
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

Volume 37 Issue 4

Winter 2004

Marianne Montgomery's Memo

Hello Cousins.

We're a bit late this issue. Although this is being mailed in January 2005 this will be considered the 4th issue of 2004. If we need to have only three issues in 2005, we will let you know. It seems like it was a very busy holiday season this year. But here we are, and we're hoping all has been well for you during the year 2004. I have an idea for 2005. Let's all keep track of the happenings we meet this year and share them with cousins here in the *Weedman Newsletter*. We'd like to hear from all of you. As I work on the Table of Contents for the past Newsletters, I see names of people I know are "out there" but I don't hear from them. Sit down, dear cousins, and write me your news. I'll laugh with you, cry with you, or keep you in my thoughts, and share those you send for the Newsletter, with cousins who subscribe.

Rebecca Middleton wrote me not too recently, but I still have her on my mind. She wanted to know who was the **Professor G. P. Weedman** who she came across while researching for someone. He was located in Jennings Co. Indiana, and wonders where he fits into the family. I find a **George Perry Weedman**, and I have an idea it is he.

(Nick Weedman's note: Professor George Perry Weedman was the Superintendent of Schools in North Vernon, Indiana having served previously as the

Superintendent of Schools in his native Perry County, Indiana. He was a son of Green Berry and Susan (Cart) Weedman-and is a member of the Weedman Hall of Fame. To read more, go to the Weedman Family web site at www.Weedman.org and click on the Hall of Fame. Elizabeth Snodgrass of Indianapolis is his granddaughter and George Perry Weedman of Silver Springs, Florida is his great-grandson.)

Becky is still managing the genealogy department for the Spencer County (IN) Library, so those of you in that area, drop in and chat with her. She is still looking for a photo of **James David** and **Docia/Doshie (Hazelwood) Weedman**. James was born in 1854, and died in 1899 buried in the Carwile Cemetery in ---? --- Kentucky.

E-mail or write to me with your news. The Newsletter will continue as long as we have news. There are Weedmans all over the USA and I want to hear from as many who are interested in family and especially the WEEDMAN family.

(Continued on page 24)

We expect to have a full set of four issues in 2005 for the Weedman Newsletter but since we ran late on this one, there may only be three issues in 2005.

Inside This Issue

Subscriptions Due	24
Swedish Line Memorabilia	25
Fort Weedman FL Update	26
1840 Census	27
Obituaries	27-30

(Continued from page 23)

Subscription Renewals Due

We ask for a donation of \$5.00 per year from each of our subscribers to help pay for the cost of copying and postage for the Weedman Newsletter. Our subscribers have been very supportive and despite increasing costs, we have managed to basically have the Newsletter self-sustaining. Last year was the exception and it ran a deficit. Please take time now to write a check to the **Weedman Newsletter** and mail it to: Nick Weedman, 130 Berry Creek Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731. Thanks.

New Family Addition

Jeffrey and Odessa (Rau) Kershner are proud parents of **Heidi Kuria Kershner** born December 16, 2004. She is their first child. Jeff's line is: Andrea Montgomery Kershner⁸, Paul Montgomery⁷, Mandana Huff⁶, Susan Weedman⁵, George⁴, Daniel³, Christian, Jr.², Christian Sr¹.

I went to visit them on December 18 when Heidi was only 2 days old. Her middle name, Kuria is pronounced KuRYa. I think she'll have brown eyes; they are so dark, and she is a little darling! (Nick Weedman's note: **Marianne Montgomery** is a great-grandmother. Congratulations!)

Mini-Reunion in Arkansas

I had a newsy letter (the best kind) from **Jan Bruner**. She and George were on their way to the Bruner family reunion and stopped on the way to meet her cousin, **Everett Smith** of Pine Bluff Arkansas. Jan had the marriage license of his grandmother, **Mary Weedman**, and **George Brands**. Everett was delighted! She and George enjoyed visiting and spending a night with Everett. He has a lot of stories handed down from **Grandma (Weedman) Brands**...he calls her Grandma Molly. STEVEN's line.

(Continued on page 25)

A reminder for those who have not yet renewed their subscriptions for 2005....take time now to send your check.

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 160.

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>.

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 24)

2006 Weedman National Family Gathering

Paul Weedman (host for San Diego Reunion) made CD's of families who attended former Weedman Reunions. We have had 11 Reunions and have at least a few pictures from most of them. The ones that he was able to obtain for the CD are on it.

