



# Phineas Wolcott Cook Newsletter

Phineas W. Cook Family Organization

September, 2021

## *New Edition of Phineas' Journal To Be Printed Soon*

A new expanded edition of Phineas Wolcott Cook's original journal will soon be printed. The 400-page legacy book, adds information and context to Phineas' original journal. The recently discovered Goshen portion of his journal will be included. Information from his children and about his children will also be in the book.

This fall, before the book is printed, the organization will be carrying out a survey to find how many people might want to purchase a copy of the book. This will help us determine both the number to be printed, and the price for each copy of the book. That survey can be found at the following link:

[https://forms.gle/  
Z1ewqmDK9LeqPvVH6](https://forms.gle/Z1ewqmDK9LeqPvVH6)

The book is a new look at his journal, with spelling and punctuation modernized for easier reading. The book also contains hundreds of photos, maps and charts, as well other supplementary information which will help make the book more readable and put the events in both historical and cultural context.

A preview of several of the book's pages is available at this link: [http://www.cookfamily.org/books/  
PWCLegacyOfFaith/preview.pdf](http://www.cookfamily.org/books/PWCLegacyOfFaith/preview.pdf)

Additionally, information from the

## Cook O Rama on Sept. 30 to Feature Update On Projects

The annual Cook Family "Cook O Rama" pot-luck dinner and fireside is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 30, 2021 at 6 p.m. at 1298 North 400 West in Centerville, UT.

Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the annual fireside at 7 p.m. This year the fireside will feature several of the Cook Family Organization board members who will discuss various current and ongoing genealogy projects. The fireside will be live-streamed. Information about the streaming details will be sent to family members in an email at the end of September and will be available on the website.

The Cook Extended Family Names Project will be introduced by Brent Hales. He will explain how family members can help identify and complete the research necessary to complete family ancestors' temple work.

A new book on Henry Cook will be introduced by Bryson Cook. Henry was Phineas'

4th great grandfather who was the first in the family to come to America and settled in Massachusetts.

Marcia Marshall will join us through zoom and will talk about the website, social media outreach and the new young adult chapter of PWC for descendants ages 18-30 that will be held via zoom beginning October 18 at 11am (mountain time).

Glen McMillan will talk about the new order form and explain how family members can order materials.

Janet Porter and her sister Yvonne Peterson will talk about the new expanded edition of the Phineas Wolcott Cook Journal. The book will be printed next year, but excerpts will be shown at the Cook O Rama, so family members will have a chance to see it and make plans to purchase the book.

Prior to the Cook O Rama, a survey on potential interest in the book is being conducted at <https://forms.gle/Z1ewqmDK9LeqPvVH6>.

### **In This Issue**

President's message .....	2
Extended Family Research Project.....	3
Cook-O-Rama Details .....	5
Henry Cook.....	6-7
Order Form.....	8

## *President Dan Ditto, Encourages Members To Become Aware of Organization Projects*

Dear Family, there are a lot of exciting things happening with our extended family organization. Let me highlight just a few: Please attend our Annual “Cook O Rama” on September 30, at 6 p.m. at 1298 North 400 West in Centerville, UT. We will have a simple potluck dinner at 6pm and a fireside at 7pm. If you can’t be there in person, please connect with us via the internet. We will send specific connection information as we get closer to the event, but it will be a delightful evening with friends and family.

1. Updated 400-page Phineas Walcott Cook Journal, to be entitled: “Phineas Walcott Cook: A Legacy of Faith, with additional journal content from Goshen, letters to the family, modernized spelling and punctuation, color pictures, and added explanations to understand the context of the times, among other significant improvements.

2. Opportunities for extended family member for increased participation in temple and genealogy work for our ancestors, after we have discovered thousands of family members who have not yet had their temple work completed. The Cook Family Organization will train, assist and be available for questions for those who choose to become involved in this important work.

3. A new book on Henry Cook, Phineas 4th Great Grandfather, our first ancestor to come to America.

4. Unique opportunities to involve our youth in the Cook Family

Organization through the creation of a Young Adult Chapter of the Cook Family Organization.

5. Research and history on the economic times of the Phineas Walcott Cook family as they grew and progressed through the years.

