



August 28, 1819 • July 24, 1900

# Phineas Wolcott Cook FAMILY ORGANIZATIO NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2000

## Message from the President

For some time now I have been serving on the *Governor's Commission for Women and Families* in Utah. When Governor Leavitt asked me to accept this appointment, I was very skeptical. I have little expertise in this area and, if you were to ask my wife, she would probably tell you that the "little expertise" is mighty little or none at all!

As I devoted the time necessary to bring myself up to speed on the subject I began to learn a great deal about the recent history of "the family", particularly in western society. Within the last forty [40] years, the family has anguished from neglect and lack of focus as "the" basic organizational and governmental structure of mankind. Many different reasons can be pointed to as the primary cause for this; but the result has been a *loss of commitment and interest* on the part of the *sibling* members to the basic family unit.

Although our organization was never intended to be a "Political Action Committee" we must consider the future and our children.

Because of this change, major organizations have begun to appear whose primary focus is the destruction, or at least, the restructuring of the family unit. The thousands of years that comprise the genealogy of human society is now under siege; if not by a direct frontal attack from these organizations. I was *Shocked* and I hope you will be too by the directness and boldness of this endeavor. As an example of this;

*'The International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), based in Brussels, Belgium, has put a full-court press on the United Nations to implement an additional UN Charter just for homosexuals. Based on a 15-year strategic plan to "eliminate all discrimination and oppression against LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transsexual] people by the year 2015 everywhere on this planet," ILGA wants, as one of the plan's components, to get the UN to adopt a homosexual UN Convention by 2007.'*

"The Human Rights Campaign/Political Action Committee, the largest pro-homosexual PAC in the United States, had a 91 percent win rate in 1998. HRC/PAC spent \$400,000 to endorse 150 pro-homosexual candidates nationwide. Their goal for the 2000 elections is contributing over \$1 million while focusing on 30 key races." During the last three years. It

has been a delight to see the rise of pro-family organizations to counter these destructive elements, one of them, **THE WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES** can be reached at: <http://www.worldcongress.org>, they need your help. A third World Congress of Families has been called for the year 2002. The date and location have yet to be announced. For a second time, the World Family Policy Center (formerly NGO Family Voice at Brigham Young University) will join The Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society in convening A World Congress of Families III. Allan C. Carlson and Richard G. Wilkins will continue to serve as the General Secretariat.

*"Today, however, certain social, political and economic forces threaten the natural family, tearing the social fabric at local, national and international levels. Under slogans such as "modernity," "globalization," and "progress," and in the name of "Civil Society," these forces have weakened the bonds between husband and wife, parent and child, and the generations. These ideologies deny the natural origin and status of the family, the equal but complementary roles of men and women, the miracle of human fertility and procreation, the dignity and worth of every human person, and the autonomy of the family itself. The family, which develops and sustains not only individuals but all larger communities, has been subordinated to the agendas of pressure groups, ignored by economic decision-makers, and subjected to social experimentation".*

Please join with me in lending your support to the preservation of the family and in doing so help to assure that our family will continue over another millennium. We do this initially by strengthening our own individual family groups. As we accomplish this we will be reminded that *"...nothing can compensate for failure in the home [family]."*

It is a day of courage, devotion, and commitment. Our children must see us as warriors in the struggle for family survival. Success in worldly things will never compensate for a shattered family.

As we are waiting for the Family website to be completed let us reflect on the purpose of this organization. Should these forces succeed in altering the focus of the family where will our families be in the future, and what of the past?

Join with me, and contact the WCF. Please pledge your support to [1] your family, [2] our family, and [3] the world family.

G.A. Cook

## DESCENDING PEDIGREE UPDATE

We have made great progress in the last year in gathering information for a new Descending Pedigree Chart (DPC). We estimate that there are over 9,000 descendants of Phineas and his 4 wives. We have about 4,500 names gathered now and Annalee Kennedy (PWC1-14-2-3-7) has put about 3,000 of these into the PAF program to prepare for printing of the chart. We still need to get the other 4,500 names to complete our chart.