We are waiting for someone reading this, to volunteer to host the next Reunion in 2006. A suggestion was made to head to Fayette County, PA to go back to the traditional beginning of the Christian Weedman, Sr. line in America. Wouldn't it be great to go to the Jacob Lutheran Church where the family worshipped and where a number of the children married? And where many of the third generation were christened? Want to see where the original homestead was (nothing is left of it but we are confident we know roughly where it was located? All we need is for someone or a group of people to volunteer to host the 2006 Weedman National Family Gathering.

DeWitt County IL Deed Records

Joyce Anthony sent some deed records from the DeWitt Co. (IL) Genealogical society. DeWitt County Deed Book #3, (these would be **GEORGE WEEDMAN**'s line.

WEEDMAN Thomas S and **BEAN, Francis M**, Santa Ana Twp. 6 April 1870 to: **WEEDMAN, Mary M**. Page 55.

WEEDMAN, John, to **STIMLER, William** Farmer City, 19 June 1869 P. 78
WEEDMAN, Mary A. to **HAWKINS, Ramoth** Farmer City, IL 4 Aug 1870 p. 165

WEEDMAN, Jacob F to **SWINEY, John E.** twp 21 north, range 5 east 9 Sept. 1870 p. 202.

WEEDMAN, Almeda to **WATSON, James G.** Santa Ana Twp., 1 Apr. 1870. p. 115

I didn't record where this information below came from, so I will give it just as it says here on this writing paper:

OLD WARS Pensioners: 1815-1926

Weedman, Philip 1st Lt., widow **Eliza** applies for a pension. Her number: WA- R19421 FL.

Widman, Christian Late War # 123097 1856-1861.

Widman, Philip, Pvt. Old War #339594 see file # 48545 OH 25 Sep 1884 Svc 1861-1864 (alias Philip Dan)

I'll try to find out the source of this "pensioners" data and let you know.

Swedish Weedman Memorabilia

An e-mail message came to me from **Ann Murchison**, who was researching the WEEDMAN name. We believe this family has links to the **Olaf Weedman** family of Sweden. The Swedish Weedmans settled around Galesburg, IL. Here's the message:

"I had an interesting phone call yesterday. My family has very few Weedman memorabilia, but one item is a small sea trunk (about 24 x 18 x 18. ... maybe a little larger. Family lore has it that this sea trunk arrived on the boat from Sweden with all my grandfather owned (probably the entire family's stuff, too). It was painted long, long ago a rather "hospital room" green – which I was told was the original paint. I recently took it

(Continued on page 26)

A volunteer or maybe a group is needed to host the 2006 Weedman Reunion. Location is up to the host(s).

Our thanks to Billie Lenchener and Shirley Spooner for their update on Fort Weedman in Florida..

(Continued from page 25)

to a furniture restorer who, while working on it, discovered initials under the paint... J J W. My grandfather was **John Willard Weedman**; I'm thinking that this trunk may have belonged to an older brother or their father. My father was also **John Willard Weedman** and he went to Galesburg (IL) High School but lived his younger days in Victoria, IL. We're not able to place this JJW in the family tree. Although my grandfather did own a grocery store in Victoria, IL,

I just thought the discovery of the initials would interest some other Weedmans. The trunk has very old hardware, but the lock had been pried off. The corners are tongue-in-groove connected; the top is domed. The bottom seems to have been replaced in the early 1900's. The restorer is excited about working on the piece. He does work for museums in the area that specialize in Civil War vintage pieces. He could tell that it was European and was originally from the earlier half of the 1800's."

Ann Murchison's e-address is: MurchisonA@wlu.edu

Her address is:

Ann E. Murchison

Assistant to the Knight and Reynolds Chairs
Reid Hall

Washington and Lee University
Lexington, VA 24450.

Fort Weedman, Florida Update

Billie Lenchner sent the following information:

There is a Fort Weedman, but it was only a civilian fort, so there was not much history about it that she could find in Florida History material she researched. The following information is from a friend who is a Seminole re-enactor and histo-

rian who teaches at several of the local museums.

- It was a civilian refuge fort. When there was fighting the civilians would come here to protect themselves and fight against the Seminoles. There are only military there when passing through to the bigger forts.
- The fort was attacked twice. In 1839 it was considered abandoned and Indians burned it. The military rebuilt it and again in 1840 the Indians burned it again! This time it was totally destroyed. The fort would have been a log cabin type with two stories.
- There were two chiefs in the area at that time. One was **Chief Coac-coochee (Wildcat)** and the other was **Chief Black Dirt. Wildcat** was captured and sent to Fort Marion (now Costello de San Marcos) in St Augustine. **Wildcat** starved himself to escape through a narrow window. He was captured later and sent to Arkansas Territory. **Black Dirt's** fate remains unknown at this time.
- The fort would have been named after a Lieutenant or a Captain. Military records will have to be checked.

