



August 28, 1819 • July 24, 1900

# Phineas Wolcott Cook FAMILY ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER

JULY, 1970

## TWO CHILDREN OF PHINEAS WOLCOTT COOK ARE STILL LIVING



Carl, the eldest son of Phineas Wolcott Cook and Johanna Christina Palsson, and Idalia, the youngest daughter, are still alive and in good health. Moses, the second son, died at Ogden, Utah in February, 1970. The following life sketch was written by Carl's daughter, Leora Barrus.

### CARL and ELLA CALL COOK

On July 14, 1884, at Bountiful, Utah, a little girl was born to Anson V. Call II and his wife Alice Jeanette Farnham. When she was three years old, the family moved to Afton,

Wyoming. It was new country, and the people who chose it for home had to be hardy and industrious or they could not survive.

In 1889, Phineas Wolcott Cook moved to Star Valley with his wife Johanna Palsson and their family which included, besides their five sons and a daughter, two daughters of hers by a former marriage in Sweden. Carl, born September 25, 1879, was the oldest, ten years of age.

That was the "hard winter" and indeed it was hard for the struggling pioneers and their livestock. Other winters had been open, and livestock found food beneath the scant snow in the meadows. This year the snow fell very deep, and the cattle could not dig down to the lush grass buried there. Most of the cattle died before spring came, and their hungry bawling did not add to the comfort of the equally hungry pioneers.

The Cooks had lived at Swan Creek, Utah, Ham's Fork in Wyoming, and Logan, Utah, prior to this time. Phineas Wolcott Cook was an old man now (born August 28, 1819), and the rigors of pioneer life, crossing the plains, building grist mills in many new communities of Utah, etc., had not been easy on his health. Johanna, a convert from Sweden, was still learning the ways of a new country and language in the new and growing L.D.S. Church. Phineas had left his three older families near Bear Lake where he had turned over to them his farm, mill, etc., while he took the cattle for the support of his youngest family.

All the families who went to Star Valley during this period had to help each other and find ways to provide schools, entertainment, and cultural development as well as food and clothing. The Calls and the Cooks took part in these community activities and attained a measure of importance in the area. Carl attended the BYC at Logan for a short time and passed the teacher's examination, obtaining a certificate to teach in Wyoming.

On September 10, 1902, Carl Cook and Ella Call were married in the Logan Temple. They made the trip to Logan with their mothers in a white-topped buggy pulled by a team belonging to Carl's mother... They returned to Star Valley where Carl taught school for the next winters and worked on the homestead he had at Etna. He was the first Presiding Elder; then the first bishop of the new ward in Etna. The school terms were very short--sometimes only three months during the winter--as money and materials were scarce. He worked at carpentry, teaching, or whatever he could turn his hand to for some cash, and the farm needed every bit he could raise. (cont. on p. 2)

## *A Message from your President*

Dear Family Members:

We trust you are enjoying the Phineas Wolcott Cook Posterity Booklet. This was a tremendous project requiring many hours of work and sacrifice. Several family members have written to express appreciation for this booklet and to wish us well in future endeavors. There seems to be a general feeling among you that the time was right to organize this fine family. Let me draw your attention to the statement of purpose drawn up by the organization and included in the letter sent with the booklet: "The family organization has been formed with the common purpose of creating identity, unity, and friendship among us, the living descendants, and of identifying ancestors of each wife and of Phineas through our unified effort." Let us all work together to accomplish this goal.

Our organization is beginning to progress in many ways. We are incorporating under the name "Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization." This will give us substantial savings in our mailing costs and also allow us to deduct our donations to the organization when we complete our Federal and State Tax Returns. We are anticipating that this move will attract additional funds which will allow us freedom to pursue genealogical research, the printing of family histories, diaries, photographs, and other items of general interest.

Our first big project, the printing and mailing of the Posterity Booklet, left us in debt temporarily, but we are pleased that we now have these obligations cleared and a balance which we hope will be sufficient for the mailing of this newsletter. If you have sent your dues for 1970, we extend our appreciation, and urge all who have not yet sent dues to do so as we need the support of each member if the organization is to be successful.

