
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 40 Issue 3

Fall 2007

2008 Weedman National Family Gathering Update

Plans continue to be made for the next Weedman National Family Gathering to be held in Uniontown, PA June 20~22, 2008.

Fayette County, Pennsylvania has great historical significance to the bulk of the Weedman families in the U.S. The original immigrant, Christian Weedman, Sr. and his family lived there from about 1765 until 1799.

We intend to go back to "New Holland" (the name of the tract of land homesteaded by the family), visit the site of the church where they worshipped and try to get a feel for what life was like in the late 1700s.

We have selected the Holiday Inn in Uniontown to be the base hotel and they are asking us to commit to a specific number of rooms for the event.

Could you let Nick Weedman know of your plans to participate in the 2008 Reunion by sending an e-mail or visiting our web site (www.weedman.org) and complete a form on the 2008 Reunion page? We understand plans change and your indication is no more than your current interest in participation. Your cooperation will help to guide our planning efforts.

We hope to have this page up and running on the web site by the first week in October. Check back if you can't find where to fill out an intention form!

Photos for Future Generations

By Katherine Weedman-Cox

In 50 years, we know the next generation will be able to copy prints and print from negatives, but will they be able to read a deteriorated, inexpensive CD disc? Will they be able to access your hard drive?

Today it's not uncommon to have thousands of photos on your computer, but very few actual prints.

We're too busy, it cost too much or we just can't find a specific photo on our hard drive. We may be intimidated by the whole process of digital technology. Don't let your photos disappear!

To help preserve your new digital family photos for the future, it's important to take the following steps:

1. Download your images to your computer as soon as possible.
2. Back-up the images on a 2nd hard drive (external hard drives are great for this).

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Katherine Weedman-Cox provides some helpful tips to insure that precious family photographs are preserved for future generations.

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3. Back-up the images on Archival Gold CD's or DVD's.

4. Make prints of the very important images (using archival paper and inks). Make copy negatives of these prints if possible.

5. Continue to transfer all this data to the next new media as time goes on. It's going to be a challenge, but well worth the effort. Your relatives will appreciate your hard work!

The preservation of old family photographs is a project we all need to undertake.

(Katherine Weedman-Cox and her husband operate Cox B&W Lab Sacramento CA that specializes on restoration of old photographs. We have asked her for tips to help retain our photographic treasures. Visit their web site at: www.coxblackandwhitelab.com).

Please keep us informed of family events such as births, weddings, deaths, etc. for publication in this Newsletter.

Obituaries

Wilma Jean Weedman Howard

Wilma Jean Howard, age 59, of Smiths Grove, KY, passed away Tuesday, August 14, 2007 at the T J. Sampson Hospital in Glasgow, KY.

She was born on July 7, 1948, in Louisville, KY, the daughter of **Edward** and **Mary Whobrey Weedman**. She was a housewife and was a member of the Tick Ridge Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, **Mitchell Howard**, one son, **Jerry Hatalla** of Glasgow, KY, three daughters, **Maria Riley** of Killen, Alabama, **Tina Strickland** of Clinton, Tennessee, and **Betty Mudd** of Caneyville, KY, five sisters, **Louise Lindsey** of Leitchfield, KY, **Jeanette McClellan** of Vine Grove, KY, **Mary Lindsey** of Louisville, KY, **Jessie**

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About the Weedman Newsletter

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

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

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

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

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Mudd of Elizabethtown, KY and **Doris Duggins** of New Albany, IN, one brother, **Charles Weedman** of Leitchfield, and five grandsons.

Funeral services were August 16 at the Dermitt Funeral Home in Leitchfield with burial in the Hopewell Cemetery.

Her lineage: Wilma Jean Weedman Howard⁷, Edward G. Weedman⁶, Willis Green Weedman, Jr.⁵, Willis Green Weedman, Sr.⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Bernice Oran

Bernice M. Oran, 87, of Kearney, Nebraska died Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2007 at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Services were on August 25, 2007 with burial at Kearney Cemetery.

She was born May 8, 1920, in Kearney to **O.F. and Nina (Kummer) Grosh**.

On June 29, 1943, she married **Carl Oran** in Kearney. He died in 2002.

Survivors include her sons, **Gary Oran** of Gaithersburg, Md., **Alan Oran** of Austin, Texas, and **Curt Oran** of Elkhorn, NE; daughters, **Peggy Thompson** of Eugene, Ore., and **Carol Huffman** of Council Bluffs, Iowa; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She grew up in Kearney and graduated from Kearney High School in 1937. She graduated from Kearney State Teachers College in 1941. She taught school in Oxford then in Ravenna.

