



Phineas Wolcott Cook NEWSLETTER

COOK FAMILY ORGANIZATION

www.cookfamily.org

September 2016

September 29 Cook O Rama To Focus on Family History And the Joy of the Work

By Catherine Rasband

Elder Quentin L. Cook of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, also a descendant of Phineas Wolcott Cook, asks us to "Never forget that family history--and the temple ordinances enabled by it--is an essential part of the work of salvation, and that participation in this sacred work for the dead blesses the lives of the living. It strengthens our faith in and commitment to the gospel, helps us resist temptation, [and] draws our families closer together." Who of us doesn't want these blessings for our families. We are being admonished by our leaders to get more involved in family history work and to teach our children and our youth to get involved in this important work.

How often have we heard the scripture in D&C 128:15 "For their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation, as Paul says concerning the fathers--that they without us cannot be made perfect--neither can we without our dead be made perfect."

Elder Cook tells us that this is because "we need to be connected to our roots--our parents, grandparents, and other ancestors--as well as to our branches--our children, grandchildren, and other descendants." He continues, "[The phrase] 'their salva-

tion is necessary and essential to our salvation' means that the salvation of the whole human family is interdependent and interconnected--like the roots and branches of a great tree." As we become more involved in learning the stories of those who have gone before us, the veil feels thinner and those we may not have known in this life become real and alive to us. We remember (in a sense) these loved ones and our connection as well as our commitment to them.

Our goal for the Cook O Rama this year is to heed Elder Cook's counsel in his article "The Joy of Family History Work" in the February 2016 Ensign. One way to implement this counsel is to add family history to our family nights. We can also have a "Family Tree Gathering." Elder Cook says that a Family Tree

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President's Message By Dan Ditto President

What are some of your favorite family memories? Think about it for a moment.

As you think about this, I suspect that you are feeling warm, positive feelings. These experiences

provide a basis for deep joy, peace, satisfaction and learning.

Take a moment sometime during your daily family get together, - a meal, scripture study, family prayer, or anytime you are together - and share some of these precious experiences with your family members. Ask them to do the same. Share lessons learned, challenges overcome, successes, failures, opportunities for service, humor, and empathy.

Everyone loves stories and family stories are some of the best. Or pull out some old pictures or videos. One of my children's favorite things to do is to watch old family videos. There is a lot of fun, laughter and joy in these experiences. To do this, we don't need preparation or props, we



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President's Message

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have it right there in our hearts and our minds. This kind of sharing is not only priceless, but profoundly unifying and can have remarkable and long lasting impact on our families. Blessings on our families are too numerous to describe – yet the process can be as simple and brief as you want to make it. **THAT IS THE POWER OF FAMILY HISTORY.**

One key for us is to have these experiences regularly. Family History is a multifaceted gem that all can use in our lives and families. That is why we are **SO EXCITED** for the upcoming Cook Family History Extravaganza. We hope that you will plan to attend. We will focus on fun and creative ways to use family history in our homes and to bless our families.

At the Cook-o-Rama, we will have fun sharing some wonderful experiences with family history and how it has blessed families and personal lives. There is significant evidence - both spiritual and secular, that family history is a powerful influence to strengthen and ground individuals. People from all walks of life and from all segments of society inherently know the powerful influence that positive family experiences can have on us. We are not only going to have some fun with family history, but we will share **SPECIAL COOK FAMILY** resources that will help you to know those from whom you are descended. They were people like you and I. Like you and I, they struggled, they cried and laughed. They had some heartbreaking difficulties and tragedies and they had heartwarming joys and successes. Please plan to join on for the Cook-o-Rama Family History Extravaganza, it will be a lot of fun and I am certain that you will be glad you did!

PWC Goshen Series Part 10 Rebellion at Home, Abroad

By Janet Porter

The first settlers elected Phineas Wolcott Cook Bishop of the new town of Goshen, and in January of 1858 the Brethren in Salt Lake City decided to ratify their choice. He was 37 years old, and had been in Utah almost nine years. For the first time in that nine years he now had the opportunity of securing land for his own farm, and he was anxious to get on with the business of leading this group of saints.

