
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 45 Issue 1

Spring 2012

The *Weedman Newsletter* is beginning its 45th year of continuous publication. The first publishers were Paul and Marianne Montgomery.

As with the last edition of the *Weedman Newsletter*, this one is also late by a couple of weeks. But that is a significant improvement from the last one!

Responses to our plea for help in publishing the Newsletter were a bit underwhelming! We received several cards and monetary donations all of which are highly appreciated. So far we have had only two people to step forward to offer to write the occasional article for this publication. Whether we continue past this current year will depend on a number of factors one of which is our ability to attract contributing authors.

Please give some consideration and possibly offer to write an article on your particular family.

Recent Contacts

Recent contacts have provided some new information on their families while others have made a commitment to do so. Included in those recently corresponding are:

- **Carey Weedman Wehrli** – interested in the family of **Harry Raphael Weedman**, son of **Elisha** and **Letitia (Jarboe) Weedman** who went to the Pacific Northwest from Arkansas;
- **Chevon Stockwell** is interested in the family of **Cyril Clyde Weedman** who sent to Arizona from Southeast Missouri and whose line if through **Daniel** and **Nancy (Spurrier) Weedman**;
- **Gail Courtney** whose father

was **Myron Weedman** who died in World War II and whose line traces back to **George** and **Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman** of Illinois; and

- **Geraldine Weedman** furnished information on the family of **William Walter Weedman** of the Swedish Weedman line that descends from **Olaf Weedman**.

Several have furnished new family information which is highly appreciated.

1940 Census

The long awaited release to the public of the 1940 Federal Census was done in early April and several organizations such as Ancestry.com and Family Search.com are frantically working to index the 130 million entries. Until an index is available, laborious searches are needed to locate a family or individual in the census. I found my family (this is the first census in which I am listed) and while I learned little, it was interesting to see the entry. I found my paternal grandparents listed and although I know when there were born, it was a bit of

(Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue

Recent Contacts	1
Theiss Book & County Histories	2
Family Names in the News	3
William Melvin Weedman Family	4~7
2012 Reunion	8

(Continued from page 1)

a shock to see them in their mid-70s in 1940.

As the index becomes more widely available, we will be inputting selected information into our family data base.

Theiss Book and County Histories

In recent years, some attempt has been made to digitalize books that are out of copyright protection. Google made a major effort in this regard but apparently has backed off most of their efforts. Other firms have done the same.

As a result of their efforts, we have learned that a number of county history books published in the 1880s are available in some web sites. We have downloaded and have available county histories for the following counties and will add others as we discover their avail-

ability:

- **Perry County, Ohio**
- **Licking County, Ohio**
- **Fairfield County, Ohio**
- **Perry County, Indiana**
- **McLean County, Illinois**
- **DeWitt County, Illinois**
- **Piatt County, Illinois**

We have taken the Adobe Acrobat file for these counties and have processed them so they are easily searchable if you have the free software, Adobe Acrobat Reader. We have attempted to insure there are no licensing violations but all of these appear to either never have been in copyright or if they were, the copyright is no longer valid.

For those wishing a copy of Gena Theiss book, *Christian Weedman, Sr. and His Descendants 1735-1982* we can include any or all of the books on the CD that you order. In addition, we can include all 44 volumes of the *Weedman Newsletter*

(Continued on page 3)

The late Gena Theiss published two books on the descendants of Christian Weedman, Sr.

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.

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(Continued from page 2)

which also is fully searchable.

The cost of the CD is \$5.00 which covers postage and materials. To order, send a check to Nick Weedman, 130 Berry Creek Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731 and specify which materials you want.

Family members with an interest in genealogy and family history are eligible to purchase a copy of the CD. In addition, we will ultimately make copies available to libraries and genealogical research organizations.

Obituary

Bette J. Weedman

Bette J. Weedman, 82, of Rock Falls, IL died Wednesday, April 4, 2012, at Heartland Health Care Center in Macomb, IL. Bette was born Sept. 18, 1929, in Colorado Springs, Colo., the daughter of **Bert and Edith (Henson) Cornstubble**. She married Robert H. Weedman on July 9, 1947, in Effingham, IL.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, **Robert E. (Anne) Weedman** of Houston and **William (Shala) Weedman** of Macomb; a brother, **Bert (Alice) Cornstubble** of Rock Falls; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers. Cremation rites have been accorded.

