



Know Your Kindred Better

Society of
Stukely Westcott
Descendants of America

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY
JANUARY, 2014

RHODE ISLAND

Greetings cousins. As you know, our next reunion will be in Rhode Island where Stuckely made his home and became a significant landowner after leaving Massachusetts. There is much colonial history here and the Westcotts were very involved in it. Below I have posted a photo of the Newport waterfront at night.

Susan Morris along with Dave Smith and his wife, Rosemary who live in Rhode Island, have worked very hard to put together a very interesting program. A description of the activities and a registration form are found at the end of this newsletter.



Newport Rhode Island waterfront at night

DEATHS

Merle L. Moses –

Merle L. Moses, 72, sister of cousin Mavis Dodge passed away, Sept. 20, 2013 at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

She was born in East Grafton, NH, on Dec. 18, 1940, a daughter of Daniel and Inis (Gallup) Downes. She was married to Lee Moses, Sr. She is survived by a son, Lee Moses, Jr., and wife Sharon of Canaan, her mother Inis of Wentworth, NH, three sisters, Mavis of Grafton, Gloria Trash of Rumney, NH, and Carol Hill of Canaan, NH, and a brother, Stanley Downes of North Haverhill, NH., two stepsons, Ben Moses and wife Linda of Florida and Albert Moses of Oklahoma.

She was predeceased by her husband in 2003, a brother David Downes and a stepdaughter Yvonne Moses. She will be buried in Canaan Street Cemetery with her husband.

She loved feeding the birds and any wildlife that came into her yard. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the UVHS Animal Shelter, 300 Old Route 10, Enfield, NH 03748.

Inis N. Laware –

Inis N. Laware, 94, of Belmont passed away on Nov 24, 2013. Mrs. Laware was born in Orange, NH on Apr. 29, 1919, to Sylvanus R. and Ora E. (Tucker) Gallup.

She married the late Daniel H. Downes of Grafton, NH on Feb. 10, 1936. She later married Edward Laware of Lebanon, NH on Feb. 16, 1962.

She is survived by three daughters, Mavis Dodge of Grafton, NH, Carol Hill of Canaan, NH and Gloria Task of Rumney, NH, a son Stanley Downes of North Haverhill, NH, ten grandchildren and many great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren.

Inis was predeceased by her husband Edward Laware in 1994, a son, David Downes and a daughter, Merle Moses. She will be buried in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Grafton, NH.

THE J. W. WESTCOTT – A GREAT LAKES SHIP



Linda Westcott Hochschild of Ashtabula, OH sent in an article on the Great Lakes ship, the J.W. Westcott. This mail ship has appeared in the quarterly before but some cousins may not have seen it. It is still in operation.

Established in 1874, the J.W. Westcott story actually begins December 19, 1848, when John Ward Westcott was born into a prominent Michigan shipping family. John's father, David H. Westcott worked as a fireman. Ward also founded Ward's Central and Pacific Lake Line and Ward's Detroit and Lake Superior Line. Westcott's brothers were also involved in various shipping careers.

But it was John, who made the biggest impact on the Great Lakes. As a boy, he worked in his father's boat yard and later as a cabin boy. Then, at age 20, John earned his master's papers, becoming (at the time) the youngest captain on fresh water.

As a Master, Westcott understood the challenges that shipping vessels faced and was determined to improve navigation on the lakes and developed what was to become his legacy.

Westcott knew that shipping companies kept their destinations closely guarded. So much so, that usually, even the ship's masters were unaware of where their journeys would end. This posed a major problem, since conditions could change on a moment's notice. Ports might be congested, unloading equipment could break down or a company's ore supply might become low.

John had the idea of a marine reporting agency that would transmit destination and dock information to passing vessels. From his dock on Belle Isle, Westcott would row out to passing boats. A rope and bucket would be thrown over the sides of the visiting ship and he would place messages in the bucket, which was quickly hoisted back up—thus the phrase, "mail in the pail."

Over the years, the business grew and services expanded. In 1948, J.W. Westcott became an official U.S. Postal Service mail boat, eventually earning the world's first floating postal ZIP code—48222.

Today, J.W. Westcott continues to serve the Great Lakes marine community providing everything from the obvious to the ridiculous and everything in between.

ROGER WILLIAMS

Betty Acker sends this bit of history re Roger Williams and the early days of Providence, Rhode Island.

Taken from "The Gentle Radical"
A Biography of Roger Williams, by Cyclone Covey

Page 133 says, "Williams names the first householders with him at Providence as"my loving friends and neighbors", Stukely Westcott, William Arnold, Thomas James, Robert Cole, John Greene, John Throckmorton, William Harris, William Carpenter, Thomas Olney, Francis Weston, Richard Waterman and Ezekiel Holyman.

Page 134, "Thirteen householders in the population of thirty-two in the first year formed the first genuine democracy -- also the first church-divorced and conscience-free community-- in modern history."

The simple frame cottages, backed by cornfields on high ground rising to steep bluffs, faced eastward across the broad expanse of the river. At the end of 1638 the village had 85 residents; in 1640, 120. It remained small, pig- and mosquito- ridden , dirt-laned, isolated, insecure, poor, narrow, contentious, mean; but however mixed the blessing, it was for the moment the freest place, perhaps, anywhere in the world.

Sent to me by Ken Coyle
Betty W. Acker, Society Historian

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued quarterly or thereabouts through the year with news of the Society.

Free to members

Non-members \$10.00 annually.

www.sswda.org

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SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA

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SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA

2014 REUNION SCHEDULE <> June 27 – June 29, 2014

Providence/Warwick, Rhode Island

Thursday, June 26:

• **Board Meeting**

Board members arrive to attend the late afternoon Board Meeting.

