
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 44 Issue 2

Summer 2011

Gena Lee Theiss compiled three books on Christian Weedman, Sr. and his Descendants. She was inducted in the Weedman Family Hall of Fame at the 2000 Family Reunion in Farmer City, IL

Computer Crash and European Trip

Since the publication of the Spring 2011 issue of the *Weedman Newsletter*, there have been several events to report.

First, my computer failed due apparently to defective capacitors on the mother board and given the age of the machine, we decided to replace it. Fortunately, we do frequent backups and so virtually all of our data has been saved. The bad news is that the structure of some of the files seems to have been lost. As a result, we have spent long hours trying to get all of the programs and data on which we depend back running on the new computer. Shortly after, a similar event happened to my wife's computer and we were able to have it repaired. Needless to say, both of these events have proven to be time consumers.

Second, due to other commitments we had to cancel our European trip. We had hoped to go to France and then possibly Germany. The German portion of the trip was intended to try to identify resources in that country which might be helpful in finding our European roots. Contact was made with Don Weedman, a resident of France who was born and grew up in Germany, to determine if we might meet and do resource searching. Don's first language is German and he is a potentially tremendously valuable resource in our searching. Don has offered to help and we will try to start some progress along that line in this year.

Theiss Genealogical Records

Nick Weedman

Shortly after the death of **Gena Theiss** on 16 September 2010, I was contacted by one of her daughters who asked if we had any idea about what to do with the genealogical collection left behind.

Gena had done extensive research into both the **Weedman** and **Higdon** families and had documented her work in an exemplary manner. She wrote three books on the **Christian Weedman, Sr.** family and his descendants. Naturally as she collected more information, the books got larger and larger. Her last compilation on the family was published in 2002 and is a massive 869 pages in length. The book includes pictures of many family members and is very well documented.

Reluctantly, I agreed to take her records with the idea of converting most to a digital format to facilitate storage as well as information retrieval. While the equipment needed to do this is not yet on hand, a high speed scanner should make this take achievable over time although the time required will be significant.

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In May, we went to Louisville and loaded the SUV with all of the records and books we thought would be of some value. Many books remained and according to her son-in-law, **Paul Hosse**, these will be donated to the Filson Society which is based in Louisville.

The inventory of books and records has just begun and we hope to start the scanning process in the Fall.

Included in the papers were transcriptions of census records for Grayson County, Kentucky for 1850 and 1860 and for 1880 Breckinridge County, Kentucky but only the second of two volumes of that work. None of the census books are indexed so converting them to a digital form will facilitate their usefulness. These transcriptions were done prior to the advent of Ancestry.com which now contains indexed census records for all of the U.S. Federal censuses that still exist.

The amount of work and time to transcribe these census records cannot be overestimated and are a testimonial to the dedication that **Gena Theiss** had for her genealogical research. Her attention to detail and her willingness to undertake such projects is impressive.

Her three books on "*Christian Weedman, Sr. and His Descendants*" were published in 1986, 1989, and 2002.

Our first digitalization project will be to convert all 869 pages of the 2002 edition to an electronic version. We discussed this with Mr. Hosse and both felt it would be a fitting tribute to Gena and her work if the electronic version was made available to select libraries and genealogical societies where the family lived. Our intent is not to sell the electronic version of the book but rather to make it available to those who have a genuine interest in the family history and genealogy.

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Gena Theiss
compiled three
separate
Kentucky county
census records
only one of
which was
publicly
available.

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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As we inventory her records, we are likely to find even more information on the family and will report progress in future editions of the *Weedman Newsletter*.

Peter Weedman (aka Peter Weedeman) of South Carolina

Peter Weedeman of Newberry Co.,, South Carolina is often cited as a Weedman family member but this does not appear to be the case. There are a number of variant spellings for the surname including Weedman.

Peter was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and appears to have been a native of South Carolina.

Subscriber **Shirley Spooner** recently sent information from the South Carolina Department of History and Archives which has a copy of his will on line. His will was dated April 1837 and he died in May 1837 in Newberry County.

In his will he names: **William Elmore** to hold \$200 for Peter's granddaughter, **Dolly Chapman; Margaret Weedeman** and her children; **Elizabeth Boozer** (husband, John), **Mary Griffith** (husband Joel), **Christopher Weedeman; Nancy Morgan** (husband, David); **Barbara Walden** (husband Peter), and **Rebecca Elmore** (husband, William). His wife was not named and presumably died prior to the establishment of the will.