Please remember that August 8th is the day set for our first family reunion. A notice of time, place and other details appears on page 3 of this paper. We hope you will come and enjoy meeting the fine people who belong to this family.

Sincerely yours,

*Vernon O. Cook*  
Vernon O. Cook, President

### GENEALOGICAL ASSIGNMENT

1. The genealogical committee would like to place a family group sheet for every one of our 918 families in a family archive. Please send your family group sheet to Rex Cook at Hyrum, Utah.
2. If there is any error on your mailing address, or if we have sent your Newsletter in care of someone else, please send your correct address to  
Publications  
Box 266  
North Salt Lake, Utah 84054
3. Send all news items to be published in the next Newsletter to the Publications address given above.

(Carl Cook, cont.)

In 1912, Carl Cook was elected Clerk of Court for the new County of Lincoln which was formed from part of Uinta County. This moved the family from Etna to the county seat at Kemmerer. They planned this as a temporary move, but never returned to the farm. While at Kemmerer (four years), Carl studied law in his spare time, and in 1918, he passed the State Bar Examinations and was admitted to practice. In September of 1968, he was awarded a plaque from the Wyoming Bar Association for 50 years of membership and service.

In 1918, the Carl Cooks returned to Afton where he opened a law office and established his practice, and in time he became fairly prosperous. He had added a music business with the help of his family and sold some pianos and other instruments... With the hope of giving the children some better advantages at school, the family moved to Provo in 1926 after the marriage of his two eldest daughters.

In 1937, John, the youngest son, returned to Afton with his parents and helped them build a new home. They had suffered severe financial losses during the eleven years of the depression while living in Utah, but with faith and hard work, they started over again. John returned to school at the University of Utah where he obtained his B.S. degree, then his M.S. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his Ph.D. at Penn State.

Honesty, self-reliance and diligence are only some of the virtues encouraged in this family. We were taught to work and to give dependable service wherever we were asked to work... Mother was a gifted seamstress and added many dollars to the family income by her diligence in this area. Father held many positions of trust in the communities where he lived. He took part in two bishoprics and spent many years as a dedicated Sunday School teacher.

In 1958, Mother and Father came to Salt Lake City so they could do genealogical research and Temple work. Mother submitted several thousand names to the Temple for ordinance work. Father has been very diligent, also. For eleven years, he performed ten endowments each week the Temple was open.

(By daughter Leora Barrus)

#### IDALIA COOK COVEY ROLEY



Idalia Cook was the youngest child of Phineas Wolcott Cook and Johanna Christina Palsson Cook. She was born in Logan, Utah, September 4, 1889, the only girl in a family of seven.

When Idalia was two months old, Phineas W. Cook moved his family to Star Valley, Wyoming during the coldest winter Wyoming had ever had. He was 70 years old at this time, but in spite of his age, severe pioneering conditions, and poor health, he, with the help of his two oldest boys, built a small home and a saw mill on Swift Creek. Her mother took in washing

and her two oldest brothers started working, but money was very scarce in her home.

Idalia's father died when she was 10 years old which made the pioneering struggle even harder for the family. She tells of one Christmas when her only dress was so ragged at the elbows she feared she could not attend the Christmas dance. She asked to have them mended for her present. When Christmas Eve came and the sleeves were still not mended, she was very blue. The next morning when she discovered that her mother had made her a new dress and her brother Carl had built her a doll, she was the happiest girl in town.

When Idalia was young, she loved to dance. She was popular with the young people and enjoyed good fun. At 16, she secured employment at Ed Lewis's clothing and dry goods store where she proved her reliability and worked for 4 years. During this time she met Leslie Covey. He was in the sheep business in the area. They met in the store and he soon came courting. He drove a rubber-tire buggy drawn by a beautiful gray horse which was the envy of all the girls in town.

Idalia and Leslie were married in Afton, Wyoming, on November 15, 1909. After a honeymoon trip to Salt Lake City, they made their home in Afton where their only child Eva was born on September 10, 1910. Five years later, the family moved to Salt Lake where their daughter could have the advantage of good schools. It was necessary for her father to be out of town much of the time because of his business, but Idalia made the best of it even though she missed him very much. Idalia and her daughter became very close.

