5. The Descendants of John H. Smith (1854-1886) and Lucy Maurine MacDonald (1864-1950) of Texas, New York, Nebraska, and Oregon

This is the continuing saga of the descendants of Jesse R. Smith and Elizabeth Harrison Smith and an examination of the life of their 4th child and his children and an introduction of his grandchildren. As usual, I'll leave a brief introduction of John and Lucy before delving into the children.

5. John H. Smith 12 OCT 1854 • Washington, TX - AUG 1886 • Sonora, Pinal, AZ Lucy Maurine McDonald 2 DEC 1864 • New York, NY - DEATH 13 JUN 1950 • Salem, Oregon Married: 25 Mar 1881 • O'Neill, Nebraska, USA





Photos of John and Lucy posted on Ancestry by Craig Alan Smith, their great grandson.

John H. Smith was the 4th child of Jesse and Elizabeth. It is suspected that his middle name is Harrison after his mother's maiden name, but to date, there are not any records that confirm this. He was born most likely in Washington County, Texas prior to the family's relocation to Atascosa. He appears in his parent's home in 1860 and 1870 as a 5-and 15-year-old in Atascosa, TX and that is

the extent of his Census records. The next that we hear of him is a marriage record from 25 March 1881 in Holt County, Nebraska which details his marriage to Lucy McDonald. At the time, they both lived in O'Neill, NB which was the County Seat. John was 26 and Lucy was 18. She was born in Canada or New York to Thomas McDonald and Mary Hagerty, although the marriage license says that she was born in New York. In 1880, she lived in Center, NB with her parents and 8 siblings. She was 16, and of particular interest to this story is her sister Mary who was two years older. Probably about the same time that Lucy got married, her sister Mary got married to J. J. Hamblin. We are not sure of his age, but we know that he was the inspector for the Wyoming Stock Raiser's Association and through a series of news articles and book articles we have been able to piece together a rather interesting and tragic story about John. Here is one news report from the Fremont Weekly Herald 13 Dec 1883:

These are the children we will be covering in this edition.

556	27	John Leland Smith	1881	1948	John H and Lucy's Child#1
557	28	Jesse Louis Smith	1884	1954	John H and Lucy's Child#2
558	29	Willie Harrison Smith	1886	1886	John H and Lucy's Child#3 - Based on 1900 Census 3 born 2 living

27. John Leland Smith 2 JUL 1882 • Sidney, Nebraska - 10 JAN 1948 • Portland, Oregon Ida May Peterson 4 MAY 1891 • Valley County, Nebraska - 15 MAR 1978 • Portland, Oregon Marriage: 25 Dec 1915 • Ord, Valley, Nebraska





Photos courtesy of Craig Smith – great grandson of John and Lucy.

Born in the wild wild west. John Leland was the first child of John and Lucy Smith. While John claimed to have been born in Sidney, Nebraska I'm more inclined that he was probably born in O'Neill which is where John and Lucy were living after they were married in Holt County in March 1881. John arrived in July 1882. Being born in 1882, he missed

the 1880 Census and does not appear until 1900 at which time he lived in Omaha with his mother and her

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Race	Gender	Birth Month	Birth Year	Age	Marital Status	Years Married	 Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	House Owned Free or Mortgaged	
1900 Census	Douglas, N			South 29			- 0					1		1		
Clark	Albert M	Head	White	Male	Oct	1842	57	Married	3		Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	House Painter		H
Clark	Marie L	Wife	White	Female	Mar	1867	33	Married	3		New York	New York	New York			
Smith	John L	Son-in-law	White	Male	Jul	1883	16	Single			Nebraska	Illinois	New York	House Painter		

new husband Albert Merwin Clark. As we recall, Lucy had married the previously married Mr. Clark who had 9 children from his prior marriage. Their mother had died in 1888, but they were not with their father in 1900. At least 4 had died young, and a couple had married, but I have not found the ones that were close in age to John and his brother Jesse. I believe that Jesse was with his grandparents, but we will discuss him next. The 1900 Census tells us that Lucy had married Albert in 1897, so she had been raising her two boys alone since John's death in 1886. I believe that her parents were pitching in at times. What we do see is that one benefit of Lucy's marriage to Albert despite its bad ending, is that her son John learned the trade of house painting which was a career that he continued to pursue later in life.

