



*Know Your Kindred Better*

Society of  
Stukely Westcott  
Descendants of America

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY  
APRIL, 2014

**RHODE ISLAND**

Greetings Cousins!

I hope you are all looking forward to the upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial Reunion of the Society. Susan Morris and Rhode Island residents, Dave and Rosemary Smith have put a lot of hard work into it and have put together a very interesting program of events. Although Stuckely originally settled in Massachusetts it was Rhode Island where he spent most of his life.

The Reunion schedule and all of the particulars re the events, registration, hotel arrangements... are included at the end of this newsletter. This is the last newsletter you will receive before the Reunion. If you have not registered please do so as soon as possible so we can get a good count of those who will be attending and the events they want to attend.

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.

## MEMBER UPDATES

### **New Member:**

On behalf of all of the cousins I would like to give a hearty welcome to the Society to Verne Louis Thayer of Milford, Massachusetts.

### **Births:**

Mavis Dodge of Grafton, NH announces the birth of her first great grandchild, Emily Victoria Frost; the daughter of Courtney and Michael Frost. Emily was born on January 22, 2014.

### **Proud Grandfather Ellis Westcott:**

Army Captain Daniel Westcott was greeted by Mary Czarsty on his arrival back in the States after a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Dan, a 2008 graduate of West Point and a helicopter pilot , was with the 10<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade – Task Force Phoenix based at Bagram Airfield. His previous overseas tour was in South Korea. He is the son of David and Carmella Westcott of Watertown, CT.

## DEATHS

### **Colleen Edixon Hathaway:**

I am writing to inform the newsletter of my Mom's death three years ago on April 7, 2011.

Colleen Edixon Hathaway was born September 3, 1923, in Ashtabula, Ohio to Gail (Westcott) and Ralph Edixon. She married Sam Hathaway on May 13, 1943, and had a lovely daughter Cheryl and then two sons, Reg and Sam.

Her life revolved around the YMCA where she sat on the Board of Directors for years, and volunteered as a swim instructor for over forty years. She enjoyed her big backyard where the neighborhood children gathered after school to play baseball. She played Bridge and was a favorite in local bridge clubs. She lived a full and rich life and was preceded in death by husband Sam in 2009. ( Submitted by Cheryl Hathaway)

## DEATHS

### Richard "Dick" Bruckman



Richard "Dick" Allen Bruckman, passed away Tuesday, February 4, 2014 on his 79th birthday at Mercy Medical Center, due to complications following surgery.

A visitation will be held from 5:00-7:00 PM. Friday, February 7 at Hamilton's Southtown Funeral Home, 5400 SW 9th Street, Des Moines. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM Saturday, February 8 at Carlisle United Methodist Church, 405 School Street in Carlisle, Iowa. Burial will be at a later date in Ohio.

Dick was born on February 4, 1935 in Saybrook, Ohio, son of Vernon and Boneda (Cummings) Bruckman. He graduated from Kingsville High School in Ohio. After attending Rio Grande College, he returned to Kingsville to teach high school math and coach from 1957-1964. He then accepted a position with Diamond Alkali, which brought his family to Iowa in 1966, settling in Carlisle. Over the years, Dick was a New York Life insurance agent, was employed at Wright Chevrolet, Reed Cadillac-Olds, and most recently Staples.

Dick's love of the outdoors included gardening, hunting, fishing, bee keeping and picking berries. He earned the Bridge Life Master Certificate in 2009. He proudly served as President of the Carlisle School Board and was instrumental in sanctioning the Carlisle Little League. He was an all-around athlete and avid sports fan who cheered loudest for his Cubs.

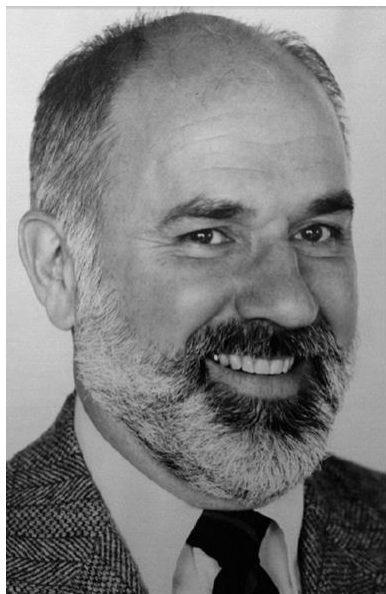
Dick is survived and lovingly remembered by his wife Nancy (Westcott) of 55 years, Ankeny; children Marianne (Ron) Foell, Valerie (Curt) Daily and Matt (Michelle) Bruckman; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; siblings, Henry (Marlene) Bruckman, Judy (Rich) Olah, Becky (Roy) Harmon and Vickie Newbold; and sister-in-law Jeanne Bruckman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Raymond, and grandson Alex Foell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Carlisle Library Foundation, P.O. Box 99, Carlisle, Iowa 50047 or to the charity of your choice.

