
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 43 Issue 1

Spring 2010

This issue starts the 43rd year of publication of the Weedman Newsletter! It seems there are fewer print publications these days but this one has survived.

With this issue, the *Weedman Newsletter* will enter its 43rd year of publication!

This all started in 1967 when **Paul** and **Marianne Montgomery** innocently started a publication aimed at sharing family and genealogical information on the Weedman family. After Paul died, Marianne continued with to put out the quarterly publication until she retired in 2005. **Chantal Weedman** and her dad, **William Weedman**, took the reins for a short time. In 2006, Nick Weedman became the editor.

Although our print version doesn't reach as many subscribers as it once did, we believe we have far more readers of the on-line version. In this issue, we will highlight comments received recently from those who found us on our web site, www.weedman.org.

And so, the journey continues.....

Subscription Renewals Due

In the first edition of each year, we remind subscribers to send a donation of \$5.00 per year to continue to receive the Newsletter. We are doing the same this year.

For those who are computer savvy, we are going to offer an alternate way of getting the Newsletter. The on line version will be offered at no cost to those inclined to get the publication in that manner.

Here is how we will handle on-line subscribers. We ask that you send an e-mail to Editor Nick Weedman (nick@weedman.org) and ask to receive notification that a new issue of the Weedman Newsletter has been posted to the web site. We will compile a mailing list for those subscribers and once a new issue is posted, an e-mail will be sent advising it is ready for viewing.

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Many will prefer to receive the standard paper copy and the cost of this will remain, as it has for 42 years at \$5.00. We will encourage new subscribers to use the on-line version but will still offer the standard hard copy to those who prefer.

So, if you want to receive an e-mail when the Newsletter is uploaded to the web site, a simple e-mail to Nick Weedman will trigger such an action.

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Chelsea Weedman in San Diego County Swim Meet

RANCHO PENASQUITOS CA — Anyone wanting a sneak peek of what the CIF San Diego Section swim meet will look like later this year had their chance Saturday at the Sundevil Invitational at Mt. Carmel High.

There were 18 schools and more than 500 competitors at the annual event, which is considered the region's top regular-season invitational in boys and girls swimming.

"This invitational really gives you a chance to see how you're going to respond to top competition," said Mt. Carmel coach and event organizer Dan Peck. "I think this is indicative of what you're going to see at CIF."

It figures then that county powerhouses

like Carlsbad, which has won seven consecutive CIF Division I titles in boys swimming, and Cathedral Catholic, which has two straight CIF Division II titles in girls competition, were there soaking up the sun and early-season success the event offers.

Carlsbad coach Jim Barton said he was "pleased" with his team's swimmers, especially standout Colin Smith. Smith, who led the Lancers' water polo squad to the Division I title last year and broke the school's record for goals in a season with 146, flourished in the 100-yard butterfly and 200 freestyle events. The senior placed sixth and seventh, respectively, in those races at last year's CIF Championship and is hoping to make great strides this season.

"For me, I just like to see my times getting better," Smith said. "Winning right now isn't necessarily the goal."

For a standout like Cathedral's **Chelsea**

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Chelsea Weedman continues to excel in competitive swimming in California. She is headed to Penn State University in the Fall.

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Weedman, winning just comes naturally. The senior has won three straight CIF titles in the 100 breaststroke and two straight in the 200 individual medley. "Chelsea's work ethic and attitude are what set her apart," said Dons coach Jeff Owen. "She's always happy and always working hard. She's also probably the most competitive person I've ever met."

*Source: North County Times, San Diego County, CA
March 21, 2010*

Names in the News

Hannah Weedman Named Illinois All State Class 1A Basketball Player

February 23, 2010. The news **Hannah Weedman** had been waiting for arrived Tuesday.

The Knoxville High School center was named Associated Press first-team all-state in Class 1A after averaging 14.7 points, 8.1 rebounds and 6.7 blocks this season for the sixth-rated Blue Bullets.

"I made honorable mention last year so it's quite a big jump," said the 6-foot-4 Evansville recruit, who helped guide Knoxville to a 24-7 season. "Yeah, I'm surprised because there's a lot of talented girls in the state of Illinois."

Monmouth-Roseville senior Rebecca Gillen was named second team in Class 2A while Ridgewood junior Ella Teel was honorable mention in Class 1A.

Gillen averaged 15.1 points, seven rebounds and three steals for the Titans. "She's a four-year starter for us so she basically knew what we wanted to do on the floor," Monmouth-Roseville coach Jim Cole said. "With her athletic ability, she had to go up against a lot of girls bigger than her and she was still able to score 15 points a game."

A guard, Teel leads third-ranked Ridgewood (31-2) in scoring at 11.2 points and has been a driving force for a Spartans team that will play in the state semifinals this weekend at Redbird Arena in Normal.

Knoxville coach Matt Gibson said **Weedman** is the first Knoxville girls basketball player to earn first-team all-state honors. Haley Jones earned honorable mention all-state in 2008. "Teams played us 95 percent of the time zone and that had everything to do with Hannah," Gibson said. "Everybody's No. 1 goal was to stop her and see if the rest of our players could score."

A four-year starter, Weedman was joined on the first team by Brimfield's Paige Spietz, Annawan's Kelly Buresh, Hinckley-Big Rock's Jenna Thorp and Savannah Piety of Fisher.

"I was just trying to do the best I could this season, just knowing that it was my last," Weedman said. "Making a state team should be every girl's goal."

*Source: Galesburg (IL) Register-Mail February 23, 2010
By Zack Creglow*

Obituary

Adrian Weedman



Adrian "Doc" Weedman Aged 89 years, passed peacefully in Marysville, CA, on February 10, 2010. He was the last surviving sibling of a family of seven children. Doc is survived by his wife, **Nancy** of Marysville, his daughter from Texas, **Tracy "Toddy" Lynn**, granddaughter, **Lisa**,

(Continued on page 4)

Hannah Weedman was awarded an athletic scholarship to the University of Evansville (IN) University where she will enroll this fall.

We are pleased to publicize the upcoming Reunion for descendants of Henry Linas and Cynthia (Reed) Weedman coming up on July 17th.

(Continued from page 3)

and a great-grandchild. There are numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews in San Diego. He is also survived by Nancy's daughters, **Lynda** and **Sherri**. He was a proud WWII Navy vet, an avid bingo player, and a carpenter by trade. Services were on February 22, 2010 in Marysville.

Adrian Weedman's lineage: Adrian Weedman⁶, Andrew Garfield Weedman⁵, Jesse Hamilton Stewart Weedman⁴, David Weedman³, Jacob Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

Obituary

William Weedman

William Weedman, 77, of Carmi, passed away Monday, March 1, 2010, at the Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

He was born Sept. 19, 1932 in Maunie, the son of **Samuel George** and **Jessie Mae (Erwin) Weedman**. William was a member of both the American Legion and VFW. He was a member of the Eastside Pentecostal Church. William was an avid Cardinal fan.

He is survived by four sisters, **Gertie Rhein** of Carmi, **Genevieve Raley** of Henderson, Ky., and **Clara Weedman** and **Linda Brock**, both of Chicago. He is preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, **Lloyd George** and **Bobby Eugene**.

Funeral services were on March 4, 2010 in Carmi. Burial was in Kuykendall Cemetery near Carmi.

William Weedman's lineage: William Weedman⁷, Samuel George Weedman⁶, William T. Weedman⁵, George Glasscock Weedman⁴, Daniel Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

Reunion Planned for Henry Linas Weedman Descendants

There will be no **Weedman National Family Gathering** in 2010 since a sponsor could not be found at the 2008 Reunion held in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. But there will be other events that everyone needs to know about even if you are not eligible to participate.

The descendants of **Henry Linas** and **Cynthia (Reed) Weedman** will have a Reunion on July 17, 2010 on the home place of **Larry Picht** in Holloway, Minnesota. If you are a descendant of this family and can participate, contact one of the organizers shown below.

Henry Linas Weedman was born 8 November 1850 in DeWitt Co., IL and was the sixth of ten children of **Asa** and **Delilah (Hand) Weedman**. Following the death of Asa, the family moved to the Webster City (Hamilton County), Iowa area. Delilah remarried and the family found their way to Miami County, Kansas where Henry married **Cynthia Reed**. The family seemed to go back and forth between Iowa and Kansas. Today, descendants are found in Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa and on the West Coast.

Henry and **Cynthia Weedman** had a large family – fourteen children – and as a result there are a large number of descendants today.

A Reunion was held in 1997 for which **Carol Rohloff** prepared an outstanding book that gave details of all of the descendants including many excellent photographs. We have displayed this book at every Reunion we have attended since 1996.

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The Reunion will be held on July 17, 2010 at the **Larry Picht** residence, 1430 60th Street N.W., Holloway, MN. Motels are available in Appleton, Morris or Benson, MN each of which is about 15 miles or so from Holloway. Organizers of the event are: **Lola Phelps**, Box 214 Willard St., Good Thunder, MN. 65037 (Imp@hickorytech.net) or **Richard Weedman**, PO Box 55, Lamberton MN. 56152 (weedman@rcnet.org).

Elizabeth Weedman Murphy Daughter of Christian, Sr. and Elizabeth Weedman

Mentioned in the will of **Christian Weedman, Sr.** that was made and probated in 1811 in Fairfield County, Ohio was a daughter, **Elizabeth Murphy**. A number of researchers have attempted over the years to determine who she married and what happened to her.

In making preparations for the 2008 Weedman National Family gathering in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, we reviewed the records of Jacobs Lutheran Church near Masontown, PA.

We found a **Joseph** and **Elizabeth Murphy** who had two children christened in that church in the time frame the family lived in the area. The two children were **Johannes** born 21 September 1795, christened 29 October 1795 with **Michael** and **Barbara Riffle** serving as sponsors. The second child was **Christian** born 12 October 1796 and christened 20 November 1796 with **Philp** and **Magdalena Maurer** serving as sponsors.

