

Amasa Mason Lyman

Educational & Historical Society

Newsletter, Volume 10
September 15, 2014



Photo of Lyman, N.H., courtesy of Rebecca Brown

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What's Your Story?

Written By Tafta Watson



On the slightly overcast afternoon of January 7, 2012, my husband, Kerry, and I were in Andersonville, Georgia. We visited the sacred, hallowed grounds of Andersonville Prison and Cemetery, a Confederate prisoner-of-war camp during the Civil War. This infamous overcrowded prison, housed approximately 45,000 prisoners, four times its capacity. It was the death place of nearly 13,000 Union

prisoners, most of them dying from scurvy, diarrhea, and dysentery.

With very few people around us, Kerry and I quietly, reverently entered that holy, sanctified burial place and walked through row upon row of graves with the headstones very close together, some still bearing a Christmas wreath. Each one marked the hallowed spot where a prisoner who died had been laid in a trench, shoulder-to-shoulder. Most of the headstones had names, but 400 – 500 simply said, “Unknown.”

As I stood in that still and reverent burial ground, surrounded by the headstones of soldiers both known and unknown, who died for a cause they believed in and that we benefit from today, I silently wept. My quiet tears soon turned to sobs and I kept thinking, “What’s your story? Who are you? Who wept because you did not return home? You had a mother, a father, a sister or brother. You might have had a wife and children. Someone once played with you, laughed with you, and loved you. Surely there are family members, descendants, who should know your story. What family stories are buried with you in these graves?”

Presidency Report, cont'd.

If we do not tell our own stories, when we are gone, our stories are gone. I recently spoke at the funeral of my dear aunt, Cula Taft Ekker. As I was preparing my talk, I realized so very forcibly that her stories were gone because they were not written. We can talk about her, write about her life and the experiences we had with her, but no one can tell us exactly how she felt when she first child, Glenna, for the very first time and looked at Glenna's crippled little body. We will never know how her heart ached when her new husband went off to WWII.

Now is the time to start writing your own story. Tell of your happy times, sad times, times of trials and times of triumph. As you write, you will feel something powerful. You will leave a legacy for those who come after you. Your story will show them it is possible to have problems, overcome them, and still turn out to be a wonderful parent or grandparent who they love and admire. You will give them hope and courage to overcome their own problems. You will give them a base, a foundation upon which they can build their own lives.

My own story involves a tomato fight in the house, shopping with skunks, and my personal testimony, values, and beliefs. What does your story or the story of your ancestors involve? Have you written them down or tried to share them with your family?

When you have your story written, start to write the stories of your family, both present and past. Write your memories of those you knew who are now gone. Move back through the generations. Start asking questions, do some research. Find their story, then write it down and share it with others.

I have ancestors who came to the shores of Massachusetts with the Pilgrims; some came from Norway after joining the church, while others came to Utah by covered wagons. I know part of their stories because of what my parents and grandparents told me, but my children will not know those precious stories if I don't share them.

Now is the time to start to turn our hearts and the hearts of our families to those who came before us through writing our story and the stories of our ancestors. We will be connected. When we talk about our family, our hearts will be turned to them. We will know each other a little better.

If you would like a repository to place stories of "Lyman" ancestors, you might use this website: <http://amasalymanfamily.blogspot.com/>. This wonderful website was created by Diane Miller as a place to post and/or find a one-page bio and photo for Lyman ancestors. These same stories and/or pictures could be put on familysearch.org. Both of these sites would be a great way to introduce family members, especially children, to our ancestors and their stories. It also helps to make those names "real" as they see a picture and read what these wonderful ancestors did or what varied things happened to them.

My hope is that we and our ancestors become known to our families. May our hearts be turned to each other and to our ancestors. Let there be no "Unknowns" in our family.

Our Ancestors

Richard R. Lyman

Written by Alisa Lyman Clark

Richard R. Lyman was born November 23, 1870, in Fillmore, Millard County, Utah. His parents were Francis Marion Lyman and Clara Caroline Callister. It is said that while Richard R. would jump up and down with delight, he did not smile or laugh as a child.

When he was seven, Richard R. moved with his father's family to Tooele, Utah, where his father had been called to preside over the Tooele Stake.

Richard R. Lyman was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on July 29, 1879.

At the age of eight, his father gave him the responsibility of caring for his horses and buggy. In 1881 and 1882, Richard R. drove the team for both his father and President Heber J. Grant, who succeeded his father as Tooele Stake President.