## DEATHS

### Lawrence W. Johnson:



Lawrence W. Johnson a Hewlett Packard materials engineer, has died at age 89. He died on March 22, at peace in his home in Los Altos, with his children at his side, surrounded by the jazz music he loved.

Larry was born in 1924 and grew up in Washington D.C., son of Dr. Aaron G. Johnson, a Dept. of Agriculture cereal crops scientist and Ruth M. (Westcott) Johnson, a studied

pianist and loving homemaker. At an early age he began riding the trolley car to the local music store at the bottom of Rodman Street to purchase mono singles of the budding jazz genre. He would continue to collect singles, LP's and eventually CD s till his final days.

He went to school at Alice Deal Jr. High, then Woodrow Wilson High School, where even in the early days his inquisitive nature had him and his friends building Tesla coils in class. He joined the cadets, played cello, and graduated in 1942. In

1942, Larry received a Westinghouse Cooperative Scholarship enabling his attendance at Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University). It was in his freshman year that the love of electricity 'burned energetically in his heart; he wrote in a note to a college friend. Vacuum tubes circuits caught his eye. WWII got in the way, and after basic training in Florida, he was chosen to spend two quarters at Stanford University as part of the Army Special Training Program, studying electrical engineering. He served at Oceanside, San Luis Obispo, Monterrey and the Presidio in San Francisco before being discharged in 1946, when he returned to college to finish his degrees. He graduated with a BS (Physics) '48 and a MS (EE) '49.

Larry worked on Carnegie's 200-inch cyclotron project in Saxonburg, PA, where he met Isabel Beck, daughter of Pennzoil Oil refiner, John Beck. They were married in 1947. Their happiness was brief, unfortunately, when Isabel passed away in 1955. Now a widower and footloose, Larry, who had been working for Bendix in York, PA, took interest in moving back west. He started working for Hewlett Packard in 1956.

**Lawrence W. Johnson:** (cont'd)

He worked in oscilloscopes, and later moved to Materials Management and the world of semi-conductors, creating a team that developed HP's company-wide 'Preferred Parts Listing' which was innovative and revolutionary for the time. He retired from HP after 30 enjoyable years as a Materials Engineer, and later worked in the same capacity at Trimble Navigation, eventually retiring 3 more times.

It was at HP that Larry met the love of his life, Esther (Wilson) Hanson, a young widow herself with a young son, Brad. They married in 1957 and built their first of three Los Altos houses. They shared 54 years together until Esther passed at home in 2011. Theirs was a charmed union, full of love, family, travel, corgis, and beach houses. He was very proud of his wife, children and grandchildren, and loved spending time with his HP retiree friends.

Larry had lived in Los Altos for 57 years at the time of his passing, and was a member of The HP Retired Employees Club, Beta Theta Pi fraternity, and the Society of Stuckely Westcott Descendants.

Predeceased by brother Lewis R. Johnson, sisters Elizabeth W. Johnson and Marian Chase, Larry is survived by three children and five grandchildren; son Douglas S. Johnson of Mountain View (Alexander, Victoria, Jack, all of Sunnyvale); daughter, Elizabeth R. J. M. Mamer (Phillip) of Caldwell, ID (Duncan, Annapolis, MD, and Derrick, Moscow, ID); and stepson Bradley W. Hanson of Cobb, CA. A gathering to celebrate Larry's life will be held on April 27th at 2pm at the family home in Los Altos. A private ceremony for the scattering of ashes of both Larry and Esther over Monterrey Bay will happen in early summer.

**SPECIAL DVD OFFER FROM THE WARWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

You may or may not know that all of the artifacts that I have gathered over the years have been sent to this site of so many early Westcotts. Also the early records that Carol-Ann Lantz had lovingly gathered over many years were sent to me and I in turn forwarded them to this historical society also.

The Warwick Historical Society has put together a DVD of all of these "treasures" and they are making it available to us for \$25.00 per DVD. They would like to have them available at the reunion to give out then and save shipping charges and all you have to do is send me your order via email (or postal service) and pick up your DVD at the reunion. (and pay for it there)

Email: [betw@prodigy.net](mailto:betw@prodigy.net)  
or: Betty W. Acker  
4345 Harrington Dr.  
Zanesville, OH 43701

**FROM THE ALASKA NATIVE NEWS:  
DOES ANYONE KNOW THIS WESTCOTT “COUSIN”?**

Gene Wescott, a Professor Emeritus of Geophysics and long-time employee at the UAD Geophysical Institute, died in Hawaii on Feb. 23, 2014. He had been with the GI since 1958. He conducted pioneering work on “sprites” – the mysterious optical flashes that occur above thunderstorms – in the mid 1990s, with fellow GI researchers Davis Sentman and Daniel Osborne. The team captured sprites on video, providing conclusive evidence of the phenomena.