The names of the children are interesting and while not any proof of relationship with **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman**, it is probably a strong hint at the least. The traditional German method of naming children was that the first born

son is named in honor of the paternal grandfather while the second son is named in honor of the maternal grandfather.

In the 1790 Fayette County, PA census, a **Joseph Murphy** is found living in Springhill Township which is just south of what was then German Township. He is the sole individual in the household and is a male aged 16 years or more. There were 10 different Murphy listings in the 1790 Fayette County, PA census but only two, **William** living in German Township, and **Joseph** in Springhill Township were in close proximity to the Weedman family. **William** appears to be too elderly to have married **Elizabeth** who we believe to have been born between 1767 and 1770.

In the 1800 census, we find the **Joseph Murphy** family living in German Township. There is one male between 26 and 44 years old with two males under 10 as well as one female between 26 and 44 years old.

There is no listing that can be found for **Joseph** in the 1810 Pennsylvania census.

It is not unreasonable to assume the family left Pennsylvania for Ohio with the rest of the family. If this is the case, we find a **Joseph Murphy** living in Madison Township, Licking County, Ohio in the 1820 through the 1850 census records. In addition, we find that a **Joseph Murphy** married a woman named **Praise** (surname not shown) on 19 December 1813. Tracing this family through 1850, we find **Joseph Murphy** at age 75, born in Maryland, living with his apparent son, **Charles Murphy**. This **Joseph Murphy** born about 1775 is probably too young to be the husband of **Elizabeth Weedman** but such a marriage is not impossible.

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The mystery of the fate of Elizabeth, daughter of Christian and Elizabeth Weedman takes a new turn. Is it solved or not?

Elizabeth was the third of six daughters of Christian Weedman and was born between 1767 and 1770.

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It would appear that **Elizabeth** must have died between the 1811 drawing of the will of her father, **Christian Weedman, Sr.** and 1837. There is no mention of **Elizabeth** or her children in the 1837 lawsuit (**Nicholas Weedman** versus **Jacob Keefover** regarding the estate of the late John Weedman).

We have attempted to trace **Christian Murphy** and **Johannes** or **John Murphy** with no success. It is reasonable to assume they died as well. Recently we heard from **Belinda Marcum** who is tracing **Joseph Murphy** also known as **Joseph Faverty**. **Faverty** was born in Paris, France on September 25, 1753, immigrated to the U. S., and was in the Revolutionary War. After the War, he settled in Springhill Township, Fayette County, PA. Springhill is immediately south of what was then German Township where **Christian Weedman** lived. Somehow **Joseph Faverty** got a nickname of **Joseph Murphy** and he went by that in the Revolutionary War and afterwards. In his pension application, he stated he didn't know how he got the Murphy nickname.

Joseph Murphy (aka **Joseph Faverty**) married a woman named **Elizabeth Wedman** about 1793 in Fayette County. There were six children born to this couple including: **Joseph, Jr.** (1794), **Mary** (1796 and died in infancy), **Christopher** (1798 – died in infancy), **Joshua** (1800 – died in infancy), **John** (born 1802 in Scioto Co., OH) and **Elizabeth** (1804 in OH). We are unsure of the source of the birthdates of these children. A genealogical work on **Joseph Faverty** was compiled in the 1980s by **Arnold Faverty** and he is likely the one who determined these dates.

Note that the dates are in conflict with

the baptismal records of the two children of **Joseph** and **Elizabeth Murphy** from the Jacobs Lutheran Church records. However, until the source of the birth information above can be confirmed, we should not dismiss this information out of hand. We have found information that states that **Joseph Faverty, Jr.** was born in 1800 making one question the accuracy of the dates.

We have searched the 1790 and 1800 census records for Fayette County, PA and cannot find any family living in Fayette County that has a surname even close to that of **Elizabeth Wedman** except for our **Elizabeth Weedman**.

According to **Mrs. Marcum**, in 1801 **Joseph Murphy** bought land in Scioto Co., Ohio and in 1802 floated down the Ohio River to Portsmouth, Ohio where the family settled. In 1834, **Joseph** filed for a Revolutionary War pension but his plea was denied. Unfortunately, nothing in this pension application reveals family connections.

Is this our **Elizabeth Weedman** or not? The information at hand seems to suggest it is but there are three factors questioning this conclusion. First, the dates for the birth of the children from records of the Jacobs Lutheran Church in German Township, Fayette County and those in the work apparently from **Arnold Faverty** conflict. Second, the failure of Elizabeth or her children to be revealed in the 1837 lawsuit in which all of the other known siblings of the then late John Weedman are named is troubling. Finally, we know two children were christened in the Lutheran Church but we are told that **Joseph Faverty** was a Catholic and raised his children in that faith which again presents conflicting information.

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How will we ever sort this out? A deeper search of County records in both Fayette County, PA and Scioto County, Ohio might be helpful but it is likely that **Arnold Faverty** already accomplished this. One other tool would be DNA testing. However, this is complex because you would have to test direct female lines from the **Elizabeth Weedman Faverty** descendants and compare those to direct female lines going back to Elizabeth Weedman, the mother of Elizabeth who married **Joseph Murphy**. This is complicated by the fact that our records tend to be heavily skewed toward the male lines since it is easier to trace the Weedman surname than it is the daughters and their daughters and theirs, etc.

In conclusion, we believe that **Elizabeth Weedman** who married **Joseph Murphy** is probably the same of the **Elizabeth Weedman** who married **Joseph Murphy** or **Joseph Faverty**. If someone wanted to work on proving this probably through DNA testing, it would be both helpful and interesting.

Births

William James (Will) Weedman

Bill and **Pat Weedman** announce with great pleasure that we have a new addition to the Weedman family! **William James (Will) Weedman** was born Monday, February 15 at 11:30 AM in Austin, TX. Proud parents are **William L. Weedman, Jr.** and **Melanie V. Weedman**. Extremely proud grandparents are **William L. Weedman, Sr.** and **Patricia S. Weedman** of Wilson, NC.

Will arrived weighing in @ 6 lbs 14 ozs. All is well, Mom and baby are both fine. Will was expected to arrive the first week of March but he decided to come a little early. Congratulations to all!

Soon to Be!

Anticipated Birth

In early January we heard from Portland (OR) architect and interior designer, **Travis Weedman**, he and his wife, **Airelle Glade**, are expecting their first child at the end of May and learned it will be a boy. Travis advises this is the first grandson for **George Weedman** of Wisconsin (the Jacob Weedman line through **Allen Fleming Weedman**). **Travis** and **Airelle** operate their business, Compressed Pattern, in Portland, OR.

From the Web Site

Huhn Connection

We recently received the following e-mail from a lady researching the Huhn line. In a subsequent e-mail, we learned her husband descends from **Henry Huhn** who was a son of **Catherine Weedman Huhn**. "...My name is **Cheryl Ramsey**. My husband's parents passed away a couple of years ago and in their passing brought up questions about where they came from. So I started trying to research his family. My mother-in-law was a Huhn. In tracing her ancestry it led me back to **Catherine Weedman** who married **John Huhn, Jr.** I was overjoyed to find your website and all of the history you and other family members have uncovered. You saved me a lot of work. We live in Ohio but my mother-in-law is from McClellandtown, PA. I am going to print off all of your newsletters and am looking forward to reading them...."

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There are quite a few hits on our web site that result in people trying to understand their origins. Frequently we supply information that most find very helpful.

Myrtle Mae Weedman

Randy McCoach of Albuquerque, N.M. wrote looking for family information on **Melinda Darner** who was the second wife of **George T. Weedman**. George was a son of **Asa Weedman (Asa, John Huhn Weedman, Sr., George and Christian Weedman, Sr. line)** who was born in 1838 in DeWitt Co., IL. **George** was in the Civil War and married **Mary Carem** with who he had two children. After her death, he married **Malinda** or **Melinda Darner** in Miami Co., KS. One child, a daughter, was born to the couple and she was **Myrtle Mae Weedman** (Sept. 1882 – 1920). **Myrtle Mae Weedman** married **Luther Roberts** in 1906 in Miami County, KS and they had a large family. In 1920 **Myrtle Mae Weedman Roberts** died in childbirth and is buried in Miami County. Her photograph appears here courtesy of Randy. We were able to trace to Darner family back to Ohio and learned Malinda was the daughter of **Jacob and Elizabeth (Hull) Darner**. Randy McCoach has much more information on the family of **Luther and Myrtle Mae (Weedman) Roberts** and is willing to share upon request.



Four Generations – Romine and Weedman

Shirley Flanagan of Denver Colorado wrote to advise she had found pictures on eBay, if I recall correctly that had a number of family members shown. She supplied several of these and we will post on our web site.

One in particular caught our eye and that is the one shown here. The photograph was taken in 1908 and is annotated on the back as follows: “Four Generations – **Lucinda Muir Romine**, 70 years old; **Matilda Jane Romine**, 40 years old; **Minnie Fern Church**, 20 years old; and **Hila Bernadine Church**, 9 months old.”

Zadock Sinclair Weedman married **Matilda Jane Romine** in Farmer City, IL and they moved to Kansas where he farmed. Their daughter, **Minnie Fern**, married **Max Church** and one of their daughter’s was **Hila Bernadine Church**.

The **Zadock Sinclair Weedman** family was featured on page 20 of the Spring 2008 issue. We are highly appreciative of Shirley’s generosity in sharing these photographs.



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If you are due for a renewal contribution and have not opted for the electronic version, a yellow notice slip will be enclosed with this issue.

Your interest and continued support of the *Weedman Newsletter* is highly appreciated.

Newsletter Archives Available

The *Weedman Newsletter* is now in its 43rd year. Originated in 1968 by **Paul** and **Marianne Montgomery**, the publication has been a source of family information for all of that time. In addition, it has stimulated family research and published many of those findings.

All of the available issues of the Weedman Newsletter are now available on the family web site, www.weedman.org. In 1996, the series begins with Issue 2 and it is unclear if there was an Issue 1 which is not available to the editor or whether there was simply none published. If any of our subscribers have a full set of Newsletters and could see if they could find Issue 1 of Volume 29, we would like to obtain a copy.

