



Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack

Smith

Family Newsletter

Winter 2005

A PUBLICATION OF THE JOSEPH SMITH SR. AND LUCY MACK SMITH FOUNDATION

Plea From the Board:

"Both as a Joseph Smith, Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith Family Foundation Board member and as a Joseph Smith, Jr. family descendant, I would encourage any family members receiving this Newsletter to support the activities of the Foundation by paying their annual dues of \$15 dollars. If possible, making a contribution beyond the dues would help even more in supporting the upkeep of the cemetery in Nauvoo and other projects in which the Foundation is involved. The Foundation needs your support. Won't you help?"

Wallace Smith

May we as a board express our deep appreciation to the family members for the support you have given to the Joseph Smith Sr and Lucy Mack Smith Foundation.

Your donations provide funding to maintain the family cemetery in Nauvoo; do essential family history work; prepare and mail family newsletters; purchase basic supplies; and explore projects that teach and enhance our appreciation for our faithful forefathers.

We encourage all individual family members to do their part by sending a contribution to the address indicated on the last page of this newsletter.

M. Russell Ballard

JOSEPH SMITH JR. FAMILY CELEBRATES PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY

On August 5-7, 2005, descendants of Joseph Smith Jr., will gather for a family reunion to celebrate the 200th birthday of Joseph Smith. Special programs and activities will be enjoyed in Salt Lake City and in Provo at BYU.

Michael (Mike) Kennedy, a 3rd great-grandson of Joseph Smith, through Alexander Hale Smith and president of the Joseph Smith Jr. Family Organization, reports that their committee mailed invitations December 23, 2004, to nearly 300 in the United States; soon nearly as many more invitations will be sent to descendants living in Australia.

Each invitation includes a copy of the newly released book, *"Joseph Smith: the Man, the Mission, the Message,"* by Matthew B. Brown. Brown said the book deals with Smith's personality, trials and life. "It's written as a broad-based biography so that people can get an idea about who Joseph Smith is as a man. . . it's not a religious work." The book contains photographs of rare personal items belonging to Joseph, or his family; it also contains only verifiable facts.

Darcy Kennedy, a member of the committee, and Mike's wife, observed, "We hope this book will generate interest and enthusiasm for the upcoming reunion. Many of this family have felt they didn't have any connection to their Smith heritage. We want the family to come together to get to know each other, to learn more about their heritage, and to have a good time."

Kennedy said many Hyrum and Samuel Smith descendants have volunteered to house the relatives, help them get around, and just show them love during their stay in Utah.

Joseph Smith Sr. NY Reunion Dates: Aug 8 - 19, 2005

The Joseph Smith Sr., Family Reunion, traditionally held the first week in August, has been moved to the second week to accommodate the special programs being planned in SLC and Provo for the Joseph Smith Jr. descendants. This way, should any of that group choose to accompany this tour, they will be able to do so. Dates are set. Specific times and events will be released shortly.

Preliminary Schedule—

Mon Aug 8: 8 am Bus Tour leaves Salt Lake for NY.

Wed Aug 10 Kirtland

Prearranged connection for those flying into Cleveland to join tour

Thur Aug 11 Kirtland

Fri - Sat Aug 12 - 13 Palmyra

Sun Aug 14th Sacramento meeting in Fayette for 175th Anniversary of Organization of the Church; then Susquehanna River to NY

Mon Aug 15th Sharon Vermont for Commemoration;

Tue Aug 16th Travel to Cleveland airport then Toledo

Wed Aug 17th travel to Winter Quarters—

Thur Aug 18 travel

Fri Aug 19th arrive back in Utah
To register or inquire for details: Write to Buddy
Youngreen: President, Joseph Smith Sr., Family
Reunion, 703 N. 945 W. Orem, UT 84507

Bridging the Generational Chasm through Proven Smith Family Values

“Back off, Mom, you will never understand . . .!”
“You are always after me, Dad, why don’t you just
leave me alone, I hate you!!!”

If that sounds familiar to you—you are not alone.
Recognizing that in this age of growing media violence,
where often both parents must work outside the home,
and face other challenges, make successful parenting and
building strong enduring families almost seem mythical,
unreal.

One primary mission of this Foundation is to aid our
family in communicating the Smith Family values across
the generational chasm, so that the rising generation will
have a better chance of meeting the fury of the day. By
becoming acquainted with examples and values set forth
by Joseph Sr., and Lucy Mack Smith, and *their* parents,
we can become strengthened in our resolve and ability to
bridge the generational chasm of our time.

