

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 \$5.00 yearly

Editor
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1156 E. 8th St.
Rifle, CO 81650

JULY, 1990

KNOW YOUR KINDRED BETTER

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NATIONAL SOCIETY NEWS

SSWD Scholarship Fund

We have a bit over \$ 4,000 available for loan in our scholarship fund. Send for applications Edmund Whitman Morris
Pink Hill
Rural Route 2 - Box 142
Crozet, Virginia 22932

100TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Gilbert M. Vaughn of Arlington, Vermont will celebrate her 100th birthday on August 1, 1990. She is the daughter of George Matteson and Anna Hill, and the 3X great grandchild of Samuel Matteson who served with his 7 sons and sons in law under General Stark in the 1770's. She is a member of the Westcott Society through Stukely Westcott and his son Robert. She has 2 children, Parker, who died last July; and Anna, who lives with her now in Arlington.

She is a member of the DAR, Daughters of Colonial Wars, Daughters of Founders and Patriots. She served as Postmaster in Arlington, Vermont for 22 years.

Since she broke her hip last year she has been more confined to her home, so that, according to her daughter who cares for her, the celebrations in Arlington will probably be rather quiet ones.

Send her card to Mrs. Gilbert M. Vaughn, Battenkill Rd.,
Arlington, Vt 05250

CHAPTER NEWS

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

The New Hampshire Chapter will meet July 8, 1990 at the Methodist church in Cannan. NH. Church will be at 10 am and pot luck lunch and meeting will follow. Since New Hampshire is hosting the National Reunion, it is important for everyone to attend this meeting to finalize plans and responsibilities.. One can pay for the various activities such as banquet and boat ride at this meeting.

VERMONT CHAPTER

The Vermont chapter will have their picnic the Sunday after Labor Day which is September 9. A newsletter will be out in August to give the details. Meanwhile, think about joining the National Reunion if only for the boat trip on the Mt. Washington. A drive to Weirs Beach, on Lake Winnepesaukee to meet up with the national group at noon would still get you home the same day.

Every "Westcott" Descendant is eligible

WESTCOTT NATIONAL REUNION AUGUST 24, 25, 26, 1990
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Friday - 10 am. Board meeting at the Brick Tower
Registration - at motel - all day
6 pm. - Hot and cold buffet -
motel conference room followed by family social

Saturday - 9 am. - Business meeting - motel
11 am - Bus leaves for Lake Winnepesaukee
12 noon - Boat leaves ramp at Weirs Beach
Alternate trip - the new Christa McAuliffe
Planetarium - make arrangements at reunion
6:30 - Banquet - Sacred Heart Church Hall, Concord
Dance, Speaker. Social

Sunday - Coffee at motel
Church at local church

FOR ASSISTANCE FROM AIRPORT IN MANCHESTER CALL - 603-224-9345
MAKE RESERVATIONS ON SHEET - BACK PAGE OF THIS ISSUE

Tim Heath will be in charge of children's and recreation programs, when making reservations make a note of ages of children, and of any particular sport in which you are interested .

Coffee and rolls will be available at the motel each morning, restaurants for full breakfast are near by. . Food is available on the Mt. Washington , or one can bring a sack lunch.

REMEMBER - YOUR INSTRUMENT FOR THE SOCIAL FRIDAY NIGHT, YOUR SMALL ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION, AND TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW.

For those of you who plan to travel around New Hampshire : write for a guidebook - Office of Vacation Travel

PO Box 856
Concord, NH 03301

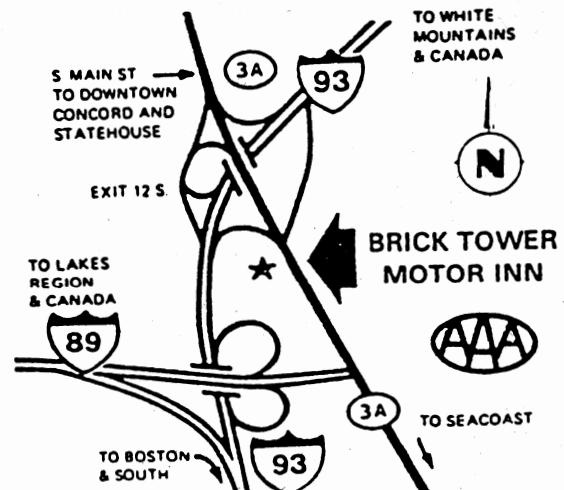
CONTACT PERSON FOR ANY QUESTIONS

Ed and Thelma Heath
17 Cremin st.
Concord, NH 03303
603-224-9345

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RESERVATION SHEETS ON THE BACK PAGE

A Tragic Life

There is no purpose here of attempting to condone the culpability of General Benedict Arnold, a Revolutionary soldier of the Westcott blood. However, evidence found in recent years throws a new light on his tragic life.