6. Increased presence of the Cook Family Organization through our website, Social media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

7. Printing of a “side by side” Phineas Cook journal showing the original writing along with a printed version.

8. Continued participation by the Cook Family Organization in the Latter-Day Saint Ancestral Families Association, where we collaborate in identifying practices, resources and various other information that will continue to strengthen and improve the Cook Family Organization. More information on our involvement can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/view/ldsafa/home>

9. Dues. In a day of increased inflation and expenses, the Cook Family Organization has decided to REDUCE annual dues to \$10 per family per year – ALONG WITH a 10% reduced price for items purchased from the Cook family organization.

There are many fun and exciting projects that we are currently involved in. I want to express our gratitude to all of those on our board and others who have worked tirelessly to make these amazing things happen. They have spent many, many hours and all our

lives are the better for it.

Finally, as we see the challenges the world and our country are currently facing, we are so

grateful for the tremendous example of consecration and service that has been given to us by our Cook Family ancestors. We have been abundantly blessed by their sacrifice and the heritage they have given to us.

In a letter to Robert Hooke in 1675, Isaac Newton made the famous statement: “If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants”. That spirit of service and consecration still lives in the lives of Cook Family members today. Truly the good that so many of you are doing in our world today, is because we have been blessed to stand on the shoulders of those Giants in our family who have gone before us.

Do you feel an inclination to be more involved in your family history? If so, please know that we would LOVE to have your involvement. It doesn’t take a great deal of knowledge or skill, just the desire and willingness to help. If you have this desire, please call and leave a message or text me at: (801) 554-4847. Thank-you - Daniel Ditto, President



# Phineas Wolcott Cook Journal Images With Transcriptions Coming to Website

By Brent W Hale

Images from Phineas Wolcott Cook's 230-page journal's from 1843 to 1868 soon be posted to the family website with text posted side by side for easier study.

This project divides the journal into four sections: Section 1 includes 55 pages of work records; Section 2 "Life and History" includes 107 pages.

Section 3 includes 52 pages of letters; and Section 4 includes 16 pages of work records. Section 2 has been previously published but the other 123 pages have not been published.

Sections 1 and 4 describe Phineas' occupation. For example, he earned 12 ½ cents per hour in 1843 (section 4 page 9) and worked 12-hour days. Wheat, flour, and beef were major food purchases.

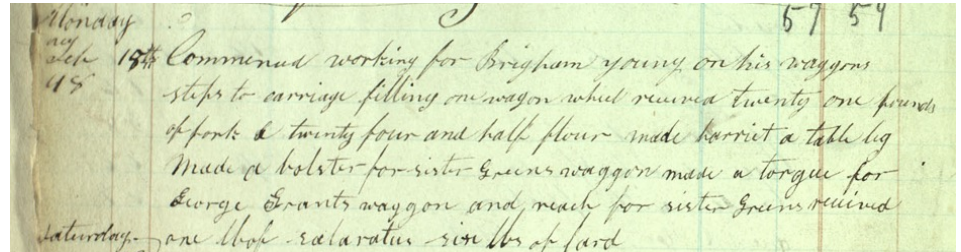
He was involved in several trades: 1) building and operating grist mills and sawmills, 2) surveying land, 3) selling newspaper subscriptions, 4) building buildings, and 5) building wagons including a Brigham Young wagon.

Phineas' Table of Logs in Section 4 page 6 and "Falling Bodies" in Section 4, page 1 which show how practical he was. The table of logs lets him determine how many logs he needs for a construction project and the falling bodies allows him to easily determine the depth of a well.

The expense records show the prices he paid for goods which generally fall into three groups: 1) prior to heading to Utah in 1848, 2) Utah through 1851 and 3) Utah after 1851.

Section 3 is a series of letters which give some insights to Phineas' understanding of his faith.

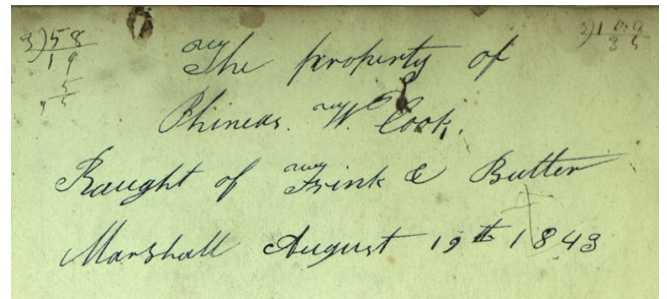
As a whole, the journal shows that making records was important



Section 1 page 2 outlines Phineas' work on the Brigham Young Wagon

to Phineas. Its study is fascinating and was a direct motivation leading to our Phineas Wolcott Cook Extended Family Temple Work project.

