

Society of Stukely
Westcott Descendants of
America

~
The Westcott Family
Quarterly

October 2006

Know Your Kindred Better

Vol. LXXII no. 3

President: David Seyfarth,
Massachusetts
Vice President: Susan Morris, Illinois
Treasurer: Jean Brundage,
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: Jim Leflar III, Illinois

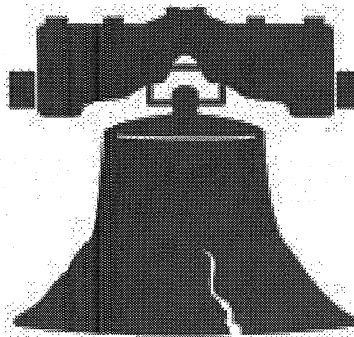
www.WestcottSociety.com

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The Westcott Family Quarterly

Issued quarterly or thereabouts through
the year with news of the Society.
Free to members, Non-members
\$10.00 annually.

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2006 Society Reunion
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
July 6th through 8th

This year's biennial society reunion was a summer celebration filled with laughter and song, held in our nation's historical second capitol city.

**Official Minutes of the 36th
Biennial Board Meeting of the SSWDA**

*Meeting Room 815
Holiday Inn Historic District
Philadelphia, Pa.
8:00 pm July 6, 2006*

Members present:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| David Seyfarth, acting President | Ned Morris, SSWDA College |
| Ann Coltey, Secretary | Diane Hatfield, Director |
| Lewis O. Westcott, Registrar | Bart Westcott, Quarterly Editor |
| Betty Acker, Historian | James Leflar III, Director |
| Jim Henderson, Genealogist | Susan Morris, Director |
| Diane Hatfield, Director | Joy Satterfield, Director |

Past Presidents present: Barlow Westcott, Marlin Perdue, and Sharon Coltey.

The 36th Biennial Meeting of the Board of the SSWDA was called to order by acting President, David Seyfarth, at 8:00pm. David led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance as Jim Henderson held the American flag.

Betty Acker suggested that the Resolution of Recognition award not be given every year.

Acting President David Seyfarth appointed the nominating committee (Marlin Perdue and Barlow Westcott) to fill President, Vice President, Registrar, Treasurer and Webmaster positions.

Lewis O. Westcott asked to improve clarification of "Life Membership" by deleting a paragraph that would eliminate dues for a spouse of a direct descendant. When a descendant reaches 80 years of age, the surviving spouse should not pay dues either, thus the society should not need to send the spouse a lifetime certificate. The board proposed to keep paragraph 1 in the by-laws and delete paragraphs 2, 3, and 4. The surviving spouse will continue to receive the newsletter and any other eligible benefits. All board members agreed.

Lewis O. Westcott mentioned that an application for membership does not have to be type-written, because many people do not have computers and would prefer to hand-write an application. Lewis stressed that the applicant must sign the application to certify the accuracy of the information. The applicant should always add one more line to the "line-of-generations" as they complete the application. The applicant should download his/her family information and add it to the blank form, sign it, and mail it to the SSWDA chapter. Betty Acker added that many people might not want to fill out the long form used now. For example, 17 generations is a lot to fill out and discourages younger generations from applying once they see the work involved in completing the long form.

Betty suggested that condensing the application might attract more new members. Sharon Coltey suggested that if the portion of the descendants from Stukely to a certain point was already completed, then the applicant would only be required to complete his/her own personal family information because it is thoroughly checked by the Registrar to be ensure bona fide Stukely Westcott lineage.

Updated e-mail addresses: Bart Westcott said between a dozen to two dozen newsletters were returned to him due to address changes of which he was not aware. Someone mentioned that most modern organizations send newsletters via e-mail rather than by postal service, thereby eliminating the added cost of postage. Betty suggested that the next newsletter include contact information for the Editor of the quarterly newsletter so that society members who wish to receive an e-mailed copy of the newsletter instead of a hard copy may do so. The board agreed it best in the near-term to begin offering two versions of the newsletter because it would not be beneficial to all members to cease mailing a hard copy of the newsletter and immediately switch over to offering an electronic version only.

Dana Matteson (by letter) suggested that our member database be managed by one person. Jim Henderson (Genealogist) suggested that the registrar should be the data base manager. Lewis O. Westcott (Registrar) stated that he and Betty Acker (Historian) do not always agree on the number of Stukely Westcott descendants, estimated at some 47,000 persons. Jim Henderson brought his lap-top computer with all 47,000 names to Philadelphia so that anyone would be able to look up his/her family's lineage and information during this reunion. After this discussion, Jim concluded that the Registrar should be the steward of the official databank of recorded family names. Betty currently maintains the genealogical list of names, but it does not always match Lewis O. Westcott's database of names. The board agreed that applications should go to the Genealogist, Jim Henderson, first. Jim stated that if the application passes his inspection, the society should accept it because few people would apply if they had to go through any more rigorous a process. Since Michelle McKensie took over the web site, she has been keeping Betty informed of updates and progress. Betty suggested to Jim that he check the website to ensure that its information coincides with his genealogical records.

