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# ❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

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Volume 34 Issue 2

Summer 2001

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## Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Hi Cousins,

We wish to thank everyone who has contributed in one way or another to the recent Newsletters. Response has been great, and we want to give credit to those of you who have sent in information for us to use, and to those who have contacted **Gena Lee Theiss** with information for the upcoming revision of *Christian Weedman And His Descendants*. She probably has the early roots of your lines, but needs to be up to date with the latest additions for the upcoming revision.

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### Subscription Renewals Due

We ask subscribers for a contribution of \$5.00 per year to help pay for costs to print and distribute the *Newsletter*. If you haven't paid, your contribution would be appreciated. If you are due (according to our records), you will find a small notice in the envelope accompanying this issue. We checked our records going back to 1998 but these are not without error. Should these records be incorrect or if someone else paid your subscription and it is current, please let us know. If you want to no longer receive the *Newsletter*, please let us know that as well.

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Sad news, but we know you would want to know, regarding recent deaths in the Weedman families.

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*If you haven't sent in your subscription contribution for the Newsletter, please take time to do it soon.*

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*Obituary*

### Hila Church

**Hila Church** was born Dec. 8, 1907 in Holyrood, Kansas, passed away on 14 January 2001 at Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was ninety-three years old. We met Hila when she attended the Nashville Reunion in 1988. Her line was **Hila Church<sup>8</sup>; Maximillian Ebenezer & Minnie Fern (Weedman) Church<sup>7</sup>; Zadock (Dick) Weedman & Matilda Jane (Jennie) (Romine) Weedman<sup>6</sup>; George & Catherine (Danner) Weedman<sup>5</sup>; Asa & Delilah (Hand) Weedman<sup>4</sup>; John Weedman Sr. & Rachel (Wilson) Weedman<sup>3</sup>; George & Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman<sup>2</sup>; & Christian Sr. & Elizabeth Weedman<sup>1</sup>.**

*Obituary*

### Doris Kizer

**Doris Kizer**, born **Doris Lucille Ackerman** born Nov. 15, 1923 in Brookings, SD, and died in Sparks, NV on 25 Oct 1999. Doris was of the line of **Nicholas Weedman**, who was a son of **John Weedman**, son of **Christian Sr.** and **Elizabeth**. **John** married **Sophia** (maiden name unknown) and **Nicholas** was their only son. **Nicholas** married **Elizabeth Charlie** in

*(Continued on page 10)*

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### *Inside This Issue*

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Obituaries	9
Now I Know Grandpa Weidman	12
New Weedman Web Site	14
Swedish Family Update	14
2002 Reunion Plans	16

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*Our appreciation to Kathryn Weedman Cook for keeping us posted on family events.*

*(Continued from page 9)*

Harrison County, IN. A daughter, **Mary Ann**, married **David S. Ackerman**, and they raised a large family. We will all miss Doris' regular contributions to the Newsletter. She married **Al Kizer** in 1943 after her first husband, **Leonard Beauford** was killed in WW. II. She leaves a large family to mourn her passing.

Kathryn Weedman Cook wrote and informed us of three other cousin's passing who known to many who are reading this:

*Obituary*

### **Elroy Williams**

**Elroy Williams**, age 58, of Leitchfield, KY passed away Thursday Aug 17, 2000 at Leitchfield. He was the husband of **Wilma Weedman**, daughter of **Alton** and **Lena (Anderson) Weedman** of JOHN's line. They had the following known children: **Tammy**, who married **Mr. Reynolds** of Leitchfield, and two

grandchildren: **Cody** and **Michala Reynolds**; Elroy is also survived by a sister, **Elizabeth (Williams) Decker**, and two brothers **Johnnie** and **Fairley Williams**. All are of Leitchfield. Elroy was born Oct. 25, 1941 in Grayson County. He was a service man for Fosters' Gas Co. and a member of the Broadway Missionary Baptist Church. He will always be remembered and missed by his family. Two brothers, **Layman** and **Boots Williams** preceded him in death. Burial was at Broadway Cemetery.

*Obituary*

### **Robert Estel Stewart Sr.**

**Robert Estel Stewart Sr.** born Aug. 20, 1920; died March 6, 2001. Grayson Co., KY. Watson and Hunt Funeral Directors were in charge of services. Internment at Layman Cemetery, Millwood, KY. Survivors include his wife, Mary, daughters, Carol and Gloria and son Robert Jr. His parents were **Charles Luther** and **Mertie (Weedman) Stewart**. Mertie's line

*(Continued on page 11)*

## 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 170.

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

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

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

*(Continued from page 10)*

was: **Mertie**<sup>6</sup>, **James Henry & Mary Elizabeth (Carter) Weedman**<sup>5</sup>, **Willis Green & Cassa Ellen (Collard) Weedman**<sup>4</sup>, **John & Polly (Stone) Weedman**<sup>3</sup>, **Christian, Jr. & Mary (Marshall) Weedman**<sup>2</sup>, and **Christian, Sr. & Elizabeth Weedman**<sup>1</sup>.

