
❖ Weedman Newsletter ❖

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Winter 2006

2007 Subscriptions

2007 subscriptions are due when you receive this Newsletter. The rate remains a donation of \$5.00 per year as it has been since the Newsletter began.

If your particular account is due, an envelope addressed to the Weedman Newsletter is enclosed with this issue. If there was not envelope with your copy, then you owe nothing at this time. **If there is an envelope, please use it to either send a check or to advise us that you no longer wish to receive this publication.**

The presence of the envelope is not an absolute guarantee that you owe. . . . our accounting records leave something to be desired. If you have sent a check in the past year or so, simply advise us of when you sent it and we will correct our records accordingly.

We have been a little lax in the past few years asking for donations. But, as costs continue to rise, we need to either get more funds to support the cost of publishing and mailing or to trim our mailing list (or both).

This will be the only notification of the donation requested. We intend to adjust our mailing list prior to mailing the next issue in March, 2007.

The support we have received in the past is highly appreciated. There are many that are extraordinarily generous. To all, you have our thanks.

The subscription rate for the Weedman Newsletter remains at \$5.00 per year (unchanged since its inception)!

Obituaries

Hazel Mae (Haddaway) Weedman

Hazel Mae Weedman, 89, of Louisville, KY died Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital in Louisville. She was the former **Hazel Mae Haddaway**, a homemaker, a member of Ralph Ave. Church of Christ and attended Dover Chapel General Baptist Church. Her husband, **James Edward Weedman**, preceded her in death. Survivors include five sons, **Mark (Linda) Weedman**, **Steve (Cathy) Weedman**, **Mike (Barbara) Weedman**, **Bill (Janet) Weedman**, and **Jeff (Betty) Weedman**; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Burial was in Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville.

Jimmye Ann Holcombe

Jimmye Ann Holcombe died December 10, 2006 in Dexter, MO. She was the first wife of the late **Edwin M. (Manny) Weedman** of Blytheville, AR. She leaves four children: **Julia Lea (Weedman) Harris**, **Jenny (Weedman) Firth**, **Jerry (Weedman) Messick**, and **Edwin M.**

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Weedman, Jr.

Our condolences to the families and friends of **Hazel Weedman** and **Ann Holcombe** on the death of these two family members.

Birth

David James Weedman

David and **Suzanne (James) Weedman** of Louisville are the proud new parents of **David James Weedman** born December 12, 2006 in Louisville. Congratulations to Suzanne and David!

His line: David James⁹, David Glenn⁸, Ronald Louis⁷, Robert Shirley⁶, William Deward⁵, Amos George⁴, Stephen³, Christian, Jr.², and Christian, Sr.¹. David James Weedman's great, great grandparents on his paternal line were both Weedmans! William Deward Weedman and Beverly Ann Lockwood Weedman were both of the Stephen Weedman line.

New Discovery

Weedman Land in Early Northumberland Co., PA?

Linda Tatlinger of Fayette Co., PA has provided us with several pieces of information that could provide some leads for more research into the **Christian Weedman, Sr.** movements prior to 1800.

Linda has been using a web site, www.footnote.com for research purposes and this site has most of the Pennsylvania Archives on line in a searchable format. What she discovered by searching the surname, Weidman, was that **Christian Weidman, Sr., Christian Weidman, Jr.** and **John Weidman** all got warrants for 400 acres of land in Northumberland Co., PA in 1784.

The information is contained in Series 3, Volume XXV, Warrantees of Land in Northumberland Co., PA, 1772-1892,

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Congratulations to David and Suzanne Weedman on the birth of their new son. We would love to print more birth announcements but need your help to do so.

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 150.

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

Editor and Publisher: **Nick Weedman**
130 Berry Creek Drive
Flat Rock NC 28731-8531
E-mail address: nick@weedman.org

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.

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page 343. We need to determine if title to the land was ever taken, and, if it was, when was ownership conveyed to them and when did they sell.