Dana Matteson stated in his letter that he would work with Jean Brundage if she is nominated as treasurer. Jean was unable to attend our board meeting but has agreed to act as our Treasurer.

Reports:

President: Paul W. Westcott passed away at home on January 21, 2006 after a brief illness and is missed by our society. Paul did a wonderful job for us and was very much looking forward to the reunion in Philadelphia. In his absence our Vice President, David Seyfarth, took over on short notice as acting President and has done a remarkable job.

Secretary: Ann Coltey sent out eight honorary life memberships in 2006, up from zero in 2005. The complete Secretary's report is on file.

Treasurer: Evelyn Hitchcock passed away in Brockport, NY on January 9, 2006 and leaves a distinct void in our society's board after having held office for so many years. Jean Brundage, Evelyn's niece, in agreeing to act as Treasurer has done an excellent job for our society. In Jean's absence at the board meeting, David Seyfarth read her Treasurer's report which is on file with the Secretary.

Nancy Westcott and Sharon F. Coltey volunteered to audit our Treasurer's book and found everything in order.

Registrar: Lewis O. Westcott reported that he had received 11 new members during the period July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2005 under President Paul W. Westcott and 12 new members under acting President David Seyfarth. The total number of new members is 23. His complete report is on file with the Secretary.

Historian: Betty Acker reported to the board that in June of 2006, she and Clink went to Springfield, Ohio to participate in a filmed documentary on the Westcott house (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright). She said it was a lovely experience. She received a phone call from a young man in Illinois who told her that he had a Westcott car for sale. Earl Young had the car and drove it from Bradenton to Gulfport for the Florida Chapter Reunion then took everyone for a ride in it.

Betty showed us the packet of all the interesting Westcott items she has put in the newsletter from time to time. It cost her \$4.05 to print these colored packets out then another \$12.00 to send each packet to prospective members. Out of seventeen sent she has heard back from six. She paid for this with her own money, but would now like to offer them for approximately \$5.00. Betty felt this endeavor is worth the effort as we have received six new members recently as a result. She asked if SSWDA would like to contribute toward sending out the packets since it costs her more and more each year. She felt it is well worth our efforts to promote our Westcott society and potential new members. Jim Henderson felt we should budget for promotional material for the society and proposes we put a budget amount in our treasury. Jim made the motion we set aside an annual amount of \$200.00 to off-set Betty's expenses to create and mail the packets. We did not need to vote on it because it is automatic that anything over \$200.00 would have to be approved by the board.

Shawn Westcott contacted Betty, excited about his ancestry and she told him the best thing would be to contact his own relatives. He also told her about the patent he recently had registered to have clear ice cream cones perfected, and he expects to speak with someone soon at Dairy Queen about the design. After he checked with his aunt he found out he was adopted, but said he is still proud to be a Westcott. You can find out more about Shawn Westcott online at <http://www.google.com>.

Genealogist: Jim Henderson reported that he visited the Milford Center Cemetery in New York State where he met with Russell "Rusty" Faye, the Milford Town Supervisor who oversees the cemetery. Rusty personally rebuilt the wing wall around the Westcott

vault which has been shifting over the past few years. Betty Acker suggested that Jim contact Rusty about the trust fund that was set up for the upkeep of the Milford Cemetery. There is currently no supervisory committee to keep track of how much money is in the fund.

The society sends \$15.00 to the Providence 1st Baptist Church annually at Easter for altar flowers in memory of Stukely Westcott. Lewis Westcott suggests that the society donate more money for this memorial. Betty Acker mentioned that she always had the treasurer send her the \$15.00 check then she added another \$15.00 of her own. Jim said he would ask the general meeting Saturday morning to set an initial annual amount of \$50.00 to be mailed to the church every Easter as set by the board.

Jim also reported that the Newport, Rhode Island Historical Society does not have any war records of James Westcott, even though people keep coming there to see them.

Jim brought two original Roscoe Whitman volumes of genealogy (passed down to him from Edna Lewis) that need to be restored at an approximate cost of \$100.00. Lewis O. Westcott suggested that they be restored and donated to a library. Sharon Coltey suggested that they be donated as they are, but the board did not think the library would accept them in their current condition. Betty stated that she brought to the reunion an even older book by Roscoe Whitman given to her by Ned Morris that also needs restoration. Sharon suggested that Jim check within the next two years to see how much it would cost the society to restore these books. Betty is storing the original metal printer plates for these 2 Roscoe Whitman volumes and does not know what their estimated value might be.

Jim also displayed pictures of the pennants on the J.W. Westcott boat and will see if he can get some reproductions made. Sharon Coltey said that there are many different Westcott emblems but guessed it would be okay to look into it.

Editor of the Quarterly: Bart Westcott said he did not have a report.

Webmaster: Michelle McKensie was unable to attend our meeting.

Meeting adjourned @ 10:10 pm.

*Betsey Ross Room
Holiday Inn Historic District, Philadelphia, Pa.
9:30 am July 7, 2006*

Our board meeting resumed Friday morning.

