

Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America

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THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY
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Editor - Pauline W. Dennis Schumann
P O Box 954
Sheffield, MA 01257
Assist. Editor - F. Maure Albert
2419 - 9th St.
Baker City, OR 97814

JANUARY 2002

KNOW YOUR KINDRED BETTER

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NATIONAL NEWS

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To all the Westcott cousins, a belated best wishes for the Holidays and special greeting for the New Year 2002.

Let us make this a special year for the Stukely Westcott Society and plan to have a big Reunion in Providence. The Committee has been working hard all year to make this Reunion one to be long remembered.

Holding the Reunion where the Westcotts started in this New World should also be an incentive for everyone to make an effort to attend. The registration form, fees and program are located in this Newsletter.

Ruth and I are great grandparents for the first time. Nona Hayde Gelow was born on May 17th to grandson William Gelow and his wife, Michele Gelow, in San Francisco. We had high hopes of seeing her in October but health problems cancelled our trip.

We also have a new telephone number: 719-638-8576.

Make your plans now to attend the Reunion in July 2002.

Barlow Westcott, President

For information about the Rhode Island Reunion July 18 – 20 turn to the insert of this issue first. Deadlines come soon for registration and for hotel reservation, so cut out the coupon and send today to Betty Acker 3654 Mill Dr. Zanesville, OH 43701-1126

Floating post office sinks off Detroit

The Associated Press

DETROIT — A tugboat that delivered mail and crew to Great Lakes freighters rolled over and sank in the Detroit River early Tuesday, spilling four people into the water. Two crew members were missing.

The accident happened around 7 a.m. as the tug, the J.W. Westcott II, was taking two pilots to the Sidsel Knutsen, a Norwegian tanker carrying gasoline, Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Brian Hall said.

Two Canadian freighter pilots were rescued and taken to nearby Windsor, Ontario, where they were treated and released.

The missing crew members were a man and woman who worked for J.W. Westcott Co., the Coast Guard said. There was no immediate word how close the tug had been to the tanker, but Hall said the water was choppy.

One of the survivors told Canadian Press that the Knutsen swamped the tug, which sank in about 20 seconds.

The Westcott was located on the river bottom by the crew of an Army Corps of Engineers sonar vessel. Coast Guard Petty Officer Ken Stierley said the search for the missing was suspended Tuesday night, and efforts to raise the ship were to begin Wednesday.

Mailboat J.W. Westcott II, Delivers!

By John A. Harris

With daybreak came the thunderous roar of a 220 horsepower Detroit Diesel engine. It emits from a 46 foot tugboat called the J.W. Westcott II as she prepares for yet another shift on the Detroit River. As her lines are cast and she begins to pull away from her dock, nestled just below and to the south of the Ambassador Bridge, she sets a course mid-river on one of the busiest waterways in the world.

This is a typical transaction that occurs out on the Detroit River 30 or more times per day, 24 hours a day, nine months out of the year. Since 1895 vessels from the U.S., Canada and years later from around the world have counted on this transaction each time they pass through the Detroit River system. The Westcott Company began operating the mailboat over 100 years ago using nothing more than a small rowboat

Their primary boat is that of the 46 foot J.W. Westcott II, named after the original founder of the company. The backup boat is the 40 foot John H. Hogan, named after the current owner of the company.

Update: The Westcott II was raised from the bottom of the Detroit River on the morning of October 29th 2001. The body of her Captain, Kathy Nasiatka, was also recovered within the wreck. The boat will be towed to the Nicholson floating drydock in Ecorse for an inspection and repairs.



J.W. Westcott II.

See Betty Acker's article Quarterly Jan 2001

(Article appeared in the Nov/Dec 2000 edition of Great Lakes Photo Magazine)

Corry W. Minthorn -Planting Seeds of Hope

"We all should share our blessings.... I believe that it is better to give than receive," declares Corry Minthorn, now of Poultney, Vermont. In 1987, after years of devotion to CWS (Church World Service) and organizing the Ramsey Area, New Jersey, CROP WALK, she decided to take yet another step to help others. After her husband's death, she used funds from the sale of their condominium in New Jersey to create a charitable gift annuity to support Church World Service. " As Corry says, " I am sure that most of my contribution really gets to the people who need help."

