

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly — January, April, July, October — Noting Activities of the Society
of Stukely Westcott Descendants; mailed free to members, to non-members \$5.00 yearly

Editor
Pauline W. Dennis
1820 W. University
Tempe, Az. 85281

January 1985

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NATIONAL SOCIETY NEWS

A Westcott- Rhode Island Experience

From Mary Lou Phelps of Laconia, NH

" I have an experience to share. Last summer my son, Christopher, attended a pole vaulting camp at the University of Rhode Island. On our way home to New Hampshire we stopped at the Historical Society Library. It was my understanding that the Bible that Stukely Westcott brought from England was there-- so I asked the librarians if I could see it. After a few minutes, the Bible was located and brought to me. I can't begin to tell you how excited I was to be able to see and touch the Bible. The librarian was very nice and allowed us to take several pictures and she thumbed through some of the pages for us. In the back of the Bible there was considerable writing such as , " one of the followers of Roger Williams," ,etc. It was a very thrilling experience."

Another Westcott- Rhode Island Experience

Westcott Historical Tour Reunion 1984 as remembered by our
National President, Allan Boerker

Our tour of the Warwick area on Saturday afternoon, August 18, 1984, was a most interesting event. We all became more intimately acquainted with the area founded by our common ancestor, as well as helping to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of our organization. The 350 years that have elapsed since Stukely came to Warwick and settled have brought many changes to the area, but we visited several spots and saw some things that have not changed so much. First on our list was the home of a Warwick contractor who specializes in the restoration of Colonial homes. His home dates back to the early 1700's and has been restored to this early vintage. Complete with a large kitchen fireplace for cooking family meals, huge hand-hune beams for supporting the house structure, and hand-made wooden shingles on the roof, as well as wide floor boards and blown glass windows made this place a real treasure to visit. This house was an example of a farm family home. No electricity had been added to most sections of the original home in order to keep it as it was.

An example of a more wealthy farm home was the John W. Arnold House, the restored home of our tour guide, Nancy Murphy, historian of the Warwick Historical Society. We saw an exquisite

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colonial residence with a large land area surrounded with numerous beautiful trees, and an attractive garden. Old paintings in the formal parlor pictured the house and owner as it was when first built, and later with a section of expansion to accomodate the large family.

Our trip thru Indian Oaks Estate was a revealing experience. We saw first hand the beautiful home of a very wealthy family, planned and developed by Nelson Aldrich, an influential politician and long-time U.S. Senator. Aldrich's daughter, Abbey, married John D. Rockefeller Jr. Their son Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller was named after grandfather Nelson. The home looks like an early American version of a European castle looking out over the river which was the main transportation in the early days of the area.

The final stop of our tour brought us to a point where we all felt a close association. This was the Stukely Westcott Memorial with the plaque briefly describing his achievements in New England, marking the south-east corner of his six acre home lot.

Our tour bus then proceeded back to the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge where we assembled for our evening buffet dinner. This was a wonderful trip back into the history of Warwick. Thank-you to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Place who arranged for the tour, the guide, and the bus.

Trips Back into Historical Warwick

Interesting supplemental reading of this period of the Westcott family in Warwick can be found in, An English Family's Exodus, by F. Howard Westcott. A very readable document following the Westcott family from 1000A.D. through the time in Warwick and on through early 1900's. You will find mention of the founding of the Baptist Church by Stukely and his friends that we passed on our tour, as well as Hills Grove where we had our Association meeting and attended church services. It helps one visualize Warwick as it was, so that memories of the bus tour and narration by Historical Society guide, Nancy Murphy become more real.

This book is available from Dr. Westcott for \$6.50, which covers printing and shipping.

F. Howard Westcott
16673 San Salvador Court
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You may also want to go back and re-read the 1981 Quarterlies for the story written by J. Russell Bullock in his book, Incidents in the Life and Times of Stukeley Westcote printed 1886. It was copied in sections for the 1981 Quarterlies by Lorraine A. Carrington, descendant, for the reading enjoyment of all interested Westcott descendants.

This book relates, "All we know is that on the 5th of June 1648, "Steuk Westcot", with two of his sons, "Robert Westcott" and "Amos Westcote", were received as inhabitants of that town." The discussion was whether Westcote changed residence from Providence to Old Warwick because of the grave disputes of the division of it's land and, "while the doctrine of perfect freedom, both in political and religious concerns ... occasioned contentions... they were denied the right to enact any laws or regulations until authority for that purpose had been first procured from the King."

