



LUCY MACK SMITH
1775-1856

JOSEPH SMITH, SR. FAMILY REUNION NEWS

APRIL 15, 1979

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1

1564 North Moonriver Drive #9, Provo, Utah 84601
Buddy Youngreen, Executive-Secretary



JOSEPH SMITH, SR.
1771-1840

1979 Reunion in Historic Nauvoo

CITY OF NAUVOO
NAUVOO, ILLINOIS
62354

19 September 1978

Joseph Smith, Sr. Family Reunion
Buddy Youngreen, Executive Secretary
1564 North Moonriver Drive # 9
Provo, Utah 84601

Gentlemen:

We were pleased to have "hosted" the first of the Joseph Smith, Sr. Family Reunions here in Nauvoo back in 1972. We have heard reports that these reunions have been very successful as they have been held in various places in the United States.

As Mayor, on behalf of the City of Nauvoo, I'd like to extend to you an invitation to again come to Nauvoo for your reunion. Quite a bit of restoration has been finished since August of 1972. You will be most welcome, and I will do my best to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely yours,

Walter H. Pierce
Walter Hugh Pierce
Mayor

WHP/j

Family to return to Illinois August 2, 3, 4 & 5

The fifth reunion of the Smith Family to take place in recent years, will be held in Nauvoo, Illinois, August 2nd through the 5th. Wheels are now turning to set in motion one of the greatest family gatherings ever.

Kenny E. Duke, a 3rd great-grandson of Katherine Smith Salisbury, will be handling the housing coordination. Transportation arrangements from the western portion of the United States, to Nauvoo, are being made by Joseph F. Patrick, a great-grandson of Hyrum Smith, while the overall program, including local tours, speakers, and entertainment is under the direction of Buddy Youngreen, Executive-Secretary of the family organization.

Speakers for the biennial

reunion this year include Lynn E. Smith, great-grandson of Joseph Smith, Jr., and a Patriarch in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Eldred G. Smith, 2nd great-grandson of Hyrum Smith and Patriarch to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Richard L. Anderson, Professor of Religion and History at Brigham Young University. Dr. Anderson holds doctorates from Harvard in Law and from the University of California in ancient history. He has authored several books and articles regarding the family.

A multi-media play, "Yesterday & Forever", the love story of Joseph Smith and Emma Hale will be presented as a part of this year's reunion.

The production has played ten months in Utah and has also been seen in Arizona and California.

As a loving tribute, the family will place a memorial wreath at the Smith Family Cemetery, located southwest of the old "Smith Homestead". It is the final resting place of approximately twenty-six individuals, including Joseph Smith, Sr., Lucy Mack Smith, Hyrum Smith, Joseph Smith, Jr., Emma Hale Smith, Samuel Harrison Smith, Mary Bailey Smith, Don Carlos Smith and Caroline Grant Smith.

If you wish to assure yourself a place at the 1979 reunion, register now by sending \$5.00 per person, or \$15.00 per family (father, mother and dependant children), to **Buddy Youngreen, Executive-Secretary, 1564 N. Moonriver Dr. #9, Provo, Utah 84601.** Make checks payable to: Joseph Smith, Sr.,

Family Reunion. All monies must be received by July 1st to guarantee reunion participation. If housing is desired, please indicate specific needs, (how many people, how many nights, motel, dormitory, camp grounds, etc.) in your correspondence. Meals will not be catered, but sufficient time will be provided for individuals to frequent the restaurants and grocery facilities of Nauvoo. After registration fees are received, you will be contacted as necessary regarding reunion details and possible activity assignments.

Please include basic genealogical information regarding your family in your correspondence (Names, ages, relationship to Joseph Smith, Sr., etc.) and whether you would be willing to participate in the Art, Crafts and Memorabilia display (describe items) or the talent show (describe talent).

Mayor of Nauvoo welcomes Smith Family

Gathering at Kirtland Inspiring

From the Thursday evening reception to the re-enactment of the Kirtland Temple dedication on Sunday morning, family members and friends who attended the 1977 gathering of the Joseph Smith, Sr., family enjoyed hours packed with inspiring and informative experiences.

Addresses presented to the group included "The Kirtland Era" delivered by Truman G. Madsen in the temple, "Restoration of the Kirtland Temple" by Kenneth Byrns of

the RLDS Kirtland Stake, and "The Role of the Women in the Kirtland Era" by Gracia Denning. Some of these addresses will be in print for the coming reunion in Nauvoo.

Other activities included tours, the film presentation "Seeds of Greatness" by Buddy Youngreen, an Arts and Crafts show, and many delicious meals catered by the local RLDS Laurel organization. Family members attended "The Temple Drama" presented by students from

Graceland College. This moving play gave the family a "you are there" feeling that made a lasting impression on many.

Bryce Chamberlain's dramatization, "Joseph Smith, Jr., the Man - The Prophet" was another unusual esthetic opportunity for family members as he mingled with them, in costume, during the lunch hour following his presentation.

The Talent Show, emceed by Lorena Normandeau,

ranged from the sublime to the ridiculous - including family presentations by the Frogleys; the Coopers; Paul Carter; a delightful musical tribute to their progenitor by granddaughters of Joseph F. Smith, Judy Jardine, Nonie Sorenson, Mariane Warner; a dance routine by Diane and Deanne Startup; a lovely solo by Ronda Frogley, Miss Iowa, 1977. Everyone enjoyed the Sophie Tucker style piano and vocalization by Josephine Ebeling. Buddy's very funny

oleo, "Grandma's Lye Soap" concluded an evening of fun and fellowship that we hope will be the first of many. To all who shared their talents, a hearty thanks!

