
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 45 Issue 3

Fall 2012

2012 Weedman National Family Gathering

The **2012 Weedman National Family Gathering** was held from August 17 through August 19 at the Rough River State Park in Grayson County Kentucky and at the farm residence of **Sherry** and **Myron Weedman** in Caneyville, Kentucky. Hosts for the event were **Shirley** and **Cliff Weedman** along with Cliff's brother, **David Weedman**. Sherry and Myron hosted the events on Saturday.

Friday was a travel day and when participants arrived at the Lodge at the Rough River State Park, a hospitality room was there to welcome everyone. Cliff and Shirley operate a bakery in Eighty-Eight, Kentucky and displayed some of their outstanding products for consumption by reunion participants.

Participants included **Col.** (USAF, retired) **Jim Weedman** and his son **Dr. Doug Weedman** of La Vista, Nebraska; **Billie Lou Weedman Bruce** of West Lafayette, Indiana; **Betty Myers Yahn** and **Gene Yahn** of Aurora, Colorado; **Carolyn Frosco, Janet Martin, Barbara Dicks**, and **Kathy Crabtree** (four sisters) from Oklahoma; **Sharon Bryden** of Springfield, IL; **David Weedman** of Louisville, KY, **Cliff** and **Shirley Weedman** of Eighty Eight Kentucky with their two children **Jarrad** and **Hannah**; and, **Merrie Carol** and **Nick Weedman**, Flat Rock, North Carolina.

On Saturday morning, the group motored to the Myron Weedman farm in Caneyville to find a very large group of local Weedman family members in at-

tendance. Annually, a Weedman family reunion is held here and having the two groups merge was an outstanding idea.

Food had been prepared by all of the Kentucky participants and one thing we reaffirmed was that the Weedman women (and men!) are outstanding cooks. We wish we had pictures of the spread because words are inadequate to describe the variety and quality of the lunch. A whole hog had been barbecued and there were so many dishes available that all were fully sated.

The farm is directly across the road from the **Sy Hughes Cemetery** where several family members are laid to rest. A tractor pulled a hay wagon filled with participants to visit the burial site. Later in the afternoon, family musicians played a concert for participants.

The event at the Weedman farm was truly outstanding and highly enjoyable!

Another smaller group went to visit a grave site where some of us had visited at the 1996 Reunion that was held at Bardstown, Kentucky. At that site, the great grandfather of the late **Gena Theiss**, was buried and we wondered if anyone still

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The 2012 Weedman National Family Gathering was the 14th in events held every other year since 1984 except for 2010.

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The Burnett—Weedman Cemetery has a number of graves that have stones which may have inscriptions.

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knew where it was. **Jerry Weedman** lead a group to visit the site and a report of that visit is in the next article.

The final activity on Saturday was a boat tour of the lake and river at Rough River State Park. There was a lot of water activity on the lake and the tour was beautiful and informative. The captain allowed all of the kids to take turns piloting the boat and that was surely a highlight for them! Their facial expressions told the whole story as each drove the boat!

The Reunion was highly enjoyable and a successful event. Our appreciation goes out to **Shirley, Cliff and David Weedman** for all of the fine efforts and time spent organizing the event. And, a special thanks to **Myron and Sherry Weedman** for allowing the two Reunions to be combined. The opportunity to meet so many of the Kentucky cousins was truly a highlight and provided a memorable occasion!

Discoveries in the Weedman-Burnett Cemetery On Little Clifty Creek in Grayson County, Kentucky

It has been known that the grave of **Willis Green Weedman, Senior** was located in a wooded area next to a cultivated field northeast of Leitchfield, Kentucky. At the 1996 Weedman National Family Gathering held in Bardstown, KY hosted by **Jimmie Birch** and **Alma Weedman** a motorcade went from the Reunion hotel to the **Myron Weedman** farm. And, from there, a group went to the grave site of **Willis Weedman**.

