Presidents of Lindon Ward Relief Society from 1902 to 1953

Seated from left to right: Eva Keetch Thorne 1919 to 1931, Luella Keetch Cullimore 1931 to 1939, Hazel T. Fryer 1937 to 1940, Hazel Dell Gillman 1940 to 1945, Standing left to right: Carol F. Wells 1945 to 1948, Pearl J. Chapman 1948 to 1952, June J. Cullimore 1952 to 1956, Velma Gillman 1953 to 1955, Insert: Cordellia Walker Thorne 1902 to 1919. No photo available Martha Wooley 1890 to 1902.

History of Lindon Ward Relief Society
Written by Louie Thorne Gilman.

The Lindon Ward Relief Society, first known as Pleasant Grove 2nd Ward Relief Society was organized on Sunday Sept. 14, 1890 with Martha Wooley as Pres., Emma Cobbley 1st Couns., Cordelia P. Thorne 2nd Couns., Emily Keetch Treas. and Lydia Ann Kirk, secretary.

In Sept. 1902 it was reorganized with
Cordelia Thorne President
Emma Cobbley 1st Counselor
Fredericka West 2nd Counselor
Eva K. Thorne Treasurer
Annie S. Walker Secretary.

In 1905 Emma Cobbley moved to Idaho, and Eliza Banks was sustained as a counselor until 1909 when she moved to Pleasant Grove. Jennie W. Johnson was chosen as the new counselor.

In 1910 Fredricka West died and Lizzie Culmore was sustained as counselor.

During these first years as was the custom, wheat was gathered and donated and placed in a storehouse according to advice from Church Authorities. Two ladies were appointed as trustees to oversee this project Committees were appointed to canvas the ward

and people who raised wheat, donated whatever amount they could and others gave money with which to buy wheat.

When the 1st World War was declared, the Church bought the wheat from the Ward Relief Societies and turned it to the U. S. Government to help out in the food crisis. The money for the wheat is still in the Church finance office. Interest is paid to each Ward each year according to the amount of wheat stock they have. The Lindon Ward has Wheat Stock valued at $953.00.

In the year 1914, Lizzie Cullimore resigned and Eliza Shoell was sustained as a counselor, then on Sept. 5, 1915 the Lindon Ward was divided with the dividing boundary being what later became the north boundary of Orem town.

This organization then was known as Lindon 1st Ward, and the south area became the Lindon 2nd Ward with Charles L. Johnson as first Bishop. He chose Sister Jennie W. Johnson as the President of Relief Society in the new ward and sister Mary B. Fage was chosen to fill her place in the 1st Ward.

Then in May of 1919 our beloved President Cordelia P. Thorne passed away. She was dearly loved by everyone for her charitable heart, her cheerful countenance and her kindness to the sick and needy.

June of 1919 the Society was reorganized with the following officers,
Pres. Eva K. Thorne
1st Couns. Eliza Shoell
2nd Couns. Annie K. Wright
Secretary - Edo L. Hardman
Treasurer - Esther Kirk - Sister Kirk died in 1921 and Sister Hardman was sustained as treasurer and secretary.

In the year 1926 Eliza Shoell was released and Dahlia K. Walker was chosen and sustained as a counselor. During this time there was an average of 40 or 45 members.

After twelve years of faithful, devoted service as president, Sister Eva K. Thorne was released 1931, and her sister Luella K. Cullimore became president with Luella Steiner and Hazel T. Fryer as counselors. In the year 1934 Luella Steiner was selected to work on the Stake Board of officers and Margaret W. West was made counselor.

During the years 1934 to 1938 a Sunshine Committee was appointed in each ward in the stake, to visit the sick and needy and scatter sunshine wherever and whenever they felt it was needed. Much tender loving care was given to the less fortunate and those in need of spiritual help as well as physical assistance.

In 1935 a Bazaar was held and the proceeds given to the ward toward building a new church.

In 1937 the present presidency was released and the following were sustained.
Pres. Hazel T. Fryer
1st Couns. Margaret West
2nd Couns. Hazel Dell Gillman
Sec. & Treas. Eda T. Hardman.

These faithful sisters served until 1940 and then,
Pres. Hazel Dell Gillman
1st Couns. Leda Thorne
2nd Couns. Ella C. Smith were sustained as officers and in 1943 sister Leda Thorne was released and Ruth Walker Lovell was chosen a counselor in her place.