His Westcott ancestry reverts to Damaris Westcott, eldest daughter of Stukely, the Founder. Her husband was the first Benedict Arnold of Rhode Island. Their son, 3-Benedict m-Mar. 9, 1670-1, Mary Turner. Their son, 4-Benedict m-Jan. 3, 1705, Patience Coggeshall. Their son, 5-Benedict m-Nov. 8, 1733, Hannah Lathrop (King). Their son, 5-Gen. Benedict Arnold m(1)-Feb. 27, 1767, Margaret Mansfield, who d-1775, m(2)-Apr. 8, 1779, Margaret ("Peggy") Shippen.

Discovery of old letters of Sir Henry Clinton, an almost unknown diary of Aaron Burr, and "Peggy" Shippen's own letters, some of them in code to Major Andre, "furnished testimony," writes E. Irvine Haines in the New York Times Magazine of Jan. 31, 1932, "too damning for 'Peggy' to controvert were she alive and on trial."

"If we read," continues Mr. Haines, "the story of the Revolution's greatest personal tragedy in the light of what we know now, it becomes a drama of ambitious femininity unique in American annals. It was not the game-legged, hot-tempered, disgruntled hero of Quebec and Saratoga, but the ambitious Tory girl, the spy, the tool of Clinton, who schemed so cleverly that she deceived such astute politicians as John Hancock, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and even Washington himself."

"It was Clinton, acting on the suggestion of Lord George Germain, the British Colonial Secretary, who conceived the conspiracy, but it was 'Peggy' Shippen, with a skill and effrontery amazing in one so young, who carried it out."

"Peggy Shippen, b-1760, was the daughter of Judge Edward Shippen, a wealthy Quaker merchant of Philadelphia, strongly pro-British and a power to be reckoned with. "From childhood," Mr. Haines writes, "she had been reared in an atmosphere of luxury and taught to adore British uniforms and manners."

In May, 1777, when a mere child of seventeen years, she met Major John Andre. She perhaps flirted with Andre. They were still exchanging letters when, in June, 1778, the Continentals took possession of her home city, Philadelphia, and there came along its Military Governor, Gen. Arnold. She made a friend of the susceptible and jealous Arnold, now a widower of three years. In April, 1779, they were married "to the amazement of all Philadelphia, and that same month Clinton learned that Arnold was for sale." The remainder of the tragedy is history.

In "Vermont, Once No Man's Land," by the late Merritt C. Barden of West Pawlet, Vt., the author shows a picture of the only marker to Gen. Arnold—and his name does not appear upon it. This monument stands on the old Freeman farm, Saratoga battlefield at Bemis Heights, and shows an empty boot. (Some vandal has broken off the toe of the boot.) Mr. Barden writes:

"With wounded leg and horse killed, he (Arnold) led his men bravely into the thickest of the fight and won the battle that decided the destiny of the U. S. A., while General Gates lay behind a wooded hill, out of danger."

"Washington knew that if any man could win the battle, it was Arnold, and said so. Washington sent Arnold and he won—one of the bravest men of the Revolutionary War. But through the jealousy of Gen. Gates, who got all the honor, and the Tory wife of Arnold, he became a disheartened traitor. Can we blame him? But we can forgive him who was officially abused from first to last, and his statue should stand in the vacant alcove in the monument facing the South and the battlegrounds of Bemis Heights. For it was Benedict Arnold who won that battle and decided our fate."

When Arnold died in London twenty odd years later, it is said that his last request was that the epaulettes and sword-knot which Washington had given him, might be brought. "Let me die," he asked, "in my old American uniform, in which I fought my battles. God forgive me for ever having put on any other." (See Pt. II, p. 129.)

