



Phineas Wolcott Cook Newsletter

Phineas W. Cook Family Organization

March, 2013

Cook-o-Rama Speaker Gives insights Into Life of Phineas W. Cook

Joseph W. Cook was the featured speaker at the annual Cook-O-Rama last fall, giving insights into the overlooked strengths and qualities of Phineas Wolcott Cook. All attending were enriched, and our bond of love and respect was strengthened.

Phineas Wolcott Cook was a very honorable and honest man.

Never in his life did he give less than an honest day's work for a day's pay. In fact, he was more likely to give more than asked. He began to work at age seventeen to pay his mother back the \$36 he owed her for his transportation to Michigan. Another time he injured himself and had to board with his sister Eliza and her husband Salmon Hall. He then had to figure out a way to pay for his board by working for Salmon after he got well.

During all this time, Phineas never expected anyone to give him what he could do for himself. Over and over in Goshen, Utah, he counseled the Saints to be honest with each other, and not to expect to receive something for no effort.

He was obedient no matter how difficult it was.

He heard in December 1845 that the saints would gather, and began immediately to obey that counsel. His

brother-in-law Salmon Hall planned to go with him; but when Salmon backed out, Phineas simply set out with his little family alone. Even when his parents took his wheat and other necessary items for the journey, he was obedient. He left, not knowing how he would feed his family, but having faith they would be all right if they did what God asked of them.

Time and again his obedience ethic got him in trouble, as when he made Heber C. Kimball angry because he insisted on keeping irrigation rules.

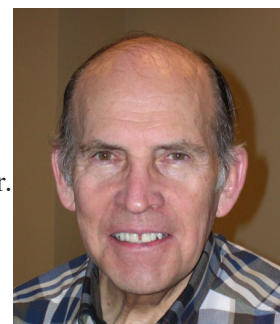
Other times his willingness to do what he was asked inspired others to be less than honest themselves, knowing they could get away with it. At Winter Quarters he almost single-handedly accomplished the work of providing firewood for all the families there, and then learned someone who had shirked his responsibility

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President's Message

Dear Family
Members:

We hope you will enjoy this semi-annual news letter. Every effort is made to provide stories of family mem-



bers who have helped keep the family name and organization active for years, current family research, publications available to purchase to help you learn more about the family and organization, and information and dates of future activities. Please read it, and send us feedback about your impressions or suggestions for future newsletters.

We continue the effort to reduce mailing paper copies of the newsletter by sending some of them by email. The fewer we send by mail helps us to reduce costs and to apply funds to more fruitful efforts.

We continue to have many email newsletters bounce back to us. We understand that persons change email addresses periodically. If you do not

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PWC President Guy Cook

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receive the newsletter because of a changed email, or you learn of other family members who do not, please send updated addresses to Yvonne Peterson at dama463@gmail.com or LaMar Day at lamaraday@gmail.com.

We appreciate the annual dues from those of you who pay them regularly. We encourage those of you who do not pay dues to consider doing so. The \$20 annual dues amount is small, compared to other family organizations, and the dues receipts are put to good use to help functioning of the Family Organization. Each family member should become familiar with the family website. If you are having difficulty opening the website, contact us for information to gain access. You can find the website at www.cookfamily.org.

There is a high probability that we have genealogical information that can help as you write or update your family history. You can send your inquiries to Janet Porter at janetprtr@gmail.com or LaMar Day at lamaraday@gmail.com.

We have need to replace some directors, family organization specialists, and sub organization (Ann Eliza Howland Family) representatives due to age, death, or moving. Serving in one of the capacities can be very helpful to

us and fulfilling to those who choose to participate. Many hands make the effort to perpetuate the Family Organization easier. If you would like to volunteer, please let us know.

There continues to be money available for genealogical research in each line of the four wives. If you are interested, contact Janet or LaMar for more information, and please indicate how you would use a grant of research money.

