

# 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 75¢ yearly. Secretary, Mrs. Ralph D. Trismen, 457 The Fenway, River Edge, N.J.

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March 1958

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Vol. XXV No. 97

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"Keep Our Society Active, find another Cousin,  
Every 'Westcott' Descendant is eligible."

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NOTICE - DEAR COUSINS, START PLANNING NOW!

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF S.S.W.D.---12TH BIENNIAL MEETING 1958.

Our Society will hold its 12th Biennial gathering at Cooperstown, New York, in the heart of the beautiful Catskill Mountains, over the week-end of August 15, 16, 17. Our members, Marion and Sam Dorfler, will kindly help out with plans for the "clan" gathering as they so generously did in 1952. More particulars will be in the June Quarterly.

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Rhode Island Chapter No. 2---from Olive H. Shippee, Secretary.

"I am glad to be able to report that the Rhode Island Chapter of the S. S. W. D. was able to hold a winter meeting on January 18th. We met in the afternoon in the Quaker Room of the historic old Meeting House in Oaklawn, Rhode Island. There was plenty of snow and ice but 17 of our members arrived, including 3 new members, who already belong to the National Society. Our President, Mrs. Alice Baxter and members of the executive board, served refreshments. Plans were made for an early summer meeting and we hope to have a good turn out.

Affectionately,

Olive."

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Vermont Chapter No. 5---from Rita J. Sanders, Corresponding Secretary.

Bennington Free Press - "The annual Stukely Westcott Reunion was held at Gifford State Forest Park on August 18, 1957. Seventy-one members of the Vermont Chapter were present, being mostly from New York and Vermont.

Edward F. Jay, of Rochester, Vermont was elected the new President, other officers elected were; Mrs. Craig Springer, of West Rutland, Vice-President; Guy Wescott, of Springfield, Vermont, Treasurer; Mrs. Wilbert Smith, of Tunbridge, Recording Secretary; and Mrs. Morris Sanders, of Rochester, Vermont, Corresponding Secretary.

Vermont Chapter No. 5---(Continued)

The oldest member present was Mr. Merritt Hewitt, 73, of South Shaftsbury, Vermont. The youngest was Calvin Jay, two months old, son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jay, of Rochester, Vermont. The most members from one family was 29, those being members of the Frank Jay family.

Following the business meeting a short program of entertainment was held, consisting of guitar playing by Gerald Jay, of Smith's Basin, New York; vocal selections by the children and readings by Mrs. Paul Lewis, of Poultney."

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NEW MEMBERS---Happy Times in our Society!

- #478 - Mr. Malcolm Robert Westcott  
37 Leslie Road, Belmont 78, Massachusetts
- #479 - Mr. Charles J. Westcott, Jr.  
55 James Road, Broomall, Pennsylvania
- #480 - Mr. & Mrs. Dallas L. Porter  
203 W. Reed Street, Red Oak, Iowa

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BIRTHS---Congratulations to the Parents!

(Many thanks to Rita Jay Sanders, the new Corresponding Secretary of the Vermont Chapter, for sending the following data:)

Kalvin Jay, born June 3, 1957, son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jay, of Rochester, Vermont, grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jay (our members), great grandson of the late Mr. & Mrs. Rollin Wescott.

Stuart Brown, born October 15, 1957, son of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Brown, grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jay. Stuart is the 21st grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jay.

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ENGAGEMENT---New York Herald Tribune, dated December 22, 1957.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Westcott, of Bedford Village, New York announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Janet Westcott, to Mr. Robert K. Hartig, son of Mr. & Mrs. Arnold W. Hartig, of Dearborn, Michigan. A summer wedding is planned (1958).

Miss Westcott is a senior at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Mr. Hartig is a graduate of Lehigh University, '56 and a member of Sigma Chi. He is with the Shell Oil Company, at Wood River, Illinois.

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MARRIAGES---Happy And Long Married Life!

Gerald Jay and Joan Jakeway, were married on August 4th, 1957, at Fort Ann, New York. They are now living in Hudson Falls, New York. Gerald is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jay, of Vermont.

Barbara Campney, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Campney, was married on June 17th, 1957 to Jack Pinchson. Barbara is the first grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jay, to be married.

Data from Cousin Harriet Neill: Member #434, Mrs. Virginia (Stroup) Johnson, of Chicago was married a second time to John Bespole, on July 31, 1957.

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DEATHS---Heartfelt Sympathy from Our Society!

John Ward Westcott, died January 14, 1958. He was a brother of our dear member, Mrs. Etta Schumacher, of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

John Ward Westcott was known for his owning the only floating post office on the Detroit River, where his boats met the ships to deliver mail, laundry, coffee, engine room supplies and even passengers, without requiring the freighters to stop at the port.