At the time, little thought was given to much more than the beautiful stone which seemed to be alone on the burial site. But when **Jerry Weedman** took a group of about eight people back to the burial grounds at the 2012 Reunion, it was noted that some of the stones that

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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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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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initially appeared to be little more than an outcropping held much more promise.

Someone asked about the other stones and another examined one very closely and found that under the moss and other covering were inscriptions.

Jerry Weedman read one stone which appeared to be inscribed: **J. Burnet** (one "t"), died in 1860.

Another stone was read and while the name of the person buried there was not readable, clearly the stone was inscribed.

We have subsequently learned that the cemetery had been catalogued by the Grayson County Historical Society. In the book, *Grayson County Kentucky Cemeteries, Volume I*, 1990, by the Grayson County Historical Society, page 14, the **Burnett-Weedman Cemetery** is shown. Three graves are listed including: **J. (John ?) Burnett**, born 1776, died 1860; **S. B. W. Burnett**, born 1813, died 1860; and **Willis Green Weedman**, born 23 February 1837, died 11 June 1877. The article states there are probably 10 graves here but no more are identified. **S. B. W. Burnett** was likely **Samuel Burnett** or also known as **William Burnett**. In the survey of the land grant received by **John Weedman** in January 1842 on Little Clifty Creek, mention is made that Weedman's land adjoins that of Burnett.

In the work of Gena Theiss, *Christian Weedman and His Descendants 1735 – 1986* Second Revision, 2002, she stated that in the process of cataloguing grave sites for the Grayson County Historical Society a lady, Virginia Stone Armstrong, contacted her advising of the location of the **Willis Weedman** grave. Thus, the location of the cemetery was revealed.

A search of the available census records

are of limited help on the Burnetts. However, it was revealed that a **John Burnett**, born in 1776 in Virginia died in 1860 (Grayson County, Kentucky mortality schedule for 1860) but no clue exists for the other Burnett buried there. Apparently there are a number of Burnett families in Grayson County and if we can learn from them more about the family, we might be able to learn who was buried in that cemetery.

The questions are: could this be the burial site for more Weedman family members than **Willis Green Weedman, Senior?**; are there other inscribed stones that that are covered with moss?; could this cemetery be recognized as such and maintained on a continuous basis?

We have asked **Jerry Weedman** if it would possible to return in the Fall after the soybeans have been harvested and the weeds through which one must wade to get to the cemetery have died back, can



The Willis Weedman, Sr. grave marker

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*The spelling of the surname on the **Willis Green Weedman, Sr.** tombstone is incorrect. This was not an uncommon happening in the 1800s.*

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we visit and clean the stones to see if anything further can be learned. He has agreed and the intent is to return and do some cemetery restoration.

A report on these efforts will be given in the Winter 2012 issue.

The Names of Willis, Green and Willis Green in the Weedman Family

The names of **Willis, Green,** and **Willis Green** appear with some consistency in the early Weedman families of three of the sons of **Christian** and **Mary (Marshall) Weedman, Junior.**

The recent Weedman National Family Gathering in Grayson County, Kentucky provided an opportunity to examine the possible reasons for the use of those names. As we will show, **Willis Green** was a prominent individual in Grayson County from about 1820 until the late 1850s. Was there a family connection between **Christian Weedman** and **Willis Green**?

A normal convention is to name children in honor of some family relative. An examination of both families reveals there was no apparent connection through any marriage.

Another possibility is the possibility of a high degree of respect for **Willis Green** by the Weedman families. This would be difficult to prove.

And still another possibility is that one or more family members could have been employed by **Willis Green** and the children were named in honor of this person.