Since books dating back to those times are scarce, Billie will at a time convenient for her, go to a larger library than the one in Ocala, Florida.

Since there were Weedmans at that time living in or near St Augustine, I am inclined to believe that the fort was named for **Philip Weedman**, or one of his sons, but that's only a guess. **Philip (Philip) Weedman** came from Germany, and settled in that area of Florida with his family. We haven't as yet determined if there is any relationship between **Christian** and **Philip Weedman**. **Philip** had a brother (?) named **Bernard Weedman**.

Shirley Weedman Spooner who de-

(Continued on page 27)

(Continued from page 26)

scends from the Florida Weedman line adds this to what is known about Fort Weedman. "Ft. Weedman was definitely part of the original Weedman Land Grant. I just don't know the precise spot. Much of the 150 acres granted (I think that is what was granted out of the 400 acre request.) is owned by Rayonier Timber Company. My dad's brother is on what remains in the family; it must be about 70 acres. Seems like we would have heard about people digging around there. It is not but about 8 miles from where my dad has lived for the last 56 years. He is 83 now." Shirley also wrote in a separate note, "Don't know if I mentioned it, but I would imagine this was where the ggggrandfather was killed by Indians, around 1839. "

The pensioner shown in the list above, **Philip Weedman (Philipe)** was in this line and the Fort could have been named for him.

1840 Federal Census

AIS, (Accelerated Indexing System) a group of energetic entrepreneurs combined alphabetically all the counties in the USA censuses of 1790-1850 and put them on microfiche. These fiches are found in most LDS libraries and I looked for the 1840 census for Florida. I didn't find it, and I did find out that Florida wasn't a state till 1845. However, I did find in the 1840 fiche, the name WEEDMAN, and here are all the Weedmans in the various states who were found in the 1840 census.

Weedman, Bernard, Ohio Co. VA,
pg. 40

Weedman, Christian, Crawford Co.
OH, pg. 5 (Bucyrus Twp.)

Weedman, Daniel, Perry Co IN, pg.
198

Weedman, Fli (?), Hamilton Co, OH,

pg 155 (Cincinatti 4th Ward)
Weedman, George, McLean Co. IL,
pg 262
Weedman, Geoffrey, Clark Co. IN, pg
236
Weedman, John, Grayson Co. KY, pg
142
Weedman, Katherine, Richland Co.
OH, pg 21
Weedman, Stephen, Perry Co., IN, pg
203
Weedman, William, Hancock Co.,
KY, pg. 6
Weedmann, Nich (?), Jefferson Co.,
KY, pg 89

Obituaries

George W. Theiss

George W. Theiss, 80, passed away Monday, January 10, 2005, at Baptist Hospital East in Louisville, KY. He was retired from General Electric, an Army veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict and a member of the former Hillview Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Fairdale Masonic Lodge #942, Scottish Rite and Order of the Eastern Star Chapter #254. He was a Kentucky Colonel and an avid CB-er. A sister, **Lillian Lenihan**, and a daughter, **Nancy Jane Hill**, preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, the former **Gena Lee Johnson**; three daughters, **Patricia Sue Wright (Charles)**, **Donna Lee Hosse (Paul)** and **Martha Rhea Cadarette (Wayne)**; a sister, **Anna Lee**; six grandchildren, **Melinda, Sharon, Amy, April, Sarah** and **Amanda**; and two great-grand-children. His funeral service was held on January 14th. He burial was at Laymon Cemetery in Grayson County, KY.

(George was the husband of Gena Theiss who is a Weedman Hall of Fame Member

(Continued on page 28)

We have had an unusually large number of losses of family members in late 2004 and early 2005.

(Continued from page 27)
and the author of three books on **Christian Weedman, Senior** and his descendents. He attended virtually all of the Weedman Family Reunions and was well known and loved in the family).