Corry is the daughter of past National president, Harold W. Wescott of East Poultney,

VT Taken from Church World Service Fall 2001

Phyllis Wescott Reed Sings for Joy

The Granville, NY Area Chorus presented their Christmas Gift of Music, "Joy to the World" at the Granville Baptist church on Dec. 9, 2001. 34 years ago on Dec. 10, 1967 the Chorus gave its first performance under the auspices of the Council of Churches. Phyllis W. Reed was honored at this Dec.2001 concert as one of four members who have been with the group since the beginning.

The Granville Area Chorus will celebrate the 100th birthday of Dr. Ruth Douglas, founder of the group, with a concert on Palm Sunday, March 24, 2002.

RHODE ISLAND REUNION 2002

MARK THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR - JULY 18, 19 & 20. THIS IS THE FIRST REUNION OUR SOCIETY HAS HAD IN RHODE ISLAND SINCE 1984.

WE WILL BE AT THE JOHNSON & WALES INN IN SEEKONK, MASS.
ROOM PRICES: STANDARD ROOM, SINGLE OR DOUBLE \$85.00 PLUS TAX.
COUNTRY INN SUITE, SINGLE OR DOUBLE \$95.00 PLUS TAX. \$10.00 PER
EXTRA PERSON IN THE ROOMS. CODE TO USE WHEN MAKING YOUR
RESERVATIONS FOR THESE PRICES - SSWDA.
1-800-232-1772 or 508-336-8700.

A BLOCK OF ROOMS WILL BE HELD FOR US UNTIL JUNE 18, 2002. AFTER THAT DATE, RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE AND RATE AVAILABLE BASIS. SO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY.

FRIDAY MORNING IS THE BOARD MEETING AND FRIDAY AFTERNOON IS OPEN FOR SIGHTSEEING. BUS SERVICE RUNS IN FRONT OF THE INN FOR QUICK AND EASY TRANSPORTATION INTO PROVIDENCE. INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE.

FRIDAY EVENING IS OUR USUAL INFORMAL EVENING PROGRAM. WE WILL HAVE A BUFFET MEAL ON FRIDAY EVENING AT A COST OF \$25.00 PER PERSON. THIS INCLUDES TAX AND GRATUITY. (IN REGISTRATION FEE)

SATURDAY MORNING IS OUR SOCIETY BUSINESS MEETING AND OUR MEMORIAL SERVICE. LUNCH IS ON YOUR OWN. THE BUS TRIP WILL BE IN THE AFTERNOON. OUR BANQUET WILL BE IN THE EVENING AT A COST OF \$36.00 PER PERSON WHICH INCLUDES TAX AND GRATUITY. (IN REGISTRATION FEE)

THE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$65.00 PER PERSON WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE BASIC REGISTRATION FEE (4.00), BUFFET FRIDAY EVENING (25.00) AND THE BANQUET ON SATURDAY EVENING (36.00).
REGISTRATION FEE, CHILDREN 10 YEARS OR UNDER, \$40.00.

WE ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ATTEND CHURCH ON SUNDAY AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE. THIS IS THE CHURCH THAT ROGER WILLIAMS FOUNDED WITH STUKELY WESTCOTT AS ONE OF HIS 13 NAMED FOLLOWERS.

NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS AT \$65.00 EACH _____

WE NEED THIS CHECK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR PLANNING.

MAKE OUT CHECK TO: BETTY W. ACKER, 3654 MILL DR, ZANESVILLE, OH 43701-1126 Email: betw@prodigy.net

DEADLINE: Will be in the next newsletter

BUS TRIPS:

WE ARE PLANNING A BUS TOUR OF PROVIDENCE AND WARWICK ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

THE TOUR WILL INCLUDE SEEING THE STUKELY WESTCOTT BIBLE AT THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY, OTHER SITES IN PROVIDENCE, THE STUKELY WESTCOTT MONUMENT IN WARWICK AND POSSIBLY A COUPLE OF WESTCOTT HOMES. ALSO WE MAY BE ABLE TO SEE A WESTCOTT CAR. DETAILS STILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT. INFO WILL BE IN THE APRIL NEWSLETTER.

COST FOR THE BUS TRIP WILL BE \$10.00 FOR ADULTS AND \$7.00 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS. WE HAVE TO DECIDE BY MARCH 2 WHETHER OR NOT ENOUGH WANT THIS TRIP TO CONTINUE WITH THE PLANS.

