

# THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly--March, June, September, December--noting activities, of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants; mailed free to members, to non-members 50¢ yearly. Secretary: Mrs. Ralph D. Trismen, 457 The Fenway, River Edge, N.J.

---

JUNE 1955

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Vol. XXII No. 86

---

CHAPTER NEWS---Greater New York Chapter No. 3 - The Greater New York Chapter decided last year at Cousin Roscoe's to have another fall picnic at his home at 109 Dudley Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey. Do plan to go this year! The date will be announced later.

NATIONAL SOCIETY REMINDER---Cousins from all over the United States who are planning to meet cousins from Vermont in Poultney, Vermont in the summer of 1956. As soon as the exact week-end date appears in our Quarterly, be sure to jot it down!

---

NEW MEMBERS---Many Happy Times with our Family Society!

- #443 - Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Snyder, Granby, Mass.
- #444 - Miss Dorothea Barton Cogswell, 83 Carver Rd.,  
Newton Highlands, Mass.
- #445 - Miss Evelyn J. Ellis, 5308 Clay St.  
Houston, Texas Apt. #1
- #446 - Mrs. Harriet B. Neill, 217 East 26th Street  
New York, 10, New York
- #447 - Mr. & Mrs. John P. Gaboury, 531 East Lincoln Ave.,  
Mt. Vernon, New York

Note: As of January 30, 1955, our National Society membership was 215.

Let all of us help to make our membership grow!  
Find another cousin and get him or her interested.

---

BIRTHS---Congratulations!

Andrew Richard Follett, born October 27, 1953 at St. Albans, Vermont, son of Benjamin Branch and Elsie Margaret (Simons) Follett, also grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Clarence D. Simons, members from Burlington, Vermont.

Sarah Utke-Ramsing, born March 4, 1955 at the Naval Hospital near Oakland, California, daughter of our members, Commander & Mrs. Verner Utke-Ramsing and also grandchild of our member, Mrs. Sarah (Westcott) Martin of Binghamton, New York.

BIRTHS---(Continued)

Susan Louise Platt, born March 3, 1955 at Manchester, Connecticut, daughter of Charles E. and V. Natalie Platt and granddaughter of our member, Mrs. Lois Platt Weld.

Aaron Jeffrey Westcott, born July 2, 1951 )  
 Judy Martha Westcott, born February 10, 1953 ) All children of  
 Eric Douglas Westcott, born May 30, 1954 )

our members Arthur James and Mrs. Barbara Jane (Ward) Westcott, Jr., of Massena, New York and grandchildren of our member, Mrs. Arthur James Westcott, Sr.

Stephen Gardner Westcott, born October 20, 1952, son of Samuel Richardson and Mrs. Virginia (Godfrey) Westcott, Jr., also grandson of our members, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Richardson Westcott, Sr., of Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Peggy Katherine Shire, born July 13, 1954, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Richard Shire, of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and grandchild of our members, Mr. & Mrs. Phillip H. Shire, of Toledo, Ohio.

Mark Lawrence Melville, born April 13, 1955, son of Noel and Marilyn (Westcott) Melville, of Pensacola, Florida, Navy Air Base, also first grandchild of Dr. F. Howard and Gertrude Westcott of Tenafly, New Jersey, and Dr. F. Howard our former President.

Heidi Lynn Kurth, born August 1954, daughter of Richard and Lois Jane (Pelck) Kurth, of Elm Grove, Wisconsin and granddaughter of our members, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick H. Pelck, of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

---

MARRIAGE---Happy Life Together!

Samuel Richardson Westcott, Jr., and Virginia Godfrey were married on July 28, 1951, son and daughter-in-law of our members, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Richardson Westcott, Sr., of Williamstown, Massachusetts.

---

DEATHS---Our Deepest Sympathy!

Our Post Laureate---Mrs. Theodore Bates Cogswell, 72, of 83 Carver Road, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts, wife of Edward R. Cogswell, died on February 24, 1955, after a long illness. (She wrote her own obituary, except for date, which was printed in the Newton Graphic) as follows: She was a direct descendant of Richard Warren of the Mayflower, of Captain Benjamin Church of King Phillips' War and of Stukely Westcott and other founders of Providence, Rhode Island. She was a sister of Herbert Bates, well-known educator and poet, who is

## DEATHS---(Continued)

remembered for his verse-translation of the Odyssey.