All of the Newsletters are in Adobe Acrobat format and fully searchable. Early issues may not be searched as accurately as we would like since some of the type was cursive and there is the occasional hand written note. These are not well recognized by OCR (optical character recognition) software.

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Roy L Weedman was a gifted and prolific writer. His autobiography is an extremely interesting work.

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Many of the Volumes were manually indexed by the Montgomery's or other volunteers. These indices can prove helpful and supplement the OCR searching you might use.

We trust you will find the Newsletter Archives helpful. It is noted that the formatting appears to be less than professional at this point but we will work to improve that.

Roy Weedman Autobiography

We were recently contacted by **Lillian Roe Gilmer** of Nashville, TN who descends from the **Willis Green Weedman, Sr.** line of Kentucky Weedmans. Mrs. Gilmer is an attorney who found our web site and made contact to update her family information. She is a cousin to **Dr. Daniel Wilson Weedman**, a well known astronomer, and advised that Dr. Weedman had furnished to the immediate family a copy of an autobiography written by his father,

Roy Lee Weedman, a number of years ago.

Roy and Louetta Weedman were frequent participants in the Weedman Family Reunions. He was an excellent and creative writer who supplied us with a family song and a poem about our family name. Both Roy and Lu Weedman died last year only months apart.

The autobiography is mentioned because it is a highly personal recollection of not only his family history but also his recollection of the Weedman family in the Grayson and Ohio Counties area of Kentucky. The work is over 60 pages long and thus too long to publish here. We would hope that more family members would document their recollections of their past and their family history for future generations to have. The use of video recordings of conversations can prove informational. Or, audio recordings, as **Kenneth Weedman** made could be quite interesting.

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Perhaps **Dr. Daniel Weedman** would provide permission for us to put excerpts or the full work on the family web site.

Dr. Daniel W. Weedman is in the Weedman Family Hall of Fame.

Family Names in the News

The internet has proven to be an excellent tool to learn about achievements of family members whose accomplishments may otherwise be unknown. Here we will advise of some of the positive items that we have found on this medium.

Donovan Weedman of North Platte, NE is appearing in the news for his accomplishments as a high school golfer. Most recently, he was the top male golfer in the Gothenburg NE invitational golf tournament shooting a 74. We will keep a watch for even better scores from this young man.

Jonathan Weedman of Los Angeles, CA was recently elected as Chairman of the Board of the Young Musicians Foundation of that city. Jonathan is a Regional Vice President of the Wells Fargo Foundation. This Foundation is the largest donor to non-profit organizations in Los Angeles County. Jonathan is involved in a large number of civic and cultural organizations in that city. His father, **Charles Vern Weedman**, is a very well known attorney who is in the Weedman Family Hall of Fame.

Lillian Rawles Educational Foundation of Dyer County, Tennessee was founded by one of the daughters of **Margaret Olive (Olly) Weedman Rawles** and is a generous provider of college scholarships to graduates of high schools of that county.

Obituary

Alma L. Weedman Ford

Alma L. Weedman Ford, 76, formerly of Louisville and of Horse Branch, KY, died Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at her residence.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, **Jimmie B. Weedman**, who passed December 6, 2000.

Survivors include her husband, **James L. Ford** of Horse Branch; son, **Jeff (Jane) Weedman** of Horse Branch; daughter, **Sondra (David) Harbison** of Louisville; three grandchildren, **Patrick (Natalie) Harbison**, **Ben Quinton**, and **Kati Weedman**; and one great-grandchild, **Brett Harbison**.

Funeral services were held May 10, 2010 in Louisville, KY with burial in Bethany Cemetery in Louisville.

Source: Louisville Courier-Journal

Alma and Jimmie Birch Weedman hosted the 7th Biannual Weedman Reunion in Bardstown, KY in 1996. They did an outstanding job and supported similar events both prior to and after the one they hosted. Alma was a warm, friendly person who will be sorely missed by her family and many friends.

Jimmie Birch Weedman's line: Jimmie Birch Weedman⁷, Claude Weedman⁶, James Henry Weedman⁵, Willis Green Weedman, Sr.⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

Obituary

Marvin Eugene Weedman

Marvin Eugene Weedman of Ooltewah, TN died on May 15, 2010. He leaves his wife **Betty**, and sons, **Kirk A. Weedman** and **Victor A. Weedman**. He was born

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Alma Weedman Ford was highly supportive of all of our Reunions and other family activities.

The lawsuit over the estate of John Weedman, son of Christian Weedman, Sr. was highly informative.

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April 22, 1937 in Little Rock, Arkansas and was the son of **Heywood Benedict Weedman Sr.** and **Celeste Emma Redman (Weedman)**. Celeste was an avid family history fan and contributed in a significant manner to efforts to document the family.

Marvin's lineage: Marvin Eugene Weedman⁷, Heywood Benedict Weedman, Sr.⁸, Marc Dominic Weedman Sr.⁵, Elisha Spurrier Weedman⁴, Daniel Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

Obituary

Beverly Elaine (Barrows) Weedman

Beverly Elaine Weedman of Lemon Grove, CA died on February 6, 2010 in San Diego CA. She was the widow of **Albert Leroy Weedman**. She left three daughters: **Sharon Kay, Sandra,** and **Marcia Lynette**. Beverly attended the 11th Weedman Family National Gathering which was held in San Diego in 2004.

Albert Leroy Weedman's line: Albert Leroy Weedman⁶, Andrew Garfield Weedman⁵, Jesse Hamilton Stewart Weedman⁴, David Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

Obituary

Duane Weedman

Duane Weedman, 34, of Juneau, Alaska died on May 25, 2010 in Juneau. He was born in Haines, Alaska and was the son of **Walter** and **Jeanetta (Carder) Weedman**. He was employed by the state of Alaska as an analyst and website developer since 2003. He leaves a brother, **Raymond G. Weedman** of Alaska and his parents.

Source: Juneau (AK) Empire, May 27, 2010

Duane's lineage: Duane Weedman⁹, Walter Weed-

man⁸, Winfred Wilbert Weedman⁷, Carey Sylvester Weedman⁶, Henry Linas Weedman⁵, Asa Weedman⁴, John Huhn Weedman, Sr.³, Christian Weedman, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹

John Weedman Lawsuit

In the Spring 2010 issue of the Weedman Newsletter we provided details of the Elizabeth Weedman Murphy family. A subscriber stated that while it was interesting, the lack of knowledge about the early family left that person wondering about some details.

Many genealogical researchers look into census records, vital statistics, probate records, newspapers, etc. to find as much information as possible. But, there are other sources of family information hidden in court records. Here, we will detail a lawsuit which describes in detail the early family structure of the Christian Weedman, Sr. family.

John Weedman was the sixth child and second son of **Christian, Sr.** and **Elizabeth Weedman**. He was born circa 1772 in Fayette County, PA. He doesn't appear in any of the Fayette County tax lists that we can find and thus know little about his early life.

In 1799, **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman** sold the homestead, "New Holland", to a couple of neighbors and apparently departed Fayette County. It is unclear where they went prior to their relocation to what was then Hopewell Township of Fairfield County, Ohio about 1806.

However, from early histories of Licking County, OH it has been learned that **John Weedman** was an early settler arrived there in 1801. It is believed that he remained there until his death about 1836 or 1837. He was believed by many to have been an old bachelor, but histories and court records show a different story.

Here is an excerpt from a Licking County,

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(Continued from page 12)

OH history entitled, "**Pioneer Papers No. 17**", by Dr. J. N. Wilson:

"...I will mention that this **John Weedman** owned one of the three or four horses that were stolen by the Indians in April after his arrival. The Indians were pursued by Ratliff, Hughes and Bland, overtaken and killed, and the horses brought back. In 1805, we find that this Weedman had purchased 160 acres of land in the refugee tract, near the Perry County line in this county, where he resided some thirty years, and in the mean time, his brother and sister came and settled near him. He was always considered by his neighbors a well to do old bachelor. He died suddenly in his house where he had lived alone. After his death, quite a sum of money was found; the money was sticking in the cracks of his log house, the silver in bags, stowed away in secret. His brother administered the estate (editor note: actually it was his brother-in-law) and he and his sister took possession of the farm supposing they were the rightful heirs; but some one after the death of **John Weedman**, wrote to a **Nicholas Weedman** who was living in Indiana, and who soon made his appearance in Newark (the county seat of Licking County) and made application to our well known fellow citizen, S. D. King, Esq. for the purpose of getting possession of the estate. His statement was that his father while a young man lived in one of the western counties of Pennsylvania, and that he had a love affair with a neighboring girl, but as the course of true love does not always run smooth, they had some difficulty which was settled by an unwilling marriage on his part. As soon as the wedding was over, John left for parts unknown, but turned up on the Bowling Green. Mr. King brought a suit of ejectment against **Nicholas Weedman's** newly discovered uncle and aunt. The trial came on but no one appeared to contest his right, so judg-

ment was obtained by default and he now came in possession of his father's estate, a father that he never saw or knew, much to his satisfaction, but the uncle and aunt thought it rather a hard bargain to give up a good farm to obtain a thirty five year old nephew..."

Despite a fire which destroyed many of the Licking County records, that of the lawsuit survived. In those records, **Jacob Kefover** was revealed to be the administrator of the estate of **John Weedman** and the estate was valued at \$977.13 (a considerable sum in those days!).

The suit reveals the wife of **John Weedman** was **Sophia Weedman** living in Indiana who relinquished any right to the estate. It states that **John** and **Sophia Weedman** were married in March 1792 and that **Nicholas Weedman** was the sole offspring of the couple. (**Nicholas Weedman** was born April 1, 1792).

