

Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America

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THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY
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Noting activities of the Society. Free
to members, non-members \$5.00 yearly.
Editor - Pauline W. Dennis Schumann
P O Box 954
Sheffield, MA 01257

OCTOBER 1999

KNOW YOUR KINDRED BETTER

Vol. LXV no.3

The Westcott Family Tree



Westcott Descendants from Stukely and Juliana

A Continuation and Some Corrections
of Work Published 1932 and 1939
by Roscoe Leighton Whitman
*Volume I, History and Genealogy of the Descendants
of Stukely Westcott*

Incorporating and Extending the Research
of the late Honorable Judge J. Bullock, Bristol, Rhode Island

*Volume II, Book of the Appendices of the History and Genealogy
of the Ancestors and Some Descendants of
Stukely Westcott, 1592-1677*

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Sharpe Printery
Rutland, Vermont

Message from the SSWDA Genealogist

Our genealogy, The Westcott Family Tree is due to be off the press in mid-November. Your book/books will be mailed to you on receipt of payment, by check or money order, in the amount of eighty-five dollars (\$ 85.00), which includes postage and packaging. The book will be hardcover, red with silver foil lettering on the cover. The page count is 764 on an 8 ½ X 11 page.

Please remit payment as soon as possible. It is urgent for you to order now before the first printing is exhausted.

This project has been endorsed by the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America but financed by the compiler.

Make checks payable to Edna J. Lewis.

Thank you,

Edna J. Lewis
26 Taylor Rd.
Winsted, CT 06098-4341

DIRECTORY OF
SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA

1998-2000 Officers and duties

President -	Mr. Sharon Coltey 5224 Woodland Dr. Lake City, Georgia 30260	Contact for society business
Vice-president -	Mr. Barlow Westcott 411 Lakewood Circle B1116 Colorado Springs CO 80910	Contact for society business when the president is not available
Recording secretary - Corresponding sec. -	Mrs. Nancy Westcott 8121 Beverly Dr. Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66208	Record all Society mtgs. Carry on all general society correspondence List of Honorary Members
Treasurer -	Mrs. Evelyn Hitchcock 3804 Lake Road Brockport, New York 14420	Send dues and donations to her
<hr/>		
Genealogist -	Mrs. Edna J. Lewis 26 Taylor Rd. Winsted, Connecticut 06098-4341	Send all family genealogy, all updates for records
Registrar -	Mr. Lewis O. Westcott 8121 Beverly Dr. Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66208	Contact for membership application
Historian -	Mrs. Betty Acker 2145 Richvale Rd. Nashport, Ohio 43830	Send all historical records, all material for scrapbook
Chaplain -	Mrs. Sally Winter 302 West Madison St. Lake City, IA 51449	Notify her of all deaths
Editor family quarterly -	Mrs. Pauline W. Dennis Schumann P.O. Box 954 Sheffield, MA 01257	Send all news of family events, chapter news, ideas for articles
Westcott Scholarship Loan Fund	Mr. Edmund Whitman Morris 250 Pantops Mtn. Rd.#61 Charlottesville, VA 22911	Contact for loan fund application

SSWDA and the Web

Knowing that computers and the Web are rapidly taking over all fields of man's communication, including genealogy and the communication built around families and family history, I, acting as SSWDA editor, asked one of our members to design a model Homepage for a potential SSWDA Site on the internet to bring to the attention of the SSWDA Board at the 1998 reunion. There was some discussion about responsibility and liability, what guidelines should be set up, with a preponderance of wait and think attitudes shared by the Board members. As shown in the minutes of the Board meeting, "President Coltey commented that Internet mail is in the future; his reservations concerning it related to being cautious about any personal information to be included." The Board then decided to have Pauline Dennis continue with Michele K.N. Pray on this project.

So, now, as the 2000 General meeting is getting closer, it is time for **you to voice your questions** and concerns about subjecting SSWDA to this very public face of the World Wide Web. What do **you** think about this Society having a Web site? What concerns do you have about having society business aired, or your family history entered, which can then easily be accessed and copied by anyone in the world? To whom shall we give this responsibility to set up the site? Shall we add a committee, an officer, that of site manager? Who shall have legal ownership of the site? Since we are now an association, do we need to form a non-profit corporation to be able to handle any liabilities that might arise from this web site? How much will it cost to maintain?