A graduate of Radcliffe, Mrs. Cogswell had lived in Cambridge most of her life until her marriage in 1906. Before her illness she was the founder and first president of the Radcliffe Mothers and Daughters Club.

She was for many years a frequent contributor of verse to magazines and papers, including the Boston Transcript, the Boston Herald, the Living Church, the Sign, Our Dumb Animals, Extension Magazine and the Christian Science Monitor.

Her Christmas poem, "The Little Trees", has been printed somewhere in this country almost every year since it appeared for Scribner's in 1917. Mrs. Cogswell also contributed short stories and articles to various magazines and edited or revised several books. In 1937 she wrote a sizeable portion of the New American Encyclopedia. In 1939 she was made the first honorary life member of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants in appreciation of the poems and songs she had written for that Society.

She has been an invalid since 1946. Besides her husband she leaves a daughter, Dorothea Barton Cogswell, of Newton Highlands.

Note: Dorothea sent a nice letter and expressed her desire to join our Westcott Society and now she has taken her dear mother's place as an active member of our family society. (Refer page 1)

Mrs. Florence C. (Westcott) Warner, of Oakland, California, passed away on April 19, 1955, at the age of 86. She was a dear cousin of our former president, Nettie Emery and an active member of our Westcott Clan. Her daughter-in-law sent me a note of Mrs. Warner's death which reads: "Just to let you know that Florence Warner passed away on April 19th at the age of 86. She had a stroke and was in the hospital for twelve days before she died. My husband and I were with her. When we came she said, 'I am glad you got here; and then went into a peaceful sleep. She leaves her son, James L. Warner and four sisters, Lois Peterson, Cle Elum, Washington, Grace Spith Jessie Radiant and Annie Snell, all of St. Paul, Minnesota, also left nine grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren."

Mrs. Evalyn Arnold Potter - (Note from Rachel Baker), "Some years ago I did the Westcott papers for Mrs. Evalyn Arnold Potter. Since then her health was poor and she rapidly grew blind. I don't think that she kept up her membership after this occurred, but just to be sure thought I would write you that she passed away on April 21, 1955 in East Aurora, New York. She was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Cambridge, New York on the 27th. She was the founder of our New England Women Colony. I shall miss her a lot."

---

ILLNESS---Speedy Recovery is wished by all!

"Philips Westcott of East Poultney, Vermont is very ill following a shock," writes his cousin, Rachel Baker, of Buskirk, New York.

ILLNESS---(Continued)

Absolom Wescott, of 615 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, New Jersey had an accident. He fell from his studio couch and cut a facial artery. His daughter, Dorothy, stayed home to nurse him back to health.

---

SECRETARY'S NOTE---I have received many nice letters thanking me for editing the Westcott Quarterly. May I thank all of you for helping me with letters and items. Without your kindness and encouragement, it would be difficult for me to carry on. Many, many thanks!

---

OUR DR. JAMES B. MCPHERSON, JR.---From Mrs. James B. McPherson, Sr., "Enclosing a clipping which tells better than I could about my son, Dr. McPherson who flew here from Cincinnati on April 1st, after attending the convention." Rock Island, Illinois Argus - "Dr. J. B. McPherson, Jr., Old Greenwich, Connecticut, arrived Friday night for a week-end visit with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. B. McPherson, Sr. Dr. McPherson has been attending the 127th Convention of the American Chemical Society in Cincinnati. He prepared and read a paper entitled 'Thermal Decomposition of Some Phosphorothioate Insecticides', for a symposium of the pesticides subdivision, division of agricultural and food chemistry at the convention. Dr. McPherson is associated with the American Cyanamid Company in The Central Research Laboratories, Stamford, Connecticut."

---

RESEARCH IN ENGLAND---Research still goes on in England to try to find the names of parents of our first Stukely Westcott in America. A letter from Miss Larter dated April 26th, 1955 states: "Dear Mrs. Trismen, Thank you for your letter of 22nd of March. I have to apologize for delay in furthering your enquiry owing to the very serious illness of my father. I am trying to find a researcher in Devon for you, and am enquiring about the 15th and 16th century records of Porlock at Somerset Record Office which Miss Harris would search for a fee if extensive, only short searches can be done free in official time at County Record Office.

Meanwhile on re-reading all the information you have sent me I think it would be a great help to any Devon searcher if you could give me the extract relating to the Stukely family----."