During the Nauvoo family
reunion Kyle R. Walker, a
PhD in Marriage and Family
Therapy at Brigham Young
University shared with us his
doctoral dissertation—“The
Joseph, Sr. & Lucy Mack
Smith Family: Dynamics of
the First Family of the



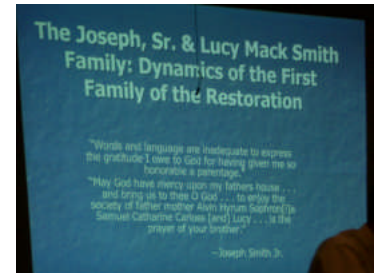
Restoration.” His research centers on family
characteristics that affect the success or failure of parent-
child and child-child relationships, family solidarity,
etc., as they are identified in modern studies. His goal
was to discover how these key values were used and
espoused by our ancestors, the Joseph Sr., and Lucy
Mack Smith family. Through the statistical lenses used
by Dr. Walker, we can identify key values and historical
examples from the lives of these great parents. We plan
to focus on at least one of these values and examples in
each forthcoming newsletter. We hope this will help us
in the struggle to prepare our children to teach their
children, etc. In this edition we focus on cohesion and
religiosity; two factors that modern studies recognize as
significantly increasing the chances of family success
and fulfillment—factors that were known and practiced
by our forefathers.

Cohesion & Religiosity (*Solidarity & Spirituality*)

Cohesion has varying dimensions: parent to parent;
parent to child, child to parent and child to child. As one
might suspect, parental cohesion is found to be the
barometer of all the other successes and source of family

fulfillment. Of all the factors that might improve
cohesion between husband and wife, one that Dr. Walker
found both statistically and historically significant in the
Smith family is one he called “religiosity.”

While, as a
Foundation, we work
hard to remain
somewhat
denominationally
neutral, we are not
religiously neutral.
We respect individual
choice, but we must
also recognize the successful pattern laid for us by our
ancestors.



For example, while Grandfather Asael Smith did not
know what we know today, that “Researchers have been
increasingly aware of the impact that spirituality and
moral values can have on family function,” he urged his
family concerning these principles in his last will and
testament. Walker observes, “Probably the most critical
factor that influenced Asael’s [Smith] desire for a strong
family connection was deprivation in his own
upbringing . . . growing up without his biological
mother, and having his own father somewhat detached,
certainly had its effects. What concerned Asael most
was maintaining the unity and closeness he had tried to
promote among the family. He wanted them to live the
Christian principles that would enable them to stay close
to each other and to their mother after his death. He was
also concerned about their teaching these same
principles to their own children. . . .”¹

Recent studies² have demonstrated a link between
religion and physical and mental well-being.
Additionally, researchers have found a correlation
between religiosity, marital satisfaction, and marital
stability³. Also divorce rates among religious couples are
significantly lower than that of the general population
and religiosity has been identified as a strong predictor
of marital and family happiness⁴. Thus, if marital
partners are highly religious, their relationship is not
only likely to succeed, but also to provide fulfillment
and purpose.

It should also be noted that researchers draw a
distinction between public and private religiosity⁵.
Public religiosity includes behavior such as going to
church, public prayers, and social gatherings.
Private religiosity includes such things as personal or
family prayer, private scripture study, deeply held
values, beliefs, and personal attitudes. Findings indicate

¹ (The last will of Asael Smith 1799; as quoted in Walker p. 37-39)

² (Judd 1999, Mathews & Saunders, 1997)

³ (Call & Heaton, 1997); Dollahite, 1999, Lee, Rice, & Gillespie, 1997)

⁴ (Filsinger & Wilson, 1984; Glenn & Weaver, 1978)

⁵ (Davidson, 1975)

that private religiosity tends to have greater benefits for marriage and family life than public religiosity⁶.

Further, research indicates that fathers who manifest high levels of religiosity were more likely to be involved in meaningful relationships with their children and to be more affectionate in those relationships than non-religious fathers.⁷ Additionally, religious fathers are less likely to have extra-marital affairs or abuse spouse or offspring.⁸

Another by product of family spirituality is an increase in emotional intimacy through enhancing interpersonal skills, such as forgiveness, patience, and empathy, which can, in turn, lead to an increased ability to resolve conflict. In addition, religious families have the added component of spiritual strength to draw upon during times of crises⁹.

At the time the Joseph and Lucy Smith family was settling in Palmyra they and their extended family were divided, denominationally, somewhat as the family is today. While Lucy worked hard to make certain the children were formally churching, Joseph Sr., avoided organized religion. . . But while his public religiosity seemed wanting, to the local ministry, he, along with his father preached in private non-denominational gatherings. William Smith reported that the family had private devotional meetings. He said you could always tell when it was time to stop working when father reached for his spectacles and bible. The family gathered almost nightly to read from the scriptures, to sing a hymn., and listen to either parent, or later, to Joseph Jr., teach from the scriptures.

These practices were the result of parental modeling preceding Joseph Sr., and Lucy Mack. "Lucy's parents, Solomon, and Lydia Gates Mack, established a family environment which created a tightly knit family group. . . Lydia made sure that each morning and night the family gathered for a devotional that included prayers and exhortations on the importance of loving each other within the family. As a result, the children reportedly gained habits of "piety and gentleness" that created a happiness within the home. . ." Further, Solomon recalled that "their mother's precepts and example . . . had a more lasting influence upon their future character" than any other single factor¹⁰.