Best regards,
Guy R. Cook, President

Former PWC President, Gary Alton Cook, Dies

Former Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization president, Gary Alton Cook, died in Salt Lake City on Friday, October 26, 2012. He was 63.

Gary Cook was president from 1998-2001. His father, Alton Dudley Cook, preceded him as President.

Speaking of both Gary and his father Alton, LaMar Day, current PWC vice President said, "Both of them understood the importance and power of a family organization and made things move."

Joseph W. Cook. Great Grandson, Talks about PWC at Cook-O-Rama

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had told Brigham Young Phineas had not worked at all. Even though he had the reputation of being obedient and honest, many found opportunity to cheat Phineas Cook because he was always quietly doing his job..

Phineas had faith his church leaders were spokesmen of God, and was faithful to their counsel.

The classic example of his respect for counsel was in the settlement of Goshen. He repeatedly was counseled by his local leader to stay and help others at Payson and not to go to Goshen, even though Brigham Young had given him permission to do so. In the end it took a personal letter from Brigham Young to convince the bishop at Payson to give permission for the Cooks to leave.

Until then Phineas was obedient to his bishop even though he was being deprived of land of his own.

Later, part of the conflict at Goshen was because he could never understand why some of the brethren didn't want to be obedient. He simply had no tolerance for those who were disrespectful to the church and church leaders. Again, it was easy to take advantage of a man who would honor the counsel of his church leaders, even to his own detriment.

Featured Bookstore Item

The book, *Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook*, is about 200 pages long and contains his journal as well as additional writings and photos. At the beginning of his diary, he says, "My desires are to know my own life and I therefore attempt to pen down such incidents as shall come to my recollection for when I think of the inexperienced rising generation and the acts and the joys and the sorrows of human life I feel stimulated for the good of my posterity that they may learn by these things which I have passed through perhaps to be able to increase in knowledge and wisdom, and profit by the admonitions which I shall give in the course of my history. My object is to lay before my children such things as shall do them good, and shall endeavor to impart as much good instruction as I can." This small book, published in 1980, is a treasure for the ever-growing posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook. It is \$7 at the bookstore.

How to Start Your Family History

Surprised that Missionary Work is being hastened? You should see what's happened to Family History Research! Everything has changed except our ancestors, who still wait... Even your bored teens can get involved on Sunday afternoons. Much can be done from your own computer. You can find information and links for billions of people in many nations. Here are some of the resources:

Begin with some general resources

1. *familysearch.org* On the Home page search for records of ancestors using what little information you have about them. (See below for details).

- Select "learn" on the menu to find the WIKI with articles, maps, guides to research in most countries of the world and links to websites from multi-country archives. Also find tutorials and courses on all aspects of genealogical research in various parts of the world.

- Select "indexing" on the top menu to help in producing computer searchable records to be used by everyone. Teens are really good at this.

- Select "family tree" to access the world Family Tree

2. *lds.org* – Resources – Church History – Mormon Pioneers

3. Google - Many individual histories, links, and locality-based websites.

4. Ancestry.com and other subscription websites also available at your local library, at the Salt Lake Family History Center and at the BYU Library.

Search for a name on familysearch.org

1. Log onto familysearch.org.

2. Type in the name of an ancestor, distant cousin or relative of your grandparents. An ancestor born at least 100 years ago may have birth, death and marriage information listed which was previously unavailable. Often pictures, newspaper articles and genealogies are listed. Many ancestors never before documented can now be identified and given vital information from records currently on familysearch.org.

3. Record all information you find. Save links to images or the images themselves. Add what you find as documentation to your P.A.F. file, update the online family tree or e-mail it to Janet Porter so she can add it to the family file for you. (Note you can search the family history Catalogue from the search screen at the familysearch.org web page.)

Search for your families on family tree

If you already have an lds.org account, you can use your user ID and password to sign into the Family Tree feature of familysearch.org.