President Francis M. Lyman taught his boys to work while they were young. He was much more concerned about the kind of work his boys learned to do, rather than how much they were paid. As a boy, Richard R. shadowed the family gardener, a meticulous man from England, in learning how to trim hedges and keep the grounds neat. Richard R. spent two summers working at the "Mill" on the shore of the Great Salt Lake. He also spent two years working a ranch near Grantsville, owned by Hyrum E. Booth. Richard R. looked back on the training he received from Hyrum Booth as one of the most valuable experiences in his life.

In August 1888, Richard went with his sister Mary to attend Brigham Young Academy. While there, he began courting Miss Amy Brown. This courtship would last eight years before they married on September 9, 1896. They would have two children, Wendell Brown Lyman, born December 18, 1897, in Salt Lake City, and Margaret Lyman, born September 15, 1903, at Ithaca, New York.

Richard R. spent time at both Brigham Young Academy and the University at Ann Arbor studying mathematics and civil engineering. During his college years, he spent ten days visiting his mother in Manassa, Colorado. He remembered those days as being the last he spent with his mother before her death on September 21, 1892.



Our Ancestors

From the fall of 1896 to the spring of 1918, Richard R. progressed through the levels of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor and full professor in charge of the department of civil engineering at the University of Utah. He held a full professorship and was head of the department for eighteen years.

Richard R. Lyman was ordained an Apostle and set apart as a member of the Council of Twelve Apostles by President Joseph F. Smith April 7, 1918, in the Salt Lake Temple, assisted by Presidents Anthon H. Lund and Charles W. Penrose and the members of the Council of the Twelve. He served in that capacity until November 12, 1943, when he was excommunicated from the church. He was rebaptized into the church on October 27, 1954. Richard R. Lyman passed away December 31, 1963.

Amy Brown Lyman

Taken from Relief Society General President Biographies from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (<https://www.lds.org/callings/relief-society/relief-society-presidents/amy-brown-lyman>)



“No work could be more important and satisfying than that of helping to raise human life to its highest level,” wrote Amy Brown Lyman in her autobiography. She believed this was done best by providing “relief of existing distress [and] prevention of new distress.” Called as eighth general president of the Relief Society three months after the outbreak of World War II in

Europe, she experienced many opportunities to put that philosophy into practice.

During her administration, the Relief Society worked tirelessly to achieve this goal. Functioning in coordination with and under the direction of the priesthood, sisters from the United States to Holland and from New Zealand to Canada united in such activities as sending care packages to members and soldiers in war-torn countries, folding bandages for the Red Cross, and sewing items like undergarments, clothing, and bedding for those in need.

The effect of the war on families was particularly troubling. Fathers and sons around the world were being taken out of the home to fight, while mothers and young women were being encouraged to leave the home to take jobs to support the war effort. Immorality was on the rise.

Sister Lyman encouraged mothers to do all they could to fortify their families. A Relief Society Magazine article in 1943 stated: “The General Board urges mothers throughout the Church to place every possible safeguard about their children. An evil influence is abroad which threatens even the best homes. Social

problems, greatly aggravated by the war, demand vigilance on the part of mothers.” To make it possible for mothers to spend more time at home, Amy urged the women to develop skills of self-reliance, like sewing, gardening, and preserving and storing food.

Early Life

Amy Cassandra Brown was born February 7, 1872, in Pleasant Grove, Utah, to John and Margaret Zimmerman Brown. Margaret was John’s third wife. Amy was the eighth of ten children. Although they had little material wealth, education was important to her parents. Amy once said, “We had plain living, but high thinking.”

Education and Marriage

While attending Brigham Young Academy, Amy met Richard R. Lyman. Intellectual and spiritual equals, the two fell in love and married on September 9, 1896, in the Salt Lake Temple. They had two children. Amy led the Relief Society’s Social Welfare Department for 15 years and functioned as an officer in the Relief Society for 32 years. She served a term as a member of the Utah House of Representatives as well. Amy died December 5, 1959.

AML Biography Special Offer

Written By Matthew Mason Lyman

Many of you probably already have a personal copy of Amasa Mason Lyman, Pioneer, by Albert R. Lyman. For those who may not know, this is a biography written many years ago by his grandson. It was first published in 1957 by the Amasa Mason Lyman Family Association. In 2002, it was republished by Paradise Press for distribution by the Amasa Mason Lyman Educational and Historical Society. We have many copies of this book that are available for purchase by family members or others who may be interested in reading about this remarkable man.

