

# Phineas Wolcott Cook NEWSLETTER

FAMILY ORGANIZATION

AUGUST, 2004

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Guy Cook

Dear Cook Family Members:

The summer newsletter is late in being



distributed, and I take full responsibility for the delay. I am sorry, and I apologize.

We had a lengthy discussion at the May officers and directors meeting about restating the mission of the P.W. Cook Family Organization, and we agreed on this basic statement: "Family: It's Where We've Been and Where We Are Going".

A hard copy, multi-page presentation has been prepared and presented to the officers of our organization for review and consideration. We will be reviewing the presentation further to discuss and vote on it at our quarterly meeting in September. We will report the results, approach to the presentation and when it will be put in effect in the fall newsletter. It may be that we will be able to insert the presentation in the fall newsletter.

We presented LaMar Day with

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## LaMar Day Receives Plaque For Many Years' Service To Cook Family Organization



Guy Cook, PW Cook Family Organization president, left, presents a plaque to LaMar Day at the May Officers and Directors meeting in recognition of LaMar's long and faithful service to the organization

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### Charles Finch Ancestry Identified

Amanda Polly's Savage's grandfather)

Amanda Polly Savage was born at Leads, Upper Canada, County of York, August 23, 1836 where her grandfather, Charles Finch, moved at the end of the Revolutionary War. Her grandparents died before her birth and her mother died when she was three months old. Amanda was raised by her step-mother, Mary White, and never knew her mother's family.

Charles Finch, was born in 1755 at Goshen, Orange County, New York . His ancestry was uncertain until we located Cindi Meyer's Genealogy giving a detailed account of Charles' revolutionary war experience and his ancestry. It shows Charles to be the son of Daniel Finch, born in 1730 in Goshen, New York and grandson of Isaac Finch who left Fairfield, Connecticut for Orange County, New York about 1715. This confirms our suspicions and extends this branch of the family back to Connecticut. Details will be posted on the website as soon as they are prepared.

Cindi has given us permission to publish her work and reminds us that "genealogy is a



work in progress ... please send ... any corrections or additions". If you have any additional information on the Finch ancestry, we would like to share it with the family and with Cindy Meyer.

Cindi's account of Charles' Revolutionary War service is:

- Enlisted age 19 (1774/5) by Capt Denton, occupation mason, 5 ft 71/2 inches.
- 1776 Charles joined the (loyalist) Kings Orange Rangers, age 21 under John Bayard, 60th Reg of foot.
- 1776 Newark, Deserted Sept 16th from Capt Robt Johnston Co 1st battalion York forces, Charles Finch age 21.
- OCT 1777 Sailed north with British expedition Fort Clinton & Montgomery
- 17 DEC 1777 Charles Finch w/Kings Orange Rangers were at post Paulus Hook, today known as Jersey City, NJ
- OCT 1778 Transferred to Halifax, Nova Scotia be-

- cause of mutiny.
- 10 OCT 1783 Disbanded Kings Orange Rangers.
- Deed 23 DEC 1784 100 acres "at west end of a Sea Beach" grant to Charles Finch on Bay of Fundy, Sunbury Co, comment Orange Ranger.
- Comment: 1784 Land grants for 5 other Finches in Sunbury Co & York Co, NB.
- Parents: Daniel FINCH b: ABT. 1730, Goshen, Orange Co, New York and Mary UN-KNOWN b: ABT. 1734, Goshen, Orange Co, New York
- Marriage Abigail STRONG on 3 MAR 1785 in St John's Anglican Church, Cornwallis, Kings County, Nova Scotia. Abigail is from Toland, Connecticut. Her family also moved to Nova Scotia.

Submitted by Brent Hale

# President Guy Cook, Organization President, Continues With His Report to Family Members

(Continued from page 1)

a plaque in recognition and appreciation for his many years of service to our organization at the May meeting. A picture of the plaque being presented to him, with a short description, is shown on page one of this newsletter. You have done a terrific job with this organization for a long time, LaMar. Thank you.

It has been recommended by a family member to have a cyber reunion with our computers. We will discuss possible dates and how to set it up at the September organization meeting. Our findings, decision and a date will be reported to you in the fall newsletter.