This project to post Phineas' journal side by side with the transcription is both additional to and complementary of the new edition of the journal which will be published in October by the Cook Family Organization.



This title pages is from the first page in the journal (section 1page 1)

## Phineas Wolcott Cook Organization To Begin a New Young Adult Chapter On October 18 at 11 a.m. MDT

A new young adult chapter of PWC for descendants ages 18-30 will begin on October 18 at 11 a.m. It will be held via zoom.

Information on the zoom link and other details will be available on social media including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter in advance of the event. An email will also be sent out to all family members ahead of time with more details.

Marcia Marshall, director of the new chapter says the new chapter will meet 3 times per year. The chapter's purpose is to introduce young descendants to Phineas, his history, and the projects and purposes of our family organization.

Cook Family Organization social media sites can be found under "Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization". The email address is cookfamilynewsletter@gmail.com.



# Cook Organization Begins Extended Family Research, Temple Work Project

In an effort to increase family participation in Cook family history, a new project has been developed which will assist family members in doing basic geneology research as well as temple work for ancestors of Phineas Wolcott Cook and his wives.

Brent Hale, director of the project for the PW Cook Family Organization, has identified thousands of names of Phineas' ancestors and his wives' ancestors and their dependents who need more documentation and whose temple work has not yet been done. He found these ancestors while doing some personal research into the life expectancy of Cook descendants which lead him to looking into Phineas' ancestors back to Henry Cooke, the first ancestor to arrive in America. It was in the course of this research he identified those ancestors who need more research done and whose temple work still needs to be finished.

He has created a database of the names of those ancestors who need more research done. A web-based signup for those interesting in helping with this research and temple work is being created. This sign up will soon be available on social media posts, the website or future email messages with instructions to use it. When you sign up, you will be given a name to research and their FamilySearch ID.

Brent has suggested several recommended steps to help family members in their use of this sign up

First, check the FamilySearch "View My Relationship" link to make sure that the person is a relative.

Then use sources to document that each person is a real person. We do not recommend doing temple work for persons who have no source documentation. Multiple sources will improve the accuracy of the work and should be linked when possible.

Each person should be documented with: name, gender, and a birth, marriage or death vital statistic that indicates a date and a location.

Brent also recommends using sources to link children to their parents, and spouses. Also, he says it would be good to check for duplicate records.

Finally, after all the information is reasonably documented for each individual and family, then family members should check to be sure the LDS temple work has not already been done for them.

Brent explained that some of the names on the online database already have documentaion that appears to be accurate. Others have little documentation or may be



inaccurately linked to children or spouses. Some duplicate records still need to be merged.

While this is a family-led project, it should be noted that since Family Search is a "live" database, other researchers not in our direct family may also be working some of the names.

A training class has been prepared for family members who would like to help with this research. It will especially help those who would like to assist in completing the LDS temple work for our extended family.

Anyone with questions about helping with this project could contact Brent Hale at [brentwhale@gmail.com](mailto:brentwhale@gmail.com), Wendy Bentley at [WendyWBentley@gmail.com](mailto:WendyWBentley@gmail.com), or Janet Porter at [janetprtr@gmail.com](mailto:janetprtr@gmail.com). Any of these three could help assist you with this project or help with training on how to do the work.

Watch on  
social media,  
the Cook  
website,  
and future  
emails for  
instructions on  
how to sign  
up

# New Phineas Journal to be Printed

Continued from page 1

many journals of his children will add valuable information for the periods of Phineas' life after his formal journal ended in 1857. For the 40 remaining years of his life, his record is compiled from a variety of other sources, including his children's journals as

well as the recently discovered minutes kept for the Goshen Ward.

This expanded edition contains information about Phineas' years in Goshen. There is also information about the years he spent in Bear Lake, Swan Creek, Sanpete County, Logan, Hams Fork, Wyoming and

Star Valley, Wyoming.