If you don't have one, sign up on lds.org. You'll need your membership number (available from your Ward Clerk or your temple recommend). You will be asked to enter contact information (email, address, phone.) Teens can do this too.

Finally, Click on "family tree" near the top of the familysearch.org screen. Currently available only to those with an LDS account. (The program new.familysearch is now obsolete).

Your name will appear in pedigree format with ancestors. Navigate through the generations with left and right arrows at the ends of the ancestor boxes or navigate up and down with buttons at the top left of the screen or by dragging the mouse. Zoom in or out using the + and – button.

Goshen Journal Gives Insights Into Phineas

Part 3

By Janet Porter

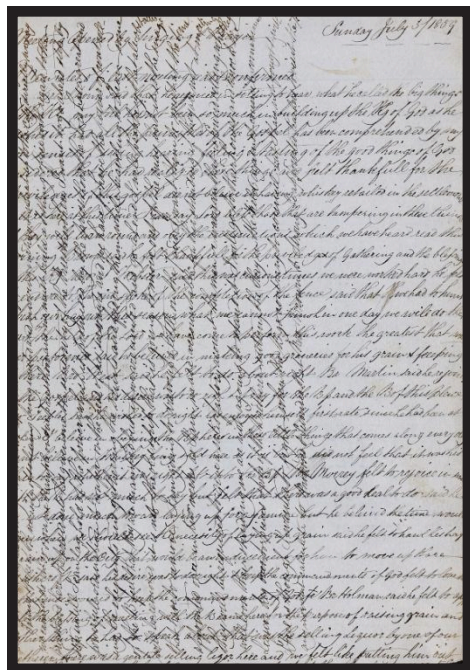
You may remember in 1857 Phineas wrote his Goshen journal on forms he had arranged to have printed. Those claims were for money set aside by the U.S. government after the Indian uprising of 1852-1854 in which many citizens lost property. Phineas wrote between all the lines, filling up all the spaces, and then writing very compactly on the back side. Apparently he had no other paper. When we look at his previous journal we see he used the exact same format: in most cases a new paragraph for a new date, generally written 29th, 31st, or 1st. In that same way he began his Goshen journal two weeks after finishing his first journal, but this time using the blanks he hadn't filled in for Indian claims.

The claim papers were bound together with a sewn string binding, all held together in a bundle except for the first page which is missing. We know it is missing because the first sentence on the existing first page begins in mid-sentence. Many pages of ward minutes are written on loose claim papers. He couldn't afford to waste anything. Several months after the Goshen Ward had been organized, he proposed a small donation from members to pay for paper on which to write minutes; but until then he had to use what he could find. He even wrote minutes on the back of his certificate signed by Jedediah M. Grant giving him the responsibility of Water Master in Salt Lake City in 1853.

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Phineas' Goshen Journal Shows Ingenuity

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Phineas devised an additional way to conserve on paper. When he was taking minutes for a meeting and the paper ran out before the end of the meeting, he simply turned the paper and began writing in transverse lines over the top of the previous writing. When we first encountered these pages we couldn't read them. But going back with a magnifying glass and great determination, we transcribed every word. There was almost nothing we missed. His handwriting was beautiful and except for a few cases was still quite readable even after 150 years. Handling those papers was an emotional experience for us, and we gained great respect for this man.

As before stated, Phineas ended his first journal March 20, 1857 when the pages were filled.¹ However, it didn't really end; rather it continued onto the unused forms for claiming reimbursement by the government for Indian depredations. Since the first page of his Goshen Journal is missing, it is likely he began immediately to write on

a page which later became detached. The first existing page begins with an undated entry in late March or early April, 1857 when Phineas was looking for horses and discovered the Goshen valley through which Salt Creek flowed into Utah Lake. Salt Creek emerged from the Nebo southern slope into the present town of Nephi and flowed north into Utah Lake. Phineas apparently went about seven or eight miles south of Payson where the Creek passed through the ridge of hills before entering what was later called Goshen Valley. After a partial paragraph describing his lost horses, he recorded:

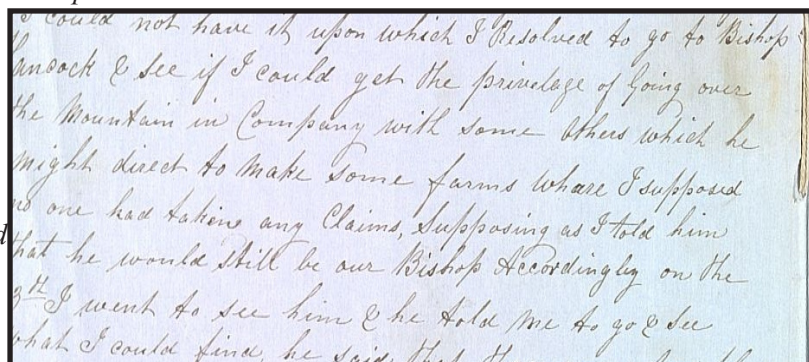
After riding between three or four miles I came to the place where Salt

Creek passes through the mountains between Juab and Utah Valleys where I found some Indians camped (camped) which I in-

quired (enquired) of if they had known of any horses being in that neberhood (neighborhood)(.) They answered no and being at the head of the kanyon (canyon) whare (where) I had been previously informed that Priesnt Young ad (had) given counsil (counsel) for a road to be made and they ad (had) reported that it would cost from 3 to 5 thousand dollars(.) I resolved for curerosoty (curiosity) sake to take a look at it and abandon the search for my horses(.) although I had been told that it was impossible to go throw (through) on horse back(.) But on going down I felt much surprise that a road had not been made through a long time since for I felt satesfide (satisfied) that the labor could be done for from 2 to 3 hundred dollars as the distance was not excu—de and

one mile by crossing the creek some six or seven times a good road could be made without any flil (fill) and it would shorten the distance to Salt Lake City some 15 miles and good feed most of the way(.)²

In a journal entry dated Wednesday April 8, 1857, Phineas reported after having explored the valley carefully, he returned home to find his horses had been found. He hired a man and plow and planted his wheat, but almost immediately discovered the title to his land was not secure, and he had to abandon it. The loss of his farm made him think about the valley on the other side of Payson's West Mountain at the mouth of Salt Creek.



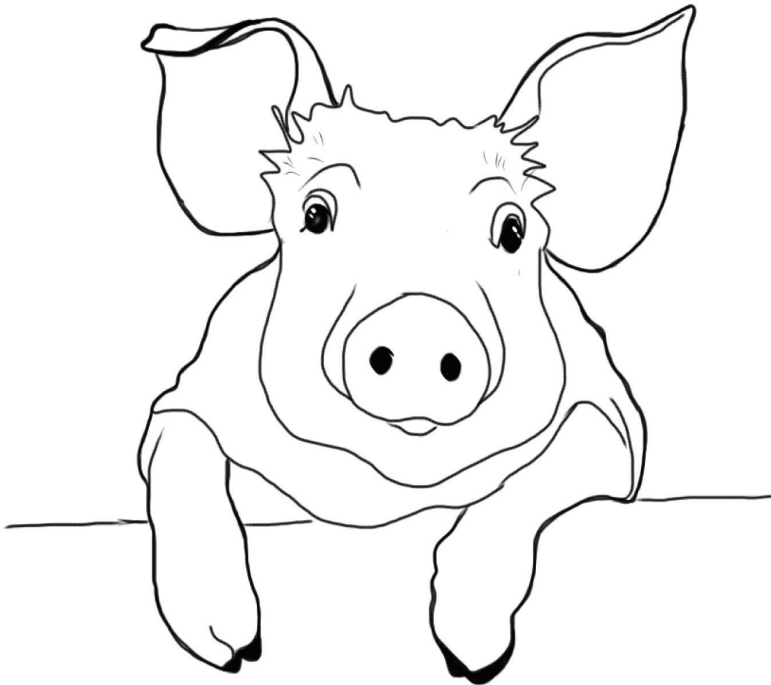
I resolved to go to Bishop Hancock and see if I could get the privelege (privilege) of going over the mountain in company with some others which he might direct to make some farms where I supposed no one had taken any claims, supposing as I told him that he would still be our Bishop(.) Accordingly on the 13th I went to see him & he told me to go and see what I could find(.)³