We have money in a checking account for general family organization expenditures and money in a savings account available for family research in the four family lines as follows:

General checking account, \$1,805; Savings account Howland line, \$1,590; Savage line, \$112; McLeve line, \$669; Poulson line, \$69

The cost of printing and mailing two newsletters annually uses the most money from the general checking account. If you are interested in doing family research, we have some money available for research.

We notice that Merrill Cook, one of our family members from Salt Lake City, is running for a Salt Lake County office. Please provide us with anecdotes, stories, histories and information of general interest in your lives for us to consider putting into one of the newsletters.

The website is still evolving, and we are working on making it more useful and interesting to all family members. There will be further detail in the November newsletter as a result of decisions to be made at the September annual meeting of the officers, directors, committee members and specialists, all family representatives and any family members who may desire to attend. We promise that we will always provide hard copies of newsletters and other matters for communication with family members who do not use email.

We still need a secretary for the organization. The primary function will be to take notes at the four quarterly meetings, type them and read them at each subsequent quarterly meeting. There may be occasional requests to type a letter or summary of some action; however, this will be infrequent. The time requirement will be minimal. The person should live in Salt Lake, Davis, Weber or Utah county for proximity to the quarterly meetings, and it can be a man or woman.

We also encourage the younger family members to be active in the organization. Sooner or later those of who are more senior in age will retire, and we need a continuous input of "new blood." We would appreciate, especially at this time, somebody stepping forward who has ability to help Randy Cook with further development of the website.

We encourage you to send your dues regularly and make purchases from the bookstore where the items for sale are shown in the newsletters and on the website. The dues and store sales enable us to continue operating as your family organization.

### Cook Family Organization Schedules Board Meeting For September in SLC

The P. W. Cook Family Organization Annual Board Meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, September 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the West Conference Room on the third Floor of the Joseph Smith Memorial Building in Salt Lake City, according to Guy Cook, organization president.

All Officers and Board members of the organization are invited to attend, as well as any interested family members. Some of the items to be discussed will include the upcoming cyber reunion and the organization mission statement.

Anyone interested in more information may contact Guy Cook at guy@utahweb.com.



# Henry Howland and California Gold

Henry Howland and Phebe Baker, parents of Ann Eliza Howland, were not the traditional farming couple of the Nineteenth Century, eager to stay on the farm and live out their lives as contented as the cows in their pasture. In 1837 Henry, his brothers and nephew left Saratoga, New York to find new prairie land in Ross, Kalamazoo, Michigan. They settled on a cluster of small lakes in what they called Howlandsville. but which later was known as Ross. The Howland name lived on for generations, but Henry stayed there for only ten years before he became discontented.

In 1846 Henry's daughter Ann Eliza and her husband Phineas Wolcott Cook left Michigan to go west with the Mormon Church. Henry didn't have anything against their church, in fact he admitted to believing the Book of Mormon was true when Phineas read it to him. But joining a persecuted church just wasn't his style. Nevertheless, he wanted to go west with them. All he needed was the news that gold had been discovered in California and he packed his wagon. By the summer of 1850

he was visiting with his daughter and her family in Salt Lake City. No amount of persuasion could convince him gold was less important than the spiritual values among the Mormons, and by fall he had established himself at Stockton.

Meanwhile, his wife Phebe was still in Michigan. Living with her daughter Charlotte and her husband John Rice, Phebe was having problems. No doubt the journey to California was too much for her right then because she is listed as "insane" in the 1850 and 1860 censuses. Insane in 1850 meant a lot of things, but seldom what we think. Perhaps by 1861 she had begun to recover because in 1862 her son Erwin and his wife Maria and their son John Fitch Howland brought Phebe on the North Star from New York through the Isthmus of Panama to the Golden Gate landing. On February 12, 1862 they set foot on California soil where Henry was waiting and took them home with him.

By then Henry and Phebe had begun to realize what was really of value. When Phineas and Ann Eliza Cook heard that her mother was also in California, they made a trip to Stockton, probably the summer of 1862 because in 1863 they were called to move to Bear Lake. One account of the trip

claims that Henry and Phebe offered Phineas and Ann Eliza a good piece of land, a house, and all the peace and security they could wish for if they would give up their hard life with the Mormons and move to Califor-Their answer, of course, was that they would cast their lot with the Mormons for as long as they lived. And their reward was that they returned home to Utah to move their farm to the southwest end of Utah Lake, only to be burned to the ground that winter.