She and her husband lived in Kearney. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Kearney, Daughters of the

American Revolution, 8 & 40, PEO Chapter FN, American Legion Auxiliary and the Nebraska Genealogy Society. She was an avid bridge player and belonged to several bridge groups and enjoyed genealogy work. She did volunteer work at Good Samaritan Hospital and Trails and Rails Museum.

Carl Oran

(This is a belated obituary provided by Diane Hall, a niece of Carl Oran).

Carl F. Oran, 89, of Kearney died Thursday, Dec 26, 2002, at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. He was born Aug. 24, 1913, in Evansville, Indiana to **Robert and Myrtle (Orum) Oran**.

He grew up in Evansville and graduated from Reitz high School in 1931. He enlisted in the First Coastal Artillery Corps in 1932 and served in Panama. He moved to Kearney in 1936 and attended Kearney State College, graduating in 1940. He was a graduated of the Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA., in 1942. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945 during World War II.

He served as the Selective Service Director of the State of Nebraska, commander of the 168th Field artillery Group, commander of the 128th Combat Engineer Battalion, was Combat Engineer Platoon Leader and Adjutant of the Second Infantry Division from 1942 to 1945. He received the Silver Star in 1945, European Theater of Operations Ribbon with five Battle Stars and received the American Defense Medal in World War II. He graduated from Command General Staff College in 1950 and the United States Army College in 1961.

On June 29, 1943, he married **Bernice**

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The Orans were participants in early family reunions and strong supporters of the Weedman Newsletter.

Dyer County, TN has a genealogical web site which is one of the most well equipped of any we have seen.

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Grosh in Kearney. He owned and operated the Southside Liquor Store and in 1965, he opened Oran's Spirit Shop, which in operated until he retired.

He was a member of the church in Kearney, was past president of the Nebraska National Guard Association, past Commander of the Kearney American Legion Post 52, Past chef de gare of 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaus. He was a life member of the National Guard Association of the United States, life member of the Nebraska National Guard Association, life member of Second (Indian Head) Division, life member of American Legion Post 523, life member of VFW Post 759, life member of the BPO Elks 984.

He was also a charter member of the Loper Supporters, charter member of the United State War College Alumni Association and a charter member of the Buffalo County Historical Society. He called Bingo at the Legion and the Senior Hospitality Center and enjoyed hunting, fishing and swimming.

Survivors include his wife; sons, **Gary** of Gaithersburg, Md., **Alan** of Austin, Texas, and **Curt** of Lincoln; daughters **Peggy Thompson** of Eugene, Oregon, and **Carol Huffman** of Council Bluffs, Iowa; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother **Ralph Lester Oran** and sister **Ruth Ellen Oran Seitz**.

(Source: Kearney, NE Hub)

The lineage of Carl Oran was: Carl Oran⁸, Myrtle Orum Oran⁷, Druscilla Ellen Weedman⁶, John W. Weedman⁵, William Weedman⁴, John Weedman³, Christian Weedman, Jr.², and Christian Weedman, Sr.¹.

Louis Bernard Richardt

Louis Bernard Richardt, 83, of Evansville, IN died on June 24, 2006 at an Evansville hospital. He was a native of Evansville, graduated from Central High School there, and was a World War II veteran. He was a life insurance salesman for Mutual of Omaha and Franklin Life Insurance Companies and later co-owned the Kerth Street Grocery Company. He was married to **Marguerite (Weedman) Richardt** for 57 years. Mr. Richardt is survived by his wife, two daughters, **Meribeth Mermall** of Chicago and **Jill Ann Oneglia** of Winchester CT; six sons, **Christopher Noel Richardt** of Limestone, TN; **Charles Adrian Richardt** of Lake Zurich, IL; **Michael Douglas Richardt** of Indianapolis; **Mark Douglas Richardt** of Danville, IN; **Jeffrey Allen Richardt** of Maryville, TN; and **Timothy Paul Richardt** of Elizabeth City, NC. In addition he leaves 18 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Burial was in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Evansville.

Dyer County, Tennessee Genealogical Research

We recently had a need to do some genealogical research on-line with a focus on Dyer County, TN. What we found was arguably the most fully featured web site we have run across that is crammed with outstanding genealogical information. The site is located at: www.rootsweb.com/~tndyer/.

What we found was a virtually complete list of cemeteries with many tombstones photographed and available on the site. Something unique was complete funeral home records that came from Curry Funeral Home from 1913 through 1939.

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Marriage records are there as well as census extracts for many years although this is not complete.

As a result of the quality of information available on that site, I was able to fill numerous gaps that existed in our Weedman family data base. We have been able to gain new insights into two families that moved from Perry County, IN to Dyer County, TN. The family records of **John and Mariah (Cart) Weedman** who moved in about 1888 and some portions of that of **Green Berry Weedman** have been significantly enhanced due to this web site.

We commend Dyer County RootsWeb coordinators for the extensive and high quality information they are providing.