Family Names in the News

Chelsea Weedman, daughter of **Paul and Emily Weedman** of Poway, CA continues to do extremely well as a sophomore in the Penn State University swim team. She recently competed in the NCAA championships in Auburn AL and had a just under personal best time in the 200 meter butterfly event. Her sister,

Ashley Weedman, will be swimming for California Baptist University as a freshman this fall.

Brent Forrest Weedman continues to make the news in the Mixed Martial Arts world. He has an excellent record and just won his most recent fight in the Bel-lator circuit. He is the son of **William George Weedman III** and **Margaret Weedman** of Louisville, KY. He is associated with the Team Haycraft group out of Louisville.

Andrew Weedman, a senior at South Elgin, IL High School has been making the news for some excellent performance as a baseball player for that school. In a recent game, the first base player hit two home runs, one of which was a grand slam! You can find his recruiting videos on a number of web sites. He is the son of **Andrew W.** and **Carol Weedman**.

Jeff Weedman, Vice President of Global Business Development for Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio continues to make the news as he represents the company in a number of negotiations and public appearances. He is from Anderson, Indiana and attended Albion College and later received his MBA from the University of Michigan.

He was recently in the news leading P&G in working with Universities to spur innovation. He was also a speaker at a National Governor's Conference in Washington, D. C.

His name is often seen in business news items. He is the son of **Dwight** and **Juanita Weedman** of Anderson.

Family names in the news are sourced from a Google service called Google Alerts which finds key words from thousands of publications.

William Melvin Weedman

Lost Son of **John Huhn Weedman, Senior** is Found!

*We are deeply indebted to **Nadine Rexroot** of Enid Oklahoma for furnishing photographs and obituary clippings of the **William Melvin Weedman** family. She and her husband gave support to the Weedman family and, in particular, to **Pearl Weedman** in the latter years of her life.*

John Huhn Weedman, Sr. was a son of George and **Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman** and was a grandson of the original immigrant, **Christian Weedman, Sr.** and his wife **Elizabeth**. John married **Rachael Wilson** in Perry County, Ohio and their large family has many descendants today living all around the country.

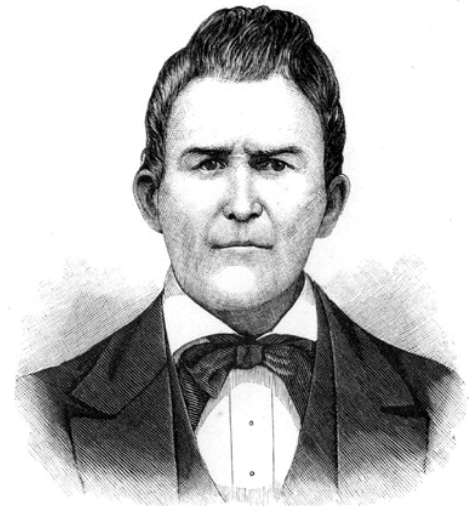
In order to provide some background on **John Weedman, Senior** we will reprint his biographical sketch from the 1882 History of DeWitt County, Illinois. When this was published, John had been dead for some time and obviously some of his children or grandchildren provided information for the article.

But, there is some important information that is omitted and that is the fact that **John Weedman, Sr.** married **Mrs. Minerva (Yazel) Gamble** in the late 1850s and the couple had a son, **William Melvin Weedman**. We can only speculate but it appears on the surface that at least some of the family did not take kindly to the second marriage.