Of great significance is the naming of the siblings of **John Weedman** who were shown to be: **George Weedman** of Illinois, **Jacob Weedman** of Indiana, **Christian Weedman** of Kentucky, **Adam Myers** and **Mary**, his wife, of Huron Co., Ohio and **Catherine Kefover** of Perry County, Ohio. In addition, children of deceased siblings are named: **Jacob Riffle**, **George Riffle**, **Elizabeth Riffle**, **Hannah Riffle**, and **Catherine Riffle** of Fayette County, PA (these are children of **Elizabeth Weedman Riffle** and her husband **Nicholas Riffle**, both deceased); and **Jacob Walters** of Illinois, **John Walters** of Ross County, OH, **Eli Walters** and **Naomi**, his wife, and **Mary Walters** whose place of residence is unknown.

Why is this important? It confirms the family structure of **Christian Weedman, Sr.** (with the exception of daughters **Elizabeth Weedman Murphy** and **Mar-**

(Continued on page 14)

Licking County, Ohio histories provide informative if not slanted points of view on personalities of the area.

Chelsea Weedman will enter Penn State University on an athletic scholarship for swimming in the Fall of 2010.

(Continued from page 13)

garet Weedman) and reveals the names of surviving children of two other deceased daughters (**Barbara Weedman Riffle** and **Sarah Weedman Walters**).

There is a second lawsuit that is helpful in constructing some of the early family and that is one contesting the estate of **Catherine Kefover** who died in 1861 in Perry County, OH. We will print details of that law suit in a subsequent issue.

Birth

Harrison Howard Weedman

Travis and **Arielle Weedman** of Portland, OR announce the arrival of their son **Harrison Howard Weedman** who was born on June 12th at 8:50pm in Portland. He was 8lbs 8oz and was 21.5". Travis advises "his mom and I are very happy and blessed with a healthy boy".

Congratulations on the latest addition to the Weedman family!

More Honors for Chelsea Weedman of San Diego, CA

We understand from reliable sources that **Chelsea Weedman** was named Student Athlete of the Year at a recent ceremony held in the Cathedral Catholic High School in San Diego, CA. The school has

1,400 students so it is quite an honor to be chosen for this award.

In a recent newspaper article, the following was stated:

"...Weedman set the tone for the current high school campaign when her times at the early-season Mt. Carmel Invitational nearly matched her title marks a year ago in the 100 breast stroke (1:04.23) and 200 IM (2:02.51). Her best in the 100 breast stroke came in her sophomore year (1:03.72)."

"The individual title that I really savor the most is my freshman year in the 100 breast (1:05.65)," Weedman said. "I knew that one would be really tough. I went out and did my best. I had fun with it, and I really was pumped up."

That also put in place the chance to become the second girl to win four titles during her high school career in the 100 breast, following Rancho Buena Vista's Jennifer Ross (1988-91).

Chelsea recently tried out and was selected for the Del Mar CA life guard service this summer. She will enter Penn State University this Fall on an athletic scholarship.

We will surely hear more of her as she begins her college career.

Herschel Weedman World War II Record

Herschel Weedman served with distinction in World War II and his son, **Paul Weedman**, of San Diego recently came into possession of a couple of documents that were of great interest. Paul provided those to us and we will print those in this issue. There may be similar records available to family members and hopefully this may initiate some discussion about those who did serve in that war. These appear on the following two pages. Herschel was a son of **Andrew Garfield Weedman** whose line goes back through **Jacob Weedman**.

HEADQUARTERS 8TH MEDICAL BATTALION
APO 8, U. S. Army

22 May 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B,
8th Medical Battalion.

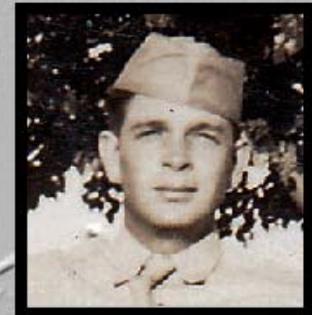
It is with greatest pride and pleasure that this letter is addressed to you personally. The duties you have performed as a driver within your company and the battalion as a whole have made you one of the unsung heroes of this war. The hedgerows of Normandy, the Brittany Campaign ending in the conquest of Brest, the long trip through France to Luxembourg, the mud of the Hurtgen Forest, the battle for Cologne and the crossing of the Rhine, the battle of the Runr pocket, the long trip through Germany ending in the crossing of the Elbe and conquest of Schwerin have not stopped you from surmounting every difficulty. Under all conditions of combat, often under direct fire, and more than once under direct observation from the enemy and in danger of mines, you, together with all the other drivers in your company, have displayed endless courage and tireless devotion to duty. In spite of difficult road conditions, the strain of blackout driving and long hours without rest, men like you have carried on, often saving lives. In addition, you have kept the maintenance of your vehicles at such a high level that the maximum number of vehicles were always available for use.

It is recognized that motor officers, motor sergeants, and mechanics all have contributed to the enviable record this battalion has established, but the principal credit still belongs to the individual driver. Each one of you can be justly proud of the fine work you have done through all these long months of combat operations, and it is my privilege to share this pride with you. Perhaps you do not realize it, but your individual efforts have helped in no small way to contribute to the final crushing victory over the mighty German Army.

John M. Thompson
JOHN M. THOMPSON,
Lt. Col., MC,
Commanding.

History of U.S. Army 8th Infantry Division & Medical Battalion in WWII Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B

- **07/01/1940** – Activation of the 8th Infantry Division, Ft. Jackson, S.C.
- **Summer 1941** – Field maneuvers in the Carolinas woods and fields.
- **Fall 1942** – Division participated in maneuvers in Tennessee & Missouri.
- **Summer 1943** – Division participated in maneuvers at Camp Laguna in Arizona desert.
- **12/05/1943** – Division sailed from New York Harbor to Belfast, N. Ireland.
- **12/15/1943** - Division landed in Northern Ireland and began 6 months training before the ETO (European Theater of Operations).
- **06/28/1944** – Four troop ships and Twelve Motor transports carried the 8th Division towards France.
- **07/04/1944** – Division landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, France (one month after invasion).
- **07/07/1944** - **Division enters combat.**
- **07/26/1944** – Division crossed the Ay River after fighting through the hedgerows of Normandy.
- **07/28/1944** – Division pushed its way down the western coast of Normandy.
- **08/08/1944** – Division pushed through Brittany & captured Rennes.
- **08/25/1944** – Division attacked the city of Brest until 09/11/1944.
- **09/19/1944** – Division drove across France to Luxembourg.
- **11/20/1944** – Division entered bitter Battle of the Hurtgen Forest.
- **11/28/1944** – Division cleared the city of Brandenburg.
- **12/03/1944** – Division pushed on to the Roer River.
- **02/23/1945** – Division crossed the Roer River.
- **02/25/1945** – Division captured City of Duren.
- **02/28/1945** – Division crossed the Erft Canal.
- **03/07/1945** – Division reached the Rhine River near Rodenkirchen and maintained positions at Cologne.
- **March 1945** – Division advanced into the Rhineland.
- **04/06/1945** – Division attacked northwest to aid the destruction of enemy forces in the Ruhr Pocket.
- **04/17/1945** – Under operational control of the British Second Army, drove across the Elbe and penetrated to Schwerin when the war in Europe ended.
- **05/02/1945** – Division advanced into northern Germany and encountered the Neuengamme concentration camp and Wöbbelin subcamp, near the city of Ludwigslust. The SS had established Wöbbelin in early February 1945 to house concentration camp prisoners who had been evacuated from other Nazi camps to prevent their liberation by the Allies. Wöbbelin held some 5,000 inmates, many of whom suffered from starvation and disease. The sanitary conditions at the camp when the Division arrived were deplorable. There was little food or water, and some prisoners had resorted to cannibalism. In the first week after liberation, more than 200 inmates died. In the aftermath, the United States Army ordered the townspeople in Ludwigslust to visit the camp and bury the dead.
- **05/07/1945** – Germany surrendered and operations officially came to an end the following day.
- **05/22/1945** – Lt. Col. MC, John M. Thompson in a personal letter commends Private First Class, Hershel R. Weedman, Company B, for his endless courage and tireless devotion to duty.
- **11/20/1945** – Division was re-deployed back to the United States and deactivated.
- In WWII service the 8th Infantry Division spent 266 days in combat. Total division casualties were 13,986, 2,852 of which were killed in action.
- **1988** – The 8th Infantry Division was recognized as a liberating unit by the U.S. Army 's Center of Military History and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.



Ambulance Driver Ranger & Instructor In:

- Physical Conditioning
- Hand to Hand Combat
- Blitz Course
- Booby traps and demolition
- Stalking & ambushing Tanks
- Cliff Scaling & use of Toggle Rope
- Flotation of Personnel and Equipment
- Improved bridges
- Individual Camouflage
- Wire Entanglements
- Sniping & Infiltrations
- Patrol & Ambushing

❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 43 Issue 3

Autumn 2010

We are encouraging subscribers to switch to the electronic version of the Newsletter if they are interested. The print version will still be published and made available to any who desire it.

Greetings and Happy Autumn!

This has been an especially difficult time since the last issue. As you will see from the Obituary section, we have lost five family members including two of our Weedman Hall of Fame members – **Gena Lee Theiss** and **Edward Smith**.

Our condolences go out to family and friends of those who passed away and we have you in our thoughts and prayers.

We have had a fairly large number of family inquiries and there seems to be a lot of interest in the Weedman family history and genealogy. An especially well done family history was done by **Randall McCoach** on the descendants of **George Thomas Weedman** from Farmer City, IL who was a Civil War veteran. We will print an excerpt of this in this issue. Randall's work includes pictures of many of the descendants as well as excellent information. Interestingly, he has found one of the descendants who he has not been able to trace which is normal for most genealogists.

There were two Weedman family reunions held this past summer. One was for the descendants of **Henry Linas Weedman** and was held in Minnesota. Another was held in Grayson County, Kentucky. We don't have any details to report but if some of the participants would provide information, we will advise more in the Winter issue.

