

***Thomas X. Smith***

***Pioneer, Bishop & Family Patriarch***

And wives

***Margaret Gurney***

***Anne Masters Howe***

***Elizabeth Sweet***

***Gary David Hansen***

***Provo, Utah***

***2008-2009***

## **Introduction and Acknowledgements**

It has been about 21 months since I prepared my first report entitled, Thomas X Smith: Pioneer and Leader in October of 2007. It was based upon the limited information I had from my mother's records and an extensive search in some public libraries, including the one at Utah State University and the Family History Library at Brigham Young University in Provo and the Family and Church History libraries in Salt Lake City. The second and much more extensive report was completed in the middle of 2008. It was entitled: Thomas X Smith: Devoted Disciple and Family Patriarch. It included the materials of the first report, but it was substantially enhanced by the information and pictures provided by members of our extended family. This third effort will bring together the additional documentation and pictures that various family members have provided and some needed corrections.

The following family members have been an enormous help in this effort and I express my gratitude to them for their kindness, timely communication and sharing of many important materials. These cousins who have amply demonstrated their devotion to family history include: Quinton Smith Harris of Salt Lake City; Karma Albiston of Logan; Craig Albiston of Houston, Texas; Francine Kolster Medrano of Indio, California; and David Barkdull of Colorado Springs, Colorado. With their help we have a more accurate and complete account that should lead to greater understanding and appreciation of these great grandparents. Thomas X and Ann Howe Smith are only three generations back from some of us, even though their youngest descendants are now in the sixth generation from them.

There remains a continuing need for the discovery, sharing and preservation of genealogical records, journals, letters, pictures, autobiographies and biographies and any other materials that exist pertaining to our Smith ancestors. We need to learn more about the brother of Thomas X by the name of George who also migrated to America, raised his family in Utah and was buried in Murray. An initial volume has been completed in preparation for the 2009 Smith Family Reunion. It seems that considerable work needs to be done in England on the brothers and sisters of Thomas X and his progenitors that remained there. The excellent work of Peter Stevens with respect to pictures of the Eaton Bray area and the Emigration Journal is much appreciated and could lead to more such effort. I was amazed at the number of Gurneys on the Parish Records in and around Eaton Bray.

Orson Gurney Smith appears to have written more in his journal than any other principal among our ancestors in the Smith family. I found that his transcribed journal provided a much needed background and understanding of pioneer life, work and business activities associated with supporting large families, church leadership and service, and the great love of family and kindness of friends. I was riveted to the details that he provided on many of these matters until I was able to finish reading his wonderful account. I hope that some of his descendants will work on biographies of him and each of his wives and children. We now have bound copies of his journal and his letters and the letters of his wives and others to him. Credit is due to Quinton Harris and Peter Stevens for their remarkable efforts in this regard. We also have a new report available on a daughter of Thomas X and Ann Howe by the name of Patience Smith Adams and her husband and children, thanks to her earlier writing and the recent efforts of her granddaughter, Francine Kolster Medrano.

I hope that the descendants of each of the married children of Thomas X will have a desire to write about their parents and grandparents and share their findings with all in the family who are interested.

Family history is a work that grows in increments, one story and one picture at a time, building upon another. I have tried to be as accurate as possible. I know it is easy for errors to be made and glossed over. I assume responsibility for any errors and omissions that I have made. I hope that any mistakes will be identified quickly by the readers and corrected so that they are not passed on in subsequent reports. I do not consider this work to be exhaustive by any means and more needs to be done to gain a much more complete understanding of the life and works of our ancestors.

Since the second report was printed about Thomas X Smith and his families, we have been working to re-establish a Smith Family Organization. It has been functioning since January of 2009. The Chairman is Quinton Smith Harris and he has hosted all of the meetings in his home. Our main activities have been to gather, reproduce and share all of the family history documents and pictures that could be located and to prepare for the 2009 Reunion. It will be held on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Monument Stake Center in Salt Lake City. It will be a great benefit and blessing to all who come and support the effort to know and appreciate the rich heritage that is ours. The other members of the Board of Directors include: Karma Albiston, Barbara Butler, Gary Hansen, James Macfarlane, Keith Poelman, and John Sanders. We are very pleased to see this work moving forward and involving an increasing number of our extended family.

There is a place for everyone in the various dimensions of the work in family history and genealogy. Each family member can play an important role and contribute in some meaningful way that is of special interest to him or her. The family is truly at the heart of our identity and the center of society. It is the primary organization that will continue throughout all eternity. The family tree consists of the roots, the trunk, the branches and fruits of each new generation. We should do all within our ability to strengthen our families and to achieve new levels of knowledge, understanding, appreciation, sharing and unity. My recent experiences with family members that I have not known before, confirm the wonderful possibilities that lie ahead if we will take the initiative. Each one can define what initiatives are most appropriate.

I have found much delight in the discovery of many truths about our Smith family. I have found added happiness in new family relationships and thank all who have contributed. The great circle of our extended family will continue to grow and it has ample power to enhance the lives of all who seek and find their place within it. It is surely a wonderful time for us to embrace this work with renewed dedication and fulfill our particular opportunities within the posterity of our marvelous grandparents. I hope that we will give them many reasons to rejoice and that we will be inspired by their phenomenal personalities and their exemplary teachings by word and deed. Their many sacrifices and truly remarkable accomplishments have provided the foundations for our family life and many of the blessings that we are privileged to enjoy.

# **Photo Gallery**

**Thomas X Smith portrait in middle years**

**Thomas X Smith portrait in later years**

**Thomas X with Margaret Gurney and Adult Children**

**Thomas X with Ann Masters Howe and Adult Children**

**Ann Masters Howe Smith**

**A Four Generation Portrait (Thomas, Orson, Ezra Obray, Ezra Claine)**

**One of the Smith Family Homes (326 North 100 East in Logan)**

**Early Picture possibly with a Group of Priesthood Brethren**

**Bishopric with their 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Family by the Church**

**Portraits of the Bishopric Members at a later celebration**

**Thanks to Karma Albiston, David Barkdull, Quinton Harris and Francine Medrano for generously providing copies of these portraits and pictures.**



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⊕ CURDON ART GALLERY, ⊕  
LOUISVILLE, KY.



THOMAS X SMITH ~ MARGARET GURNEY



A N D

FAMILY



EMMA ~ CATHERINE ~ HARRIET ~ LUCY ~ ALICE



LUCY



ORSON



FRED



CATHERINE



EMMA



ALICE



MARGARET DRUCILLA



FLORENCE



HARRIET

THOMAS X SMITH ~ ANN HOWE FAMILY



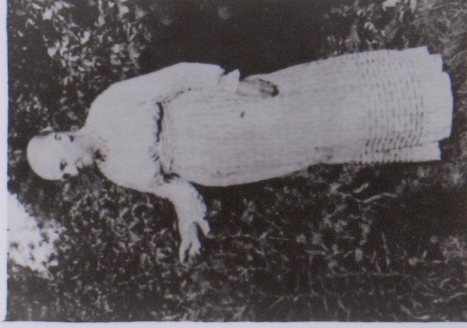
DAVID                      EUGENE  
MABEL S. BRADFORD    FANNIE S. GOODSELL    PATIENCE S. ADAMS  
MARIE S. KIMBALL      JENNIE S. STODDARD



THOMAS X SMITH



ANN HOWE



ANN HOWE



*Our Dear Grandmother*



*Ann Masters Howe Smith*