Yours sincerely, Miss M. Larter.

I answered this letter on April 30th and am waiting for an answer.

LETTER FROM MRS. PELCK---April 6, 1955

"My Dear Mrs. Trismen, or should I say, Dear Cousin? Greetings at this Easter season and many blessings. Please accept the enclosed check for dues for my mother, Mary Louise Westcott Vayo Krause, and myself and my husband. Our Westcott Society membership we do not wish to forfeit at any time!

Speaking of mother, she is still living at the Villa St. Ann here in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, just across the lake from our home. She now has three great grandchildren -- in that a new baby girl was born to our oldest daughter, Jane Kurth in August. That makes three for the Kurths, Peter Christian, five years old, Christine Ann, three years old and Heidi Lynn is six months old. Mother is very proud of her granddaughters and great grandchildren.

Mother belongs to the Golden Age Club and goes twice a month, altho she is quite crippled so has to use crutches and a wheel-chair most of the time. She will be 83 years old on April 9th. She reads a great deal and her mind is very alert.

Our children live in the Milwaukee Area, the Kurths in Elm Grove, Wisconsin, the Shultz in Whitefish Bay, both suburbs of Milwaukee and we know we are fortunate they are so near us, as our town is just 35 miles west of Milwaukee.

In reading the December Quarterly I see that Edmund W. Morris of Cranford, New Jersey was appointed to an executive office with the Bristol-Myers Company, and that he is a cousin of mine--strange! My husband has been a representative of the same company for nearly twenty-five years. He is a registered pharmacist in Wisconsin and Illinois territory. My husband is a graduate of Illinois University, my brother also.

My brother, Theodore William Vayo, lives in Park Ridge, Illinois and has two sons, Westcott Vayo and John Vayo. Westcott has just received an appointment to Annapolis Naval Academy. He is 19 years old and a second year student at Culver-Stockton College at Canton, Missouri.

Yours very sincerely, Janet D. Pelck"

---

OUR PRESIDENT, WILLIAM C. DRIVER SENDS WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL  
ADDRESS TO HIS OFFICERS

Fraunces Tavern in New York, The Historic Place Where  
Washington Said Farewell To His Officers

Many of you who are descendants of Stukely Westcott, belong with pride to various of the Patriotic Societies of our country. I am a member of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York which owns and holds its meetings in historic Fraunces Tavern. This colonial building, beautifully restored, is rich in traditions and memories and is famous for its "Long Room" in which General George Washington bade farewell to his officers.

## WASHINGTON SAID FAREWELL TO HIS OFFICERS----(Continued)

Fraunces Tavern is located at Broad and Pearl Streets, in downtown Manhattan. In 1686 when the site was granted to Stephanus Van Cortlandt, it was under water at high tide. But over the years the shore line was pushed out considerably and in 1719 Etienne de Lancey built a large home there. In 1762 Sam Fraunces bought it and opened the Queen's Head Tavern. Fraunces was an excellent inn-keeper and leading business groups met at the tavern regularly. The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York was founded in its second floor "Long Room" on April 5, 1768 and on May 14, 1774, the Committee of Correspondence, forerunner of the Continental Congress was also organized there. The tavern became known as a hotbed of patriotism and on August 23, 1775 when the English man-of-war fired on the city, its guns were trained on Fraunces Tavern the one location sure to harbor rebels.

Washington's farewell to forty-four of his officers in the "Long Room" on December 4, 1783 is described in the diary of Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge: "We had been assembled but a few minutes when His Excellency entered the room. His emotion, too strong to be concealed, seemed to be reciprocated by every officer present. In almost breathless silence the General filled his glass and turning to his officers said--"With a heart full of love and gratitude I must now take my leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your later days may be as prosperous and happy as your former lives have been glorious and honorable. I cannot come to each of you to take my leave but shall be obliged to you if each will come and take me by the hand." The Commander-in-Chief, suffused in tears, was incapable of further utterance but gripped each hand as they embraced each other in silence. Not a word was uttered to break the solemn silence that prevailed."

Fraunces Tavern became less and less fashionable as the city expanded and it was a cheap rooming house in poor condition when the Sons of the Revolution bought it. Restored to its original appearance it is now a fine restaurant and museum. The museum contains a most beautiful collection of Colonial flags which are carried by the Sons of the Revolution Color Guard on patriotic occasions.