If you have not been contacted for the information, please help us by contacting your representative listed in the family organization below. We would like to complete this information as soon as possible.

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**Savage Family**

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**Child #7: Phoebe Irene COOK Allred**

Larry Cook Allred

Vacant

447 North 200 East

Farmington, Utah 84025

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Mondel C. WEBER

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Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

**Child #12: Henry Howland COOK**

Carol COOK Stokes

4772 South 2025 West

Roy, Utah 84067

Roka TINGY Raymond

819 Healy Street

Ogden, Utah 84403

**Child #14: William COOK**

Max Cook Dixon

9921 Sego Lily Drive

Sandy, UT 84070

Vacant

**Child # 16: Hyrum Howland COOK**

Ron & Mary Ann Stamm

1383 David

Syracuse, UT 84075

Bruce J. COOK

7323 Hickory Hill

Salt Lake City, UT 84121

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## WHY MICHIGAN?

*In 1836 Phineas Cook finally gave up settling all his debts, and sold all his land in Goshen, Connecticut to move west. What caused him to go to Michigan, and what did he find there?*

Early Pilgrims and Puritans in America could have land without cost as long as they utilized it wisely. This land was passed from father to son, but after a generation or two there wasn't enough land for the sons. The sons moved to free land opening in New Hampshire or Connecticut. So it was with our family.

*Henry Cook lived in Salem, Massachusetts; his son Samuel moved to New Haven and then to Wallingford, Connecticut.*

Samuel's sons Samuel Jr., Ephraim, Isaac and John stayed in the Wallingford and Cheshire area of New Haven County. Israel moved to Vermont and his children moved to several towns in northeastern New York. Joseph (our ancestor) was one of the original settlers in the last county in Connecticut to be settled: Litchfield. However, by 1740 the land was no longer free. It was sold by large sections to land developers who sold the plots to the highest bidders. Eventually they joined the westward movement. Joseph's grandson Philip moved to southeastern New York and great-grandson Phineas moved to Michigan.

As the need for more land became pressing, land developers began buying up pieces of land further west, making treaties with the Indians on that land, and hiring surveyors to cut roads through the wilderness to facilitate travel. Land in southeastern New York and Ohio became available very early (Joseph Smith moved his family to Ontario County, New York in 1815.)

*Because of the threat from the British and Indians in central and western New York, settlers were afraid of the Genesee Country until the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.*

With the purchase of the Genesee Country late in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, more settlers began moving in, including many from Litchfield County. When Joseph and Elizabeth (Cook) Peters moved to Genesee County New York in 1826, (about 30 miles from Palmyra) there was a whole colony of Litchfield County transplants waiting for them. In fact, it must have seemed as much like home as home. We know these old friends stayed together because they are buried together in one corner of the Darien Cemetery and because there was a great deal of intermarriage between their families.

*Michigan in the early part of the century was almost as formidable.*

Michigan was nothing more than stretch of vast swamps surrounded with forests and no roads except Indian trails. And since the Indians were still using those trails, few settlers dared venture in. However, after a treaty was made with the Indians, the Erie Canal opened in 1825. Settlers could travel down Lake Erie on steam boats, and Michigan became a destination.

*The fares were certainly reasonable enough: The steamboat trip took only 2 or 3 days (though Phineas Wolcott was 7 days in a storm), and cost about \$15. The barge down the Erie Canal cost only a cent and a half a mile, and since he whole trip from Albany to Buffalo was 325 miles, it was about \$5.*

By the 1830's it became simple for a man of reasonable means to purchase a small piece of land for himself and his family and transport them by waterway to the new territory. By the time Phineas was looking for a place to transplant his family, land was sold in plots as small as 80 acres for \$1.25 per acre in the new state of Michigan.

Such liberal policies as this contributed to a phenomenal influx of settlers. In 1818, the same year as public land sales began in Michigan, the first Buffalo to Detroit steamer was introduced on Lake Erie carrying a total of 29 passengers. By 1822 there were 94 passengers; and by 1825 there were six steamers.