In the Summer issue, we reported on the death of **Duane Weedman** in Juneau, Alaska. We then heard from his mother, **Jeanetta Weedman**, who now lives in

Blair, Washington with her husband, **Walter Weedman**. She advised that Duane had two siblings; a brother, **Raymond G. Weedman** of Costa Mesa, CA, and a sister, **Dorothy Baz** of Bend, OR. In addition, she furnished a lot of information on the immediate family which descends from the **George Weedman** line of Farmer City, IL through his descendants **Asa Weedman**, **Henry Linas Weedman**, **Carey Sylvester Weedman** and **Wilfred Wilbert Weedman**. Her information filled voids we had on this line.

Subscriptions

In the last issue, we called for subscription renewals and gave subscribers the option of getting access to the electronic version at no cost. Otherwise, we sought renewals from those who wanted to continue to receive paper versions. While the response was generally good, we still need responses from those who were silent. So, a yellow slip is included in this issue but only for those who either need to make a monetary contribution for the paper copy or to advise they want to be added to the electronic version.

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For electronic version subscribers, an e-mail is sent once the Newsletter is uploaded to the family web site (www.weedman.org). A list of articles is shown in the e-mail along with a link on which one can click and be taken to the web site to view the Newsletter. It can be printed from there if desired.

With postage on a seemingly endless upward spiral, we need to pare the subscriber list to those willing to contribute the \$5 annual subscription rate (which has been unchanged since the Newsletter began!).

Newsletter on CD

The Weedman Newsletter has been digitalized and all issues since the beginning are now available on the web site (www.weedman.org). If anyone is interested in getting all copies on a CD (compact disk) in Adobe Acrobat format, we are making that available for \$10 to

cover material and postage costs. The full CD is indexed and searchable using Adobe Acrobat reader which is a piece of free software. However, some of the earlier versions were done in cursive type and others are a bit difficult to read so the searching mechanism is not 100% reliable.

If you want to order one of these, send a request to Nick Weedman whose address is shown on page 18 of this issue.

Obituary

Elmer Earl Weedman

Elmer Earl Weedman was born May 28, 1917 to **Earl** and **Margaret (Jones) Weedman** on a farm north of Revere, MN, Redwood County. He attended country school and began farming with his father at a very young age. In the late 1930's his family moved to a farm south of Amiret, MN.

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All past **Weedman Newsletters** with two possible exceptions are now available on a CD in Adobe Acrobat format.

About the Weedman Newsletter

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a quarterly family publication with emphasis on the genealogy of the Weedman and allied families. It is distributed to interested family members, selected genealogical societies and libraries. Print circulation is 120 with another 30 by electronic means.

The *Newsletter* is edited, published and distributed by **Nick Weedman**. All address changes, new subscriptions, etc. should be sent to him.

Articles for publication in the Newsletter are highly welcomed. They must have some relevance to the family and those with a genealogical flavor are of particular interest.

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E-mail address: nick@weedman.org

Visit the Weedman Web-page at: <http://www.weedman.org>.

Queries regarding the Weedman family or allied lines are welcomed. Attention will be given to each and for those which cannot be answered by family genealogists, publication in the *Newsletter* will be made.

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a registered publication (ISSN 0883-7791).

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It was while living on this farm that Elmer met his future bride and worked for her father as a farm hand for a couple years. On December 14, 1940 Elmer married **Donna Wreath** in Walnut Grove, MN and they made their home on a farm south of Milroy, MN. For the next eight years Elmer worked for **Tom Hicks**, before starting out on his own farm, west of Tracy. He moved back south of Milroy in 1958 until 1972, and then finished up his farming south of Amiret next to the farm he lived on when he met his wife. In 1983 Elmer retired from farming and he and his wife moved into Tracy.

Elmer worked hard and enjoyed farming all these years, often marveling at the change in farming that he had seen in his lifetime, from horses to the large equipment of today. He was a member of the Tracy United Methodist Church in Tracy. In June of 2008 Elmer became a resident of the Prairie View Health Care Center in Tracy, where he died Monday, August 9, 2010, surrounded by his loving family, at the age of 93.

Elmer is survived by his two daughters, **Pat Marks** of Marshall, MN and **Peg Stock** of Montevideo, MN; four sons, **Richard (Carolyn King) Weedman** of Lamberton, MN, **David (Joanne Corbett) Weedman** of Waltham, VT, **Earl Weedman** of Tracy and **Todd (Sandy Bonomo) Weedman** of Salisbury, VT; ten grandchildren; six great grandchildren; nieces, nephews and many friends. His wife, **Donna**, daughter, **Dianne**, three brothers, **Donald**, **Glen** and **LuVerne**, and three sisters, **Thelma Picht**, **Ruth Gremmert** and **Opal Schultz** preceded him in death. Services were held at the Tracy United Methodist Church with burial in the Walnut Grove Cemetery in Walnut Grove, MN.

Elmer's lineage: Elmer Earl Weedman⁷, Earl El-

more Weedman⁶, Henry Linas Weedman⁵, Asa Weedman⁴, John Huhn Weedman, Sr.³, George Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Obituary

Gena Lee Johnson Theiss

Gena Lee Johnson Theiss, 85, of Okolona, Kentucky passed away Thursday, September 16, 2010.



Gena Theiss recently suffered a stroke from which she never fully recovered. She was an institution in the Weedman family.

She was born in Caneyville, KY on May 16, 1925 to **Clarence H. Johnson** and **Grace Higdon**.

Gena was a member of Parkland Baptist Church, also Southern Star Chapter OES-Eastern Star, Filson Club and a Kentucky Colonel. She was retired from First National Bank. She enjoyed being the family genealogist, author, quilter, seamstress, photographer and computer expert.

She was preceded in death by her husband, **George W. Theiss**; daughter, **Nancy J. Hill**; son, **George W. Theiss III**; and sister, **Edith Rhea Johnson**.

Survivors include her daughters, **Patricia S. Theiss Wright**, **Donna Theiss Hosse** and **Martha Theiss Cadarette**; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on September

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21, 2010 with burial in Layman Memorial Gardens in Millwood, Kentucky.

(Editor's Note: Gena was special to the Weedman family. She compiled two Weedman genealogical studies which were published and are widely held by family members and libraries throughout the country. She also did extensive work on the Higdon family.

She and her husband, George, hosted the first Weedman family reunion in 1984 in Louisville, KY and repeated that responsibility in 1992 which was held at the Barren River State Park in Kentucky..

Her interest in computers and genealogy came early in the era of the electronic world and she had the vision to see how new tools could help further family research. Her first Weedman book was published in 1986 with the second edition coming out in 1989. The works were rich with photographs and historical documentation. Both were produced on her home computer and professionally published.

She maintained a web site which had an emphasis on genealogy. In addition, long before any others, she transcribed early Grayson County, Kentucky census records which facilitated research by so many people. She was an early Facebook participant.

Gena was inducted into the Weedman Hall of Fame in the original ceremony conducted in June 2000 at the Weedman National Family Gathering in Farmer City, Illinois.

We will all miss Gena and her numerous contributions to our family. Our condolences are extended to her family.)

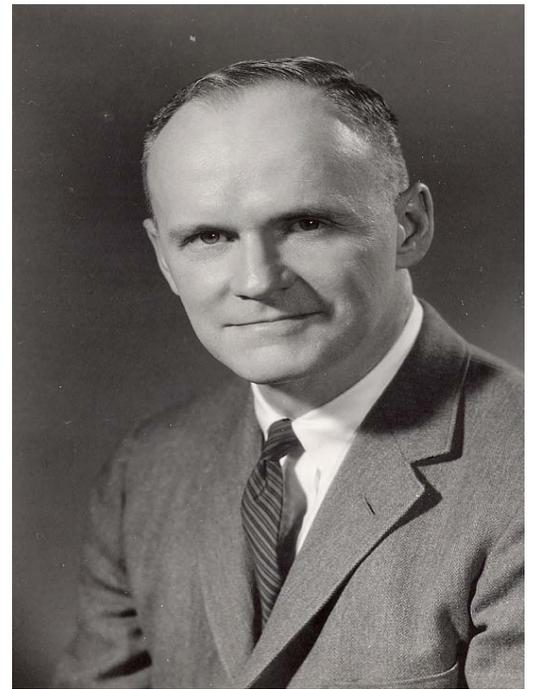
Gena's lineage: Gena Theiss⁷, Gracie Higdon⁶, Barbara Ellen Weedman⁵, Willis Green Weedman,

Sr.⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Obituary

Edward Ellsworth Smith

Family and friends mourn the passing of **Edward Ellsworth "Jerz" Smith**, beloved father and husband, WWII veteran, LSU alumni, AT&T executive, journalist and cartoonist, whose extraordinary life-long sense of humor brought joy to all who knew him. After a long and valiant battle against Alzheimer's disease, he died peacefully in his sleep at home on August 22, 2010 surrounded by the loving care of his wife and daughter.



Jerz's devotion to his extended family as well as his many friends and colleagues was chronicled in his prolific ebullient cartoons, humorously illustrating his life from an early age through his last years. In addition to independent comic books such as "Eddie Extra," "L'il Partner" and "Illustrated Classics," his work

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Both Gena Theiss and Ed Smith were members of the Weedman Hall of Fame.

(Continued from page 20)

appeared in *The Daily Reveille*, LSU publications, *Life Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal* and the Plainfield NJ *Courier News* as well as many Bell System publications.

He served his country in the Second World War in the First Marine Division, Battle of Okinawa and in Tiensin, China, later entering the Louisiana State University School of Journalism, where he met and married his wife **Anne Weedman Smith**. His business career spanned many decades in the Bell System, where he was an Executive in Corporate Relations until retiring in 1985.

He is survived by his wife **Anne**, sister **Margaret Stephenson-Dahl**, daughter **Megan Smith**, son **Christopher Smith** and grand-daughter **Mica Smith**. Ed was inducted into the Weedman Hall of Fame at the Uniontown, PA Weedman National Family Gathering in 2008. His business success and fame as a cartoonist were the basis for his nomination.

