

# HELM FAMILY HERALD

Bonnie Harris, editor

Second Edition

August 2005

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## Histories of Robert Helm

### ITEM #1

The following history was written by Cloa Malinda McArthur Helm, circa 1950, following the death of her husband, Robert Helm. Our special thanks to Barbara Stephens for her unending service as the HELM FAMILY HISTORIAN.

“Robert Helm was born June 16, 1879, in Pleasant View, Utah. He was [the] fifth child of a large family, nine boys and one girl. Theirs was a polygamy family—his mother, Jane Bult Helm being the second wife.

Robert attended the Pleasant View School. After graduating from the eighth grade, he attended the Weber Academy in Weber, Utah. He took the normal course. Robert was an excellent student and while attending the academy he taught some of the subjects! He was very happy with one of his teachers especially and loved him very much. This teacher was David O. McKay (now President). [McKay was President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at the time this history was written]

After receiving his certificate for teaching school, he went to Chester, Idaho. Here he boarded with his mother's sister, Cecelia White, and taught the Chester grade school. This was in 1902. He taught all grades from first to the eighth in one room and had seventy-five students. He taught one year in Chester, one year in Twin Groves.

He met Cloa McArthur Helm in Chester. Yes, she was sixteen years old and was in his eight grade. In two years they were married. He again in 1904 taught the Chester school. From there he went to Marysville, Idaho and taught the Marysville School for six years. Then he taught one year in Drummond, Idaho, one year in Palsada, one in Lamont, and so on until in 1917 we moved to Boise, Idaho. He taught six years in Melba, Idaho.

During all these years he was a devout church worker, holding many important offices in these wards, such as -- Superintendent of Sunday School in three wards, President of Young Mens Association, First Counselor in the Bishopric; Second Counselor to the Bishop. First Counselor in M.I.A. (Mutual Improvement Association) and second Counselor in Mutual. Was Superintendent of Maywood Ward two years. He also always taught an adult class in one or another organization.

He was the father of eight children, five boys and three girls. He understood children and was a good father and husband.”

Written by Cloa Helm

### ITEM #2

This other history that follows was written by Cloa on September 30, 1967, due to the urging and encouragement of her granddaughter, Barbara Ann Helm Stephens, who added this recollection at the end of Grandma's manuscript:

“Grandma wrote the above history because I kept prodding her to do it for her records. She loved grandpa so deeply that it was difficult to even talk about him, but she finely did it. I most especially wanted her story written down of where and how they met.”

HISTORY OF ROBERT HELM  
RECORDED 30 SEP 1967  
BY CLOA MALINDA MCARTHUR HELM

“Robert Helm, [was] born 16 June 1879. He was the 5th child of a family of 9 boys and one girl. His father's name is Thomas Bennett Helm and his mother, Jane Bult. Both were born in England. Robert's mother was the 2nd wife. The first was Elizabeth Ackerly; born in England also. Thomas and Jane were married 18 Mar 1868 in the Endowment House. Elizabeth was still living and did live until Jane and Thomas had 9 children. Elizabeth was born in 1832 and died 10 April 1890 at Pleasant View, Utah.

It must have been real sad for Elizabeth as she had had a family of six. The epidemic of diphtheria swept the town and one by one of her children died with it. (We cannot identify these 6 children.) This all happened before Jane knew them.

Robert's home was in Pleasant View, Utah. His grandparents (Bults) lived in North Ogden, Utah. Robert was born at his grandparents home in North Ogden and his mother named him after her brother Robert Bult, otherwise his father probably would have given him a Book of Mormon or Bible name like his brothers; but his sister was named Annie after the grandmother.

Robert attended the grade school in Pleasant View with the rest of his brothers. After graduating he attended the Weber Academy of Weber, Utah. One of his teachers he liked very much was David O. McKay. Robert took the normal courses and graduated with honor. He then went to Idaho and started teaching school at Chester, Idaho.

In the meantime his father and mother were divorced (mandated due to polygamy law) and the family with the mother had moved to Chester, Idaho. Two of her sisters lived here; Cecelia (Bult) White and Eliza (Bult) Hathaway.

Robert was a successful teacher following that occupation for 25 years. He went to Chester in 1902. While teaching there he met Cloa McArthur who was a student of his. They fell in love and were married in 1904. He kept on teaching and they raised a family of 8. They were a very happy couple. During his life he was a devout church worker. He held many positions in the church such as; Superintendent of Sunday School in two different wards, 1st Counselor and 2nd Counselor of Bishopric in different wards, President of Mutual and 1st Counselor. Besides, he always taught an adult class. Mutual, Sunday School, Priesthood. Was sealed in the Salt Lake Temple 4 Oct 1904.

He was a devoted husband and father and they all mourned his passing. The day after Mothers Day - he went to get a book at Rex McArthurs, his wife's brother; while there he fell dead of a heart attack. Was buried in Park Lawn Cemetery, Bell, California."

Our combined appreciation goes to Barbara Ann Helm Stephens, oldest grandchild of Robert and Cloa, for her lifetime efforts at obtaining and preserving these early family histories. Below are personal recollections that Barbara recorded concerning her memories of Grandpa and Grandma Helm. Since I was not even born until after his death, as so many of us were, her memories are especially valuable to me.

Thank You, Barbara.

"Grandpa was an avid reader. He would arise very early (around 5am) acquire the newspaper of the day and thoroughly read it over before breakfast. He would prepare breakfast for the family then he called all the children and Grandma to breakfast. They would all turn their chairs around and kneel for family prayer before sitting down at the breakfast table. During breakfast, Grandpa would review the news of the day with the family from what he had gleaned from his daily newspaper.