Here is the biographical sketch:

John Huhn Weedman, Senior

The Weedman's were among the finest settlers Central Illinois, and of the few pioneers who settled in this county a half century ago. They are of German ancestry on the paternal side, and English on the maternal. George Weedman, the grandfather of the present Weedman family, was a native of Pennsylvania. He emigrated to Ohio soon after that State was admitted into the Union, and there remained until 1830, when he brought his family, to Illinois and settled in Randolph's Grove in McLean county, where he lived until his death, which occurred at an advanced age. John Weedman, his son, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1790, and was yet a youth when his parents removed to Ohio. He there grew to manhood, and married. When his father came west, he accompanied him and settled at the place above named in McLean County. In 1835 he removed to Hurley's Grove, in what is now known as Santa Anna Township, and there lived until his death. In his life, Mr. Weedman belonged to the ambitious and progressive class of men, and was actuated by a laudable desire to excel in whatever he undertook. He was by occupation a farmer and stock-raiser, and in that business accumulated considerable property, at least sufficient to render him comfortable in his declining years. Both he and his wife were members of the M. E. church, and both took an active interest in that Christian organization. He married Rachel Wilson, who was a native of Maryland, but was a resident of Ohio at the time of her marriage. Her father, Asa Wilson, was one of the early settlers of that State.



JOHN WEEDMAN, SR. (DECEASED.)

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

By the union of John and Rachel Weedman there were ten children, seven sons and three daughters. Isaiah, the fifth son, with patriotic devotion to his country enlisted during the late war in the 2d Illinois Cavalry, and lost his life at the battle of Holly Springs, December 20th, 1862. The names of the other children in the order of their birth are Asa, who died leaving a family, and who is mentioned in a separate biography; Harriet, George, Amos, John, Isaiah (deceased), Lucinda (also deceased), Eliza Emma, Zadok Casey, and Thomas St. Clair. All of the sons who are living are active, business men, and among the leading agriculturists of the county. It may be said of Mr. Weedman, Sr., that in his life every act of his, whether in public or private, was actuated by a desire to do right. He was honorable in everything, and was never known to do that which brought the blush of shame to his cheek, or in the least reflected upon his character as an honest man and a Christian gentleman.

There is a glaring omission in this biographical sketch and that is the second marriage of **John Weedman** and the birth of **William Melvin Weedman!** Also omitted from the biographical sketch was the fact that **John** and **Minerva Weedman** moved to Hamilton County, Iowa in the 1850s and that is where John died 12 March 1868. We believe there were other biographical sketches that mention the second marriage as well as the son of that marriage but we are unable to access that article at this time.

Following John's death in Iowa, **Minerva** and **William Melvin Weedman** returned to live in DeWitt County, Illinois.

Minerva Yazel

Minerva was born in Ohio in September 1825 to Mr (Given Name Unknown) and **Sarah Yazel**.

On 13 July 1845, she married **Jefferson F. Gamble** in McLean Co. IL and a son, **James J. Gamble**, was born in 1846 to the couple. By 1850, Mr. Gamble has apparently died and Minerva with James Gamble was living in Bloomington, McLean Co., IL with her mother, **Sarah Yazel**.

On 3 Jun 1855, **Minerva Gamble** married **John Huhn Weedman, Sr.** in a second marriage for both. John's first wife, Rachael (Wilson) Weedman has died in March 1854. At some point, the couple moved to Hamilton Co., Iowa and that is apparently where a son, **William Melvin Weedman**, was born on 20 February 1859. We are unable to locate the family in the 1860 census.

John H. Weedman, Sr. died on 12 March 1868 in Hamilton Co., IA and his body was returned to DeWitt Co., IL for burial in the Campground Cemetery. Following the death of **John H. Weedman**, his widow and son returned to DeWitt County to live.

In the 1870 census, **Minerva Weedman** is shown living in Farmer City, IL (age 42) along with son, **Melvin Weedman**, who appears as a 15 year old who works as a teamster. His age appears to be in error.

On 15 September 1870, **Minerva Weedman** married **Major John B. Hicks** and the family lived in Monticello, Piatt Co., IL. The family is listed in the 1880 census with two of Mr. Hicks grandchildren living with the family. Major Hicks was a veteran of the Civil War and operated a brick manufacturing company in Monticello.

In the 1900 census, **Minerva Hicks** (age 74) was living in Monticello along with her first son, **James J. Gamble** and his wife, **Eva**. The couple apparently had no children.