1 The Life and Times of Phineas Wolcott Cook, p. 114.

2 Phineas Wolcott Cook Goshen Journal, Church History Library, General minutes, Goshen Ward, Santaquin-Tintic Stake Stake, Hardcopy/Manuscript, LR 3259 11, Part 7, Sheet 1 Side 1

3 Goshen Journal Sheet 1, Side 2

HENRY AND THE PIGS *Henry Cooke Series*



His first job was soon after he married. In 1640 Henry Cooke was appointed with another man to keep the town swine, earning six shillings for each animal. Since there was no patience for pig pens in town, the two men walked through the town on their way to the pasture in the morning, herding pigs as they walked. At the gates they blew their horns and the owners brought their pigs out to the drove. Then the swine were returned at sunset in the same manner.

There were rules for this job: The keepers were responsible for any swine that were lost, but for those which were killed by wild beasts they were excused if they brought home a part of the flesh as evidence

Later, when he owned property in town, Henry was known as a butcher or “slaughterer.” The rules for occupations were strict in England. To be a butcher one would have to serve as an apprentice for several years. The rules in America were much the same as in England, so he must have learned the trade in England. He may even have been born into a butcher’s family.

Everyone worked hard in America. There was no extra food. If one didn’t earn his own way he and his family starved. Only those who chose to work even wanted to come on the long voyage from England. The children and grandchildren of Henry and Judith learned principles of industry and thrift from their parents. It was a good start for America.



Family Organization Newsletter
PO. Box 1558
Layton, Utah 84041

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P.W. COOK FAMILY ORDER FORM

All prices include postage

The following items are available for your use and enjoyment from the

Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization

130 N Twin Peaks Dr., Layton, Utah 84040

Or contact Glen McMillan at 801-544-5615, email: glenandjannie1@comcast.net

Organizational Dues (Suggested annual donation - \$20.00 per family – Tax Deductible)

Available items::

1. _____ The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD @ \$10.00

2. _____ Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book \$10.00

3. _____ Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD \$5.00

4. _____ Triumph of Testimony,
_____ 462 page documented history of PWC to Utah @ 37.50
5. _____ P. W. Cook Diary _____ copies @ _____ = _____
Single copies - \$7.00 each, 2-6 copies - \$6.00 each 7-12 copies - \$5.00 each
6. _____ DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P. W. Cook \$12.00

7. _____ Cook Ancestral Tour Guides \$6.00 each (4 or more \$5.00 each)
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut

Wallingford, Connecticut

Salem, Massachusetts

State of New York

State of Utah

8. _____ Family Fireside Stories -\$9.00
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)

BookII (Illustrated Stories:LDS Conversion)

BookIII (Illustrated Stories: Winter Quarters)

9. _____ PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy
and documentation \$6.00

Discount: 20% discount on all items above if dues are current or accompany this order

Total Bookstore Purchases

- ### 11. Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductible)

Phineas Rescotten 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 Paid-Purchases and dues

ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

I would be willing to work on the following committees:

I would be willing to work on the following committees:

Family History Committee	Research Committee
Record Verification Committee	Family Web-Master for Web-Site
Typing Histories – Word Processing	Illustrator
Newsletter/Mailing Committee	Finance Committee

Name _____ Telephone # _____

E-mail address: _____