

Weedman Family Hall of Fame



John Huhn Weedman, Jr.
Inducted 2000

July 2008 Update

Purpose and Objective

The purpose of the Who's Who in the Weedman Family is to recognize some of those family members who have made distinctive and positive contributions that brings honor to the family.

Those eligible are direct descendants or those married to direct descendants of **Christian, Sr.** and **Elizabeth Weedman, Olaf** and **Brita (Andersdotter) Weedman** (the Swedish line), or **Philip (Felipe) William** and **Mary Barbara Antonia (Hainsman) Weedman**. This program will initially be for Weedman family members in the United States. As we learn more about those with roots in Australia, Canada, and England it may be expanded to include those family members.

Selection is taken from a list of nominations and then screened by a committee of family members.

I recall my first trip to Farmer City to meet **Mrs. Frances Weedman Miles**. She had a wealth of knowledge about the family particularly those descended from **George** and **Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman**. She also had very strong (and sometimes erroneous) feelings about the family beginnings!

One statement made by Mrs. Miles was "...the family is basically made up of yeoman farmers..." which is essentially true. Clearly, there is nothing wrong with being a farmer and some in the Weedman family have been quite successful in agriculture. However, there are those who have excelled in their chosen life endeavor or made some notable claim to fame. The Hall of Fame is intended to highlight those who have made names for themselves and the family by making a particular success in life or through an event that is historically noteworthy.

We continue the program that began in June, 2000 at the Farmer City/Weedman, Illinois event.

Nick Weedman
June 2008

2000 Inductees in Farmer City, IL

		Page
Mary Weedman Myers	First Native Born Woman to Cross the Ohio River to settle in the Ohio Territory	1
John Huhn Weedman, Jr.	Farmer and businessman	2
Freeman Weedman Burford	Oilman	4
Catherine Bishop Weedman	Maternal Head of Family of Medical Professionals	6
Dr. James C. Munch	Pharmacologist	8
George Perry Weedman	Educator	10
Dee Brown	Author and Historian	11
Gena Theiss	Author	12
Marianne J. Montgomery	Founding Editor, Weedman Newsletter	13
Dr. Daniel W. Weedman	Astronomer	14

2002 Inductees in Jasper, IN

Christian Weedman, Senior	Initial immigrant and line founder	16
Harry N. (Nick) Weedman	Businessman	15

2004 Inductees in San Diego, CA

Charles Vern Weedman	Attorney	20
Lauren Hatfield Weedman	Comedian	21
Olive Anne (Polly) Weedman	Pioneer Broadcasting Personality	22

2006 Inductee in Tell City, IN

Carl Lee Weedman	Contractor/Community Supporter	25
------------------	--------------------------------	----

2008 Inductees in Uniontown, PA

Carl Oran	Decorated Veteran and Businessman	26
Ed Smith	Cartoonist	27
Freeman James (Jim) Weedman	Decorated Military Officer & Businessman	29

Mary Weedman Myers

First American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia (now West Virginia) to settle the Ohio County

Mary Weedman Myers, the first child of **Christian, Sr.** and **Elizabeth Weedman**, was born on 1 January 1762 in South Branch, Hampshire Co., VA. South Branch appears to be a locality rather than a village or town and is the South Branch of the Potomac River located in what is now West Virginia.

According to an article, *Just Like Old Times*, Book VI, 1987-1989, which was basically a series of articles, published in the Norwalk, Huron Co., OH Reflector, **Mary Weedman Myers was the first American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia (now West Virginia) to settle the Ohio County.** Reference to the Ohio country is presumed to mean Western Pennsylvania in an area around the Ohio River.

The birth date of **Mary Weedman** has been taken from the request for a pension made by her husband, **Adam Myers**, who was a veteran of the Revolutionary War. In that application, the date of birth is given for all of the family. Importantly, it locates the family of Christian Weedman prior to their move to Fayette Co., Pennsylvania.

What is meant by *“...the first American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia (now West Virginia) to settle the Ohio County...”*?

We believe this means that she was the first American born female of European ancestry to make the crossing. If so, does this mean that her mother, who presumably crossed at the same time, was not American born? Probably so – Mary’s father was not born in America and it is possible that the mother was not either.

From information on allied lines, it is known that a group of people living in Hampshire Co., VA did move to Fayette Co., PA including the Myers, the Walters, and likely many others along with Christian Weedman in 1769 or earlier.

It is clear that this was truly a pioneer family moving into Western Pennsylvania as the initial settlers of land in that area.

Mary Weedman married **Adam Myers**, son of **Henry Myers, Sr.** on 2 August 1779 probably in Fayette Co., PA. Ten children were born to the couple. They moved to the Perry and Licking Co., OH area in the early 1800s and in 1814 moved to Huron Co., OH where they both died. They are buried on a farm in Huron Co.

Mary Weedman Myers is recognized for being the first American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia (now West Virginia) to settle the Ohio County.

John Huhn Weedman, Jr.

Self-made and successful Farmer, Banker and Businessman

John H. Weedman, Jr. is recognized as a successful farmer, stock dealer, and banker. He was born in Perry Co., OH on February 3, 1828 to John and Rachael (Wilson) Weedman, Sr.

Perhaps the best description of John Weedman, Jr. is from a biographical sketch published in the 1880s for DeWitt Co., IL. A partial quote follows:



“...Among the influential and leading businessmen, as well as old settlers of DeWitt County, is the subject of the following sketch.

Although not a resident of the county, yet he has been for many years identified with its history and progress, and has contributed much to its material prosperity. He was born in Perry County, Ohio, February 3, 1828, and is the son of John and Rachel Weedman, whose histories are to be found on another page of this work. He was, in his infancy, when his parents removed from Ohio to Illinois and settled in Randolph's Grove. His education in his youth was of a limited character, and was confined to the log school-house of nearly a half century ago, wherein he learned to read, write and cipher, which embraced the entire educational course. But Mr. Weedman did not rely so much upon the schools as he did upon self-culture. As a man and boy he contracted habits of close observation and cultivated a taste for reading, which improved the mind, and, in time, rendered him well informed upon the current literature and topics of the day. He was

raised to habits of industry upon his father's farm, and remained at home until 1850, when he and other members of the family were seized with the gold fever, which was produced by the discovery of gold in California. In company with four of his brothers, he started for California by the overland route, and landed in Sacramento July 24, 1850. They engaged in mining and hauling provisions. John remained in California for eighteen months, by which time he was convinced that by the exercise of the same industry at home as there he would succeed equally well. In the fall of 1851 he returned home by way of New York. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising, in which he has been more or less engaged ever since. In 1871 he, in connection with Thomas Brothers, established the first bank in Farmer City. The partnership continued until 1876, when Mr. Weedman purchased the Thomas Brothers interest, and from that time to the present has carried on the business of banking in his own name. From the first opening of the bank to the present, it has borne the reputation of being solid, and of conducting its business upon sound business principles. As a banker, Mr. Weedman is well known throughout central Illinois, and his reputation and that of his bank has an enviable and honorable standing among businessmen. On the 31st of March 1853, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. McDonald, a native of Madison County, Ohio. She is the daughter of Thomas and Rebecca McDonald. By that union there are four children living. Their names, in the order of their births, are: Harriet Josephine, who is the wife of Charles Raymond Brodix, a resident and publisher of Philadelphia; Cassius M., clerk in his father's bank; Rachel Rosella, and John Sherman Weedman. Both Mr. and Mrs. Weedman are active members of the M. E. Church. He is a

respected member of the Ancient and Honorable Order of A. F. and A. M. Politically, Mr. Weedman is a sound and thorough Republican, and has always voted that ticket since casting his first vote. He has been elected to several offices of local trust, and has represented his township in the Board of Supervisors for several terms. He was a member of the board when the present magnificent courthouse, which adorns the public square in Bloomington, was built. By a series of circumstances he held the casting vote in that public enterprise. In every office he has held he has earned the reputation of a faithful, capable, and honest servant of the people. Mr. Weedman in personal appearance is an erect, well-formed man. His fifty and odd years hang lightly upon him, and he would readily pass for one who had not reached more than the meridian of life. His hardy constitution and temperate habits have done much to preserve and keep about him the evidences and appearances of youth, which seem loath to leave and in their stead place the stamp of declining years. In his manners he is a social and pleasant gentleman, of frank and unassuming manners, whose acquaintance and friendship it is a pleasure to make, and, when once made, rarely forgotten. This is the opinion and evidence of the writer of this sketch, who has known Mr. Weedman for many years...”