Minerva died after the 1900 census was taken and prior to the 1910 census. No grave site for Minerva, **Jefferson Gamble** or **John B. Hicks** has been found.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

For some period of time, attempts to follow the path of **Melvin Weedman** had failed. He seemed to have simply vanished but with the advent of the Find A Grave website, we located his burial place in Oklahoma. Further research revealed that the obituary of **Mr. Kenneth Rexroot** stated that he and his wife had provided care of some type for **Pearl Weedman**. Contact was made by mail with Mrs. Rexroot and she provided the pictures and obituaries that follow in this article.

William Melvin Weedman

William Melvin Weedman was born on 20 February 1859 probably in Hamilton Co., Iowa. The family lived in Iowa until the death of **John H. Weedman, Sr.** in 1868 after which they relocated back to DeWitt County, Illinois.

In the 1870 census as stated above William and Minerva were living in Farmer City but shortly after the census was taken, Minerva married **John B. Hicks**.

In 1880, Melvin was living with a half brother, **Zadock Casey Weedman**, and his family in Farmer City. He is listed as a farmer.

At some point, Melvin left Illinois and appears in Scott City, Kansas where he married **Sophia Haak**. His obituary shown here is revealing about his journey from his initial residence in Scott City, Kansas to his permanent home in Oklahoma.

Why he moved to Kansas and ultimately Oklahoma is unknown. However, a number of his Weedman cousins located in Central and ultimately Southern Kansas and perhaps they had influence on his decision to leave Illinois. And, there were land rushes where settlers could take up land in Oklahoma presumably for little or no cost and one of those occurred just prior to the family moving to that state. A land map shows that both Mel and Sophia had land in Oklahoma and from the obituary on **Eva Weedman**, it appears they accumulated additional land during their life time.

Mel Weedman was a farmer and/or a rancher and lived near Aline, Oklahoma. He died on 6 December 1935 and is buried in the Square Cedar Cemetery in Cleo Springs, Oklahoma.

Sophia Haak

Sophia Haak was born 1 November 1855 in LaSalle Co., IL. The names of her parents are not known at this point. In 1885, she moved to Kansas probably in the company of one or more of her siblings. Shortly after her move, she married **William Melvin Weedman**.

Her death at age 60 seems early by today's standards. Research into the lives of her siblings indicates that virtually all lived longer than Sophia. We have been able to locate the grave sites of most of the siblings. Her death occurred on 12 April 1915 and she is buried in the Square Cedar Cemetery in Cleo Springs, OK.

She and Mel had three children: Bertha, who died in infancy, **Eva Tot Weedman**, and **Pearl Dot Weedman**. Her obituary is shown on the following page.

OBITUARY

William Melvin Weedman was born February the 20th, 1859, at Farmer City, ILL., and departed this life Dec., 6th, 1935, at the age of 76 years, 9 months and 16 days.

He was married to Sophia Hank, in May 1890, at Scott City, Kansas. To this union were born three children, Bertha, who died in infancy; Mrs. Eva Church and Pearl of the home community.

He lived in Kansas, until he came to Oklahoma, in 1896, where he lived until the end.

His life was industrious and upright and he was well liked by those who knew him. He expressed faith in God and thought of a future life.

He leaves to mourn his departure two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the tender and constant care and sincere sympathy so tenderly expressed during the illness and death of our loved one.

—The daughters and
—Other relatives.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Eva Tot Weedman

Eva Tot Weedman was born near Cheney, Kansas on 14 March 1893. She was two years old when the family moved to establish a new home near Aline, Oklahoma.

On 5 November 1927 she married **Joel Dale Church** in Garfield County, Oklahoma. Mr. Church was a widower with several children when this couple married. Apparently, the marriage didn't last long. In the 1930 census, Eva is living with her father and sister and is shown as a married person. We suspect there was a divorce not long after the census was

taken and there were no children born to this marriage. **Eva Weedman** died on 17 January 1948 at the age of 54 and is buried in the Square Cedar Cemetery in Cleo Springs, OK where the rest of the family is buried.

OBITUARY

Miss Eva Weedman

Eva Tot Weedman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Woodman was born near Cheney, Kansas, March 14, 1893. When two years of age, she moved with her parents to a farm near Aline, Oklahoma, where she resided the remainder of her life.