CUT OFF THESE RESERVATIONS AND MAIL TODAY

SEND DIRECT TO BRICK TOWER MOTEL

Please reserve _____ rooms for the Westcott Reunion
Friday night _____ Saturday night _____

Name _____

Address _____

Group rate \$ 56.16 incl tax single \$ 62.64 double \$6.00 extra person

Reservations must be made 30 days in advance

414 South Main St, Concord, NH (603)224-9565

SEND TO ED HEATH, 17 CREMIN ST. CONCORD, NH. 03303

FRIDAY NIGHT HOT AND COLD BUFFET

no. of adults (\$6.00) _____ children (3-12) (\$3.00) _____
children under 3 free

send check to Heath's by Aug. 10

MT WASHINGTON BOAT RIDE

Adults (\$12.00) _____ children (5-12) (\$6.00) _____
children under 5 free

send check to Heath's as soon as possible

WESTCOTT SOCIETY BANQUET Saturday night

Adult (\$10.00) _____ children (3-12) (\$6.00) _____
under 3 free

Turkey _____ Ham _____

send check to Heath's by August 10.

Edwin Heath, Sr. Chairman
17 Cremin St.,
Concord, NH 03303

FROM THE LETTER BOX

From Ned Morris - Virginia

I went to Tokyo, Hong Kong and China with our eldest daughter, Susan, who made the trip on business. It was a great experience. Now, we have Pink Hill on the market in preparation for our move to our cottage at Westminster-Canterbury located east of Charlottesville. The community will be ready October 15th, so we hope to have the summer here by the pool. We will go next week to Ohio for my 50th college class reunion and again mid-July for Fran's mother's 95th birthday.

We look forward to the August reunion. I do not think many of the family will make it. Our oldest grandson is a counselor-in-training at a camp at Lake Placid and has to return home to start track practice; however, hopefully the Bentsons may be able to join us.

From Dorothea B. Cogswell - Massachusetts

Dorothea would like to hear from "cousins", a note about you and what's going on in your world would be most welcome. Write to her
Dorothea B. Cogswell, 47 Beacon St., Natick, MA 01760

From Keith Westcott Melville - California

The President of the University of San Diego and the Faculty of the School of Law announce the conferral of the Juris Doctor Degree on Keith Westcott Melville the nineteenth of May 1990 at The University of San Diego, California, School of Law.

Keith and his wife also announce the birth of a second son (Editors note-Keith is Grandson of Dr. F. Howard Westcott)

From Phyllis and Don Reed - Vermont

Melanie Ann Reed, our daughter, graduated with honors from Granville, NY high school. While at Granville Central High School she was selected for the National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students, and received the Castleton Scholars Scholarship to Castleton State College., Vermont.

From Marie and Harold Wescott - Vermont

Rusty Wescott, our son, attended the American Legion Green Mountain Boy's State held at Norwich University in Northfield, VT from June 17th through June 22nd. Rusty played trumpet in the band which performed each evening, as well as taking part in the daily activities of this leadership seminar.

From Doris J. Caruso - New York

Doris is doing well since the heart by pass last year. If you would like to send her a card her address is 21 Church St., Granville, NY 13131

From Lewis O. Westcott - Kansas

I remarried last December 26, 1989 to Mrs. Nancy Sue Cook of Gardner, Kansas, and we are making our home at my residence at 8121 Beverly Drive in Prairie Village, Kansas 66208. Our phone number is 913-642-4190. We would be pleased to have any of the cousins visit us whenever they are passing through the Kansas City area.

In 1989 I toured Yeovil, Somerset County, England where Stukely Westcott and Juliana Marchant were married in 1619. While there I met a Mr. Leslie Ince who was associated with the St. John the Baptist Church. He has sent me photographs of 4 pages of the original records, along with the negatives. I will bring a copy of these pages to be retained by the Historian of the Westcott Society to the reunion in August. Anyone else desiring copies may order from me for about \$7.00 each page (8X10) which would include tax and mailing.

Reed earns scholarship to attend Castleton State

CASTLETON--Melanie Ann Reed, a 1990 graduate of Granville Central High School, is the recipient of the Castleton Scholars Scholarship at Castleton State College. The scholarship recognizes her outstanding academic performance, leadership potential, extra-curricular activities and community involvement.

Melanie is the daughter of Donald and Phyllis Reed of Wells. While at Granville Central High School, she was selected for the National Honor Society, WHO's Who Among American High School Students, Teen-ager of the Month, Girl's State, and Most Outstanding Student Nominee. She also served as a volunteer for a nursing home, Clothes for the Needy, Green-Up Day, rode in the St. Judes Bike-athon, and participated in the Granville Central High School Volleyball, Softball, Indoor Track and



Badminton teams.

Melanie will be a freshman at Castleton State College in September, 1990, majoring in Criminal Justice.