Idalia was a fine cook and kept her home beautifully clean. She sewed and did lovely hand embroidery. One beautiful beaded bag had a large peacock in the center which was repeated on the second side. Her husband felt that it was enough to have taken her eyesight.

When the depression came, Leslie Covey's flocks were in jeopardy as were all sheepmen's, and it was necessary for Idalia to leave her daughter Eva in Salt Lake and go to Cokeville, Wyoming with her husband. It was a hard decision to make, but she knew her place was with him. She lived in Cokeville for 12 years.

During the summer of 1934, Idalia was appointed County Chairman of the Republican Women's Club for Lincoln County, Wyoming. By October, she had organized 17 study groups. In 1935, she was elected president of the State Women's Board representing Wyoming in the National Convention in Detroit where she led the Convention in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

In the spring of 1943, Leslie and Idalia bought a lovely home in Alhambra, California. Later they bought a 12-unit apartment building in Beverly Hills and lived there for 12 years. In 1955, they moved to Hastings Ranch, Pasadena, where Eva and her husband lived and bought a home near them. Here they spent the happiest years of their lives.

Idalia had a desire to travel and she and her husband now went to Hawaii, Canada, Glacier National Park, the New England States, New York, Detroit and made many trips back to Cokeville. Leslie loved to fish, and they often went with Leslie's brother to Yellowstone Lake where his brother had a cabin cruiser.

In 1956, Idalia was invited to join P.E.O., a national women's philanthropic organization, and she became their chaplin. Later she became vice-president and in 1958 served two years as president. She gave outstanding service in this organization and enjoyed her activities immensely, making many fine friends.

Leslie Covey passed away January 13, 1961 and was buried at Logan, Utah. Idalia spent three lonely years alone in her Pasadena home. Finally, her family persuaded her to travel. She went on a world tour by air during the summer of 1961 and while it was very hard to go without her husband, it proved helpful to her. In 1962, she went again to Europe with a friend Edith Damon, and again in 1963 she accompanied her daughter to Europe where they spent six weeks. They went on to Denmark and visited Malmo, Sweden where Idalia's mother was born.

On March 4, 1964, Idalia married Cecil A. Roley who grew up in the Northwest and had recently lived in Arizona. He was an attorney and had practiced law in Alaska and had done legal work for the Corps of Army Engineers there. Together they traveled to the Northwest, to Utah and Idaho, to the Southern States, Hawaii, and took an ocean cruise to Australia and New Zealand.

Idalia is exceptionally young and alert for her age. She is eighty years young and looks years younger. She is in excellent health, has great energy and is always busy. She keeps house for herself and her husband, drives her own car, does her own shopping, has good social activities, and shows real interest in the political life of the Nation. She is deeply interested in her children, her grandchildren, and her great-grandchildren. She is very affectionate, loves people, and has many friends.

(Taken from a biography written by her daughter Eva C. Madser)

We have only been able to include a token number of items in this newsletter. We will continue them in the November newsletter.

## NOTICE OF REUNION

The first reunion for the Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization will be held August 8th at the EVERGREEN PARK in Salt Lake City. The address is 3425 South 22nd East. If you leave the freeway at the 23rd East off-ramp, you will find the address with no difficulty.

Activities will begin at 10:00 a.m. and are planned for all ages throughout the day. Please bring your own lunch. We hope to see many of you there.

McKay Phippen - Reunion Chairman

### FAMILY FUNDS NEEDED!

I think most of you are aware that for some time we have asked each family in this great organization for an annual contribution of \$7.50. We need your assistance in this regard now possibly more than at any other time in our history. We have undertaken several rather ambitious projects which have placed considerable demands on our resources. We have published the Posterity Booklet and several newsletters. The diary of Phineas Wolcott Cook will soon be going to press, and we need to begin our genealogical research program.