*Soon so many travelers were coming to the new territory, more steamers were brought in. In one six-week period in 1830, 2,400 passengers bought passage from Buffalo to Detroit and the next year 900 passengers bought tickets in one day. By 1836 there were 90 steamers on Lake Erie.*

It was the next year that Phineas Wolcott and Daniel came on a steamer, and because of the new train line they went to Toledo. Nevertheless, from Tecumseh to Richland, Kalamazoo County, where their father was living, was 100 miles of difficult travel for Daniel and Phineas Wolcott. Phineas records having blisters on his feet at the end, and no doubt it was not so much from walking but from hauling the wagon out of mud pits, pulling it over fallen logs and stumps, and slipping and sliding over corduroy roads made by laying logs side by side through the swamp. No wonder he complained of fever and ague in that malarial swamp!

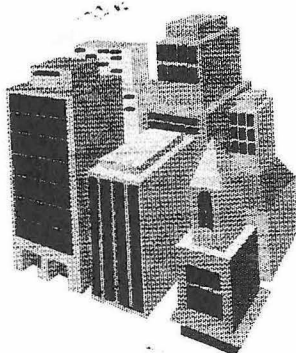
But Michigan proved to be a good home for the Cooks, and Phineas died on that land in 1848. Several of his children are buried nearby and in surrounding counties; and at least one descendant of Darius, Phineas Wolcott's older brother has been located in the area.

\*Documentation on file JSP

# The Search for Henry Cooke

On October 29, 1638, Henry Cooke, a butcher, was admitted as an inhabitant by the city fathers of Salem, Massachusetts. He was immediately granted land adjacent to the site of the old fort where the church had been built. The site of his house still exists, but in the center of Salem just south of Essex on Washington Street.

Information about where he was born has been non-existent. Several leads have led nowhere. Henry Cook has been lost for 400 years.



Recently Pres. Quentin L. Cook (PWC2-01-03-03-02) passed on an interesting bit of information. Pres. Cook is serving as President of the Pacific Islands Area for the LDS Church and may not have time to do genealogical research, but where there's a will, there's a way. Pres. Cook served a mission in Great Britton. On a visit to his former mission field and knowing of our problem finding Henry, he checked several sources and found that there were a lot of Cook(e)s in the Doncaster area and many of them were in the butchering trade. One day he found something written by a descendant of a Henrye Cooke from Doncaster, Yorkshire, England, born about 1615. Something clicked in Pres. Cook's head.

Something clicked in Elder Cook's head.

The follow-up on his lead has turned up some very interesting information. There is indeed a Henrye Cooke born in Doncaster on June 29, 1613, son of Simon Cooke, a butcher. Simon and Barbara Caiton had about a dozen children in that little parish. He had a butcher shop which he rented, leaving behind himself several records and transactions.

It will take time to find if this is really our Henry Cook. A list of records has been made which would be

helpful in proving this theory. However, most of them are in Latin and I don't read Latin. Letters need to be written and internet research could help.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP FIND HENRY?

- ✓ Volunteer to look through a film at the Family History Library or your Stake Library.
- ✓ If you read "old writing" or "Latin", please volunteer to help.
- ✓ Do an internet search to find other people who are looking for Henry. We'll send you the information you need.
- ✓ Enter the data on the computer.

Contact Janet Porter as soon as possible:  
801-226-8094  
Janetsp@Juno.com

## UTAH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization has formed an alliance with the Utah Genealogical Association (UGS) and will be teaching a class at their Convention in Salt Lake City this September.

The UGS will be ailing brochures to our family members this summer advertising the convention in September 2000.

To avoid concerns by family members regarding our mailing list we feel it important to inform you that we have not and will not provide them or anyone else with our mailing list. We picked up their brochures and labeled them ourselves and then gave them to the UGS for mailing.

We encourage you to take advantage of this outstanding convention if you can. We will also keep you posted on their future activities.

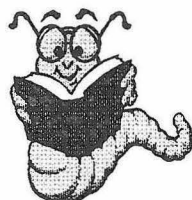
## COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Change in the DPC number to a true binomial number. Discussion on descending and ascending pedigree numbering systems to be used by the organization that will not have any duplications. Simplicity!