John Ward was 74 years old and after suffering a stroke at his home, in Redford Township, he died at the Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital. He had inherited the firm from his father, Captain J. W. Westcott, who died in 1914. He directed the business with his wife, Mildred and son, J. W. Westcott, Jr. A daughter, Mrs. Joseph Hogan and five grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. Dorothy Ellis Erlenback, wife of Dr. Roy Erlenback, of Chittenango, New York, died January 15, 1958, at her home. She was a member of our Society and niece of the late Dr. George Dana Pickens, our past president. Dorothy was a native of the town of Sullivan. Active in church work, she was Vice-President of the Syracuse-Cayuga Presbyterial. She served as Treasurer of the Town of Sullivan Chapter of the Red Cross.

Surviving besides her husband, are a daughter, Mrs. Jean P. Krausman, of Leviston, her mother, Mrs. Nellie E. Ellis; two sisters, Mrs. Lester Loomis, of Hammond, Louisiana and Mrs. Paul Erlenback, of Ghent.

Clara Pickens, died January 16, 1958, wife of Reverend Charles Pickens, (deceased). Clara was the sister-in-law of our member, the late Dr. George Dana Pickens, of Arcade, New York.

Mrs. F. J. Carpenter, our member of Pasadena, California, passed away in the fall of 1957.

(Note - Send particulars of Mrs. Carpenter's death to Secretary, Mrs. Ralph D. Trismen, if any cousins know.)

DEATHS---(Continued)

Mrs. Helen Driver, of Fairfield, Connecticut, one of our faithful charter members, died on Monday, February 24, 1958, at Bridgeport, Connecticut. All of us will miss her presence at our gatherings. She was buried in Riverside Cemetery, at Pawtucket, Rhode Island, in the Driver plot. She was the mother of our former President, William C. Driver.

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ILLNESS---Speedy Recovery!

Mrs. Nellie Ellis, of Chittenango, New York, another faithful long-time member will be 84 years old in May.

She resides at a nursing home near Chittenango, New York.

Dr. Pickens wife, Linda visited her recently at the time of the death of Nellie's daughter's death, Dorothy Ellis Erlenback.

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LETTER---from Cousin Laura Mogg Woods, of Syracuse, New York.

"Dear Mrs. Trismen, Enclosed is a clipping which is self-explanatory. (Note: Clipping told of Dr. George Dana Pickens death which appeared in December, 1957 Quarterly.) I first met Dr. Pickens at Westcott Beach, on Lake Ontario--no--it was the State Park nearby. It was his first contact apparently, with us. We used to attend the reunions at the beach when Mama was living, but, have heard nothing about them for a long time.

Was sorry not to get over to Vermont in 1956, but things didn't seem to break just right.

Have been going to send you a clipping of Mama's death in February, 1947, for your scrap-book. It has her picture at age of 90. Will look up one when I get time. She was the 9th generation from Stukely.

Through a great-great etc. grandmother Westcott, I trace my line direct to John and Priscilla Alden.

A cousin in Oklahoma did a great deal of research and went back 26 generations in England. She belonged to the Barons of Runymede, probably a Chicago Chapter. She died and her sister, Clarys Miller has her record. Clarys has joined our clan and she and I correspond occasionally. Hope to see her sometime.

I enjoy the Quarterly and hope to see the "CLAN" again sometime."

Sincerely yours,

Laura M. Woods."

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MEMBERSHIP---Our Society has 211 members as of January 31, 1958, a loss of 9 members since January 31, 1957.

Note: This loss of membership is too great--which is, mostly through non-payment of dues. Let us pay our dues promptly and in addition, find another Westcott cousin to join us!

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LES WESCOTT'S SECRET YEN---In the B and O Railroad magazine, an article appeared last fall. It was about cousin, Lester Wescott, of Salamanca, New York, who has been a railroad man for 37 years and currently employed as a clerk, in the office of Trainmaster, D. E. Sheeran, at East Salamanca, New York.

Parts of the article read as follows: "Last summer when the famous Mills Brothers Circus came to town, Lester got his first chance at last. Not only did he appear as a clown, but was given the opportunity to demonstrate his skill as a juggler as well--and in the coveted center ring, no less! Among the vast audience under the canvas that day were scores of Les' railroad friends, to cheer him on, as he went through his paces.

The occasion was a benefit performance sponsored by the Masonic Fellowship Club, for handicapped children.

For his railroad friends, accustomed to seeing Lester juggle pens, pencils and ink bottles for relaxation during lunch hours at the office, it was a great thrill to watch him perform his more complicated routines with the regular circus troupers."

Les has juggled for a hobby since a youngster and was actually offered a chance to join a circus when he was seventeen. He decided against it and started working in the Engineering Department of the old BR. and P. Railway.

Les' key act is when he balances a lawn mower on his nose, by the handle, of course!

Note - Les is Eleanor Trismens' first cousin and she is mighty proud of her cousin Les and his ability.

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WESTCOTT GAVEL---from President Susan W. Handy.

"Ralph Dexter presented the Rhode Island Chapter, a gavel made from the huge old Black Walnut tree at "Westcote", the home of the late Dr. and Mrs. Niles Westcott, of Oaklawn, Rhode Island.