We have newly updated information on the two Weedman families mentioned and will happily provide that to any interested family member upon request.

An example of a tombstone photograph appears in this article. This is for Helen Eula Weedman who lived only a year after her birth in Dyer County and was an aunt of the Editor of the Weedman Newsletter.



Broken tombstone of Helen Eula Weedman, daughter of Charles Green and Martha (Lanman) Weedman in Pleasant Hill Cemetery near Finley TN

Montessori School in Egypt Headed by Marguerite Weedman Richardt

Marguerite J. (Weedman) Richardt wrote to advise she had relocated from Evansville, IN to Chicago and to convey the death of her husband of 57 years, Louis B. Richardt (see Obituaries in this issue). She sent a most interesting flyer about the Montessori School in Cairo Egypt that she was instrumental in founding in 1981. The school has celebrated 25 years of success. Marguerite spends most the year in Cairo with limited time in the U.S. We commend Marguerite for her efforts that will surely help to foster greater understanding and harmony in the Middle East. Marguerite is the daughter of **Jantus and Nancy (Frost) Weedman** (the **Jacob Weedman** line of Southern Indiana).

Weedman NJCAA academic All-American

OLNEY, Ill.—Cannelton IN graduate **LaDonna Weedman** has been named a National Junior College Athletic Association Distinguished Academic All-American for basketball for the 2006-07 school year.

Weedman was a sophomore center for Olney Community College and compiled a 4.0 grade-point average, graduating as co-valedictorian. She also received student athlete and chief executive office awards and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for students at two-year colleges.

An elementary education major, she

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Marguerite Richardt has been involved in the Montessori School in Egypt for over 25 years.

LaDonna Weedman has a distinguished athletic and academic record at Olney (IL) Community College.

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will attend the University of Southern Indiana this fall but currently does not plan to play basketball, as leg injuries she suffered last year still bother her somewhat.

She was the starting center for the Olney Lady Blue Knights last season. She averaged seven points and seven rebounds in the first 11 games, getting double figures in both categories in four games.

Then she suffered stress fractures in both femurs and had to sit out six weeks, missing eight games.

She was not allowed to run or jump during that time but kept in shape by riding an exercise bicycle during practice. She eventually worked her way back to the starting lineup.

She is the daughter of **Jim** and **Robin Weedman** of Cannelton.

(Source: Perry County (IN) News)

Congratulations to LaDonna Weedman for her academic and athletic achievements!

A Note from Cathy Stone

You may have gone over this before, but I have been wondering: Could **Christian Sr.** come over to this country with a sister and brother in law? Did the ship's captain keep a log of their journey? Was Christian Jr. married twice? I find it very odd that he had his first child at the age of 27.

I have found no evidence to proof that any Weedman had any relationship with the Green family in Grayson Co. Ky. This doesn't mean they had no rela-

tionship. They may have worked on the farm at one time or other. In the Green Family book there was a reference to a Stone, but I don't know which one. I have always wondered how my grandfather was called **Lafayette**. Once I did ask my Dad, but he didn't know. I do not find any Weedman, Dennison or other Stone's to use the name Lafayette. There are a lot of Willis' in both the Stone and Weedman families. As you know **Lafayette Stone** was a son of **John M. & Mehetible Weedman Stone**. I just find that odd.

Response: We have always been of the belief that Christian Weedman, Sr. traveled to this country probably with a relative or at least with close family friend. At his age, the likelihood of immigrating alone seems remote. We don't know of any documentation other than what has been published. The use of the names Willis, Green and Willis Green is prevalent in a number of lines of the Christian Weedman, Jr. families. We published some thoughts on this on page 13, Volume 33 of the Summer 2000 Weedman Newsletter.

In the Winter 2007 Issue

- Continuation of the **John H. Weedman, Jr.** family and descendents.
- An article contributed by **Shawn Wiley** on Widman immigrants.
- A newspaper article from the 1950s of a Davison-Weedman family reunion in Perry County, IN.
- Another Weedman family in the U.S. — this one has German roots and settled in Maryland (courtesy of **Frieda Davison**)
- **2008 Weedman National Family Gathering**—an update on the planning and participation.

John Huhn Weedman, Jr. And his Descendants

*(This is the first part of an article that will continued in the Winter 2007 issue of the **Weedman Newsletter**. The intent is to trace the descendents of John Huhn Weedman, Jr.)*

John Huhn Weedman, Jr. was arguably the most successful person in the family even to this date. He was a farmer, cattleman, banker and businessman. (We only recently learned from the baptismal records of the Jacobs Lutheran Church near Masontown, PA that **John Weedman, Sr.** was christened **John Huhn Weedman** and not **John Jesse Weedman** as a translation of the records had appeared).

Having had such success, the question has been asked, was there a financially successful dynasty created as a result of his success? While we can't definitively answer that, it is surprising what happened to the descendants of this person.

