

❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 31 Issue 1

Winter 1998

Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Dear Cousins,

Hope you are all enjoying this first quarter of 1998 and that the year will continue to be a good one for all.

Got a letter from **Gena Lee Theiss** saying that she had called **Jimmie** and **Alma Weedman** to learn that Jimmie had suffered from an aneurysm in the main artery, the aorta, back in early fall, and had been in the hospital for about six weeks with pneumonia. They put in a plastic artery then, and after that he had pneumonia again, and a slight stroke, and was admitted to the Fraser Rehab. center. He is home now and seems to be well on the mend. We all send you our love and prayers, Jimmy and Alma. (Jimmie was the host for the last Weedman Reunion in Bardstown, KY). Jimmie, we hope this finds you much improved and feeling great.

Mareda Wright

Mareda Wright, widow of **Edeth Jewel Wright** died on 21 January 1998 in Louisville, KY. She was the daughter of **Claude** and **Lorene (Davis) Weedman**. Siblings included: **Wilmer O'Connel Weedman**, **Harroll Claude Weedman**, **Carroll Gilbert Weedman**, **Jimmie Birch Weedman**, **Dorothy Lucille Weedman Geary**, and **Jewel Estell Weedman**. **Harroll Claude** and **Jewel Estell Weedman** predeceased their sister.

Family Update

When you sent your dues & donations for 1998, some of you sent notes. Nick and I were happy to hear from you. **Beryl Poteat** is tentatively planning to attend the 1998 Reunion at Evansville. She says by this time next year she will have five children in college! Then comes the empty nest syndrome, as the house is too quiet. Many of us know that feeling. We do hope to see you in the Summer, Beryl.

Jonathan Kershner, son of **Lawrence** and **Andrea (Montgomery) Kershner**, grandson of **Marianne** and **Paul Montgomery** (**DANIEL's** line) is attending George Fox University in Newberg OR this year. Majoring in Constitutional Law. So far he is enthusiastic about his studies and the experience of being in college.

We heard from **B. Sam Henson**, also, our only contact from **WILLIS's** line. You all will remember how we wrote about him in the Fall issue of 1993. He lives in Dallas and it was good to hear from him. I'd love for him to be at the Reunion this summer. Sam would have a lot to tell us if he could be here and he'd be happy to meet many of

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A lot of new information and renewed interest in the Weedman family has been noted. Contacts are listed in this issue.

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We have a growing number of subscribers who are on electronic mail. Should we consider some type of network?

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his now more or less unknown cousins. **Roy and Lu Weedman** from Nashville will be there, God willing, and Sam, you'd surely enjoy swapping stories of Weedman kinfolk with Roy. He has shared several of his stories with us in former Newsletters. Sam, you remember "*His Blood Turned to Water*" and "*The Name Is Weedman*". Please consider coming this year.

Ruth Anderson sent a note, too, with her dues. Although we acknowledged her husband, **John's** death in 1995, I didn't realize that their middle son **Jerry** had passed away in Oct, 1994. John's mother was **Pearl Weedman Anderson**. Enjoyed your note, Ruth LaVerne. Will we see you this summer? I hope so.

Internet and E-Mail Contacts

Nick and Gena Lee have web pages on the Internet, as you know, and those of you who have access to it, please visit

the sites they have. The Weedman Family web page is: <http://www.ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/HNWEEDMAN/>. Gena's is: www.ka.net/gtheiss/.

Shawn Weedman has a new e-mail address. Get out your Fall 1997 Newsletters and make a change for Shawn. His new e-mail address is:

Shawntex@juno.com.

Gena Lee Theiss' new e-mail address is genatheiss@juno.com

Rob Widmann -

ROBWID@worldnet.att.net

Eleanor Deom -

edeom@evansville.net

Bill & Helen Gregg -

Gregg1046@aol.com

George & Jan Bruner -

GLBRUNER@aol.com

Keep us up-to-date folks on your new or changed e-mail addresses.

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About the Weedman Newsletter

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a quarterly family publication with emphasis on the genealogy of the Weedman and allied families. It is distributed to interested family members, selected genealogical societies and libraries. Circulation is about 85.

Marianne Montgomery is the Editor of the *Weedman Newsletter*. Family news, articles for publication and queries should be sent to her.

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

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

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Ackerman Family Update

Doris (Ackerman) KIZER

(NICHOLAS' line) sent the context of the **John Weedman** estate papers - the main part of the papers we'd been looking for. We may have printed excerpts from similar extracts, but the page I'm going to copy in the next Newsletter contains all of the names and places of residence of the relatives of **John**, son of **Christian Weedman, Sr.** But first I have some additions Doris sent me to the Ackerman family.

You'll remember that **David Ackerman** married **Mary Ann**, daughter of **Nicholas** and **Elizabeth (Charley) Weedman**. **Nicholas** was a son of **JOHN** who was a son of **Christian, Sr.** We call Doris' line the **NICHOLAS'** line, because **Nicholas** was the only son of **John**, son of **Christian Sr.** We don't say **JOHN's** line, because this gets confused with **JOHN's** line of **KY**. Here are Doris's additions to **Nicholas'** line:

Todd E. Colbrese married 24 Nov 1984 to **Christie Ray Nentwig**, daughter of **Donald** and **Diane Darlene (Ackerman) Nentwig** at Glendive, Montana. The couple now are the proud parents of **Willow Don Colbrese**, b. 30 Mar 1996 in Gillette, MT.

Jason Robert Ackerman, son of **Robert A.** and **Kathleen D. (Schneider) Ackerman** married **Tara Barnick** 24 November 1995. They too have a little addition to their home, named **Beau Jason Ackerman**, b. July 1996 in Dickinson, ND.

Bradley Joseph Hartl, son of **William J.** and **Sheila May (Pierce) Hartl** married 3 June 1995 in Jacksonville, FL to **Christina Lynn Summers**, daughter of

Gary Lee and Vickie Lee (Riddle)

Summers. They now have a son, **Hunter Joseph Pierce Hartl** b. 11 June 1997 at Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, in Puerto Rico.

The Ackermans could have quite a reunion if the descendants of **David** and **Mary Ann Weedman Ackerman** ever got together for a family reunion. These three little cousins mentioned above join a large family of Weedman descendants. Welcome to the flock, Willow Don, Beau Jason and Hunter Joe.

Diane Hall sends the name and address of another Evansville Weedman descendant. He is: **Jack Hahne**, 1133 Oxford Square, Evansville, IN 47710. I am sending him data about the reunion and we surely hope to see him there.

1998 Weedman Reunion in Evansville, Indiana

Jan Bruner and daughters **Janella** and **Rhonda** are planning a great Reunion for this summer! They will have a piano and a karaoke machine. I'm sure that some of you will bring your children and knowing most kids, they will want to sing a song for us with that karaoke music! If you have a karaoke tape or two, you can show them how. I promise all who attend that I will also sing with that machine. So if you want a good laugh, please BE THERE. There will be lots more to do and see. You received the registration form, and a blurb about what to expect when we meet. Saturday is an open day, but there are things to do in Evansville.....a great library close to our meeting place and motels, a local zoo, Angel Mounds State Historical Site, (a pre-historic Mississippian Indian culture that existed therefrom 900-1300 AD), Holiday Park, at Santa Claus, Indi-

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Please make plans now to attend the Weedman Family Reunion. Reservations are highly recommended.

For those who arrive a day early, a pilgrimage to early Weedman home sites is possible. Please advise interest.

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ana, located in the Hoosier National Forest in Spencer County close to Evansville, Harmony State Park, New Harmony, IN, for outdoor things like hiking, canoeing, biking; on the banks of the Wabash Rive just 25 miles from Evansville, and much more!

WEEDMANs lived in Vanderburgh, Perry, Spencer, Dubois, Harrison and Crawford Counties on the Ohio River. **JACOB's, DANIEL's WILLIAM's** and some of **STEPHEN's. JOHN's** lines lived there temporarily and permanently during the last century. Many will want to visit gravesites, and they are not far from Evansville. Best way to see everything is to plan to spend a few days there. Write to: Evansville Visitors Bureau, 401 SE Riverside Dr., Evansville, IN 47713. Ph. 800-433-3025. Or write to the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce - I don't have the address now but a quicker way would be to dial your operator, and get the 800 number for the C of C in Indianapolis....I'm sure that the state chamber of Commerce is there, but the Operator would know. When you dial their 800 number, simply ask them for their Indiana State Travel Guide. You'll get it sooner if you call NOW. There are discount coupons in it that you can use at motels, etc.

A motel close to our meeting site, and the Library is Travelodge, 701 - first avenue, ph (812) 424-3886, Radisson, 202 SE 1st Ave., ph 424-8000, and Bernie Little's River House 20 Walnut St., ph. 425-6500. (where we stayed in '94.). Other motels are ones you'll recognize such as: MOTEL 6, 2401 Hwy 41 N. ph. (812) 424-6431 and Holiday Inn, (Airport) 4104 US 41 N. ph. (812) 424-6400. Restaurants and points of interest nearby. There's a Marriott near the Airport at 7101 N. Hwy 41, ph (812) 867-7799.

PLEASE don't hesitate to call Jan should you have a question as to how to get there, etc. For transportation for those coming by bus, train or air, call for a ride to the church; call Jan at home (812) 424-4386 or, on Friday the 19th, she'll probably be at the church. Call there 425-7317. The Bruner's e-mail can reach them too, if you want to use it 2-3 days in advance of your travel. Their e-mail is:

GLBRUNER@aol.com

Send your registration to Mrs. Jan Bruner 722 E. Delaware St., Evansville, IN 47711.