Peter received a Bounty Land Warrant in 1833 for his Revolutionary War service and was a Revolutionary War pensioner.

The family appears to have been well researched and there does not appear to

be a connection with any of the various branches of the **Weedman** family. The operative word here is *appear* and we should keep this family in mind while pursuing our own research.

Our thanks go to **Shirley Spooner** for her continued contributions of research and interest in the family history. Shirley is a descendant of the Florida Weedman family.

Possible Origin of Christian Weedman, Sr.?

We recently received an e-mail from Anne Weedman of Houston, TX who is researching her husband's line. She wrote:

I've been researching the family tree for my husband, Robert Weedman, on my-heritage.com, and thought you would be interested in some information I found.

This website matches up people in your family tree with people of the same name in other family trees.

They found Christian Weedman, Sr. (same wife, same date and location of his death, same children). His birthplace is listed as Dudensen, Hannover, Niedersachsen, Germany. This other family tree has over 1500 names in total, so the manager of that family tree has done a lot of genealogical research. That family tree lists the mother of Christian Weedman, Sr. as Elizabeth Glueck Weedman, information I hadn't seen before.

*I located this area of Germany on the map, and there is a **town of Wedemark** within just a few miles of Dudensen.*

*Sincerely,
Anne Weedman*

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***Peter Weedeman** is often considered to be a descendant of the original immigrant but this does not appear likely.*

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Houston, TX

It seems we have run across this in the past but are unable to find any notes on the possible connection. This is another lead worth checking out. The source is uncertain at this point but efforts will be made to pursue the connection.

Obituaries

Mary D. (Jette) Weedman

Mary D. Weedman, 84, passed away from Alzheimer's disease on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 in Columbus, WI.

Mary was born on Nov. 19, 1926, in Tracy, Minn., the oldest of five children of **Orville** and **Alice (Silver) Jette**. She grew up in Tracy, Minn., and graduated from Tracy High School in 1944. She was married to **Verne C. Weedman** on May 26, 1947, at St. Mary's Church in Tracy, Minn. Mary and Verne moved to Columbus, Wisconsin, in 1960 and raised their eight children. She and her husband started Badger Disposal Inc. in Columbus in 1973, and for many years worked there until her retirement in 1988. She was a member of St. Jerome Catholic Church where she enjoyed her years of working on the Sugar Plum Fair with other church members.

Survivors include two daughters **Linda (Bob) Shepard** and **Mary Beth (John) Nehmer**, both of Columbus; four sons **Jerry (Katie) Weedman** of Wautoma, Bryan (Michelle Smith) Weedman of Rio, Jim of Thiensville, Patrick Weedman of Columbus; 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one sister **Allie Mae Lang** of St. Cloud, Minn.; two brothers **Bud (Jen) Jette** of Minneapolis, Minn., and **John (Rita) Jette** of Austin, Minn.; other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her par-

ents; husband in 2000; two sons Thomas in 1987 and Michael in 2009; one brother

Beryl Jette.

Interment was in St. Jerome Cemetery, Columbus.



The lineage of Mary Weedman's late husband, Verne was: Luverne (Verne) Coy Weedman⁷, Earl Elmore Weedman⁶, Henry Linas Weedman⁵, Asa Weedman⁴, John Huhn Weedman³, George Weedman², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Theresa J. Weedman

Theresa J. Weedman, 88, of Rockford, IL died, Monday, June 20, 2011. She was born August 1, 1922 in Rockford to **Sam** and **Josephine (LaFata) Briscoe** and married **Patrick Weedman** in Rockford on January 8, 1949. She was an office manager and a member of Holy Family Catholic Church and a very active member of her sorority Phi Sigma Alpha, Chattie Red Hattie's and 1940 Class reunion.

Survivors include a daughter, **Sue Sklar** of Rockford; granddaughter **Courtney Sklar** of Rockford; brother, **Angelo (Pat) Briscoe** of Colorado Springs. She was predeceased by her parents, husband **Patrick** and son **Richard Weedman**.

Services were held on June 24, 2011 with burial in St. Mary/St. James Cemetery in Rockford.