## RECORD KEEPER CORNER

Concerned about preservation of paper documents?  
Consider the following:



I'd like to eat  
your pictures

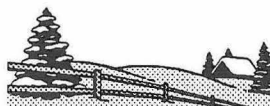
- \*Use acid-free adhesives and labels  
(Most glue-sticks are acid-free)  
(Use photo-mounting corners,  
Or mounting squares)
- \*Unfold creased documents
- \*Display documents in sheet protectors
- \*Test documents for acidity with pH  
pencil
- \*Soak newspapers in soda water
- \*Use Acid-free storage
  - Envelopes
  - Folders
  - Pocket pages
  - Boxes
  - Sheet protectors
- \*Make storage copies of data
  - Computer diskettes
  - Microfilm, microfiche  
(Address available)
  - Documents
- \*Protect document storage
  - 60-70 degrees temperature
  - 40-50% humidity
  - From insects
  - From strong light, dust, dirt
  - From moisture
  - From hazards (near water  
Heater, furnace, etc.)
  - From water leaks
- \*Use acid-free paper
  - To publish
  - For personal histories
  - For family histories
  - Copies of documents
  - Copies of news articles
- \*Identify documents:
  - reverse side on border
  - high carbon ink
  - accountant, archival,  
or legal pen
- \*Store copies of data
  - with relatives
  - in portable fire-proof  
security box
  - documents in flat position
  - documents between  
acid-free sheets
  - typed copy with  
hard-to-read copy
  - computer diskettes upright
- \*Avoid
  - mixing documents  
with photos
  - laminating documents
  - cellophane tape
  - adhesive tape
  - rubber cement
  - White glue
  - Elastic bands
  - Paper clips and pins (rust)
  - Hard pencils
  - Plastic materials
  - Magnetic document albums

"This and more information can be found in the  
following:

Genealogy Fundamentals  
by Laureen R. Jaussi  
Jaussi Publications  
284 East 400 South  
Orem, Utah 84058

## THE QUESTION:

Where is the pond in  
PHINEAS WOLCOTT COOK'S HISTORY?



The family farm in Goshen  
was a wonderful memory.

Growing up in Connecticut was  
one of the delights in Phineas  
Wolcott Cook's memory.  
Nowhere in his journal was  
there such a description as that  
of his boyhood home in

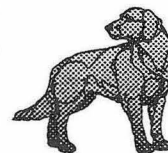
Goshen as anyone who has been to New England will  
understand. He mentioned several landmarks  
specifically to direct his descendants to that boyhood  
home should they ever find themselves in the  
neighborhood.

One of these landmarks was the "large oval  
topped rock" about 12 rods in circumference west and  
south of the house at the edge of a stand of maple  
trees. Phineas mentioned that his Grandfather  
Jonathan Churchill told him the many cracks and  
seams in this large rock came as a result of the  
crucifixion of Christ, which shows us their religious  
nature.

Joseph Cook bought land in 1740 as one of  
the original settlers when Goshen was opened for  
settlement by the citizens of Wallingford and New  
Haven. He bought a house at the top of a hill two miles  
north of the town which later became known as Town  
Hill because many believed its elevation would  
eventually make it the center of town.

## DOG POND

Phineas Wolcott spent many hours fishing in  
the pond north of the hill which became known as Dog  
Pond. At the north side of Town Hill (is) Dog Pond. This  
pond received its name (when) Deacon Nathaniel  
Baldwin of the north part of town, lost  
his dog there by drowning as he was  
laying out lands in the fall of  
1838 ...Just before the bottom of the  
hill, we see a sawmill, a little at our right  
on the south side of the road, which is  
supplied with water taken by a small  
canal...from Dog Pond."<sup>2</sup>



Baldwin's dog  
drowned here.