During these years the old Lindon Ward Chapel was condemned and torn down with hopes and plans to build a new chapel dimmed by the destruction of World War II when building materials and furnishings became so scarce, all plans were postponed for several years.

It became quite difficult for the Relief Society to find a place to hold their meetings as it was impossible to meet in the school house where other Ward meetings met on Sunday, therefore it was necessary for the sisters to meet at various homes during this strenuous time. Sister Jennie Keetch offered the use of her home in 1944 which was very much appreciated and used for meetings until 1948.

On July 15, 1945 sister Hazel Dell Gillman and counselors were released along with Secretary Eda T. Hardman, the faithful and capable worker of 26 years in this capacity.

Chosen at this time were the following,
Pres. Carol Wells
1st Couns. Alberta Walker
2nd Couns. Florence Tomlinson

Sec. & Treas. Helen G. Anderson one year
Louie Thorne Gillman sustained in Sept
1946 as Sec. & Treas.

During the years since 1936 and on, the Church Welfare Program had been growing rapidly and under such ardent and dedicated leadership, the Lindon Ward met all requirements asked of them by the Church.

In the fall of 1947 a request came from the General Presidency of Relief Society, for every ward to raise a fund of $5.00 per member for the purpose of erecting a Relief Society Building in Salt Lake City.

Then in Jan. of 1948 Pres. Carol Wells was called as Pres. of the Timpanogos Stake Rel. Soc., so on Feb. 1st 1948 she was released as Ward Pres. with her counselors. The following were sustained that day.

Pres. Pearl D. Chapman
1st Couns. Velma Gillman
2nd Couns. Lavana Littmore
Sec. & Treas Louie T. Gillman

Under the leadership of these sisters,

the organizations' quota of $410.00 was raised and sent to the General Board for the new building by Aug. 31, 1948

In the spring of 1948, meetings were being held in Jennie Keitche's home but due to remodeling there it was now necessary to find a new meeting place. In the fall they met at the home of Sister Gladys Johnson for five weeks and then on Nov. 16, 1948 a room was rented at the home of Margaret Holdaway and was used until the new chapel was finished enough to meet there in March 1950.

During 1948 and 49, Welfare assignments were very high but through the fine co-operation of the sisters they always met these assignments on time. In 1948 at Thanksgiving time a Bazaar was held at the Leidow school house and a program presented there under the direction of the Caldwells and consisted of many varied numbers from B.Y.U. students.

In 1950 the sisters worked doubly hard and held two bazaars to raise money to complete the chapel. One was held on March 16th and a plate lunch

was sold at noon and in the evening. A matinee dance and fish pond were the attractions for the afternoon for the children and the day was climaxed by a lovely program for all in the evening. On March 26th we were able to present Bishop Eccambrack with $500.00 to help pay on the Chapel

In May 1950 a party was held to honor all widows of the ward and especially to show love and appreciation to a dear member, Florence Tomlinson, who was moving from the ward.

Another Bazaar was held in Nov. and this time $250.00 was given for the new church and in Dec. a new sewing machine was purchased to use in our room in the chapel.

In May of 1951 the Ward Relief Society gave a check of $25.00 to Bro. Victor Nelson to procure medical aid for his wife sister Venola Nelson.

During the 1951 summer the sisters of the ward spent many hours and days helping to paint the rooms in the new chapel in preparation for the dedication.

In July we held a banquet for the

local Lions' Club to raise money to buy essentials for the Relief Society room and in December we were able to buy 30 armchairs and the draperies for the windows which were installed before the dedication in the spring of 1952. During the three months prior to the Dedication the sisters cleaned, waxed and polished everything ready for that day of days on March 23, 1952 when the Dedication took place. We were able to buy a new piano also for the Relief Society room in March.

Later in the spring because the Bishop was assigned a cash Welfare part of a heavy assignment on the Ward he asked the Relief Society to raise the amount of $91.85 so the sisters rallied again and held a banquet for the Graduating Class of school and with more donation from each member the amount was raised and given to the Ward.

On Sept. 14, 1952 Pres. Chapman and officers were released and given a sincere vote of thanks for the many things accomplished during the time they were

in office. While they were presiding only one visit in one month was all they lacked of having 100% visiting teaching.

