott Cook



On Sale Now
1/3 off
Limited Time Offer

Regularly \$37,
Now, \$25

Triumph of Testimony is The life history of Phineas Wolcott Cook, including early years in Connecticut, through Michigan, and leaving Winter Quarters with the Mormon Pioneers on his way to the Salt Lake Valley.

To order, see the form at the end of this newsletter or contact Glen McMillan
at 801-592-3772 or
email: glenandjanine@gmail.com

Also at the Bookstore

The book, *Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook*, is 200 pages long and contains his journal as well as additional writings and photos.

This small book, published in 1980, is a treasure for the ever-growing posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook. It is \$7 at the bookstore.

President's Message From Dan Ditto, continued

Continued from Page 1

the Family Representatives. For example, we need current information about your Phineas Cook descendants. We need that information so we can communicate with them about their Cook Family History, the genealogical research that we are doing that will be of interest to them and other information that will help them strengthen their families by understanding the marvelous family heritage that we all share.

Genealogical Research. We are doing family research in a number of areas that we are really excited about. We want to coordinate this research with the research that others are doing and not duplicate research unnecessarily. If you are doing research on Cook family lines, we would love your help and we would love to help you. We also have some funds available for appropriate research projects.

Technology and Communication. We are also trying diligently to improve our ability to communicate with Cook family members through various means, including updating and improving the capabilities of our website, our newsletter and address and email management, among other things. We are looking for ways to improve these systems and processes. I know that there are many young people in our organization with technological experience and capability that could be of tremendous help to us in achieving these objectives.

Historical Preservation. We have a significant amount of family history information that could

be better categorized, cataloged, managed, digitized and shared. In the past, we have worked with the Church History Department and others in our efforts to find, organize and manage our family history. However, there is still much to be done.

Newsletter Do you have graphic design or writing skills? We need your talents to help us organize and publish our newsletter which goes out in both a paper and an electronic form twice a year. This is a wonderful vehicle to communicate with family members and give them the information they need to connect with our ancestors.

Family Organization. We have a few volunteers that are doing marvelous things and who are working very hard to accomplish a lot of great things, but with more hands we could do so much more moving the family organization forward to strengthen this marvelous

Cook Family and the descendants of Phineas Wolcott Cook!

What if you don't live in Utah? Not a problem. Time and distance don't limit us much anymore. We work together using mostly telephone, email, and the internet anyway.

What if you are not a whiz at computers? Again, this is not a problem. The important thing is that you are family and have important family connections and interest. We can work with that.

Please review these areas and consider whether you might be able to assist in one or more of them. It is a marvelous work AND you will be working with some truly great family members. If you have the ability to help in some of these areas, please email me at : Daniel.Ditto@imail.org. Thank-you. I look forward to hearing from you and we will see you at the Cook-O-Rama on October 1st! - Dan

Cook-O-Rama Speaker is Recently Returned From a Mission in Harare, Zimbabwe

Continued from Page 1

with Daniel Boone when he settled Tennessee and Kentucky.

He descends from a family of early converts to the church and his three names are the last names of three pioneer ancestors who crossed the plains with Brigham Young. Both of his parents were born and raised in Utah.

Bryson served a mission in New England and attended BYU

where he met, "the woman of his dreams," Janice Lei Hall of Phoenix, Arizona.

Bryson graduated from BYU in 1980 with a degree in Business management and has worked in Arizona and most recently, New Hampshire.

He served for a time as a genealogist for the Cook Family Organization and collaborated on several Cook Family History projects.

Phineas W Cook Perseveres to Establish Goshen

Continued from Page 2

first request, but never had he been allowed a piece of land on which to grow his own food. His undemanding nature seemed forever to keep him in poverty. Upon arriving at the President's Office Monday September 7, Phineas asked to see President Young. Instead he was able to speak to a good friend, Brigham's son Joseph A., who seemed to know Phineas would be there asking about the meeting at Pleasant Grove.

He said his father was

talking to him the
other day about it

and he said that

I would be thare

(there) to see

about it and when

I did come he might tell me

that I was to go ahead and stop

for nothing but to raise all the

wheat I possibly could.

Then once again, for the fourth time, Phineas returned to the settlements in Utah Valley to inform the brethren of the Prophet's advice to continue with the settlement. By this time he had a committed group of settlers who soon met him at the townsite to begin building the fort and their own houses. One of them was actually offered \$3 per day to stay in Payson to work for the Bishop, which he considered a bribe to deprive him of his own much-needed land. These brethren persisted in the face of what they considered unusual opposition until their settlement was established.

However, there was one more obstacle to overcome before the

settlement could continue. As they were building their fort, news of an Indian uprising reached them. Being afraid to be caught by Indians at such an isolated location, all the men returned to their homes for safety.