Phineas described fishing from a long linen  
string which had been threaded with worms by using a  
broom straw and then looped and lowered into the  
water at the end of a long pole. When a fish bit one of  
the worms, the fisherman jerked it out of the water to be  
grabbed by one of the boys nearby whose hands had  
been coated with sawdust. The streams and ponds  
provided all the fishing they wanted in summer, but only

the pond could be fished in winter: "The ice was so thick it caused a great deal of labor to cut holes, but when it was done we generally got our pay for our trouble in fish." Perch and pickerel, delicious when baked, were still plentiful in Dog Pond in 1900."<sup>3</sup>



Ice was sawed for summer milk

The same ice was sawed and hauled by teams and wagons to ice houses to keep summer milk and cheese cold, and no doubt the Cooks, who lived closer to it than any

other family, hauled plenty of it to their ice house to be store in sawdust for summer.

#### THE MILL

Both Phineas Wolcott in his Journal and the Land Records show that the mill was jointly owned with a neighbor. The mill and the land along the bank of Dog Pond stayed in the family for four generations, but in 1809 hard times hit the family. Daniel's ill health resulting from his seven years' service in the Revolutionary War finally took their toll, and he died at the age of 49. His land passed into the hands of his two sons at his death; and the mill irons for the sawmill were a part of Daniel's Probate. "Amasa had the old mansion (Joseph's) and Phineas or father had the new place (Daniel Sr.'s) each valued at about \$3,000 (and) they went into business together."<sup>4</sup>

In 1836 it all went to Uncle Moses who was collecting all the interest and all the money anyway.

#### THE MILL AND POND SOLD

The Moses Cooks stayed in Goshen for several generations. When he died in 1841, his property was valued at 665 acres with buildings at \$24,323.37 with over \$12,000.00 owed him in debts, and over \$6,000 in bank stock left to an unmarried daughter Elizabeth to take care of her mother.<sup>5</sup> One would think his family would be well established, but by the time his sons died, the land was not in the family.

Finally Dog Pond was recognized for its recreation value: "Dog Pond (60 acres) between Beach St. and Town Hill Road is surrounded by farms, summer cottages and camps." In 1929 100 acres were purchased from Louis Wheeler for a boy scout camp. "This had originally been the Moses Cook Farm. In 1975 the Town of Goshen bought and converted the property into a recreation area, (now used for summer camps, picnics, sports for the town)."<sup>6</sup>

(Documentation on file-JSP)

(1) Hughes, A. H., Connecticut Place Names, p. 186-188.

(2) Lewis, J.W., History of Litchfield County, Ct., 1881.

(3) Cook, Phineas Wolcott, Journal, p. 8.

(4) Town of Goshen, "Goshen, Connecticut, A Town Above All Others, p. 182.

(5) Cook, Phineas Wolcott, Journal, p. 5.

(6) Goshen Land Records No. 143, Oct 2, 1836.

(7) Connecticut Probate #1629, 1841.

(8) Goshen, A Town Above All Others, Phoenix Publishers, p. 159.

### IRWIN CALDER COOK

Irwin Calder Cook was born 27 April 1899, to Henry Howland Cook and Genett Calder in Woodruff, Rich County, UT. He was the eighth child in a family of ten children. Irwin was a lively youngster and liked to tease. He had many pleasant, childhood recollections of his home life in Woodruff, and "Irv" especially enjoyed freighting with his older brother Lorin from Woodruff to Bear Lake and Evanston.

The Cook family moved to Murray, UT where they operated a fish hatchery. Irwin attended school in the granite District where he was tutored by J. Spencer Cornwall and Adam S. Bennion. He won some awards in manual arts.

His father purchased a ranch at Tikura, ID, (8 miles south of Carey, ID) and Irwin, who helped with the sheep, arrived in Tikura in 1917.

In Carey, he fell in love with Ina Rose Pyrah, and they were married in Shoshone, Lincoln County, ID, 12 July 1921, and were later sealed in the Salt Lake Temple on 28 Nov 1923. They spent their honeymoon herding sheep in the Henry-Soda Springs-Caribou, Idaho and Freedom, WY, area. The depression and perhaps some unwise business dealings wrecked his father financially and most everything was lost. Irwin was allowed to buy the horse which he rode and used, but in order to have the horse, he had to ride him from the aforementioned area to Tikura via American Falls Reservoir across the wide, dry desert to Tikura on Silver Creek.