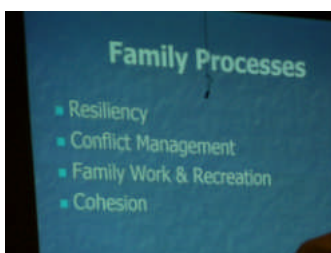
It is this pattern of cohesion, religiosity and family happiness that we seek to foster. While as a Foundation, do not proselyte to one denomination or another, within the Smith Family, we recognize that historically within the family denominational disparity disappeared with the advent of Joseph Jr.'s powerful religious experience that would, in time unite [his] family during that generation. We want to encourage parents to take steps that have proven effective within this great family, over the ages that will lead to lasting happiness. We will report on many other aspects of Dr. Walker's study in the Newsletter; we hope parents will use them to teach their children to teach *their children*. (If you can't wait for future newsletters, Dr. Kyle Walker will publish dissertation in 2005. Excerpts used by permission.)

Martha Ann Smith Harris Family

There is a limited supply of the wonderful book, *Martha Ann, Daughter of Hyrum and Mary Fielding Smith*, by Ruth and David Harris. There will be no second edition. Cost is \$50 plus \$4 shipping and handling per book. Send check to Ruth B. Harris, 864 Carterville Road, Orem, UT 84097

THE FAMILY WEB SITES

Would you like to have ready access to a Smith family genealogical line including ancestral pictures? Would you like to access a past newsletter? Would you like to know and contact your family representative to the Foundation? Would you like to register yourself or a family, would you like to send an email which then is directed to the appropriate family representative or Board of Trustees? If you have information to share: pictures, names of ancestors or interesting information about them, just email them with the proper source information using the contact button. *If sources are included and verifiable then we will be able to share them and credibility will grow.* www.josephsmithsr.com is the web site that will serve as a portal to the Foundation resources.



News: Lorena Normandeau passing

We regret the passing of Gracia's mother, Lorena Normandeau, Missoula, Montana, December 1, 2004. She was 89 years old. A great-granddaughter of the prophet Joseph Smith, she was a convert to the LDS Church since 1979. Her wit, humor, and special gift for limericks and music will be sorely missed. Family members will remember her as the author of the song that was sung at Hyrum's 200th birthday party, "Love is the Master Key."

⁶ (Dudley & Kosinski, 1990); Van DenBerghe, 2000)

⁷ (Barouski & Xu, 1999)

⁸ (Dollahite, 1999)

⁹ (Brueggemann, 1977; Robinson & Blanton, 1993; VanDenBghe, 2000)

¹⁰ (Smith, 1945, 19, as cited in Anderson 1971 a, 28" (Walker p. 33). Smith, 1853, 19)

Please Clip and Send

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Please circle which Joseph and Lucy child you descend from:

Hyrum	Joseph	Samuel	William	Katherine	Lucy
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Please circle which grandchild you descend from

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

Foundation Dues \$15.00-

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

TOTAL DONATION: \$ _____

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No mail is sent outside the United States. Those interested should obtain their newsletter from the web site.

We would love to save the hundreds of dollars it costs to mail our newsletters. The news is also available on www.josephsmithsr.com

INVITATION TO ALL !

This is just a last note to invite all to please send an annual contribution. **Our newsletter outreach in search of all our family members depends on you.** If you aren't certain when you last paid the suggested \$15.00, **please note your mailing label for the due date**

Name _____
Address **LAST CONTRIBUTION:** date _____
City, Zip _____

Please help us save cost by using your own envelope and cut-out form section -

send to: Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith Foundation % Spence Nilson 180 E. 2100 S. # 202 SLC, UT 84115

(Please do not send dues to the newsletter return address)

If you know of living Smith descendants who don't receive the newsletter, please send their addresses by copying the form from this section of the newsletter and sending them to the return address on the newsletter or emailing to crfrogley@josephsmithsr.org, or you may go to the web page and enter information in yourself: www.josephsmithsr.com. Thank you.

FAMILY COORDINATION COMMITTEE

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-Lovina	DonnaLee Frogley	435-757-7554	1,691
-John	Sam Isom	801-771-6911	863
-Joseph F.	Mary Donoho	801-546-4707	4,593
-Jerusha	Ben Donoho	801-546-4707	593
-Martha Ann	Carole King	435 673-4303	3,348
-Sarah {	LaRene Gaunt	801-572-0169	
	Debbie Nelson	801-302-8855	1,218
JOSEPH Jr-	Michael Kennedy	801-756-1091	894
SAMUEL	Robert Smith	801-489-7589	497
WILLIAM	Gracia Jones	435-673-2165	93
CATHERINE	Marge Porter	801-876-3265	468
LUCY	Gracia Jones	801-595-8131	68

JOSEPH Sr-LUCY MACK SMITH FOUNDATION

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SANDY, UT 84092

Do not use this address for dues, or donations, -See box on the last page