Phebe lived another six years, and died November 17, 1868 in Stockton. Henry didn't find gold, but invested in land and died May 2, 1871 a respected landowner. Erwin Baker Howland, age 54, died a year later at the Howland Ranch April 30, 1872, his wife some time later. His son John Fitch moved in 1880 to Burson and in 1910 to Clements. John Fitch married Naomi Haley in 1878, and their children remained in the Sacramento and Oakland area.

By now they've learned that real treasure is right at home. Not even California gold can match the rewards of a good family.

Submitted by Janet Porter

# Our Pioneer Heritage

When great grandpa came to Utah, It wasn't on a train:
It wasn't on a great big bus
It wasn't on a plane:
He walked across the prairies
Or sometimes rode a horse,
And when he felt discouraged
He sang a song, of course.

When great grandma came to Utah, It wasn't in a car, She had to drive an oxteam And it was VERY far! Sometimes it was so very cold Sometimes it was so hot. And when she felt like crying, I think she sang a lot!

But when they got to Utah, They made the valleys ring! And even now the mountains Still echo what they'd sing. Just listen to their voices, And Hear the truth they tell, Obey our Heavenly Father And know that all is well.

By Sheldon L. Anderson

Submitted by Guy Cook

### **Sixth Cousins**

Amanda Polly Savage and Phineas W Cook are sixth cousins as follows:

Ancestor	Relation	Ancestor
		Phineas W Cook
David L Savage	e5 <sup>th</sup> cousin	Irene Churchill
Phoebe Stevens	s4 <sup>th</sup> cousinJ	Ionathan Churchill
Mary Tryon	3 <sup>rd</sup> cousin	Lydia Smith
Joseph Tryon	2 <sup>nd</sup> cousin	Ebenezer Smith
Lydia Bird	cousin	Mary Bird
James Bird	brother	Joseph Bird
Thomas Bird	father	Thomas Bird

Thomas Bird was born in London, England. It appears that he moved to Massachusetts in the 1620's and shortly after moving there moved to the Hartford, Connecticut area where he died and his family has lived for many generations.

Submitted By Brent Hale

### Volume 3 Now Available In "Family Fireside" Series

In 1998, the 150th anniversary of the entrance of Phineas and Ann Eliza Cook into the Salt Lake Valley, a series of stories based on his journal was introduced. We have called this illustrated series "Family Fireside Stories of Phineas." Book I and Book II have been in print for several years.

The summer of 2004 Book III will be available. It is the story of the Cook family as they traveled toward Nauvoo only to find from William Smith that the saints had left Nauvoo and were on their way to the west.

The Cook family experiences during the first year in Winter Quarters are a must-read for your family as you too prepare for hard times ahead. Please see the website to order this book or send in your check with the order at the end of this newsletter.

### The Goshen Cooks in 1776: A Revolutionary Family

Few events have brought together a family in a single cause as did the Revolutionary War with the Daniel Cook Family of Goshen Connecticut. Research has shown almost his entire family was involved in the war. Even as he began to lose his health, Daniel Sr. is given credit for providing "Physical Service," likely donating many farm products to the soldiers.

Already in failing health at 56, Daniel Cook Sr. had lived in Goshen, Connecticut for 26 years when word spread of the shots fired at Lexington and Concord. Born and raised fifty miles south in Wallingford, he and his young wife followed his father Joseph and bought land in Goshen. In 1750 they brought their two small children with them to make a life in northwest Connecticut near his father's house on "Town Hill." Six more children were born in Goshen, making a family of six sons and two daughters.

There are three ways men were documented to have been in various units of the war. If they lived until 1832 they could apply for a pension, at which time they listed their units, commanding officers, and service experience. Since rosters had not been taken, they included letters from fellow soldiers to verify their service. The second possibility was that in the 1830's enlistment rolls were reconstructed as far as remembered. Obviously men who had moved out of town or who had died early were not remembered. Probably less than half the soldiers appeared on these rolls, and in some cases less than that. The third record was created when payrolls, muster lists and other service records were typed and alphabetized. However, few of the early units are included, and there is little possibility of tracking a soldier with a common name like Cook from these records.