Interestingly, the use of these names occurs exclusively (with a single exception)

in the families of the sons of **Christian Weedman, Jr.** by **John Weedman, William Weedman** and **Daniel Weedman.** **John Weedman** named a son, **Willis Green Weedman (Senior)** who in turn named a son, **Willis Green Weedman, Jr.** **William Weedman** named one of his sons **James Willis Weedman** and another **Green Berry Weedman.** Daniel Weedman had sons **Felix Green Weedman** and **James Willis Weedman.** We can find no ancestors named **Willis** or **Green.**

We will pursue research of the **Willis Green** papers at Western Kentucky University to determine if any of those early papers from 1814 through 1860 provide clues as to a possible connection between the Green and Weedman families. Hopefully, a trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky will allow for that research to occur. There are over 8,000 documents in these papers but narrowing the search to the early years should make research more manageable.

Here is a brief history of the **Green Family** in Grayson County taken from the Western Kentucky University web site:

Green Family

Willis Green (1794?-1862) was an early Mississippi River trader engaged in shipping goods from Kentucky to New Orleans. In 1818 he married **Ann Allen** (1795-1877) of Shelby County, Kentucky, and they moved to Hardinsburg where he practiced law. Willis purchased land, formerly owned by Spanish conspiracy plot participant **Benjamin Sebastian** in 1820, at Falls of Rough in Grayson County. As time passed, he developed a farming operation, which included the construction of a sawmill and

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Research will be done to see if some of the Weedman family were possibly employed by Willis Green. Records are on file at Western Kentucky.

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a gristmill. **Willis** served in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1839 to 1843. He also was very active in **Henry Clay's** 1844 campaign for the presidency. In 1859, Willis and his wife moved to Texas due to his ill health.

Nephews and nieces of **Willis**, children of his brother **Morgan B. Green** (b. 1805), were living with the Greens by 1845 including **Lafayette Green**. Lafayette (1835-1907) studied law in Lexington. In addition, Lafayette worked in various Louisville merchandising establishments, receiving training that helped prepare him to manage the Falls of Rough operations. Because of his uncle's declining health, Lafayette became the family's financial head. He also served in the State House of Representatives from 1859 to 1861. Following his uncle's death in 1862 and while the Civil War was raging, Lafayette went to Texas to

accompany his aunt back to Kentucky and to bring his uncle's body back for reinterment.

In 1866 Lafayette married Rebecca Eleanor "Ella" Scott daughter of Robert Wilmot Scott and Elizabeth Watts (Brown) Scott of Frankfort. The Greens had five children, none of whom married.

Lafayette and his sons increased operations and began new ones at Falls of Rough, which included lumbering, flour milling, selling tobacco, raising Shetland ponies, a post office, a bank, and a general store. Because of their transportation needs for business purposes and to provide passenger service, a railroad line was extended to Falls of Rough in 1891. Their house, which was built of home-grown products (stone that was cut on the place and lumber that was cut and dressed at the mill), was a beautiful

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The Willis Green home shown on this page was built when Christian Weedman, Jr. and much of his family lived in the area.



The Willis Green home at Falls of Rough, Kentucky built about 1823 when the Weedman Family was well established in the area along Rough Creek or Rough River

Research will be conducted to determine the exact location of the three Weedman land grants in Grayson County, Kentucky.

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manor dwelling. Ella and her daughter Jennie were gracious hostesses, entertaining many friends and acquaintances through the years.

The children were educated at home by teachers employed by their parents, and later attended various private schools. All three sons were Centre College students; but Jennie, while in her teens, terminated her formal education and remained at home to assist her ailing mother with management of the house and family. None of the children ever married. After her brothers died, Jennie continued to oversee all the operations of the small empire until her health declined. The estate passed to a distant cousin from Texas and was sold to developers in 2000.

Kentucky Land Grants to Weedman Family Members

The interest in finding the locations of land grants made to Weedman family members stems from a desire to know where the family actually lived in the 1790s and 1800s up until about 1850. There were four land grants made, three of which were in Grayson County. Contact needs to be made with the Kentucky Land Office to determine if actual surveys can be obtained to match the contour of streams and adjacent land owners.

