



Society of Stukely
Westcott Descendants of
America
The Westcott Family
Quarterly

October 2005

Know Your Cousins Better

Vol. LXXI no. 2

President: Paul W. Westcott, New York
Vice President: David Seyfarth,
Massachusetts
Treasurer: Evelyn Hitchcock, New York
Secretary: Ann Coltey, New York
Registrar: Lewis O. Westcott, Kansas
Historian: Betty W. Acker, Ohio
Chaplain: Sally Winter, Iowa
Genealogist: Jim Henderson,
Pennsylvania
Webmaster: Michele McKenzie, New
York

www.westcottsociety.com ²⁵³
The Westcott Family Quarterly
Issued quarterly or thereabouts through
the year with news of the Society. Free
to members,
Non-members \$10.00 annually

Editor: Bart Westcott
722 Southampton Drive
Palo Alto, CA 94303
bart@bmlsw.com

2006 Reunion News

Pam Scheaffer, 2006 reunion chair, advises that the 2006 Reunion of the Society will take place on July 6, 7, & 8 in or near the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia. Be sure to save those dates!! Further information about the precise location and more details will be in the next newsletter.

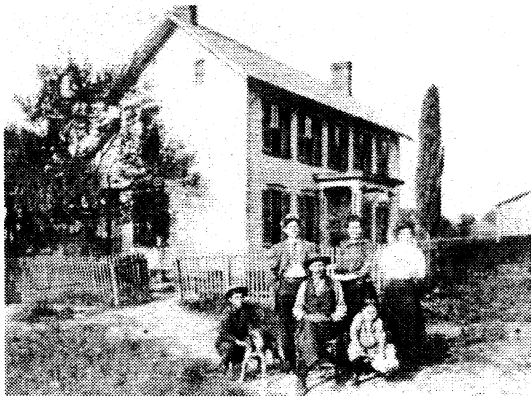
Remembrance: Mabel Westcott

Those of us who have had the privilege of knowing Mabel Westcott were aware of her abiding Faith and her love and devotion to family. We must never forget that these attributes extended to her greater family, the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America, at a time when there was strife and division. It was Cousin Mabel who came forward and accepted the presidency of the society and brought a peaceful uniting of the opposing factions. For this, the Society must remain ever grateful. It was the result of her steadfast leadership that the annual Resolution of Recognition was established by the Board of Directors and that Cousin Mabel was its first recipient.

-By Edmund W. Morris, Past President

The Clyde Westcott Coal Company Hopewell Township, Ohio

The Westcott coal company operated over a thirty-year period. Local farmers needing winter income for their families were hired to dig coal.



Pictured: Front, Charles S. Jr., Charles S. Sr. (called "Sid"), Hazel Marie. Back row, Clyde, Elida and Jessie.

In the year 1906, Charles Sidney and Elida Jane (Gorby) Westcott moved their family of six from Noble County to Muskingum County in Ohio. They settled at a Coopermill Road farm home eight

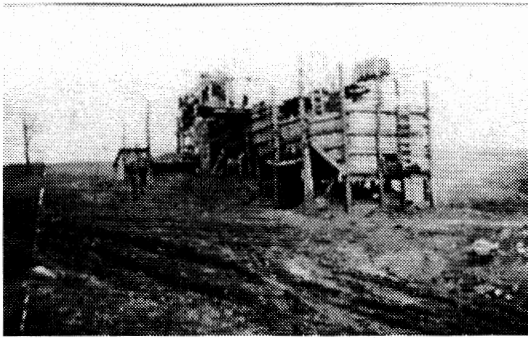
miles west of Zanesville. Charles Sidney, called Sid, had his main interest in farming which included orchards of apples, cherries and peaches.



The oldest son, Clyde, at nineteen, had his own business, with a milk wagon and a pair of spirited mules hauling milk for farmers down the Coopermill Road into Zanesville.

A vein of coal was found under the Westcott farm when sulfur water was noticed in a ravine. A small opening was found in the hill that had been made years before. There were acres of coal under the Westcott farm. Clyde and his dad talked over the findings. Sid had no desire to be a coal miner. He had more than he could handle with his farming. He signed the coal rights to Clyde with royalties provided.

In the 1912 era, a drift mine entrance was made at a chosen hillside. Coal cars holding one ton of coal were built. Track was laid inside and out. Coal was mined and sold by the ton. Farmers from local families were hired to mine as business increased for winter coal. They were paid by the number of coal cars they loaded. That practice continued for the next thirty years. In the 1920s, a second drift mine entrance was made, this time at the eastern side of the farm.



A tippie was built high enough to allow screening of coal into bins for dumping into trucks. Screens separated the coal by size into lump, nut and pea coal.

Too many wagons of coal were loaded and weighed only to hear customers promise to pay later. Some did pay but Clyde was much too reluctant to try to collect from the others. He was a hard working, honest, caring man who was fair with his men.

Mining was dangerous work where a falling roof, digging, drilling, blasting and so forth was always a hazard. No miner was ever killed or seriously hurt in the Westcott mines. Every Wednesday and Friday night Clyde recorded the records of the work in large ledgers at home. Paydays were Saturday at noon following a half-day of work in the mine.