John Huhn Weedman, Jr. was born on 3 February 1828 in Perry County, Ohio to **John Huhn, Sr.** and **Rachael (Wilson) Weedman**. Rachael was a daughter of **Asa Wilson**.

In August 1830, the family left Perry County, Ohio and headed west settling in Heyworth, McLean County, Illinois which is between Bloomington and Farmer City, IL. **George** and **Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman** were the elders and with them were several of their sons and daughters with their families. **George Weedman** was the original settler on his land and the fact that rich land was available at low cost or even free in some instances surely attracted the family to Illinois.

We will attempt to show what happened to **John Weedman, Jr.** and his descendants in this presentation.

John Weedman, Jr. married **Mary Ann McDonald** (born 22 September 1834) on 31 March 1853. It was about this time or even before that John started to collect land and built what became a successful business empire.

Almost immediately, the couple started a family with the first child, a daughter, being born 1 December 1853. She was apparently still born because the tombstone in Campground Cemetery just south west of Farmer City simply says "infant daughter". A son, **Lyman A. Weedman**, was born on 27 December 1854 but died in 1855. Then, the third child, **Lenora Weedman**, was born 11 September 1856 and she died in 1857.

While the loss of children was not uncommon in the difficult environment on the frontier the loss of three children in four years must have been devastating.

Then, there were four children born to the couple, all survived until adulthood. Children were:

Harriet Josephine Weedman, born 21 December 1857
Cassius Marcellus Clay Weedman, born 12 August 1860
Rachael Rosella Weedman, born 4 March 1862
John Sherman Weedman, born 15 December 1867

While there may have been other children it is likely that is the entire family since they had the resources to put markers on the graves of any children.

The 1860 census of McLean County shows the family of **John Weedman** living in West Township with him being 31 years old and a farmer. His wealth at that time was not particularly remarkable have real estate valued at \$4,000 and a personal estate of some \$2,300.

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By 1870, his wealth had accumulated somewhat with real estate valued at \$50,000 and a personal estate of \$25,000. It is doubtful if the values had any definitive measurement but clearly the family was on its way toward a very comfortable existence. It was about this time that the town of Weedman, Illinois was formed and the **John Weedman** farm was just to the west of the town.

John H. Weedman, Sr. moved to Hamilton Co., IA where he died on 12 March 1968. **John H. Weedman, Jr.** died on 30 Jul 1885 at his home in McLean Co., IL and a newspaper article on his death and funeral appears on the Weedman Family web site at www.weedman.org.

Here is a summary of the four surviving children:

John Sherman Weedman

Little is known about **John Sherman Weedman**. He was born on 15 Dec 1867, apparently never married and from a newspaper article we have learned that he died 17 Feb 1908 in an insane asylum in Indianapolis. The article simply says that **C.M.C. Weedman** had been informed of the death and was traveling to bring the body back to Illinois for burial. He is buried in Campground Cemetery in Farmer City.

Cassius Marcellus (Cash) Weedman

Cassius Marcellus Clay Weedman was known as “**Cash**” **Weedman** no doubt due to not only his name but the fact that he was at one time a teller in the John Weedman National Bank of Farmer City! He was born He married **Grace Gardiner** of Farmer City on 15 February 1893 in Farmer City. Grace was born in 1870. **Cash Weedman** was also a Post Master in Farmer City and seemed to have been a highly respected citizen. There were no children born to this marriage and, from another newspaper article, we have learned that he died on 30 January 1910 in an insane asylum in Kankakee, IL where he had been confined for two years. He is buried in Campground Cemetery.

So, the two surviving male offspring of John and Mary A. Weedman had no children and both died while confined to an institution.

Rachelle Rosella Weedman Young

The youngest daughter was **Rachael Rosella Weedman**, born on 4 March 1862 in McLean County. She married **Thomas V. Young**, son of **Denton** and **Emma Young** of LeRoy in McLean County. The Youngs had a clothing store in LeRoy on in the 1900 census; it is shown that both **Thomas** and **Rachael R. (Weedman) Young** were working on clothing store presumably that of Denton Young in Empire Township. In the 1900 census, it reveals the couple had been married 8 years and that there were no children at that time. It is known from family tradition that **Thomas** and **Rachael Young** moved to Dallas. In the 1930 census, we find **Thomas V. Young** aged 62 as a boarder in a hotel and that he was a widow. We have been unable to find a listing in 1910 or 1920 for the couple. It has been concluded that the couple remained without issue thus ending the line at that point.

Harriet Josephine Weedman, was the only offspring to have married and had children.

Harriet Josephine Weedman Brodix

Josephine Weedman as she was known married **Charles Raymond Brodix** of Bloomington IL in 1882.

(To be continued in the Winter 2007 issue)