*Obituary*

### **Dorthene (Mudd) Weedman West**

**Dorthene** was the widow of **Sherman Weedman**. She was born Oct. 30, 1925 in Grayson County, KY, the daughter of **Riley and Nealy (Elder) Mudd**. She married, first, **Sherman Weedman** on May 21, 1945. There were six children born to this marriage: **Dorman, Sherlene, Jerry, Randy, Mary Frances and Myron**. Sherman passed away March 30, 1971. Later, Dorthene married **Clarence West** of Leitchfield. Clarence and all of her children, children-in-law and two stepchildren survive her. She has a host of relatives in the area and everyone who knew Dorthene will miss her greatly. Sherman's line was: **Sherman**<sup>6</sup>, **James Henry & Mary Elizabeth (Carter) Weedman**<sup>5</sup>, **Willis Green & Cassa Ellen (Collard) Weedman**<sup>4</sup>, **John & Polly (Stone) Weedman**<sup>3</sup>, **Christian, Jr. & Mary (Marshall) Weedman**<sup>2</sup>, and **Christian, Sr. & Elizabeth Weedman**<sup>1</sup>.

*Obituary*

### **Arlene Weedman Shillingburg**

**Ed Shillingburg** writes to inform us of the death of his beloved mother, **Arlene (Weedman) Shillingburg** on March 3, 2001. She was born in Butte, NE daughter of **Ona and Lelila (Evans) Weedman**. In 1905, she married **Donald Metzner Shillingburg** who operated a trading post near Crown Point, NM where she was teaching at a Navajo School. She had a teaching certificate

from Aberdeen, SD and they were married at Independence, MO. Her first child, **Donald**, was born in 1927 and her last child in 1936. In 1937 they left the Navajo Reservation and moved to Gallup, NM. But they returned to the Reservation to own a trading post at Greasewood Springs near Lukachukai, AZ in 1942. Her husband died in 1950. She, with the aid of son **Donald**, operated the post until it sold in 1952. For several years she pursued her dream of a college degree at The University of New Mexico, Columbia University (NY) and received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of California at Berkeley in 1965. She is survived by her two sons; **Don** of Colorado and Phoenix, and **J. Edward** of Shelter Island, NY; two brothers, **Charles Weedman** of Kansas City KS, and **Gail Weedman** of Kokomo, IN plus many grand and great grand children. Internment was at Hillcrest Cemetery, next to her husband in the Elks plot in Gallup, NM. Messinger Indian School Mortuary made arrangements. Arlene's line was: **Arlene (Weedman) Shillingburg**<sup>7</sup>, **Ona Harrison & Lila (Evans) Weedman**<sup>6</sup>, **William Martin & Sarah Catherine (Hildreth) Weedman**<sup>5</sup>, **Jeremiah & Alzira Jane (Payne) Weedman**<sup>4</sup>, **Jacob & Catherine (Bishop) Weedman**<sup>3</sup>, **George & Charlotte (Huhn) Weedman**<sup>2</sup>, **Christian & Elizabeth Weedman**<sup>1</sup>.

There are several people looking for their Weedman Roots. Every so often Nick adds these seekers to the Newsletter. I received a new one today and will add her query in hopes that someone can help her. **Kay Hawks** writes:

**Mary F. Weedman** born May 21, 1870 married **Cooper Knowles** 15 Feb 1895 at Kirwin, Phillips County, Kansas. I think Gena Lee has this information in her da-

*(Continued on page 12)*

*Dorthene West and her son, Myron Weedman, hosted a Reunion meal at the 1996 Reunion held in Bardstown, KY*

*(Continued from page 11)*

tabase. I wrote to Kay because her list of children was not quite the same as our list. Perhaps Gena Lee has had something more recent for **Mary Frances Weedman Knowles'** family (p224 red book). Kay's e-mail address is: hawksjk@nisc.net

Does anyone know of **(John) Theodore Weedman**, born Centralia, Wayne County, IL? He went by name of **Ted Weedman**, but first name was **John**. He was born in 1890 and married at age 30 in 1921 **Bessie Horton** of Doe Run, MO. If you know of him, would you please write or phone me at (253) 556-9169. Thanks.