The initial land grant was made to **Christian (Christopher) Weedman** for 150 acres in Pulaski County on Canadas Creek. The grantee had to be 21 years of age or older and must have lived on the land for one year. The date of the survey was 28 June 1799 and the source of this information was contained in *Grants South of Green River*. We have been unable to locate Canadas Creek and recently visited Somerset, KY, the county

seat for Pulaski County, only to find no record of land being obtained or sold by a Weedman in this County. However, tax lists do show residence there for a short period.

The next land grant was to **Christen (Christian) Weedman** for 50 acres in Grayson County on Rough Creek dated January 28, 1828. The land was sold for \$20 per 100 acres. The source of this information was contained in *Kentucky Land Warrants*.

John Weedman obtained two grants both of which were on Little Clifty Creek in Grayson County. The first grant was for 100 acres and was received on 13 October 1829 while the second was for 49 acres on 10 March 1841. The source of this information was *Kentucky Land Warrants*. A single survey is in hand which shows the land grant being adjacent to land owned by **Samuel Burnett**.

Little Clifty Creek flows into Rough River (formerly Rough Creek) and is a fairly short stream. It is likely that the land obtained by **John Weedman** is reasonably close to that of his father, **Christian Weedman, Jr.** but these needs to be researched.

Again, we feel it is highly likely that the Burnett Weedman cemetery is on land or very near to land owned by either **John** or **Christian Weedman, Jr.** but additional work is needed to prove this. The loss of deed and other records in a series of court house fires in Grayson County makes research into this subject a challenge.

Graduation

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Ashley Storm Weedman

Ashley Storm Weedman graduated from Central Hardin High School in Cecilia, KY this past May, 2012. She is attending Elizabethtown Community and Technical College (ECTC) enrolling in the Fall, 2012. She will get an associates degree in early child hood (elementary) education and pursue either a bachelor in education or a bachelor in sign language communications at another institution. Source: **Timothy Weedman**, Elizabethtown, KY

Obituaries

Lynn M. Weedman

Lynn M. (Ace) Weedman, 57, of rural Glenville, Minnesota died September 5, 2012, at the University Medical Center in Iowa City, Iowa, as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

He was born May 26, 1955, in Fort Dodge, Iowa, to **Maynard** and **Ruth (Cadam) Weedman**. He grew up in Clarksville, Iowa, and graduated from Clarksville High School. From 1973 to 1975, he served in Vietnam. Lynn then lived in Freeborn County working as a mechanic. He also built bikes and did woodwork and metalwork.

A member of Austin Christian Fellowship, Lynn liked asparagus hunting and riding motorcycles. He rode with the Southern Minnesota Bond Slave Motorcycle Club and was their president. He was a leader who liked to help people whenever he could. Lynn also served as a certified, ordained minister.

Survivors include his fiancé, **Kelly**, of Glenville; three sons, **Titus** of Glenville, **Quentin** of Blooming Prairie, and **Michal** of Waterloo, Iowa; **Erick Power** and **Breanna Power**, both of Austin; two grandchildren; brothers **Jim (Jan) Weedman** of Boone, Iowa, and **Dale Weedman** of New Hartford, Iowa; nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents **Maynard** and **Ruth Weedman**.

His Weedman lineage was: Lynn Maynard Weedman⁸, Maynard Marion Weedman⁷, John William Weedman⁶, Henry Linas Weedman⁵, Asa Weedman⁴, John Huhn Weedman, Sr.³, George Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Charles W. Weedman

Charles W. Weedman, 95, Lenexa, KS, passed away on October 14, 2012, at Lakeview Village Care Center in Lenexa. Services were on October 18, 2012 with burial in Elmwood Cemetery, Kansas City, MO.

He was born August 10, 1917 in Perkins County, S.D. to **Ona** and **Lelia Weedman**. He graduated from University of Missouri at Kansas City Charles married **Bettie (Merchen) Weedman** September 7, 1948 in Kansas City, MO. He served as Navigator Bombardier in the Army Air Corp in WWII and the Korean War. Charles operated and owned a hardware store in Emporia, KS from 1961 to 1971 when he sold the business and moved to Trenton, MO. He later owned and operated a Radio Shack and hardware business in Trenton until 1986 when he sold the business and retired.