SSWDA Scholarship Loan Fund: Ned Morris reported that this fund was established in 1980 by Howard F. Westcott, and Ned read the rules concerning this loan fund. The status right now shows a balance of \$5,385.17. Four loans have been paid since July

2004 and six loans are being repaid presently with no delinquents and no applications pending. Jim Henderson recommended that we continue the next two years offering a \$2000 loan (instead of present \$1000) and Nancy Westcott seconded the motion. All agreed. This complete report is on file with the secretary.

Betty Acker brought out the original founding keystone book of genealogy which badly needs protective restoration. Betty felt that if the society decides to put the book out for public display it would fall apart. Ned wanted it where the society members could see it, so it was decided to keep it under a clear protective cover. Throughout the reunion weekend the book was available to members in the collections room by appointment.

Vacant Positions Available: Ned regretfully declined any of the open positions as he and Fran have decided it is time to just enjoy their retirement years.

Betty Acker felt we should combine the Genealogist and Registrar into one position. Ned said the ideal situation would be to bring younger people to these board meetings to orient them before they decide to take on positions of responsibility. Jim Henderson recommended not combining the two positions.

Nominating Committee of Marlin Perdue and Barlow Westcott presented the following slate of officers for 2006-2008.

President - David Seyfarth, MA
Vice President - Susan Morris, IL
Secretary - Ann Coltey, NY
Treasurer Jean-Brundage, NY
Registrar - Lewis O. Westcott, KS
Historian - Betty Acker, OH
Chaplain - Sally Winter, IA
Quarterly Editor - Elliot Leflar, VA
Genealogist - James Henderson, PA
Webmaster - Jim Leflar III, IL

President David Seyfarth moved all officers be elected by acclamation, motion passed.

Susan Morris stated that technology is a wonderful thing now that we have all the Westcott records on computer.

Bart Westcott suggested that society members need to support the Quarterly Editor by supplying him with articles and family news otherwise it is almost impossible to send out an interesting and worthwhile newsletter on a frequent basis.

We adjourned at 10:35 am.

~Submitted by Ann Coltey, Secretary

The following was written in 1994 by Margene Perdue Pierce about her Grandmother, Dorothy Collins Perdue. It was read at the meeting during the reunion in Philadelphia by Marlin Perdue.

“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 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 the 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.

I'm sure we all have memories of Grandma – Let's write them down before it is too late and send them to the newsletter.

~Submitted by Betty W. Acker, Historian

Shirley Westcott Ryan of Granby, CT is searching for information on her grandfather, Benjamin Westcott, of northern New York State. She attended a society reunion many years ago in New England and remembers relatives in the Colebrook, Connecticut area. Contact Shirley at swryan@snet.net or at 25 Fern Hollow Drive, Granby, CT. 06035.

During the last reunion several members asked about the **Westcott Coat of Arms pins**. I ordered and have received another shipment of the pins and can send them for the same price as in the past. Any member that would like to order a pin, please send a check in the amount of \$5.00 per pin to:

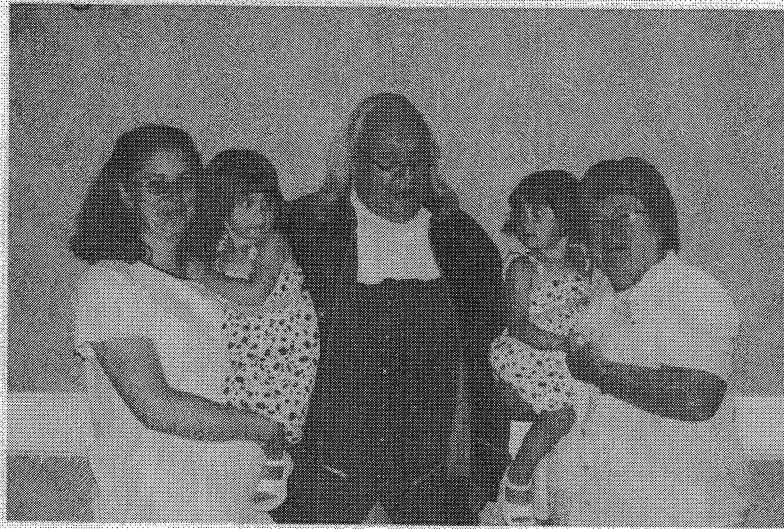
Barlow M. Westcott
411 Lakewood Circle Apt. B-1116
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Please make your check out in my name. It will take a week to ten days to receive your pins.

~Submitted by Barlow M. Westcott

Email Opt-in Announcement:

In this emerging digital age, the SSWDA recognizes that its members receive information and communications in many different ways, and that some members would prefer to receive the Westcott Quarterly Newsletter by email instead of by post. Beginning with the next *Westcott Family Quarterly*, to be published in January of 2007, the newsletter will be available by email on an opt-in basis. To receive the January 2007 newsletter and subsequent editions electronically, simply email me at eleflar@gmail.com and indicate that you would like to opt-in for electronic delivery of the newsletter.



3 GENERATIONS WITH BEN FRANKLIN
LEFT, KERRI HATFIELD PAXSON HOLDING
RACHEL PAXSON AND DIANE HATFIELD
HOLDING SARAH PAXSON