A contract was made to supply winter coal to the Columbus, Ohio schools. With twenty-five miners working, the distance required an air and safety exit shaft. Clyde's two teenage sons, Earl and Ralph, dug the forty-foot deep hole to the mine, boarding as they went down with a ladder attached. The hot

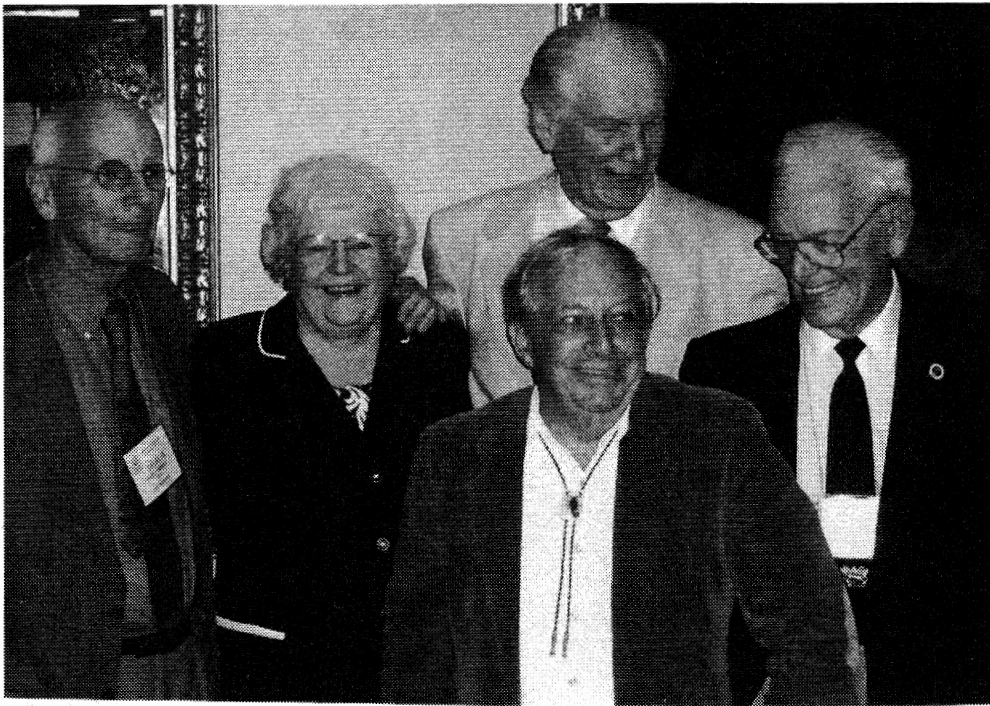
dangerous dig was completed in two months. The boys had been in and out of the mines all their lives.

In the late 1930s a mine squeeze occurred. Not enough coal support pillars had been left to hold up the ceiling. One Sunday, as the water was being pumped, a noise was heard deeper in the mine. Thankfully, miners were not there on Sunday. Ralph, entering the rooms saw support posts breaking and tops of rooms sinking to the floor. Cars, tools and tracks were lost in a dozen rooms before the settling stopped. The rest of the mine was deemed safe and mining continued two or three years longer. As the coal was worked out, the sons left mining to follow careers of their own.

Clyde's family was made up of his wife Glenna Shiplett, their two sons Earl and Ralph and their daughter Mazie. Glenna died of cancer in 1953. Clyde later remarried Lulu Scott who died just a few years after their marriage. Clyde died in 1962 at the age of seventy-five.

Family story and pictures from Ralph Westcott, Fairfax, Virginia.
Former society registrar with his wife, Marcella.

-by Betty W. Acker, Historian



Past Presidents of the Society

Several past Presidents of the SSWDA attended the reunion in Kansas in 2004. Pictured, from left to right, are Marlin Perdue, Iowa, 1975-1976 and 1977-1978; Betty W. Acker, Ohio, 1989-1990 and 1991-1992; Edmund Morris (back), Virginia, 1993-1994 and 1995-1996; Sharon Coltey (front), Georgia, 1997-1998 and 1999-2000; and Barlow Westcott, Colorado, 2001-2002 and 2003-2004.

Coat of Arms Pins



The response for the pins was very good, and members who ordered were very happy. This is an excellent way to show

your pride in the Society of Stulely Westcott Descendants of America.

Supply is limited so order yours now. Send check for \$5.00 (to cover shipping and handling) and your membership number to:

Barlow M. Westcott
411 Lakewood Circle B1116
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Westcott House, Springfield, OH

The opening of the Westcott House in Springfield, Ohio was been rescheduled to October 15th. Public Tours will be available Wednesday through Saturday at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00pm. on Sunday at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm. Further information is available at www.westcotthouse.org.

Ruth Westcott 1918-2005



Ruth Bailey Westcott passed away on September 18. Ruth was born February 25, 1918 to Howard F. and Nannie Lee (Butts) Bailey in Clermont, Florida. She graduated from Clermont High School, after which she worked as a legal secretary and as an attaché in the Florida Senate and House of Representatives. She met and married Barlow M. Westcott, then serving in the Army Air Corps, in Tallahassee, Florida on January 31, 1942. She is survived by her husband Barlow; daughters Phylinda Romero, Nancetta Williams, Jennifer Ley; son Barlow II; by six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Ruth received her bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in 1971. After graduation she worked at the School of Business as an advisor and helped many to receive their degrees at the University. Ruth and a group of ladies raised

money and were responsible for the building of a small hospital in her hometown. She was active in the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and was leader of a Senior troop and in charge of a Day Camp for Scouts both at Lowry AFB and Rhein Main AFB Germany. She also served on the North Atlantic Girl Scouts Board. She took Girl Scout troops to Our Chalet, Switzerland, and Our Cabana, Mexico. She loved to travel and play golf and she and Barlow traveled all 50 states and visited over 50 foreign countries. She was a wonderful loving wife and mother and will be greatly missed by all of her family and friends. Contributions in Ruth's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care or to a charity of personal choice.