Eva's girlhood days were spent much the same as that of the average country girl in sharing the duties and blessings of the home and in attending the Englewood school. She possessed an amiable and jolly disposition which won her a wide circle of friends.

In 1914 a great sorrow came into the Weedman home when Mrs. Weedman, the mother was taken. Eva and her sister, Pearl, assumed the responsibilities of the home and kept house for their father until his death in 1935. After his passing the girls continued to reside on and operate the farm and were able by hard work and good management to accumulate other land.

As a neighbor, Eva was unsurpassed. Possessing a sympathetic disposition, there was no service too difficult or menial she would not render to help a friend in sickness or need.

She had been in failing health for several years but not until about ten weeks ago did her con-

dition become serious. She was then taken to an Enid hospital for treatment. As a sufferer her endurance and patience were remarkable.

Nearly thirty-five years ago Eva was baptised in the Christian faith. However, during the last weeks of her illness she sought God more perfectly in His peace and pardon and gave clear testimony on numerous occasions that Christ was real to her soul. She enjoyed the reading of the scriptures and the seasons of prayer in her room and loved to talk about heaven with its beauty and bliss, where she expected soon to depart.

She passed away on Saturday, January 17, 1948 at the age of 54 years, 10 months and three days.

Having made her preparation to meet God, she approached her grave "like one who wraps the drapery of her couch about her and lies down to pleasant dreams."

She leaves to mourn her passing, one sister, Pearl, of the home; two aunts, several cousins and a host of friends.

Two daughters of **Zadock Sinclair Weedman** married brothers **Philip** and **Max Church** in Kansas. However, we can find no relation between that Church family and the family of **Joel Dale Church**.

Pearl Dot Weedman

Pearl Dot Weedman was the youngest of three children and was born in Kansas in 1896. She never married and when her mother died in 1915 assumed the role of homemaker along with her sister. Pearl died 21 January 1967 in Aline, Oklahoma and is buried in the Square Cedar Cemetery.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Wm. Weedman, born Nov. 1, 1855, departed her life April 12, 1915. She was born of Christian parentage and in this faith she died. She was born in LaSalle county, Ill.

She was of a family of six children, and is survived by three sisters and two brothers: John Haak, Clearwater, Kan., Mrs. Mary Corle, Algona, Iowa, Mrs. Hanna Orr, Scott City, Kan., Mrs. R. E. Brown, Algona, Iowa, and Will Haak, Browning, Neb.

She moved to Kansas in 1885 and was united in marriage to Wm. Weedman, in Scott City, Kan., on May 27, 1889. To this union three children were born one of whom died in infancy, two daughters being left with their father to mourn her loss. She was a devoted wife and loving mother, loved by all who knew her. Everything was done that loving hands could do to prolong her life, but the end came after a long and painful illness, but it came in a peaceful sleep.

Her sister, Mrs. R. E. Brown came from Algona, Iowa, to spend a few days with her, but came too late, she having passed away on Monday and her sister came on Friday.

Gard of Thanks

Our heartfelt thanks are hereby tendered to our friends and neighbors all who came to us with kindly words of sympathy in our late bereavement by the death of our wife and mother. You will never know how helpful you were to us until you receive like attention under like circumstances. Verily, we had the bitter cup of sorrow and bereavement to drink, but you helped us,

WM. WEEDMAN and Daughters.



Melvin and Sophia (Haak) Weedman with daughters Pearl and Eva

With the passing of **Pearl Weedman** the line of **William Melvin Weedman** ended.

2012 Weedman National Family Gathering

August 17 ~ 19, 2012

Rough River State Park Kentucky

Hosts: **Cliff and Shirley Weedman along with Myron and Sherry Weedman**

Details of the Reunion are currently being considered but among the possible events are:

- **touring five local graveyards where family members are buried**
- **fishing,**
- **camping,**
- **swimming,**
- **Blue Grass music,**
- **hayrides, and yard games**
- **Sunday Service.**

Mark your calendars for these dates and check the Weedman website (www.weedman.org) for additional details as they are released! Or send an e-mail to Cliff at weed88@yahoo.com.

Weedman Newsletter

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