We are delighted to help all who are seeking Weedman roots. Many have been given their lines back to Christian, and most have signed up for the *Newsletter*. Of course there's a lot more to it than that; we who are signed up get to meet a lot of related Weedmans, some from KY, IN, OH, PA, IL...all over America. The last reunion was held at Farmer City, Illinois, and we had a wonderful time there. Now, since we have these reunions once every two years, we are already planning where the next one is going to be. We try to get the Reunions in a place where we can actually walk on ground they walked on, see what they saw and learn the history of the area.

One of **Christian Weedman Sr.'s** daughters was **Elizabeth**. We believe that she was born about 1767 in "Pennsylvania". The borders between VA, PA and MD were not officially established until 1783-4. So we cannot be sure where Elizabeth actually was born, but we're assuming Pennsylvania. She married a "**Mr. Murphy**" because in Christian Sr's will he names his children and calls her "Elizabeth Murphy". We have been trying ever since we discov-

ered his will, to locate this "Mr. Murphy" who was her husband. Recently we discovered a series of thick books containing abstracts of Revolutionary War soldiers' petitions for a pension. There were plenty of Murphy's but there was one who definitely stood out as a possibility of being the Murphy who married **Elizabeth Weedman**. His pension application brief reads:

**JOHN MURPHY** VA line, S40191, BLW # 564-100 appl. 14 Aug 1820, Fairfield County, OH, aged 70 in July 1820, with a wife **Elizabeth**, aged 40, "sickly" Could this be our **Elizabeth**? Age is not always on the button. She may have been older, or younger, but probably not younger. Notice they were living in Fairfield County, Ohio. So were Christian and several other children of Christian. I don't exactly know how to get his records, but there is surely a way. I'll be working on this.

**Neil Kenyon** tells the next story on paper for us to enjoy, about his grandfather, **Roy Logan Weidman**, son of **Philip Weedman/Weidman** of Crawford Co., IN. Like me, you will be touched by the sincerity and simplicity of this wonderful family's story.

### Now I Know Grandpa Weidman

I never met my grandfather, **Roy Logan Weidman** - he died on Aug. 8, 1942 before I was born on Feb. 24, 1945. Grandpa was born on June 6, 1898, the son of **Phillip Weidman** and **Lucinda Jane Clark**. He married my grandmother, **Esther Belle Deich**, on Oct. 10, 1921 and to them were born two children: My mother, **Myrtle Isabelle**, born on Aug. 8, 1922 and my aunt, **Lillie**

*(Continued on page 13)*

*Neil Kenyon's story about his family is very interesting. Others are invited to submit similar experiences.*

*(Continued from page 12)*

**Lucinda**, born Aug. 28, 1924.

My mother had often shared with me about grandpa and how he had passed away not long after she had married my dad. She had related some of the details of his death but my thoughts at those times were on my mother and aunt and my grandmother and how they must have felt and the sorrow they shared because of the early death of their dad and husband. Grandpa I had not met and did not know – he was just a date – Aug. 8, 1942. There were some pictures of him – but just pictures; no life, no recognition, no knowing him. And that is how it sometimes gets with genealogy, those in our family tree whom have died before we were born, even when there are pictures and stories, often are just dates - and oh how obsessed we can become with having the right date! Then, out of the blue, in the research one is doing on his family history - amongst all those dates and places, a bit of information emerges that opens the door between their life experiences and yours and you connect with that person, and you know them. And so, now I know Grandpa.

Not long ago my mother handed me a long misplaced scrapbook full of poems and other writings which had been clipped and placed there years ago by my mother when she was a teenager– some coming from my grandmothers clippings. Among those was a small poem clipped by my grandfather entitled, “**MY LITTLE GIRL FELL ILL**” written by Anne Campbell in 1933. A note written under it in my mothers’ hand read, “**Poem Daddy found the day Myrtle was operated on**”, and it reads as follows:

**I thought that money's scarcity  
Was more than I could bear,  
And met approaching Poverty**

**With sorrowing despair.**

**And then my little girl fell ill.  
Death lingered with closed wings,  
I sat beside her, spent and still.  
And thought of many things.**

**But never once of money's loss  
Or living's endless strife,  
But ever of the heavy cross  
I'd bear through all my life.**

**Then she got well! In the glad dawn  
I sang with grateful breath.  
And now I measure woe upon  
The black yardstick of Death.**

