

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly — January, April, July, October — Noting Activities of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants; mailed free to members, to non-members \$1.00 yearly

EDITOR
Mrs. Eleanor Trismen
457 The Fenway
River Edge, NJ 07661

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KNOW YOUR KINDRED BETTER

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NATIONAL SOCIETY NEWS

Twenty-fourth SSWD Biennial Meeting, August 6-8, 1982

The 24th SSWD Biennial Meeting will be held in Charlottesville, Virginia beginning Friday, August 6, and ending Sunday, August 8, 1982.

A preliminary schedule of events:

- Friday A. M. - Meeting of the Board of Directors
- P. M. - Arrival of those attending the reunion with:
- 5:00 P. M. - Registration/Reception
- 6:00 P. M. - Business Meeting and Banquet
- Saturday - 8:15 A. M. - Cousins will board a tour bus for:
The Western Virginia Bicentennial Center for a Film Presentation and
tour of the Visitor Center.
- 10:00 A. M. - Tour of Monticello
- 11:30 A. M. - Tour of Ash Lawn
- 12:30 P. M. - Return to Motel
- 2:00 P. M. - Walking Tour of the University of Virginia
- 4:00 P. M. - Family picnic as guests of Ned and Fran Morris, and Dorothy Potter,
at their home, Pink Hill.
- Sunday - 11:00 A. M. - Church Services
- 12:30 P. M. - (Possibly) Family Buffet Brunch

Enclosed are brochures pertaining to the tour. Please note on your calendars now the meeting dates and plan to attend.

Further details and reservation forms will be included in the April Quarterly.

Christmas Letter from Associate Members, The Baxters of Sweetwater Oaks, Florida

Our travels this year were somewhat more modest than our grand tour of Great Britain in 1980. In January and February, Ellie spent several weeks in our home town of Montgomery, Alabama, helping her sister, Minnie, move from one apartment to another. In April, Ellie and I, (Charles Sr.) joined my two brothers and two sisters and their spouses for a Baxter family reunion in McIntosh, Florida. (sister Lulu's home area). It was a joy to get together for a week-end. In June we and two other couples spent several days in the lovely Sarasota, Florida area, seeing the sights, taking in the fine restaurants, playing golf, and attending Asolo Theatre for a magnificent performance of "The Song is Kern". The performance was built around 60 of the imperishable melodies of Jerome Kern that are a national treasure in the estimation of folk of our age bracket.

In September, Ellie and I joined with a local group for an organized tour of Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec, Canada. It was a very gratifying experience.

Charles and Ellie have two sons, Charles Jr. and Bruce. Charles Jr. and wife, Sandra, have three children, Charles III, (Chuck) who is 17 and starts college next fall, Susan 14 and John 10. The Baxters proudly say, "they're all straight A students". Charles Jr. is the Vice-president of Citrus World-Donald Duck in Lake Wales, Florida. Bruce is in the office of a Resort Co. All their hotels are in the Caribbean area. He is living in New York City.

Every "Westcott" Descendant is eligible

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2/2/89
Report on the SSWD Scholarship Fund from Dr. F. Howard Westcott

At our President, Pauline Clark's suggestion and which I agree with, the following is the story about our Stukely Westcott Senior Scholarship Fund:

Since its beginning on January 15, 1971, we have received \$5,441.00 and interest has been added. Some have been receiving 10%-plus. To date, we have helped eight persons to attend college. One earned her Masters Degree and three have completed their current goals. Two have received help in 1981. Some money is available but no new loans can be made until some delinquent notes have been honored.

Each borrower is given instructions about the repayment of loans to begin one year from graduation and 5% interest accrues after graduation. The entire loan, plus interest, must be repaid the 10th. year after graduation.

Each person must recognize that other students are waiting for loans and that its repayment should be a first responsibility.

We have done very well with our small principle and I hope we can continue to help worthy members of our Society.

s/ F. Howard Westcott
Treasurer of Fund

Family Notes from Dr. F. Howard Westcott

Another Westcott has been added to the Samuel Westcott (Howard's brother) family tree. He is Lucas Gardner Westcott, born October 15, 1980, son of Stephen and Gloria Biven Westcott of New Ashford, Mass. Howard's daughter, Marilyn, is now Mrs. Gerald Ryan of Fort Worth, Texas. Lee Barnhardt was married to Joy Berzfak of Rush City, Minn. Lee is the son of Ruth Westcott, Howard's second daughter. Howard's son-in-law, Lt. Commander Hawley is at Sea Duty in Okinawa, until March. Julianna (Howard's youngest) has moved to San Diego with her children.