Returning back to Payson, Phineas noted "excitement was quite high." It was at this time he heard the militia was likely to be called out to protect their homes. The Bishop was also head of the

a parteicl (particle) of danger over there(.) The Indians had gone the other way..He said theare (there) was men enough without me and if my company have backed out to go and raise another(.) for I had the best place for raising wheat of any man in the territory and if I did not improve it some must suffer(.)

*Oct. 3rd I returned home determined to go ahead at all hazards(.)*⁴

For the fifth time Phineas notified those who had stood by him through the previous

four alarms that the settlement was again going forward. However, by the 13th of October when they again assembled, the frost made it impossible to continue making adobes for their houses. Not to be deterred, they began cutting sods and completed their houses in two months.

Footnotes

1 Summit Mountain was the ridge of hills between Payson and Nephi about five miles east and south of Goshen. The town of Santaquin had been established there since 1851 and Benjamin F. Johnson had a mill at Santaquin.

2 In May of 1857 when President Buchanan ordered a U.S. army of 2,500 men to march to Utah to quell the reported uprising among the Mormons, he also sent federal appointees to replace any Mormon in office. The mail was stopped and communications cut off. When President Young learned about the army, he called home all missionaries and some of the saints in distant settlements, such as San Bernardino. Hence, shortly afterward, the counsel to gather instead of scatter. (Carter E. Grant, *The Kingdom of God Restored*, pp. 480-485.)

3 Goshen Journal, Sheet 9, side 1-2.

4 Goshen Journal, Sheet 10, sides 1-2.

Oct 3rd I returned

home determined to go ahead at all hazards

A line from Phineas' October 3, 1857 Journal Entry, "determined to go ahead at all hazards."

militia, and urged the men to be prepared. Since there was danger throughout the whole territory, Phineas expected to be called into active duty immediately. All thoughts of the new town were secondary. On September 30 he wrote:

So I took my gun and ammunition and blanket and started(.) expecting to go to Echo Canyon (Canyon)(.) Called on Prest Snow and he asked me whare (where) I was going(.) I told him I was going to the city and I expected to go to Echo Canyon if I was needed(.) He said he had another mission for me(.) I asked him what it was(.) He said it was to go to Goshen and go to raising grain(.) I told him the reason why I was not there was on account of the excitement(.) He said thare (there) was not

Phineas Wolcott Cook
Family Organization Newsletter
PO. Box 1558
Layton, Utah 84041

September, 2015
Return Service Requested

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Permit No. 203

P.W. Cook Family Organization
Order Form

Organizational Dues		Date	
Suggested Annual Donation - \$20 per family - Tax Deductable			
Please select one: My dues are current		Pay dues now	Do not pay dues
Item (20% discount on all items if dues are current or accompany this order)	Price	Discount Price	Quantit Total
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook Book	\$45.00	\$36.00	
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD	\$10.00	\$8.00	
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book	\$10.00	\$8.00	
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD	\$5.00	\$4.00	
Triumph of Testimony, On Sale Now	\$37.50	\$25.00	
P.W. Cook Diary			
1 Copy	\$7.00	\$5.60	
2-6 Copies	\$6.00	\$4.80	
7+ Copies	\$5.00	\$4.00	
DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P.W. Cook	\$12.00	\$9.60	
Cook Ancestral Tour Guides			
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80	
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00	
Wallingford, Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80	
Wallingford, Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00	
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State of New York (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00	
State of Utah (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80	
State of Utah (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00	
Family Fireside Stories			
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)	\$9.00	\$7.20	
Book II (Illustrated Stories:LDS Conversion)	\$9.00	\$7.20	
Book III (Illustrated Stories:Winter Quarters)	\$9.00	\$7.20	
PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy and documentation	\$6.00	\$4.80	
Total Purchases:		\$0.00	
Donations for Family Research (Tax Ded Amount Personal Information)			
Phineas Walcott Cook Family Line	Name		
Ann Eliza Howland Family Line	Street Address		
Amanda Polly Savage Family Line	City	State	Zip
Catherine McCleve Family Line	Phone	Email	
Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line			
Other: Web Site, equipment, etc.			
Total Donations:	\$0.00		
Totals			
Organizational Dues	Mailing Information:		
Purchases	Mail this form with check to:		
Donations	PW Cook Family Organization		
GRAND TOTAL:	PO Box 1985		
	Layton, Ut 84041		
Please note: All prices include postage. Make checks payable to "Cook Family Organization" and allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. For questions, contact Glen McMillan at (801) 529-3772 or glenandjanine@gmail.com.			
Committees			
I would be willing to work on one of the following committees:			
Family History Committee	Research Committee		
Record Verification Committee	Family Web-Master for website		
Typing Histories - Word Processing	Illustrator		
Newsletter/Mailing Committee	Finance Committee		