Ralph has also had a gavel made for the National Society. In Volume 2, page 21, of Roscoe Whitman's Genealogy, it says, "In the rear of this old homestead stands a giant buttonwood tree which is probably more than 200 years old." However the tree is a black walnut not a buttonwood. Dr. Niles said it was a young tree in the storm of 1815 and had to be tied up after the storm.

I think the gavels are a very nice gift."

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CHRISTMAS LETTER---from Lt. Colonel Ira J. Emery, of Cleveland, Ohio - December 18, 1957

"Dear Eleanor, Ralph and Bruce:

I was very much pleased to have your card of greeting and comments: You are so correct, I miss Nettie more than any person could know.

*Annex*

*Society  
Property  
RI  
West.*

CHRISTMAS LETTER---from Lt. Colonel Ira J. Emery(Continued)

I am trying to look ahead for the future and make the best of the present. Mr. Shannon Jones, Engineer for the General Electric Company, who attended the Westcott Convention in Vermont, is still with me, has room and garage and takes his meals out the same as he did when Nettie was here. Has been with us 15 years. Joins me during the evening for TV shows and we have coffee and snacks.

My health is excellent, have gained twenty pounds in weight during the past few months, however, I have received some medical treatment. Have had surgery two times.

Since Nettie passed away, I have tried to keep busy; cleaned ceilings, wallpaper and woodwork of rooms and hallway on first and second floors, cleaned and painted kitchen, pantry and stairway to basement. Spaded all space in garden used for planting. Believe that exercise has given me improved appetite as I have done my own cooking.

The last publication of Westcott Quarterly was very interesting. But it was sad to note the names of those whom we will not see again.

Very sincerely,  
Ira J. E."

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CHRISTMAS LETTER---from Our Cousin Dr. Cynthia Westcott.  
"The Plant Doctor"

Once again Dr. Cynthia Westcott sent us her interesting Christmas letter. She said she gave 37 talks in many states in 1957. I will quote from one paragraph. "The weather was perfect for ROSE DAY and more than 700 people enjoyed meeting honor guests, Helen Van Pelt Wilson and Richard Thomson, authors of "Roses for Pleasure". Yes, the punch and cookies lasted through. Frank, my brother, has never yet put in an appearance at these affairs but I have him pegged for next year. He and Mildred are to be 1958 guests of honor, unless of course some bridge tournament interferes. So come and say "Hello" to the Westcotts on Sunday, June 8th, anytime from 2 P.M. until dark. Last June, Garden Editor, Cora Harris came all the way from North Carolina; Marguerite Palmer may be here from Texas, next June. I am always embarrassed when people come from a distance. Mine is still only a small backyard and I am too busy caring for other roses to do much for my own."

Note - The Trismens visited Dr. Cynthia on Rose Sunday, a few years ago and she has almost every variety of rose known. Not a weed to be seen since the rose beds are covered with a generous amount of peat moss.

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NOTE---from Mary L. Shire, of Toledo, Ohio - November 30, 1957.

"I would appreciate it if you would print in our Quarterly the date when Stukely Westcott came to America, from England. Maybe this has been published before and I have failed to note it down.

I have always enjoyed the Quarterly, but have been ill during the past 2 years many times, so that I probably missed much information.

Sincerely yours,

Mary L. Shire."

Dear Cousin Mary, I will be glad to give you and no doubt, many of our recent members, a little of our early Stukely Westcott data. Roscoe L. Whitman, the founder of our Society wrote an article on April 28, 1935, in which he said, quote: "It will be three centuries next Wednesday (May 1, 1935), since Westcott and William Arnold set sail with their families, from Dartmouth in Devonshire, England. Fifty-five days later, June 24th, 1635, their small sailing craft landed its venturesome and determined voyagers on the shores of Plymouth Bay, at Hingham. Westcott went immediately to Salem, Massachusetts and there became an avowed advocate of the doctrines and principles of Roger Williams."

( To be continued in the June Quarterly.)

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#### ADDRESS CHANGE

Mrs. Sarah Martin has moved to 151 Front Street at Binghamton, New York. She had lived at 26 Front Street before the death of her brother, Joseph R. Westcott, last year.

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QUERY---Does any Cousin know the whereabouts of:

Dr. & Mrs. Randall L. Wescott, whose last known address was 1856 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.  
Their Quarterlies are returned as "unclaimed."

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REMINDERS---Please note.

1. Please start planning now for our "clan" gathering at Cooperstown, New York, beginning Friday evening, August 15TH thru Sunday, August 17TH, 1958.
2. Dues envelopes are enclosed, please send dues to Treasurer, Alice Marroquin, 47 Davis Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey.
3. Send changes of address to Secretary, Eleanor Trismen, 457 The Fenway, River Edge, New Jersey.
4. Kindly send letters and items for Quarterly and Society Scrapbook to Secretary.

HAPPY EASTER SEASON!