William C. Driver

---

HOBBY CORNER---Let Us Have An Account of Your Hobby

Dr. George D. Pickens Hobby--"Dear Cousin Eleanor and all;

It has been a long time since I have heard from you, however, I often think of you and wonder just what you are doing and how you are. But, since receiving the last Quarterly, I imagine you are spending some time "under ground" since your husband and son have gone into the railroad business in a big way. It is sure nice to have a hobby and best of all to know where hubby is when not on regular business. The fact is, I have been underground most of the time since Christmas as I have constructed two grandfather clocks.

HOBBY CORNER---(Continued)

Now I have one for each of my grandchildren, and one extra in case!

P. S. I am looking forward to our next Bi-Annual, however I am still looking and hoping you may drop around some time when you are up this way. As ever, your cousin, George."

Harriet Neill---Daily News (Picture Section) on February 10,1955. "Harriet Neill, of 217 East 26th Street, New York City, looks over a two-inch scale model she created of 221-B Baker Street, London, the dwelling of Sherlock Holmes. Its on display at Museum of Natural History with creations by New Yorkers over 60 years of age." (Harriet is Eleanor Trismen's second cousin and has taken a fancy to Sherlock Holmes and his exploits.) Harriet writes "I made a new lambrequin for the mantel. Sherlock is playing the violin and Watson trying to read, with his hands over his ears!"

QUERY---Wanted the Ancestry of Jesse Sackett

Wanted the ancestry of Jesse Sackett who married Phebe Westcott (daughter of Stukely Westcott (5), of Cheshire, Mass.). I think he's the son of Jonathan, Jr. (5) and Hannah (Phelps) Sackett whose son, Jesse, was born May 5, 1769. (Kent, Connecticut, Town Records). But I need more proof.

from: Mrs. Raymond Ruppert  
6801 White House Road, S. E.  
Washington 27, D. C.

LIST OF ACTIVE MEMBERS---(Continued)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Graham,	64 Putnam Park, Greenwich, Conn.
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur M. Greene,	144 North St., Middletown, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Leland A. Hazard,	North Evans, N. Y. (Erie County)
Miss Gwendolyn W. Jones,	315 West 106TH St., New York 24, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard B. Kershaw,	84 Hillside Avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph W. Lester,	19 Grace Court, Brooklyn 2, N. Y.
Mrs. William J. MacInnes,	518 Tenth Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mrs. Joseph S. Martin,	26 Front Street, Binghamton, N. Y.

## LIST OF ACTIVE MEMBERS---(Continued)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Berthald McCullough,	54 East Orvis Street, Massena, N. Y.
Mrs. Dennis J. Mullin,	33 Fulton Street, Phoenix, N. Y.
Mrs. Lena L. Munson,	Canandaiaga, New York
Mr. & Mrs. Donald F. Neach,	275 Upper Main St., Fort Plain, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Hoffman Nickerson,	Monomoit, Oyster Bay, New York
Mrs. Jean C. Noxon,	70 Remsen St., Brooklyn 2, N. Y.
Mrs. Frank H. Parcels,	270 Jay St., Brooklyn 1, N. Y.
Dr. & Mrs. George D. Pickens,	Box 224, Arcade, N. Y.
Mrs. Grace D. Roberts,	Box 142, Cooperstown, N. Y.
Miss Susan E. Robinson,	E. Main, Friendship, N. Y.
Mrs. William E. Taylor,	309 South 6th St., Fulton, N. Y.
Mrs. Austin B. Speed,	Lloyd Harbor, RFD #3, Huntington, L. I., N. Y.
Mrs. Harlow H. Stafford,	84 Hillside Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Morris B. Townsend,	405 Chestnut St., Oneonta, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick S. Townsend,	P. O. Box 255, Oneonta, N. Y.
Mr. & Mrs. E. Lester Townsend,	R. F. D. #2, Oneonta, N. Y.

## REMINDERS TO MEMBERS!

1. Send letters and items for Quarterly and Scrapbook to Secretary.
2. Please send dues to the Treasurer, Mrs. Alice W. Marroquin, 47 Davis Avenue, Hackensack, N. J., if you haven't paid.
3. Remember the Hobby Corner, and send us an account of your hobby.
4. More members.

HAPPY 1955 VACATION TO ALL!!