The following officers were sustained to go forward with Relief Society work.

Pres. June Cullimore
1st Couns. Miriam Ash
2nd Couns. Heloise Johnson
Sec. & Treas. Thelma Swenson

Heloise Johnson was released in Jan. 1953 and Genevieve Hansen was sustained as a counselor.

This record or history was misplaced at this time and no further history was available of the Lindon Ward but sister Louie Gillman started another history after the Ward was divided on Dec. 13th 1953. However Sister Gillman was in the new ward which was Lindon 2nd Ward.

The former Lindon 2nd Ward was changed to Windsor Ward when that part of Lindon was annexed into the Sharon Stake and later made a part of the town of Orem. It became part of Sharon Stake in 1924 & part of Orem in 1946.

A history of this first division of the Lindon Ward and the new Lindon 2nd Ward from 1915 until it became extinct and was called Windsor Ward has been made by Rosa J. Baxter covering the years from 1915 to 1969 when it was Orem 6th Ward and part of the new Orem Stake and was divided making three new wards.

Another Lindon 2nd Ward

The Lindon Ward was divided again Dec. 13, 1953. The area west of the state highway 91 was the new Lindon 2nd Ward. Sister June Cullimore was retained as Pres. with Juanita Larsen and Genevieve Hansen as counselors. Thelma Severson was secretary and treasurer. Sister Hansen was later released and Dorthella Blanchard sustained as a counselor.

They served well in the new ward until July of 1956 and were released by Bp. Bawden, and the following

sisters were sustained on that date.
Pres. Louie Thorne Gillman
1st Couns. Mary A. Swenson
2nd Couns. Dora Fisher
Sec. & Treas. Doris G. Hooley
Organist - Lorraine Ruffell
Theology teacher - Nellie Hoffman
Visiting Teacher leader - Mable Harris
Literature leader - Norma Taylor
Social Science - Virginia Beggant
Magazine director - Blanche Hooley
Sept 19, 1956 Work Director - Donna Gilles
Nov 4, " Chorister - LaDean Gilman

During that year we had an enrollment of 62 with an average attendance of 37%. One hundred per cent visits were made by visiting teachers.

In conjunction with the Lindon Ward new drapes for the Relief Society room were purchased, also an electric clock. Sister Lulla Harris also acted as a work director during that winter.

On April 28, 1957 the Ward Bishopric was changed. Bishop Bawden & counselors Willes Larsen and Reed Gillman were released and the following brothers sustained.

Bishop - Kenneth H. Gillman
1st Couns. May Edwards
2nd Couns. Nile Harris

The Relief Society officers were mostly retained to carry on for a short while until June 16th 1957 when the following were sustained
Pres. Louie T. Gillman
1st Couns. Mary A. Swenson
2nd Couns. Virginia Beggant
Sec. & Treas. - Doris Hooley
Organist - Lorraine Ruffell
Chorister - Audrey Hooley
Magazine Agent - May Aston
Theology teacher - Nellie Hoffman
Work Director - Bonnie Hooley
Literature leader - Norma Taylor
Social Science - Aseneth Walser

Our class leaders have been very faithful and diligent. Whenever they were unable to attend they had another sister ready to take their place that day, which greatly added to the success of our meetings.

The sewing machine needed replacement so a new Necki head was purchased and placed in the old cabinet. Because the Relief Society room was on the

south side of the church we felt the need of an awning over the windows and we were happy to be able to have this done. The Lindon ward shared the cost of this.

Our sisters have made many lovely articles on work day such as, pillow cases, dish towels, quilts, painted plaques, flower ear rings etc. The Singing Mothers Chorus of twenty sisters do very well and have sung for several occasions.

On July 6, 1958, Norma Taylor was released as Literary leader and Thelma Herrick was sustained in her place. Bonnie Hooley began working in M.I.A. and was also released and Edna Harris was appointed Work director.

We felt a need to change meeting time from 2 P.M. to 10 A.M. on tuesday so the young mothers who had children in school could attend our meetings. We were fortunate in obtaining nursery attendants through the M.I.A. Some of the Gleaner Girls tend the children voluntarily to fill one of their requirements of giving 20 hours of service to the church.

One of the biggest problems of Relief Society is to get our sisters to attend the

Visiting Teachers Report meeting at 9.15 A.M. We hope to work out a plan to increase our attendance.