We feel that our family organization is just on the threshold of an exciting future, but no organization can be stronger than its financial backing. Please send your dues and any contributions to DEAN S. COOK our Financial Vice-President. His address is:

P.O. Box 557  
Centerville, Utah 84014

### FAMILY MEMBERS NOW SERVING ON L.D.S. MISSIONS

ALLEN LITSTER and WIFE: President of the Andes Mission, S.A.  
RANDY WORKMAN, son of Isaac D. and Uneva Workman now in language training at Provo, goes to Central American Mission. (10)  
MICHAEL HARDY, son of Joseph and Viola Hardy, is in the Gulf States Mission. (10)  
SYBIL JOY COOK, daughter of Melvin Alonzo Cook of Rigby, Idaho, is serving in the Wichita, Kansas area. (7)  
LEWIS MELVIN BIRD, son of Mrs. Rozella C. Bird, is serving in Indio, California. (8)  
KENT COOK, son of Leo Vernon and Donna Cook, is in the field--location not given. (7)  
GEORGE VERNON SOUTH, son of George J. and Melba Eastman South is serving in the Northern States Mission. (19)  
DENNIS LAVARR JONES, son of Bill and Donna Jones of Great Falls, Montana, is serving in the Irish Mission. (6)  
WILLIAM KEITH COOK, son of William Preston Cook, is in the Norwegian Mission.  
WILFORD FLUCKIGER AND WIFE CLELLA left in April for mission in Australia. (26)  
LOREN DUKE, son of Melvin Duke, serving in the French Mission. (18)  
ANTHONY OSMOND COOK, JR., son of Grant Osmond and Hazel Hartvigsen Cook of Los Angeles, California, serving in the French East Mission. (15)  
SHARON HAZEL COOK, daughter of Grant Osmond and Hazel Hartvigsen Cook, Los Angeles, California, serving in the Central German Mission. (15)

## REMINISCENCE

Phineas Wolcott Cook led a busy, active life and did a great deal to conquer the desert conditions and build a better community environment wherever he went. We know that he did not work alone, for among those who shared in his responsibilities were four faithful, valiant women who stood by his side and bore their tasks equally well. The extent of their work, however, may not be known to most of us. It might be thought worthy of consideration that we record in these newsletters incidents that relate to these women which reveal traits of character that will assist us in knowing them better.

When Alonzo Lake Cook was a small child, he was playing around the kitchen only scantily dressed when a kettle of boiling water was accidentally spilled on him, burning him badly. His grandmother Ann Eliza took care of him immediately, removing his small shirt and other clothing, peeling skin from his body with it. The little fellow was placed on a pillow, and for many days the faithful grandmother cared for him. She used her own remedies, tenderly and lovingly applying them, praying always for guidance from her Father in Heaven and doing all she did with such care and devotion that the small child remembered her comforting and solicitous kindness as long as he lived.

(By Maude O. Cook, wife of Alonzo Laker Cook)

### FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Olive K. Neilson, a daughter of Phoebe Irene Cook and Byron Harvey Allred Sr., passed away at the home of her son in Victor, Montana, early in September, 1969. On September 5th, the Deseret News printed the following tribute to her: "Fortunately for humanity, that rare person comes along occasionally who has so much love it flows out to everyone--the handicapped as well as the able.

Such a person was Olive K. Neilson. The impact of her work was to change substantially people's attitudes toward the mentally retarded and multiple handicapped child until now educators, legislators and doctors no longer refer to feeble-minded children as idiots, imbeciles or morons. There is now at least hope that every child will have a chance to develop to his fullest potential.

Pioneering is often a lonely road. Certainly it must have been so with mentally retarded children. But that one lonely Opportunity Center Mrs. Neilson started in her own home in 1954 has grown to 14 day-care training centers in Utah alone, as well as many along a similar pattern throughout the United States. Her death this week is a grievous loss to the cause of the handicapped child. But certainly the seeds she sowed have been bounteous beyond even her far-sighted imagination."

In addition to her public service, Olive has written many poems and songs (both words and music). We are proud of her fine contributions.