Wescott also participated in activities related to two international polar years (1957-1958 and 2007-2009) during his time with the institute. He retired in 1997, but like many GI scientists, continued to work on projects and kept an office at the facility. Wescott hitchhiked to Alaska from Boulder, Colorado, in 1958 after writing to the Geophysical Institute Director Christian T. Elvey about a position. He left for Alaska before getting a response. He landed a job in Denali National Park, but once the job ended, he began his career at the GI as a research assistant. He earned both his master’s degree and a Doctorate from UAF, in 1960 and 1964 respectively.

“I came up to climb mountains, and I knew there was a Geophysical Institute there where I might get a summer job after climbing,” Wescott said in a 2007 interview. With the exception of a three-year leave of absence at NASA and a sabbatical or two, Gene Wescott dedicated nearly 50 years to the GI and UAF research endeavors. Wescott was 82.

-- Society Historian, Betty W. Acker

**DEDICATION OF THE STUKELY WESTCOTT CEMETERY SITE #164**

As it stands right now, the actual dedication of this site will be held on Saturday, June 28th at 2:00 in the afternoon. Even if you are not attending the reunion you should try to attend this special event. It is one of those “once in a life time” occurrences. Stuckely Westcott was buried there 337 years ago!

## TURTLE EXPEDITION UPDATE

### **Hello friends and family:**

We just wanted to let you know that we are in Soufli, Greece near the Turkish border. Soufli was once an important silk production town. Today, a fabulous museum tells the history. Of course, being on the adventure of the Silk Road, we had to stop here.

Tomorrow, Friday, we are headed into Turkey. This should give us enough time to take care of the paper work for leaving the truck in a government compound (mandatory) while leaving the country for a month. We also visit the Espar dealer in Istanbul because our D5 Hydronic hot water heater decided to quit. If we can do this before we leave, he can order spare parts if need be while we are in the States. Other things we need to start looking into is visas for the countries between Turkey and China. We have heard it's easier to do this in Istanbul than further on but we have to be careful because often times, visas are only valid for three months from the time issued to the time you have to get to the country.

It looks like we'll be entering China August 28 from Kirgystan across the Taklamakan desert, then Xian (Terra Cotta warriors) all the way to the Yellow Sea, back to Beijing. We will exit China September 29 into Mongolia. From there....only Zeus knows....

We are in California March 22 to April 22.

Take care,  
Monika

### **Hi Wescott cousins**

We are still in Greece. Right now, I'm waiting for Gary's Turkey visa application to go through so I was snooping on BBC and read about the missing airline. It said:

The BBC's Richard Westcott describes how the plane disappeared from an air traffic tacking website. You find the report under: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-26527439> Just thought you might like to see this name!

We'll be in CA from 3/22 to 4/22 to take care of a whole bunch of stuff, business, etc. Still way behind in blogs....

Monika

Monika B. Wescott  
The Turtle Expedition, Unltd.  
[www.turtleexpedition.com](http://www.turtleexpedition.com)  
530-265-3485

## **HISTORICALLY SPEAKING**

**RE: JUNE 27 – JUNE 29, 2014**

During this year's reunion there are some places in Rhode Island you might want to visit.

The bible that Stuckely Westcott and his family brought with them from England in 1635 is now at the Rhode Island Historical Society library in Providence. Arrangements will be made so that it will be available for viewing. Information will be in the hospitality room.

Next, the First Baptist Church in Providence was founded by Roger Williams and his followers. The first named was Stuckely Westcott.

In celebration of the 300th year of the arrival of Stuckely and Julianna in America our society placed a monument on their home lot in Warwick. The location is not far from our motel and a map will be available to visit the site.

A project is underway that will possibly result with a historical marker being placed at the Stuckely Westcott home site and burial ground. More on this later.

Also, in Newport is the burial site of Damaris Westcott Arnold and her husband who was the first governor of Rhode Island.

Last, but not least, your historian has recently begun working with the Warwick, Rhode Island Historical Society to organize a display showing the history of the original settlers and their descendants. Their location is not far from our motel and a map will be provided.

Hope to see everyone in Rhode Island in June!

Betty W. Acker  
Society Historian



**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.

• **2:00pm**

**Dedication of the Stukely Westcott Cemetery Site**

(Note: Saturday Lighthouse Tour has been cancelled)

• **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

<b>FRIDAY OR SATURDAY ALL DAY TOUR:</b> 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	\$

<b>FRIDAY EVENING: A TASTE OF NEW ENGLAND BUFFET (CASH BAR)</b>			
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	\$

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

<b>SATURDAY EVENING: BANQUET AND DANCING (CASH BAR)</b>			
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	\$

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

<b>Total -- check or money order (do not send cash)</b>	\$
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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	

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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

Make checks payable to and mail to: **Susan Morris**  
**731 Lill Street**  
**Barrington, IL 60010**

**Phone: (847) 304-1755 / Cell: (847) 767-0162**

**Email: susan.morris@mac.com**

**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](http://www.sswda.org)

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**SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT  
DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA**

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