Phineas began to take responsibility, doing his best to lead the people as they organized their town. Their meetings were held with a spirit of freedom and a compulsion to vote. It was eighty-one years after the Declaration of Independence had been signed, and they were young men willing to take responsibility for their own actions. Their minutes reflect that willingness:

Br Cook Arose... Called upon the brethren to Sustain him in Claiming (claiming) there (their) rights and privileges (privileges) to which the brethren resounded(:) aye(.) Called for opposition(:) None. [1]

The first six weeks of Goshen's history seemed a time of perfect peace and harmony, but it was not to endure. On January 23rd the bishopric brought the men together to draw lots for their land and informed them of the cost of the survey and of hiring others to make the dam. Immediately there was trouble. The next day one brother stood up in the meeting and accused Phineas of speculating in

order to get rich. He claimed the land wasn't worth \$2 per acre and did his best to rally the other men to his cause.

Phineas may have been surprised but his response was calm: In his own handwriting of Goshen Ward Minutes:

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Dues

The Cook Family Organization is funded by contributions donated by family members. The annual dues are the main source of those donations.

Funds are used to further the purposes of the organization—most importantly, family history research and genealogy.

Dues may be contributed in several ways: through personal checks mailed to the organization at 130 Twin Peaks Drive, Layton, Utah 84040, or through Paypal. The easiest option is to set up recurring payments through Paypal.

In addition, dues can be paid online through the Cook Family website: cookfamily.org/store.

Dues of \$20 per year can be paid in one payment, or \$10 every six months using the online link.

Heeding Elder Cook

(Continued from page 1)

Gathering is something that should be "a recurring effort. Everyone could bring to these gatherings existing family histories, stories, and photos, including cherished possessions of grandparents and parents...This cannot be only a one-time effort. It requires a lifetime of diligence." At the Cook O Rama we want to share our enthusiasm for family history work and give ideas and stories and other helps for families to teach their own children about our shared ancestors. We cannot forget that, "the center of family history is the home. We need to help our young people develop a love for this work."

The blessings listed above are not the only blessings available to us through doing our family history. Elder Cook says: "No work is more of a protection to this Church than temple work and the family history research that supports it. No work is more spiritually refining. No work we do gives us more power. No work requires a higher standard of righteousness."

In our world today we are in need these blessings of protection, refinement and power. We need the hope that these blessings provide.

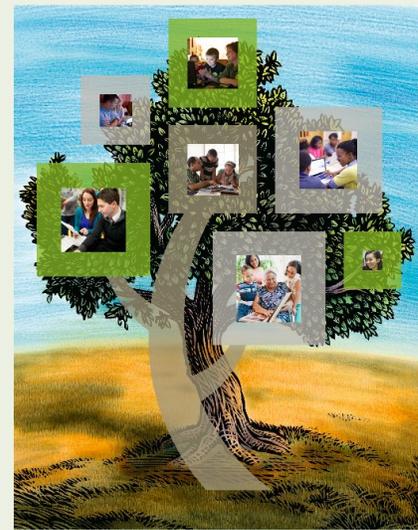
Elder Cook concludes his Ensign article by saying,

As an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, I promise that if you look beyond the bonds of time and mortality and help those who cannot help themselves, you will be blessed with more closeness and joy in your family and with the divine protection afforded those who are faithful in His service.

Elijah's promise makes it clear

that each of us has an obligation to the generations that precede us and to the generations that follow us. May you parents, youth, and children find joy and be blessed in every other aspect of your life as you fulfill the obligation that has been sent from heaven to participate in the sacred work for the dead."

We hope that many of you will bring your families and gather with us at our annual Cook O Rama. Come and hear our ideas and in turn, share some of your ideas with us. Let us share the



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Joy of Family History with each other.

Family Search, Family Tree: Links To Ancestors

The family tree for Phineas Wolcott Cook is almost complete, including correct, documented dates and places, families and relationships, and extensive documentation for the Cook ancestors, their spouses and children. An immense amount of work has gone into this project. If you would like to view the Cook family and you haven't yet acquired a Family Search account, go to FamilySearch.org and click on Family Tree. Follow directions for setting up an account. Or register for an account with LDS.org. Someone in your ward or at your local Family History Library can help you.