Kenneth V. Weedman

Kenneth Vaughn Weedman, 44, of Louisville, KY died on Wednesday, January 19, 2005 in Louisville. He was a former window installer. He was preceded in death by his father, **Everett Weedman**. He is survived by three sons: **Kenneth Bennett Weedman**, **Jason Weedman**, and **Kenneth Weedman**; his mother, Virginia Weedman; three sisters, **Theresa Noone**, **Deborah Hart**, and **Rebecca Bunch**; two brothers, **Steven Weedman** and **Donald Weedman**; and two grandchildren. Services were on Monday, January 24, 2005 with burial in Bethany Cemetery. His lineage: Kenneth Vaughn⁸, Everett Lamar⁷, George Winfield⁶, John Cabel Breckinridge⁵, Addison Meriwether⁴, Stephen³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian, Sr.¹.

Viola Mae Weedman

Violet Mae Weedman, 91, of Virden, IL died Monday April 26, 2004 at Sunrise Manor in Virden, IL. She was born October 16, 1912 in High River, Alberta, Canada the daughter of **Jerry** and **Esther (Schwartz) Royer**. She married April 12, 1936, **James Henry Weedman**, son of **Thomas B.** and **Edna Mae (Anderson) Weedman**. James died in 1988. A son, **James M. Weedman**, preceded her in death also.

Mrs. Weedman was a waitress and cook at several places in the area and also sold Beeline clothing. She was a member of the Church of the Brethren in Virden, and the Senior Citizens and Bunko Clubs both in Springfield, IL.

Survivors include a son, **Donald** (wife **Elizabeth**) **Weedman** of Lady Lakes, FL; two daughters, **Shirley** (husband **William**) **Livingston**, of Silver Springs, FL; and **Sharon**, (husband **James**) **Smith** of Riverton, IL four granddaughters, and five great grandsons.

Services were held on Friday, Apr. 30, at Calvert and Ferry Funeral Home in Virden the Rev Ron Burtz officiating. Burial was at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Jake Huffty

*(No obituary is available for **Jake Huffty** so we will include the e-mail received from his wife, **Lola Jean (Smith) Huffty**).*

On October 8, 2004 I lost the love of my life. **Jake** & his friend, **George** had been to Louisiana to pick up a truckload of sweet potatoes to share with friends and family. When he returned home he and his friend went to ride in the woods, which was his idea. They killed a hog & pig. Jake always takes over on the cleaning of game caught and George just assisted by holding the head, legs, etc. On the way out of the woods, Jake said, "George, you know we have been friends a long time and have taken a lot of game out of these woods." George answered but did not hear anything else except a gasp and he was gone. Jake was driving but they were still on a country road coming from the woods and taking control of the truck was fairly easy but his loving friend could not help him and according to the coroner, death was instant. I am thankful for that.

He had had a most wonderful day but was the only one who knew where I was staying at a genealogical convention in Little Rock. During the time the kids were trying to find me, my phone was

(Continued on page 29)

Please keep Marianne Montgomery advised of any changes in family status. See page 24 for details.

(Continued from page 28)

turned off because I had two workshops that evening. At 9:15 PM when I turned it back on, there were 7 messages from everyone but Jake so I knew it was a serious thing. Kenya was calling me the most often while she & Chuck were on the trip home from Branson. Jerry was on the way home from Texarkana at the same time. We lost a dad and husband but I see him in how our children are helping me. I am fine. Time will heal the hole in my heart and memories & God will take me through each day.

(Following are truncated obituaries for two remarkable women. We regret that due to space limitations, we cannot print these in their entirety. Both are posted on the Weedman family web site and we ask all to go there to see "the whole story".

Polly (Olive Anne) Weedman

Polly (Olive Anne) Westaby Weedman, 90, formerly of Rapid City, passed away October 19, 2004, in Naples, FL. Polly was born April 23, 1914 in Madison, South Dakota. Polly graduated from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, with a triple major in theater, speech therapy, and psychology. After a brief career working for Harry Reasoner, Sr., as a talent agent for Northwest Assemblies in Minneapolis, Minn., she married her college sweetheart, George David Weedman, on Jan 27, 1914. They moved to Rapid City in 1944. In Rapid City she accepted private students for speech therapy and for declamatory contests. She was recruited by the owner of Radio Station KOTA to write, produce and broadcast a women's radio show. She expanded the show and her career to broadcasting five days a week for the next 25 years. Her radio show broadcast grew into a more than full-time enterprise, especially when television finally came to Rapid City. She began writing, produc-