Irwin liked to dance and he and Ina attended many dances and everyone enjoyed exchanging dances with the lively couple. Irwin was a good baseball player and played on several teams at Tikura and Carey. He was also a good footracer.

He liked good horses and broke and trained horses while ranching. Some of the teams could trot the eight miles to Carey with little effect on them. He sold one team to Sun Valley, ID and they pulled Alice Faye in the queen's carriage.

One year the payment on the ranch could not be met and all the previous investments were lost. Irwin and Ina and family courageously started over.

Irwin and Ina had five children in this order: Lynden Garth, 31 Mar 1923; Melvin Pyrah, 17 Apr 1925; Kenneth LaMar, 26 Mar 1927; Irwin Pyrah, 2 Jun 1932; Carol Marie, 18 Oct 1936. Melvin and Irwin died in infancy.

Irwin was not always active in the church in his youth, but he neither smoked nor drank, and he was respected for his honest dealings. Many times in

water short years on Silver Creek, other people's headgates were locked; Irwin's was left open.

Bishop Eldon Adamson chose Irwin as a counselor, and they worked hard to build a recreational hall and remodel the chapel in Carey. Irwin was an enthusiastic worker and donated very unselfishly to the building funds. He also donated unselfishly to every missionary that served from the Carey Ward. From this point, the late 1930's, the family was church-centered.

Irwin served in several church capacities besides the bishopric. He was Blaine Stake YMMIA President and High Priest Group Leader in the Carey Ward for years.

He served many years on the Tikura School Board and then later as the Clerk of the Blaine County School Board.

In 1945, with both of his boys in the Armed Forces, he was kicked in the face by a horse and nearly died. Both cheek bones and jawbones were broken, many of his teeth were knocked out, it took many stitches to close his chin and throat as well as having his mouth and jaws wired shut for several weeks. He also suffered a concussion. He made a remarkable recovery and Dr. Fox said it was a testimony of the strong, healthy condition of his body.

The family was known as a very close-knit, loving family. Ina died in 1957 and on August 9, 1962 Irwin married Loena Mae Decker Randell of Twin Falls. Garth, who had farmed with his father for many years and was Bishop of the Carey Ward, tried to buy the home ranch but Irwin would not sell to him; so Garth, Iris and family moved to the old John Baird place north of Carey Lake. Ken married Karma Gardner and lives in West Point, UT. Carol married Joseph Stokes and resides in Roy, UT. The children remain devoted to each other and keep in close touch. Irwin sold the ranch and moved to Twin Falls, ID.

(Written by Ken Cook)

Added Note: Irwin passed away April 27, 1979, his 80th Birthday, and is buried in the Carey, Idaho Cemetery. Ken passed away on May 17, 1997 and is also buried in the Carey Cemetery.

## **ERMA RUBY BARNEY BRAACK**

Erma Ruby Barney Braack was born January 15, 1915, the only child of Herbert Loren and Lily Eliza Cook Barney in the midst of a cold winter storm in Ruby City, Nevada.

Life was never easy for this daughter of God. From the time she was little with long brown braids and freckles, she helped in earning an income with her family by doing migrant labor, including baking, sewing, and selling items. She begged to have 4 years in one place to complete high school. Her

parents granted her wish and the family settled near South Bend, Washington. She graduated from South Bend High School in 1934 as co-valedictorian.

She met Bert Warren Braack in high school, and married him shortly thereafter on April 20, 1935.

She told her children that while at the doctor's office, when dad was in the room, a scroll appeared over his head saying "This is the man you are going to marry". This story has been a source of inspiration to all of us from the first time we heard it. Not long after she married, her mother died, which left a void in her life thereafter. Erma longed for children of her own from the day she married. She pleaded with Heavenly Father to grant her this righteous desire. Years past, and Bert and Erma raised three of Bert's nieces and adopted one son, Richard. However, Erma still wanted to bear children of her own. After much sacrifice, she had an operation that helped fulfill that wish. The doctor told her she could have three children, but that they needed to be born close together. At age 35, she had her first child, Forest. Forest was a joy so great to her - this beautiful curly red headed baby was born October 30, 1949. Next, she gave birth to 2 girls, Writa May born on August 30, 1951 and Calla Elaine, born September 4, 1952.