Write to me by 'snail mail'. It might not be so rapid, but it is much more private. Tell me your thoughts, so that I might prepare a report for the Board discussion before it goes to the membership for a vote in Colorado in 2000.

Pauline W. Dennis Schumann
P. O. Box 954
Sheffield, MA 01257.

You and the Web

Privacy

Horace Deets, Executive Director AARP comments on Consumer Privacy, "Do you own a computer? Every time you log on you leave a cyber-trail of information."

Cyndi Howells in Netting Your Ancestors warns, "Do not pass on private or personal information about yourself unless you are entirely comfortable with this information becoming public knowledge. Remember everyone's right to privacy and DO NOT pass on personal information about living relatives on a mailing list or chat group."

All the messages received and answered on chat groups, including GenForum, are archived and sold to anyone who wants them. You have no means of restricting this information to a special audience. Nothing you say is private, everything is immediately public, available to millions of people you have never heard of, never even thought about. And you can only control it by what you say, not who receives it.

CD's are included in software programs and advertised as including millions of names and family connections - your name and your family connections. These discs are the archives of the conversation you and others have passed back and forth on the forums, the chat groups. Distributed to everyone. They include everything that is said, whether it be the family story about an ancestor descended from a king of Germany, or the senders opinion of some living person or organization.

Accuracy

The Genealogy Forum on America Online by George Morgan

"Today, anyone with a computer, a modem and some software can become an instant electronic publisher. The information disseminated -via E-mail, Web pages and other media---may be accurate and concise, or it may be riddled with errors and misinformation. Therefore, it is important to learn to be selective about what information we chose to read. p.7. It is essential that we be able to document our sources for future reference. "p.8

"Materials you find on America Online and the Internet, E-mail you may receive and information found on genealogy-related CD Roms are all secondary sources...RESEARCH, VERIFY AND CORROBORATE EVERYTHING."p.12

"While you may find what appears to be the missing link that you've been seeking for years, don't assume the information is accurate."

Again, as with any other online resource, maintain a healthy skepticism of other people's work, but don't discount it. Take their work and perform your own research to verify and corroborate the details. You may, indeed, locate precisely the piece of information you need."p.16

Genealogy Online by Elizabeth Powell Crowe p. 169, "Treat the AF and the IGI the same as you treat a printed book about a surname - with caution. Use it as an excellent source of clues but always cross-check it with primary records. While the computer increases the amount of data you can scan and makes things much easier, it doesn't necessarily improve accuracy. Human beings are still the source of data."

She continues

GENSERV and GENWEB p. 241 Appendix A, "Both attempts to use distributed networking to share and disseminate genealogical information. But be warned: the information you find with them is only as reliable as the people submitting it. Neither project requires the information to come from a certified genealogist or to include original sources or to be proven in the way, say, DAR applications are."

John F. Whitaker of Automated Research, Inc. warns, "Know where the information came from. "Be skeptical, lots of incorrect data and scams on CD's." Is what you're getting a source or resource, ie. is it a primary document or a lead which may help you find the primary source documents.

Virtual Roots by Thomas Kemp lists Web sites by family, state, general, and rates them. Some examples:

Extraordinary

Library of Congress
<http://lcweb.loc.gov>

Outstanding

National Personnel Records Center
<http://gopher.nara.gov/nara/frc/nprc/html>

CT State Library
<http://www.cslnet.Ctstateu.edu>

National Archives of Canada
<http://www.archives.ca/index.html>

North of Ireland Family History Center
<http://www.os.qub.ac.uk/nifhs>

Clan Campbell Society of No. America
<http://www.ccsna.org>

In Loving Memory of

Helen W. Carter

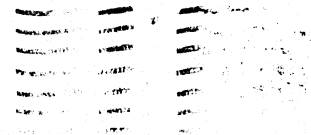
Born
February 19, 1911
Laceyville, Pennsylvania

Died
August 15, 1999
Delray Beach, Florida

Memorial Service
2:00 PM Wednesday
August 18, 1999
Cason United Methodist Church
Delray Beach, Florida

Officiating
Rev. Daniel Casselberry

Arrangements By
Scobee Ireland Potter Funeral Home
Delray Beach, Florida



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