Why not take just a minute now and write some of these addresses and phone numbers down where you'll need them to either write or phone. Let's make our plans early and get that taken care of. You can always cancel if you need to.

Ohio Genealogical Trip

Nick made a trip to Fairfield and Perry Counties back in March. He couldn't find where **Christian Weedman Sr.** had purchased land, but could he have gotten it some other way? A grant for Patriotic service during the Rev. War, for instance? Records are not the best in early Ohio. We're lucky when we CAN find something! What he DID find is :

John, his son, bought land in Fairfield, (now Perry) CO.) in 1805.

Ephraim Walters bought land there in 1814. He never lived there, so we think he let **Andrew** and **Sarah Walters** work the land.

The burial sites for **Jacob** and **Catherine (Weedman) Keefover** were located. in Good Hope Lutheran Church cemetery in

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Hopewell Twp. Perry Co., O. Jacob died 10 Dec. 1853 age 71 yrs. 1 month and 15 days. **Levi Keefover**, their son, also is buried there. He died 16 Feb. 1832, age 25 yrs 3 months & 27 days.

Henry Walters is buried there. He died 9 July 1857. Was he a brother of Andrew?

George Weedman was an original settler in Perry County. On his land entry, or the map of it, his name is spelled **George WUDEman!!!!** So anything in your imagination that sounds like WEEDMAN goes. I want to apologize to **Nina Ale-mao**, to whom I advised "don't bother with Weidman's; they aren't related." Now that was stupid! They very well could be related, although most weren't. Don't listen to me, Nina! I thought I was saving you time and work.

New Family Contacts

Mike Weedman contacted Nick by e-mail. He's from Arlington, TX. He grew up in Louisville, KY. Could Mike be nephew of **Louis Cornelius Weedman**? He says his "uncle Gerald" gave him his line from Christian Sr. on down. But he forgot to tell Nick which line that was. Nick found Gerald Cornelius in his records, a son of Louis Cornelius and wonders if it was him? Does anyone know?

Jim Madison of Cleveland, TN writes that his grandmother, **Martha Alma Abels Madison** was a half-sister, **Mrs. M.L. Weedman** of West Helena, AR. He wanted information on the family with documents which we may have. **M. L. Weedman** was **Milford Levert Weedman** (12 Aug 1887 - Feb 1980) who married **Lenora Ables Owen** (14 Feb 1890 - 10 Oct 1977). They lived in

West Helena, AR. We have nothing on their children, if any. **Milford** was a son of **James Denver Weedman** who was born in Kentucky and was of the Stephen Weedman line.

Gloria Wilson of Finley, TN has made contact through our Weedman Family web site to inquire about the family of **John Weedman, Sr. and his wife, Maria Cart Weedman**. John, Sr. was a son of **William and Rebecca (Haycraft) Weedman** of Perry Co., IN who were natives of Grayson Co., KY. William was a son of **Christian Weedman, Jr.**

Paticia Shillingburg, Newark, NJ is working on the line of her mother-in-law, **Arlene Hatfield Weedman Schillingburg**. Arlene was the daughter of **Ona Harrison Weedman**. His line: **Christian, Sr.¹, George², Jacob³, Jeremiah⁴, William Martin⁵, and Ona Harrison⁶**. **George** was the progenitor of what we call the Illinois line. **Jacob** died in 1829 probably in DeWitt Co., IL just before the family moved west to McLean County, IL.

Beckie Rawdon, Riverton UT, wrote that she is working on the family of John and Sarah (Meador) Weedman. Her emphasis is on the Huddleston family. John Cabel Breckinridge Weedman (1869 - 1936) married Sarah Meador in Meade Co., KY. His line was: **Christian, Sr.¹, Christian, Jr.², Stephen³, Addison Meriwether⁴, and John Cabel Breckinridge⁵**.

Sylvia Weedman

Cathy Stone found an obituary in the Ohio County KY *Times-News* for 13 Nov 1997. **Sylvia Mae Weedman**, 86, of Fordsville, died Saturday Nov. 8 at her home. She was born in Breckinridge

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If anyone can help those who are making contacts for the first time, please advise and we will supply addresses.

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County and was a homemaker, and member of Blacklick Baptist Church. Survivors include a son **Diamond Clark**, of Fordsville, a daughter, **Barbara L. DeWitt** of Fordsville, and many grandchildren. Burial at Beatty Cemetery in Hancock.

Donations Acknowledged

Since the last issue, the following subscribers have generously supported the continuation of the *Weedman Newsletter*:

Nina Alemao
Eleanor Deom
Jack Hahne (new subscriber)
Jan Bruner
Lucille Jaeger
Mildred E. Holman

Your support is highly appreciated.

Christian Weedman, Sr. An Update

(In the readership survey conducted last year, a subscriber stated that he liked the family information but could not relate to some of the people mentioned. This is intended to update new subscribers and others with what we know about the first generation of this branch of the Weedman family. Keep in mind, there are two others — the Florida Weedman family and the Swedish branch. This pertains only to Christian Weedman, Sr.)

Christian Weedman, Sr. was the progenitor of the bulk of the Weedmans now living in America. We are unsure of his origins but they are likely German or perhaps Dutch.

Christian immigrated to the U.S. arriving in Philadelphia on the ship, Anderson, which arrived on August 21, 1750. The

voyage originated in Rotterdam with an intermediate stop in Cowes, England. Recently, a book was found listing early arrivals in America with signatures of those taking the oath of allegiance. The signature of Christian was found and when compared to those found later on deeds and his will, it is clear that this is, indeed, our man!

We have had the signature examined and been told that it is written in old German script. Because of this along with other indicators such as biographical sketches, etc., most feel he is of German origin. However, there is a possibility of Dutch roots.

It is unclear what happened to Christian from 1750 until he appears in Hampshire County, Virginia about 1762.

From information contained in the request for a pension for **Adam Myers**, we know that what we believe to be the first born, **Mary Weedman**, arrived at South Branch, Hampshire County, Virginia on February 1, 1762. This raises the question, did Christian remain in Pennsylvania for most of that time or did he move to Virginia earlier. And, who did he marry and when? We know that his wife's name was **Elizabeth** but the surname has not been proven. There is some indication that she was a **Craddock** but proof remains elusive.

In recent years, we have attempted to search more into the genealogical roots of the families of the daughters of **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman**. This has been very enlightening. And perhaps some of the most interesting information is that the families of two of those who married daughters of Christian and Elizabeth also had roots in Hampshire County, Virginia.

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Many thanks to those of you who have continued to send monetary contributions! These keep the Newsletter going!

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The Myers family has ties to Hampshire County. **Adam Myers** married **Mary Weedman** and in documentation which we have, it is stated that he, too, was born in that County. Was it possible that the Myers moved with the Weedman clan from Hampshire County to Fayette County, Pennsylvania? Often, whole groups of families migrated together.

An extremely interesting connection is with that of the Walters family. **Sarah**, who was probably the fifth of six daughters, married **Andrew Walters** in Fayette County, PA about 1800. Andrew was the son of **Ephriam Walters**. Researchers have found that Ephriam Walters also was in Hampshire County, Virginia and was a victim of an Indian raid while living there. For some time, he was a captive of the Indians and raised by them. He ultimately went back to Hampshire County and then to Pennsylvania where he was a neighbor to the Weedmans.

In fact, if the map of early land holdings in Fayette County, PA is viewed, **Christian Weedman**, **Ephriam Walters**, and **Frederick Myers** (a brother to **Adam Myers**) had land all virtually adjacent to each other.

It seems clear that there were connections between the families well before their arrival in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania connection seems to have occurred in the late 1760s. In an article which appeared in a newspaper article on May 22, 1879, it states that Christian acquired title to his land in 1769 by what was called "Tomahawk Improvement". The article was written by **Dr. J. A. Walters** of Dayton, Ohio and was actually a letter to a nephew who still lived in Fayette Co., PA. From this article, we know Christian stayed almost 30 years in Fayette County. He apparently left in

1799 or early 1800 before the 1800 census was taken. Our Pennsylvania roots deserve a more thorough examination as do those of Virginia.

For the record, here is a list of the children of Christian and Elizabeth:

Mary, born 1 Feb 1762, Hampshire Co., VA. Married **Adam Myers**, son of **Henry Myers**, on 2 Aug 1779 in Fayette Co., Pa. The family last lived in Huron Co., OH. where Adam and Mary died.

Barbara, born ca 1764. Married **Nicholas Riffle**, a Revolutionary War vet about 1780 in Fayette Co. She remained in Fayette Co.

Christian, Jr. born about 1765, married **Mary Marshall** on 7 Jul 1789 in Mercer Co., VA (now KY). He remained in Kentucky and died in Grayson Co.

Elizabeth, born about 1767, married a Mr. **Murphy**. Nothing further known.

John, born about 1770, married **Sophia** (surname unknown) in March 1792. One child, **Nicholas**, was born to the couple. John died in Licking Co., OH and a lawsuit following his death revealed considerable family information. Nicholas and Sophia ended up in Southern Indiana.

Margaret. Living in 1811 but apparently dead by 1837. Nothing more known.

Sarah, born about 1774, married **Andrew Walters** in Fayette Co. about 1800. Died in Perry or Licking Co., OH.

George, born June 1773, in Fayette County. Married (1) **Charlotte Huhn** in Fayette Co., and (2) **Phoebe Halsey** in McLean Co. IL. George homesteaded property in Perry Co., OH where he and

The fact that a number of allied families lived together in both Virginia and Pennsylvania needs more researching.