### OUR GROWING POSTERITY

KEVIN CHALL COOK, son of Chall D. and Annette Cook of Price, Utah, born 18 March 1970. (9)\*  
LASCA DIANE DITTO, daughter of Gerald and Marjorie Ditto of Helena, Montana, born 19 July 1969. (6)  
CYNDEE RACHELLE MADSEN, adopted daughter of James Mark Madsen and Linda Lee McCann Madsen of Great Falls, Montana, born 2 October 1969. (26)  
MICHAEL WEBER, son of Norman and Nancy Taylor Weber of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 27 February 1970. (15)  
ROBERT FLYNN BIRKINSHAW, son of Charles Lynn and Connie Deane Hunsaker Birkinshaw of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 26 June 1970. (15)  
A baby son born 9 July 1970 to Lloyd J. and Verna Spackman Butters of Sandy, Utah. (18)  
A baby daughter born to Jerry and JoAnn South Ottley of Eugene, Oregon, 8 March 1970. (10)  
A baby son born to Blain and Kathy Wagstaff Yorgason of Provo, Utah, 1970. (26)

\* Number accompanying name gives page number on which person is listed in the Posterity Booklet. (cont. on p. 4)

## OUR GROWING POSTERITY (cont.)

JILENE WEBER, daughter of Elden E. and Alice Ann McFarland Weber of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 18 February 1970. (15)  
KENNETH THATCHER ALLRED III, son of Kenneth T. and Ruby Ann Broderick Allred of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 31 October 1969. (11)  
BRUCE ALDER JR., son of Bruce and Vickie Roine Allred of Elko, Nevada, born 1970. (11)  
MONICA OSBORNE, daughter of George T. and Barbara Weber Osborne of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 6 November 1969.  
RICHARD WHITING BENTLEY, son of Anthony Ivans and Wendy Whiting Bentley now in Montevideo, Uruguay, S.A., born 28 November 1969 at Montevideo. (26)  
Baby born to Ivan and Coleen Bryan Cook of Pasco, Washington. 1970. (7)  
ANGELA CHENEY, daughter of Blair and Linda Ricks Cheney of Provo, Utah, born 24 September 1969. (7)  
KEVIN SKINNER, son of Valdean and Naoma Jean Bird Skinner of Idaho Falls, Idaho, born 21 December 1969. (8)  
KAREN BIRD, daughter of James E. and Shirlene Bodily Bird of Idaho Falls, Idaho, born 7 March 1970. (7)  
ALDEN JAY HOLM, son of Robert and JoLinda Fluckiger Holm of Rosemead, California, born 11 January 1970. (26)  
KELLY GEAN FLUCKIGER, son of Kenneth D. and Toni Simmons Fluckiger of Ogden, Utah, born 1969. (26)  
GARY STEPHEN CAPRON, son of Robert and Eva LaRae Fluckiger of Pomona, California, born 29 October 1969. (26)  
VIRGINIA SUE GREENE, daughter of Gilbert W. and Marva Lue Fluckiger Greene of Webster Grove, Missouri, born 25 February 1970. (26)  
DOUGLAS JAY FLUCKIGER, son of DeOrr and Sandra Drake Fluckiger of San Jose, California, born 13 February 1970. (26)  
DERRELL LYMAN SPENCER, son of Derrell D. and Ranae Jessop Spencer of Salt Lake City, Utah, born 31 August 1969. (13)  
PATRICIA KUNZ, daughter of L. Samuel and Manuela Aguilar Kunz of Lehi, Utah, born 11 January 1970. (12)  
LAURA BIRD, daughter of Brent Alvin and Eileen Adkins Bird of Pocatello, Idaho, born 16 April 1970. (7)  
HARVEY LYMAN JESSOP, son of Harvey and Ellen Bronson Jessop of Sandy, Utah, born 10 July 1969. (14)  
FAUNIEL GLEASON, daughter of Jesse R. and Mary Lou Ely Gleason of Fairfield, Montana, born 30 October 1969. (6)  
MICHIEL RENAE HEAGY, daughter of Ebert R. and Beverly Ann Ely Heagy of Providence, Utah, born 6 November 1969. (6)  
KAYCIE DAWN ROBINSON, daughter of R. Wayne and Elizabeth Dawn Ely Robinson of Billings, Montana, born 28 December 1969. (6)

