



*Know Your Kindred Better*

# Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America

## THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY SPRING, 2015

### THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

Greetings Cousins. Spring is finally here and I hope this finds all of you in good health and good spirits. Your editor and his friend Sherry have returned from our trip to Ireland and have many fond memories of that country. Of course many of us have Irish roots in addition to the English that is a part of all of us. Ireland also fought to be free of the British and finally accomplished that in 1920 when Michael Collins signed the documents and the Irish Republic was founded.

It is impossible to convey the awesome beauty of these cliffs. Behind me stands O'Brien's Tower which you will see farther into this issue of the Quarterly.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

*A message from SSWDA President, Susan Morris:*

Greetings, Westcott Cousins! I have several pieces of news to share with you this Spring.

### **Officers**

First and most importantly, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to our Treasurer, Jean Brundage, and her cousin, Dana Matteson, for their service to us for over 14 years.

I am most honored to announce that via email, your Board has approved the following Officers and Directors of The Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America:

President: Susan C. Morris, Barrington, IL (susan.morris@mac.com)

Vice-President: Lynn Hulkow, Marshall, MI

Secretary: Sharon Whitlock, Chesterfield, VA

Treasurer: Bart Westcott, Palo Alto, CA

Historian: Betty Westcott Acker, Zanesville, OH

Registrar: Rick Beirman, Carthage, NY

Chaplain: Dianne Hatfield, Adamsville, OH

Quarterly Editor: Lyle Wescott, Holly Springs, MS

Webmaster: Jim Leflar, LaGrange, IL (webmaster@sswda.org)

SSWDA Scholarship Program: Edmund (Pete) Bentson, Arlington, VA

Youth Activities: David E. Leflar, Atlanta, GA

### **Directors:**

Connie Stirling, White Bear Lake, MN

Jeff Westcott, Indianapolis, IN

Laura Westcott, Forest Park, IL

### **Past Presidents**

Ailene Picheco, Merritt Island, FL

David Westcott Seyfarth, Franklin, MA FL

Barlow Westcott, Colorado Springs, CO FL

### **Westcott Society Scholarship**

I am sorry to report that we did not receive any applicants for our \$2500 Stukely Westcott Society Scholarship this year. Perhaps with Board of Directors' approval, we will be able to offer two scholarships next year.

## Society Website

Your webmaster, Jim Leflar, has been busy "behind the scenes" with enhancements to our online presence. If you haven't done so recently, please check in every so often at [www.SSWDA.org](http://www.SSWDA.org)

I asked Jim to share a bit of what he has been working on as well as some of his ideas for the future, and he sent me the following.

Update on the website: [www.SSWDA.org](http://www.SSWDA.org)

### 1. Enhancements we have made to the Society web site since June 2014

- We launched the new website around June 2014 (maybe a little before), which involved quite a bit:
  - Rehomed web servers & configuration; handed over "the keys" to Reed Powell who is managing data entry.
  - Copied over all content & retired the "old" website.
- Added Updates from 2014 reunion:
  - Scholarship info & setup of [scholarship@sswda.org](mailto:scholarship@sswda.org) email.
  - Stukely Westcott Burial Site Dedication information
  - Pictures from the reunion
  - Save the Date for 2016

### 2. Additions we are planning for the future.

- Fixes to handling of URL displays
- Create "Members Only" and "Board Only" sections (separate from public site content)
- Post newsletter archives (for Members Only, although we can vote on whether to make this public)
- Online genealogy; see how you are connected to Stukely or any other Society member! (need to determine if we host this ourselves or link to Ancestry.com or similar site)
- Automation of member registration & payments, i.e., Website becomes THE database where all membership information is housed; this will include security to prevent data from being hacked or made public.
- Web administration & management of memberships & finances.
- Inventory & annotation of Historical Society items (work in progress)
- Links to PDFs & other websites
- List of cemeteries & gravestones (or link to FindAGrave website)

Jim is available via email ([webmaster@sswda.org](mailto:webmaster@sswda.org)) if you would like to share any of your ideas for enhancing our website.