Source: *The People in History 1882*

John Weedman died in 1885 not long after this article was written. As stated in the article above, the Weedman farm consisted of 660 acres in McLean County with another 284 in DeWitt County. A pen and ink drawing of his home on the farm is at the McLean County Genealogical Society in Bloomington and shows a palatial estate. Unfortunately, the drawing is too large to copy. Suffice it to say, it depicts a very successful agricultural operation.

Following his death, the bank which he owned in Farmer City was renamed the John Weedman National Bank and it survived until the depression and failed as so many others did. The original bank building burned and a new building built which was an asset to Farmer City. However, that building was torn down a number of years ago.

John Huhn Weedman, Jr. was undoubtedly the most successful farmer and businessman in the Weedman family up until the time of his death in 1885. We recognize that success.

John Weedman's line: John Huhn, Jr.⁴, John Huhn, Sr.³, George², and Christian, Sr.¹

Freeman Weedman Burford

Oil man

Freeman Weedman Burford was the son of **Guy and Harriet (Weedman) Burford**. He was a successful oilman.



Freeman Weedman Burford was born 8 August 1900 in Farmer City, IL to **Guy Ernest and Harriet (Weedman) Burford**. The family moved in 1905 to Muskogee, OK where **Guy Burford** entered the oil business. Ultimately, the family moved to Dallas, TX. **Freeman Burford** died 7 January 1967 aboard the steamship, *Mariposa*, as he and his wife were returning from Australia where they had been visiting the U.S. Ambassador to that country.

Mr. Burford was a prominent public figure for four decades and once considered running for Governor of Texas. He was a distinguished veteran of World War II in which he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Legion of Merit, Croix de Guerre and the French Legion of Honor.

Freeman Burford attended public schools in Muskogee and was a graduate of Shattuck Military School in Fairbault, MN. He attended the University

of Oklahoma School of Law.

He entered the oil business in Oklahoma in 1921 and in 1926 moved to Shreveport, LA where he was Vice President and General Manager of Crystal Oil Refining Corp. He was the organizer and General Manager of Burford Oil Company in Pecos, TX in 1929 and of the East Texas Refining Company in 1931.

He was a pioneer producer and the first refiner in the East Texas oil fields, selling his producing properties to Magnolia Petroleum Company in 1935 to become an independent producer and natural gasoline manufacturer in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas.

He entered the Second World War and was a graduate of the Command and General Staff School in Fort Leavenworth, KS. He was a full Colonel and oversaw the operation of 3,500 miles of gasoline pipelines, which supported the Allied war efforts. He was awarded medals to commemorate his performance in those roles.

After the War, he became President of the Sid Richardson Refining Company (1947-1960); owner and President, Harbor Terminal Company (1959-1962) and was an independent oil operator at the time of his death.

He married **Carolyn Skelly**, daughter of **William G. Skelly** who founded Skelly Oil Company in May 1927. They had three children: **William S. Burford**, **Ann Burford**, and **Carolyn Burford**.

The couple was divorced after 1935 and Mr. Burford later married **Jacqueline Faison** of Greenville, AL. There were no children of this marriage.

Mr. Burford was a colorful and strong personality. He was a strong proponent of Texas industrialization and was in great demand as a speaker in the 1930s when he proposed a program to make credit available to tenant farmers to buy their own farms. He considered running for Governor of Texas but declined.

He was a key figure as a custodian of the Cotton Bowl in Dallas during which time the enterprise prospered.

In 1935, Freeman Burford bought a large home in the Dallas area that was destined to become what is now the Mansion at Turtle Creek Hotel. After the divorce, Carolyn Skelly Burford retained the house for many years and reverted to the use of her maiden name. Articles have been written about the house and featured in the Dallas Morning News.

The first **Mrs. Freeman W. Burford (Carolyn Skelly)** was a colorful figure in her own right having suffered more than one jewel robbery and theft. She died in 1996 in her home in Newport, R.I. An article in the December 1999 issue of *Vanity Fair* gave an interesting account of Carolyn Skelly.

Freeman Weedman Burford achieved considerable success both in business and in the Dallas community at large. He was arguably one of the most successful business people in the Weedman family.

Freeman Weedman Burford's line was: Freeman Weedman Burford⁷, Harriet Weedman Burford⁶, Smith Y.⁵, Amos⁴, John Huhn, Sr.³, George², and Christian Sr.¹

Catherine Bishop Weedman **Maternal Head of Family of Medical Professionals**

Catherine Bishop married **Jacob Weedman**, son of **George** and **Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman** on 11 February 1819 in Licking Co., Ohio. The family had six children prior to the death of Jacob in 1829. Descendents of the couple became early medical professionals and are remarkable in the number who entered the profession.

Catherine was born about 1796 in Pennsylvania to John and Hannah (Cooper) Bishop.

The couple had the following children all of whom were born in Perry Co., OH:

1. **Mary Ann.**, born Feb 1820
2. **Elizabeth**, born 10 April 1821
3. **Jeremiah**, born 25 October 1823
4. **John B.**, born 20 July 1825
5. **George W.**, born 2 July 1827
6. **Jacob**, born 24 Feb 1829 and died 10 Mar 1850 in Ashland Co., OH

Following the death of **Jacob**, **Catherine** and the children moved to Ashland Co., OH in 1829 apparently to be near her family. A brother had moved to Ashland County and apparently she chose to join him rather than move with the Weedman family to Illinois. About the same time (July, 1830), **George** and **Charlotte Weedman** sold their homestead in Perry Co., OH and moved to McLean Co., OH.

It is remarkable that a young woman with six children all of whom were under ten years of age would move to a new place in the 1820s. And it is even more remarkable that the some of the children turned to a professional career rather than the traditional agricultural pursuits.

Mary Ann Weedman married **Andrew S. Norris** (8 September 1822 – 12 May 1889) on 15 December 1844 in Richland Co., OH. **Andrew Norris** was a physician or was studying medicine when the marriage took place. It is possible that he became the influence to have others follow in his footsteps. **Dr. Norris** practiced in Ohio before moving to Farmer City, IL along with **Catherine Bishop Weedman** in 1854. He served in the Civil War and was a Surgeon in that conflict. He was the first medical professional in the family.

George W. Weedman was only 17 when his sister married **Andrew Norris**. It was apparently the influence of **Dr. Andrew Norris** that caused George to also get into medicine. George began his practice in the area of Troy in Ashland County, Ohio in 1853 and continued it until his death 5 September 1890. George was the second physician in the family.

Dr. George W. Weedman married **Sophronia Richards** in 1854 and they had two children, **Charles Benton**, and **Eliza Mary**.

Charles was born 26 January 1858 in Troy, OH and attended medical school at the Western Reserve University in Cleveland graduating there in 1880. He set up practice with his father in Nova, OH and continued to practice there until 1904 when he moved to New London in Huron Co., OH. In 1921, he opened a practice in Wellington in Lorain Co., OH where he practiced until 1936. He died in 1939.

Dr. Charles B. Weedman married (1) **Lucy Iona Dubois** in 1880 and (2) **Nellie McFadden** about 1936. By his first marriage, there were two children: **Donald Vincent** and **Elizabeth S.**

Donald V. Weedman also attended Western Reserve University and graduated in 1905 with a degree in dentistry. He practiced in Toledo where he died 28 July 1969. He married twice but apparently had no children.

Elizabeth S. Weedman married **Ezra Kelley** and lived in New London, Huron Co., OH. The couple had one child, a son named **Charles**. In the obituary of Dr. Charles B. Weedman, mention is made of his grandson, **Dr. Charles Kelley**, and we assume that he was also a physician although this needs to be confirmed.

So, in this line alone are the following medical practitioners:

1. **Dr. George W. Weedman**
2. **Dr. Charles Benton Weedman**
3. **Dr. Donald Vincent Weedman**
4. **Dr. Charles Kelley**

This line alone would be remarkable. But, there are more!

Until recently, it was believed that there were no children born to **Dr. Andrew S. and Mary Ann (Weedman) Norris**. It has been revealed there were three children: **Iris J. Norris, Amos L. Norris** and **Ida M. Norris**.

Iris J. Norris married **Joseph H. Staley** in 1866 and one of their children was **Amos Clyde Staley** who was a physician in Chicago. **Dr. Staley** was born in 1869, died in 1913 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Farmer City. We have no further information on Dr. Staley.

Amos L. Norris was born 1 March 1847 in Richland Co., OH and moved with his family to Farmer City in 1854. He, too, became a physician and practiced first in DeWitt, IL (a small town near Farmer City) prior to entering practice with his father in Farmer City. He died in 1909.