Descendants of Mary Duty Smith and Jerusha Barden Smith gathered Saturday in the cemetery just north of the Kirtland Temple, where they participated in a ceremony honoring these two women. They were escorted across the interstate highway by police to ensure their safety. A wreath

was placed on the Smith Family plot by Janet Costello and Ronda Frogley.

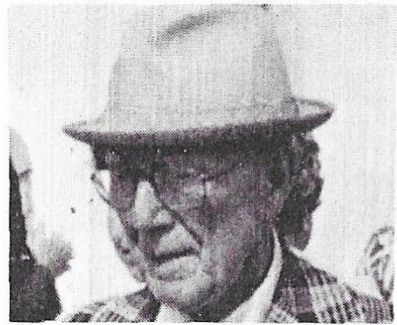
All of the activities were under the direction of Lynn E. and Lorene Smith and their committee. As a family, we wish to acknowledge the labor of love performed by Lynn and Lorene. No one could count the hours, the details and the finances expended by this special couple in making the Kirtland Reunion a manifestation of the meaning of the hearts of the children turning towards their fathers.



"Family picture" on Kirtland Temple Steps, 1977

**TRIBUTE TO MY BROTHER,
J. WINTER SMITH
(1880 - 1978)**

by David W. Smith
(Grandson of
Samuel Harrison Smith)



The recent passing of J. Winter Smith has revived in the hearts of many hundreds of his choice friends, a determination to better their lives. The temporal, mental and spiritual aid they have received from him will always be an inspiration to them. Out of all those whose lives he has blessed, I am sure I lead the list, at least in the space of years.

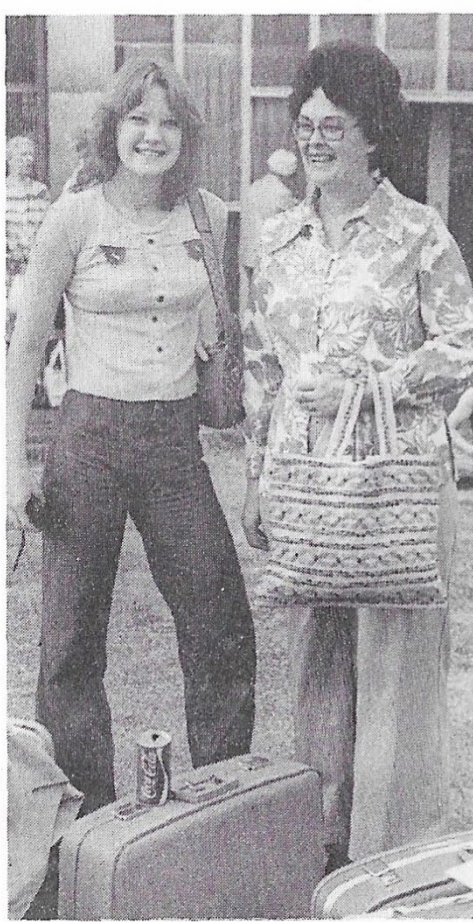
Father's loss of property in the panic of 1893, and later his loss of health and earning capacity made life difficult for mother, with eight in the family. For years she made most of our clothes from the discarded clothing of friends. This, plus dozens of other time-consuming duties, gave her little time to spend with each of the children individually. In spite of this, I received very rich and rewarding training. With a brother like Jay, four years older, who was my idol from my first memory, I was well taken care of.

Many times I have had occasion to say that no young boy ever had a finer "big brother". Everything he said or

did was "law and gospel" to me. If it was fishing or swimming with two friends, he kept a watchful eye on my safety. He was my teacher in milking cows or irrigating gardens, and when we slept outdoors, he seemed to know the names of all the bright stars and constellations.

Later, the two of us and a still older brother had our schooling interrupted as we worked to help with family finances. I had felt for several years that my education had ended with the eighth grade. It was Jay's determination to get back to school and work his way through Stanford. That gave me some determination of my own. As he left for his second college year, I told him that if he could make it back to school on his own, so could I. Two years later, I switched from a full to a part time job, and started 9th grade with students seven years younger than I. In two years I got a mission call, and Jay said he would lend me the money to go. When I returned, he only accepted a token repayment, and I was able to get my degree.

When I visited him three weeks before his passing, he was still showing that same concern for my family's welfare. It would be impossible to count the good he has done for all those whose lives he has touched during his 97 years of earthly life. □



**Darcy & Lucille Smith
on the way to Kirtland**

The Joy of Being Together
by Gracia Denning
(Great-great-granddaughter of
Joseph Smith, Jr.)

While it would be pleasant to look back upon the first four Smith Family reunions with rose-colored glasses and ignore any discord that may have arisen, it is neither realistic nor practical to do so. To completely ignore some of the problems instead of facing, and trying to solve them would

possibly give rise to future problems, yet, to single out specific difficulties might tend to give them greater importance than they deserve. It is our hope that, by making an effort to better inform all of us regarding some of the complexities involved in bringing together this vast family of Smiths, the goal of the reunions might be furthered. The goal is to increase our acquaintance with one another and thereby to diminish misunderstanding or prejudice, promoting unity of family feeling and heritage, as exemplified by our first reunion theme: "The joy of being together."

Unintentionally, distress has sometimes been caused by the use of general terms of expression to designate particular groups or factions, such as "Members of the two churches. . .", denoting a somewhat natural, but mistaken assumption that, because all stem from the patriarch, Joseph Smith, Sr., all presumably adhere to one branch or another of the Latter-day Saint faith.