NOTES: DAVID SEYFARTH AND I HAVE WORKED VERY HARD TO GET REASONABLE PRICING FOR YOU. THE SUMMER PRICES IN THE EAST ARE A LITTLE HIGHER THAN WE WOULD LIKE. BUT REST ASSURED THAT WE HAVE DONE OUR BEST. BETTY W. ACKER

From Sharon Coltey, Georgia

"We had 5" of snow here in Georgia in the first week of January 2002." But he's thinking about camping weather in MA/RI area of the Reunion for those who may travel by RV. This is the Massachusetts list between abt. 18 min.- 48 min. from Sekonk

20 mi. Normandy Farms
24 min. 72 West St
Foxboro, MA 02035
508-543-7600
www.normandyfarms.com

24 mi. Plymouth Rock KOA
30 min. US Highway 44
P.O.Box 616
Middleboro, MA 02346
508-947-6435

22 mi. Canoe River Campground
25 min. 137 Mill St
Mansfield, MA 02048
508-339-6462

Ellis Haven Campground
531 Federal Furnace Rd
Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-0803

33 mi. Sandy Pond Campground
48 min. 834 Bourne Rd
Plymouth, MA 02360
508-759-9336
www.sandypond.com

Pinewood Lodge Campground
190 Pinewood Rd
Plymouth, MA 02360
www.pinewoodlodge.com

15 mi. Masasoit State Park
20 min. Taunton, MA
1-877-422-6762

Stukely Westcott Cemetery Plaques

The new Stukely Westcott Cemetery plaque may be fastened directly on the stone or displayed on a bar separately. The cost is \$160.00 (plaque \$150.00 + 10.00 packing and shipping). Orders will be shipped on a first come, first serve basis, and will be shipped within 3 days of order while the supply lasts.

order from

Bruce W. Trismen
190 Cottage Road
Wyckoff, NJ 07481
201-251-4734
betrismen@aol.com

Money Available for College

Ned Morris, guardian of the Westcott Scholarship Loan Fund, reports that thanks to repayments of recipients, contributions from family members and SSWDA chapters there is money available for college loans. The applicant or family must be a member of the SSWDA Society, a co-signer is required who will be responsible for repayment in case of default. Loans up to \$1000 are available, are interest free and must be repaid within five years from completion of study or drop-out.

Anyone wishing to apply should contact him at:

Edmund Morris
250 Pantops Mtn. Rd. #61
Charlottesville, VA 22911

Westcott Deaths

Mrs. Elizabeth Skean Ehrhardt of 201 Wynnewood Dr., Abesecon, NJ died 2001.

She was born 4 Sept. 1920 in Brooklyn, NY child of Elizabeth Louise Hull and Albert Harrison Skean. She married Frederick J. Ehrhardt and had 2 chn., Frederick Wm. Ehrhardt and Stephen Albert Ehrhardt.

She was SSWDA member #801.

Mrs Betty Bailey Mann SSWDA # 901,of Dorr Michigan died October 1, 2001. She was born June 21, 1921 child of Arleyn A. Alexander and Paul J. Bailey, grandchild of Rosanna May Westcott and William Alexander.

By her first marriage to Harold Sinke, who died in 1991, she had 4 chn. Robert L. Sinke, William Sinke, Patricia Sinke Rairigh, and Elizabeth Sinke DeYoung.

She is survived by her husband, Donald Mann whom she married May 1, 1993.

Mrs. Elizabeth Carroll Wescott died September 9, 2001 at her home in Bucksport, Maine. She was born Aug. 2, 1918 in Blue Hill, Maine child of Charles Franklin Wescott, Jr. and Belle Tapley Smith.

She was an excellent researcher who compiled a great deal of the Maine Wescott family history, descending from Daniel Wescott.

She was SSWDA member #588 and proud of her Life membership.

She leaves Helen Wescott, a cousin who is 101 years old and, Howard Everett Wescott, Jr., a cousin of California.

Thelma Arliene Westcott Geary died Dec 10, 2001 in the City of Syracuse, NY. She was born 24 Oct 1906 child of Howard Leslie Westcott and Minnevieve Jakway.

Her nephew Paul Westcott reports that Aunt Thelma is the last of his parent's generation and had passed her 95th birthday.

She married Arthur Kenneth Geary and they had 3 chn.: Virginia Lee Geary Christiansen, Valerie Westcott Geary Partian Roehm, and Susan Marguerite Geary Rumsey

Web sites to check out:

www.westcotthouse.org click on "Under Restoration" Frank Lloyd Wright house on Springfield, Ohio