CHAPTER NEWS

Please send notices about your Chapter meetings and outings to the Editor so that they may be printed in the next Quarterly. The April issue would be a good time to announce the details of summer picnics so that everyone will get the details long enough ahead of time to make plans to attend. I heard some interest at the National Gathering in Rhode Island of cousins who wanted to know about neighboring states having picnics, so they might attend as guests. So, get the dates and details to me by March 15 and I'll print it in the news for you.

FROM THE LETTER BOX

Greetings from President Allan Boerker in Virginia

" Beginning to settle down again after a very busy Holiday Season. All went well and we enjoyed all the fun. Hope yours was a good one too. Best to all."

From F. Howard Westcott in California

" I have both good and bad news. My sister, Dorothy Zimmerman, died on Oct. 31, 1984, at age 74 after a short illness. New grandchildren-- My grandson, Mark Melville, and wife, Katie, had their second son, Scott Christopher, August 20, 1984. Grandson, Keith Melville, and wife, Sherry, had their first son, Devin Westcott, on August 25, 1984."

He says he has been doing a lot of writing recently.

Every "Westcott" Descendant is eligible

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From Mrs Ellis R. Westcott of Seekonk, Mass.

" Dear cousin, I don't get around very much as I had a heart attack in the Spring. Here is some news of my family. My grandson, Peter Westcott, received his Master's Degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in May. He lives in Billerica, Mass. My grandson, David E. Westcott, got married in Worcester, Sept. 8, 1984 to Carmella Verincasa of Worcester. They are now living in Pawtucket, R.I. Wayne A. and Jayne Westcott Wunschel also live in Pawtucket. They have a daughter, Heather Jayne, born Oct. 22, 1980 and a son, Timothy Alan, born Nov. 29, 1982.

From Mabel Wescott in Vermont

" Right now (Dec. 9) it is -20 degrees at 8:30 am., so my granddaughter, Patty Avery, and her friend decided it is too cold to go skiing, though they drove up from N.J. for the skiing." Since then it has been colder in N.J. with more snow, than in Vt.

Grandson, Keith Reed, and wife, Jane, have a third child, Krystle Elizabeth, born Dec. 20, 1984 at the Central Maine Medical Center. Keith is making a career in the U.S. Navy and presently based at Patuxent River, Maryland. The paternal grandparents are Phyllis Wescott and Donald G. Reed of Wells, Vt.

From Art and Barb Westcott of Massena, NY

" We would like to announce the birth of a granddaughter, Jessy Marie Fregoe, born Jan. 2, 1985 in Albany, NY to Daniel K. and Judy Westcott Fregoe. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. and is their first child.

My brother now lives in Glendale, Az, and we have a friend who lives in Paradise Valley. Also, we have friends who live in San Diego, but we have never managed to get there. Maybe in '86."

I hope many of you are starting to think of all your friends and relatives whom you can visit on the way to the 1986 Westcott Gathering in California.

From Chaplain Verner Utke-Ramsing

I would like to notify you of the death of Morris Bishop Townsend, Nov. 4, 1984. Mrs. Townsend reports internment at Myrtle Hill Memorial Park.

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From Kimberly Huttman

I want to inform you of the death of my father, John T. Westcott III of Coventry, Rhode Island on December 8, 1984.

Notices of other deaths

Don Carr, son of Ruth Wescott Smith, Tunbridge, VT died in February, 1985

Thurston Frank Lewis, father of Paul Lewis, died in Fair Haven, VT. on Sept. 30, 1984.

Alice Lewis McMorro, sister of Paul Lewis, died June 5, 1984 in East Poultney, VT.

From Treasurer Paul Lewis

Dues notices are enclosed in this Quarterly. Please return to Paul Lewis now. If you did not receive a return envelope, his address is P.O. Box 58, Riverton, Connecticut, 06065

Also order from him the Westcott crests. The small one is \$1.00 and the large is \$3.00. Special bargain offer-- If you order a large one, you get a small one free. New members also receive a small one as part of their original membership.

From the Editor

Thank you to all who sent news for this issue. Congratulations to all the new parents and grand-parents. Our Westcott Society wishes to express it's sympathy to all of our cousins who have lost a loved one.

As some of you know, the Dennis family must move our mobile home to make way for 'new ,imaginative industrial complex' on the land where a MH park now exists. It probably will be the middle of March when the new park is ready, so send information to the Tempe address until then. The new address will be in April issue.