# Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America

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THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY
Issued quarterly Jan, April, July, Oct
Noting activities of the Society. Free
to members, non-members \$5.00 yearly.

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**APRIL 1995** 

KNOW YOUR KINDRED BETTER

Vol LXI no.2

#### NATIONAL NEWS

## CONGRATULATIONS NEW LIFE MEMBERS

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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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STUKKLY WESTCOTT 1592 - 1677, planter and colonizer, one of the 13 original proprietors of Providence Plantations and Colony of Rhode Island; of Salem, Mass., 1635, Providence, RI., 1638, and Warwick, RI., 1647. His wife: Juliana Marchant. Their children: Damaris (Arnold), Samuel, Robert, Amos, Mercy (Stafford), Jeremiah

Taken from the Iowa newsletter January 1995 Iowa President's corner

The Iowa Chapter of the SSWDA has a rich heritage, since it was organized in 1958.

- \* In 1966, our chapter hosted the 16th National Biennial meeting one hundred cousins.

  \* In 1968, Mrs. Harold Perdue was the National President.

  \* in 1974, the chapter again hosted the National Convention, and 56 people attended.

  \* In 1980, the chapter took on the task of reprinting the two Stukely Westcott Books

  \* In 1983, the chapter contributed \$633.91, the proceeds of the sale of the books, to the Westcott Scholarship Loan Fund.

Jim Westcott.Pres.

Two of the key people in the success of the chapter were Dorothy and Harold Perdue. Sadly they will not be with us when we meet again in Iowa in 1996. This poem written by their granddaughter, Margene Perdue Pierce, which was read at Dorothy's funeral, grasps very vividly thoughts of her. Margene, dau. of Marlin and Marilyn Perdue, was the very first person to receive the Westcott Scholarship Loan Fund started by Dr. F. Howard Westcott.

#### Memories With Grandma

We crunched through musky leaves at Sandrock, collecting beggars ticks on sweat-shirts and socks...with Grandma.

We stretched on tip-toe to peek at baby robins and knelt in wonder before a jack-in-the-pulpit...with Grandma.

We sipped 7-up, nibbled popcorn, played Yatzee, and admired the Lenin sisters...with Grandma.

We breathed frosty clouds on brightly-white days as we sledded down snowy hills...with Grandma.

We decked out in plumes, high button shoes, and long dresses, playing dress-up for hours...with Grandma.

We sparked an interest in family and the past, talking history and ancestors...with  $\operatorname{Grandma}$ .

We witnessed magical music from slender fingers and silver slippered feet while perched on the organ bench ...with Grandma.

We had trouble curbing our excitement as candlelight danced on china and crystal while packages begged to be opened on Christmases...with Grandma.

We dared not enter the sewing room as it came closer to time for Christmas. The secrets it held were evening gowns and bib overalls; you see, we had well dressed dolls...with Grandma.

We came toting children, who loved the victrola, the organ, the stories, and a small clacking bird. Their tummies were fattened with waffles and sausage. Great-grandkids were first rate...with Grandma.

We laughed, we giggled, we shared lots of fun; we've shed some bitter-sweet tears. In our hearts for safe keeping there will always remain a treasure of memories...with Grandma.

Harold Lewis Perdue, 87, of Griswold, died Wednesday evening, March 3, 1993, at the Good Samaritan Center in Red Oak where he was a resident the last two months.

Harold was born in the Wales vicinity on March 3, 1906, the son of Lemuel and Anna McMullen Perdue and attended schools in that vicinity. He started farming, and on June 23, 1926, he married Dorothy Dale Collins at the Elliott Christian Church in Elliott. They continued to farm in the area, finally purchasing a farm southwest of Griswold. They moved to Griswold in 1977. Harold was a member of and always active in the Central Church of Christ, and he was also a member of Cass Lodge No. 412 A.F. & A.M.

Survivors include his wife Dorothy of Griswold; one son, Marlin Perdue and his wife Marilyn of Griswold; one daughter, Maurine Mercer and her husband Jesse of Red Oak; five grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; one brother, Glen Perdue of Henderson; and one sister, Mildred Cain of Red Oak.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Joy Bourguignon.

Dorothy Dale Perdue, 86. died Wednesday, August 31, 1994, at the Good Samaritan Center in Red Oak, Iowa.

The daughter of Nathan Smith and Emma Jane Hurlbert Collins, she was born November 21, 1907, at Elliott, Iowa, where she graduated from high school in 1925. On June 23, 1926 she married Harold Lewis Perdue at the Elliott Christian Church. They farmed southwest of Griswold until moving to town in 1977. She was a member of the Elliott Church of Christ and later the Central Church of Christ in Griswold and was organist and pianist for over 50 years; she was a member of the Tuesday Music Club since 1934; a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and the Westcott Society. She was a resident of the Griswold Care Center before moving to the Good Samaritan Center.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Maurine Mercer and her husband Jesse of Grand Island, NE.; one son, Marlin Perdue and his wife Marilyn of Griswold; 5 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Mildred Cain of Red Oak; one brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Glen and Mamie Perdue of Red Oak.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Harold on March 3, 1993; 3 brothers, Ernest, Frank, and Darrell Collins; 4 sisters, Mae Merrick, Velma Gammell, Hazel Perdue, and Ruth Perdue.

In the Jan. Quarterly it was mentioned that all descendants of Stukely Westcott are eligible to join The Order of First Families of Rhode Island but no contact was given.