Much of the information we know about his life during these later years was found in the journals many of his children kept.

Janet Porter, family genealogist has spent many years gathering information, editing and expanding Phineas' Journal. The new edition contains much information not found in earlier editions, including the entire Goshen Journal, which was only discovered in the Church History library in the last decade.

The P. W. Cook Family Organization will eventually release the book digitally on the the website in the future, but the date of that has not yet been released, and may not occur for several years.

## Make Plans Now For the New Journal Phineas Wolcott Cook: A Legacy of Faith

The new full-color, hardbound legacy edition of Phineas' jexpanded ournal is nearly ready to print. It is *Phineas Wolcott Cook: A Legacy of Faith*

Because the cost of the book is tied to how many copies are printed, we hope to give family members time to make arrangements to purchase the book. We will initially conduct a survey to see how many family members might be interested in purchasing this book.

Please find the survey at this web address: <https://forms.gle/Z1ewqmDK9LeqPvVH6>

Watch social media and emails for more information in the coming months on ordering this book. It will printed only once, so plan now to get a copy for you and your family members.

### December 1845-October 1846 Michigan to Nebraska

#### Journey to Join the Saints

During the winter of 1845, I was finishing off a house, which was an addition to the main house, until the month of December when an Elder by the name of Edward Willard was sent to me to tell me the time had come for all the Saints to gather, for the church was going to move to Vancouver's Island or someplace in the far west. It was not known yet where, but we were required to do as Abraham did, to go to a land that should yet be shown to us. I told Mother the word I had received, but she did not like it much. I said the Lord had called me to save my father's house and it was for her as much as any.

*to gather for the church was going to move to Vancouver's Island or some place in the far west, it was known yet where, but we were required to do as Abraham did to go to a land that should yet be shown to us, I told mother the word that I had received but she did not like it much. I said that the Lord had called me to save my father's house and it was for her as much as any.*

Original Phineas W. Cook Journal p. 35 (Image 88)

She said that if she was never saved until I did it, she should be damned to all eternity. I talked much to her about my faith and the hope that was before me, but she did not believe me. She said she had one consolation and it was I had not any means that I could command to go with and she guessed I would have my match to get away. I told her the God that I served was rich, for the earth was his, and the fullness thereof and I had no fears but what I should get away. Inasmuch as I [had] done the best I could, the Lord was bound to open the way for me and he surely would do it.

"Yes!" said she, "the God that does such things is made of silver and gold."



40-50 miles wide and 250 miles long, Vancouver Island was once considered as the possible location for Zion on the American Continent

#### Vancouver Island

While the Saints generally accepted the idea that their eventual destination would be somewhere in the Rocky Mountains, in 1845 they had no idea exactly where it would be. Vancouver's Island, then held by the British, was one of the possibilities suggested (Leonard J. Arrington, Brigham Young, American Moses, Vintage Books, New York 1985, p. 123). Part of Vancouver's attraction was that it would be out of the country and away from present persecution. The Saints in England liked the idea of an American Zion under the British flag.

"The November 28, 1846, issue of the Millennial Star carried a petition to Queen Victoria and the members of the British Parliament for a grant of land and financial assistance to transport 20,000 British settlers to 'Vancouver's Island.' But the petition was apparently never directly acted upon, and in January 1849 a royal charter turned Vancouver Island over to the Hudson Bay Company." (Herbert Howe Bancroft, History of Utah, San Francisco, 1889, p. 238, reprinted in Robert J. McCue, "The Saints on Vancouver's Island," The Ensign, April 1976).



# Cook Family Website and Social Media Posts are Regularly Updated

The Cook Family Organization engages in an ongoing effort to communicate with family members through various media outlets.

The Cook family Website, [Cookfamily.org](http://www.cookfamily.org), is continually being updated. The website currently includes a "Histories and Journals" link on the front page of the website. Additional links to "Ancestors of Phineas Wolcott Cook" are available, which provide information about several generations of Phineas' ancestors.

Included for many of the ancestors is information on their relationship to Phineas and in some, a short sketch of their life with documentation of their genealogical information.

Eventually similar information will be included for each of Phineas' 4 wives.