She further advises that in 1789, **John Weidman** registered a survey on 200 acres of land in Northumberland County. There is no record of either **Christian Weedman, Sr.** or **Jr.** having paid surveyed or registered their land.

From another site, http://www.mypennsylvaniagenealogy.com/pa_maps/pa_cf.htm, it appears that Northumberland County encompassed much of the northwestern 2/3rds of the State of Pennsylvania in 1784! It was the parent county of numerous of the present day counties of the state and thus trying to determine where the land might have been is a daunting task.

There was a land lottery in 1784 and is described in yet another article on the internet which states:

The Northumberland Lottery warrant register indexes warrants that were issued for the eastern section of the Last Purchase (1784), primarily the region that is now Tioga County and the surrounding area. Following the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1784 by which Pennsylvania acquired the northwestern third of the state, the entire extent of the new acquisition was assigned to Northumberland County until it was later divided into regions covered by Allegheny and Lycoming Counties. The Commonwealth initially attempted to sell land in the 1784 purchase by lottery.

If you want to see all warrants issued by the State of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Bureau of Archives and History of the Pennsylvania State Archives has a web site: <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/>

Bah/DAM/rg/di/r17-88WarrantRegisters/r17-88AllCountiesInterface.htm#NorthLottery.

These are all terrific web sites for those doing genealogical research in Pennsylvania.

We will pursue the Northumberland County connections and try to determine if, indeed, the three individuals are actually our line, the Weedman family from Fayette Co., Pennsylvania.

New Article on the Death of Philip Guillermo Weedman

The following article was found by Shirley Weedman Spooner and pertains to the death of Philip Weedman (born ca 1785 in Mainz, Germany and died 20 November 1839 in St. Johns Co., FL as the result of an Indian attack). In the Fall 2006 issue and the Fall and Winter issues of 2004, we published other accounts of the death and this article mentions it as well.

The Planter: or, Thirteen Years in the South by a Northern Man:

David Brown (Northern Man)

BOATING PARTY

It was on an early day of the February of that remarkably delightful sunny winter which followed the mysterious shower of blazing meteors; when three gentlemen left St. Augustine for the St. John's river, with the exciting object of making a boat voyage up the stream to Drayton Island, in Lake George.

The morning ride from the ancient city to

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The Philip Weedman article is from a book that has been digitalized by the University of North Carolina.

The lack of response on the two projects outlined in the Fall edition will not deter interested parties from pursuing both.

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the noble river, was through sixteen miles of an atmosphere, resonant of vernal music, and perfumed by myriads of flowers, whose coral lips were rapidly opening to the genial sun. A happier little party has rarely passed over that quiet, and almost desert, - not long after made unquiet by the rifle crack of the Indian; and its sand and its flowers stained with the blood of inoffensive travelers, and of its few peaceful inhabitants. Than, - till decoyed into the death - snare by the assurance of peace, when there was no peace, - the cheerful and happy **Weedman**; - what passer across that plain ever found, anywhere, more cordial hospitality, than with him and his primitively simple family? Who ever saw any thing in **Weedman**, or in any one of his Germano-Spanish family, but the most delightful simplicity of goodness? Who ever saw any thing more simply beautiful and picturesque, than that almost immensity of a man - the ever cheerful and loving father, and gentle master, leading afield, or to the cowpen, his numerous happy sons and daughters, and two or three laughing negroes? I never did. But, alas! insatiate war gave that peaceful man, and a portion of his family to the Indian tomahawk; and broke up that happy home, where the weary and the benighted traveler had ever found kind and generous hospitality; and where dwellers in the man-made town were wont to visit, to be refreshed by a draught of nature, where

“God made the country.”