ing, and appearing in everything from local talent shows to children's programs. She did the research, the scenario and scripting for "Four Seasons West," a story of South Dakota's cattle industry. The production was given the National Western Heritage Award for the best western documentary. At one time she had as many as four shows simultaneously - The Polly Weedman Show; Aunt Polly's Children's Hour; Talent Review, and a once-a-week half-hour radio show, Christmas Shopping Bag, which was later developed into a road show in the West River area. In 1950 Polly was named "Woman of the Year," by the Rapid City Business and Professional Women's Club. Later she was awarded the McCalls Magazine 10th Annual Gold Mike Award for Service to the Family: Her radio interview series titled "Marriage is What You Make It," focused attention on the community's need for a marriage counseling service, according to the McCalls judges. Other awards and honors followed during her years as a radio and television personality, but that all ended when she contracted Parkinson's disease in 1968 which attacked her throat, and she lost her voice. After her health was somewhat restored by medication, she and her husband, George, enjoyed retirement years together with cruises, winters in South Carolina or California, ballroom dancing, and competitive duplicate bridge. Then at age 75 she lost her eyesight due to macular degeneration. Within days, in spite of laser surgery, she was completely blind in one eye and had defective sight in the other. The South Dakota affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind taught her white cane travel. She also learned Braille, which she found easy and fascinating. Unable to see, her typewriter was of little value so she learned to use a computer with voice output (computer and lessons provided by the state reha-

(Continued on page 30)

Polly Weedman was inducted into the Weedman Hall of Fame at the 2004 Weedman Reunion in San Diego. Our web site has her nomination there. Please check it!

Jean Lovejoy Carlen descended through the George Weedman line. Her obituary in its entirety is on the Weedman Family web site.

(Continued from page 29)

bilitation agency). In 1995, due to their failing health, she and her husband George moved to Naples, Fla. Her sister Dorothy McCray, Silver City, N.M; her son Richard Weedman, Naples FL., her daughter George Anne Weedman Planck, Port Hueneme, Calif., grandsons, Sanford Randolph Planck, Los Angeles, and John Robert Planck of San Luis Obispo, Calif survive her. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1996, her son Robert 1949, her brother, Robert Spencer Westaby Jr., MD and her sister Geraldine Westaby Kickbush. Services were held on October 25 in Naples Florida.

Jean Eleanor Carlen

Jean Eleanor Lovejoy Carlen left her physical being in this world to join hands once again with her beloved husband Raymond Nils Carlen on Tuesday, July 20, 2004. While her later years witnessed much suffering she graciously left this world in much the same manner as she had lived her life, a queen in attendance until the end.

Born on June 29, 1920 in Chicago, Ill, Jean attended the Harris School for Girls in Chicago learning all of the finer points of etiquette and education, going on to graduate from the University of Illinois in Champaign. Jean joined and then became President of the Illinois Zeta chapter of Pi Beta Phi, continuing this fraternity connection throughout her life with the Hinsdale Alumnae Pi Phi. It was during this higher level of education that she met, then married (sans football helmet) Ray Carlen who was eventually to become President of Joseph T. Ryerson & Son Steel Company. During the war years (the one that would end all such means of negotiation , WW II) Jean honed her sales skills at Marshall Field & Co. where she was a merchandise buyer (again quite the trend groundbreaker as

this position was usually filled by a male), but it was at Ray's side through his career at Ryerson where all of her social and event planning abilities really shone.

Persevering through her own difficulties at many times Jean was a champion for all of the appropriately correct things to do. She supported the many moves a husband's career necessitated, raised two intelligent and caring children (Susan & Cynthia), and was instrumental in not only the volunteer causes of her husband but also of her children and her own. In 1960, with the assistance of but a handful of others, she organized an entire "Suzy League" softball association in Hinsdale, Illinois so that her daughters would have the opportunities that at the time were offered only to male-oriented "Little League". Truly a visionary leadership role way ahead of its politically correct time, as generations of female baseball leagues followed this historic first.

In Hinsdale she was voluntarily instrumental in the Community House, Hinsdale Community Memorial Hospital of Western Springs, and the Parent Teachers Organization; planning ice cream socials, debutante events, Easter basket selling, and other creative fundraising endeavors with her skills in theme parties legendary.

A woman of so many accomplishments through her many skills at utilizing others to the best of her, and their, abilities; she proficiently gathered many groups of friends and support about her throughout the years. However, a fact known to but a few of her friends is that Jean was the inspiration behind the invention of the "Winky Dink" tv screen.

Burial was at Arlington Memorial Cemetery in Rockford, IL on July 28, 2004.