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter posts are regularly shared containing information about Phineas' ancestors. Recent posts have included stories about the family of Henry Cook and his wife Judith. Others include Henry's great, grandson, Daniel Cook, Sr (and Phineas' great grandfather) and his wife Elizabeth were featured in one post. Daniel died in 1778 while three of his sons were serving in the Revolutionary War and Elizabeth lived an additional 22 years.

Anyone can follow the Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages to regularly view the posts. Find us under the name "Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization" on all platforms.

The Cook family website is a source for information on both the life of Phineas and on the organization. Look below for a list of the links to many of the features on the website, including information from the 2019 Cook O Rama including a video of the 2nd session and links to the many location videos produced for the event.

## Cook Family Website

<http://www.cookfamily.org>, main web page for the site

**Bookstore:** <http://www.cookfamily.org/store/index.html>, to purchase Cook Family History Materials

**Phineas Wolcott Cook**  
Family Organization

Home Family Tree Histories Store

**New book:**  
**Phineas Wolcott Cook A Legacy of Faith**

- Click here if you are interested in a hardbound book.
- Click here for a pdf preview

**Family Fun**  
Games and Puzzles  
Skits and Readers Theatre  
Interactive Family Tree

**Get Involved**  
Follow us on social media  
How you can help Cook-o-Rama

**Learn More**  
Histories and Journals  
Newsletters  
Monthly Family History Vignettes

**Organization**  
Cook Family Store  
Mission Statement  
Family Organization Officers

**Cook Family Organization**

- Learn More
- Get Involved
- Family Fun
- Organization

Site Map

**Learn More**  
Histories and Journals  
Newsletters  
Family History Vignettes

**Get Involved**  
How you can help Cook-o-Rama

**Family Fun**  
Games and Puzzles  
Skits & Readers Theatre  
Interactive Family Tree

**Organization**  
Store  
Mission Statement  
Organization

Search

Enter search terms.

**Recent Posts**

- 2020, May 02 - Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Celebration 2019
- 2018, Oct 22 - Chronology - Where they were and what they did
- 2018, Oct 04 - Elder Rulon Stacey Speaks About Cook Family Heritage
- 2018, Oct 02 - Videos
- 2018, Oct 02 - Chronology - Where they were and what they did

© Copyright 2017, PWCO. Created using Sphinx 1.8.5

Phineas W Cook Website front page

**Histories and Journals:** <http://www.cookfamily.org/historiesandjournals.html>

**Family pedigree chart:** <http://www.cookfamily.org/tree/pedigree.php?I=1&show-full=1&PEDIGREE-GENERATIONS=4&talloffset=1&ged=Cook>

# Goshen Journal: The Move to Sandtown

Part 15,  
by Janet Porter

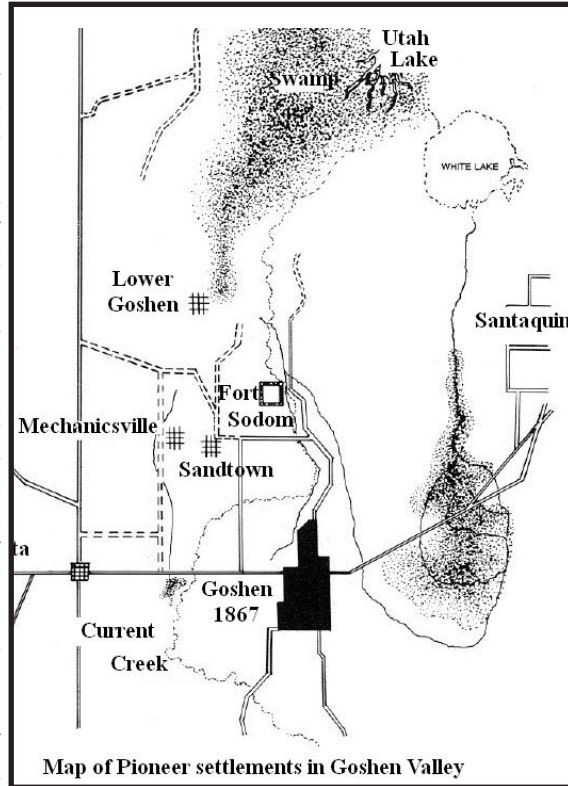
Summer of 1859 was a difficult time for the Goshen saints. Having been forced out of their homes two successive years as snow and ice melted and water seeped into their homes, they had located a spot on high ground almost two miles southwest and began the work of rebuilding and relocating. As they were also planting crops and managing their herds, it was a stressful time for all. And having recently emerged from a tempestuous experience with Chauncey Webb cutting their hay to sell, they were already weary.