"Wescott" Genealogical Data Additions by Edward T. Wescott

Refer to Vol. I, p. 167 - Edwin T. Wescott (no specific data). Edward T. Wescott of Bergenfield, N.J. is working on his grandfather, Edwin's line, quote: "Edwin T. Wescott, Jr. born July 24, 1846, died Englewood, N.J. on May 2, 1917, buried in Brookside Cemetary, Englewood. He married Priscilla R. Cottrell, born Sept. 26, 1848, died Englewood, on July 26, 1911. Edwin was a house painter and decorator by profession. Edwin and Priscilla's 3 ch: Spencer Thomas, Amanda V., Edith A. Edwin lived the greater part of his life in Englewood, N.J. (To be continued)

Rachel Wilkins Cottrell Obituary (Continued from the October 1981 Quarterly)

Mabel Wescott and Velma attended Rachel's funeral on Sept. 15th. Mabel sent the obituary notice quote, "Mrs. Cottrell had many ties to Bennington, Vt., including the Vermont Society of Colonial Dames, Mayflower Descendants, a past president of the New England Women and the Green Mountain Colony. Also, officer of the Stukely Westcott Assn. of Vt.

She and her late husband, Lisle Cottrell, indexed over 30,000 cemetary records in their joint genealogical research, a worthwhile endeavor.

From 1954 to 1969, Rachel was a companion and chauffeur for the late artist, Grandma Moses and her daughter, Winona Fisher."

Bronze Westcott Plaques - can be ordered

Some years ago our Society hired the services of the United States Bronze and Sign Co. to make a Westcott coat-of-arms plaque. After contacting the company, I received word that they will be glad to oblige, but prices have increased. The 3 inch die is mounted on an appropriate background.

1. The cemetary plaque (to be attached to cem. stone) - \$75.00
2. The wall plaque (walnut backing, chain for hanging) - \$45.00

If you wish to order, contact:

The U. S. Bronze and Sign Co., attention, Herbert B. Fox
101 West 31st St., New York, N. Y. 10001

Plaque

Board of Directors Meeting, _____ 10, 1981

October

The off-year Board of Directors meeting of the National Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America was called to order by President Pauline V. Clark at 2:30 P.M. on October 10, 1981 at Raphaels' in Syracuse, N. Y.

The meeting opened with a prayer by Edna Jay Lewis in the absence of the Chaplain, Eulalia Wescott. The following officers were present: President, Pauline V. Clark; Corresponding Secretary, Wilma W. Avery; Treasurer, Paul R. Lewis; Registrar-Genealogist, Edna Jay Lewis; Past President, Mabel Wescott; and Evelyn P. Hitchcock, appointed pro tem, filling a vacancy.

The minutes of the Board Meeting held in Bennington, Vermont on Aug. 22, 1980 were read and accepted with a few corrections.

The Treasurer's Report from July 15, 1980 to October 9, 1981 was given as follows: Balance in checking account \$437.10, deposits in the amount of \$1,686.55 making a total of \$2,123.65. Checks No. 127 - 146 written in the amount of \$1,860.95. Balance in the checking account \$262.70. Savings account \$564.58 (interest to be added). Total of both accounts is \$827.28. The amount of \$8.00 in this total belongs to the Scholarship Fund.

Treas.

The President requested figures on the cost of printing and mailing the Quarterly. The Treasurer reported as follows: 2 issues of 300 copies each, cost \$195.69 and \$195.90; 2 issues of 250 copies each, cost of \$141.90 and \$147.58. The total for the year as \$681.07. Discussion followed on the value of the Quarterly relative to the cost of publication. A motion was made by Mabel Wescott and seconded by Edna Lewis that the Quarterly be continued until the Biennial Meeting in 1982.

The subject of the Scholarship Fund was discussed and it was suggested that it be explained in the Quarterly. (Note by Editor: Separate article in this issue of Quarterly)

It was further suggested that all members be helpful to use the Quarterly to report family happenings. This fact to be published in the Quarterly together with the deadline date for articles to reach the Editor, Eleanor Trismen. (Note: the deadline date is the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication, as: the 15th of March, for the April issue)

The Corresponding Secretary's Report gave: A gain of 23 regular and 1 associate member: 6 honorary certificates were sent in 1981. (Note: a member has to reach 80 years and no longer pays dues to receive a certificate.)