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The summary on the Christian Weedman, Sr. family is intended to update interested parties.

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Charlotte lived from about 1804 through 1830. The family then moved to McLean County, Illinois. This couple are the progenitors of what is referred to as the Illinois branch. George died in Oct 1848.

Jacob, born about 1775 in Fayette Co. Like his older brother, **Christian**, he found his way to Kentucky where he married **Mary Frances Fleming** on 31 Dec 1799 in Shepherdsville, Bullit Co., KY. They moved to DuBois County, IN where he died about 1835. Many of our current subscribers descend from this branch of the family.

Catherine, born ca 1779. Married (1) **John Huhn, Jr.** a brother of **Charlotte**, on 2 May 1795. There were a number of children born to this union and some remained in Fayette Co. She later married **Jacob Keefover** about 1805 or so probably in Fayette Co. The couple had several children and moved at some point to Perry County, Ohio where they were neighbors to **George Weedman**, **John Weedman**, and **Andrew and Sarah Walters**.

The family of **Christian** and **Elizabeth Weedman** can be constructed from the will of Christian, dated 1811 and filed in Fairfield Co., OH (Perry Co., OH was later formed from Fairfield). In it, he mentions all of the children shown above.

A more revealing set of documents are those related to a law suit which came about following the death of **John Weedman** in Licking Co., OH. John and Sophia apparently did not live together for long. At his death, it was generally believed that John was simply an old bachelor. And he had a fair amount of wealth according to documents which are in print. Family members living near John in 1830 apparently thought that they

were entitled to his estate but somehow, word of his death reached **Sophia** and **Nicholas** in Indiana. A suit was filed to claim the estate for Nicholas (Sophia gave up all rights). In the court papers, a list of siblings and their offspring were listed as well as where they were living.

We have never gone back to court records in Indiana, Illinois, or Pennsylvania on this particular legal issue. One wonders if there are still more revealing documents which might shed further light on the early generations.

For most subscribers, your roots can be traced back to one of these branches. Those from **George Weedman** are often referred to as the "Illinois Branch" although it was in Illinois where the Swedish roots were. **Christian, Jr.** has numerous descendents and often, these are referred to as the "Kentucky Branch".

Jacob, likewise, left a large family. Only John's line through his sole offspring, **John**, is the smallest of the Weedman lines. Both have Southern Indiana connections.

Confusion about the early family tends to center about names. There are many John Weedmans, quite a few Jacobs, etc. Amazingly, there were only two Christian Weedmans (until recently when young Jacob Christian Weedman arrived).

In 1983, a booklet entitled, "*The Weedman Family from Pennsylvania to Kentucky*" was compiled. We will need to update it to provide information gained since that time.

Hope this helps! Let's discuss at the Weedman Reunion in Evansville, Indiana on June 19 & 20 to see how we can provide better information on the Weedman family. See you then!!

Marianne Montgomery

❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 31 Issue 2

Spring 1998

Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Hello Cousins,

This will be the last Newsletter before the Reunion. We plan to give details of the Reunion in the Summer issue.

Weedman Reunion It's Not Too Late!

Some have asked.....where is the reunion and where do we meet when we arrive in Evansville? When we gather together Friday afternoon & evening to get acquainted and enjoy supper together, we'll meet at EM-MANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH at corner of First Avenue and Franklin Street. **Jan Bruner** and her daughters are hosting this years affair. Here is how to contact Jan to have her include you and your family in this year's Reunion:

Jan Bruner
722 E. Delaware Street
Evansville, IN 47711
Tel: (812) 424-4386
E-mail: glbruner@aol.com

Once you have arrived in Evansville if you need directions or help, call Jan. If she isn't home, someone at her house can give you directions to the

church, or if you wait till you arrive on Friday in Evansville (June 19) someone will be ready to take your call, either at Jan's house or at the Church. The Church number is (812) 425-7317. If you don't have transportation, please contact Jan before you leave home and she will see to it that you are picked up and transported to the church. If you are making a motel reservation before time, ask them if they have a shuttle to and from the airport. I know many of the hotels and motels have shuttle service. Remember, if transportation in Evansville will be a possible problem for you, call or write to Jan. Since people will be arriving at various times, by plane, bus, train or car, phoning will be the easiest way to be sure of where to go. Remember the above address for Emmanuel Lutheran. Take time now to jot the names of the motels and the church, and Jan's number and the church's number. Even though the registration date (on your registration application you all received) has passed, there is still room. But please try to get

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A reservation form for this year's Weedman Family Reunion can be found on page 16. Please fill it in and mail today! Dates are June 19 & 20 in Evansville, IN.

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your registration (and \$25.00 per person) in by **JUNE 1**.

We are looking forward to some of our California cousins coming. I do hope that **Elizabeth Gene (Weedman) Heninger** is planning to attend. We'd all enjoy meeting her. She is of **JOHN's** line. She sent me information in answer to a query we printed in one of last year's Newsletters about **Maurice Eugene Weedman**. She gives these dates for him: born July 13, 1913; died August 20, 1929; buried in Goodland, Kansas.

John and Nina Alemao may be at the reunion this year. Nina has been very helpful in passing on information gleaned on the Internet to us. She was able to get **Carol Rohloff** in touch with us. Carol's line is: **Christian Weedman Sr.**, through his son

George Weedman. Carol is **Carol Picht**, daughter of **Thelma (Weedman) Picht**, daughter of **Earl Elmore Weedman**, son of **Henry Linus Weedman**, son of **Asa Weedman**, son of **John Jesse Weedman** son of **George** (above) **ILLINOIS** line.

Michael Alan Raymer is a newly found cousin. His line is: **Michael Raymer**, son of **Marion Walter and Helen Fay (Jaggers) Raymer Jr.** son of **Marion Walter and Rose (Thomas) Raymer**, son of **Marion Melvin and Emily Ellen (Weedman) Raymer**. **Emily Ellen** was of **JOHN's** line. More about her line in next Newsletter. Mike may be with us at the reunion, and his e-mail address is: MagickRaym@aol.com.

Debbie Hogan, of Jeffersonville, IN

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It is hoped that a number of "newly found" family members can attend the Reunion and get acquainted.

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is a descendant of **Dorcia Weedman, JOHN's** line. She and her Mom are planning to attend the reunion.. Her e-mail address is autumn@aye.net. Her Mom, **Nancy Hund**, will be with her. Her e-mail address is: nan.hund@juno.com

Kirk and Debbie Haslam of Wichita, KS are new Weedman cousins, too. We'd love to meet you Kirk and Debbie, at the reunion. There is still time to get your registration in, in spite of the deadline date. So please consider it?

So let us all get together in Evansville and celebrate the ethnic (GERMAN/DUTCH?) roots of our **Christian Weedman** family.

Cathy Stone has been busy helping us find our cousins out there. Cathy got Web-TV and she has been busy ever since when she has time, getting on line and seeking out our "lost" cousins. Thank you, Cathy. See you at the reunion in June.

Obituary

Jake Weedman, Jr.
1975-1998

Jake Hughs Weedman Jr., 22, died Tuesday night, March 10 of injuries sustained in an auto accident near Palmyra, IN. Survivors are his mother, **Sue Weedman**, of Owensboro, KY,; three sisters, **Lola Stock**, of Evansville, IN; **Donna Anderson** of Santa Claus, IN; and **Barbara Dauby** of Cannelton, IN, and his grandmother, **Nelcie Weedman**, of

Evanston, IL., and many nieces and nephews. Services were held at Finch Memorial Home In Tell City on Sunday, March 14 with burial at the McQuaidy, KY Cemetery. (Courtesy of **EVANSVILLE COURIER**, Evansville, IN).

Correction: Winter Newsletter, p. 3. **Willow Don Colbrese** was born in Gillette, WY, (not Gillette, MT).

Arie Linai Weedman

Graduation Time

Arie Linai Weedman, daughter of **Bill and Thea Weedman** (STEPHEN's line) is graduating this spring from Pepperdine University with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree. Arie majored in journalism and Political Science. We are very proud of Arie, and fondly recall meeting her at the 1994 Weedman reunion along with Bill and Thea. Congratulations, Arie. We wish you a bright and happy future!

Supporters Recognized

Newsletter Donations

Since the publication of the last edition of the Newsletter, several donations have been received. Contributors included:

Carl Weedman
Doris Kizer
Kathy Crabtree
Joyce Anthony

(Continued on page 12)

Family news items such as the obituary and the graduation items are welcome. They will be published as received.

The article on the Claude and Mary Weedman family reminds us there is far more to genealogy than a collection of dates and places.

(Continued from page 11)

All contributed more than their share. For this and their continued support, we are highly grateful.

A special word on **Carl Weedman**. **Carl**, a resident of Arizona, has consistently supported the genealogical efforts of the Weedman family well above and beyond expectations. Not only does he contribute financially but his support of the Family Reunions is outstanding. We want to tip our hat in special recognition to **Carl Weedman!**

Faith Country Heritage

Claude and Mary Weedman A Family History

by Merna Weedman Thomas

*(Pat Shillingburg of Newark, NJ has provided us with a copy of a history of the family of Claude and Mary Weedman which was part of a publication, **Faith Country Heritage**. Faith Country refers to Faith, a town in Meade County, South Dakota. The homestead referred to here is in Perkins County.*

This family has the following lineage: Christian Weedman, Sr.¹, George Weedman², Jacob Weedman³, Jeremiah Weedman⁴, William Martin⁵, and Claude Henry Weedman⁶. Claude (9 Sept 1874 - 10 Dec 1947) married Mary Ophelis DeCamp (16 Jan 1878 - 23 Nov 1946) on 9 Sept 1900. The family moved from Illinois to Nebraska before settling in South Dakota.