What I have found about John after the 1900 Census, is a listing in 1902 in the Omaha City Directory where J. Leland Smith – painter – lived at 1408 Jaynes in Omaha. I found him there at the same address in 1904, 1905, and 1906. Here is that house today. It's cute, but needs a paint job! In 1915, he was reported to have married Ida Peterson in Ord, Nebraska, a small town in the center of the state and not near anywhere you would know.



MARRIED ON CHRISTMAS At the home of Mr. Fred Peterson on Christmas day at 12:30 o'clock the marriage of his daughter, Miss Ida Peterson to Mr. Leland Smith of Omaha, took place. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. Mitchell of the Methodist church of North Loup.

The decorations were of blue and white. The bride was dressed in blue and carried a bouquet of white and pink roses, and the groom was in dark blue serge. Mr. Clarence Peterson, brother of the bride, acted as. best man, and Miss Evelyn Westberg, cousin of the groom, as bridesmaid.

They were married in the presence of relatives and friends. Out of town guests present were Mrs. John Auble of Ord, Mr. Walter

Routh of Omaha, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henrickson of Loup City. After the wedding ceremony a bountiful dinner was served. A double reception was held at night for Mr. and Mrs. Leland Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Peterson, the latter couple having been married at Ord on Thursday, December 23rd. A good time was enjoyed by all until a late hour when an oyster supper was served for 34 people.

Ida was the daughter of Fred and Mary Bowman Peterson. Fred had immigrated from Stockholm, Sweden in 1867 and married Mary Bowman in Rock Island, Illinois in 1885. They had 6 children before her death in 1895. Ida was the 4th of 6 and her youngest sibling, a brother died at birth in 1894. At the time of her wedding, her father had not remarried and as you may have noticed, one of her older brothers, Charlie married a couple of days before her. I was a bit surprised that his mother was not in attendance.

Their first daughter, Violet Pearl, was born in Nebraska in Nov 1917 and they moved to Oregon after her birth where she was joined by a brother John Louis in Dorena, Oregon in 1918. Dorena is a small unincorporated area southeast of Eugene. After John's birth they seemed to have moved north to the Portland area, but I've been unable to pinpoint their address on the 1920 Census, 10333 60th Ave, South Kelly Butte, Multnomah, Oregon. There are several 60th Avenues today and no area names South Kelly Butte. Also, in 1917, John registered for the WW1 Draft which showed them to be living in Dorena, Lane County. John was a painter of medium height and slender build with brown eyes and dark brown hair. Interestingly he noted that he had broken both feet about a year before and was severely crippled. That would make it tough to be a painter.

Looking at the 1920 Census, we see Leland, Ida, Violet, and John living in Multnomah Co along with Ida's widowed father Fred, an unidentified (by me) cousin named Walter Routh who is 29, divorced, and from Indiana. I can only conclude that this must be one of Ida's cousins or someone related to his step father since he probably does not know any of his Smith cousins. Also living with them are Ida's brother Charlie with two of his children who are close in age to Leland's kids since Charlie and Ida were married 2 days apart. I'm curious as to where his wife is. I did notice that in 1930 he was divorced. The older boy was born in Indiana which leads me to believe that his wife, Agnes went to be with her mother when she had her first child, but then stayed at home in Oregon for the 2nd.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Home Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1920 Census	South Kelly Butte,	Multnomah, Ore	g 10333 60	th Ave										
Smith	Leland J	Head	Rented		Male	White	38	1882	Married	Nebraska	USA	Nebraska	Paper Hanger	Paper Hanging
Smith	Ida M	Wife (married 1	1915 Neb)		Female	White	28	1892	Married	Nebraska	Sweden	Kentucky	None	
Smith	Violet P	Daughter			Female	White	3	1917	Single	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	None	
Smith	John L	Son			Male	White	1	1919	Single	Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	None	
Peterson	Fred	Father-in-law	1867	Naturalized	Male	White	69	1851	Widowed	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	None	
Routh	Walter	Cousin			Male	White	29	1891	Divorced	Indiana	Indiana	Kentucky	Laborer	Streets
Peterson	Charles E	Brother-in-law			Male	White	31	1889	Married	Nebraska	Sweden	Kentucky	Laborer	Foundry
Peterson	Orville L	Nephew			Male	White	2	1918	Single	Indiana	Nebraska	Iowa	None	
Peterson	Alfred C	Nephew			Male	White	1	1919	Single	Oregon	Nebraska	Iowa	None	