In truth, there are three major faiths and many minor ones involving intense loyalty to Joseph Smith, Jr., and the Book of Mormon. They are LDS, RLDS, and Church of Christ or Temple Lot. Through the family reunions, members of all these groups as well as others of many faiths have come together in a desire to share their common heritage, not only without contention or hostility, but with joy and affection. This alone is a modern miracle. It is being accomplished by far-reaching sensitivity to one another, meeting together in familial love and with the sincere wish not to offend in word or manner. In a very real sense, we are treading upon new and holy ground.

In the earnest effort to recognize and appreciate the feelings of the three LDS groups involved, we have sometimes failed to recognize that within this great family are many Catholics, Lutherans, Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Jews, Buddhists, and probably adherents to still other faiths. Many of these may have come to the reunions and sometimes wondered if they belonged. Some may have stayed away entirely, because of their personal faith or lack of any faith, or because of diffidence due to the drama and tragedy of the family history.

It is hoped that, with more information and more concern, all of us will strive sincerely to broaden our appreciation of one another, to embrace areas of interest other than religion. However, all



**L-R: Hyrum G. Smith, Eldred G. Smith & Hyrum K. Smith
at the Kirtland Talent Show**

must recognize that in a very nearly Biblical sense, our heritage is great because of the role religion played in the family history. Coming together is indeed a miracle and all of us are overcoming suspicion and lack of knowledge through our attendance at these reunions. So many facts of our family history are bound up in religious experience that it is impossible to consider that history in a purely secular setting, yet we know a study of legal, political or personal aspects, as applied to the Smith family, could still engender offence almost as easily as religious subjects. Ours is a heritage of greatness achieved in conflict. For so long, we have not even been able to consider sharing this heritage without conflict - but now we can.

The Smith Family was great, and accomplished impossible things in the past, largely due to unity of purpose. Whatever we, as individuals, believe or do not believe, we have to agree that our common ancestors were uncommon people whose convictions and steadfast determination are qualities to be proud of. As a modern family, we can once again achieve impossible things as we unitedly apply ourselves to the great commandment, "Love one another." Let the seeds of greatness flourish! Let the unintentional hurts be forgiven and efforts be made to prevent any in the future. Let love be the watchword.

As we approach the fifth reunion, may we rededicate ourselves with these lines by Dr. Clinton Larson which gave us our theme for that first reunion:

*We consecrate the wings of
our being
To the kingdoms of the air,
That our families may live
from the memory of
time
Into the vision of the sky,
In the joy of being together.*

**JOSEPH SMITH, SR.,
FAMILY REUNIONS**
Some Thoughts on Attending
by Art and Carol Joy Cooper
(Hyrum Smith Family
members)

When the announcement of the Kirtland Reunion arrived, we had reservations about making the trip, because it would require driving straight through, twenty-one hours each way. However, recollections of the three previous reunions soon convinced us that we must indeed attend, and what a rewarding experience it was!

We thrilled at our first glimpse of the Kirtland Temple and its beautiful surroundings, and were humbly grateful to sit within that holy structure, contemplating the glorious events which had transpired there in the 1830's. We were delighted to renew old ac-

quaintances and make new friends among the blessed descendants of our patriarch, Joseph Smith, Sr. Also, it was a real pleasure to participate in the talent show and the arts and crafts exhibit.

To all our family, an outstanding feature of the Kirtland Reunion was Bryce Chamberlain's dramatic characterization of the Prophet, Joseph Smith. Never had this illustrious kinsman seemed so real, so dynamic, so much a true prophet of God.

Looking in retrospect on all four of the Smith Reunions, we appreciate the unmistakable inspiration that accompanies their planning and execution. When we consider the loving dedication of so many who labor diligently and long to make it all possible, we are so impressed! How many families are privileged to enjoy the services of prominent LDS and RLDS scholars, and of talented professional entertainers — services generously donated out of loving respect for the family heritage? Perhaps only one — the family of Lucy Mack and Joseph Smith, Sr. What a blessing to be numbered among their descendants — what a blessing that suspicion, mistrust and even enmity of more than a century's duration have been replaced by genuine love and appreciation, through four reunions in the space of five years. Thank You, Buddy Younggreen and all who have supported and taken part in this great and on-going effort! And a special thanks to Lynn and Lorene Smith and their committee who worked especially hard to make the reunion in Kirtland the great experience it was. □

**My Recorded Interviews
At Kirtland**
by Gracia Denning
(Great-great-granddaughter
of Joseph Smith, Jr.)

On Sunday, August 7th, our last day in Kirtland, I took the tape recorder and, circulating among the crowd after the reenactment of the dedication of the Temple, interviewed as many people as I could.

The atmosphere was charged with emotion. The time had come to say good-bye and nobody wanted to leave. After a drizzly rain that had continued during most of the reunion, the sun shown brightly. Everyone was trying to get a last word with their new friends. . . pictures . . . tears. It was a thrill to be there. I tried to capture some of the feeling of that moment.

In an interview with Karen Startup Berrett, I asked what she was most impressed with. Karen said, "The Temple."

"As we were all singing, (and we had so many songs.) I thought, that was our one dependable communion. We were singing the songs Joseph and Hyrum selected."

**Arts & Crafts Display at
Kirtland**

by Josephine Smith Ebeling
(Great-granddaughter of
Joseph Smith, Jr.)

Many people responded to our request for a display of hobbies in connection with the 1977 Kirtland, Ohio reunion. They brought their carefully wrapped treasures by car, bus and plane. Some items were family heirlooms; others were made by individuals in attendance at the reunion. A room was set aside for our display.

