



August 28, 1819 • July 24, 1900

# Phineas Wolcott Cook FAMILY ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1991

After 7 years of effort, LaMar Day can point with pride to the completion of a video version of slides about P.W. Cook, his wives and children.

Members of the board viewed the video at their May meeting and were well pleased with it. It is not quite up to overall quality of the PBS documentary on the Civil War, but it didn't cost millions of dollars either, and my interest in these people lead me to be nearly as as fascinated by this 40 minute video as I was by the PBS documentary. I don't want to oversell the video; it has its limitations. But I think it is an excellent effort and well worth obtaining.

The organization will recover the production costs after about 70 copies have been sold. We have some orders already. I think the video is an excellent way to interest children in their ancestors. This may be the way family history records will be preserved and presented in the 21st century.

I encourage you to obtain a copy of the video. I plan to.

This message and newsletter are my swan song. I've been involved in the leadership of the P.W. Cook organization for about 10 years, which is considerably less than LaMar Day's service, but still an adequate chunk. I'm leaving the U.S. for a year of

teaching in Hungary anyway, and this is a good occasion to bow out.

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There will be a meeting at 10:00 AM on September 14, 1991 (the second Saturday) to select a new president and officers. At the same meeting possible changes in the by-laws of the organization will be discussed too. Some think the organization should be restructured to become a strictly genealogy operation, with less emphasis on family reunions; others disagree.

Elsewhere in the Newsletter, LaMar has provided some news about genealogy research. I've added a little about research on the Swedish lines.

Margaret Taylor has provided information about the balances found in each of the genealogy accounts for Phineas' wives.

As you may recall, some of their descendants have earmarked specific contributions for such research. You are welcome to follow suit. Just designate on the order form the account you want credited. And don't forget the general account either, since it is from that account that the money to do Phineas' own work comes

I wish each of you well, and commend the organization to you for your support.

Gordon Whiting

\*At Lamar Day's home in Bountiful

## GENEALOGY NEWS

We have a new person in charge of the Genealogical Research Committee: Janet Porter. Her address and phone number are: 430 South 450 East Orem Utah 84058, 801-226-8094.

Janet is the mother of 10 children, with two in college and two on LDS missions. She is very busy, but wants to help and is very enthusiastic about accepting the responsibility for genealogical research for the organization. We're fortunate to have her with us, and I'm sure she will do an outstanding job.

A lot of family members are doing research, but we fear that many are repeating once again what has been done many times before. We want to minimize duplication of effort and spent time plowing new ground.

We would like to provide each individual who desires to do research with a packet of materials that would include:

- A copy of work already verified by us.
- A copy of work done on an assigned line.
- An assignment to do research on particular lines -- individuals can ask for a line they want to work on.

Several could be working on the same line and as new information is obtained, it would be sent to Janet who will enter it into the research data base and see that it is shared with those working on the line.

We will also maintain a separate data file of verified records. Before the newly researched information is entered into the verified files, the information will be carefully reviewed by the Verification Committee to assure the accuracy and reliability of the work. No researcher should feel concern about this, since once the verification is completed the Family Organization will recognize the work and stand behind it. The organization is

registered with the Family History Library in Salt Lake. They value what we are doing.

This approach to organized family research is a combination of the best approaches we have seen. It is good in theory and should assist the family in getting the research done. To be successful, we have to have a lot of help. We need to be able to count on YOU. Please let us know if you can help.

We need:

- Lots of people desiring to do research.
- A few in the Salt Lake area to serve on the Verification Committee.

We are excited about the great opportunities ahead and grateful that Janet Porter is willing to coordinate the effort.

LaMar Day

## BALANCES IN GENEALOGY ACCOUNTS

The records of the organization show the following balances in our five genealogy accounts:

General	\$ 70.00
Howland	140.00
McCleve	80.00
Polson	1,046.58
Savage	25.00
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	1,361.58

These amounts come from member contributions earmarked for genealogy on particular lines.

Margaret Taylor

## ORDER FORM

For payments other than the video, mail this form along with your check to:

Margaret Taylor  
P.W. Cook Family Organization  
1809 North 2050 West  
Provo Utah 84604

Organization dues \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional contribution  
for genealogy work on  
the \_\_\_\_\_ line \_\_\_\_\_

Copies of P.W. Cook's  
Diary @ \$5 per copy \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

TO ORDER THE NEW VIDEO TAPE  
OF P.W. COOK, SEND A CHECK  
FOR \$12.50 DIRECTLY TO LAMAR  
DAY AT:

467 West 2400 South  
Bountiful Utah 84010

You may also send him address changes  
you know about.

Are you doing genealogy research?

☐ No ☐ Yes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LIFE OF PHINEAS WOLCOTT COOK ON VIDEO

A 42 minute video cassette of Phineas'  
life is now available.

We have spent several years gathering  
pictures and information. We have  
transferred it to a video tape which can  
be sold at much lower cost and used at  
greater convenience than the original  
slides.

For a copy, send a check for \$12.50 for  
each tape. That covers the cost of  
shipping and handling as well.

The tape was scripted by LaMar Day  
with help from Shirley Sealy. Keith  
Cook and LaMar Day did the  
photography. The narration is by  
LaMar Day and Marlene Day.

SEND YOUR ORDER DIRECTLY TO  
LAMAR DAY:

467 West 2400 South  
Bountiful Utah 84010

He will mail the tape to you.

## REMEMBER

Phineas Wolcott Family Meeting  
to elect officers and  
directors. All family members  
are welcome and encouraged to  
attend.

When: September 14, 1991

Time 10:00 A.M.

Place: 467 West 2400 South  
Bountiful, Utah

Phone: (801) 298-1654

P.W. Cook Family Organization  
1809 North 2050 West  
Provo Utah 84604

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#### SWEDISH RESEARCH

I met with Steve Parkes a few weeks ago to discuss the research situation on Johanna Christina Polson's lines. I learned that his employment situation is forcing him to give up active genealogical research. He will provide the names of some other accredited Swedish genealogists to carry on the effort.

From our discussion, I learned the following points:

1. The work initiated decades ago by Carl Cook and carried out by Swedish professionals seems to hold up well to modern scrutiny. No important errors have been discovered so far.

2. Many of the lines are back to the beginning of parish registers or other sources. When the records run out, work on direct lines becomes impossible. Collateral lines

are always possible, however.

3. Some of that work may well best be done through name extraction efforts, although the task of linking up families will not be accomplished through name extraction.

4. Steve found that his lines and ours run together at a certain point. That made him doubly interested in our research, but as already indicated, he cannot presently spare the time to do genealogy and wishes to relinquish the account.

We have the financial resources to carry out more research, but the Polson branch needs to decide what it wants to do.

Gordon Whiting