Should these lines fall under the eye of any survivor of that long gratefully remembered family, let them be accepted as a trifling tribute due to the memory of the murdered father, whom the author esteemed as one of the best and kindest of men; and also as a cordial thank-offering to his household for the many pleasant hours enjoyed among them, in

their once cheerfully simple, and therefore happy home, untimely desolated. To others, who have never heard of the Weedmans, nor of their humble home on the Picolala road, far away from the haunts of men, I have only to say, pardon this little detour to drop a tear of memory on the bloody grave of an honest man, a noble work of God; - happy in himself, - happy in his family, - happy in love to his God, and to his kind; - nor less happy in being the master of a few faithful slaves, whose *pleasures were not a paradox*.

Of the three gentlemen, with their small; crew of black boatmen, - one a dweller in the land of flowers, was the patron, who generously provided the pleasure; one was "the Doctor," who had been in the South but a few weeks; and the third a sojourner of several months.

Project Updates Cemetery Preservation and Family DNA Testing

Response to the two projects suggested at the Tell City reunion — one to help preserve family cemeteries that are falling into a state of disrepair and another to use the latest in DNA testing to help sort out our lineage was, well, minimal. A single response offered help on the cemetery project. Nothing was received on the family DNA project.

Both are worthy and will be pursued even if done independently. If you have any suggestions or comments, they are always welcome!

2006 Newsletter

This is the final issue in 2006 and will be only 6 pages long to permit the mailing of a renewal envelope to selected subscribers

This is the first in a series of articles on the creation of oral histories as part of collection of items of a genealogical nature. Kenny Weedman is the author and details discussions he had with his parents, Charles Russell and Weedman. The tools and techniques used may be of interest to all of our readers. We print the preface in this issue and will continue with the actual interview in 2007. Editor

Oral History

Kenny Weedman

Would you like to have an audio or video recording of the ancestor you are now researching or just revisit your great grandmother telling you a family story? That might not be possible as they may have passed away before any one did an interview by recording or just writing down their words as they spoke. But it's not too late for you to start your own family's oral history recording library. You can help ensure for later generations what was not possible for you to use in your research.

The only equipment you need to start is pen, paper and a recording device. You are the interviewer so you need only locate a willing interviewee to begin to preserve knowledge of your family's history. I had spoken with my parents and aunts while taking notes and sent out one page follow up questionnaires which did not come up too my expectations. And my ability to take the kind of notes needed for research while interviewing people fell some what short of what I thought was a good secretary's ability. So in 1988 I started interviewing close relatives using a small cassette tape recorder with little knowledge of how to go about the task at hand. Now I am some what wiser through experience and reading articles on oral history interviewing.

The first step is knowledge of how to operate your equipment and this means reading the booklet on usage and practicing with the machine. I would like to recommend that you let the tape run continually while you do the interview or get a voice activated recorder. The reasoning being there are silent spots in conversation and clicking the machine on and off becomes annoying and you may not record the first few words because you failed to turn it on as the interviewee began to speak. A voice activated recorder might not get all of the first word but it will come on when some one speaks or if the machine runs constantly you have every voice in real time. Have batteries in staled in the recorded and bring the adaptor for use in a wall plug along with an extra batteries. And let's not forget two or three blank cassette tapes and a head cleaner. If you have a good microphone to attach to the recorder it will pick up the sound better than the internal microphone. Now place the microphone or recorder close to the interviewee in order to hear them more clearly. Remember you do not know the answers to your questions but you do have an inkling of what you will ask.

Now you will need to find a willing relative to interview. For your first session I would suggest a person that you have a close relationship with and some common experiences. Contact your prospective interviewee to explain that you are working on family oral history project and would very much like to invite them to be part of the project. Be sure to include the fact that you only need an hour of their time. Remember if they are gracious enough to talk with you it did not mean they agree to let you grill them all day. And besides peoples attention span only last so long and you do not want to wear out your welcome. If they agree to your invitation then set up a time and place to conduct the interview and thank them. In general it will be best to conduct the interview session with only one person present but many times this will not be the case. The spouse or other relations may be present during the session and can inject their own response to your questions. Many times they can be helpful but then they can also be a deterrent so you must remember that you are the guest and make the best of it.