The antiques or keepsakes included a quilt made by Mrs. David H. Smith; watercolor paintings by Elbert A. Smith and David H. Smith; a military dressing case owned by Joseph Smith, Jr. (exhibited by Lynn E. and Lorene Smith); Indian costumes, small drums and other authentically handmade pieces from deer skin by Ralph G. Smith; afghans by Lorena Normandeau (she had been making them for her grandchildren); Bargello pillows by Ruth Silver; a crewel picture by Earlena Ebeling Finken; hooked rugs and Japanese Bunka embroidered by Josephine Smith Ebeling; metal and torchworked candle holders by Kay Denning; a ceramic figurine by Lori Denning who also made and brought a handmade blanket. There were many more, all deserving mention.

I wish to thank those who shared their talents and keepsakes, for the trouble they took and for their thoughtfulness. With so many talents in our scattered family, we are looking forward to another display in Nauvoo.

So many came a great distance and at great financial sacrifice. There was a feeling of love and compassion shared by everyone, for the hallowed walls of the beautiful Kirtland Temple were an inspiration to us all. For many, it was a first visit, but I had been there as a bride in 1925. I wish all of our kinfolk could have attended that family reunion in Kirtland, Ohio. Maybe next year, in Nauvoo. . . □



Kathleen Dyson, Bruce Dyson, & Ellis Craig converse at Kirtland

**Reunion Starts Wheels
Moving for Descendants of
William Smith**

by Kathleen A. Dyson
(Great-granddaughter of
William Smith)

All you cousins have really started the wheels moving in my head. I am, for the first time in my life, appreciating our heritage. Needless to say, this was my first attendance at a Smith family reunion and it was overwhelming. Each person with whom my husband and I spoke seemed most anxious to make us feel part of the group. All, in fact, went out of their way to do so. Information, knowledge of the past and pictures were shared

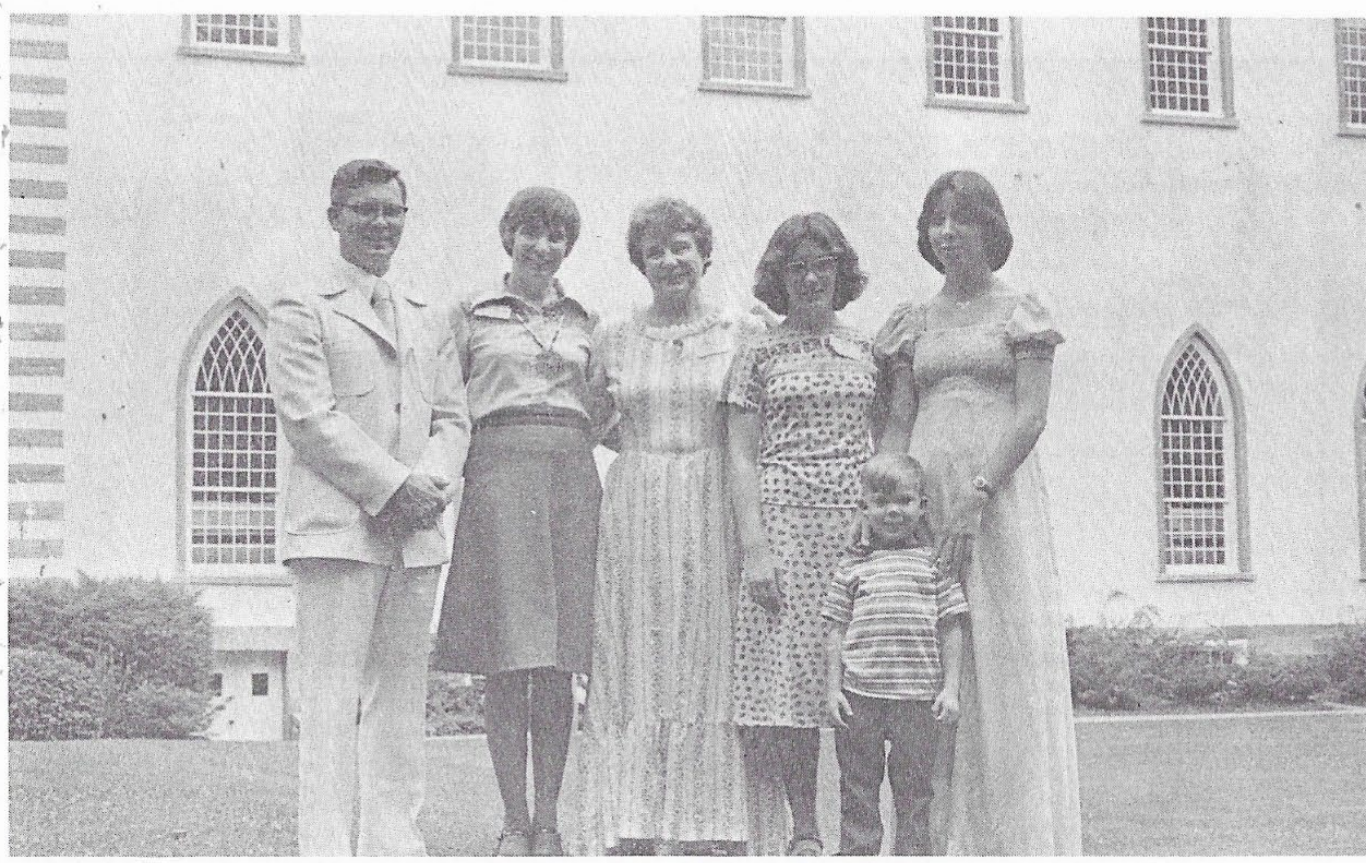
and given freely.

Anyone traveling from the Midwest to the East sees so much of past history unfolded to them and Kirtland is well-stepped in history. Naturally, it is history that pulls at the heartstrings of the Smith clan. Tears were seen in many eyes during various sessions and, in my opinion, all were deeply touched.