The article provides a highly interesting history of the family in the early part of this century. It will be concluded in the next issue).

I came to what is now Faith Country in the spring of 1907. I was three

months old at the time. My parents, Claude and Mary Weedman, and my two brothers, Dee and Mearl, ages 2 and 4, left our Nebraska home in a covered wagon drawn by two white horses, John and Frank. We headed northwest, crossing the White, Bad, and Cheyenne rivers on our route.

My parents homesteaded on the south side of the Moreau River about 10 miles east of Bixby, 70 miles south of Lemmon, and 25 miles northwest of what is now the town of Faith.

Grandfather Weedman had come to the area from Illinois the year before, and had homesteaded on the north side of the Moreau River. He had walked there from Yankton, SD.

"Father Weedman", as my mother always called him, built a "soddy" in the river bank, facing south - one room with one door in the middle, and one window on each side. It had a dirt floor.

The five of us lived there with him in our covered wagon while a one room sod building with a dirt floor was constructed for us. This building was located on the south side of the river where we homesteaded. Later, a log house was added to the south side of the house. It was here in this rather primitive home that three of my sisters and two of my brothers were born.

We had adequate fuel as both cottonwood and cedar trees were plentiful. We also had lignite coal which my

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

dad hauled from the Lease and Fitzgerald miles north of us.

Dad was a pharmacist and jeweler by trade, having been trained in the watchmaker's school in Peoria, IL. He cleaned, adjusted, and repaired watches and clocks for everyone in the neighborhood, and "doctored" animals for miles around. When he went to the coal mine, or to town for groceries, he brought watches and clocks home with him, repaired them (by night by the light of a kerosene lamp), and returned them on his next trip.

Our modest home was the scene for religious services conducted by a minister from Faith. My father played the organ for these services and added his strong voice to the singing of the hymns. We later held services in the Weedman schoolhouse. A family by the name of Wheelock used to come to our home for services.

My father organized Weedman School District No. 54. He helped build a one room sod building with a plank floor. This was our first schoolhouse. Ellen Thomas as the teacher and the pupils were Dee, Mearl, myself (Merna), and cousins Arlene and Pauline - all Weedmans. Both Mother and Dad had taught school before they were married, and were thoroughly convinced of the need for formal education.

Bixby was our first post office, although Lyman is the address shown on my brother George's birth certifi-

cate, dated 1914. Then there were post offices operated in the homes of homesteaders Harry Hall and Jim Mosher on Deep Creek....

In addition to the religious services held in our home, there were dances attended by everyone in the neighborhood. At the last dance before the family moved to Faith, it seems every guest brought at least one dog. One mischievous thrill seeker yelled, "sic 'em" and one free-for-all dog fight ensued. That was the most exciting event of the evening. I should add that Joe Gibson and later my husband, Ralph Thomas, provided the "fiddle" music for many of the dances in the community.

As I remember, the old Bismarck Trail passed right in front of our house. The Indians used this trail frequently, and often stopped on their journeys to and from their reservations. On these occasions, they sought vegetables, feed for their horses, and good fresh water from our well. These guests also hoped we had just butchered and they could obtain some meat and the "off falls".

Our well was hand dug by my father. It was 60 feet deep and 6 feet across. A windlass was used in the digging process. The neighbors would come in the morning and lower my father down into the well where he spent the day digging and pulling up the dirt as the well got deeper. At night the neighbors would return and lift him back to the surface. (There is something of a lesson to be learned here if

(Continued on page 14)

Patricia Schillingburg contributed the article on the Claude and Mary Weedman family. Similar articles will be published when received.

*Merna Thomas
description of
life in South
Dakota provides
interesting
accounts of
pioneer life.*

(Continued from page 13)

one can recall the well dug by Jacob as recorded in the Old Testament. The caravans would stop for water on their journeys across the deserts.)

Dad raised pork, beef, and chickens for sales as well as for our own use. We also sold milk, butter, cream, and cottage cheese. (My Grandfather DeCamp had made a cheese press, and I was taught to make rennet cheese.) my Dad also grew corn and alfalfa seed, which he sold to the Gurney Seed House at Yankton.

We milked as many as 26 cows at one time. On one occasion when my parents were gone overnight, Mearl and I milked all 26 cows, both night and morning. We also separated the milk and the cream with a hand-cranked separator. (Was there any other way in those days??).

Our Grandfather Weedman stayed with us a number of times. His sister, Aunt Kate Wilson, and her husband from Illinois visited us too. We also enjoyed visits from Grandfather and Grandmother DeCamp from Nebraska.

Each member of our family can recall certain experiences and events of our life on the ranch. One time my brother, Mearl, and I were putting up hay. I was driving the team and tramping down the hay. One bundle of hay which Meal pitched up to me contained a rattlesnake. Since I was only 11 at the time, I was very impressed and quite busy for a while!

On another occasion there was a very big prairie fire just south of our house. It came dangerously close to our buildings before our family members, neighbors, and friends brought the fire under control.

My brother, George, chased a rattlesnake through a hole in the cellar. Mearl went into the cellar and caused the snake to retreat, and when it came out into the open air again, Dee shot it with a rifle.

Our parents bought the first 1914 Model T Ford automobile in our neighborhood. It was purchased from a garage in Bixby.

Heartbreak and death also came to the little home on the prairie when baby, Robert, was born in 1918. He became very ill with convulsions which did not respond to home remedies. Mearl "windbroke" (over exertion which makes the animal permanently useless) his horse while racing for medical assistance. Before he could get help for the baby, he died at the age of only a few months and is buried in Faith cemetery.

In the fall of the "hard winter" of 1919-1920 (always referred to by my older brothers as the year of the two winters; the first blizzard came in October 1919 while a prolonged second blizzard came in the spring of 1920), my father had purchased some Texas cattle. Our losses that winter were great, even though we had leased additional pasture on the Beam place on Deep Creek.

(Continued on page 15)

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Dee was responsible for the cattle over there. Mearl hauled supplies for Dee on a small sled which was pulled by a saddle horse. Two events stand out in my memory of their experiences. First, Dee managed to shoot a hole in his hand with a 22 caliber rifle and, second, our prize purebred Hereford bull became involved in a fight with Uncle Ona's "Durham" bull with the result of both being killed.

After the unfortunate experiences and heavy losses of the "hard winter", my dad became interested in the exploration for oil. He even had a wooden derrick constructed just east of our house. Plans were made for exploratory drilling, but the derrick was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire so no drilling ever took place.

Following the "hard winter" and the interest my father had acquired in exploring for oil, our family moved to the town of Faith in the spring of 1922. The Weedmans became active in a variety of community affairs. They were involved in church, school, civic, and fraternal organizations.

My dad was clerk of the Faith School Board, and also became secretary of the Moreau River Oil Company and its successor, the Sunshine Oil Company. The result of the first drilling effort 20 miles south of Faith was an immense flow of hot salt water and natural gas which could not be developed commercially. A second attempt also ended in failure.

Other activities of my father included playing the tuba in the Faith Band and membership in the Odd Fellows Lodge. Later he became secretary of the Faith Farm Loan Association, a division of the Federal Land Bank of Omaha. The latter position he retained until his retirement in 1940.

My mother took an active part in the Methodist Church, the Ladies Aid, Literary Study Club, and the Rebekah Lodge, of which she became a 50 year member. She also enjoyed membership in the DAR.

Dad was of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. He was a veteran of the Spanish American War, having served in Cuba in 1898 and 1899. He held membership in the Seth Bullock Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

My mother, Mary DeCamp Weedman, was of French Huguenot ancestry, dating her American origins back to the settlement with the English in the Jamestown Colony in 1607. The DeCamps were pioneers who moved westward too, having settled in Iowa and Nebraska. My mother's father served in the Union Army (Grand Army of the Republic) during the Civil War.

My mother suffered a crippling stroke in 1942 while visiting the home of George and Polly in Mitchell. Both he and mother are buried in the Veteran's Cemetery on a beautiful hill near the Old Soldier's Home in Hot Springs.

(To be concluded next issue).

The reference to the Weedman family being Pennsylvania Dutch is of interest. Dutch refers in many instances to Deutch or German speaking people rather than to national origins.

WEEDMAN NATIONAL FAMILY REUNION
Emanuel Lutheran Church
1st. Avenue & Franklin Street
Evansville, Indiana

Greetings Weedman Family,

We have been busy making preparations to welcome you to Evansville for the Weedman Reunion.

How about visiting a zoo, indian mounds, a museum, a nature park, old homes, golf courses (regular and miniature), libraries, gambling boat, or shopping at the mall? We have all of that in Evansville pluse some great swimming and strolling areas.

All of this will be awaiting your pleasure when you arrive to celebrate the 8th Biennual Weedman Reunion-- June 19-20, 1998.

Don't mean to toot our horns, beat our drums, rattle our cans, or plunk our strings about what is going on, but **You** will.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

Friday the 19th: Arrival welcome in church basement 5pm to 9pm. Will include finger sandwiches, punch, cookies, and coffee.

Saturday the 20th: Free time to enjoy Evansville at it's finest. Dinner at 5pm. Then upstairs for a business meeting and entertainment.