These births were so easy for her, she prayed for one more child, who was a girl, Letha, born April 9, 1954. Letha's birthing was nearly fatal for Mom, however. She was told to stay in bed, from where she directed the household duties and trained several young women to care for her children and home.

Erma stood by her husband's side while they ran a small logging business in western Washington.

Erma and Bert built their home on the property her father owned near South Bend. They lived there for 35 years. Logging is one of the most hazardous occupations in the U.S. When Bert was 60, he was severely hurt in a logging accident. After trying to return to work, Bert and Erma decided to move to Utah so Dad would not have to be near the forests that he loved and worked in for so long. Erma became employed by a small city near BYU in Provo. Bert worked in different occupations, but was frequently hospitalized for injuries that resulted from his accident. As their years advanced, Writa helped them move to Springfield, MO, so she could be close to them. She was a great comfort to them in their later years. Bert and Erma loved to garden, and spent countless hours growing, harvesting, and preserving food from their garden. Gardening is not an economical activity for most working people, but sure is a great way to build a relationship. In those last months of Dad's life, he had multiple hospital stays, and this was not pleasant or easy for Mom. Finally, Dad died in February of 1989. Within five years of Dad's death, Mom could not care completely for herself, and she moved into a nursing home in Springfield.

Erma was recognized for her artistic talents. She painted many beautiful pictures during the time



she lived in Utah and Missouri, and wrote many articles which were published nationally in various journals. She also shared these talents with her grandchildren and wrote children's books which she gave them as gifts.

Erma exemplified charity in her choices and actions. She gave of herself with her talents in many church callings and in the community. She gave to others in need, sometimes when it hurt. Her family was of the greatest import to her - she spent hours making gift items which were especially appreciated in lean years.

Erma loved unconditionally, and everyone who knew her could feel this love. Her children always knew not matter what they had done that she loved them. She spent her complete life in service to others. She felt great sorrow through the many trials that came in her lifetime, yet she continued to be a center of strength to those who knew and depended on her - she always brought great joy to them and taught them well.

Erma died September 15, 1996 and is survived by 5 children, 3 foster nieces, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

## **NEED HELP WRITING A FAMILY HISTORY?**

Do you need help with your Autobiography or Family History? Would it help you to have advice from a successful author?

The Cook family is loaded with talent in all fields. One of these very talented members is Shirley PHIPPEN Sealy (PWC1-10-12-3) author of some 13+ "church novels". In an interview she said "I don't consider myself a writer, but a storyteller". Shirley was the first author (storyteller) in the last 50 years to write a church related novel. It was such a huge success that it started a landslide of church novels that have had a very positive impact on youth and adults alike. Two other family members, Blaine (PWC1-3-2-2-3-1) and Brendon (PWC1-3-2-2-3-3) Yorgason have joined the ranks of popular authors.

Shirley Sealy has offered to critique and give writing suggestions to family members. She has stated that she "would like to help organize the material to make it more interesting and not just informative". If you are interested, send a draft copy of your Family History or autobiography (or a portion of it) to the family organization (see address on the newsletter) and she will review it and correspond with you. Please include your address, and also an e-mail address if you have one.

This is a fantastic opportunity and we encourage you to take advantage of it.

## **?? WHAT PRICE PROGRESS ??**

The P. W. Cook Family Organization, a tax-exempt corporation, is endeavoring to meet the current demands of changing technology, not just to be doing the "IN" thing, but to take advantage of the technology provided by the Lord for Family History research. We want to be able to provide more and better services to the family. We will launch a new, premium quality web site that should make more information available to the members of the family as well as to attract interest from others not directly related to us. The web site should generate a great opportunity to get in touch with those who are researching our lines and will be willing to exchange information. Many of them will be people we have never had contact with before and will have access to information that we have not had the opportunity to research.