The entire reunion was tremendously well organized. Displays, tours and the many programs were built to educate, and that they did, to the point of causing us to want more — more reunions, more knowledge and a strong desire to seek information on our own.



**L-R: Lenore Larsen, Dan Larsen, Josephine Ebeling, Lynn E. Smith, Lorene Smith, Barbara Martin
registering family members at Kirtland**



L-R: Kay Denning, Gracia Denning, Lorena Normandeau, Lori Denning, David Denning and Alice Denning on Kirtland Temple Lawn.

"Here we are scattered all over the land feeling these same feelings and not knowing each other. It amazes me that they all feel the same things I do! I am so blessed... proud... because I am a descendant in the Smith family, and they feel exactly the same way. I didn't know that!"

The Startup twins, Diane and Deanne, were a bit reluctant to be interviewed but couldn't restrain answering when I asked how they liked the reunion. "It's great! We love it!"

Both President Brewer of the LDS Ohio Cleveland Mission and Karl Anderson, LDS stake president in Cleveland had been invited to the Sunday morning reenactment of the Temple dedication. We were very thankful to them for the many arrangements they had helped us with including the use of an organ.

We also appreciated the RLDS Church for allowing us to use their facilities in Kirtland. RLDS Bishop Kenneth Byrns, whose responsibility is the care of the Temple, gave a very informative talk.



Ruth & Harold Derk at the John Johnson Farm

President Brewer commented, "It's been a marvelous experience. There's a beautiful spirit here." And President Anderson said, "It's a thrill to be here!"

Elvin Duke, RLDS pastor from Peoria, Illinois, was there with his sister Winnie Duke Rundorf from Burlington, Iowa, and Elvin's son Ron Duke from Kitchner, Ontario. They said they appreciated getting together there. Ron had been in Kirtland before, but only as a tourist. "We didn't feel a part of something so important as it is now." He said, "I'll remember this for the rest of my life." Elvin expressed his regret that Warren Van Dyne, his third cousin, had not been well enough to attend. We all missed Warren. His joy in the reunions has been with us from the beginning.

Barbara Martin from Midland, Michigan, a daughter of Bertha Anderson Humes Clark and granddaughter of Joseph, III, was thrilled with the experience. She reminisced that her father had been to Kirtland often as a young boy, and she had many memories of her own visits there.

Joseph Byron Smith and his wife, Emma E., have attended every reunion. Emma said, "I am so happy that it's going so well"

Joseph Byron's sister, Laura Powers, great-granddaughter of Samuel, was looking extremely happy and well. The change in the weather was agreeing with everyone and it made her especially happy. She commented, "It's nice to be here." I asked her how she felt when she stood by the grave of Mary Duty Smith. She replied, "I was thrilled because I had recently read about her and what an influence she had. I was almost moved to tears. I was glad that I had read her story before coming."

Judy Jardine from Salt Lake City, Utah, said it was a "marvelous experience."

On the steps of the Temple, I met Truman Madsen and his wife, Ann. Truman had addressed the family in the Temple the previous day and we all felt his great love for the family and appreciated his scholarship and spirit. He said that during this morning's reenactment of the Kirtland Temple dedication, a magnificent spirit had come down. "When we sang 'The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning,' I was melted to the core."

Ann Madsen smiled her beautiful smile and added, "... It's been a tremendous weekend here and we feel very honored to have been included with the Smith family."

Many youth attended the reunion. Heather Schmitt from Utah said, "It's really been interesting. It's been fun getting to know the other kids. Really neat!"

Lynn and Lorene Smith came on the bus to say goodbye just as we were leaving for the West. We thanked them for all they had done, and they responded with, "Thank you all. We feel very well repaid in knowing that everyone enjoyed it."

In a flurry of flash bulbs, tears, and good wishes, kisses and cries of "God bless you all!", it was all over but the long bus ride west which afforded us a chance to doze, write journals and recount over and over to one another the highlights of a never-to-be-forgotten Joseph Smith, Sr., Family Reunion in Kirtland, Ohio. The final official act performed on the return trip home was a "Smithing Ceremony" for our ever faithful bus driver, Bob Ellison.

GENEALOGY by Elaine C. Nichols (Great-great-granddaughter of Hyrum Smith)

Lucy Mack Smith's love and concern for her family were expressed many times as she dictated the story of her life after the death of her sons in 1844. Read a few of her expressions:

While the family was living in Lebanon, New Hampshire, all the children came down with typhus. "Sophronia had a heavy siege. The physician attended her eighty-nine days, giving her medicine all the while; but on the ninetieth day he said she was so far gone it was not for her to receive any benefit from medicine, and for this cause he discontinued his attendance. The ensuing night she lay altogether motionless, with her eyes wide open, and with that peculiar aspect which bespeaks the near approach of death. As she lay thus, I gazed upon her as a mother looks upon the last shade of life in a darling child. In this moment of distraction, my husband and myself clasped our hands, fell upon our knees by the bedside, and poured out our grief to God in prayer and supplication, beseeching Him to spare our child yet a little longer.

"Did the Lord hear our petition? Yes, he most assuredly did, and before we rose to our feet he gave us a testimony that she would recover. . ."

Many of you are familiar with the story of Joseph, Jr., having his leg operated on

some weeks after his recovery from the typhus fever. His mother and Hyrum were with him night and day making every effort to keep him comfortable and never permitting the doctor to amputate the stricken leg. When a third operation became necessary, Joseph refused to take any liquor to kill the pain, saying, "I will have my father sit on the bed and hold me in his arms, and then I will do whatever is necessary in order to have the bone taken out. Mother, I want you to leave the room, for I know you cannot bear to see me suffer so; father can stand it, but you have carried me so much, and watched over me so long, you are almost worn out."