Obituary

John Weldon (Jack) Weedman Jr.

John Weldon (Jack) Weedman Jr. passed into everlasting glory on August 4, 2010 in Kennewick, WA. He is survived by his wife of 46 years **Marilyn** and their children; **James (Paula)**, **David (Susan)**, and **Brenda (Richard Patton)**; **grandchildren Michael, Danielle, Andrew, Steven, and Rebecca**; sisters **Rosanna (Nick Stamat)** and **Anita Darrel Rice**. Jack was preceded in death by his parents, **John** and **Sylvia Weed-**



man and sister, **Alice**.

He was born in 1944 in Illinois. After serving 8 years in the USAF, he spent his 25 year career in the computer industry working for Sperry/Unisys in Arizona. Jack retired in Kennewick working at Home Depot. Over the years, he shared his many hobbies, fishing, camping, bowling, and woodworking with his friends and family. A memorial was held in Arizona.

Source: Tri-City Herald August 11, 2010

Jack Weldon Weedman, Jr.'s lineage: John Weldon Weedman, Jr.⁵, John Weldon Weedman, Sr.⁴, William Walter Weedman³, Edward Weedman², and Olaf Weedman¹. This is commonly referred to as the Swedish Weedman line.

Obituary

Jesse Earl Weedman

We learned through the Social Security Death Index that **Jesse Earl Weedman** of Joshua Tree, CA passed away on August 23, 2010. An obituary has not been found and we have been unsuccessful in making contact with the family.

Jesse and his wife, **Jerry**, were solid supporters of the Weedman family efforts to uncover our roots. They participated in the 2004 Weedman National Family Gathering which was held in San Diego.

Jerry died in 2007 and we learned that Jesse had developed Alzheimer's disease. If we get further details we will publish more in the Winter edition.

Jesse's lineage: Jesse Earl Weedman⁶, James Monroe Weedman⁵, Jesse Hamilton Stewart Weedman⁴, David Weedman³, Jacob Weedman³, and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

(Continued on page 22)

Jack Weedman, Jr. was descended from Olaf Weedman in a line commonly referred to as the Swedish Weedman group.

(Continued from page 21)

Family Names in the News

Sherry Dodson Weedman Candidate for Grayson Co., KY County Clerk

Sherry Dodson Weedman is a candidate for County Clerk of Grayson County, Kentucky in the November 2, 2010 general election. She is a daughter of the **Rev. William** and **Mrs. Hazel Dodson** and the wife of **Myron G. Weedman**.

Sherry has worked for 19 years in the office of the County Clerk and is running as a Democrat.

Grayson County is where **Christian** and **Mary (Marshall) Weedman, Jr.** as early as 1800. Myron bought the Weedman family farm in 1999 and operates it with Sherry working at the County Clerk's office.

In Kentucky, the County Clerk is the keeper of records. In that office, you will find deeds, marriage and death records, wills and probate records as well as other records.

We wish Sherry well in the election and hope we have a Weedman as County Clerk in what many consider the county of their origin!

Her husband's line is: **Myron Glenn**⁷, **Sherman**⁶, **James Henry**⁵, **Willis Green Sr.**⁴, **John**³, **Christian, Jr.**², and **Christian, Sr.**¹.

Jonathan Weedman Appointed to Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Commission

August 23, 2010 – Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa today announced

the appointment of **Jonathan Weedman**, senior vice president of the Wells Fargo Foundation in greater Los Angeles, to the Cultural Affairs Commission (CAC).

“I know that **Jonathan Weedman** will work hard everyday to ensure that Los Angeles artists and architects have their voices heard and their art seen,” Mayor Villaraigosa said. “He will be a great addition to a team committed to preserving the beauty of Los Angeles while promoting art around the distinct neighborhoods of our diverse and culturally rich city.”

Mr. Weedman has worked in banking for more than 20 years in various leadership positions and brings extensive experience in business and budget management for non-profit organizations.

Currently, Weedman serves as senior vice president of Wells Fargo, overseeing the bank's charitable contributions budget of \$15 million for the Los Angeles region. In this role, he has been successful in building public-private partnerships, driving employee participation in philanthropic organizations, and implementing corporate community responsibility to volunteer for non-profits.

The Mayor-appointed commission is an advisory board to the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) responsible for the review and approval of all construction and artwork on or over City property. The Commission recently upgraded its design review process and guidelines, and reinstated the Mayor's Design Advisory Panel to better assist the City in achieving great design and public art.

Jonathan Weedman's Biography

Weedman is currently responsible for managing the charitable contributions of Wells Fargo's largest market, which in-

(Continued on page 23)

We like the possibility of having a family member become the Grayson Co., KY County Clerk. The Weedman family has been there since before the county was formed.

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cludes an annual budget in excess of \$15 million dollars for Los Angeles, Ventura, and west San Bernardino counties. Under his management, Wells Fargo has grown to become the largest corporate donor to charities in these regions.

Weedman began his career with Wells Fargo in 1989 as a business banking officer at the Los Angeles Main office, where he was responsible for the development and management of new and existing business banking client account relationships.

Later, he joined the Premier Banking Division, where he developed business for numerous non-profit organizations in the Southern California market. At the height of his banking career, his portfolio included management of more than 500 local non-profit charitable institutions.

He currently serves on the board of the Young Musicians Foundation as Chairman, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Getty House Foundation. He also is a member of the United Way of Los Angeles Community Investment Cabinet, served as chair of the 2008 UW Home Walk Committee, and is a member of the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles Foundation Giving Committee. Weedman served on the boards of Project Angel Food in Los Angeles as vice chairman, the West Angeles Community Development Corporation, the American Heart Association, and the LA Parks Foundation.

Weedman is the recipient of numerous awards for his community service from organizations such as the American Heart Association, Gay and Lesbian Elder Housing, Shakespeare Festival LA, Para Los Niños, AIDS Service Center, Aid for AIDS, Project New Hope, Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, and Opera-

tion Hope. He and his partner are Chairs of the Los Angeles Philharmonic 2010 Hollywood Bowl Opening to raise funds for music education.

Weedman attended the University of Southern California and the University of California at Los Angeles, where he was awarded his bachelor's degree in History in 1983.

Jonathan Weedman is the son on Weedman Hall of Fame member, **Charles Vern Weedman**, and his late wife, **Carolyn Knight Weedman**. Carolyn was the daughter of the late California **Governor Goodwin Knight**.

His lineage: **Jonathan Curtis Weedman**⁷, **Charles Vern Weedman**⁶, **Charles Shelby Weedman**⁵, **William Simpson Weedman**⁴, **Willis Weedman**³, **Christian Weedman, Jr.**², and **Christian Weedman, Sr.**¹.

George Thomas Weedman

Research by Randall McCoach

*(Randall McCoach is a journalist living in Albuquerque, NM. He made contact within the past year seeking information on his ancestor, **George Thomas Weedman**, and we were unaware of his intent to produce a highly professional and thorough study of descendants of this man. Here are excerpts.)*

George Thomas Weedman was born in May 1838 in Illinois. He lived in DeWitt County, IL for most of his early life and married **Mary E. Carew** there in 1860. He enlisted in Company G, 107th Illinois Infantry in 1862 and served for the duration of the war.

Following the war, he returned to DeWitt County and soon a family was begun. He and Mary had six children but only one,

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Family names in the News is from articles found on the internet. These are two of the more pertinent found recently.

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Phillip Sheridan Weedman lived to adulthood.

Phill Weedman had a single daughter and moved from Hamilton County, IA to Shelby Co., MO and ultimately to south-east Kansas. This family cannot be located after being found in the 1830 Neosho Co., Kansas census.

The couple divorced with his wife complaining of excessive drinking by George. As a number of other family members did, he moved to Miami County, Kansas. There he married **Mary Adeline Tarrant** about 1877 but she lived only a few years dying on 21 February 1881. There were no children born to this couple.

On 15 April 1882, **George T. Weedman** and **Melinda Darner** married in Paola, Miami Co., Kansas. A single daughter was born to the couple, **Myrtle Mae Weedman**. She was born in 1883 in Hillsdale, Miami County, Kansas. By 1895, the family moved to Hamilton County, Iowa another location where a large number of Weedmans lived. But by 1905, they returned to Kansas and in 1906, **Myrtle Mae Weedman** married **Luther Roberts**.

At the age of 36, **Myrtle Mae Roberts** died giving birth to her seventh child, **Veda Roberts**. The child also died.

The family history goes on to provide details of all of the surviving members of the **Roberts** family and their descendants, with **Randall McCoach** being one. The work is well documented and Randall has been successful in finding family photographs which he uses very well.

The work is an excellent example of

what can be done to document the hard work of collecting family information and photographs. If anyone who might be related to this family would like a copy of the work, contact **Nick Weedman** and he will put you in touch with **Randall McCoach**.

Recent Contacts by Family Members Seeking Information

Terrell Weedman wrote to advise the death of his wife, Mary Ann, in 2008 and his relocation back to his home city of Louisville, KY.

Vicki Kimberlin of Sandusky, OH has written several times reporting new sources of genealogical material.

Robin Cooper has provided information on the family of her ancestor, **Alton Weedman** of Grayson County, KY.

Christopher Anson Weedman sought information on his line which goes back through the **Stephen Weedman** line of Meade County, KY.

Kirk Weedman wrote to correct a couple of mistakes in our records for his family. His grandmother was **Celeste Rebman Weedman** of Little Rock who had a high level of interest in the family descended from **Elisah Spurrier Weedman**.

Next Issue

A report on a second family lawsuit which revealed significant family information. The children from the marriage of **Catherine Weedman** to **John Huhn, Jr.** appeared after her death to claim a portion of her estate. Her second marriage was to **Jacob Kefover**.

There have been a significant number of family inquiries of late. A few of these are listed here.

❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 43 Issue 4

Winter 2010

The Winter 2010 edition of the Weedman Newsletter is a bit late due to seasonal factors.