The 1920's did not start off well as their oldest daughter Violet died of diphtheria on 21 Nov 1921 in Portland. She was a week short of her 5th birthday. At that time, they lived on Foster Road at 95th #9502 and indicated that they had been living in Portland for a year. Son Frederick had been born in Sep 1920 after the 1920 Census and appears for the first time here. In May 1923, son Hubert arrived in Portland.

Hubert is the father of Craig Smith who I correspond with and is mentioned in Alvy's book as a DNA match as he is with me. Following Hubert was Aurthur Lee in Nov 1925 and finally Willie Harrison in Dec 1927. These two boys were about my dad's age as he was born right between them in Nov 1926. I'm pretty sure that they never heard of one another. Leland was still a painter and by 1930 they had moved to 208 Humboldt in Portland which again, I cannot find today. They were paying \$15/month rent and his younger brother, Jesse was living with them and working as a cook on a dredge. They didn't own a radio, and Leland's bad feet had

			ne Owne	d Home	Radio	Lives on				Estimate d Birth		Age at First	Attended	Read d and		Father's	Mother's	
Surname	Given Name	Relation to Hea	ad or Rented	Value	Set	Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Marital Status	Marriage	School	Write	Birthplace	Birthplace	Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	208 Humbole	dt	Portland, Mu	ultnomah, V	Va													Yes
Smith	Leland	Head	Rented		5 No	No	Male	White	47	1883	Married	33	No	Yes	Nebraska	United States	United States	Painter
Smith	Ida M	Wife					Female	White	38	1892	Married	26	No	Yes	Nebraska	Sweden	United States	
Smith	John L	Son					Male	White	11	1919	Single		Yes	Yes	Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	
Smith	Fredrick L	Son					Male	White	9	1921	Single		Yes		Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	
Smith	Hubert J	Son					Male	White	6	1924	Single		Yes		Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	
Smith	Arthur L	Son					Male	White	4	1926	Single		No		Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	
Smith	William H	Son					Male	White	2	1928	Single		No		Oregon	Nebraska	Nebraska	
	Jesse L	Brother					Male	White	46	1884	Single		No	Yes	Nebraska	United States	United States	Cook

kept him out of WW1 as he was not a veteran. In the 1929 City Directory, Leland and Ida lived at 285 E 58th N and he was a painter. This is that address today.

As we move past the 1930's. more changes were afoot for Leland's family. Daughter Lucy May arrived in Feb 1932 followed by Esther in Feb 1934. Ida would have been 40 and 42 when these girls were born. All of their older brothers and sisters were still at home when they joined the family and would have been 4-13 when Lucy arrived and 6 to 15 when Ester arrived. That would have been a house with 9 folks fighting for the bathroom. Fortunately, the older 5 were all boys. They must have been tickled to finally get a sister or two as none of them would have remembered their oldest sister Violet who had died in 1921. In 1940, they had moved yet again to 1128 SE $33^{\rm rd}$ Avenue and were still paying \$15/month rent. This is what is at address today.



As I mentioned. All of the sons were still living at home and in 1940 ranged in age from 12 to 21 with the two daughters being 5 and 8. The census notes that Leland and Ida had only gone through the 8th grade, while John had 2 years of high school, Frederick had graduated while Hubert and Arthur were still attending.

Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School or College	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenshi p	Residence City in 1938	Employment Details	Hours Worke d Week Prior to Census	Unemplo	Occupation
Portland,	Rented	15											
Male	White	58	1882	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Nebraska		Portland	No	40		Painter
Female	White	48	1892	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Nebraska		Portland	Home Housewo	rk		
Male	White	21	1919	Single	No	High School, 2nd year	Oregon		Portland	No	40		Laborer
Male	White	19	1921	Single	No	High School, 4th year	Oregon		Portland	No		116	Road Construction
Male	White	16	1924	Single	Yes	High School, 2nd year	Oregon		Portland	School			
Male	White	14	1926	Single	Yes	High School, 1st year	Oregon		Portland	School			
Male	White	12	1928	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 5th grade	Oregon		Portland				
Female	White	8	1932	Single	Yes	Elementary school, 2nd grade	Oregon		Portland				
Female	White	5	1938	Single	Yes	0	Oregon		Portland				

William had finish 5th grade and Lucy had finish 2nd grade and Ester was probably ready to start school in 1941. John was working as a laborer and Frederick was building roads.

In April 1942, Leland registered for the Old Man's WW2 Draft and provided the following information. He still lived at 1122 SE 33rd Ave and he was 59 years old. Ida at the same address was his point of contact. He was 5'-10 1/2" – 152lbs with brown eyes and hair and a ruddy complexion. He had a scar by his upper lip. In Jan 1948, Leland died of a heart attack. His death certificate indicates that he died at 4:30PM on 10 Jan 1940 while still living at the same address above. He suffered a coronary thrombosis. He was 65 ½ years old. He has been in Oregon 29 years and 28 of those were in Portland. His oldest son, John Louis was the informant and his burial was handled by the Davy Sunnyside Funeral Home at 3457 SE Belmont, Portland which does not appear to be there anymore. Leland had apparently been a part of the local Painter's Union and the article below appeared in The Oregon Labor Press in Aug 1948.

Our paint caps bearing Painters Iocal No 10 emblem are now available to all members of Local No 10 Each member will receive his first paint cap free Any additional caps may be purchased at cost 25c) These caps are of good quality and will cost the members less than they would have to pay for a can in the downtown stores and at the same time it gives each of us our opportunity to advertise our local union Let's all get behind this program and make it a big success as they have done in other local unions Since the last notice was sent out there have been two deaths however for your information so that you may check against your due book we are listing all of the deaths since January 1, 1948 - John Doughtery 1-7-48, **Leland Smith 1-12-48,** Plynn Lemmon, Frank Singleton 2-3-43, Martin Mortensen 2-16-48, James Shadoin 3-6-48, Charles Plumadore 3-22-48, Oscar Muller 3-26-48, John Swift 5-7-48, William Asquith 6-4-48, Hugo Ferm 6-23-48, Herman Berggren 7-1-48, William Drummond 8-12-48.

As an aside, there was another Leland Smith in Portland at this time that seemed to be quite famous and grabbed a lot of headlines making a newspaper search for our Leland and bit troublesome.

Let's take a quick look at what his kids were up to before his death and we will examine them in more detail in the next generation. Son John married Elizabeth Whitlock in July 1940, right after the census and at least 6 children, 3 of which were born before Leland's death.

Son Frederick married Ann Ludwig in April 1942 and it appears that they had at least two children before Leland's death.

Son Hubert did not marry until 1949 which was after his father's death so his two sons never met their grandfather.

Son Arthur Lee married Beverly Erickson in Feb 1947 and they had at least 4 children of which one was born before Leland's death

Son William married Dorothy Anderson in Sep 1948 and they had at least one child who was born 6 months after Leland's death.

His daughters did not marry until the 1950's and we will cover them later.

Ida lived 30 years after Leland's death passing away in Portland in March 1978 so she got to enjoy all of her many grandchildren. More information about her later years may surface as I did into her children in detail, but as of this writing, I don't have a lot to add.