Shortly after the health of the family was improved the Smiths moved to Norwich, Vermont. After three years of crop failures, Joseph, Sr., determined to go to New York. Lucy persuaded him to go right away, leaving her to finish up their affairs and bring the family when he had found a place for them.

After many difficulties, the family was reunited and Lucy said, "When I again met my husband at Palmyra, we were much reduced — not from indolence, but on account of many reverses of fortune, with which our lives had been rather singularly marked. Notwithstanding our misfortunes, and the embarrassments with which we were surrounded, I was quite happy in once more having the society of my husband, and in throwing myself and the children upon the care

COUSIN TO COUSIN by Lorena Normandeau (Great-granddaughter of Joseph Smith, Jr.)

From Up Here to Down Under, we plan to send greetings. Wouldn't you like to know our cousins in Australia? There are enough of them to at least equal the number of Smith descendants that attended our last reunion in Kirtland. We are amassing names and addresses of our Australian cousins so that we will be able to start writing to them. Our correspondence will afford us the opportunity to share stories from our family history as well as keep those relatives abreast of our family's current events on this continent.

Who are our cousins Down Under? The family we have identified descended from Joseph Smith, Sr., through his son, Joseph Smith, Jr., through his son, Alexander Hale Smith, through his daughter, Ina Smith Wright. Aunt Ina and Uncle Sidney had ten children and their family now composes an impressive crew of kissin' cousins.

I have been corresponding with Inez Ballard, Aunt Ina's next-to-youngest daughter, and she has been helping me collect as many names as possible. She will be visiting the United States in June and she has promised to bring as much information including names and addresses as she can. She is a postmistress at

Argent's Hill, New South Wales and is required to take her holidays in June. Those of us who met her on her last trip to the States remember what a delightful person she is. We are sorry that her work obligations will make it impossible to attend our reunion this summer.

When we meet in Nauvoo, watch for the Writing Board where you will be able to scribble a note to a relative in Australia. If you can, bring a photograph of yourselves to send along with the notes. If you don't have a picture you can bring, we will have a camera to take your picture there.

See you at the Writing Board in Nauvoo! □



Cleone Isom & Edith Patrick at Hiram, Ohio

and affection of a tender companion and father."

In November of 1823, the oldest boy, Alvin, died. After telling the events surrounding his death, Lucy says, "... and when we looked to his place, and realized that he was gone from it, to return no more in this life, we all with one accord wept over our ir retrievable loss, and we could not be comforted, because he was not."

Lucy's pleasure in new family members is expressed thus as Joseph, Jr., and his father have gone to Pennsylvania to get Emma and bring her back: "A few days subsequent to my husband's departure, I set myself to work to put myself in order for the reception of my son's bride, and I felt all that pride and ambition in doing so that is common to mothers upon such occasions.

"My oldest son (Hyrum) had, previous to this formed a matrimonial relation with one of the most excellent of women (Jerusha Barden on Nov. 2, 1826), with whom I had seen much enjoyment, and I hoped for as much happiness with my second daughter-in-law as I had received from the society of the first. . ."

In 1844, with her husband, and all her sons but William, dead, and he on a mission, she says, "My daughters were with me, and from their society I derived great comfort."

Did she keep a record of her grandchildren? Yes. Her records through the year 1844 are published in a book titled, "History of Joseph Smith by his Mother Lucy Mack Smith".

Her family has increased since then until there are thousands. In memory of Lucy Mack and Joseph Smith, Sr., it has been suggested and approved that a book of their descendants be gathered and printed so that all their descendants may know each other better. You are needed to be a part of it all. The way to do it is to fill out a family group sheet and mail it to:

Mrs. Elaine C. Nichols
2121 Kensington Ave.
Salt Lake City, Ut. 84108

Remember, Lucy would have put you in her record if she could. Since she couldn't it's up to us to do it. □



L-R: Klis Hale, Toni Youngreen, Buddy Youngreen, Lorene Smith, Lynn E. Smith, Ann Madsen, Truman G. Madsen following reenactment of the Kirtland Temple Dedication

**JOSEPH SMITH, SR.,
FAMILY REUNION NEWS**



1773-1840

PUBLISHED ANNUALLY

EDITOR

Buddy Youngreen

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Gracia Denning

Lorena Normandeau

All descendants of the family wishing to be on the mailing list for the "NEWS" should send their name, address and family lineage data to Buddy Youngreen, Executive-Secretary, Joseph Smith, Sr., Family Reunion, 1564 N. Moonriver Dr. #9, Provo, Ut. 84601

MEMORIAL SERVICE
General News

Reorganized



Office of
Frederick A. Smith
Executive Evangelist

Lamoni, Iowa., Dec. 18, 1918.

To the Smith Family Association, Greetings:

Owing to the epidemic of influenza raging throughout the country and the quarantine conditions in the towns, the officers of the Smith Family Association have thought best not to hold their annual reunion on Dec. 23, as was planned, but thinking perhaps you might be interested in hearing just a little in regard to the additions and movements of the family we make a short report.

During the year 1918 two have been added by the marriage of Maria Wright, second daughter of Ina G. Wright. We are unable to give particulars. And Mr. Morris Griffin to Miss Beatrice Adel Smith, Dec. 24, 1917.

There has been six additions by birth:

(Frederick Lansing) born to Lucy Y. and Jess H. Lysinger, Jan. 23, 1918.

(Mary Lovinia) born to Winsome L. and Frank McDonald, Apr. 6, 1918.

(Ruth Davida) born to Harlita A. and Evan E. Ingle, Apr. 27, 1918.

(Jane Audentia) born to Doris E. and Harlow G. Frederick, July 27, 1918.