The best news is that Family Tree is now correct for Phineas Wolcott Cook too. In the past, multiple submissions in his name resulted in three copies of our ancestor, which we couldn't correct. Recently, however, New Family Search was discontinued, and we were able to merge the three. Find time in the next few weeks to check out our ancestors and see the wonderful information found in Documents and pictures.

Among the documents are his complete journal and the Goshen journal and Goshen historical documents. There are letters from Brigham Young to Phineas Wolcott Cook, and correspondence with his brother-in-law Salmon C. Hall. New documents will be added in the future, so return to his page often.

The ancestors of PWC also have extensive documentation, including land records, deeds, probates and vital records, giving us a clear picture of their lives and families. Family Tree has become a wonderful resource for every member of the family.

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Phineas' Motto "To Do Right"

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Br (PW) Cook then arose and said he had told the bretheren (brethren) from the time the work was done on the dam that the land would cost \$2 per acre [2] and if thay (they) was a mind to take it at that(,) all right(;) and if not(,) they could let it a lone (alone)(.) As for him it was his motto to do right and he should do it(,) fearless of any consequences(,) and as for such Spirits(,) he asked no odds of them and should walk over them(,) He had followed Council (counsel) and he was not affraid (afraid) of any thing thay (they) could do(,) He should maintain equal rights at all hazards..."

Br Cook then arose & said he had told the Bretheren from the time the work was done on the dam that the land would cost two dollars per acre and if they was a mind to take it at that all rights and if not they could let it a lone as for him it was his motto to do right and should do it fearless of any consequences & as for such spirits he asked no odds of them and should walk over them, he had followed Council & he was not affraid of any thing they could do he should maintain equal rights at all hazards

"Phineas promised the brethren it was his motto to do right."

The next month, in February of 1858, Johnston's Army, sent the previous fall to put down the supposed rebellion of the Mormons in Utah, began to move out of their encampment near Fort Bridger. Having been delayed all winter, they prepared to march into Utah as quickly as possible. Church members were certain the Missouri mobs had been given permission to finish what they had begun two decades earlier.

I wanted them to be encouraged and to lift up their heads and be glad(,) for the day of redemption is drawing nigh(,) Our enemies are now arrayed against us and are determined to destroy us but if we trust in the Lord & do right we shall overcome all our enemies be saved & exalted in the kingdom of god & become pillars in his temple to go no more out but be come (become) ministers to our god even kings & queens in the eternal worlds. I exorted (exhorted) them to him for there (their) blessings which have been promised to all the faithful(,) [3]

Unfortunately, there was a threat brewing much closer to Goshen than Johnston's Army—Indians.

Footnotes

- 1 Goshen Ward Minutes, 13 Aug 1858, Document Folder Item 52 Side 2.
- 2 The price of \$2 per acre was reasonable because of the money spent to hire men to construct a dam on Salt Creek (later called Currant Creek) and to pay for the survey of the town.

From the beginning the men were angry about the price because they were aware others had been given free land elsewhere in Utah. Eventually they accused Phineas of speculating at their expense so he could get rich. (Document Folder Item 71, side 1.)

United States Indian Agent in and for the Agency of Utah, certify that after due investigation I am of opinion this claim is just and true. And I recommend it be paid. And further that I am disinterested.

Isaac Webster

arose and said he might as well speak as to think for it was in him & it must come out, he said he thought there was too much speculation going on here and it is time that the people are looking into it. Brother Cook is charging us two dollars per acre for this land & there is about 600 acres of land in the survey. he said that the dam had cost about 800 dollars and you see he has made calculations to swindle this people out of about four hundred dollars

"Phineas is accused of swindling Goshen settlers by charging \$2 per acre to pay for the survey."

The squabbling brethren at Goshen listened to their Bishop and pulled together for safety. Phineas then gave a sermon which is for his posterity, a window into his heart. His belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ was so deep and so certain he simply had no fears for the future, no matter how great the threat or how dark the horizon.

Annual Cook O Rama Set for September 29

Cook o Rama 2016

Thursday, September 29

2285 S 200 W
Bountiful Utah

Dinner 6 p.m.
Program 7 p.m.