Children of John Leland and Ida Peterson Smith

1027	119	Violet Pearl Smith	1916	1921	John and Ida Child#1
1028	120	John Louis Smith	1918	2000	John and Ida Child#2
1029	121	Frederick Smith	1921	1972	John and Ida Child#3
1030	122	Hubert Jess Smith	1923	2004	John and Ida Child#4
1031	123	Arthur Lee Smith	1925	2012	John and Ida Child#5
1032	124	William Harrison Smith	1928	2000	John and Ida Child#6
1033	125	May Lucy Smith	1932	2019	John and Ida Child#7
1034	126	Ester V Smith	1933	2017	John and Ida Child#8



Craig Smith has posted the above photos on Ancestry.

28. **Jesse Louis Smith** 20 APR 1884 • Valentine, Nebraska - 12 DEC 1954 • Los Angeles, CA No record of Jesse ever marrying.



Jesse Smith, a 15-year-old lad of Fremont, arrived at that town Thursday of last week, fresh from Manila. He went straight to the home of his grandfather, Tom McDonald, across the river in Saunders county. He ran away from his mother in Omaha two years ago, stowed away and went to Manila, was adopted by the Oregon regiment as its mascot, came back with the regiment and hit the freight trains home. It was not known where he was until a short time ago.

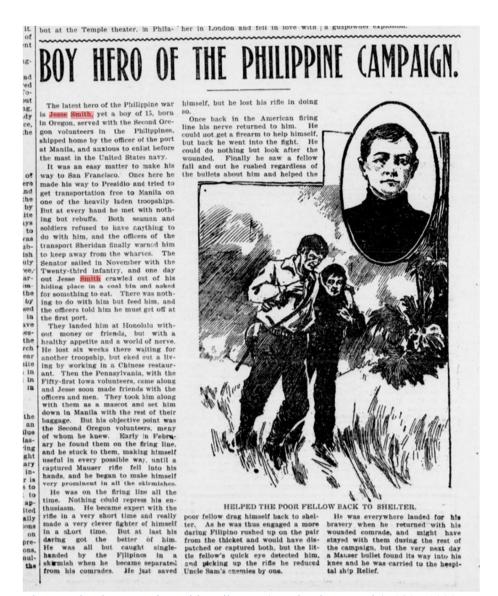
The only other living son of John and Lucy Smith was Jesse Louis Smith who arrived in Nebraska a couple of years after his brother. I was excited to find this ID card for Jesse with a partial picture and a fingerprint.

Jesse is a little elusive, but the bits that I have found paint an interesting picture. Since he was born after the 1880 Census his first opportunity for a US Census would have been 1900, but he was missing from the census with his mother and brother. He did appear in the 1885 Nebraska Census with his father, mother, and brother but his absence from the 1900 Census led me to go hunting in the newspaper and I encountered these amazing articles. (See next page)

Newspapers.com - Central Nebraska Republican - 2 Sep 1899 - Page 2 and the article below.

The 2nd Article below was written a couple of years after the fact and seems to have a few more facts and an erroneous record of his birth location, bit it is fascinating. I recommend clicking on the link and reading about his heroics.

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The North Platte semi-weekly tribune. (North Platte, Neb.) 1895-1922, January 02, 1900, Image 6 « Chronicling America « Library of Congress (loc.gov)

He registered for the WW1 Draft in 1917 at which time he gave his address as the US Shipping Board in Tacoma, WA. He was a steward seaman aboard the US Chicon (I think) which was stationed at the Security Station in Seattle Washington. He listed his mother, Mrs. L. M. Smith of 1408 Jaynes Street in Omaha as his next of kin. He was medium height and build and had brown eyes and dark hair. In Nov 1918, he filled out the application for a Seaman's Certificate from which the photo above was taken. He was 34 and 5'-8" with a light complexion, black hair, brown eyes, and a mole on his back and a scar on his 2nd finger of his left hand.