We are unable to place Patrick Weed-

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Obituaries are obtained from family members as well as several on-line resources. Please advise if you are aware of the death of a family member.

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man in our families and seek help from those familiar with the family in Rockford, IL.

Mary Alice Weedman Smith

Mary Alice Weedman Smith, 78 of Cloverport, KY died Monday, June 27, 2011, at Professional Care Rehabilitation Center in Dale, Ind.

She was born in Breckinridge County, on Aug. 3, 1932, the daughter of the late **Jeff** and **Ethel Ford Weedman**. She was a homemaker who enjoyed spending time with her family, being outdoors and traveling.

She is survived by seven children, **Pearl Williams** of Fordsville, **Lucille Fuqua** and **Barbara McCarty** of Maceo, **Don Smith** of Ferdinand, Ind., **Glenn Smith** of Winslow, Ind., **Patricia Reburn** of Clay, **Rita Wahl** of Dale, Ind.; 20 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren; two brothers, **Jeff Weedman** of Norris City, Ill., and **Roy Weedman** of Cloverport; four sisters, **Dorothy Canary** of Fordsville, **Stella Sims** of Eddyville, **Nancy Sinclair** of Tell City, Ind., and **Janie Sanders** of Hawesville.

She was preceded in death by her husband, **Carroll Thomas Smith**; five children, **Kenneth Darell**, **Jesse**, **Larry Wayne**, **Carol Ann** and **Rita Carol Smith**; and a grandson, **Thomas Fuqua, Jr.**

The funeral was July 1, 2011 with burial the New Clover Creek Cemetery.

Her lineage was: Mary Alice Weedman Smith⁷, Jeff Davidson Owen Weedman⁶, James David Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Stella Embry

Stella Embry, 89, of Rockport, IN passed away on April 14, 2011 in Rockport after a brief illness.

She was born on April 24, 1921 in Breckinridge Co., KY the eighth of eleven children born to **William Marshall** and **Sarah Veronica (Weedman) Smith**.

She married **Fred Embry** on January 4, 1938 and they had eight children: **Carl Vincent**, **Charles Edward**, **Daniel William**, **Larry Eugene**, **Jerry Frederick**, **Virginia Ann**, **Marilyn Kay**, and **Mary Rebecca**.

She worked at Commercial Filters in Tell City until retiring in 1982. She and Fred enjoyed two short years of retirement life and vacationing together before his early death in May 1984 at the age of 65. Stella was a wonderful Christian lady and was a charter member of the Central Baptist Church in Hawesville, KY. She has been a member of the New Hope Baptist Church in Newtonville since moving to the area in the 1960s.

Services were held on April 16, 2011 and burial was in the New Hope Cemetery in Newtonville.

Her daughter, **Becky Middleton**, is a subscriber to the *Weedman Newsletter*.

Her lineage was: Stella Smith Embry⁷, Sarah V. Weedman Smith⁶, James David Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Our condolences are extended to the families of those whose passing are reported here.

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Names in the News

Shane Weedman Named to All Southwest Indiana Baseball Team

Shane Weedman of Cannelton, Indiana was named by the Evansville, IN *Courier & Press* to their All Southwest Indiana Baseball Team. Shane graduated from the Tell City High School in May and received a baseball scholarship from Vincennes University.

He pitched for the Tell City High School and had a 6-2 season with a 3.42 earned run average.

He is the son of **Jim** and **Robin Weedman** of Cannelton, IN.

Congratulations to Shane on his graduation, scholarship and being named to the All Southwest Indiana team!

Chelsea Weedman Receives Votes in the San Diego Hall of Champions Recognition

Chelsea Weedman, a rising sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania was recently recognized for her high school swimming achievements in the San Diego Hall of Champions Recognition. This lists recognizes outstanding high school athletes who remarkable athletic achievements during their high school years. The list includes golfer Phil Mickelson and a number of other well know athletes. Chelsea received votes in this years polling. Quite another nice recognition! She is the daughter of **Paul** and **Emily Weedman** of Poway, CA.