So, in this line of the family are:

1. **Dr. Andrew S. Norris**
2. **Dr. Amos Clyde Staley, a nephew of Dr. Norris**
3. **Dr. Amos L. Norris, son of Dr. Andrew S. Norris**

Finally, **Jeremiah Weedman** was the fourth child of **Jacob** and **Catherine (Bishop) Weedman** and their daughter, **Martha J.**, married **James Jackson** in Farmer City. Mary Ellen (Nellie) Jackson, a daughter of **James** and **Martha J. (Weedman) Jackson** married **Henry Munch** in Farmer City. Their son, **Dr. James Clyde Munch**, became a pharmacologist!

It is remarkable that there were nine known medical professionals from this branch of the family. Of great significance is the line started with a young widowed mother who apparently encouraged the family to enter fields other than farming. This was at a time when few of the family had secondary educations. The family is worthy of recognition. Catherine Bishop Weedman is recognized for her pioneering spirit, independence in raising a family who demonstrated great success, all of which was done as a virtually single parent.

James Clyde Munch Pharmacologist, Toxicologist, and Author

James Clyde Munch was an internationally recognized pharmacologist and toxicologist. He was born Feb. 20, 1896 in Farmer City, IL and died Feb. 25, 1981 at the age of 85. He was married twice and had three sons, one daughter, 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.



Dr. James Clyde Munch

In his more than 60-year career, Dr. Munch served as a consultant pharmacologist to the U.S. Bureau of Narcotics, the State of Pennsylvania Secretary of Health and Welfare and numerous pharmacological research firms.

He was the author of "*Bioassays, A Handbook of Quantitative Pharmacology*" (1931); "*Manual of Biological Assaying*" (1937); "*Elementary Pharmacology*" (1945); and nearly 300 technical papers and articles published in the journals and literature of the pharmacology field in Great Britain, Peru, U.S., Cuba and Germany.

A native of Farmer City, III, Dr. Munch was the youngest recorded graduate of Bloomington High School (16 yrs) in 1912; received his bachelor of science (1915) and Master of Science degrees with honors (1916) at age 20 from Illinois Wesleyan University and his doctor of philosophy degree in pharmacology from George Washington University in 1924.

He was Instructor of Toxicology at University of Louisville (1916-1917), and then joined the Army Medical Corps as a commissioned officer in the newly formed Mobile Laboratory Unit of the Army Sanitation Corps in France during World War I (1918-19). He received the Lys-Schildt decoration for chemical and bacteriological investigations that helped protect the troops at the front lines.

From 1917 to 1928 he was Pharmacologist of the U.S. Bureau of Chemistry, now called the Food and Drug Administration. In 1931 he developed an antidote to thallium poisoning, and several methods of bioassay. In 1932, he was awarded the Kiwanis Club's Medal of Honor for saving the lives of "two score persons dying from rat poison eaten by mistake." He flew to California to administer the antidotes. He later studied the stability of various drug preparations and preparation of sustained-action materials.

He next moved into simultaneous positions of Director of Research at Sharp and Dohme (1926-36), consultant pharmacologist to the US Bureau of Biological Survey (1928-44) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (1928-44) as well as into academia as Professor of Pharmacology and Director of Research and later Department Head at Temple University (1932-54) and lecturer at Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital (1940-1965) in Philadelphia as well as at the University of Maryland Medical School (1945-46). His ability to capably handle so many assignments at the same time won the admiration of his students, associates and recipients of consultant services alike. He was a recognized leader in pharmacological research in commercial applications, such as the detection of

drug use in racehorses (featured in a *Saturday Evening Post* article). He consulted with the War Food Administration in 1943-1944 and worked on development of an antidote to nerve gas poisoning.

Together with other pharmacologists, he owned and managed the Munch Research Laboratories in Upper Darby, PA for many years. He was medical director of John Wyeth & Brother for two years (1936-1937). Then, until 1972, he became medical director and director of pharmacological research at Strong Cobb & Co. in Cleveland and Vaponefrin Co. in New York City. He moved to Miami, Florida in the late 1960's where he served as medical director of Key Pharmaceuticals in Miami, Fla. and senior member of the department of pharmacology at the University of Miami from 1965 to 1972. He traveled widely and assisted in numerous international medical and pharmacological activities. Among these were his efforts to stem the narcotics trade and use throughout the world. He was a consultant to the Secretary of Health & Welfare for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a long-time consultant to the US Attorney General's Committee Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, numerous US Pharmacology and Toxicology committees, and the US Federal Bureau of Narcotics, as well as to similar agencies in Central American and European governments.

He spent his final days near his children in the Washington, DC area, and remained amazing alert and a popular speaker until his death in 1981.

Of all of his assignments, he perhaps got the greatest satisfaction in serving as professional expert at court trials. To refute the prosecutor's arguments in one trial, he swallowed a large dose of arsenic in front of the judge and jury which he could not retain in his stomach (as predicted) and vomited it up. [How's that for confidence in one's own beliefs?]. The judge ruled in his client's favor and the case was closed.

Memberships: Dr. Munch was a member of: American College of Allergists (Fellow); International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Assoc.; American Pharmaceutical Assn. (Life member and former Vice-President); American Association for the Advancement of Science (Life member); Assn. of Military Surgeons of U.S. (Life member); American College of Cardiology (Fellow); American Statistical Association; and an academician with the Academies of Science in Maryland, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

He was a member of the Cosmos Club; the Chemist's Club in New York; the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, the American Chemical Society and the American Medical Association (Life member); the Biometric Society; the British Association for the Advancement of Science; the European Society for the Study of Drug Toxicity; the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists; and the International Physiological Society. He was a member of the Pan-American Congress of Pharmacology and Biochemistry in Lima (1951), Brazil (1954); Secretary, Pharmacology, Pan-American Association (Life member); Society of Toxicologists; Forensic Medicine and Toxicology (London); European Society for Study of Drug Toxicology; Inter-American Conference on Toxicology and Occupational Medicine; National Pest Control Association (hon.); College of Physicians (Phila.); Optimists; Torch (Pres. Phila. Chapter); Quaker City Farmers; Union League (Phila.).

His work is recognized in "Who's Who in America," "American Men of Science," the "International Year. Book" and "Statesman's Who's Who." In 1979, Dr. Munch was made a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club. [Probably he considered this his greatest honor.] He was a Mason for more than 50 years and the past master of Lebanon Lodge No. 7. He also was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Psi, Theta Kappa Psi and Sigma Xi.

Dr. Munch's lineage: Mary Ellen Jackson⁶, Martha Weedman⁵, Jeremiah Weedman⁴, Jacob Weedman³, George Weedman², Christian, Sr. Weedman¹.

George Perry Weedman Pioneer Educator

George Perry Weedman is recognized as a pioneer educator in the family.



George Perry Weedman was the fifth child born on June 8, 1861 in Perry County, IN to Green Berry and Susan (Cart) Weedman. He attended grade school in Perry County and later went to school at Marengo Academy. He attended college at Danville Normal, a teacher's college that is now defunct.

On August 18, 1885, he married Mary Lou Hatfield and they lived at Rono in Perry County for a period of time.

Three children were born to the couple: Lloyd, born in 1887, Edith, born in 1890, and Ralph, born in 1893.

George attended the University of Indiana in Bloomington where he graduated in 1898. He continued his career in education following graduation and was known as a public speaker.

In "*Perry County – A History*" by Thomas James de la Hunt published in 1916, George Perry Weedman is given credit for his efforts in bringing the schools up to a new level of excellence. In this, it is stated, "... In September, 1896.... the first regularly commissioned high school in Perry County, that at Cannelton, and the major credit for having brought its work up to the requirements of the State Board of Education is due to the energetic superintendent, George Perry Weedman, himself a native of Perry County and a lifelong educator.."

He later became Superintendent of Schools in North Vernon, Indiana in Jennings County, a post he held for some time.

His wife died in 1912. George died on February 18, 1914 while visiting his sister in Newbern, TN. He is buried in Hillcrest Cemetery, North Vernon, Indiana.

George Perry Weedman was a distinguished Indiana country educator who brought honor and pride to his family. He is recognized for those achievements.

His lineage: George Perry Weedman⁵, Green Berry Weedman⁴, William Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Dee Brown **Author and Historian**

Dee Brown is a renowned historian and author who's most well known book is "**Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee**". Dee is married to Sara Baird "Sally" Stroud and they live in Little Rock, Arkansas. They have two children: James Mitchell Brown and Linda Brown.