Since we don't know if the Weedman's were Dutch or German, our theme for the reunion will follow both lines.

The cost will be \$25.00 per adult and \$10.00 per child.

We will be sending information for you to make your own hotel - motel reservations. There are also some camping areas for those who wish to use those facilities.

Be sure to plan your vacation to attend the reunion if you need to. Below is a form to fill out so we will have an idea of how many to plan for. This will not commit you at this point.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS: _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN: _____

Please return by January 31, 1998.

Your Cousins,
Jan, Janelia, Ronda, and LeAnna

p.s.
Send forms to: Jan Bruner
722 E. Delaware
Evansville, Indiana
47711

❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 31 Issue 3

Summer 1998

Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Dear Cousins,

Another wonderful time was had at the Eighth Biennial Weedman Reunion! You all know that it was held in Evansville, IN at the Emanuel Lutheran Church, Friday and Saturday, June 19-20. We met Friday evening for a time of getting acquainted and re-acquainted, browsing over the three books of family pictures, from every branch of the Weedman family. We do need more photos of **George and Charlotte Huhn** (spelled at times **Hume**) branch of the family. Finger foods and punch, as well as coffee were available .

Jan Bruner and daughters **Janelle** and **Ronda** were our hosts. The theme was German-Dutch, honoring the fact that our family origins were either in Germany or possibly Holland.

Saturday morning the children were enjoying a great day getting acquainted with their cousins. They practiced for that night's entertainment. Some of the adults visited cemeteries, local libraries and others enjoyed shopping and seeing the sights in the Evansville area. **Nick Weedman**, daughter **Melissa**

Achtien, Eleanor Deom, Ken and Sue Weedman and myself visited several cemeteries in Perry County. We enjoyed a day of great fellowship as well as photographing the final resting places of our Indiana ancestors.

That evening we enjoyed a wonderful German (dumplings), Dutch (apricot glazed ham), mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and corn, with Dutch apple cake, and German Black Forest cherry cake, tea, coffee and lemonade. Delicious!! Centerpieces at each table were crafted by Jan and family, with the Weed-Man nestled among the colorful tulips. For those who are not familiar with our family mascot, it is a very cute little weed with eyes nose and mouth - a weed-man!

A business meeting followed. We discussed the 2000 Weedman reunion. It was agreed that this reunion should be held at Weedman, Illinois with accommodations at nearby Farmer City, IL.

(Continued on page 17)

Our deep appreciation to Jan Bruner and her family for doing an outstanding job on the Eighth Biennial Weedman Reunion.

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Claude & Mary Weedman Family, conclusion	21

Initial plans for the 9th Biennial Weedman Reunion were announced. It will be held in or near Weedman, Illinois in the summer of 2000.

(Continued from page 16)

Nick and Merrie Carol Weedman and daughter, **Melissa Achtien**, as well as **Billie Lou Bruce**, Nick's sister, will host this event. Plans have already commenced to find accommodations and a program not only to celebrate our growing family ties, but the very special year of 2000, the beginning of a new century. This will be the 250th anniversary of the **Christian Weedman** family in America and will recognize 170 years of presence of the family in DeWitt County, IL. We hope to have representative familieslots of them, there.

"**The Name Is Weedman**", a poem by **Roy L. Weedman** who was not able to be present this year with his lovely Lu, was read and enjoyed. It never grows old. Letters from many who were unable to attend were pre-

sented for all to see and enjoy. We missed you!

Presentations

Marianne Montgomery was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her thirty years of editing the *Weedman Newsletter*. **Nick (Harry Nichols) Weedman** was honored for his years of publishing and research without which the Newsletter would have floundered to be sure.

Two songs, "Magalena Hagalena," and "If You're Happy And You Know It" were sung by **Chris, Katy, and Laura Achtien, Amber Francis, Sara Forcum, Brittany Brown and Carlie Kraft**. **Chris Achtien** played "When The Saints Go Marching In", and "Ode To Joy" on the piano. **Sara Forcum** played "Moon-

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About the Weedman Newsletter

The *Weedman Newsletter* is a quarterly family publication with emphasis on the genealogy of the Weedman and allied families. It is distributed to interested family members, selected genealogical societies and libraries. Circulation is about 85.

Marianne Montgomery is the Editor of the *Weedman Newsletter*. Family news, articles for publication and queries should be sent to her.

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

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Queries regarding the Weedman family or allied lines are welcomed. Attention will be given to each one 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).

(Continued from page 17)

light Mist". **Marianne** sang "Second-Hand Rose" accompanied by the Karaoke machine version of the song. We had lots of fun and laughter as we enjoyed this reunion. We weren't great in number, but we sure had fun! We now have 2 Weedman songs!! I'm sorry I haven't got the name of the author, but truly she/he has poetic as well as musical talent. These songs are: **THE WEEDMANS ARE TOGETHER** to the tune of "She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain", and **BEAT, BEAT, BEAT YOUR DRUM** to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat". I'll have the words to both of these songs in this Newsletter.

A portrait of the Weedman Coat-Of-Arms suitable for framing, was given to each family attending. If there are those of you who couldn't be present, should you want one of these lovely portraits, contact **Jan Bruner**. She has a few left. She can be reached by e-mail at GLBRUNER@aol.com or at her home address: 722 E. Delaware St., Evansville, IN 47711-5602.

Those attending were: **Eleanor Deom, Helen and Bill Gregg, Gena and George Theiss, Nick and Merrie Carol Weedman, Jim and Alma Weedman, Gene and Jack Heninger, Jack Hahne, Jerrie Smith, Dorothy Hahne Colbert, Marianne Montgomery, Kenny and Sue Weedman, George and Jan Bruner, LeAnna and Brittany Brown, Janella and Sara Forcum, Lee Chapin, Ronda and Amber Francis, Chris and Melissa Achtien,**

and children Chris, Lauren, Katie, and Evan Achtien, Cathy Stone, Lori Baker, Carlie Kraft, Diane Hall, and Sharon Herke.

Gene and Jack Heninger are from DANIEL's line as are **Jack Hahne** and **Dorothy Hahne Colbert**. This was their first Weedman reunion and we were delighted to meet and chat with them.

The "Kitchen Krew" were: Chef-Cook **Sharon Woolsey**, and assistant, **Barbara Ledford**, servers: **Bill and Sue Harty, Teresa Brown** and **Dave and Shirley Holder**.

We thank **Jan** and crew for the lovely time we enjoyed in Evansville.

Obituary

Murrel Monroe Weedman

Murrel Monroe Weedman, 81, died July 13 at Fairfield, (Illinois) Memorial Hospital. He was born on January 19, 1917 to **James M. and Cora May (Atkins) Weedman**, in Birdseye, Indiana. He was an oil field driller. Surviving are his wife, **Marian Ashbrook-Weedman**, a daughter, **Donna Freeland**, of Sims, IL, a brother **Jesse** of Joshua Tree, CA and three grandchildren. Services were held July 17. Burial was at Maple Hill Cemetery at Fairfield.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to **Jesse Weedman** and family as this is the third death this dear family has had in the past year. Jesse, I person-

(Continued on page 19)

Two recent deaths in the Weedman family are reported.

(Continued from page 18)

ally wish to say I understand your deep sorrow at this time. I know many others of your extended family feel as I do. Please know that you are in our prayers. **Murrel** is from JACOB's line.

Obituary

Mary Rhea Mudd

Mary Rhea (Higdon) Mudd passed away 10 August 1998. She was a daughter of **James Samuel and Barbara Ellen (Weedman) Higdon** (JOHN's line). She had been ill for over a month and had had surgery for removal of one leg due to circulatory problems that could not be helped by any other means. She was born Nov. 15, 1907 in Grayson Co. KY. On Nov. 2, 1925 she married **Gordon Thomas Mudd** and they were the parents of seven children. **Mary Rhea** lived her life in Grayson County, where they made their home. Her husband **Tom** died in 1985.

We think it is great that **Mary Rhea Mudd** saw so much of life and change. She lived through two World Wars, the 1918 influenza epidemic, the great Depression, and the event of electricity, radio, TV and even the computer age. She lived to see a great many changes in dress, politics, to name only some of the events she experienced. We send our sincere sympathy to the family she left behind, and her many acquaintances.

Weedman Web Site

Nick has a web-page on the Internet. For those who "surf the net", this can be found at: <http://ourworld.com-puserve.com/homepages/HNWEEDMAN/>. This has resulted in his finding many new cousins. In coming issues, he will capsule the lines of each of these new cousins. We also have a story from a book entitled *Faith Country Heritage*. This is the story of **Claude and Mary Weedman's** family (ILLINOIS LINE) who came from Nebraska and settled in South Dakota in 1907. It was written by **Merna Weedman Thomas** and contributed by **Pat Shillingburg**. It is concluded in this issue.

Pat noticed that one of **Christian Sr.'s** daughters, **Elizabeth**, had married a Mr. **Murphy**. We hadn't found Murphy's first name nor his identity, but **Pat** says that **William H. Shillingburg** married **Parque Murphy** of Hampshire Co. VA (now WV). This was when our **Weedman, Walters, Huhn**, and other families related to the **Weedmans** were living in that area. **Pat** relates that **Parque's** parents may have been **Hugh** and **Mary Murphy** and she is looking into the history of this family. If it turns out that one of **Hugh's** sons married **Elizabeth Weedman**, we are going to be thrilled to know it, and perhaps find **Hugh's** parents, etc.