Annual dues were discussed and a motion was carried to raise the dues, because of rising costs of mailing, etc. Family dues from \$4.00 to \$5.00 and the individual dues from \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Dues

A letter was read from Eulalia Wescott expressing thanks for the prayers and great concern for her and her family during the illness and death of their beloved Raymond Gray. Checks in the amount of \$10.00 each were enclosed for the General Fund and the Scholarship Fund respectively in memory of Raymond Gray.

Registrar Edna Lewis reported that 100 condolence cards in the amount of \$38.00 had been purchased to be sent to Chaplain Eulalia Westcott.

President Clark reported having received a telephone call from Vice-president Floid Coltey saying that he would be unable to attend the meeting due to family illness. A letter was received from Marion Dorfler stating she would not be able to attend due to the date of the meeting. She suggested that a regular date be set so that the Board Members could make plans in advance.

A motion was made by Edna Lewis and seconded by Evelyn Hitchcock that the date of the off-year Board Meeting be set at the end of the Biennial Business Meeting. The date to be preferably in August or September.

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Edna Lewis reported the care and placing of the Memorial Wreath at the Stukely Westcott Monument in Warwick, Rhode Island. (Note: for members who have not seen the memorial, in 1935, a bronze plaque was placed on a huge boulder at the corner of Stukely Westcott's land)

Eleanor Trismen, Editor of the Quarterly has written that she would like to be replaced. The Board Members asked the President to please write to her expressing their sincere appreciation for her work on the Quarterly and by their vote of confidence ask her to please continue.

With regard to the Quarterly, a suggestion was made that the date appear on the side opposite the volume and number.

A bill in the amount of \$19.08 was presented by Past President, Mabel Wescott for flowers for Rachel Cottrell, National Member who has done so much throughout the years for the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants. A motion was made to pay the bill, which was carried.

Continued
A letter was read from Edmund W. Morris. He has requested information for his chairmanship of Job Description of the officers. Copies of any information relative to the By-laws, etc. that the Board Members may have are to be sent to him.

1982 Meeting: Cousin Edmund requested also that the Board send him dates and other details to be incorporated in his planning for the 1982 Biennial Meeting to be held in Charlottesville, Virginia. The dates of August 6-8 or August 13-15 were decided to be sent to him. The members were unanimously in favor of the picnic instead of a banquet. They are looking forward with great anticipation to a visit to "Pink Hill" (where Edmund lives). They also were in favor of attending his family church. Aside from the desire for a get-together on Friday evening and the business meeting on Saturday morning, it will be up to him to make plans that are suitable to him. Edna Jay Lewis offered to print programs if he wishes and if he sends her the necessary material.

And so, after President Pauline Clark thanked Evelyn Pickens Hitchcock for filling the Board vacancy during her term of office, and for taking the minutes of the meeting, a motion was made by Wilma W. Avery and seconded by Mabel Wescott that the meeting be adjourned. It carried, and the President thanked all for attending.

Respectfully submitted:
Evelyn P. Hitchcock, Sec. Pro Tem

CHAPTER NEWS

No Reports.

Virginia

Cousin Edmund (Ned) Whitman Morris hopes to present a Chapter Charter application for the Virginia area at the August Meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Hon. Russell Bullock's story entitled "Incidents in the Life and Times of Stukeley Westcote" by descendant Lorraine A. Carrington, continued.

In November, 1651, in February, 1652, and in December of the same year, he was chosen a "Deputy" to represent Warwick in the Colonial Assembly. In 1653, he was twice elected a "General Assistant". These officers, usually two from each of the four original settlements in the Colony, formed the Governor's Council, and also exercised judicial power. Later, they were clothed with legislative powers and finally formed what, under the charter of 1663, was the old Senate of ten. He was one of the committee appointed to call, if necessary, a special meeting of the Assembly, as the Colony was then in "eminent danger". In 1656, and again in 1660, he was elected a "Deputy" to the Assembly; and was, in the former year, one of a committee to restrict the sale of liquor to the Indians, and to regulate the excise and sale of it in the Colony. In April, 1671, he was for the last time elected a Deputy to the Colonial Assembly. Besides these offices under State government, his fellow townsmen committed to him important trusts of a more local character. Thus in 1649, he and Ezekiel Holliman were chosen to collect £ 13 of the settlers pay to Joseph Cook for watching their cattle against Indian intrusions. In 1653, he was a member of the Town Council. In the same year he was selected to agree with the Indians about Nawsaucet, and the fencing off of their lands. In 1655,

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he is chosen to take the number of young cattle and divide the money the Indians are to have between them equally; and also to ascertain the damage done to the Indians, and collect the amount of the settlers. This presupposes that the cattle of the whites had trespassed upon the grounds of the Indians. In the same year he is chosen to bound the fence at Quonimicut (Canimicut). In 1656, he is appointed to make a rate or tax to pay for the fence erected between the Indians and the common lands of the settlers. In 1664, he is authorized to keep an ordinary, and to entertain when the King's Commissioners hold court at Warwick. This vocation of inn-keeper was in early times frequently assumed by such of the settlers as owned commodious houses at central points on the post-roads. The old Benedict Arnold house was for many years a noted hostelry in Warwick. After his last election in 1671 to the Colonial Assembly, being then seventy-nine years of age, Westcote's name does not appear upon the records as holding any public office.