## DEATHS

Cousin Mavis Dodge of Grafton, NH sent me the following two obituaries of cousins who have gone on:

### **Edward Marshal Westcott**

Lynchburg, Va. — Edward Marshal Westcott, 83, of Lynchburg, Va, formerly of Enfield, N.H., passed away on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at his residence surrounded by his family. He was the loving and devoted husband of Yvonne Blain Westcott for 50 years.

Born in Walpole, N.H., he was a son of the late Clarence and Charlotte Belanga Westcott. He was a US Army Veteran having served in the Korean War and was retired from Dartmouth College after 34 years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Glenn Westcott and his wife, Maria, of Santa Teresa, N.M., and their children, Audrey and Brandon; a daughter, Pamela Crawford and her husband, Kenneth, of Amherst, Va., and their children, Luke and Candice; a great granddaughter, Kathaleya; a brother, Erving Westcott and his wife, Wilma, of Laconia, N.H.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was conducted at 11 a.m., Saturday, November 8, 2014, in the chapel of Heritage Funeral Service, with inurnment to follow in Fort Hill Memorial Park, Lynchburg, VA.

### **Muriel June Foster** July 26, 1938 - March 31, 2015

Grafton, NH-Muriel June Foster, 76, formerly of West Canaan, passed away Tuesday March 31, 2015. She was born on July 26, 1938 in Enfield, NH to Morris A. & Hope M. (Chase) Wescott. Muriel grew up in Enfield and Married Eugene W. Foster Sr., Muriel helped operate Foster Concrete Products on Goose Pond Road for thirty plus years. She enjoyed snowmobiling with her husband, camping, going to yard sales and most recently painting.

She is survived by her mother Hope Wescott, two daughters, Leah Foster-Desroche and her husband Michael and BJ Foster-Zehr and her husband David. Sisters Ellen Barker, Jeannie Langord, Charlotte Taylor and Patty Leonard, and Brother Morris (Sonny) Wescott. Seven grandchildren, Mariel Meier, Danielle Desroche, Michaela Desroche, Tom Desroche, Ashley Zarah-McKinney, April Erica Arnold and Seannah Foster Arnold, four great grandsons Connor, Andrew, Bentley and Grant, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by her Husband Eugene W. Foster Sr., her father Morris Wescott, a daughter Diana Lee Foster, a son Eugene W. "Buzzy" Foster Jr., two brothers Alonzo Wescott and Neil Wescott.

There will be no calling hours, family and friends are invited to Muriel's memorial service on Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 10 am at the Enfield Methodist Church, the Rev. Peter Parent will officiate. Committal prayers will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by the Ricker Funeral Home & Crematory of Lebanon. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Listen Community Services 60 Hanover Street, Lebanon, NH 03766 or by visiting [www.listencommunityservices.org](http://www.listencommunityservices.org)

PHOTOS FROM THE EDITOR'S TRIP TO IRELAND



Cahir Castle



Cahir Castle: Notice the bow slit to accommodate either longbows or crossbows.