Dee Alexander Brown was born in Louisiana on February 28, 1908 but has been a resident of Arkansas for much of his life. In the 1930s, he lived in Washington, D.C. and later was a resident of Champaign, IL when he taught at the University of Illinois. He and Sally have lived in Little Rock since his retirement in 1972.

Brown is one of the most prominent historians of the American West. In addition to being a writer and historian, he appeared in one of Ken Burn's documentary works on the American West.

His first book, "Wave High the Banner", a biography of Davy Crockett, was published in 1942. "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee" has sold over five million copies has been translated into 20 languages. He was a librarian and a full professor of History at the University of Illinois.

A list of Dee Brown's books include the following:

- **Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee**
- **The American West**
- **The Gentle Tamers – Women of the Old Wild West**
- **Folktales of the Native American Indian**
- **The Galvanized Yankees**
- **The Way to Bright Star**
- **Wave High the Banner**
- **Civil War Anthology**
- **A Conspiracy of Knaves**
- **Wondrous Times on the Frontier**
- **The Fetterman Massacre**
- **Fighting Indians of the West**
- **Trail Driving Days**
- **The Settler's West**

For the success he enjoyed as a world renowned author and historian, we recognize Dee Brown for his remarkable achievements..

His Weedman connection is through his wife, Sally Brown. Her lineage was: Sara Baird Stroud⁶, Sarah Ann Weedman Stroud⁵, John⁴, William³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian Sr.¹.

Gena Lee Theiss
Author and Genealogist

Gena Lee Theiss is recognized for her contribution to the Weedman Family as the author of “Christian Weedman and his Descendents, 1735-1986”.



Gena Lee Theiss

Gena’s book provided the definitive work on the Weedman family genealogy and remains the authoritative source for those doing research on the family. As an early use of the personal computer and genealogical programs, she saw an opportunity to provide for all interested parties a synopsis of the collections done by a number of people. As a labor of love, the project to complete the book required numerous hours and a financial investment on her part. The family owes a debt of gratitude to Gena Theiss for her efforts. She has been selected for inclusion in “Who’s Who” which is a rare and highly complimentary achievement.

An article in the 10 October 1996 issue of *Louisville Lifetime*, Gena was featured for her interest in genealogy and the use of computers in genealogy. A portion of the article is quoted:

“...Gena Lee Theiss of Louisville has been researching her Family tree since 1968. Even though she was in her mid-50s when the computer age started, she wasted no time familiarizing herself with the computer and uses it daily while researching her family tree.

Theiss runs a computer bulletin board that carries a Fidonet discussion area, a genealogy conference, and the International Genealogical Association, all of which allows her to send and receive genealogy inquiries around the world.

Theiss once received a message from a man in California who was her distant cousin. He had information on the Higdon, Alvey and Burtle family. He is descended from the same family line I am. I had some information he didn’t have, and he had information which helped me fill in some blanks’...”

Gena now has a web site that is as advanced as any on the Internet. Her web site is can be found at: <http://hometown.aol.com/gentheiss>.

Her willingness to tackle new challenges and to take projects such as her book to a completion with a high quality result is worthy of recognition.

Gena Lee Johnson Theiss was born to Clarence Harbon Johnson and Gracie Higdon in Grayson Co., KY. Her line is: Gena Lee Johnson Theiss⁷, Gracie Higdon Johnson⁶, Barbara Ellen Weedman Higdon⁵, Willis Green, Sr.⁴, John³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian, Sr.¹.

Marianne Montgomery Founder and Editor of *The Weedman Newsletter*

Marianne Montgomery is recognized for the founding of the *Weedman Newsletter* and for continuously editing the publication for 38 years. She and her late husband, **Paul Kasper Montgomery**, started the Newsletter in March 1968 and continued in that role through 2005. Beginning in 2006, she became the editor emeritus in honor of her continued efforts/



Marianne and
Paul K. Montgomery

The initial lines of the publication were: "...This is the first of what we hope will be a semi-annual report or Newsletter about WEEDMANS..."

It never became a semi-annual publication! In the first year, the Montgomery's had adequate material to publish four issues and it has been a quarterly since the beginning.

The publication started with seventeen people on the mailing list and grew to over 140. It has been a catalyst to bring different branches of the family together and has caused many people to take up genealogy as a hobby with an emphasis on the Weedman family. Marianne and Paul have been an

inspiration to many people in the family and perhaps no others have contributed so much to the furtherance of our family history.

Marianne has encouraged the biennial family reunions starting with the initial one held in August 1984. Indeed, she has attended every Weedman family reunion through 2004.

Paul Kasper Montgomery was born in 1908 to Samuel Franklin and Mandana (Huff) Montgomery in Christian Co., IL. He died in August 1988.

Marianne Montgomery would have had every reason to retire at the time of her husband's death but instead chose to continue her efforts to contribute to the Weedman family. Indeed, some 12 years after his death, she continues the same superb job she has done since the beginning.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Marianne Montgomery for her devoted and tireless efforts on the Weedman Newsletter and she is recognized for her tireless efforts, tenacity, and quality of contribution to the family.

Paul Montgomery's line: Christian Sr.¹, Christian, Jr.², Daniel³, George Glasscock⁴, Nancy Susan Weedman Huff⁵, Mandana Huff Montgomery⁶, and Paul Kasper Montgomery⁷.

Dr. Daniel Wilson Weedman
Astronomer

Dr. Daniel W. Wilson is recognized for the prominence he has achieved in the field of Astronomy.

Daniel Weedman is Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics. Prior to resuming his faculty position



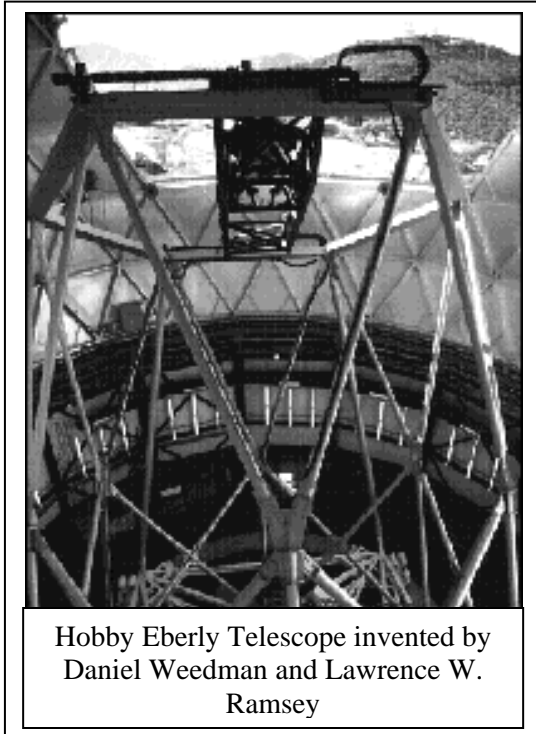
in November 1995, he served two years as Director of the Astrophysics Division, NASA Headquarters, Washington D.C. In that position, he was responsible for overseeing planning, development, and operations for all NASA astrophysics missions, including Hubble Space Telescope, the Advanced X-Ray Astrophysics Facility, the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory, and various infrared missions. In an earlier stay at NASA Headquarters; he was Program Scientist for NASA's Cosmic Background Explorer, Space Very Long Baseline Interferometry Project, and NASA's role in the European Infrared Space Observatory. He is currently a member of the NASA "Structure and Evolution of the Universe" advisory committee.

Dr. Weedman has published over 80 research papers in various areas of astronomy and astrophysics. Highlights of his research career include the first studies of the gas motions in giant hydrogen nebulae, the initial spectroscopic and photometric observations of the Markarian galaxies, the development of the original classification system for Seyfert galaxies, development of nuclear magnitude measurements of galaxies as a measure of the Hubble flow, extensive surveys for highly redshifted quasars and determination of their luminosity function, initial description of the starburst galaxies, initial suggestion of contribution by starburst galaxies to the extragalactic X-ray background, and discovery of the best candidate quasar pair for gravitational lensing by dark matter. He wrote the book *Quasar Astronomy* (Cambridge University Press), which is a summary of the research techniques and accomplishments in the study of quasars.

He also has extensive experience in the design and use of ground based and space astronomical facilities. He and colleague Lawrence Ramsey were the original designers of the Hobby-Eberly Telescope. He is currently active on the team, which is developing the Infrared Spectrometer for NASA's Space Infrared Telescope Facility, scheduled for launch in 2001, and is a member of the SIRTf Science Center Users Panel. His current research relates primarily to upcoming use of SIRTf. He is studying the dust content of the most luminous and distant galaxies in the universe and is attempting to predict how galaxies discovered in the infrared with SIRTf will relate to the most distant galaxies discovered with other techniques, such as imaging with HST. The objective of this research is to understand the nature of primordial galaxies.