2010 Election

Sherry Weedman Elected County Clerk in Historic Grayson County, Kentucky

In the last issue of the *Weedman Newsletter*, we reported that **Sherry Weedman** of Caneyville, KY was a candidate for the position of County Clerk in Grayson County, Kentucky. With pleasure, we announce that Sherry prevailed in that election. According to official results, Sherry received 5,228 votes (58%) to her opponent's 3,767 (42%). She ran as a Democrat in what is traditionally a Republican area.

Sherry stated that her victory is due in a large part to her experience in the County Clerk's office where she worked for twenty years but more importantly due to the manner in which she treated those whom she served in that position. Her opponent in the election was a daughter of the retiring County Clerk!

Grayson County is where the ancestor for a large number of the Weedman family settled even before the County was formed. **Christian Weedman, Jr.** married **Mary Marshall** in Mercer County, KY in 1789. This area was still part of Virginia! Christian and Mary settled in Grayson County about 1800. Grayson County was formed in 1810.

In Kentucky, the County Clerk maintains deeds, marriage and death records as well as wills and probate records.

Sherry's husband is **Myron Weedman**. Details of their family lineage can be found in the previous issue. It is great to have a Weedman in charge of historical records in a County where so many can say their ancestor lived. Congratulations and best wishes for success in your new office, Sherry!

Obituary

Verna Ruth Weedman

Mrs. Verna Ruth Burns Weedman, age 84 of West Palm Beach, Florida and formerly Fyffe, AL passed away Friday, October 15, 2010 in West Palm Beach.

Funeral services were on October 19, 2010 with burial in Glenwood Cemetery in Fort Payne, Alabama.

Survivors include her son, **Randy Weedman**, of Lakeworth, Fla.; sister, **Mae James**, of Fort Payne, AL; brother, **Arvil** and **Nancy Burns**, of Geraldine; granddaughter, **Kristi** and **Greg Stoner**; grandson, **Andrew** and **Brandee Weedman**; great-grandson, **Andrew Weedman Jr.**; and several nieces and nephews.

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Obituaries posted are obtained through Google searches and from family notifications. Please advise of any family status changes.

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Mrs. Weedman was preceded in death by her husband, **Griff Weedman**; son, **Danny Weedman**; parents, **Martin** and **Alma Burns**; and several brothers and sisters.

Verna Ruth Burns Weedman was the widow of **Lyle Griffin Weedman**. His line was: **Lyle Griffin Weedman**⁶, **James Taylor Weedman**⁵, **Miram Weedman**⁴, **Stephen Weedman**³, **Christian Weedman, Jr.**² and **Christian Weedman, Sr.**¹.

Obituary

Jack Bay Weedman

Longtime Longview WA area resident and business owner **Jack B. Weedman**, 88, passed away Nov. 16, 2010, at the Longview Hospice Care Center.

He was born Dec. 3, 1921, in Deer Park, Wash., to **Leslie** and **Maude (Sprague) Weedman**. He was Future Farmers of

America president while attending Kelso High School and graduated in 1939.

Jack served as an airplane mechanic in the Air Force, stationed in England and Scotland during World War II. After the war the family founded Weedman Lumber and he later co-owned Longview Lumber and Cowlitz Manufacturing.

Jack was a longtime member of the Kelso-Longview Elks and Lions Club. He was an avid fish-



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About the Weedman Newsletter

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a quarterly family publication with emphasis on the genealogy of the Weedman and allied families. It is distributed to interested family members, selected genealogical societies and libraries. Circulation is 120.

The *Newsletter* is edited, published and distributed by **Nick Weedman**. All address changes, new subscriptions, etc. should be sent to him.

Articles for publication in the Newsletter are highly welcomed. They must have some relevance to the family and those with a genealogical flavor are of particular interest.

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Visit the Weedman Web-page at: <http://www.weedman.org>.

Queries regarding the Weedman family or allied lines are welcomed. Attention will be given to each and for those which cannot be answered by family genealogists, publication in the *Newsletter* will be made.

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a registered publication (ISSN 0883-7791).

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erman and hunter. He and his wife, Bonnie, enjoyed snow birding in Phoenix near their daughter.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Bonnie, in 2009; a son, **Rodney**; and four brothers, **Ray, Max, Leon** and **Harold**.

Jack is survived by a son, **Stephen Weedman** of Longview; two daughters, **Sheila Hart** of Burlington, Wash., and **Sheri Bade** of Phoenix; a brother, **William Weedman** of Kelso, WA; eight grandchildren; many great- grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on November 21, 2010 with entombment at Longview Memorial Park.

Mr. Weedman's lineage was: Jack Bay Weedman⁶, Leslie Raphael Weedman⁵, Elisha Spurrier Weedman⁴, Daniel Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Find-A-Grave A Very Useful Genealogical Web Site

We have been able to make some significant genealogical discoveries of late through the use of a web site that gives burial information often accompanied with photos of tombstones. The web site is Find-A-Grave (www.findagrave.com) and currently have over 55 million grave sites listed. Included in this total are currently 374 graves of Weedman family members.

Over the years, we have collected numerous photographs of tombstones and cemeteries but have not found a useful way of displaying those. Using Find-A-Grave as a repository for those photo-

graphs appears to have a lot of merit.

If your photographs are in a digital format such as a jpg file, it is quite easy to upload those to the Find-A-Grave web site. In addition to photographs, one has the ability to put obituaries and family information on the page with the photograph of the tombstones. If you don't have a photograph of a tombstone, you can still list the grave in the cemetery in which the burial site is located.

We were recently in contact with Scott Parish who lives in Weldon, Illinois which is located in DeWitt County, IL just southwest of Farmer City. We found that Mr. Parish had established a "virtual cemetery" for Weedmans and had about 75 of the family in his collection. Contact with Mr. Parish revealed his wife was related to Rachael Wilson Weedman, the wife of John Huhn Weedman, Sr. That contact stimulated our interest and we have subsequently created a Weedman Virtual Cemetery and well as one for the Brodix family.

In 2011, we will undertake a project of listing as many Weedman burial sites as we can with birth and death dates as well as photographs of tombstones if they are available. Where possible, we will show family relationships and show obituaries if those are available. This will make Weedman family information more widely available for those interested. Further, those additions will be included in the Weedman Virtual Cemetery on the Find-A-Grave site.

If you have an interest in participating, you can upload your information and photos or you can send them to the editor, Nick Weedman (nick@weedman.org) and we will upload for you.

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We hope to have several hundred photos and other information posted on Find-A-Grave in 2011.

*Our appreciation to those who continue to support the publication of the **Weedman Newsletter**.*

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Hopefully, we can get several hundred new additions to this very useful web site in 2011.

Major Rusty Weedman Deployed to Iraq

The purpose of this email to advise you that our son, **Major William L. Weedman, Jr. (Rusty)**, a member of the Texas National Guard has been posted to Iraq. He was posted to Fort Lewis, Washington in early September in preparation for the deployment. They departed on Thanksgiving Day going down range. We have received a brief email from him that they have landed in the middle east and will be transported to his Iraq base soon. I image that he is already at his station, however, we have not yet received confirmation. We solicit your prayers for his safe return from the Middle East.

Rusty is the son of **Bill and Pat Weedman** of Wilson, NC.

Donations

Response to our annual push for subscribers to make donations to cover the cost of printing and mailing the **Weedman Newsletter** was generally good in 2010.

There were a number of individuals who made significant contributions that we acknowledge with our gratitude. We would like to recognize several who made extremely nice donations.

Richard Weedman sent probably the largest contribution we have ever received and it is fitting that his generosity be recognized. He recently moved from Naples, FL to Charleston, SC. He is the son of George and Polly Weedman for-

merly of Rapid City, SD. Polly is one of the members of the Weedman Hall of Fame. Many thanks, Richard!

Others who have been particularly generous include: **Lola Vance, Neva Weedman, Marianne Montgomery, Elizabeth Luevand, Sidney H. Weedman, Paul Weedman** and **Dr. Gary Weedman**. We extend our appreciation for your support.

Weedman Reunion

By Robin Weedman Cooper

The Annual Weedman Family Reunion was held on August 21, 2010 at the home of **Myron and Sherry Weedman** in Caneyville, KY. The weather was sunny and the wind was blowing which made for a very pleasant day. We had lots of good food, conversation and games. Several of the kids went for a dip in the pool. Later on in the afternoon we all loaded up on a wagon and rode down to the home of Dorman and Brenda Weedman. We all enjoyed being together once again and look so forward to next year.



Myron Weedman, host of the 2010 Grayson Co., KY Reunion

DNA Project Update

Since our last report on the Weedman Family DNA project, there has been some progress to report.

The DNA project uses the latest in technology to use sophisticated DNA testing to show family relationships between those who have participated in the test. The test which involves having individual saliva samples analyzed by a professional DNA testing firm has been shown to be a reliable predictor of relationships between individuals.

So far, participating in the program are: **Earl Joseph Weedman** who is from the Florida Weedman line; **William Bruce Weedman** and Nick Weedman who descend from **Christian Weedman, Jr.** of Grayson Co., KY; **Freeman Jesse (Jim) Weedman** who descends from **Jacob Weedman** of Southern Indiana, and **Robert Harold Widmann** who has roots back to **Lienhard Widmann** born 1606 in Aidlingen, Germany.

William B. Weedman recently had his sample

tested for 25 sites up from the original 12 sites and the results are no surprise. It shows a close match to the test results to both **Jim Weedman** and **Nick Weedman** with only a single marker that differed from each other.

We reported earlier that the tests show that **Earl Joseph Weedman's** ancestral line differs from those who descend from Christian Weedman, Sr. It is of interest that there is a remarkable similarity in the DNA tests between the three other Weedmans and that of **Robert Widmann**.

Our objective is to ultimately show with some certainty where **Christian Weedman, Sr.** originated and to possibly make connections with descendants of his siblings and/or parents.