We have held a Bazaar each spring and they have been very successful. In 1957 we held the Bazaar in the afternoon with a fish pond, a dance, ice cream and candy for the children, then we sold dinner in the evening to the adults and the M.I.A. presented a 3 act play to a good crowd.

In 1958 we presented our Bazaar in the form of a Country store. Our setting resembled the Pioneer Country store with a smorgasborg dinner sold and served at tables covered with red checked table cloths with lamps and candles as the centerpieces. In the evening the M.I.A. presented a Hill-Billy Show and the entire day was very successful.

On the 17th of March 1959 we commemerated the Anniversary of Rel. Soc. by asking each sister to wear old fashion clothing. The progeam consisted of music readings and stories of the purpose of the Organization of the Relief Society The sisters were pleased when we

served stewed dry prunes, corn bread and chocolate drink and they all enjoyed it very much. For the Bazaar that year we had an entertainment for the children and a smorgasbord supper for all and an interesting program in the evening.

We were especially proud and happy with the support of each sister with the lovely articles made and donated. We are indeed grateful to each and everyone.

In the fall of 1959, sister Edna Harris moved from the ward and Norma Taylor was sustained as Work director.

We are especially grateful to those many sisters in our ward who take such interest in the welfare of their families. We have had very few cases of welfare needy, even during the lay off of so many of the men at the Steel Plant. Most families were able to sustain themselves without assistance.

The membership does not change very much in our ward. Some people sell and move away and others come in their place, but the count remains around 62 with 14 and 15 visiting districts.

This group of officers have taken pride in the betterment of all organizations in the ward. They were happy to be able to add to the fine set of dishes that the previous officers had purchased. Also purchased 1 combination kettle, 4 large spoons, 1 egg beater, 3 spatulas, carving knives paring knives and 2 ice cream scoops. They also kept a good supply of freshly laundered dish towels on hand and were very careful to see that the dishes and utensils were kept in good condition by the different organizations using them.

The drapes at the windows in the Bishops office were worn in holes so unbeknown to the Bishopric, the Relief Society sisters purchased and hung new drapes in this office which pleased them very much and was deeply appreciated

Our bazaars were very successful and we were happy to have visitors attend from outside of the ward who appreciated the fine workmanship of our articles for sale made by the sisters. We were able to save a substantial

amount of money to help furnish the new Relief Society room being planned with remodeling the church to accomodate both wards.

As this part of the history of Lundon sisters draws to a close we wish to thank a wonderful, friendly, dependable and spiritual group of officers in the Relief Society organization.

On July 29, 1962 the following sisters were released.

Louie Gillman,	Mary Swenson
Virginia Beggart,	Doris Hooley
Lorraine Ruffell	Rhodah Price
May Aston	Nellie Hoffman
Mable Harris	Thelma Herrick
Asseneth Walsu	Norma Taylor

This organization still tries to live up to the motto given by the Prophet Joseph Smith. " You shall be armed alway with mercy, If you would have God have mercy upon you; have mercy one with another. Be pure in heart and work together in a co-operative manner to respect and hold sacred the confidences of one another."

On July 29, 1962 the new officers were sustained as follows
Pres. Bonnie T. Hooley
1st Couns. Renee Edwards
2nd Couns. Pearl Fowlke
Sec. & Treas. Janice Gillman

Nov. 1967

Pres. Dorthella Blanchard
1st Couns. Joyce Gillman
2nd Couns. Colleen Keetch Sec. Betty Cowell

Nov. 1970

Pres. Mary Swenson
1st Couns. Clara Carter
2nd Couns. Marie Johnson
Sec. & Treas. Thelma Gillman

Dec. 1973

Pres. Ila Adams
1st Couns. Doris Ford
2nd Couns. Elmeda Christensen
Sec. & Treas. Donna Turner

Oct 1975

Pres. Elmeda Christensen
1st Couns. Joan Green
2nd Couns. Madge Gillman
Sec. & Treas. Donna Turner

June 1977

June 1977

Pres. Joan Green
1st Couns. Edith Jean Harris
2nd Couns. Brenda Cullimore
Sec. & Treas. Ila Brown

It seems when Sister Louie Gillman was released as Pres. no one took over an account of events etc. so she just filled in date of releases, and new officers sustained since 1962 to 1977.