Discovery Magazine Recognizes Dr. Weedman's Invention

A prototype microwave rocket engine invented by Michael M. Micci, associate professor of aerospace engineering, and the largest optical telescope in the continental United States, invented by Lawrence W. Ramsey and Daniel W. Weedman, professors of astronomy and astrophysics, are among 35 innovations being honored by Discover magazine.



Hobby Eberly Telescope invented by Daniel Weedman and Lawrence W. Ramsey

Ramsey and Weedman invented the concept for the Hobby-Eberly telescope in 1983 at Penn State. Its innovative design resulted in construction costs approximately 20 percent less than those of other telescopes in its class. A number of features allow the 24-ton primary mirror to remain stationary while observing an object, eliminating the need for a highly complex mirror-support system. The mirror, which is 36-feet across and one of the largest of any optical telescope in the world, is made up of 91 identical pieces that were mass-produced -- another cost-saving aspect of the design. The telescope was built by a partnership involving The University of Texas at Austin, Penn State, Stanford University and the German universities of Gottingen and Munich. *Source: Penn State, Intercom on Line, May 1997.*

Daniel Wilson Weedman was born 19 October 1942 and is the son of Roy Lee and Louetta (Lutz) Weedman of Nashville, TN. He married Suzanne Dallas 18 October 1968 and they have two daughters: Dr. Diana Lee Weedman Molavi and

Sylvia Dallas Weedman.

We honor Dr. Daniel Weedman for his contribution of the field of astronomy and for the success he achieved in his field of work. That success has brought honor to our family.

His line is: Daniel Wilson Weedman⁸, Roy Lee⁷, Fonzo⁶, John Franklin⁵, Willis Green, Sr.⁴, John³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian, Sr.¹.

Christian Weedman, Senior Pioneer Immigrant

Christian Weedman, Senior immigrated to the United States arriving in August, 1750 on the ship, Anderson. The voyage originated in Rotterdam and made an intermediate stop in Cowes, England. Many believe that he came from the Palatine area of Germany and that he likely travelled with other family members or close friends. He was probably 15 or 16 years old when he made the voyage.

Why he immigrated is unknown. Many who came to this county at that time did so either in search of a better economic life or to escape religious persecution. But, we don't know his motivation and may never determine what it was.

Following his arrival, we are unable to track his movements until early 1762 when we know he was in Hampshire County, VA (now West Virginia). His oldest daughter, Mary, was born there according to the Revolutionary War pension application she filed based on the service of her husband, Adam Myers. Prior to 1762, he married Elizabeth but we have not been able to determine when this happened, where, or her surname.

Between 1765 and 1769, the family moved to Fayette Co., Pennsylvania. There were a number of families making that journey including Ephraim Walters, Henry Myers, and others. They likely travelled there on what was known as the Nemaquin Path or Braddock's Road which was the route widely used to go from the Potomac River to the Ohio River. We know Ephraim Walters lived near the Potomac in Hampshire County and was probably familiar with the area where the group of families moved.

Christian and Elizabeth took a land grant for some 462 acres in what was then German Township (now Nicholson Township) adjacent to Catt's Run creek and on what is now the southern most border of Masontown. He named his homestead "New Holland" leading some to believe that he might well be Dutch rather than German. There, the family lived and raised their children. Most of the children married in Fayette County and many of the grandchildren of Christian and Elizabeth Weedman were born there.

In 1799, new territory was opened in Ohio and land became available. Many of the families of German township left according to the history of the Jacobs Lutheran Church which was apparently the home church for the family. Indeed, an examination of tombstones in the Good Hope Lutheran Church in Hopewell Township, Perry County, Ohio clearly shows that the origin of many who settled there were from Fayette County, PA.

As far as we know, Christian was a farmer. He left in 1799 despite being at an advanced age of over 60 to start a new life in Ohio no doubt simply to move with other family members, primarily that of son George and his family.

Christian sold his land in two blocks with most going to Ephraim Walters. In turn, for a very brief time, Ephraim gave the land to son Andrew Walters who had married Sarah, a daughter of Christian and Elizabeth Weedman.

The family of Christian and Elizabeth Weedman as far as we can determine included the following:

1. **Mary**, born 1 February 1762 at Fort Town on the South Branch of the Potomac River in Hampshire County, VA. She married **Adam Myers**, son of Henry Myers (or Moyer) on 2 August 1779 in Fayette County, VA. The family moved in the early 1800s to the Perry

- County/Licking County area of Ohio, stayed there until about 1814 when they moved to Huron Co., OH. They died there.
2. **Barbara**, born about 1764 probably in Virginia, married **Nicholas Riffle**, a Revolutionary War veteran. They lived in Fayette County until his death in 1808. Barbara subsequently married **Michael Kern** (or Kerns) who was a founder of Morgantown, WV. She died after Michael and is buried there.
 3. **Christian Weedman, Jr.**, born about 1765 probably in Fayette Co., PA. He left in the late 1780s and went to what is now Kentucky where he married **Mary Marshall** 1 July 1789 in Mercer Co., KY. They ultimately moved to what is now Grayson Co., KY where they both died but where their large family was raised.
 4. **Elizabeth**, born about 1768, probably in Fayette Co., PA and married **Joseph Murphy**. We believe they moved to Licking County, OH where she probably died and where he died in 1861.
 5. **Margaret**, born about 1770 and who named in Christian's will dated 1811. She apparently never married.
 6. **John**, born about 1782 and married **Sophia** (surname unknown), and who had but a single child, **Nicholas**. Apparently the family split early with Sophia and Nicholas going to Southern Indiana where they lived until their death. When John died about 1837, a dispute arose over the estate and the court records provide a clear picture of the family structure at that time. John lived in Bowling Green Township of Licking Co., OH.
 7. **Sarah**, born about 1784, married **Andrew Walters** and about 1808 moved to Perry County, OH where she died shortly thereafter.
 8. **George** born in June 1773, married **Charlotte Huhn** in the 1790s and is the ancestor of a large number of family members. It was George and John who moved to Ohio with Christian and Elizabeth following from what we know. George and Charlotte lived in Perry County, OH until the summer of 1830 when they moved to McLean Co., IL.
 9. **Jacob**, born about 1775, moved to Bullitt Co., KY and married **Mary Frances Fleming**. This family moved to Southern Indiana ultimately ending in Jasper, IN.
 10. **Catherine**, born about 1779, married (1) **John Huhn, Jr.** (a brother to Charlotte Huhn) and (2) **Jacob Keefover**. John died about 1806 or so leaving Catherine a young widow with three or four children. After her marriage to **Jacob Keefover**, they moved to Hopewell Township, Perry County, OH. She died there in 1861.

Christian died in 1811 in what was then Fairfield Co., OH. Elizabeth lived into the 1820s and died in either Licking or Perry County, OH. No gravesite has ever been located for either.

At the Weedman Family Reunion in Jasper, Indiana (where Jacob lived and died) it was decided that we should recognize Christian for being the original immigrant American ancestor and for starting this family.

In recognition of the key role of Christian Weedman, for taking a bold step to leave his home country and settle in a new land at a young age and for starting the Weedman family in America, we salute and recognize our ancestor.

H.N. (Nick) Weedman

Businessman and Community Service Person

Nick Weedman is a native of Blytheville, Arkansas where he was raised. He graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1961 with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Weedman entered the US Air Force in 1961 and served in the U.S. and England as a Communications Maintenance Officer.

In 1965, he joined Monsanto Company in El Dorado, Arkansas as a technical service engineer and later was a Maintenance Supervisor in the ammonia, nitric acid, sulfuric acid and ammonium nitrate plants at that location.

He served from 1968 through 1973 as Personnel Supervisor and Superintendent in St. Louis, MO and Luling, Louisiana; the latter location being Monsanto's largest agricultural facility.

Weedman then entered Product Management in 1973 having responsibility for several crop protection products in St. Louis, MO.

In 1974, he became a District Sales manager in Omaha, Nebraska with sales responsibility for Nebraska and the western portion of Iowa. During that assignment, he had responsibility for the commercial introduction of Roundup herbicide in that area.

He relocated to Tokyo in 1977 where he served as Product Manager for the Monsanto portfolio of products in Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. He was responsible for the commercialization of a number of products in that world area including Roundup in all three countries.

