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# ❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

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Volume 44 Issue 4

Winter 2011

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*A personal set back has delayed the publication of this issue of the Weedman Newsletter. My apologies for the delay.*

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This edition of the *Weedman Newsletter* is very late but I will still call it the Winter 2011 issue. I do have a partial excuse, however. Please read on.

## 2012 Weedman National Family Gathering

But first, we want to announce that there will be a 2012 Weedman Family Reunion to be held August 17~19 at the Rough River (Kentucky) State Park hosted by **Cliff and Shirley Weedman** along with **Myron and Sherry Weedman**. See page 28 for more specific details!

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## A Personal Note

Rarely have we written articles for the Newsletter in the first person so we trust you will forgive this exception. In mid-November, I underwent open heart surgery at which time a quadruple by-pass procedure was performed. I had no idea I was ill and when I underwent what called a stress test (walking/running on a treadmill) and failed, it was a total surprise. Within a week, I had a heart catheterization which revealed blockages in four heart vessels. The next day was the surgery and after spending time in the cardiac intensive care unit and a few days in the hospital, I was released to start the recovery process.

Now, ten weeks later, we seem to be doing fairly well. Lack of energy and stamina and memory loss plague me on a daily basis and I found an inability to concentrate on anything of significance. As a result, I have procrastinated on get-

ting the Newsletter out.

Hopefully, we will do better as the year progresses.

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## The Future of the Weedman Newsletter

I have given consideration to bringing the *Weedman Newsletter* to an end. We perceive waning interest and after 42 years of publication, it may be time to simply close shop. But, we will continue during 2012 and see if by year's end, there is reason to continue. If we do continue (or if someone else wants to take over), some assistance will be needed.

In the last issue, we asked for help in preparing the occasional article for publication. One person, **Jeanne Hefner**, responded in a positive way. She has furnished excellent information and some outstanding photographs of some of her ancestors. We have printed some of her contributions in the past and her offer to prepare articles is highly appreciated. We also accept her offer. The most recent article based on Jeanne's information was on page 24 of the Fall 2011 edition.

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As stated in the last issue, we would like to publish more information on the allied lines of the family which include the **Olaf Weedman** family (Swedish origins) and the **Philip Weedman** line which we refer to as the Florida Weedman line.

While most of the Weedman families descend from **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman, Senior**, there are a significant number of Weedmans from those two lines. A page or so on each line in each issue would be desired.

But, so far, no volunteers from either line have stepped forward. Please let us know if you are willing to contribute articles either on an on-going or a single occasion. We have seen some excellent work in the past that we would like to share.

### Why Continue at All?

Genealogy is a hobby that is both addic-

tive and never ending. As soon as one family puzzle is solved, it seems two or three new ones appear.

One reason to continue is to answer the question that has been asked for generations: Where did the Weedman family originate? Clearly for both the Swedish line and the Florida line, the answer is known. But not for the **Christian Weedman** line. The advent of the DNA testing projects for genealogical purposes has provided new tools that may help answer the question. More testing is needed to develop a good base of scientific data on our current lines and in the future we can use similar information on foreign lines such as the Widman or Widmann family to see if there is a match which may point to our origins. The Newsletter can help provide a means to communicate among those interested in the DNA project as well as stimulate additional participation.

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*A plea for help on editorial content for the Weedman Newsletter is sought. Please consider helping.*

## About the Weedman Newsletter

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## DNA Testing and the Florida Weedman Line

We have a single participant in the Weedman Family DNA project whose lineage is from that of Philip (or Philippe) Weedman who was born in Mainz, Germany. That participant, **Earl Joseph Weedman**, had results that helped to prove that his line and that of the line of **Christian Weedman, Sr.** were not closely related.

The original immigrant in this line, **Philip Weedman**, apparently arrived in this country with a brother, **Bernard Wiedemann**. Philip went to Florida while Bernard went to Virginia (now West Virginia). The descendants of Bernard tend to spell their surname as Wiedemann or variants of that. Contact has been made with one descendant of that line but we have failed to gain a great deal of information on the family.

If we could get one or more descendants of **Bernard Wiedemann** to participate in DNA testing, we could prove or disprove the relationship with **Philip Weedman**. Interestingly, we have traced some of Bernard Weideman's family to the northern portion of Fayette County, Pennsylvania where they currently reside.

Continued publication of the *Weedman Newsletter* could potentially aid in solving this family connection.

## DNA Testings and the Swedish Weedman Line

**Olaf Weedman** immigrated from Ockelbo, Sweden in the 1850s and for a time it was thought that he was the progenitor of all Weedman family members we had grouped into the Swedish Weedman line.

But, it appears there were in fact three brothers who immigrated from Sweden over a period of years. Research revealed that **Peter Weedman** immigrated as did another apparent brother, **William Jonas Weedman**. **Peter Weedman** lived in Knox County, Illinois and apparently moved to Iowa where he apparently died. We are unaware of descendants of this brother. **William Jonas Weedman** had two sons, **Charles A. Weedman** and **John W. Weedman**. We are aware of a single male descendant of **John W. Weedman** and his participation in DNA testing on this family along with that of a direct male line descendant of **Olaf Weedman** could help prove relationship between at least two of the three likely brothers.

And, since the origin of this family in Sweden is known, if there are direct male line descendants from the father of **Olaf, Peter** and **William Jonas Weedman**, proof of relationship through DNA testing could be established.

Continued publication of the *Weedman Newsletter* could potentially aid in solving this family connection.

## Weedman Family Burial Sites On Find A Grave

The Find A Grave web site is a place where graves are listed often with photographs of their tombstones. This is an excellent resource on which I have been able to add to our genealogical data base. **Scott Parish** who lives near Farmer City, Illinois and whose wife has Weedman roots has done so much to specifically add Weedman graves to this site. As of a recent count, there were 491 Weedman graves registered. This is a project which we need to support and to contribute in-

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*DNA testing could prove to be the tool that allows us to connect with ancestral families in our original European home.*

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formation and photographs. Use of the site is free and again has proven very useful.

Another reason to continue with the **Weedman Newsletter** is to encourage the building of family information on sites such as [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com).

Answering family puzzles and helping newcomers to solve their family tree questions is another obvious reason to continue.

So, I hope we have an opportunity in 2012 to exchange thoughts on the future of the Weedman Newsletter and decide if there is a future. We will print responses in future issues.

In summary, it is essential that we find some on-going editorial help if the Weedman Newsletter is to continue with

the current editor. **Please consider volunteering some help.**

### **Gena Theiss Work on Christian Weedman**

As mentioned in the past issue, the family of Gena Theiss has given permission to the conversion of her 2002 book, "Christian Weedman, Senior and his Descendants 1735 – 1986" into electronic form. We now offer this in an electronic form for available on a CD for a \$5.00 fee which covers the cost of the CD and postage. We will offer the CD only to family members and to libraries in areas where the family lived in earlier years.

To order a copy, send a request to Nick Weedman, 130 Berry Creek Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731 or you can order via e-mail by sending a note to [nick@weedman.org](mailto:nick@weedman.org).

*Work has begun on the 2012 Weedman National Family Gathering. See the article on this page for greater detail.*

## **2012 Weedman National Family Gathering**

**August 17 ~ 19, 2012**

### **Rough River State Park Kentucky**

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

Details of the Reunion are currently being considered but among the possible events are: touring five local graveyards where family members are buried, fishing, camping, swimming, Blue Grass music, hayrides, yard games and a Sunday Service.

Mark your calendars for these dates and check the Weedman website ([www.weedman.org](http://www.weedman.org)) for additional details as they are released!