The book starts with the early childhood of Amasa Mason Lyman, the loss of his father at an early age, and his subsequent sojourn in the homes of his grandfather and uncle. Following is conversion at age 19 in 1832, he walked to Kirtland, Ohio to gather with the Latter Day Saints. He filled many missions from his young adulthood to his old age. He was called as an Apostle by Joseph Smith in 1842. He was chained with the Prophet Joseph Smith in a Missouri jail, and was instrumental in helping many Saints to leave Missouri at the time of the Extermination order. He led a pioneer company west from Nauvoo, and later led a company to establish the city of San Bernadino, California.

This hardbound book has many interesting stories about our first Lyman ancestor to join the Church. We recommend that every family member that wants to learn about Amasa Mason Lyman and his wives have a copy of this book. The Amasa

Society News

Mason Educational and Historical Society has recently reduced the price of this book to make it more affordable.

The book is now available for purchase on the AML Society website. The price is \$15 for members of the AML Society, a good price if you are considering giving some copies as Christmas gifts. The price for people who are not AML Society members is still \$25.

As a special offer, we are giving a copy of the Amasa Mason Lyman biography with a new membership subscription to the AML Society. For an individual membership of \$10, new subscribers will receive a complimentary copy of the Amasa Mason Lyman biography by Albert R. Lyman along with online access to the Society Newsletter for one year. For a family membership of \$25, new members will receive two copies of the biography and online access to the Society Newsletter for one year.

Please consider purchasing this book, for the new reduced price for Society members, or joining the AML Society to receive a complimentary copy.

Volunteers Needed

The Amasa Mason Lyman Educational and Historical Society needs volunteers to help in several areas in order to help grow its mission to promote education of the public on the legacies with which Amasa Mason Lyman, his family and associate colonizers blessed America.

Webmaster: serve as Web Development Committee Chair, be proficient in website development and maintenance, and work with other site administrators in updating and maintaining their respective pages

Data Entry: using newly created database templates, organize the information on Amasa Mason Lyman descendents from at least nine previously developed lists

Publishing Committee Member: write or locate articles for the newsletter, and assist with new publishing projects

Deceased Descendents Committee Member: gather family histories of AML descendants

Membership Committee Member: assist the director in drives and projects meant to increase society membership

If you are interested in serving the society and sharing your skills, please contact one of the board members (see front page.)

How to Join the AML Society

With the creation of our new website, joining the society is quick and easy. Follow the steps below to become a society member, receive a complimentary copy of *Amasa Mason Lyman, Pioneer*, receive access to society news and minutes, and learn more about our great ancestor and his associates.

Visit amlsociety.wildapricot.org and click on the "Become a Member" link.

Select the membership type you wish to purchase:

Individual Membership for 1 Year: \$10

Family Membership for 1 Year: \$25

Lifetime Membership: \$500

Pay for membership via PayPal or credit card.

If you have questions about becoming a society member please contact Jody Fellmeth, Director of Membership.

AML Society Meeting Minutes

(Unabridged minutes of society meetings and financial records are available to all members on our Society website.)

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 6 , 2014

Publishing committee reported that they are focusing on reviewing the Richard R. Lyman manuscript written by Scott Partridge.

Planned the annual society meeting for October 3, 2014.

Membership committee reported that the dependency database system (a way to track Amasa Mason Lyman's descendents) has been completed.

Newsletter assignments were made.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

September 3 , 2014

Discussed progress on bylaw development.

Finalized plans for the annual society meeting.

Voted to accept handwritten information for the database templates.

Discussed volunteers needed.

"Why, bring in the Saints from the four corners of the earth, by tens of millions, and associate them together, and what will they do?" They will do what they are required to do. They will live in harmony one with another collectively, and with themselves individually, and with their God; consequently, the will of God will be done on earth, as in heaven. The principles of truth will be exemplified in the conduct of men on earth as it is with the spirits of the just in heaven, because men will know and appreciate the truth, and their conduct will be shaped according to it.

- Amasa Mason Lyman



AML Educational & Historical Society Annual Society Meeting

“Stories from the Life of Richard R. Lyman”
by Keynote Speaker Richard Engar



Dr. Richard C. Engar is a licensed dentist who currently manages a professional liability insurance company for Utah dentists and works in the Salt Lake metropolitan area. He has held several church callings including Elders Quorum President, bishopric member and currently serves as a stake clerk.

Dr. Engar is a great-grandson of the late Richard R. and Amy Brown Lyman. He and his sister, along with two surviving grand-daughters, are the only ones remaining who actually lived under the same roof as Richard R. and Amy Brown Lyman and are thus living repositories of stories about their beloved grandparents.