After breakfast, the dishes were done, the kitchen was cleaned up, and the floor mopped. These chores were assigned by rotation. This all had to be done before leaving for school and there was no excuse for not getting it done before leaving for school. There was grumbling, but the kitchen was left clean and ready for the day.

Grandpa was a very devoted husband. He was always loving and kind to Grandma and never was anything but deeply devoted to her in every way. Whenever there was a little tiff he would laugh and give her a pat and dissolve the problem. He was never rude or abusive towards her. He delighted in waiting on her and being her helper and friend. They were a very happy couple.

Grandma did not arise as early as Grandpa. The night before she was usually up very late sewing pretty dresses for the girls, or doing her many craft and household projects. Grandpa went to bed early."

Written by Barbara Ann Helm Stephens

If you have stories about Robert or Cloa Helm, or stories about any of their children: Harold, Douglas, Alton, Zetta, Burkle, Anna, Bill, or Ruth, PLEASE send them to me so I can share them with everyone.

BARBARA STEPHENS  
NAMES OLDEST AND YOUNGEST  
OF THE "28"

If you all recall, I challenged readers of the First Edition of the HELM FAMILY HERALD to send me your guesses on the identification of the five oldest and five youngest cousins of the "28." Barbara sent me her answers and now it is up to the rest of us to confirm or to challenge her lists. Here they are—do you agree?! (Her records are missing birth dates for Bill & Marylouise's kids—Sydney, Farrel, Jeanne, and Bill. Do we have any challenges out there?)

Five Oldest

Barbara	(1934)
Janice	(May 1936)
Maurvene	(June 1936)
Blanche	(1937)
Robert	(1938)

Five Youngest

Jim	(1950)
Carol	(July 1951)
Jill	(Nov 1951)
Bonnie	(1953)
Cynthia	(1954)

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UPDATES FOR "28s" FAMILY  
RECORDS REQUESTED

Barbara Stephens has asked that I put in this plea to all the "28" that you send her all the birth dates, baptism, and/or confirmation dates [for any and all religious affiliations], marriage dates, and death dates for your families. As the HELM FAMILY HISTORIAN, she would like to keep her records current. Her email is:

[barbstphns@hotmail.com](mailto:barbstphns@hotmail.com)

*SO LET IT BE WRITTEN . . . .  
SO LET IT BE DONE . . . .*

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FAMILY DIRECTORIES  
GO ONLINE

I am in the process of compiling and posting complete HELM FAMILY DIRECTORIES on my Website at [www.bonniesbiz.com](http://www.bonniesbiz.com). Please check out what has been done so far and offer corrections and/or updates as necessary. Link to the "Families" webpage and go from there. My email is: [bonniesbiz@hotmail.com](mailto:bonniesbiz@hotmail.com)

HELM FAMILY HISTORY DVDs  
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Well, as they say, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree! Debbie Burnett, daughter of Barbara Stephens and oldest of the great-grandchildren of Robert and Cloa Helm, has inherited the "Spirit of Elijah" and desires that we all become infected with it as well. Debbie has digitized old video films and really old family movies from past family reunions and they are available for purchase on DVDs. She is only charging for the cost of the materials and postage (and time ain't cheap, either!)

The following are available on DVD or CD:

Helm Reunion 1984 & 1988	(2 DVDs)
Helm Reunion 1986	(1 DVD)
Helm Reunion 1990	(2 DVDs)

Alton & Elaine Helm 50th Anniversary	(1 DVD)
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Rex Helm's Mother's Days (1950's)	(1 DVD)
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Book of Remembrance from Cloa McArthur Helm Scanned images	(1 CD) 300mb
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Cost per DVD	\$4
Cost for CD	\$1

Shipping US Priority Mail	\$5
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**To order :**

**email:** [debburnettlds@hotmail.com](mailto:debburnettlds@hotmail.com)

**Fax:** 801-568-0798

**Mail:** Debbie Burnett  
PO Box 900504  
Sandy UT 84090

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## “FOCUS ON A FAMILY”

### Rex and Judy Helm Family



(L-R) Armond & Angela Starky, Sean & Wendy Larson, Judy, Rex, & Anthony Helm  
[HEY – where’s Samson?!]

The following “Focus on a Family” was contributed by Anthony Helm, youngest child and only son of Rex and Judy Helm. [I took the liberty to add some edits in brackets as I went.] Thank You, Anthony!!

“Dad is very happy with his new position in the county of Kingman, Az as an appraiser, and very recently received his appraising certificate from the county. While not at work dad participates in the Kingman Orchestra and is the executive secretary at church, and also heads the music for the ward. [\*\*Rex is a very accomplished flutist, pianist, and organist. He accompanied my singing as we grew up and I miss those musical moments that we shared.\*\*]

Mom is enjoying the life of a woman of leisure. She neither works nor does she care to, which is all the better for me. [\*\*Hey, knowing how ‘High Maintenance’ Anthony is, being Mom to him is a life-time, full-time job!!\*\*] However, she has been called on to use her talent as a seamstress by members of the ward on many (almost too many) occasions. Mom is also the Primary Activity leader for the 8-12 year old girls.

Armond and Angela (Starkey) have been married for a year and both continue working at their respective jobs, Target and Wal-mart. They have recently moved into a three bedroom one bath house and are extremely happy.

Sean and Wendy (Larson) were recently married May 14 (where I sang their first dance) and have been doing well since. Sean works at Target as a team leader and Wendy is still working as a nanny, taking care of twins. She complains, but I can’t think of another job where you get paid to take a nap. [\*\*Taking care of Twins?! Geez, I’d nap too—in fact, I think I will!!\*\*]

Anthony: I recently moved back to Kingman after leaving for nine months, to return to school, where I will be studying Business Administration. Eventually I want to transfer to Northern Arizona University.”