- Hospitality Room and displays will be open for registration, information, and an opportunity for “cousins” to greet each other and visit.

Friday, June 29:

- Hospitality Room will be open for registration, information, and an opportunity for “cousins” to greet each other and visit.

• **10:00am – 5:00pm**

Newport Excursion including Save the Bay Lighthouse Tour and Ocean Drive

- OR - Self-Guided Tours of the Local Area

• **6:00pm**

A fun evening to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones at our cash bar and ***Taste of New England***: enjoy delicious delicacies such as Clams Casino, Creamy Clam Chowder, and a delectable selection of entrees, veggies and dessert. Dinner will be followed by an entertaining local presentation, giving us fascinating insight into the lives of our ancestors. In addition, Cousin David Leflar has once again volunteered to orchestrate some fun activities for the school-age children among us assuring that a grand time will be had by all!

Saturday, June 28:

- Hospitality Room will be open for registration, information, and an opportunity for “cousins” to greet each other and visit.

• **8:00am – 9:30am**

The SSWDA Membership Meeting and Memorial Service to follow.

We are offering an optional Continental Breakfast Coffee Cart during the Meeting.

• **10:00am – 5:00pm**

Newport Excursion including Save the Bay Lighthouse Tour and Ocean Drive

- OR - Self-Guided Tours of the Local Area

• **6:00pm**

Gather for **cocktails** at the cash bar, followed by our **Banquet** and the introduction of the new Society officers. Judy Howard, an energetic and delightful local DJ, will provide music for our dancing and listening pleasure.

Sunday, June 29:

• **8:00am – 10:00am**

Enjoy a ***Farewell Cousins Breakfast Buffet***, as we get in one more visit, make our final good-byes, and bring another terrific SSWDA Reunion to a close.

Last Day to Register is May 23, 2014

Questions? Contact Susan Morris: susan.morris@mac.com or 847.304.1755

Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America
40th Biennial Reunion
Providence/Warwick, Rhode Island
June 27 – June 29, 2014

2014 REUNION LODGING

LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION!

Radisson Hotel Providence Airport
2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886

401-739-3000

<http://www.radisson.com/warwick-hotel-ri-02886/riproair>

Perfectly located adjacent to T.F. Green International Airport (PVD) and minutes from downtown and the beach, the Radisson Hotel Providence Airport offers a perfect central location for all the myriad things for us to see and do. This special hotel is a Johnson & Wales University Education Facility, and the service as well as on-site food is over the top. In addition, there is a Legal Seafood restaurant right next door!

We have negotiated a terrific room rate of **\$99.00/night for Deluxe Rooms** and **\$119.00/night for Executive Suites**.

Make reservations by calling the hotel directly. The hotel has also offered our group this special rate before and after the actual Reunion itself – June 23-July 4, for those who may want to extend their stay. Free ample parking on site is available.

Hotel Registration Deadline: Friday, May 23, 2014

INTERLINK TRANSPORTATION HUB

The Providence Airport and the Hotel Radisson Providence Airport are located within walking distance of the INTERLINK, an intermodal transportation hub that offers commuter rail (weekdays), buses (local and express to Boston and Providence), and car rental. The INTERLINK is located just off I-95 and U.S. 1.

Last Day to Register is May 23, 2014

Questions? Contact Susan Morris: susan.morris@mac.com or 847.304.1755

2014 WESTCOTT REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Enclose this form with a check/money order for all fees. Mail to Susan Morris at address below.

REUNION REGISTRATION JUNE 27 – 29, 2014	Number	Cost <small>Tax and gratuity are included in the Meal Prices</small>	Total
Adults		\$5.00 per person	\$
Children under 18		No Charge	

FRIDAY OR SATURDAY ALL DAY TOUR: SAVE THE BAY LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE AND NEWPORT, RI, 10 MILE DRIVE. WE CAN ACCOMMODATE 30 ON EITHER DAY, ON A FIRST-COME BASIS.			
Friday Tour (includes lunch / motor coach)		\$60.00 per person	\$
Saturday Tour (includes lunch / motor coach)		\$60.00 per person	\$

FRIDAY EVENING: A TASTE OF NEW ENGLAND BUFFET (CASH BAR)			
Adult Appetizers and Dinner Buffet		\$33.00 per person	\$
Children's Plated Meal (ages 4-10): Chicken Tenders, Salad, French Fries, Cookies, Milk		\$15.00 per person	\$

SATURDAY MORNING: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST COFFEE CART			
Adults		\$12.00 per person	\$
Children (ages 4-10):		\$ 4.00 per person	\$

SATURDAY EVENING: BANQUET AND DANCING (CASH BAR)			
Pan Seared Herbed Chicken w/Gnocchi & Green Beans		\$38.00 per person	\$
Grilled Pork Chop w/ Fingerling Potatoes & Green Beans		\$38.00 per person	\$
Grilled Salmon w/ Fingerling Potatoes & Green Beans		\$38.00 per person	\$
Children's Meal (ages 4-10): Mac n' Cheese, Salad, Ice Cream, Milk		\$15.00 per person	\$

SUNDAY MORNING: FAREWELL COUSINS BREAKFAST BUFFET			
Adults		\$23.00 per person	\$
Children (ages 4-10):		\$14.00 per person	\$

Total -- check or money order (do not send cash)	\$
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Print attendees names and state as you want them on the Name Tag: (Use the back of the paper for additional names.)

NAME	STATE

In case we need to contact you:

NAME	
STREET ADDRESS / APARTMENT	
CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE	
PHONE NUMBER	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	

DEADLINE FOR HOTEL AND REUNION REGISTRATIONS: FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2014

Make checks payable to and mail to: **Susan Morris**
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