Richard R. Lyman is the grandson of Amasa and the son of Francis Marion, who served as the President of the Quorum of the Twelve for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS). Richard R. was born in Fillmore, Utah in 1870, married Amy Brown in 1896 and was ordained a member of the Twelve in 1918, at age 48. He accumulated a long list of impressive academic credentials, including a Ph.D. in civil engineering. Amy taught at the Brigham Young Academy, served in the Utah State Legislature and was in the LDS General Relief Society Presidency, as a counselor or as the president, from 1928 to 1945.

The restoration of Richard R. Lyman’s priesthood blessings further supports the theme we have chosen for our Society of “Redemption.”

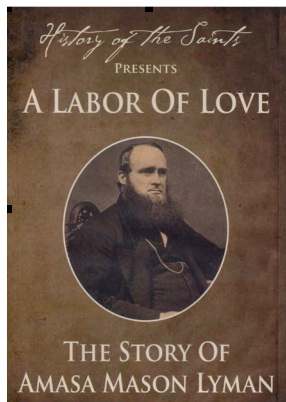
Friday, October 3, 2014
7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. *
4930 South Westmoor Road (1665 East) Holladay, Utah

Please RSVP to Alisa Clark (alisamarielyman@gmail.com)

*Business Meeting for Members of the Board from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Publications

AML Society Publications



A Labor of Love

Amasa M. Lyman Documentary

Contact Jack Lyman at
amasalyman@hotmail.com

Francis Marion Lyman
by Albert R. Lyman

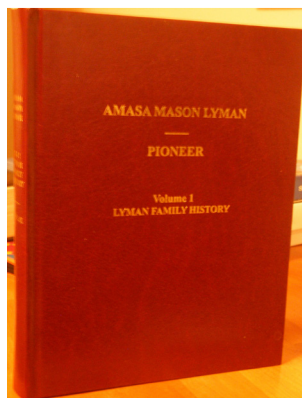


Edited, Printed, and Published by
Melvin A. Lyman, M.D.
1958

Francis M. Lyman Biography

Written by Albert R. Lyman

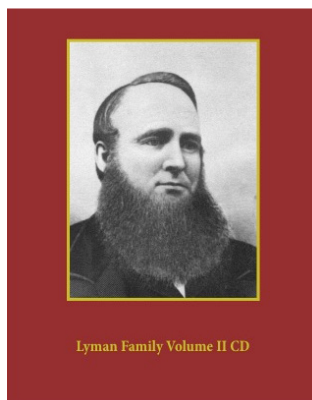
Contact Matthew Lyman at
435.529.6662
mmylyman.123@gmail.com



Amasa Mason Lyman, Pioneer

Written by Albert R. Lyman

Contact Matthew Lyman at
435.529.6662
mmylyman123@gmail.com



Lyman Family Vol 2 CD

This contains the histories of
Amasa Mason Lyman, his wives,
and his children.

Contact Matthew Lyman at
435.529.6662
mmylyman.123@gmail.com

Other Educational & Historical Material from Outside Sources

Voice of the Intangible

Kindle Edition Ebook \$1.99
Order at www.amazon.com

Voice of the Intangible was written by Author Albert R Lyman and first published in book form in 1936. It is the story of young Ben Roger, who spends his youth herding cattle with his father in the wild country of western San Juan County. Young Ben first fears then learns to listen to the sweet "Voice of the Intangible" amid the rigors and hardships of the pioneer era.

History of a Pioneer

the life of Edward Leo Lyman Jr.



Edward Leo Lyman Jr. Biography

Contact Matthew Lyman at
435.529.6662
mmylyman.123@gmail.com

February 19, 1881 - January 20, 1958

Websites

amlsociety.wildapricot.org - Official society website that has information on the society, including meeting minutes, how to join, ancestry biographies, and available publications.

amasamasonlyman.com - Created by Jack and Amy Lyman, this is a free website for the everyday user who wants to know more about the man Amasa Mason Lyman and his family.

aml.lymansite.us - Created by Carl Lyman, this site contains information about Amasa Mason Lyman and his wives, as well as family history photos and resources.

Facebook Page

Look for the Amasa Mason Lyman page on Facebook at
[facebook.com/Amasa Mason Lyman](https://facebook.com/AmasaMasonLyman)

MyFamily.Com Group

<http://www.myfamily.com/group/20663859/>
(ask to be invited)