Charles was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Bettie, his mother and father, sisters: **Pauline Weedman** and **Arlene Shillingburg** and brothers, **Myron** and **Gail Weedman**. He is survived by nephews and nieces.

His lineage: Charles W. Weedman⁷, Ona Harrison Weedman⁶, William Martin Weedman⁵, Jeremiah Weedman⁴, Jacob Weedman³, George Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.



Jeff Davidson Owen Weedman, Jr.

Jeff Weedman, 71, of Norris City, Illinois died on August 18, 2012, at Ferrell Hospital in Eldorado, Illinois. He was born August 16, 1941, in Breckinridge County, Ky., the son of **Jeff Davidson Owen Weedman** and his wife, **Ethel Mae (Ford) Weedman**. He married **Shirley Sago** on March 24, 1962, and she survives.

Jeff was a minister and member of the New Life Apostolic Church in Carmi. He enjoyed walking, fishing, bible study and witnessing his faith to others.

Survivors include his wife, **Shirley**, of Norris City; sons, **Ronald Lee Weedman** of Norris City, **Jeff David (Tina) Weedman** of Sparta, Tenn., **Robert (Debbie) Weedman** of Carmi, **Daniel Ray (Anita) Weedman** of Norris City, **Ronald Jonathan (Heather) Weedman** of Sparta, Tenn.; daughters, **Debra Corinne Weedman** of Norris City, **Sheryl Lynn (Jason) Leadingham** of Norris City, **Amanda (Steven) Schroeder** of Carmi; brother **Roy Thomas Weedman** of Cloverport, Ky.; sisters, **Stella (Bill) Simms** of Lyon County, Ky., **Nancy Sinclair** of Tell City, Ind., **Dorothy Canary** of Fordsville, Ky., **Janie Sanders** of Hancock County, Ky.; 17 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, **Leonard, Joe, Ernie** and **Jim**; and sister, **Mary Alice**.

The funeral was on August 22 with burial in Oddfellows Cemetery in Norris City.

His Weedman lineage was: Jeff Davidson Owen Weedman, Jr.⁷, Jeff Davidson Owen Weedman, Sr.⁶, James David Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Minnie Lucille Weedman Russell

Minnie Lucille Weedman Russell, age 81 of Cloverport, KY died Friday, July 20, 2012 at University Hospital in Louisville, KY. She was born in Lewisport, KY on September 4, 1930, the daughter of the late **Robert** and **Eloda (Yeager) Weedman**. She attended Cloverport Baptist Church and enjoyed dancing.

She was preceded in death by her brothers: **James, Walter** and **William Weedman**.

Minnie is survived by 3 children: **Toni Rose** of Fairfield, CA, **Wayne Russell** of Napa, CA **Roger Russell** of Troy, IN, 1 brother: **Terrell Weedman** of Valley Station, KY and 3 grandchildren: **Holly Rose-Beltran, Heather Rose** and **Ashley Russell** as well as 3 great grandchildren

Funeral services were on Thursday, July 25, 2012 with burial in the McQuady Cemetery, McQuady, KY.

Her Weedman lineage was: Minnie Weedman Russell⁸, William Robert Weedman⁷, James Oscar Weedman⁶, James David Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Orval Gail Brown

Orval "Gail" Brown, Sr., 94, died at his home in Porterville, CA on November 16, 2011. He was a son of **Alvin Austin** and **Orva Susie (Weedman) Brown** and was born 28 July 1917 in Armorel, Arkansas. He married **Louise Querry** in 1944 and they had three children: **Patricia Ann, Orval Gail, Jr.**, and **Bonnie**. His wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren survive. He was a farmer and owned a sheet metal shop in Porterville.

His Weedman lineage was: Orval Gail Brown⁷, Orva Susie Weedman Brown⁶, Charley Green Weedman⁵, Green Berry Weedman⁴, William Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.