Blarney Castle

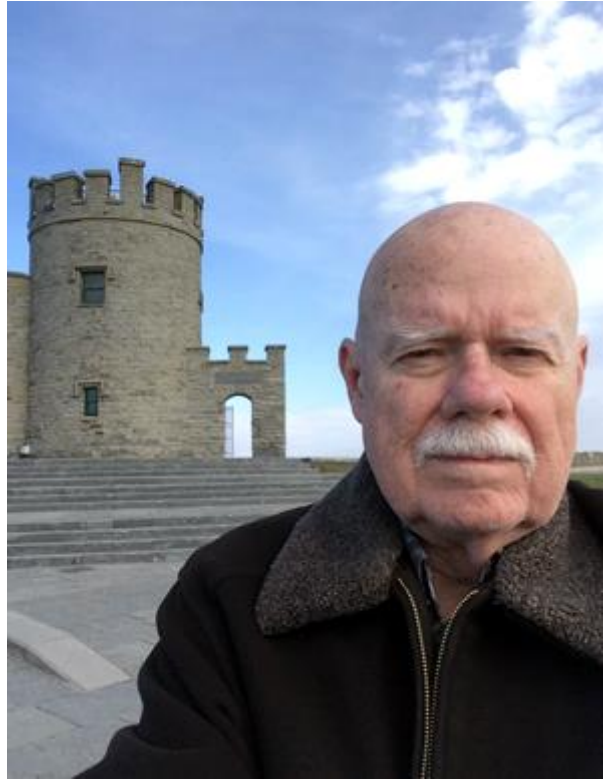


Kissing the Blarney Stone

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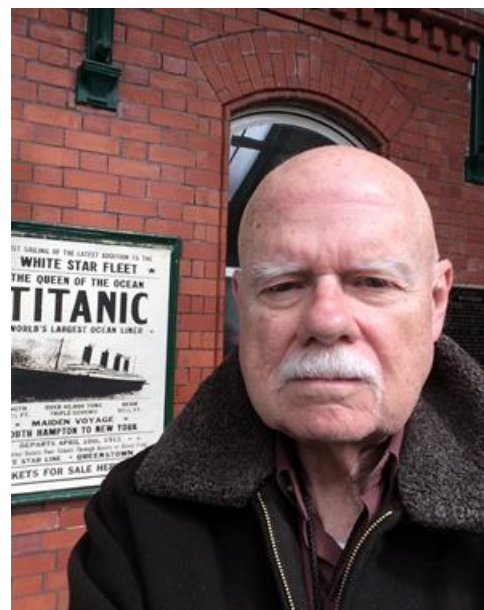
O'Brien's Tower at a distance



O'Brien's Tower up close



Monastery in Glendalough founded in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century by St. Kevin.



Cobh, County Cork. The last stop before making that ill-fated crossing.

I decide to stay behind.

## CONNECTING WITH OUR ANCESTRY

In a letter addressed to our Treasurer, cousin Jim Wescott writes about the importance of sharing the resources of our geneology.

Dear Cousin Jean

2 Feb 2015

Enclosed is my 2015 check for 10 \$

I have forwarded the latest newsletter to various Wescott relatives and Hopefully a few may join .

I do feel that the Society is really missing out A LOT in not offering the Cousins a means to find out info on our past . I ,as I am sure many , belong To various genealogical sites- I am in Ancestry , for about 10 years , and also Several other sites. I know last year I emailed Lyle Wescott about this same thing and he agreed that it would be nice/ great for some type of Wescott Society site we could search for hints etc –ALSO if any of the present members are in Ancestry etc so we can tap their trees for those hidden gems- Perhaps if we knew which members also belonged to Ancestry etc – we could Exchange info via emails etc , and not be overly concerned about hacking etc . Would it be possible to determine which of the Society members do belong To Ancestry etc..

I Also wrote him about getting a picture of the site of the Stukely Wescott Grave stone - Still can't find anything about it- it would be nice to insert on his Profile page – with any stories/ info etc-

ALSO - I like most, will probably NEVER, be able to get to the R I place where ALL the Wescott books/ info etc is now stored – It would really be great if they could be scanned or what ever so we could look at them –I have Many questions come up during my research – presently doing about 8 different family trees–almost every day for at least a few hours –keeps me off the streets- Now ALL that info just lies back there on shelves for posterity and goes to Waste for the rest of us.

Are their any other books , I bought the large red Westcott Family tree book Last year, are their any other type books offered by the Society .

Again –I really feel a lot of possible help/ info is out there – but not being Conveyed OR KNOWN by the members--- please forward this to who ever is involved In any type endeavors –

Thanks -----Jim Wescott – 20 Howe Crossing , Festus, Mo – 63028



Editor's note: At last year's reunion in Rhode Island I purchased a CD at the Westcott House/Museum which included copies of all of the documents and items in their collection. I think I paid about \$20 for it. I don't even recall the name of the place but I'm sure that The Warwick Historical Society would be able to help.

## HOBBY CORNER

Some while back a member suggested that we have a Hobby Corner in which members might discuss their particular hobbies or interests which might stike a similar interest in other members. It might also nurture collaboration among members who have the same or similar interests. I would be very interested if some of you would submit items along these lines to me for publication. *ed.*

## A NOTE OF THANKS

The editor would like to express his sincere thanks to Dana Matteson for all of his help in getting the Quarterly out. He has been the one to get the electronic edition posted and has recently volunteered to do the formatting for the print edition. *ed.*

### THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

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

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

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### SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA

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