Jan Bruner's New Grandson

Meet **Kingston Drake Schneider**, son of **LeAnna (Bruner)** and **John Schneider**. **LeAnna** is the daughter of **Janette (Pierce) Bruner**, daughter of **Floella Mae (Watson) Pierce**, daughter of **Mary Ella (Weedman) Watson**, daughter of **Mordecai Weedman**, son of **Stephen Craddock Weedman**, son of **Christian Weedman Jr.**, son of **Christian Weedman Sr.**

Kingston was born May 23rd at Deaconess Women's Hospital, Evansville, IN.

Jan and her daughters hosted the 1996 Weedman National Family Gathering held in Evansville. Congratulations to the new parents and proud grandparents!

Find A Grave Weedman Project Update

As reported in earlier *Weedman Newsletters*, the Find A Grave site located at (www.findagrave.com) is proving to be an excellent resource in locating the burial sites of family members.

As of June 30, 2011 the site had 432 Weedman family members who had a burial plat listed on the site. Many of these have photographs included and a few show an obituary as well.

We have created a virtual cemetery in which we have the burial sites for 140 Weedman and 10 Brodix family members. Subscriber Scott Parrish of Weldon, IL (near Farmer City) has even more Weedmans in his collection of burial sites.

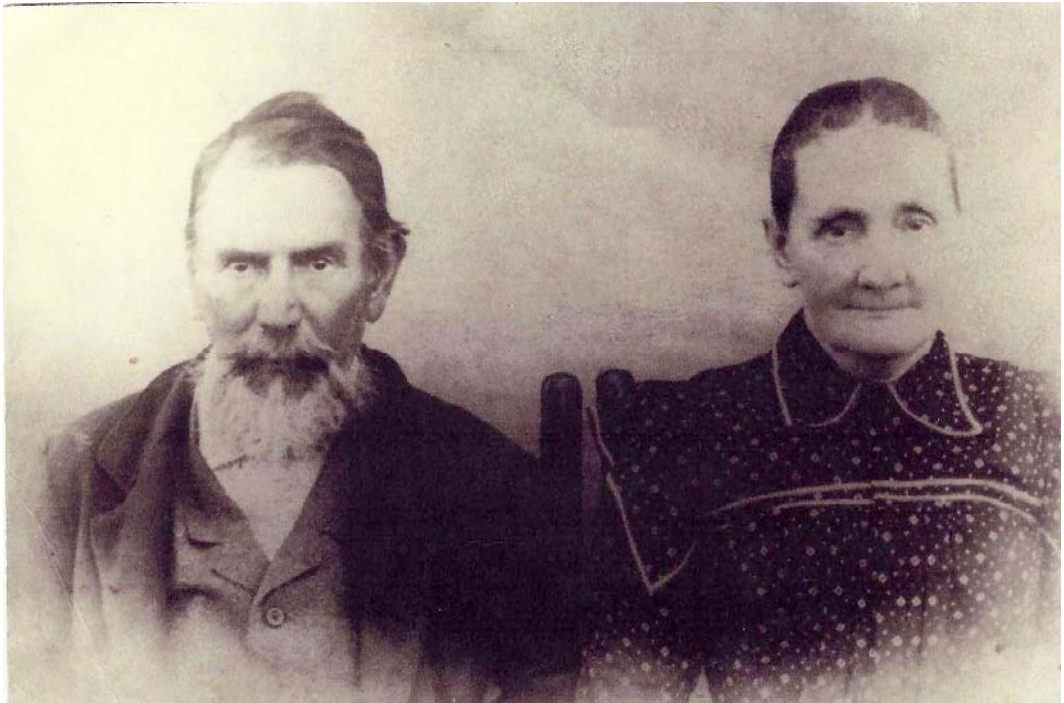
We take delight in finding our young family members excelling in any number of areas.

John and Mariah (Cart) Weedman

There are a number of **John Weedmans** in our family and it is easy to confuse one with another.

Recently, contact from a descendant of **John Weedman** of Perry County, Indiana was received and she had pictures of **John Weedman**, his wife, **Mariah Cart**, and several of their children. **Joyce Colson** is a great grand daughter of **Margaret Frances Weedman** who married **Charles M. Ballard** in Perry County. She provided the pictures of the family.

John Weedman was the oldest surviving son of **William** and **Rebecca (Haycraft) Weedman**. He was born in January, 1822 probably in Grayson County, KY. Some time in the 1820s, the family moved to Hancock Co., KY where they farmed and about 1849 they moved across the Ohio River to what was then Rono, now Magnet, in the northwest portion of Perry County.