In August 1981, he returned to the U.S. as Regional Sales Director for an area covering Texas to California and Hawaii. During that time, he was active in the Western Agricultural Chemical Association serving as Financial Chairman and later as Vice President.

Weedman moved to Melbourne, Australia in 1986 as Area Director for Monsanto Agricultural Company with responsibility for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. In 1988, he became Managing Director for Monsanto in that World Area, a post he held until 1994. While in Australia, he was active in the industry association, AVCA (the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Association) serving as Chairman of the Association for three years.

In 1994, he became Area Director for Greater China for Monsanto and relocated to Hong Kong. While there, he also served as President, Monsanto China for a period of time.

He retired from Monsanto in 1996 and relocated to Flat Rock, North Carolina where he consulted for a short period of time. In 1998, he accepted the position of General Manager, Americas for Nufarm, an Australian agrochemical manufacturer and served in that position for about 2 years.

Since retirement, he has been very involved in his community. He was one of four people who led the formation of the Kenmure Property Owner's Association for the area in which he lives. He was elected it's first president in 2003. In addition, he headed the Kenmure Road Maintenance Homeowner's Association for 1 ½ years, was on the Board of the Kenmure Homeowner's Association. In 2000, he was named Kenmure Man of the Year in recognition of contributions to his community. In 2003, he was elected to the Flat Rock Village Council and in 2007 was re-elected. In 2008, he became the Vice Mayor and served as the Finance Officer with responsibility for tax

collections among other duties. He also served on the Board of Directors at Vocational Solutions, an organization that provides employment opportunities for the vocationally disadvantaged.

He was named to the Weedman Hall of Fame in 2002 at the Jasper, Indiana Weedman Reunion in recognition for his success as a businessman and for his community service.

His line: Harry N. (Nick) Weedman⁷, Harry Edwin⁶, Charles Green⁵, Green Berry⁴, William³, Christian, Jr.² and Christian, Sr.¹.

Charles Vern Weedman **Attorney**

Charles Vern Weedman achieved success as a notable attorney who practiced law in Los Angeles. In the 1970s, he represented a number of Hollywood celebrities including Dean Martin and Claudine Longet, the wife of Andy Williams.

It was perhaps the defense of Claudine Longet that brought Mr. Weedman fame as an attorney. Claudine Longet was estranged from her husband, Andy Williams, and was in a ski resort in Colorado when her then boy friend met his death through a stabbing. Ms. Longet was charged with the crime and one of her defense attorneys was Charles Weedman. Ms. Longet was acquitted of the crime.

Charles Vern Weedman was born 26 November 1927 in California to Charles Shelby and Patricia Ann (Larsen) Weedman. Charles Shelby Weedman was a locomotive engineer.

Charles married Carolyn J. Knight (2 July 1933 – 8 February 1970), a daughter of Governor Goodwin J. Knight, on 20 August 1955. The couple had two sons, Jonathan Curtis Weedman (30 August 1959) and Robert Jess Weedman (20 June 1965).

Mr. Weedman later married Sherry Bond and they had one son, Jeffrey Max Weedman.

Mr. Weedman resides in Malibu, California and is retired from the practice of law.

Charles Vern Weedman's success as an attorney has brought honor to the Weedman family and we recognize that success with this induction.

His lineage: Charles Vern Weedman⁶, Charles Shelby⁵, William Simpson⁴, Willis³, Christian, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Lauren Huntington Weedman Writer & Performer

Lauren Huntington Weedman has achieved success as a writer, performer and comedienne.

She made her television debut on Comedy Central's Emmy Award-winning, **The Daily Show with Jon Stewart** in 2001 as a featured correspondent. It was at that same time that Lauren was a regular on National Public Radio's national political satire show, *Rewind*, and appeared in her solo show, **Homecoming**, off Broadway at the Westside Theater. The New York Times said of Lauren and **Homecoming**, "...like Bob Newhart in his early stand-up routines, she's particularly good at making her points – and making us feel clever. Most important, she's just plain funny, physically and verbally..". For two years, Lauren was also a cast member for the long running local-turned-national comedy show, *Almost Live* for Comedy Central. In 2001, **Homecoming** was also featured in HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, Colorado.



After studying, writing and performing in Amsterdam for five years, Lauren returned to the States with a bang. Her first play, **Homecoming**, began as a 15-minute performance art piece that grew into a full-length show that ultimately toured with the Seattle Repertory Theater. **Homecoming** earned Lauren the honor of being published in *Women Playwrights: The Best Plays of 2002*.

In the Fall of 2002, The Empty Space Theater in Seattle premiered her latest solo work, **Rash**. Later that year, **Rash** was recognized by *The Seattle Times* Footlight Awards, with nods for both The Best New Play and Best Solo Performance. Both **Rash** and Lauren received tremendous reviews including, "...Weedman comes so very close to celebrating indulgence rather than just contemplating it that when she manages to do both things at once, it's dizzingly brilliant: She ends up hitting all her targets – including herself..." (*Seattle Weekly*).

Lauren currently lives and performs in Los Angeles. **Rash** will be opening Off-Broadway in 2004.

For her success and her humor we are pleased to recognize Lauren Hatfield Weedman for the name recognition he has brought to our family.

Lauren is the daughter of Sidney Hatfield and Sharon Huntington Weedman of Indianapolis. Her Weedman lineage: Sidney Hatfield Weedman⁷, Ralph⁶, George Perry⁵, Green Berry⁴, William³, Christian, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Olive Annie (Polly) Westaby Weedman A True Survivor

By George Anne Weedman Planck

It wasn't long after her birth of English parentage to Robert Spencer Westaby, M.D. and Annie Otter Westaby on April 23, 1914, in Madison, South Dakota, that her grandfather ignored her birth name of "Olive Annie" and called her "Polly Anna," a nickname she has retained all her life. He perceived that even as a toddler she saw the world through rose-colored glasses.

Her childhood was spent in Madison, with her parents, two sisters, and brother. They were all competitive individuals with highly developed talents. Their father was a busy physician/surgeon and their mother, a graduate of Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, had her own successful career as a dramatic reader. She presented programs at colleges, churches, and various schools, booked by the Eastern Lyceum Bureau.



She demanded excellence from her children and established their life's philosophy consciously and subconsciously. "Nothing is impossible; do better than your very best; be prepared to make sacrifices to meet your goal, and you will succeed." Her brother, Robert Spencer Westaby Jr.

(1923-2001) followed in his father's footsteps and became a doctor; one of her sisters, Geraldine Westaby Kickbush (1912-1984) specialized in education for the mentally gifted and handicapped, working in cooperation with Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Her younger sister, Dorothy McCray (1915) is nationally known for her work as a painter and printmaker and has received many awards for her work. At the age of 76, she opened her own art studio in Silver City, New Mexico, where she is emeritus professor of art at New Mexico Western University.

Each decade of her life has held its unique challenges, heartbreaks, and victories for Polly. She was graduated from the University of Iowa with a triple major: theater, speech therapy, and psychology. After a brief but exciting career working for Harry Reasoner, Sr., as a talent agent for Northwest Assemblies in Minneapolis, she married her college sweetheart George David Weedman (Jan 27, 1914-1996), the son of Claude and Mary Weedman from Faith, South Dakota.

Since there was no speech therapist in the school system at their new place of residence in Mitchell, South Dakota, she began a private practice in their home, teaching students from kindergarten through college age. This allowed her to continue as a wife and mother to their three toddlers, a daughter, George Anne Weedman Planck (1939), and twin boys, Robert Spencer Weedman (1940-1949) and Richard David Weedman, 1940. However, this was during the early days of World War II, and teachers were very scarce. Soon the superintendent of schools offered her a full-time position as a junior high school teacher. The class he had in mind had 42 students who had forced two teachers to quit in tears. For some reason he felt Polly possessed the rare combination of snake charmer and lion tamer it would take to handle this class. When she told him she could not leave their three babies to teach school away from home, he arranged for the school system to pay a full salary, even though Polly did not possess a teaching credential; hired a full-time housekeeper and full-time babysitter; and paid their salaries in addition to hers.

She finished the year successfully and was offered an identical contract for the next year, but her husband, George, had accepted a position in Rapid City, located in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota.

In Rapid City she again accepted private students for speech therapy and for declamatory contests. Then the local American Association of University Women asked her to volunteer as head of the AAUW drama group. This gave her the opportunity to use her theater skills from college, and soon it developed into a successful community theater, which continues production to this day—more than fifty years later.