In addition to the interest which, as already appears, Westcote had in the Providence lands, after his removal to Warwick he became a large proprietor in the "Old Warwick" lands, and in the lands of the Wecochaconet purchase, lying in the forks of the Pawtuxet River and thence down the south bank of that river to a point as far east as Apponaug Cove, and westerly into what is now the town of Coventry, and also in the Coweset purchase, lying south and south-west of the Wecochaconet; and in his will he states that he, together with Samuel Gorton, Randall Holden, Thomas Collins, and John Potter, were the sole proprietors of a tract of about 2,100 acres, situated in the north-eastwardly part of the town, between the Pawtuxet lands on the north and the "Old Warwick" lands on the south.

But few incidents in the private or home life of Stukeley Westcote remain to us after the lapse of more than two centuries from his death.

It is recorded that, on the 14th of August, 1649, James Greene, the eldest son of Deputy Governor, John, sued Westcote in an action of trespass, laying the damages at £ 6, alleging, not that he, but that a great company of his, Westcote's friends broke into his brother John Greene's house in Providence and ate up and spoiled the Indian corn he, James, had stored there. After the suit had been brought, it appears Greene met Westcote at a town meeting and demanded £ 6 or 2½ bushels of corn. Westcote replied that he would see Mr. Wickes first and then he would "know what to do". (Note: This was John Wickes, a neighbor of Westcote's, who was killed and beheaded by the Indians, March 17th, 1676, at the time Westcote took refuge at Portsmouth.) At the trial, Westcote's son Robert swore that his father had tendered Greene 10 shillings, which Greene refused to accept, saying he would sue the bond. The court found a verdict for "his costs and damages".

Another incident may be worthy of mention. On the 14th day of June, 1657, John Bennet, a neighbor of Westcote's at Old Warwick, probably aged and without a family, voluntarily conveys to the latter all of his property, consisting of "8 cattel, 19 lbs. of peage at 8 per penny" and his house and land, excepting £ 5, which Bennet retains "to dispose of as he may see fit", upon the condition Westcote and his heirs shall furnish him during his life "meate, drinks and aparall". And on the 10th day of October, 1670, Amos, the son of Westcote, then living with his father, is excused by the town from service at the three courts, by reason of the "weak condition" of John Bennet, and the necessity of Amos personally attending upon him in his illness. This shows the obligation to take care of Bennet was then being faithfully observed.

It further appears that Westcote and his next neighbor, "Peter Burzecot, the Smith", on the 27th of November, 1656, indulged in the luxury of a little litigation, each suing the other, but the contention was of short duration, for on the 2nd day of February, 1657, they amicably adjusted all differences without the intervention of court or jury. (Note: Peter Burzecot was of Huguenot extraction. His daughter, Abigail married Hugh Stone, also a blacksmith and who succeeded to his father-in-law's business. Hugh Stone was the first of the name in Rhode Island, and is the ancestor of the numerous family of "Stones" in Providence and Kent Counties. Asa Stone, of Providence, a descendant of both Hugh Stone and Stukeley Westcote, has in his possession a Bible which the latter brought with him from England.)

In November, 1659, he is witness in the noted suit, tried at Portsmouth, brought by William Field, William Carpenter, Zachary Rhodes and William Harris against John Smith, Treasurer of Warwick, where the issue was whether the bounds of the Roger Williams purchase embraced the meadows on the southerly side of the Pawtuxet River, then claimed by Warwick. And he states in his testimony the interesting fact that Miantonomi, who had been sent for to meet the parties litigant upon the ground and explain the bounds of his grant to Roger Williams, was so displeased with the acrimonious deportment of the parties toward each other that he left the place without deigning to give them any information.

Stukeley Westcote and his two sons, Amos and Jeremiah were among the earliest in 1672 to sign the compact binding themselves to resist the threatened encroachments of the Connecticut authorities upon Rhode Island territory.

To be continued in April '82 Quarterly