John and Mariah (Cart) Weedman

William was a son of **Christian Weedman, Jr.** and his wife, **Mary Marshall Weedman**. He was a grandson of the original immigrant;

Christian Weedman, Sr. William served in the War of 1812 and was probably at the Battle of New Orleans. William died in 1851 and is buried in the Weedman Cemetery near Magnet.

John Weedman first married **Malinda Cart**, a daughter of **John** and **Jane (Gilliland) Cart** in 1852. **Malinda** died in 1855 apparently without issue and is buried in the Cart Cemetery near Magnet. John then married **Mariah Cart**, a younger sister of **Malinda Cart** on July 27, 1856. Another sister, **Susan Mary Cart**, had married **Green Berry Weedman** in 1854. Forrest Miller relates the story that John Cart stated he didn't mind one of his daughters marrying a Weedman but he didn't like all of them marrying in that family! Wonder if he was joking or serious? To further complicate matters, the mother of **Charles M. Ballard** mentioned about was also a daughter of **John** and **Jane (Gilliland) Cart!**

It appears that in the late 1880s, the oldest son of **John** and **Mariah Weedman** left Perry County, Indiana and moved to Dyer County, Tennessee. On November 8, 1888, **John Weedman, Jr.** or **Jack Weedman** as he was known married **Myra Anne Fuqua** in Dyer County. Why the move to Western Tennessee is unknown but the large expanses of virgin timber in the area is likely the reason. It is known that the family operated some type of a mill in Perry County, IN and it could have been a saw mill.

Based on marriage and birth records, it appears that after **Jack Weedman** settled in Dyer Co., TN his parents and all

of his siblings followed. About 1891 or 1892, following the death of **Susan Cart Weedman** in 1892 in Perry County, IN, **Green Berry Weedman** joined his brother, **John** in Tennessee. Not all of **Green Berry Weedman's** family left Perry County. One son, **George Perry Weedman**, who was an educator and Superintendent of Schools in Perry County remained there as did daughter, **Mary Etta Weedman Davison**.

John and Mariah (Cart) Weedman had the following children:

1. **Sarah Ann Weedman**, born Oct 1859 in Perry Co., IN. Married **William A. Stroud** in Perry County in 1879,
2. **Josephine Weedman**, born December 1861; married **J.B. (Buck) Kelley** in Pemiscot Co., MO in 1892,
3. **Bell Mary Weedman**, b. 1864; married **Scott W. Wilson** in 1889 in Perry Co., IN,
4. **John (Jack) Weedman, Jr.**, b. 1866; married **Myra Annie Fuqua** in 1888 in Dyer Co., TN,
5. **Margaret Frances Weedman**, b. Oct. 1867 in KY; married **Charles M. Ballard** in 1884 in Perry Co., IN,
6. **Mildred Adare Weedman**, b. 1871 in Perry County; married **Issac Newton Bunnell** in 1893 in Dyer Co.,
7. **Martha Alice (Mattie) Weedman**, b. 1873 in Perry County; married **William W. Edwards** in 1899 in Dyer Co.,
8. **Lucy May Weedman**, b. 1878 in Perry County; married **George Burton (Bert) Huey**, in 1898 in Dyer County.

John Weedman, Sr. died about 1910 in Finley, Tennessee. His wife, **Mariah**, died April 5, 1915 and both are buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Finley. Neither grave is marked.

Most of the family remained in Dyer County with a number of descendants still living there.

On the right is a photograph of three sisters, all of whom are daughters of **John and Mariah Weedman**. From left to right are: **Margaret Frances Weedman Ballard**, **Martha (Mattie) Weedman Edwards**, and **Lucy Weedman Huey**.

Green Berry Weedman, the brother of **John Weedman** remarried after moving to Tennessee. On October 16, 1892 he married **Larua (Fannie) Davis**, in Dyer County. On January 6, 1909, **Green Berry Weedman** died in Newbern, Tennessee and is buried in the Methodist Grove Cemetery there. Family tradition states that after his death, Green's widow returned "to live with her people". We found that in 1910 she was living with a daughter in Gibson County, Tennessee but can find no further reference to her.

Our thanks go to **Joyce Colson** for sharing these photographs with us.