Update on Chelsea Weedman Penn State Swim Team Member

We continue to follow the achievements of **Chelsea Weedman** a freshman swim team member at Penn State University. At a recent event in Naples, FL she won first place in the 200 yard butterfly and second in the 200 yard individual medley. Keep up the good work, Chelsea

*Lost and Found
Swedish Weedman Corner*

Betsey Weedman Daughter of Olaf Weedman

*(Editor's Note: **Olaf Weedman** was the first of three brothers who immigrated to the U. S. from Ockelbo, Gävleborg Lan (County), Sweden. Olaf arrived in the U.S. in 1855. Most of those researching this line of the family show that he had a daughter, **Betsey Weedman**, who was born in 1845 in Sweden. Attempts to prove there was such a daughter have not been successful until now.*

*The Church of Latter Day Saints (LDS) has a new site in test mode on which there are records presented in a much more detailed form and which provide exceptional information. Use of this site has been instrumental in making progress on the puzzle regarding **Betsey Weedman**. Information contained in an Iowa state death certificate on-line revealed the relationship between **Olaf Weedman** and **Betsey Anderson**.)*

Olaf Weedman arrived in the U. S. in 1855 and settled in Galesburg, Knox County, IL which was the home of a large number of Swedish immigrants. He probably arrived with a number of others from his same home area.

Apparently single and perhaps widowed in Sweden, our records show that he married **Brita Andersdotter** on 30 May 1856 in Knox County. Clearly, **Betsey Weedman** could not have been a daughter of this couple.

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Peter Anderson married **Betsy Wesman** (sic) (**Weedman**) on 18 July 1863 according to Illinois marriage records.

In the 1870 Federal census, the family was shown living in Wataga, Knox Co., IL with **Peter Anderson** (age: 24), **Betsie** (age: 24), **Joseph** (age: 7), and **Mary** (age: 5) in the household. Peter was a farmer.

In the 1880 Federal census, the family was living in the Walnut Grove area of Knox County. **Peter** (36), **Betsy** (35), **Joseph** (15), **Mary** (13), and **Emma** (2) are in the household. There is a gap of 11 years between Mary and Emma and a later census record shows that Betsy lost all but one of her children.

In the 1900 Federal census for Stromsburg, Polk County, NE **Peter A. Anderson** (born in June 1844 in Sweden) and his wife, **Betsey** (born June 1845 in Sweden) are listed. The record shows she gave birth to eight children but only one was living in June 1900.

The new LDS site however revealed information that would have been unlikely to have been found through normal methods. Iowa death records are on-line and we found where **Betsey Anderson** died on 1 November 1911 in Newell, Buena Vista Co., Iowa and was buried on 5 November 1911 in the Stromsburg Cemetery, Stromsburg, NE. In that on-line record, it names her father as **Olof Weedman** but her mother's name is unknown. This tie is beneficial. Betsey's birth date was shown as 25 July 1845 in Sweden.

No record could be found for Betsey Weedman Anderson in the 1910 census for either Nebraska or Iowa.

A search of another extremely helpful web site, Find-A-Grave, has a picture of the tombstone for **Peter** and **Betsey Anderson** to the right of this paragraph.

Equally revealing is the history of the town of Stromsburg, Nebraska. The town was founded by a group of Swedish immigrants from Ocklebo, Sweden who arrived in 1856. Here is what is stated on the town's web site:

In 1856, 155 people from [Ockelbo, Sweden](#), sailed aboard the vessel 'Carolina' to a new life in America. After several years in Illinois, some of the people decided to move on to the state of Nebraska, with Swedish real estate agent Lewis Headstrom as their leader. Delighted that the landscape resembled their homeland, they chose to name their new town after Stromsburg, a section of [Ockelbo, Sweden](#).



It appears that **Peter** and **Betsey (Weedman) Anderson** left Knox County, Illinois after 1880 and joined some of their prior neighbors and probably relatives in Nebraska!

Betsey Weedman was apparently the daughter of **Olof Weedman** by a marriage in Sweden. The first wife must have died (or possibly they divorced) and **Olof** immigrated to the U.S. with his daughter, **Betsey**. Clearly, the death record proves the relationship between **Betsey Weedman Anderson** and her father **Olof Weedman**.

This article is printed because it helps to clear questions that have lingered about **Betsey Weedman** and it also points to the fact that there are new bits of information being added constantly to aid in genealogical research. The "find" of the Iowa death record for **Betsey Anderson**, daughter of **Olof Weedman** was the missing piece to help finish a genealogical puzzle on this family.

Lost and Found

William Melvin Weedman (1860 – 1935) **Son of John Huhn and Minerva Gamble Weedman, Senior**

(Editor's Notes: The recent discovery of an excellent tool for genealogical research was a site called Find-A-Grave (www.findagrave.com). The site allows users to enter information on graves, tombstone inscriptions, and the ability to publish information such as obituaries. The site allows one to search for all of a surname nationwide, in a single state or a specific location.

We were recently trying to discover listed graves of Weedman family members in Oklahoma and found the graves of a family that we had simply been unable to find.

***John Huhn Weedman, Sr.** was born in 1796 to **George and Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman** in Fayette Co., Pennsylvania. The family moved to Perry County, Ohio between 1799 and the early 1800s. John married **Rachael Wilson** in Perry County in 1816 and that is where six of their ten or eleven children were born. In 1830, the family moved to McLean Co., Illinois and finally to Farmer City, DeWitt Co., Illinois. Rachael died in 1854 and is buried in Campground Cemetery near Farmer City.*

*John married **Mrs. Minerva (Yazel) Gamble** in McLean County on 3 June 1855. **Minerva Yazel**, born about 1825, married **Jefferson F. Gamble** on July 13, 1845 in McLean County. The couple had one child, **James J. Gamble** born in 1846. Apparently Jefferson Gamble died prior to 1850.*

*John and Minerva had a son, **William Melvin Weedman**, who was born in February 1860 probably in DeWitt County, Illinois. They soon moved along with a number of other Weedman family members to Webster City, Hamilton County, Iowa. John died there in 1868 and the body was returned to Farmer City for burial.*

***Minerva and William Melvin Weedman** returned to live in Farmer City. On September 15, 1870, Minerva Yazel Gamble Weedman married **Major John B. Hicks** in DeWitt County and they lived in Monticello, Piatt County, Illinois. There were no children born to this couple. It is unknown when **John B. Hicks** died but in the 1900 census, Minerva was shown living with her first son and his wife in Piatt County. Minerva apparently died between 1900 and 1910. It is unknown where she is buried.)*

From late 1800 census records, it had been established that **William Melvin Weedman** had survived and was living with relatives in DeWitt County. In 1880, he was living with his half brother, **Zadoc Casey Weedman** and his wife **Rebecca (Wolfe) Weedman**. William was listed as a 23 year old whose occupation was farming.

A marriage record was found in which a **William M. Weedman** married **Kittie M. Markett** in DeWitt County in 1887. Whether this is our man or not is unclear.

For years, the ultimate destiny of **William Melvin Weedman** was unknown.

The use of the Find-A-Grave site while browsing Oklahoma burial records for Weedman family members revealed that a **Mel Weedman** was buried in Square Cedar Cemetery near the small town of Cleo Springs, Major Co., Oklahoma. Also buried there were **Sophia Weedman** (1855 – 1915) as well as **Eva Weedman** (1893-1948) and **Pearl Weedman** (1896-1967). Sophia's name was on the same stone as that of **Mel Weedman** with stones



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for Eva and Pearl being separate.

Census research was undertaken and it was found that the family was living in Major County, Oklahoma when the 1900 and 1910 census counts were made. In the 1910 census, the head of the family was **William M. Weedman** age 52 born in Illinois. That clue led to the conclusion that this was our **William Melvin Weedman** who had been "lost" for years of researching.

In the Kansas State census taken in 1895, a listing is found for **Melvin Weedman**, age 36, **Sophia Weedman**, age 38, and **Eva Weedman**, age 2, living in Morton Township, Sedgwick County. This is the county where Wichita, Kansas is located. Morton Township is southwest of Wichita an on the Kansas - Oklahoma border.

In the 1900 census, the oldest daughter, Eva, was listed as being born in March 1893 in Kansas while the youngest daughter, Pearl, was shown as being born in August 1896 in Oklahoma. That record revealed the marriage of **William Melvin Weedman** and **Sophia** had occurred in 1889. It is likely that the couple had married in Kansas or less likely in Illinois. By this time, there were a number of Weedman families who had moved from Illinois and Iowa to several locations in Kansas.

It appears that neither daughter married although one record seems to indicate the youngest did marry although this cannot be confirmed.

This line ends with the death of **Pearl D. Weedman** in January 1967.

The mystery of what happened to **William Melvin Weedman** was solved but work remains to determine his wife's maiden name.

Apparently, **William Melvin Weedman** made his way from Illinois to Kansas and may well have joined some of the other Weedman families in that State. Whether he married in Illinois or Kansas isn't clear but his wife in 1900 had the name Sophia but no marriage record can be found in either state at this time. We note that in 1895 the family was living in Sedgwick County, KS quite close to Sumner County where **Abraham Lincoln (Linc) Weedman** had settled. It is possible that he participated in the fourth Oklahoma land run (September 16, 1893) but his name is not shown on a list of participants that we have been able to locate. It is unclear if that list was exhaustive or partial. In 1910, **William M. Weedman** received title to 80 acres of land from the Federal Government which indicates the possibility of land run participation. Most of those "Boomers" received 160 acres.

We have located the widow of a man whose obituary stated that the couple cared for Pearl Weedman for 18 or more years. We are attempting to make contact to determine if more history can be learned and to find if pictures might be available.

One final note --- **William Melvin Weedman** had a half brother, **James. J. Gamble** who remained in Illinois. James' wife was **Eva Gamble** and it appears that the oldest daughter, **Eva T. Weedman**, was named in her honor. James and Eva Gamble had no children.

The internet and availability of more and more genealogical records will allow more family mysteries to be solved. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, called the Mormon Church, has just opened a new internet site which has excellent information some of which has never been available on line. More discoveries are possible with additional research.