Now prepare an interview sheet for that specific person with the following information: Date and place of the interview, full name and nick name, date and place of birth, current address, parents, siblings, grandparents and any other factual items you deem needed. One sheet of paper printed front and back with information is all you need anything more will be a distraction. Now you must define your research goal for this interview. It can have a general goal like "Aunt Eccentric Life" with two or three more specific questions such as her general appearance, Christmas visit and travel exploits. Now you can word questions like this "Did Aunt Eccentric dye her hair?" and receive "yes or no" for answers only. Are you can have more general question like "What did you think of Aunt Eccentric's appearance?" and receive a much more interesting response about her hair, make up, clothing shoes and entrance into a room. You need to keep in mind that an interview will have a life of it own and the interviewee's stream of consciousness might jump from the Aunt to their trip to Paris, France.

Remember they may not want to talk about your subject any more so go with the flow and you can learn something new. You will improve with time at compiling a list of subjects and questions.

Before you leave home check the recorder “saying this is a test” and then re play it. Then enter “your name, interviewer and the name of the interviewee and the date” and write the same information on the outside label of the tape. When you arrive at your dictation thank them for the interview and reiterate why you are doing an oral history tape. Make sure they understand that the information on the tape will be used to write a family history and you are not engaged in a secret conversation. You need to listen for extraneous noises like the television, dishwasher and ask to turn them off. I have actually had to ask that all those things be turned off before starting an interview. After creating as quite an environment as possible you’re ready to start the recording session.

Began by asking them to say their name and date of birth on the recording this establishes their voice record for anyone who might listen to the tape later. Start with an easy question and after you have feel you have established a good rapport then you might brooch a stiffer subject with the respondent. Follow up on their answer to your questions before you move to a new subject. Give them your full attention with eye contact and the appropriate body language. Remember you might touch a nerve with the interviewee when they are talking about a love one that has passed away and you can turn the recorder off while they gain control. The interviewee may not speak politically correct, use polite language or they could be overly modest in any case it is their story not yours so just be a good listener. Always be kind to your respondent. End the interview as you started on a happy note with an easy question.

You need a form that grants permission for the use of your interview for publication. There are a number of books that have release form examples. All the people that speak on the tape need to sign the release form so when it is archived future listeners can make use of the information. Be sure to thank them for the privilege of taping an interview. And inform them that you will follow up with a written transcript so they can correct any transcription errors.

You should make any notes that will help with the transcription of the interview as soon as possible. Notes on the interviewee such as a description not only of them but of their environment can also be of value to a later listener. Be sure to catalogue your tapes with the names and dates for all the speakers on the tape. Many people make a copy that is stored in a separate location in case of a natural disaster destroying the original. Save your families history by making some oral history recordings.

To be continued in the next issue....

2007 Articles and Plans

In 2007, we plan to publish articles and features on the following:

- **Oral History** — we will publish the interviews Kenny Weedman did with his parents to show what can be done with this technique.
- **2008 Weedman Family National Gathering** — the Reunion is planned for Fayette County, Pennsylvania on dates yet to be determined. We are hoping that Linda Tatlinger, a resident of Fayette County, will be our local resource person and we will reveal all of our plans as they are developed.
- **John Huhn Weedman, Jr. family** — arguably the most successful Weedman maybe even to this date, we will pursue the line to determine what happened to various children and descendents of this family.
- **Catherine Weedman Huhn Keefover family** — we will show what happened to the descendents of the youngest daughter of Christian and Elizabeth Weedman, Sr.

We hope to continue with articles on the Florida Weedman family and put additional emphasis on the Swedish Weedman line from Galesburg, IL.

We wish everyone a Healthy, Prosperous 2007!

Nick and Merrie Carol Weedman