The Officers of the organization are committed to underwrite these expenses ourselves if this becomes necessary to meet the goals and commitments of the organization and the research needs of the family. However, we feel that this is still a family responsibility and that the family wants this work to move forward. The suggested annual donation was raised to \$10.00 per family in 1976. We have been operating for 24 years without an increase in dues. However, the additional services we are now preparing to provide to the family will require more finances. It is not our desire to raise dues, but to get more members to pay the dues. Therefore, we are asking that each family (who can afford to do so) send in the suggested minimum donation of \$10.00. We are asking those who can afford more and feel impressed to make larger donations to do so. If you have any question in your mind whether this is the right thing to do, ask the Lord for a confirmation. This is the work that He has asked us to do. **Remember, the Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization is a tax-exempt corporation. Your monetary donations are tax deductible, and every penny is spent for research and organization expenses. No one receives a salary or monetary benefit of any kind.**

We appreciate those who have continued to support the organization over the years. We would welcome offers to work in the organization. We are also asking for feedback from you to know how we can be of greater service to the family.



## EDITOR GOES ON LDS MISSION

We lost our Newsletter Editor to an LDS Mission. I'm not complaining, I think it is great! I would be happy if someone would volunteer to take the responsibility as Editor though.

Doris and Sterling Astin have been called to the England London South Mission. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> for her and the 8<sup>th</sup> for him. They have been together on 2 missions before this to England, 2 to Hawaii, 1 at the Jerusalem Center, and 1 in Canada. They were also on one for 6 months in Santiago, Chili and were then transferred to Vancouver, B.C. Canada. She said "they have been fantastic". They will be serving as the Mission Secretary and account and do proselyting in the evenings and on weekends. The Mission Home is located on the temple grounds. What dedication and love for the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We wish them well.

## WHERE IS THAT DIARY?

We are interested in old family diaries. We would like to publish them and make them available to all family members.

We understand that Joseph Wolcott Cook (PWC3-1) kept a diary that is very excellent diary. I remember an newsletter article written years ago about him and it was one of the most fascinating articles we have ever printed. I'm sure his diary would very special reading. If you know who has this diary, please let us know.

Also, if you know of any old family diaries or some good family histories that we could look at for publication, please let us know. We have so many special people in this family, who have accomplished so much. We would like to get to know them better.

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## ORDER FORM

All prices include postage

The following items are available for your use and enjoyment from the  
Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization  
467 West 2400 South  
Bountiful, Utah 84010

Gentlemen, I am enclosing money for the following:

1. P. W. Cook Diary \_\_\_\_\_ copies @ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Single copies - \$6.00 each  
2-6 copies - \$4.50 each  
7-12 copies - \$4.00 each
2. Video (42 minutes) on the Life of P. W. Cook  
\_\_\_\_\_ videos @ 12.00 each (Postage incl.) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Cook Ancestral Tour Guides \$5.00 each (4 or more \$4.00 each)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wallingford, Connecticut \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Salem, Massachusetts \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ State of New York \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ State of Utah \_\_\_\_\_
4. Other Items  
\_\_\_\_\_ Family Fireside Stories - Book I @ \$7.50 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ PAF 3.0 Diskette of 65 verified Ancestor \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Families @ \$5.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 1/2 or \_\_\_\_\_ 5 1/4 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Organizational Dues (Suggested "Tax Exempt")  
Donation - \$10.00 per family) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductible)  
Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Line \_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Eliza Howland Family Line \_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Polly Savage Family Line \_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine McCleve Family Line \_\_\_\_\_  
Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: Web Site, equipment, etc. \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

I would be willing to work on the following committees:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Family History Committee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Research Committee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Record Verification Committee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Preparation of PAF Descending Pedigree Charts  
\_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter/Mailing Committee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Distribution Committee

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Phineas Wolcott Cook**  
Family Organization  
467 West 2400 South  
Bountiful, Utah 84010

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