We were especially happy to see **Gene** and **Jack Heninger** at the last reunion. They came from Atascadero,

(Continued on page 20)

If you are on the Internet, please go to the Weedman Web Site some time. We welcome your suggestions.

(Continued from page 19)

California. We hope you had a wonderful vacation, Gene and Jack.

Call to Illinois Weedmans

CALLING ALL WEEDMAN DESCENDANTS FROM GEORGE WEEDMAN (Illinois line), SARAH WEEDMAN WALTERS, AND ANY OTHERS MARRIED INTO THE WEEDMAN LINES WHO SETTLED IN ILLINOIS, we want to hear from you. We are celebrating you and your ancestors in upcoming Newsletters. But we need your input in order to become acquainted further, and to celebrate the upcoming reunion in 2000 in the area where your ancestors lived.....DeWitt Co., Illinois. Do write me.

Weedman Songs from the Reunion

THE WEEDMANS ARE TOGETHER

(to the tune of "She'll be comin' 'round the Mountain")

Oh the Weedmans are together, yes we are.
Some are local and the others traveled far.
And we all are here together, joined by lineage's forever,
Oh the Weedmans are together, yes we are!

Christian Senior married Lizzie, yes he did!
And the two of them together raised ten kids.
They had Mary, Barb. and Junior, Elizabeth,
John and Sarah, George and Marg'ret, Jacob,
Catherine followed them.

All of us are family members from their Tree.
That means you and you and you and you and me.
And for those who come hereafter, may they join in fun and laughter,
For their heritage is great, as you can see!

BEAT BEAT BEAT YOUR DRUM

(to the tune of Row Row Row your Boat)

Beat, beat, beat your drum,
The time has come at last.
To meet our kinfolk of today
And learn about our past!

The Weedmans are a happy lot
We smile and have great fun.
For no other family can compare,
No not a single one!

So hold your head up high and say
"I'm special as can be.
I have a branch that's all my own
Upon the Weedman tree".

Sing it over and over, and if you want to make copies for others in your branch, go ahead. We want everybody singing it. It was written by someone in **Jan Bruner's** family, but if I'm mistaken here, I'll correct myself in the next Newsletter. This is a great one to sing when you and your family are together on holidays, or at a reunion of your own.

Contributions

We want to acknowledge contributions received since the Newsletter was last printed. Generous donors included:

Jean Hufty
Betty Snodgrass
Gloria Wilson
Roy L. Weedman

Our thanks to these supporters!

(Continued on page 21)

*As we plan the
2000 Family
Gathering, we
need to get more
of the Weedman
families in
Illinois
involved.*

(Continued from page 20)

Faith Country Heritage

Claude and Mary Weedman A Family History

by Merna Weedman Thomas

We are aware of other biographies in the Weedman family and will publish those submitted for consideration.

(Pat Shillingburg of Newark, NJ has provided us with a copy of a history of the family of Claude and Mary Weedman which was part of a publication, Faith Country Heritage. Faith Country refers to Faith, a town in Meade County, South Dakota. The home- stead referred to here is in Perkins County.

This family has the following lineage: Christian Weedman, Sr.¹, George Weedman², Jacob Weedman³, Jeremiah Weedman⁴, William Martin⁵, and Claude Henry Weedman⁶. Claude (9 Sept 1874 - 10 Dec 1947) married Mary Ophelis DeCamp (16 Jan 1878 - 23 Nov 1946) on 9 Sept 1900. The family moved from Illinois to Nebraska before settling in South Dakota.

The article provides a highly interesting history of the family in the early part of this century. This is the conclusion of the story).

Ralph and Jack Thomas and parents, **Francis Marion and Jane**, moved from Glenham in 1921 to the Dave Clark place near Bixby. There devoted fine Christian parents later moved to the Tinsley place near Roundup Butte northwest of Faith.

Both **Ralph** and **Jack** were accomplished horsemen, and were skilled and knowledgeable in handling livestock. **Ralph** was as fine a violinist as there was in the country at that time, and he contributed to the enjoyment of many of the dancers with his talents.

Ralph and I were married July 14, 1924 in Dupree, and lived with his folks until 1925, when we moved to Faith.... While in Faith, I became a member of the Rebekah Lodge and am still active with a record of 50 years participation. I recently transferred my membership to the Lodge at Byron, CA where I now live.

Both of our sons were born in Faith and all three of our children started school there.

We moved to Dupree in 1934 and operated a garage in association with Earl Olson and Lee Hawkins. We did operate a garage for ourselves for a short time before leaving Dupree for Texas in 1936.

Our daughter, **Faye**, who was born in Dupree in 1925 married **Orval Hanson** from Hillhead, SD in 1946. They live in Brentwood, CA where **Faye** owns and operated Faye's Beauty and Craft Shop. **Orval** is retired. Their son, **Bob**, is employed in Antioch, CA.

Our son, **Claude (Buddy)** also saw active duty in World War II. He married **Wilma Zimmer** from Washington State in 1961. They have two sons and a daughter and lived in Santa Clara, CA.

Gene, our youngest son, lives in Forrestville, CA. His wife, **Lorna**, died in January, 1982. Their children are **Lynn** and **Linda**. **Linda** and her husband have a boy, **Daniel**, so now

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

Ralph and I are great-grandparents.

Dee (Marion Decamp) worked in the oil fields in Kansas and Texas. He returned to South Dakota several times to visit the family in Faith. He died in August, 1974, survived by his wife, **Azalea**, twin daughters **Mary** and **Marilyn**, and a son, **Marion**. They all live in Louisiana.

Both **Dee** and **Mearl** attended the Weedman school while we still lived on the ranch. **Mearl** left for the oil fields in Texas and while there, married **Georgia Abendroth** of Wharton, TX. They had two sons, **Bill** and **Roy**. They moved to Rapid City in 1947, **Mearl** was employed as the Safety Director of the Black Hills Power and Light Company until his retirement in January, 1969. **Mearl** was a certified Red Cross first aid instructor and a leader in the Boy Scout organization from which he received the Silver Beaver Award. He was also a 50 year member of the Odd Fellows Lodge. **Mearl** died in Charlotte, NC on February 5, 1975. **Mearl** and his wife had moved to North Carolina after his retirement.

Adelaide, Elizabeth and **George** graduated from Faith High School and from Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD.

Adelaide taught school in Bison, Tyndall, and Faith. She married **Laurence "Kelly" Donaldson** in Mitchell in 1936 and they lived in Faith until 1942. **Kelly** was employed there in the Farmers State Bank from

1930 until 1942. They moved to Sturgis where **Kelly** was employed by the First National Bank of the Black Hills until his retirement in 1973. They have three sons: **David, John** and **Bob**. **David** and **Bob** are high school instructors and **John** is an insurance actuary. **Bob** taught in Faith three years before moving to Sturgis.

Elizabeth taught in rural schools in Meade, Perkins, and Ziebach Counties. She was also employed by the Extension Service. She married **Roland "Jack" Fitzgerald** of Bonita Springs in Sturgis. Their son, **George**, is a Presbyterian minister and is a chaplain at the Presbyterian Hospital in San Francisco. Their daughter, **Adele**, a licensed realtor, lives in Hermosa Beach, CA and also owns a home in Las Vegas, NV where she and her husband live part time. **Roland** died in December, 1981.

George married **Olive "Polly" Westaby** of Madison, SD on July 25, 1937. They lived in Mitchell, where **George** worked at the Northwestern Public Service Company until 1943. During this time their daughter **GeorgeAnne**, and twin sons, **Robert** and **Richard**, were born. The family moved to Rapid City in 1943 where **George** began employment with the Black Hills Power and Light Company. He remained with them until 1979. He was active in numerous community affairs but was especially recognized for his effort in behalf of persons engaged in production agriculture.

George's wife, **Polly**, was a radio and

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George Weedman was a strong supporter of efforts to discover and document the Weedman family.

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television personality. Her career began as **Gail Gamble**, and for nearly 20 years, she broadcast the **Polly Weedman Show** on radio and television. For her achievements in this field, she received the McCall's Golden Mike Award, and the Western Heritage Award of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame for writing the script for the movie, "Four Seasons West". **George** was awarded and officer's commission in the US Navy during World War II, and served on the staff of Admiral Chester Nimitz at Pearl Harbor. (Editor's note: **George** died September 28, 1996. **Polly** lives in Naples, FL with her son, **Richard**).

After graduating from Faith High School in 1932, **Susan** worked in Sturgis, Brookings and Lincoln, NB for the US Department of Agriculture. She married **Kenneth Cameron** in Lincoln in 1938. They moved to California where **Kenneth** was employed by Lockheed Aircraft until his retirement in 1978. **Kenneth** and **Susan** own and operated the Century Travel Service in Burbank, CA. They have two children, **John** and **Kaye**.

Edna married **Robert Rounthwaite** and they live in Ventura, CA. **Edna** has three children, three grandsons, and two great-granddaughters. **Edna** had moved to Texas before finishing high school in Faith. But she had a good start since her sister, **Adelaide**, was her 9th grade teacher in Faith!

The Faith Methodist Church was remodeled about 1925. The building was raised and placed on blocks so a

basement could be dug under it. Dad helped on the project by driving a team of horses which pulled a scraper used to haul soil from the basement.

This church building was abandoned and replaced by a new building in 1983. The Weedman children and grandchildren presented the Baptismal font to the church as a memorial to our parents, **Claude** and **Mary Weedman**.

New Subscribers

We welcome the following new subscribers:

Jon Austin, Barb Blackwell, Dot Colbert, Jack Hahne, Robin Goffe, Jean Huffty, Jeanne Luukinen, and Gloria Wilson.

