



Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack

Smith

Family Newsletter

Spring 2005

A Publication of the Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith Foundation

In this issue:

Smiths share on the web	1
Sleigh Bells	1
Lucy's Teapot	2
Joseph's Birthday Celebration	3
Joseph Smith Senior Family Reunion Information & Registration	Insert



Lucy's teapot, page 2

Commemorating Joseph's 200th Birthday

Smiths share on the web

Lucy's teapot and Joseph Jr.'s sleigh bell are two fun items family members can see and read about on the Foundation web site.

"Online sharing is a great way to celebrate Joseph Smith Jr.'s 200th birthday," says Mary Summerhays, Foundation committee member.

Mary has also added other photos, including

one of Alvin's wooden box that held the Gold Plates.

"Smith Share" on the Foundation web site is a virtual gathering place for family members to upload pictures of artifacts and publish stories from the lives of our ancestors.

"Children and adults alike will find this web site a fascinating place

to learn about the lives and values of their ancestors," says Craig Frogley, Foundation committee chair.

To share pictures of ancestors or artifacts, genealogical, historical, or fun information, submit them to our family web page at www.josephsmithsr.com.

Have you seen the bells?

"Across the snow of many states [the bells] had jingled their sweet melody. [Joseph Smith] had buckled them on to his restless horses, and with his wife and children tucked warm in the sleigh had gone joyfully or with heavy heart to the sound of those bells.

"We shook each one alone, from the tiniest one with its lisping, high-toned tongue, to the deep voiced soft-toned bass so large and round near the center of the chimes. What a variety of cadence and what quality of sound

tones lay asleep in the old leathern belt! "Together they made a full-toned, rich-throated, harmonious music. Alone there was sweetness and clearness, but 'twas heart-breaking, lonely, unfinished. Not one of them would command attention and move hearts to tender loving as had the whole in one collective movement.

"Old bells, you ring to us a lesson. Together, all together, in harmonious accord if we would make perfect our work, Each bell in its place, and each



place necessary, all moved upon by one great power to one great end."

We don't know if others bells exist. This one was found in the treasures passed from Coral Smith Horner to her daughter Lorena and then to me,

(See "Bells" on page 4)

Lucy's Teapot

In the year 2000, one hundred and seventy years after Joseph and Lucy Mack Smith moved from Manchester, NY in 1830, their 3rd great granddaughter, Gracia Jones, had the opportunity to hold a small white china pitcher belonging to Lucy.

Rose Biedel, Gracia's neighbor, invited Gracia to her home to see the pitcher and told the following story:

"This pitcher was given to me by Mrs. Rachel Bridgeman Durbin of San Diego, CA where I was serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Rachel's former Sunday School and Elementary School

teacher in Cotter, Arkansas gave this pitcher to Rachel for a wedding present in 1924.

"Rachel's teacher was the daughter of E. J. Loop, president of the bank in Cotter, Arkansas, whose family had moved there from New York State in 1904."

"In N.Y. their farm adjoined the Joseph Smith Sr. family home; and when the Smith family moved, they sold their possessions to the Loop family which included this pitcher and other household goods. Rachel told me that she saw tables and chairs which looked to be hand made."

"She wanted me to have the pitcher from Joseph Smith's home because she knew I believed Joseph Smith to be a prophet of God."

"Rachel listened to our lessons but did not choose to join with us. When I was leaving the area to go home and went back to say goodbye, she brought out the pitcher and said she wanted me to have it and told me the story of how she got the pitcher."

To read more about Gracia's opportunity to hold this pitcher, click on "Events," at www.josephsmithsr.com.

Check out the Joseph Smith Sr. Family website for:

- Family genealogy
- Celebration information
- Excerpts from Kyle Walker's thesis on the Smith Family values
- Kid's coloring page
- Links to purchase family history books
- Past newsletters
- Birthday recipes
- Links to educational tools

Just go to www.josephsmithsr.com.

Gracia Jones holds a teapot that once belonged to Lucy Mack Smith.



Joseph Smith Jr. Family Celebration August 5-7

Joseph and Emma Smith's posterity will gather August 5-7 from all parts of the globe in Salt Lake City, UT to commemorate Joseph Smith's 200th birthday.

Michael Kennedy, a 3rd great-grandson of Joseph Smith, through Alexander Hale Smith, and president of the Joseph Smith Jr. Family Organization, has sent nearly 600 invitations to Smith relatives.

Why the celebration? Mike Kennedy quotes Josiah Quincy, mayor of Boston, Massachusetts in 1844. "It is by no means improbable that some future textbook ...will contain a question something like this: What historical American of the nineteenth century has exerted the most powerful influence upon the destinies of his countrymen? And it is by no means impossible that the answer" to that question will be: Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet.

Born in the lowest ranks of poverty," continues Quincy, "he had, without book learning, made himself at the age of 39 a power upon the earth. If the reader does not know what to make of Joseph Smith, I cannot help him out of the difficulty since I myself stand helpless before the puzzle."

"Today," Mike explains, "200 years from Joseph Smith's birth, we, Joseph's descendants, gather to celebrate his contribution to American History and to our lives."

The celebration will include entertainment, gifts, and family bonding. Descendants can learn more or register at the web site for the Prophet Joseph Smith's family organization:

www.josephsmithjr.com

(note the "jr" in the address differentiates it from the Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith family site)

We invite you to join us! Your \$15 donation helps

- Maintain the Nauvoo family cemetery
- Maintain and update our family database (www.josephsmithsr.com)
- Encourage and publicize grandfather reunions and other news
- Explore projects that teach about our ancestors.

Please send address corrections and donations to:

Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy
Mack Smith Foundation
c/o Craig Frogley
10763 S 2000 E
Sandy, UT 84092

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Donation Amount Enclosed

\$_____ (\$15 membership)

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Please circle which grandchild of Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith you descend from:

Hyrum	Joseph	Samuel	William	Katherine	Lucy
Lovina John Jerusha Sarah Joseph F. Martha Ann	Joseph III Alexander David H.	Samuel	Thelia Hyrum W. William E. Edison DC Louie	Elizabeth Lucy Solomon Don Carlos	Florence Charles

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Newsletter:

Julie and Matthew Maddox

Find us on the web at

www.josephsmithsr.com.

Bells (continued from page 1)

Gracia Jones. If anyone out there has other bells, perhaps we can get them all together for one melodious moment of bell-song at a reunion?

This story and a color picture are available on the foundation web site:

www.josephsmithsr.com.

¹ Source: Vida E. Smith, Autumn Leaves Vol. 33, #1, January 1930, Herald House, Independence, Missouri.

**JOSEPH SMITH SR. AND LUCY
MACK SMITH FOUNDATION**

c/o CRAIG FROGLEY
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