In 1934, when my mother was 12 years old, she became seriously ill when her appendix ruptured. Mom has told me how her father, having no car or other transportation, carried her to the hospital which was located some ways from their home in New Albany, Indiana and how he had sat there by her bed as the doctors relayed the dreadful news that there was only a one in one thousand chance that she could live, and that was only if they did surgery. A surgery that, in those days, was extremely dangerous under any condition let alone a ruptured appendix. It was during this surgery that my grandfather must have found the poem quoted above. Having read this poem and knowing the circumstances under which it was found and clipped gives me keen insight to how my grandfather felt - how he loved his family, and his faith. It opened the door and connected me with him because I shared the same type of experience when in 1983 my little girl at the age of 9 fell seriously ill with a brain tumor and the only option for her was a dangerous surgery, followed by another a year later, and yet another in 1989. Often have I sat by the same bed as did my grandfather – I heard the same words as he – “there’s not much hope.” And after

*(Continued on page 14)*

*Neil's work on his Weidman family line has provided valuable insights on a line for which we had little information.*

*(Continued from page 13)*

radiation treatments, "Only six months at the most." I experienced the same thoughts and the rearranging of priorities. I am sure that grandpa would have gladly taken my mothers place upon that bed - yes, I know grandpa now! I know the same tears, the same stress, the same long wait, and the same loving watch of his little girl.

My grandfather and I have shared another thing, and that was the last stanza of that little poem he clipped so long ago. My grandfather's little girl is 79 years old this year and his grandson's little girl is 28 years old this year. And Grandpa and I both have shared together yet another experience and that is the hand of God in our lives. So now I know **Roy Logan Weidman**, my grandpa, in a way I didn't know him until I read the poem that he clipped that day his daughter had surgery - the poem that someone saved and pasted in a scrapbook many years ago.

**So, as we search out our family generation from generation let us not forget about the generation yet to be born - there may be one there who needs to know you, so leave them something to latch onto in the list of notes you make - leave something of you.**

### **Weedman Web Site New Location**

Thanks to **Adam Weedman** of Austin, Texas who is President of Affiniscape, Inc., we now have a new location for the **Weedman Family** Web site. The new location is: <http://www.weedman.org>.

The new site is easier to update and maintain.

We invite you to visit the web site and if you have suggestions for improvement, please let us know.

### ***The Swedish Weedman Family Page***

#### **William Walter Weedman**

Submitted by Anna M. Varvais (Olaf ~generation 6)

**William Walter Weedman, Sr. (Olaf ~ generation 3)** was born January 22, 1888, Victoria, Knox, Illinois. He is the second child of **Edward & Anna Christine Weedman**.

**William ("Willie")** married **Verna Irene White** on January 13, 1897. **Verna** was the daughter of **John William Forrest White** and **Emma Louise Swanson**, born on April 9, 1897. Family records indicate that **Verna** was born in Altona, Illinois.

**Willie** and **Verna** raised their eight children in Victoria, Knox County, Illinois. Their children included:

**Ethel Marie** ~ 1918 to 1966  
**John Weldon Sr.** ~ 1919 to 1992  
**Anna Louise** ~ 1921 to 1994  
**Clarence Edwin** ~ 1923 to 1983  
**Violet Rose** ~ 1925 to 1994  
**William Walter, Jr.** ~ 1927 to 1989  
**Forrest Edward** ~ 1930 (only living out of this generation)  
**Wayne Leroy, Sr.** ~ 1931 to 2000

**Willie** supported his family on coal miner wages and **Verna** was a full time housewife and mother. According to family members, "**Grandpa** and **Grandma Weedman** raised lots of chickens and kids. Grandpa Willie was very tall and always wore his bib overalls. He had the greenest thumb and we enjoyed his beautiful gardens every

*(Continued on page 15)*

*Anna Varvais has agreed to write a column each issue on the Swedish Weedman family. Thanks, Anna, for your contribution!*

*(Continued from page 14)*

year. The grandkids used to sit on the porch and help **Grandma Weedman** churn butter and snap beans."

**Willie** was laid into rest on 5th of November 1955. He died of black lung disease from his many years of coal mining. **Verna** passed away on December 25, 1985 in Galesburg. **Willie** and **Verna** are resting in Oaklawn Cemetery located in Galesburg, Knox, Illinois.

### **Olaf & Brita's Family Circle....**

The gap is slowly closing!

I have recently been in touch with **Mrs. Ann Murchison** a descendant of John W. Weedman (2nd generation Olaf). Ann's Grandfather, **John**, owned a grocery store in the town of Victoria, where **Lois Weedman's** (wife of **Clarence Edward**) Hospitality House now operates. According to Anne's recollection of the family history, "When the family arrived from Sweden they did not speak English, the head of the family was called "Swede Man." Anne is in the process of contacting other family members from her line, who have the original **Weedman** family bible. I will keep everyone posted with updates. (Ann is a new subscriber to the **Weedman Newsletter**).