He finally shows up in the 1920 Census when he and 123 of his friends were in some sort of rooming house at 66 North 3rd Street in Portland. I'm not sure what sort of establishment this was but these folks ranged in age from 18 to 79, fifty-six were immigrants at some stage in their naturalization process. the were from 19 different foreign countries and 25 different States. They were mostly laborers, but there were cooks, sailors, engineers, and carpenters, loggers, and salesmen. Five were divorced. Five were married and seven were widowed. There was one woman, a 60-year-old and married, but her husband was not there. Jesse was a cook aboard a marine vessel.

His next appearance is in his older brother, John's house as mention in John's biography. Jesse was 46 and still working as a cook on a dredge.

Like his brother, he registered for the Old Man's WW2 Draft in 1942 and he was still living with John at that time. He was 59 and was working for Gulf Oil Company which amazed me since that it the company my father spent most of his career working for. The way he wrote it - Gulf Oil CO. – "Gulf Point" made me wonder if that was the ship that he was working on. His place of business was Wilmington, CA. Wilmington is a neighborhood in the South Bay and Harbor region of Los Angeles, California, covering 9.14 square miles. Featuring a heavy concentration of industry and the third-largest oil field in the continental United States.



Jesse shows up in the 1940 Census in San Francisco living at 1264 Golden Gate Ave where he was working as a laborer on a government project. This must have been a short break between ship jobs as we did find him back at his brother's house in Portland as mentioned above. The photo to the right is that address today. The only thing I could find about San Francisco in 1940 is that someone at that address got a marriage license in April 1940 a week after the census and in 1938 a nine-year-old boy was run over and killed and his mother lived at that address. Hey – I don't have much information for poor Jesse so I need to add something.

Jesse has not been found in the 1950 Census and his final appearance is in 1954 when California issued a notice of death for Jesse on 12 Dec 1954

29. William Harrison Smith 1886 • Valentine, Cherry, Nebraska - 1888 • Valentine, Cherry, Nebraska

We can only speculate about William. In the 1900 Census, Lucy indicates that she has had three births and only 2 survived. With the frequency of twins born in the Smith family it is quite likely that William may have been a twin brother of either Leland or Jesse. We know that both of those boys appear in the 1885 Nebraska Census, with Jesse having been born in April 1884. Jesse headed to Sonora about 1885 so William could have been born after his dad ran from the law, but we will never know.

This concludes the study of the children and grandchildren of John and Lucy. The next generation will follow the children of Leland and Ida listed above since that is all there are.

Upon completing this, I sent it to my "cousin" Craig Smith for his review and input and he has forwarded me the attached interview that his father, Hubert had with his oldest brother John Leland Smith that has some fascinating insight into John and brother Jesse and even some additional information about his great grandmother Lucy MacDonald Smith. A couple of things to look at. In Feb 1886, which was before Jesse's death, Lucy sued the sheriff, the Bank of Valentine, and a Thomas Connell who I believe was the bank president, for the return of property that they had confiscated from her. It was a sizeable number of livestock to include about 86 head of cattle, 3 horses, and 7 mules along with harnesses and wagons. Another interesting fact is that Leland's brother opened a restaurant in Portland at 14th and Washington, but then went back to sea. Lucy lived with them awhile and then moved to San Francisco and opened a store. Leland seemed to have had an excellent reptation as a painter and painted a hotel in Arlington, Oregon that



belonged to future governor Earl Snell and then he painted the Oregon and Oriental Theaters owned by a Mr. McFadden, and he painted the summer home of Julius Meier, a family of a very well-known department store Meier and Frank which I remember from my time in Portland in the late 1970's.

Arlington is a small town on the Colombia River in the center of Oregon.

<u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_Snell</u> - biography of Governor Snell.

Photo of the Oriental Theater. The only reference that I can find to the Oregon Theater is about an X-rated theater in Portland.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Meier - biography of Governor Julius Meier and son of the founder of Meier and Frank.

Thanks for sharing Craig – I look forward to studying you father and uncles when I get to the next generation.