Fortunately, we have pension records for Moses Bartholomew, Joel Gaylord (husbands of Lydia and Lois) and Philip Cook. Reconstructed Rosters include the names of Amasa Cook and Joel Gaylord. Local records list the name of their father as a provider for the war effort. The Journal of Phineas Wolcott Cook tells of the service of his grandfather Daniel. All this adds up to a picture of a family very involved in the War for Independence.

### Revolutionary War Time Line 1775:

April 19: The shot heard round the world. The British fired at Lexington and Concord.

Moses Bartholomew (recently married to Lydia Cook), a resident of Goshen, enlisted in Capt. Bebee's Company and marched from Litchfield town through Goshen where his young wife no doubt watched and wept as the ragged band of recruits followed the road out of town. They continued marching to Albany, and on to Ticonderoga, New York. In May they captured Fort Ticonderoga and sent the British artillery to Boston. He was there until winter.

#### 1776:

April 1776 Amasa Cook of Goshen joined the "Minute Men" who marched to Massachusetts, but returned after several weeks.

In May and June every ablebodied man was marched out of Goshen to reinforce troops at Long Island. Enlistment lists were not taken. However, Joel Gaylord, Moses Bartholomew, Amasa Cook were later remembered to have gone. Almost certainly Daniel Cook Jr. and

their other brothers were among those who fought the British and Hessians in Long Island and New York City. The journal account of Phineas W. Cook records events that probably took place at this time. They returned in the fall and winter.

July 4: Declaration of Independence. General Washington brought the document to read to the troops fighting on Long Island, shortly after which they fled west to New York City. Eventually the U.S. army retreated to New Jersey and White Plains.

Almost as soon as they had returned from New York, Amasa Cook and Joel Gaylord joined the Volunteers from the sister towns of Goshen, Winchester and Torrington on December 31, 1776 for "Relief of the Continental Army." They were recruited "as they returned home and signed on for two months unless the same love of our country which prompts our undertaking shall incline us to continue longer." unmarried young man of 15, Daniel Cook Jr. may have also gone with them. No rosters were written, but in 1838 a few names were remembered. Daniel Jr. had been dead 20 years by then and was forgotten.

#### 1777

Joel Gaylord joined the Continental Army unit recruited May, 1777 in Goshen, Litchfield and Torrington. In his pension application he stated he was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt. of the Continental Line commanded by Col Heman Swift. No names were written down until 1838. It is known Daniel also joined a unit at this time for the duration of the war, and it could have been this unit.

Moses and Samuel Cook joined

(Continued on page 7)

### Cook Family Revolutionary Time Line Listed

the Mass. Third Regt. for the duration of the war. It is unknown if they were the sons of Daniel Sr., but local records of Adams, Berkshire, Massachusetts claim Amasa came there to visit his brother Philip and also joined a Massachusetts regiment. A search of the Mass. 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment records reveals no proof they were or were not of this family.

#### 1778

In February the French came into the War: This was the turning point for the U.S.

Daniel Sr. died April 14

Sometime that terrible, hungry winter Daniel Cook Jr. deserted for about two weeks to go home for pork to share with his unit. Although he was court-marshaled, he was forgiven because everyone was so hungry. He could have been either near Valley Forge or Saratoga that winter because he walked home and back, probably about 100 miles each way.

#### 1779

Unable to subdue the Northern colonies, the British turned their efforts south, taking most of

Georgia.

### 1780

Philip Cook enlisted Nov. 5 in Capt. John Bacon's Co., 3<sup>rd</sup> Hampshire Company of the Mass. Militia on an alarm to reinforce the army under Gen. Stark at Stillwater. Units were recruited at the Southern front while many northern soldiers who signed on for three years in 1777 were allowed to go home.

It is believed Daniel Cook may have been married at this time.

#### 1781

Cornwallis surrendered in October at Yorktown, Pennsylvania

#### 1782

Daniel's son Amasa was born 26 April, 1782 in Goshen.

Peace treaty was signed November 1782. Many soldiers sent home.

#### 1783

The Army formally disbanded November 1783.

Submitted by Janet Porter

## Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization Newsletter

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