By Elder
Quentin L. Cook
Of the Quorum
of the Twelve
Apostles

THE JOY OF **Family
History
Work**

*Elijah's promise makes
it clear that each of us
has an obligation to the
generations that precede
us and to the generations
that follow us.*

2016 Cook A Rama
Thursday September 29

Plan for an event different from any other we have ever held. Based on Elder Quentin Cook's talk "The Joy of Family History Work," originally presented at the Roots Tech Conference in Salt Lake City in 2015 and reprinted in the February 2016 *Ensign*, this reunion will be [Family Tree Gathering](#). The talk has been summarized in this newsletter. In that talk Elder Cook said: *I promise that if you look beyond the bonds of time and mortality and help those who cannot help themselves, you will be blessed with more closeness and joy in your family and with the divine*

protection afforded those who are faithful in His service."

We need those blessings in our families, and the committee has been working hard to provide resources so your family will have fun learning about their ancestors. We're out to prove that families who learn about and do work for their ancestors have a head start in life. They're well-adjusted and strong. They know who they are and how to get where they need to be.

So bring your whole family to the Cook A Rama Thursday, September 29. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. and the program will follow. Family resources will be available and demonstrated,

including stories, skits and family home evenings. There will be many inspiring ideas to help you adapt to your own family's needs. We think you'll go away with many new resources for teaching, entertaining, and helping your family.

After the presentation is over, there will be a Family Tree Question and Answer period for those who wish to stay. You can learn to document your ancestor, upload pictures and files, and correct Family Tree problems.

**You can't afford
to miss the 2016
Cook A Rama.**

P.W. Cook Family Organization Order Form

Organizational Dues			Date	
Suggested Annual Donation - \$20 per family - Tax Deductible				
Please select one:			<input type="radio"/> My dues are current <input type="radio"/> Pay dues now <input type="radio"/> Do not pay dues	
Item (20% discount on all items if dues are current or accompany this order)				
	Price	Discount Price	Quantity	Total
NEW! Samuel Bryson's Journey book	\$15.00	\$12.00		
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD	\$10.00	\$8.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book	\$10.00	\$8.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD	\$5.00	\$4.00		
Triumph of Testimony, 462 page history of PWC to Utah	\$37.50	\$30.00		
P.W. Cook Diary				
1 Copy	\$7.00	\$5.60		
2-6 Copies	\$6.00	\$4.80		
7+ Copies	\$5.00	\$4.00		
DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P.W. Cook	\$12.00	\$9.60		
Cook Ancestral Tour Guides				
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80		
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00		
Wallingford, Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80		
Wallingford, Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00		
Salem, Massachusetts (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80		
Salem, Massachusetts (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00		
State of New York (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80		
State of New York (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00		
State of Utah (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80		
State of Utah (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00		
Family Fireside Stories				
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)	\$9.00	\$7.20		
Book II (Illustrated Stories: LDS Conversion)	\$9.00	\$7.20		
Book III (Illustrated Stories: Winter Quarters)	\$9.00	\$7.20		
PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy and documentation	\$6.00	\$4.80		
Total Purchases:				
Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductible)		Amount	Personal Information	
Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Line			Name	
Ann Eliza Howland Family Line			Street Address	
Amanda Polly Savage Family Line				
Catherine McCleve Family Line			City	State Zip
Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line				
Other: Web Site, equipment, etc.			Phone	Email
Total Donations:				
Totals			Mailing Information:	
Organizational Dues			Mail this form with check to:	
Purchases			PWC	
Donations			130 Twin Peaks Drive	
GRAND TOTAL:			Layton, Utah 84040	
Please note: All prices include postage. Make checks payable to "Cook Family Organization" and allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. For questions, contact Glen McMillan at (801) 529-3772 or glenandjanine@gmail.com. You can also visit cookfamily.org/store/				
Committees				
I would be willing to work on one of the following committees:				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family History Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research Committee	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Record Verification Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Web-Master for website	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Typing Histories - Word Processing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Illustrator	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter/Mailing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance Committee	

2016 Annual Cook-O-Rama

The Joy of Family History Work

Thursday, September 29

2285 S 200 W

Bountiful Utah

Dinner 6 p.m.

Program 7 p.m.

Phineas Wolcott Cook

Family Organization Newsletter
PO Box 1985
Layton, Utah, 84041

September, 2016
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