(Elizabeth Elaine) born to Mildred and Richard S. Salyards, Jr. Oct. 18, 1918.

(Wilma Marian) born to Beatrice and Morris Griffin, Nov. 11, 1918.

During the past year several of the families have moved from Lamoni to other localities. Pres. Albert A. Smith and family to Independence, Mo., and Richard S. Salyards, Jr. and family to St. Joseph, Mo., and Richard S. Salyards, Jr. and family to Independence, Mo. Miss Zeida Salyards is making her home with her brother Richard's family in Independence, Mo.

The past year has not found the Smith family without representatives in this great world war. Claude K. Wright, oldest son of Ina G. Wright has been in the service for some time, but has now been discharged because of shrapnel wounds received July 21, 1918, which have left him blinded in left eye and deaf in left ear.

2.

Richard S. Salyards, Jr. entered the service Sept. 18, 1917. January 28, 1918 he was discharged on account of sickness and is now in the Government Sanitarium at Fort Stanton, N. M. where his health is improving as rapidly as we can expect.

Others who have entered the service, entering different training camps are:

Alfred V. Hulme who has been in training at Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky.

Richard C. Smith entered the U. S. A. T. C. at Lawrence, Kans. and from there went to Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky.

Roger Kennedy entered the U. S. A. T. C. at Lawrence, Kans. and also went to Zachary Taylor, Ky.

Frederick A. Smith, Jr. entered the U. S. A. T. C. at Iowa City, Iowa.

Wallace A. Smith joined the National Guards at Independence, Mo.

The family is widely scattered now, but we have been favored this year in the fact that no deaths have occurred, though several have been in the war; nor have we lost any so far through the epidemic of influenza that has been so severe. We have much to be thankful for and should give praise to our God for his kindness.

May God be with you and bless you during the coming year.

May we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your very truly,

Frederick A. Smith, Sr., Pres.

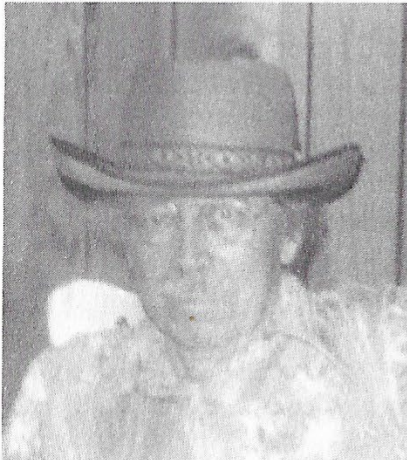
Robyn Russell, Sec.

Historian's Corner

The following letter was sent to us by Forrest Madison, a great-grandson of Joseph Smith, Jr., who resides in Downey, California. We feel that the information it contains would be of general interest to the current family organization:

Anyone wishing to submit items of historical interest to the "Historians Corner" may do so by writing c/o Joseph Smith, Sr., Family Reunion News, 1564 No. Moonriver Dr. #9, Provo, Utah 84601.

**Family Reunions — Dreams
Reflections — Hopes and
Prayers for the Future**
by Ralph G. Smith
(Great-grandson of
Hyrum Smith)



My first interest in holding a family reunion was the result of a dream. One night in 1936, I dreamed I took the Bambrugger Electric train from my home in Provo, Utah, to Salt Lake City, where I went to the Church Office building at 47 East South Temple to visit my brother, Presiding Patriarch Hyrum G. Smith. I opened his door and saw him seated at his desk. He motioned me to come in. As I entered, he arose to embrace me and kissed me. In this dream I felt his lips so warm that it wakened me at 3 a.m. It seemed not like a dream at all. As I was seated opposite him at his desk I noticed a large black leather-bound book. Inscribed in gold letters across the book were the words "The Family of John Smith." As I opened its pages I noticed there were only a few entries and I said to Hyrum, "But there are only a few names here." At that Hyrum said, "That's right, Ralph. It's up to you to get them together." Then the dream was closed.

This dream was quite a shock to me. For several weeks I pondered on what I should do. Some family research revealed that many of John Smith's descendants had married out of the Church. Some had defected to other faiths. While many were still faithful and active, others were inactive. I had a very limited list of names and addresses, but I dug in.

By the fall of 1936, I believe it was September 22, on my grandfather's birthday, we held a reunion at the old Smith homestead located on the corner of 27th South and Highland Drive. It had been known as the Mary Fielding Home and later the Hyrum Jensen Home.

We had a fair attendance and we got to know each other and how we were related. This was the start of my life-long effort to collect names, addresses, pictures and family histories of the family of Patriarch Joseph Smith, Sr. I have enjoyed being able to work on the Joseph Smith, Sr., general committee with Buddy Youngreen and the others. I

have tried to live up to the things I was told in my dream and my efforts have been rewarded. Scarcely a week has gone by that I haven't received a letter or phone call asking for histories, photographs, and general information about the time and place of the next reunion.

MEMORIES

I have fond memories of sitting on my grandfather's knee, combing his long white beard. He would tell me stories about how his uncle Joseph (the Prophet) loved to wrestle, both Yankee and Western style; how he would put his hand on the top of a six-foot rail fence and clear it in one leap; how he loved to play baseball. Grandfather was always thrilled to say he was given the job of playing "Pigtail", or chasing the ball when the catcher missed it. These and many other stories about Kirtland and Nauvoo always thrilled me to the extent that I wanted to know more about my kinsmen in the East.