The address to join (or inquire) The Order of First Families of Rhode Island

Registrar General Robert Carter Arnold PO Box 2816 Reston, Va 22090-0816

#### FROM THE LETTER BOX

# From Lorraine Carrington, New York

I'm a grandma now. My daughter, Jennifer, had her first baby, Alan Burton Haskell, Jr. born April 22,1994 at Albany, NY. Jennifer married Alan Burton Haskell Dec.15,1990, Hoosick Falls, NY

### From the Poultney Area News, Vermont

Harold W. Wescott III, a 1991 graduate of Poultney high School, was named to the President's List at Castleton State College's Spring Convocation. He is majoring in business administration and is the son of Harold Jr. and Marie Wescott of Poultney, Vermont.

## From Lewis Westcott of Kansas

If you are in Florida you might want to stop in at the Westcott House a bed and breakfast on the Intercoastal Waterway. It was built over 100 years ago in 1887 and offers 8 guest rooms. The address is 146 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, Florida 32084 phone (904) 824-4301.

Lewis O. Westcott, Registrar Lewis O. Westcott, Registrar T was born in Syracuse, NY June 2,1917 and grew up in Madison County, NY. I attended Syracuse University and the University of Illinois. In Feb. 1941 I joined the Navy and spent 5 1/2 years on active duty in WWII flying PBY and PMB twin engine sea planes. During my last year of active duty I flew DC-3 transport planes out of Olathe, KS. The last 3 years of Reserves I was instrument flight instructor flying jets in four different fighter squadrons. After my discharge from the Navy in 1946, I went into the freight transportation consulting business and have been self employed since 1969. I have been a member of Association of Interstate Commerce Commissions Practioners, the Traffic and

of Association of Interstate Commerce Commissions Practioners, the Traffic and Transportation Club of Kansas City, The Industrial Traffic Managers Assoc., and Delta Nu Alpha Transportation fraternity. I am now semi-retired. I have been on three trips with People to People International; 1st to China in 1986 as a member of the Transportation Law delegation. The 2nd trip to China in 1993 was with my wife, Nancy Sue, a Mission in Understanding. In 1991 Nancy and I went to USSR, as part of the Small Business delegation to Russia with the 30th Anniversary Carayan Anniversary Caravan.

I have been president, treasurer and served on the board of directors for 15 years, on the Homes Association of the Country Club District (HACCD), which is the overseer organization over 28 individual homes associations.

I married Nancy Sue in 1989 after my first wife died of cancer in 1986. I have two daughters, and 2 grandsons. Nancy Sue has three daughters and eight grandchildren, and four step-children and ten step-grandchildren, making a total of twenty grandchildren between us. I like to travel and so does Nancy Sue. We just returned

from an extended five week trip to South America travelling on our own. I was elected Registrar for the SSWDA at the last biennial meeting of the Society in Zanesville, Ohio. I have been a member of the National Association since 1986, and also a member of the Iowa chapter since 1992. I find the job as Registrar to be a challenging but interesting one with a great opportunity to learn more about our ancestry and our "cuzzins" and to really get to know them better.

David Seyfarth - Chaplain Twas born David Arthur Westcott on August 30, 1930 in the town of Edmeston, New York to Sidney Benedict Westcott and Florence Stewart Demeray Westcott. I have three older half-brothers: Lewis (see above) Percy and Frank from my father's first marriage; four older brothers: Stewart (see Apr'93 Newsletter board member), John, Paul and Robert and a sister, Grace, and two younger brothers: Sidney Byron and George Aaron who died soon after his birth in 1933.

On Feb.2, 1934, my mother, Florence, died of labor pneumonia and undulant fever, resulting in the children being placed in foster homes in upstate New York. I was adopted by German immigrants Alfred and Johanna Seyfarth on Feb.14, 1936 (Valentines Day) and my name was legally changed to David Alfred Seyfarth.

I lived with my adoptive parents in the Borough of the Bronx, then Queens, New York where Alfred Seyfarth was a machinist/tool and die maker. I learned to speak and read German. During my senior year in high school in 1947 I joined the US Naval reserves. It was at this time that I attempted to locate my brothers and

sisters and over the years I have been successful and reunited with all of my Westcott brothers except Percy who was killed over France during WWII. I married Emma Elizabeth Eisen on September 2, 1951. During the Korean Conflict I was assigned to "Seabee" Battalion 105 stationed out of Little Creek, VA.; participated in trained landing maneuvers at Camp LeJeune, NC, the Caribbean Sea and Greenland.

Our children were born in New Jersey: John 1954 d.at birth; Barbara Seyfarth Papaioannou in 1954; Joanne Elizabeth Seyfarth Krapf in 1957; Lawrence David in 1958 and Lisa Jean Seyfarth in 1968. I switched from Electro-Mechanical engineering to Personnel Management and business administration in 1971 working for state of NJ. Later moving to Connecticut, I divorced Emma in 1985 and remarried in 1987 to Jeanne E. Manning. Jeanne is an RN specializing in pediatrics. We now have 8 grandchildren.

I have been a member of SSWDA since 1984 and except for 1986, have attended all of the requirement.

the reunions. As the society's Chaplain I respectfully request that I be apprised of any deaths of members and their families so that I can send condolences on behalf of SSWDA and also to prepare for the memorial service during the 1996

reunion in Des Moines, Iowa.