

This is a report on the Cottam Cousins and what they are doing in Bicentennial Year of 1976.

NELLIE COTTAM TOOMBS, daughter of James Cottam, is 90 years old. We all look to Nellie for our refinement. She has always been so prim and straight as an arrow. *We enjoy her Daughters Doss - as we meet in her Elegant Home.*

Next in years is GRACE (GRACIE) ALLEN SPARKS, Aunt Nellie Cottam Allen's third gal. She was 86 on her birthday. She sold her home on Chester and is living with her daughter, LaDora. Cousin Gracie is the teller of long tales, maker of many painted and lace gifts for us, and calls each of us each day.

Then MABEL ELLEN COTTAM ELLIS, John and Lillie Cottam's second daughter, will be 83 in October and still on the go. She and Alma celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on July 21, 1976, and received congratulatory letters from President Gerald Ford, President Spencer W. Kimball, and Brother David W. Kennedy.

RAYMOND ARBON, Aunt Margaret (Maggie) Arbon's son, and LESLIE ALLEN, Aunt Nellie Allen's son, and MABEL — all three were born at the same time in Snowville. In June 1976 all are alive.

VAN PETERSON, Aunt Martha Cottam Peterson's second son. Van and Marie, his dear wife, deserve our love and thanks for being so good, even at the peril of their own lives, in taking such good care of their son, Jack, for 30 years.

ALONZO JENSEN, Aunt Lizzie Cottam Jensen's only son. Alonzo and Mamie, his dear wife, also had someone to worry over. A dear son, late in life like Van and Marie, was found worthy to go through our Temple.

ADA JENSEN, Aunt Lizzie's gal, was 76 in March -- a "Turn of the Century Gal." My Sister, Josephine and I (Mabel), were so sad when Aunt Lizzie had Baby Ada and Aunt Nellie had her son, Frank, and still no baby for us. My dear Grandmother Bridget Ellen Cottam, I must say I loved her so and she was so good to Mother and us two girls while her son, John, was in Texas on his mission, promised us when our Father came back, it would be our turn. This proved to be a true promise, because in 1902 here came a miracle when Baby Mozella came to our house, and what a blessing she was for 14 years.

EVA ARBON SANDBERG, Aunt Margaret Arbon's girl, was such a wonderful school teacher and loved to travel. She married late in life and she and her husband were very happy. Although she has been sick in her later life, she is so brave. She celebrated her 80th birthday in May 1976. *Thanks Margaret - for bringing Aunt Ee*

IRENE COTTAM WILKS, Uncle William and Aunt Ettie Cottam's girl, had her 80th birthday in March. We love her for her sunny disposition. *We miss her good Husband - Thanks Jesse for coming.*

VIDA PETERSON WEST, Aunt Martha Cottam and Uncle Chris Peterson's gal, whose birthday is in May. Vida will be remembered as the "Mother of us all" — a nurse and always so dear. She is always there with loving care and good advice when we are ailing.

FLO PETERSON CUTLER, Aunt Martha Peter's girl who lives in Snowville. We love to visit her when we journey "home" to Snowville. *she is our last link with Snowville - We miss her 'Dee'*  
*Thanks Doss for adding a Sparkle to our parties*

ALTA COTTAM GOBLE, Uncle William and Aunt Ettie Cottam's gal, is our Dear President to keep the Family together. Her life has been for all of us, and we in 1976 say "THANKS" for her trying to get a Cottam Reunion once more going. Alta is the maker of fancy pillows, extra nice pages of good religion for us all, and super birthday cards. All our love and thanks to her and to her Good Jim, always at her side.

VERNIS JENSEN ADAMS, Aunt Lizzie Cottam and Uncle Lars Jensen's baby gal -- AND

MAY COTTAM VAN LEWEN, Uncle William and Aunt Ettie Cottam's baby girl, were both blessed with business abilities, like Dear Grandmother Cottam, and all the good looks of the Family.

MARTHA COTTAM HALES, Cousin James Cottam's daughter, and Uncle James' Granddaughter, is always at the Cousin's Birthday Parties, and is the Secretary of the Cottam Family Organization sending out the invitations for the Reunion on July 10, 1976. She is always there to help her older Cousins.

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As I type this for my Dear Mother, MABEL ELLEN COTTAM ELLIS, I - LEONA ELLIS THOMPSON - would like to add my tribute to my Dear Mother and OUR SWEET COUSINS. Some of my happiest memories are the COUSINS' BIRTHDAY PARTIES held on each birthday. Whenever I visit "Home in Utah" I look forward to visits with Martha (who is more than a Dear Cousin to me. We have always been close friends, too, the many years we worked together in Ogden and had lunch together. I will always happily remember the noon-hours when Martha and I would be walking along Washington Avenue together, and we would hear a shrill whistle and a Policeman's shout, and here would come her Father Jimmie, in his police uniform, hailing us. Everyone would look at us wondering why a policeman was shouting at us, but when he caught up with us, we would have a good laugh.) I look forward to visiting with all the Cousins May & Vida, Gracie, Alta, Eva, Ada, Vernis, and was glad I could go to Cousin Nellie's birthday party a few years ago. When I am not in Utah on my birthday, birthday cards come to me in California from all of you. I love you all and on my next visit (the last one was so short and so busy) in October for Mother's Birthday, I am looking forward to another COUSINS' BIRTHDAY PARTY.

May you all be blessed with Good Health, Peace of Mind, and Happy Days, and the opportunity to meet often as Cousins. We will be thinking of you at the COTTAM REUNION on July 10th, and pray that we can come to the next Reunion. Love you, LEONA

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR MANY KINDNESSES TO MY DEAR MOTHER AND DAD. YOU ARE THEIR HAPPINESS!