Jon is the Executive Director of the Illinois Historical Society and has contributed material on **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Jacob** and **Catherine (Bishop) Weedman**. **Elizabeth** was born in 1821 in Perry Co., OH and will be featured in the next issue. **Jon** has contributed other information to update us on several others of this line.

We welcome all of you and hope you find the *Weedman Newsletter* informative.

Also in the next issue will be information on Mary Weedman Myers, reported to be the first white woman to cross the Ohio river to settle in Ohio.

Marianne Montgomery

Since embarking on research into the female lines of the family, we have been able to uncover a number of new facts previously unknown. Work done by Jon Austin is representative of that progress.

♦ Weedman Newsletter ♦

Volume 31 Issue 4

Autumn 1998

Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Hi, Cousins!

Holiday Greetings to you and your family. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

First of all I want to thank you for your comments on the last Newsletter. It's obvious that you enjoy hearing about the reunion, and the news Nick culls from the pages of history about our Weedman family and allied lines.

I want to refresh you all on the family of **John Weedman**, son of **Christian Sr.** **John** was born in Pennsylvania about 1770. In March of 1792 he married **Sophia** ___?___ "in Pennsylvania" and they had one son, **Nicholas Weedman**, born April 2, 1792 in Fayette County, PA. **John** is found in the early 1800 tax lists of Ohio, and he died in 1830. His estate was contested by his son, **Nicholas**, who, with **John's** estranged wife, **Sophia**, were living in Indiana in the year 1836 when the court records (see p. 4,5, 18 and 261 of the Revised edition of **Christian Weedman and His Descendants 1735-1986** by Gena Lee Theiss for details of this branch of the family). **Nicholas**, apparently the only son of

John and **Sophia**, married **Elizabeth N. Charley** in Harrison Co., Indiana, in 1815, and they raised a large family.

Doris Ackerman Kizer is a descendant of this family and has contributed much information on her branch of the **NICHOLAS Weedman** family.

Nicholas' daughter, **Mary Ann Weedman** married **David Sheldon Ackerman**, and **Doris** is a direct descendant of this union.

Ackerman Family Update

Doris sends the following latest information about her family: - all descended from **Mary Ann Weedman** and **David Sheldon Ackerman**:

Evelyn (Turnbull) Andrews b. 1912 in Pawnee City, NE, died there in Nov. 1995.

Luella (Seip) Tiller, b. 1910, wife of **Roderick Dean Tiller**, died June 19, 1997, in Summerville, KS

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Marianne and Nick extend to all our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy 1999!

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Bradley J. Cameron, b. 1961 married 29 July 1995, Boulder City, Colorado, **Christie Smith**.

John George Schafman b. 1933, remarried his first wife, **Alice Leona Wilson**, 30 Nov. 1997 in Bonners' Ferry, Idaho.

Ralph Eugene Schafman b. 1941, married 18 Aug 1975 in Seoul, Korea, **Cho Cha Song**. Their daughter, **Sherie Lee Ann** married **James Thompson** about 1981. Their three children are: **Robert James**, **Elizabeth Rose**, and **Sarah Marie Thompson**.

Sheldon Allen Ackerman, and wife **Shirley (Smith) Ackerman** had a daughter, **Brianna Pauline**, b. 7 July 1997 in Moscow, Idaho.

Billy Clifton Pierce, husband of **Bertha Eloise Ackerman Pierce**, died suddenly March 10, 1998 in Glendive, Montana.

David Terry Fleisher and wife **Kristie (Martinez) Fleisher**, are the proud parents of a baby girl, **Sydney Berlynn Fleisher**, born 14 July 1998 in Las Vegas, NV.

Congratulations, David and Kristie, and all the family circle. We know you're proud of this little addition to the family. So are we.

Doris has added more updates, which I'll add to the next Newsletter. Doris has had recent cataract surgery, but is doing well and looking great with her eye lens implants. Doris has been faithful about sending in her family updates, and the family begins on

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The Ackerman family descends from Nicholas and Elizabeth (Charley) Weedman of Southern Indiana.

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 about 85.

Marianne Montgomery is the Editor of the *Weedman Newsletter*. Family news, articles for publication and queries should be sent to her.

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

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Queries regarding the Weedman family or allied lines are welcomed. Attention will be given to each one 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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256 to 287 in the Revised edition of Gena's book.. All descendants of **Mary Ann Weedman Ackerman!** Doris has been researching her family for about 37 years. She's still at it!

How about your updates? _____

Indiana Update

Kimberley Kay (Seitz) McBride, and hubby **Darrell William McBride** are the proud parents of a darling little girl, **Jensen Elle McBride**, born June 21, 1998 - the day after the Weedman Reunion this year. Born in Evansville, IN. **Kimberley Kaye's** parents are **Michael and Janice (Allbright) Seitz**. Their Weedman ancestor, was **Drucie Ellen Weedman** who married **Richard Orum**. (JOHN's line) Also **Diane (Seitz) Hall** and **Jack Hall** are proud grandparents of **Kevin Scott Hall**, born 30 July 1998. **Kevin** and family live in Maryland. Congratulations to all the above and family members on these two little darlings, **Jensen** and **Kevin**.

There were Weedmans in Pike Co., IN descendants of **JACOB's** line. The library there is very good to connect people. Recently they put **Sally Lawlor**, a new-found Weedman cousin, in touch with me. Her data will appear in future pages of the Weedman Newsletter.

Oldest Ancestor Picture A Request

The last issue of the Weedman Newsletter stimulated a thought to see if we can find pictures of our oldest ancestors. I have one of my great grandparents, **Green Berry** and **Susan (Cart) Weedman**. He was born in 1833 and she in 1834. We are uncertain when the pictures were made but they must have been done in the late 1880s since **Susan Cart Weedman** died in 1890.

We have refrained from running pictures in the *Newsletter* since the only way has been to simply Xerox copy the original. Now, with scanning techniques, we *may* be able to resume once more. If we get a response and can get copies of our oldest ancestors, we will experiment with running copies.

Let Marianne Montgomery or Nick Weedman know of pictures which are available. This might be a lot of fun!

DeWitt County, Illinois Web Site

The Internet is getting more and more sites which are gold mines when it comes to genealogy. There are a number of sites which focus on places where Weedman ancestors lived but one of the best is a private site on DeWitt County, Illinois. The site is called "**Eli Halsey's Homepage**" and is dedicated to the ancestor of Robert Halsey who maintains the site. Incidentally, you may recall that **George Weedman** married **Phoebe Halsey**

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The Internet is becoming a source of much more genealogical material. One special site for DeWitt Co., IL is cited.

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and I suspect she is a sister to **Eli Halsey**.

The address is: <http://members.aol.com/rehfla/elihalsey>. Once at the site, click on "Lookups" which is at the bottom of the page. Included in the site are information on: elections, marriages (1839-1881), cemetery listings (25 in all so far), school rosters (the first one is the Weedman school in 1877!), veterans lists, tax lists, mortality schedules, and the 1840 census.

A great site and it shows the shape of things to come. For those interested, there are sites for all counties in the U.S. although some contain little information. We hope that some of our more active internet surfers will explore and report what else is available.

Elizabeth Weedman A New Ancestor Discovered

contributed by Jon Austin

(Jon Austin is the Executive Director of the Illinois Historical Society and is a descendent of Jacob and Catherine (Bishop) Weedman through their daughter, Elizabeth. Jon recently made contact with us and has submitted some excellent information on his line. We were unaware of Elizabeth until Jon submitted his article. He is a professional historian and the quality of his work is superb. He contributed the following which is summarized for this issue).

Elizabeth Weedman was born April 10, 1821 in Perry County, Ohio to **Jacob** and **Catherine (Bishop) Weedman**. She married **James White** on October 16, 1845 in Orange, Richland Co., Ohio. Following the death of **Jacob** about 1829, **Catherine** moved to Richland County where the family remained until about 1854 when they moved to DeWitt County, Illinois.

There were ten children according to her obituary and these included:

Herbert H. White	b: 27
Aug 1846	d: 4 Nov 1936
Romelia Ann White	b: 15
Jan 1848	d: 11 Jul 1918
Fredonia C. White	b: 15
Feb 1850	d: 9 May 1872
George J. White	b: ca
1852	d: before 1936
Henry Alfred White	b: 27
Dec 1853	d: 5 Dec 1898
Charles F. White	b: 12
Dec 1855	d: 2 Sept 1936
Temperance White	b: 8
Aug 1861	d: 18 Nov 1937
Asa James White	b: 19
Jul 1863	d: 23 Feb 1951

Elizabeth died November 7, 1907 in Farmer City, IL and is buried in the Maple Grove Cemetery. **James**, who was a son of **Jesse** and **Lyda White**, died February 21 or 22, 1908 in Farmer City and is also interred in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Jon's line descends from **Henry Alfred White** (1853-1898) and his wife,

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Our thanks to Jon Austin for providing some valuable insights into the family of Jacob and Catherine (Bishop) Weedman.

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Leona May Hutchison (1866-1946). They had one daughter, **Ouida Anna White** (1886-1959) who married **Edgar Newton Austin** (1887-1972). There were two children of this marriage including **Harold Hutchison Austin** (1920-1987) who married **Marjorie Elizabeth Johnson** and these are Jon's parents.

Jon has prepared a thorough paper on the line which can be shared. We are highly appreciative of the excellent work he does and for his willingness to share that with all of us.