A few years later, the local radio station approached Polly about taking over a women's radio show. Again she was reluctant because she did not want to leave their now school-age children home without their mother. The radio station accommodated her by installing equipment allowing her to broadcast the show from home. The children were threatened, upon pain of death, never to interrupt during the 15-minute time period she was on the air. Years later, she learned their enterprising eight-year-old son, Richard, now an art dealer in Naples, Florida, had been selling tickets to the neighborhood children to peek through the window to watch me broadcast on the radio.

The Weedman family's lives were almost shattered when one of the twins, Robert Spencer, was killed in a car-pedestrian accident. However, Polly's deep faith, the support of her husband and family, and her demanding work as a radio and later television program personality with daily programs were the therapy that sustained her emotionally and intellectually. She continued to broadcast five days a week for the next 25 years. Her radio show broadcast from home grew into a more than full-time enterprise, especially when television finally came to Rapid City. She began writing, producing, and appearing in everything from local talent shows to children's programs.. She did the research, the scenario and scripting for "Four Seasons West," a story of South Dakota's cattle industry. The production was given the National Western Heritage Award for the best western documentary

At one time she had as many as four shows simultaneously – The Polly Weedman Show; Aunt Polly's Children's Hour; Talent Review, and a once-a-week half-hour radio show. Christmas Shopping Bag, which was later developed into a road show in the West River area. Glen Yarbrough, Paul Williams, and Tom Brokaw are just a few of the now nationally known personalities who were all with her and with KOTA Radio and TV during those years. Paul Williams frequently appeared on the Iseman Talent Review, a talent show where she was writer, producer and director. The winner was awarded an all-expense paid trip to Europe and to the coronation of Queen Elizabeth. Tom Brokaw was one of her television cameramen during his college years. Polly had the longest fully sponsored women's radio show in the nation

In 1950 Polly was named "Woman of the Year," by the Rapid City Business and Professional Women's Club. Later she awarded the *McCalls Magazine* 10th Annual Gold Mike Award for Service to the Family: "Her radio interview series titled "Marriage is What You Make It," focused attention on the community's need for a marriage counseling service," according to the McCalls judges. The show aired marital problems and followed up with workshops attended by teenagers, couples going steady, young marrieds as well as parents with teenage children. She was runner-up the next year in another division. However, she felt one of her greatest achievements was her involvement with retarded children which led to formation of the Rapid City Association for Retarded Children.

Other awards and honors followed during her years as a radio and television personality, but that all ended when she contracted Parkinson's disease in 1968. It attacked her throat, and she lost her voice. After years of readjustment, new medication, and prayer finally restored her health, she learned to adapt to life as wife and grandmother, perfecting her bridge game and catching up with the social commitments she had been forced to ignore during her working years. She and her husband, George, enjoyed retirement years together with cruises, winters in South Carolina or California, ballroom dancing, and competitive duplicate bridge.

Then at age 75, the lights went out. The diagnosis was macular degeneration. Within days, in spite of laser surgery, she was completely blind in one eye and had defective sight in the other. She could no longer read or drive a car. Eight months later a deep black velvet curtain closed out all the sunlight in her right eye. There was no pain, just darkness. At first she was angry at God for allowing this to happen, at her grandparents and parents for passing on defective genes, and at the world in general. As she said, "I really had a major pity party."

"However, I could not endure this dark night of the soul for the rest of my life," she said. Within a few weeks a rehabilitation teacher from South Dakota Human Services, Division of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired, came to their home to teach her how to take care of herself and their home.

The South Dakota affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind taught her white cane travel. She also learned Braille, which she found easy and fascinating. At first she wanted to know only enough to play bridge with Braille cards. That didn't take long, and soon she was joining friends at their weekly bridge parties. However, she became so interested in the Braille code that she enrolled in the Hadley Correspondence School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois, and eventually became certified to teach Braille. Unable to see, her typewriter was of little value so she learned to use a computer with voice output (computer and lessons provided by the state rehabilitation agency).

Also, about this time she was given a Lowry organ. With the help a local organ instructor, she learned to play the organ and again express a lifetime love of music. This was a challenge for the teacher for he had never taught a blind person before. He placed a corn pad at middle C on the keyboard, and they both learned together. He later wrote a book on giving music lessons to the blind.

These services were provided by experts or professionals (with the exception of the organ teacher) at no cost to her. They were all part of the many free services of the National Federation of the Blind, South Dakota Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and the South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Library. Thanks to them and their continuing encouragement, she said she learned to do everything she did before she lost her sight, except drive a car, and discovered that blindness does not put an end to joyful living.

In 1996, due to their failing health, she and her husband, George, moved to Naples, Florida to live with their son Richard. George died a few months later. Polly died 19 October 2004 in Naples, FL.

Polly Weedman is recognized for her role as a pioneer television and radio broadcaster.

Polly was married to George David Weedman whose Weedman lineage was: George David Weedman⁷, Claude Henry⁶, William Martin⁵, Jeremiah⁴, Jacob³, George², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Carl Lee Weedman Businessman and Community Donor

Carl Lee Weedman was inducted into the Weedman Family Hall of Fame on June 17, 2006 in Tell City, Indiana.

In the course of the Reunion, it became clear that **Carl Weedman** has been extraordinarily generous to his home town. A book on Bristow that was in the Perry County Library in Tell City had been underwritten by Carl and Helen. Few towns of the size of Bristow have had such a book written about them.

Later, when the group stopped at the Bristow Community Center to enjoy a lunch that had been provided courtesy of Carl, several people commented about how nice facility the facility was. Plaques on the wall indicated that the facility had been provided by an anonymous donor but on further research, it was clear that the donors were **Carl** and **Helen Weedman**.

Carl is known to have had success as a contractor and builder in his adopted home in Arizona.

Gena Theiss nominated **Carl Weedman** to the Weedman Family Hall of Fame and the participants were unanimous in the acceptance of that nomination.

For his business success and for the generosity he and his late wife, Helen, have shown to his birthplace, Bristow, Indiana, Carl is recognized by his induction into the Weedman Hall of Fame.

Carl's lineage is: Carl Lee Weedman⁷, Oscar David⁶, William T.⁵, George Glasscock⁴, Danie³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian Sr.¹

Carl Franklin Oran

Decorated Veteran and Businessman

Carl Franklin Oran was born August 24, 1913 in Evansville, Indiana to Robert and Myrtle Ivy (Orum) Oran. He was a grandson of Richard Thomas and Drusie Ellen (Weedman) (Bell) Orum.

He grew up on the west side of Evansville and graduated from the F.J. Reitz High School in 1931. He then enlisted in the First Coastal Artillery Corps in 1932 and served in Panama.

In 1936, he moved to Kearney, Nebraska and attended Kearney State College where he graduated in 1940. In 1942, he graduated from the Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA and served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He served as the Selective Service Director for the State of Nebraska, commander of the 168th Field Artillery Group, commander of the 128th Combat Engineer Battalion, was Combat Engineer Platoon Leader and Adjutant of the Second Infantry Division. In 1945 he received the Silver Star, the European Theater of Operations Ribbon with five Battle Stars and received the American Defense Medal.

Carl married Bernice Grosh in Kearney on June 29, 1943.

He graduated from the Command General Staff College in 1950 and the U.S. Army College in 1961. He retired from the Nebraska National Guard as a Colonel.

In Kearney, he owned and operated the Southside Liquor Store and in 1965 he opened Oran's Spirit Shop which he operated until retirement in 1976.

He was a past president of the Nebraska National Guard Association, past Commander of the Kearney American Legion Post and past Chef de Gare of 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaus. He was a life member of the National Guard Association of the U.S., life member of the Nebraska National Guard Association as well as the Second (Indian Head) Division, American Legion Post 523, the local VFW Post and BPO Elks. He was a charter member of the Loper Supporters, the United States War College Alumni Association and of the Buffalo County Historical Society.

Carl and Bernice Oran had five children: Peggy Kay (Oran) Thompson, Carol Sue (Oran) Huffman, Gary Carl Oran, Alan Kent Oran and Curt Ross Oran. In addition, they have 12 grandchildren.

Carl and Bernice Oran were supporters of the Weedman Newsletter and enjoyed the Weedman Reunions until ill health forced them to stop attending the functions.

Carl died December 26, 2002 and is buried in Kearney, Nebraska.

Carl Oran had a highly successful military and business career and served his country with distinction. He was a highly respected family member and brought honor to the Weedman family. For this, we recognized him with induction into the Weedman Family Hall of Fame at its meeting in Uniontown, PA in June, 2008.