I am now in contact with at least one person from the family lines of the following of Olaf Weedman's Children:

William Lewis Weedman  
John W. Weedman  
Edward Weedman (my line)

We are still seeking descendants from the **Alfred B. Weedman** family that included Betsey; Mathilda; Anna; and Emma. We have discovered that Emma was married to Andrew O. Anderson on 30 Oct 1890 in Knox County (Illinois

Marriage Index 1763 - 1900).

### **Website's of Interest.**

Information about the G & GE (**The Galesburg & Great Eastern**) Railroad ~ this is an interesting website for our family history. John Weldon Weedman, Sr. worked and retired from the G&GE. You can access the site by typing in the following link **<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/roconnor/ggeworld.htm>**

Knox County Home Page\_ **<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilknox/>** This is a great website for history of Knox County, Genealogy, Cemetery Listings, Townships within the county, etc.

I have also developed a Website for the Swedish Family Line and post any findings about our family history there. If you are not already a member, please let me know, and I will send you a special invitation to join the community. Many are already members of myfamily.com, however, there are only 8 members of my new MSN site. The new site has more graphics and is easier to maneuver.

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### **Contributors**

We appreciate the following who were recent financial contributors to the **Newsletter**: **Carl L. Weedman, Dr. William L. Weedman, Joyce Newman, Lutie Strand, Philip Weedman Bateman, Robert Widmann, Terry Weedman, Dennis L. Weedman, Jack Hahne, Jan Bruner, Elizabeth Snodgrass, Lucille**

*(Continued on page 16)*

*We are highly appreciative of the financial support we receive from so many family members.*

*(Continued from page 15)*

**Jaeger, Marcia Wilson, Shirley Weedman Spooner, Neva Weedman, Ruth Laverne Anderson, Wilma Parnell, Kathryn Cook, Jean Huffty, and Diane Hall.**

## 2002 Reunion Plans Announced

Hello, Weedman Clan! I hope you all are enjoying your summer as much as we are here, in the Midwest. Although it seems impossible, the time has come to begin thinking about the 2002 Weedman reunion, to be held in Jasper, Indiana from the evening of July 19 through the morning of July 21.

Your Reunion Committee this time around consists of mostly newcomers to the wonderful tradition of Weedman Reunions. We are **Melissa Achtien** and **Amy Weedman** (daughters of Nick Weedman and granddaughters of **Harry Weedman**), **Kathy Bruce**, **Audrey Chapline**, **Lauren Bruce** and **Meg Smith** (granddaughters of Harry, as well) and **Cindy Ruzak**, who is from the **George Weedman** line. We feel honored to be able to give back to the lovely folks who welcomed us all so graciously last summer.

Some of you may be wondering why we won't be gathering in Pennsylvania, as planned during the 2000 reunion. Unfortunately, after some careful exploration of the area by Nick Weedman and his sister, Anne Weedman Smith, it was determined that due to logistical problems and lack of sites of family genealogical interest, that the area was unsuitable for our needs. Dubois County, Indiana was then chosen as a replacement. Fortunately, there are a number of terrific historical Weedman connections in Dubois, Crawford, Pike and Perry, Counties.

We have only preliminary plans at this time, but mark your calendars! A block of 50 rooms has been reserved at the Jasper Holiday Inn. You will soon be receiving a registration form, which will need to be returned along with a registration fee. The registration fee will cover the cost of dinner both Friday and Saturday nights, and lunch Saturday. We'll do our best to contain costs and make this a fun and informative vacation for families and children of all ages.

Some of the questions and answers we'd like to explore include: why Southern Indiana is so important to our heritage, why Weedmans migrated away from the area, what life would have been like for our Weedman ancestors in Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky. And of course, no Weedman reunion would be complete without a Graveyard/Homestead Tour! Some of the other local activities include: the Hoosier National Forest; Dr. Ted's Musical Marvels (gives guided tours of an extensive collection of restored mechanical music machines from 1800's through the mid 1900's); Marengo Cave/Cave County Canoes (gives National Landmark cave tours, has a recreation center and horseback riding, also gives canoe, kayak and raft trips on the scenic Blue River); the Monastery of Immaculate Conception (one of the largest Benedictine communities in the nation, you can take tours of their beautiful domed church, grottos, etc.); and the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial and Living Historical Farm.

You'll soon be receiving more detailed information but make sure to pencil us into your busy schedules!

Until the Fall issue, take care.

*Marianne Montgomery &  
Nick Weedman*

*The site of the 2002 Reunion will take us back to where several early ancestors homesteaded. Sounds like a great choice!*