The Norris Family

contributed by Jon Austin

Mary Ann Weedman was the oldest child of **Jacob** and **Catherine (Bishop) Weedman**. She was born in February 1820 in Perry County, Ohio and on December 15, 1844 married **Andrew S. Norris** in Orange Township, Richland (now Ashland) County, Ohio. **Andrew Norris** was a physician and practiced in DeWitt Co., IL after the family moved there in the 1850s. **Mary Ann** died March 22, 1888; **Andrew** died May 14, 1889 and both are buried in City Cemetery in Farmer City, IL.

It had been believed that there were no issue of this marriage but work done by **Jon Austin** has revealed there actually were three children. These included:

Iris J. Norris

b: 1845

d: 1916

Amos L. Norris b: 1

Mar 1847 d: 16 Dec 1909

Ida Norris b: ca 1851

d: unknown

Of these, it is known that **Amos** had three children. A daughter, **Vernele Norris**, was born in 1885 and married **Lyle George Herrick** about 1923. There were two children of this marriage: **Mary Bess Herrick** and **Jean Louise Herrick**. **Jon Austin** is attempting to make contact with either of these to see if he can fill in the missing pieces of the Norris family.

The designation of the Weedman Cemetery in Perry Co., IN as a historical site is a welcome event.

Weedman Cemetery

A Designated Historical Site

The burial site for **William Weedman** and his wife, **Rebecca Haycraft Weedman**, is in Union Township, Perry County, Indiana near the town of Magnet. **William** was one of the sons of **Christian Weedman, Jr.** and served in the War of 1812.

William lived in Grayson County, KY prior to moving to Hancock Co., KY and ultimately Perry County, IN sometime in the 1840s. He died in 1851 and, according to the late **Forrest Davison Miller**, was buried in a small family burial site near the place where the family had lived.

In 1973, a headstone for **William Weedman** was obtained from the U.S. Government in recognition of his service in the War of 1812. With

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agreement of the current landowner, Mr. **Russell Flamion** of Mount Pleasant, Indiana, the stone was placed in the cemetery. Further, Mr. Flamion agreed to leave the site intact and respect it as a graveyard.

We were recently contacted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service regarding the cemetery. Mr. Flamion decided to put land on which the cemetery is located in what is called a "set-aside" program (land will not be farmed for a time). Mr. Flamion advised the NRCS of the cemetery location and, in turn, they investigated the validity of the claim. **Mr. James Heid** of the NRCS advised us that he would record the site as a cultural resource and ask the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office to designate it as a historical site!

We have never determined with certainty exactly who is buried in the cemetery. It contains old sandstone headstones and footstones but none of the graves are marked with names, dates, etc. **Forrest Miller** advised that her Mother's Grandfather and family were buried on the site.

Obituary

Denise Lynette Fisher

Denise Lynette Fisher, daughter of **Virginia Weedman Fisher Cook**, died November 2, 1998 in a hospice in Denver, Colorado after a lengthy illness. She was born on April 23, 1973. Burial was on November 6, 1998 in Longmont, Colorado.

She is survived by her father, **Lloyd Fisher**; mother, **Virginia Weedman Cook**, and sisters **Lisa**, **Diane Carol** and **Glenda**.

Higdon Genealogy

Gena Theiss, author of "*Christian Weedman and His Descendants 1735-1986*" is in the process of compiling a new genealogical book on the Higdon family. Gena's grandmother was **Barbara Ellen Weedman**, youngest daughter of **Willis Green Weedman, Sr.** and his wife, **Cassa Ellen Collard** of Grayson Co., KY. Gena is a tireless worker on anything in which she gets involved. She maintains her own web page and is a contributor to the Weedman Newsletter. Her web site is: <http://www.ka.net/gtheiss>. If you surf the web, please pay a visit and you will find access to several Kentucky census extracts and other interesting items.

Gena would love to hear from anyone interested in the Higdon family.—

Family Bible from George P. Weedman

George Perry Weedman of Silver Springs, FL is in possession of a family bible given to him by his grandmother. The bible was published in 1803 and has a page written in old German script dated 1835. He has sent this to us and we are attempting

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Gena Theiss has started work on a new genealogical publication on the Higdon family. Anyone with information on the Higdon's should contact Gena.

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to have the page read. The person who wrote the note is named Christian but the surname, while unclear, is not Weedman. We will report on this finding once translated.

George sent a very generous donation to the Newsletter for which we are in appreciation.

Mary Weedman, the First American Woman to cross the Ohio River

A significant amount of effort has been made in genealogical research into the lines of the daughter's of **Christian and Elizabeth Weedman, Sr.** In this effort, we have learned considerably more about the Weedman family.

Mary Weedman was the oldest daughter and probably the first child of the couple. She was born on 1 January 1762 in South Branch of what is now Hampshire Co., WV. She married Adam Myers who served in the Revolutionary War and who received a pension for his service. His pension application revealed birthdates, places, etc. for the family. We have learned that the family moved to Huron County, Ohio. It was there that Mary Weedman Myers died on 27 December 1848. She is buried in Drake Cemetery, Ridgefield Township, Huron County.

Ken Shute, who was contacted on the Internet, and who has a great deal of interest in Huron County, Ohio ge-

nealogies, furnished a fair amount of material on the Myers family. Among the items he furnished was the article which appears on page 31 of this issue.

In the seventh paragraph of the article is an interesting statement, "It was said that Mary Weidman (sic) Myers was the first American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia (now West Virginia) to settle in the Ohio country.

Perhaps we could ask a professional historian such as Jon Austin to help us sort out the meaning of this.

The family of Christian Weedman, Sr. did cross the Ohio to settle in Western Pennsylvania in the mid-1765s. If they were among the first, this would mean that her mother was either not a native born American or perhaps she was dead. Was Ohio considered part of Western Pennsylvania at that time. How could this statement be true?

If true, it is another interesting aspect of the early Weedman family in America. Any thoughts or theories on the subject would be appreciated. Isn't the article interesting?

This is the final issue for 1998. We wish you and your family all of the best for 1999.

Marianne
Montgomery and
Nick Weedman

The statement that Mary Weedman Myers was the first American woman to cross the Ohio River needs further assessment. Any help would be appreciated.

OCTOBER 9, 1987

You won't find Myers Mills on map

One of the interesting facets of studying local history is the identification of old-time place names which no longer exist. In the days before named and numbered highways, every neighborhood had a name, and signboards at a rural crossroad directed you to the neighborhood you were seeking.

We still hear the names of Blue Fly, West Hartland, Laurel Hill or Hunts Corners occasionally, but not long ago I encountered the name of a place which has not been in common use for perhaps a century.

North of Monroeville where Lamoreaux Road crosses the Huron River is a place commonly known as Blue Bridge. In the 19th century a wooden bridge (possibly a covered bridge) spanned the river at that point, but was swept away by a flood in 1883.

At that time an iron truss bridge was installed as a replacement. Most people would know where Blue Bridge is if you asked them, but if you used the earlier name for the neighborhood—Myers Mills—probably no one could direct you to the site.

Before the Civil War the area around Blue Bridge was known as Myers Mills, since the family of that name operated a sawmill and gristmill on the Huron River not too far north of the present Blue Bridge river crossing.

Perhaps some signs of the old mill site can still be seen, but the changing currents and the flood of July 1969, eradicated many old landmarks in northern Ohio.

Adam Myers was a veteran of the American Revolution, having served from western Pennsylvania. He married Mary Weidman and they were early settlers at Marietta. It was said that Mary Weidman Myers was the first American woman to ever cross the Ohio River from Virginia- (now West Virginia) to settle in the Ohio country.

The Myers family moved to Ridgefield Township in 1814 and eventually settled on the farm now owned by the Chase Heyman family on Huber Road at the county line. In the summer of 1817 Adam Myers bought a few acres of land on the Huron River just north of Blue Bridge, partly in Ridgefield and partly in Oxford townships on the east side of the river.

Here he built a sawmill and a gristmill. Immediately the area took the name of Myers Mills, and deeds still referred to the property by that name in 1875 when the land was sold along with the water rights.

In the 1820s the Myers Mill property was leased to Milton and Jonathan Jennings of Norwalk, and when Jonathan died there in 1828 the newspaper reported that he lived at Myers Mills. It was also significant enough to report that his burial took place in Norwalk, which probably was a half-day trip at that time.

Eventually some trouble arose in the Myers family concerning the mill property, with son George claiming he had loaned his father \$1,000 in return for a half interest in the property. A deed had never been made, and meanwhile son John had threatened his father, Adam, so Adam deeded the entire property to John.

Finally the Common Pleas Court ordered that the property was to belong to George. Adam Myers died in 1844 and is buried in a small cemetery on the east line of the Huber Road farm, where he lived with his son-in-law, Thomas Dickey. Thomas Dickey and his wife are also buried there along with their daughter Cynthia and her husband, Salmon Drake. Actually, four generations and veterans of three wars lie in that small burying ground.

George Myers eventually sold the mill property to Asa H. Jacobs, who must have operated it after 1850. The Jacobs family had come to Norwalk Township in the 1820s and built mills on the Huron River where Lovers Lane Road crosses and where Whittlesey Avenue ends, both sites being north of Norwalk. That area was another neighborhood—sometimes known as Shaw's Mills and sometimes as Jacobsburg.

Today we're hard pressed to find an operating sawmill or gristmill such as those run by the Myers and Jacobs family, but their existence in the 19th century was imperative to the development of the county. Probably many of the old houses and barns north and west of Norwalk contain lumber sawed on the old vertical saw at Myers Mills.