Carl Franklin Oran's lineage was: Carl Franklin Oran⁸, Myrtle Ivy Oran⁷, Drusie Ellen (Weedman) (Bell) Orum⁶, John W. Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman I³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Edward Ellsworth Smith

Cartoonist, Newspaperman, Journalist, Corporate Public Relations Specialist

All of the above have described Ed Smith in his personal and professional lives, starting in 1943 at Louisiana State University (LSU) through the end of his distinguished career in the early 2000s. A collection of his works includes work in newspapers, business publications, and magazines, including *Life* and Classic Comics, and books.

Edward Ellsworth Smith was born in Plainfield, N.J. on July 5, 1926, the oldest of three siblings. He was reared in nearby Dunellen and graduated from high school there in 1943. As early as high school, Ed was using cartoons to chronicle teenage love. At his 40th high school reunion, one of his class buddies came forward with one of these infamous notebooks, complete with his early drawings. “It was one of those situations, you know, when girls and boys first start taking notice of each other. I thought it was funny, so I drew a picture in a notebook and passed it to a friend, and he passed it on.” Before long three of his notebooks were circulating his high school. The experience gave him a taste for making people laugh with his pictures.

Ed left Dunellen to attend LSU and during his freshman year, made collegiate newspaper history. Saying his motivation was money, Ed worked on the college newspaper, “The Daily Reveille”. He worked as managing editor, editorial cartoonist and did a carton strip, which was the nation’s only daily cartoon strip in a collegiate newspaper. Getting paid for each of these jobs helped him to cover his living expenses, but it soon became apparent each helped to establish his long and distinguished career in the coming years.

In June, 1944 Ed enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps, reported for duty in New York City and soon arrived at boot camp in Paris Island, S.C. After spending further training in Camp LeJeune, NC and Camp Pendleton, CA, Ed shipped out to the South Pacific. He shipped out to Banika Isle (Coconut Grove) in the Russell Islands, Okinawa, and Teintsin, China in 1945. He spent time at sea enroute to Sasebo, Japan, escorting Japanese troops to Tientsin by the end of the war in July, 1945. Letters home to his family chronicle the events of these intense years for Ed and are a spellbinding read. His family has preserved these letters and arranged them chronologically to relive the struggles, triumphs and homesickness of a young soldier.

After being discharge from the Marines at Great Lakes, Illinois, Ed re-entered LSU and graduated with a B.A. in Journalism in 1949. It was at that same university that Ed met his future wife, Anne Weedman, also a journalism student at LSU. He worked as a beat reported for daily papers in Lafayette, LA, Baton Rouge, LA and then moved back to his home state of New Jersey. Along with other duties, Ed did weekly entertainment columns, including an interview with the blonde bombshell, Jayne Mansfield. While working mainly as a reporter, Ed sold his editorial cartoon on a free-lance basis, along with his art work to comic books.

Ed left the Plainfield Courier News and joined Bell Laboratories, reporting for the company’s own publication in 1956 and began his long association as an executive with the Bell System. He worked as a feature writer for the award winning company magazine, was the lead writer and researcher for officer level AT&T projects, was the main liaison between Labor Relations and Public Relations for Illinois Bell, and attended the Executive MBA Program at the University of Chicago in 1965-66. Returning to the center of operations for AT&T in New York City in 1967, Ed was a member of a headquarters team that helped to develop the future advertising themes for the company. At AT&T Corporate planning, Ed worked with senior managers and was involved in writing papers, study reports and developing presentations.

From the early 80s through 1984, Ed worked with top AT&T executives on the biggest anti-trust suit of the time, which split the AT&T trust. Ed headed a twelve man team responsible of administration of large group case documents in the anti-trust suit. He personally developed policy testimony, analyzed opposition statements and wrote a history on AT&T's handling of critical documents in the case. Ed continued his association the AT&T until retirement in 1984.

After retirement, Ed freelanced with projects for AT&T, Arlan Communications and a Vermont weekly newspaper. He found time to serve as a volunteer at Seton Hall University's Crisis Center answering emergency calls. He worked part-time for several years with top executives at Allied Signal as an information specialist.

And along the way Ed found time to do more...cartooning. He submitted cartoons for the Maplewood (NJ) News-Record when the community was going through a tough time with their local school system which brought smiles to even the most difficult readers by encouraging humor regardless of one's side of the issue. This event was showcased by a feature story in the News-Record, entitled "Creating Laughter with Cartoons".

About this same time, Ed began to submit cartoon to other publications, most notably, The Wall Street Journal. The WSJ's editorial page cartoon "Pepper... and Salt" published several of his cartoons, which were always signed "EES" beginning in the early 1990s. In 1999 his work was included in a new book, "Wall Street Journal Portfolio of Business Cartoons", published by Dow Jones. This was a compilation commemoration 50 years of "Pepper...and Salt".

Ed became a member of the Weedman family when he married Anne Weedman in December, 1949, in Blytheville, Arkansas. His in-laws, Harry and Mary Belle Weedman, quickly welcomed this Yankee into their family. Weddings, funerals, reunions and family holidays were always important to the Weedmans and it was soon discovered that Ed Smith was taking note of many of these events by quietly sitting and making pencil and paper drawings of these events to be forever preserved. Starting with a portrait of his bride, Ed has helped to chronicle events for over 50 years and these are treasured by all who have had the fortune of these gifts. Other examples of his work include a cartoon dealing with the transportation of family from all over the country to attend a reunion in Arkansas and another showing Harry entering the Pearly Gates and being welcomed by Saint Peter, "The heavenly gutters need repair", a reference to Harry's sheet metal work experience.

Ed and Anne are the proud parents of Chris and Meg and grandparents of Mica. Chris lives in Seattle and works in computer technology. Meg lives in Maplewood, NJ and works for the Grolier Society in New York City as a curator.

Edward Ellsworth Smith was given a talent and a love of writing and recording history through words and pictures that have given new meaning to preserving the history of the Weedman family.

Lineage of Anne Weedman Smith: Anne Weedman Smith⁷, Harry Edwin Weedman⁶, Charles Green Weedman⁵, Green Berry Weedman⁴, William Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.² and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Freeman James (Jim) Weedman Colonel, U.S.A.F. (Retired)

Decorated Military Officer and Successful Businessman

Freeman James (Jim) Weedman was born on March 22, 1924 in Bristow, Oklahoma to Freeman James, Sr. and Velma (Phillips) Weedman. He was raised in Oklahoma and graduated from Sand Springs High School in Sand Springs, OK in 1942.



Freeman James (Jim) Weedman

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in October, 1942 and completed pilot training at Moore Field in Mission, Texas. Following graduation from pilot school, he volunteered for the Temperate Climate Zone and was assigned to the China-India-Burma theater where he flew over 100 missions “over the hump”. The primary missions were to fly supplies between Tezgon Army Base in Dacca, India (now the capital of Bangladesh) and bases in Southern China.

He remained in the service and flew B-29s in the Korean War.

On June 4, 1948, he married Ardes M. Sorensen in Omaha, Nebraska.

In the 1950’s, Jim was a pilot for B-47 aircraft. He piloted the winning B-47 in the first General Electric Trophy race between Los Angeles and Philadelphia in 1955 and received the trophy on the GE Theater on television from the host of the program, Ronald Reagan.

In the 1960s, he was a B-52 pilot and served as Operations Officer and Squadron Commander. He then served as Director of Operations, Director of Maintenance, Vice Wing Commander and Wing Commander for B-52 operations. He completed the Air Force Command and Staff College as well as the Air War College.

Colonel Weedman retired in July, 1974 after 32 years of distinguished service. In his military career, he received three Air Medals, two Commendation Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals and the Legion of Merit.

Free

During this time, he graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha with a degree in business.

Following his military career, he opened an insurance marketing firm, Jim Weedman, Inc. and served as President of the organization. He is a past president of the Nebraska Chapter of the American

Diabetes Association and served on the national Board of Directors of the American Diabetes Association.

He and his wife have three children: Terri Lynne, Rebecca A. and Douglas. They reside in Papillion, Nebraska.

Colonel Freeman J. (Jim) Weedman is recognized for his distinguished military service and successful business career. He has brought honor to the Weedman family and is recognized for this by his induction into the Weedman Family Hall of Fame at the 2008 Weedman National Family Gathering in Uniontown, PA in June, 2008.

His lineage: Freeman James Weedman, Jr.⁶, Freeman James Weedman, Sr.⁵, Jesse Hamilton Stewart Weedman⁴, David Weedman³, Jacob Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.