My opportunity to visit these kinsmen came first in 1931 when I stopped off in Independence on my way to attend an advertising school in St. Louis, Missouri. There I met Frederick M. Smith who was president of the RLDS Church. It was my pleasure to meet several of his family. They were all very gracious to me. I also met Israel and Elbert Smith. Elbert was their Church Patriarch, son of David Hyrum, and the father of our dear kinsman, Lynn Smith. It was my pleasure also to meet another cousin, Arthur, son of Alexander. Arthur was a member of the Temple Lot Church of Christ, sometimes called Hedrickites. Israel, who was especially gracious to me, took me in his automobile over much of Jackson County. I was Israel's guest on many occasions and he was mine for as many in Salt Lake City.

The Centennial trek from Nauvoo to Salt Lake City gave me another opportunity to meet these cousins in Jackson County. I was Captain of the Guard on the trek. It was a great adventure.

REFLECTIONS

Our reunion held in Kirtland, Ohio, last August was to me the thrill of a lifetime. I had never before been in Kirtland, but had always dreamed of seeing the place where my grandfather, the Patriarch John Smith, was born and where my great-grandmother, Jerusha, died at the early age of 32, leaving her six children motherless. Seeing the cemetery where she and the Prophet's grandmother, Mary Duty Smith, were buried was special to me.

I experienced many mixed feelings as I stood with several

of my kinsmen under the beautiful pine trees on the mound in that cemetery. I thought back to the time when I had acted as chairman of a committee of the Asael Smith family reunion, held in the Assembly Hall in Salt Lake City in 1938. At that time we had collected \$1.00 per family to place in the cemetery in Kirtland, a monument with the names of Jerusha Barden Smith and Mary Duty Smith inscribed upon it. The friendship and affection we have achieved through the recent reunions did not exist in those days and because of difficulties between our committee and the leaders of the RLDS church, that monument was never set.

Seeing the monument that has since been erected honoring these women and participating with the family in a service during which a wreath was placed was thrilling to me. Yet, I felt a sadness, too, that so many years had passed and many who had worked together on the original project had not lived to share that day with me.

The beautiful granite stone originally purchased with the money the Asael Smith family solicited, stood for months and years in the yard of Botts Monument Works in Salt Lake City. When Edith A. Smith, our wonderful genealogist and historian, passed away, President George Albert Smith advised that the stone be inscribed to her memory. This was done and the stone was erected on her grave in the Salt Lake City cemetery.

**Hopes and Prayers
For the Future**

I am overjoyed with the success of the Joseph Smith, Sr., reunions. They have brought the great Smith families closer together and there is a feeling of kinship that has not existed since the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum. The result of this increased family association has made possible an historical and cultural exchange of family artifacts, records of deeds to properties, and other valuable information. All parties have benefited thereby. These reunions have greatly enriched the lives of our family. More interest has been created among the younger generation than has ever existed before. I personally feel that without the perseverance and devotion as well as the skillful research of Buddy Youngreen, our Executive Secretary, these reunions could never have happened.

The gatherings of the descendants of Joseph Smith, Sr., have done much to break down the barrier that existed for generations. For that reason, it is my hope and prayer that the Smith Family Reunions may continue for many years to come.

The Love Story of Joseph & Emma

**YESTERDAY & FOREVER
coming to Nauvoo**

by Jill Richards
(Staff Reporter)

Coming — to the Joseph Smith, Sr., Family Reunion in Nauvoo! **Yesterday & Forever**, a multi-media play by Buddy Youngreen, dramatizing the love story of Joseph Smith, Jr., and Emma Hale.

Yesterday & Forever played for ten months in Salt Lake City, has recently completed a successful run in Mesa, Arizona and is making plans to play in the Los Angeles area in April and May.

Joseph Smith, Jr., is portrayed by Clair Wilcock, a versatile performer from Salt Lake City. He has acted and sung in over twenty-five major productions in various locations from California to New York. He starred in the production of "I Do, I Do" at the Music Circus in Island Park, Idaho, and gained vast repertory experience as a professional acting major at Ricks College, and Brigham Young University. Clair fulfilled an LDS mission to the Gulf States. He resides with his wife, Kathy and daughter, Paige, in West Jordan, Utah.

Robyn Russell portrays Emma Hale Smith in **Yesterday & Forever**. Prior to her portrayal of Emma, she co-starred as Brigham Young's wife, Mary Ann Angel in the motion picture, "Brigham". She has taken leading roles in dozens of plays ranging from Shakespeare to musical comedy. She has also acted and directed children's theatre productions. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Utah in Theatre Arts and English and has taught for the last five years in the Utah Public School System. Robyn and her husband, David, make their home in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The play deals with the various events in the life of Joseph and Emma beginning with their engagement and subsequent marriage and ending with the martyrdom and, eventually, Emma's death. The dramatic events in the lives of these two great people, the Prophet and his Elect Lady, are depicted with as much historical accuracy as possible. Buddy Youngreen has drawn from his years of research into the lives of the various members of the Smith

Family and his experience as an officer in the Smith Family organization in writing the play. Patriarch Eldred G. Smith of the LDS Church flew to Mesa for the opening performance of the play. As he introduced the play he referred to it as the most "historically accurate treatment of the subject."

The play combines emotion, humor, and action that together create a drama of high artistic quality. Joseph Smith, the man, is portrayed as a strong man who enjoys good humor and a wide variety of associations. Joseph Smith, the Prophet, is depicted as a leader whose concern is for his people's spiritual growth and

his family's welfare. The role of Emma suggests a woman who forsook the wishes of her family to marry a "Plowboy from Palmyra". She is a woman who faces with her husband, threats against his life and violence against a struggling new religious group. She supports him and stands by him, sharing with him his calling and the rearing of their children.

The multi-media play, **Yesterday & Forever**, is an interesting and informative portrayal of members of the Joseph Smith, Sr., Family that you won't want to miss at the reunion in Nauvoo.



Robyn Russell as Emma & Clair Wilcock as Joseph