## GRADUATIONS AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

NELDA SUE JONES, daughter of William and Donna Jones of Great Falls, Montana, graduated from high school as a National Honor Student. She will enter college at Rexberg this fall.  
RICHARD JACOBSEN, husband of Susan Pendleton, graduated from Harvard University with a Master's Degree in Business Administration, Spring, 1970. (11)  
BLAIN YORGASON, Provo, son of John Yorgason graduated from BYU, Spring, 1970. He has taken a position as a Seminary teacher at Rexburg, Idaho. (26)  
BRENT YORGASON, son of John Yorgason, graduated from BYU. Has taken position with Walker Bank at Provo as a manager trainee. (26)  
L. GERALD POND, husband of A. Darlene Cook, graduated from BYU, Spring, 1970, in history. He begins a tour of duty with the Navy in the fall. (15)  
HARVEY JESSOP of Sandy, Utah, graduated from the University of Utah in June, 1970 as a chemist. He is employed with the Ireco Chemicals Co., Salt Lake City, Utah. (14)  
STEVEN ZENZ, son of William and Arlene Kunz Zenz of Sparks, Nevada, graduated from the University of Nevada in engineering. He has taken work in Florida. (12)

## NEW FAMILIES SINCE JULY, 1969

LOUISE PENDLETON, daughter of Stewart Rhead and Edwina Allred Pendleton of Salt Lake City, Utah, married Barton D. Smith 12 February 1970. (11)  
MERRILL COOK, son of Melvin Alonzo and Wanda Garfield Cook of Salt Lake City, Utah, married Camille Sanders, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Mervyn Sanders 26 October 1970. (15)  
RICHARD C. WINTERTON, son of Maurine C. Winterton of Salt Lake City, Utah, married Kristin Schoenhals, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin J. Schoenhals 17 June 1970. (15)  
ROBYN CANNING, daughter of Ray R. and Lois C. Canning of Salt Lake City, Utah, married Byron Rice of California 16 August 1969. (15)  
MARGARET LYNN ELY, daughter of Rolland A. and LaRue McCann Ely of Fairfield, Montana, married Thurston D. Harrell Jr. of Tuscomb, Alabama 23 August 1969. (6)  
KENNETH W. OLSEN, son of Earl and Dixie Olsen of Emery, Utah, married Carolyn Hammond 22 November 1969. (9)  
DON WILLIAM COOK, son of Omer and Eva Cook of Orem, Utah, married Sue Martin 18 March 1970. (9)  
WILLAS BLAIR COOK, son of Phineas and Deane Cook of Huntington, Utah, married Terri Rae Birch 14 June 1970. (9)  
ERNEST JOHN JENSEN, son of John Peter and Beverly Jensen of Castle Dale, Utah, married Elenora Klevin 25 April 1970. (8)  
MICHAEL THOMAS McCANN, son of Mrs. Joseph Rorvick (Helen McCann) of Vaughn, Montana, married Cheryl Ann Smith 19 July 1969. (5)  
SHEILA SIMS, daughter of Wayne and Norma Dickson Sims of Roy, Utah, married Stanley J. Porter 14 November 1969. (13)  
DENNIS WILLIAM STACEY, son of William and Velma Dickson Stacey of Provo, Utah, married Delta Lyn Christensen 3 April 1970. (20)  
KARL W. WEBER, son of Mondell and Beth Cannon Weber of Salt Lake City, Utah, married Susanne Erickson 10 April 1970. (15)  
RANAE EASTMAN, daughter of Delmore W. and Leath Bruce Eastman of Woodruff, Utah, married Gary Call 12 June 1970. (19)  
BETTY RAE BIRD, daughter of Alvin and Shirley B. Bird of Idaho Falls, Idaho, married John Orville Avery 15 May 1970. (7)

## SERVICEMEN

Maj. ROLLIN L. BARRUS: Stationed at Army Headquarters in Okinawa. He is working in the field of logistics. He is the son of Lester and Leora Barrus. (25)  
STEPHEN C. TINGEY, son of Willard Tingey, stationed in Georgia. (18)  
LOTHAIR W. PENDLETON, son of Stewart R. and Edwina Pendleton, is a medic in the Air Evacuation Force of the National Guard. (11)  
CHALL D. COOK, son of Phineas C. Cook, recently returned from Vietnam. (9)  
CLARENCE J. EASTMAN, son of Clarence V. and Beth Eastman, now stationed in Vietnam. (19)

**Phineas Wolcott Cook**

FAMILY ORGANIZATION

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