Contention began to disrupt their meetings and several families left Goshen. Phineas wrote to Bishop Edward Hunter about the problem, and was told there must not be contention in Priesthood Meetings. Phineas did his best to ease the tension. He wrote:

*"Bishop P. W. Cook said that he should report to their respective Quorums those turbulent members and would take it as a favor for them to leave this place and the time would come when they would have to humble themselves. The Bishop showed the necessity of every man having the light within him under all circumstances. Men are controlled by two principles, good and evil. [We must ask and seek] for the spirit of revelation to guide us under all circumstances. Showed the necessity of prayer and that regular."*

On August 7, Bishop Cook arose and said he had been edified as a general thing with the spirit of the Seventies. He had his trials. He said

*"Men came on this earth to be tried and I feel thankful that I am accounted worthy. It is the duty of every man to follow his file leader and keep his covenants, live his religion and magnify his calling."*



Map of Pioneer settlements in Goshen Valley  
The Summer of 1859 old Fort Sodom was relocated two miles southwest on a high bank (Courtesy Dale Berge)

*"It seems that some of you have been tried with me or with my acts. It was taught me years ago that the people would be tried from time to time by the servants of God. I have only done what I considered to be my duty. I alone am responsible for the record of this people and the acts of them. If they will take my counsel they are not accountable for my acts. For I am accountable to them who have placed me here."*

On August 14 he exhorted the

people:

*"Know for a surety that [you] are the friend of God, and if there are any who do not know, or think you are not the friends of God, try to prove yourselves faithful to his servants so that through them you may obtain favor in his sight or make yourselves friends on righteous principles."*

After doing everything he knew how to stop it, the bickering continued. So Phineas stopped holding meetings until the end of the year. After months of conflict with Brother Webb and others, Phineas did not back away from what he considered his responsibility. To him Priesthood authority implied obedience, and there was no compromise. He told the saints,

*"Some were in too great hurry to get rich, had to go to cutting hay, picking currants, etc. on Sunday because they had no time in the week. Heard there was some said that they should leave unless there is an alteration. There will be an alteration. The Priesthood will have to keep their covenants."*



Old Fort Sodom, abandoned in 1859, is now private property (Courtesy Seth Porter)

# P.W. Cook Family Organization

Date			
Suggested Annual Donation - \$10 per family - Tax Deductible (You may contribute more)			
Item (10% discount on all items if dues are current or accompany this order)	Price	Quantity	Total
COMING SOON! Phineas W. Cook Journal 3rd Ed., Color Illustrated, 400 pages	TBD		
NEW! Samuel Bryson's Journey book	\$15.00		
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD	\$6.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book	\$10.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD	\$5.00		
Triumph of Testimony, 462 page history of PWC to Utah	\$37.50		
P.W. Cook Diary Paperback 1980 2nd Edition	\$4.00		
DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P.W. Cook	\$8.00		
Cook Ancestral Tour Guides			
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut	\$4.00		
Wallingford, Connecticut	\$4.00		
Salem, Massachusetts	\$4.00		
State of New York	\$4.00		
State of Utah	\$4.00		
Family Fireside Stories			
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)	\$9.00		
Book II (Illustrated Stories:LDS Conversion)	\$9.00		
Book III (Illustrated Stories:Winter Quarters)	\$9.00		
PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy and documentation	\$6.00		
Goshen Documents	\$6.00		

Total Purchases

Personal Information	Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductible)	
Name:	Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Line	
Street Address:	Ann Eliza Howland Family Line	
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:	Amanda Polly Savage Family Line
	Catherine McCleve Family Line	
	Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line	
	Other: Web Site, equipment, etc.	
Mailing Information:	Total Donations:	
Mail this form with check to :	My Annual Dues are already paid: Yes No	
PWC	Annual Organizational Dues	
130 Twin Peaks Drive	Paid Dues Discount on Items Purchased ( Minus 10%)	
Layton, Utah 84040	(Add Purchases, Donations, Dues and Discount) GRAND TOTAL:	