

SWEETLAND/SWETLAND LORE #3

(Formerly Sweetland Lore)

SURPRISE

Please note the new address for your writer. As of April 24th we moved to 13 Raymond Road, Bluffton, SC 29910. After twelve and a half years we decided our home was too large for the two of us. Actually, the decision took place in December 1995. For various reasons which you can hear at the reunion, the move took place this year as noted above. We now live in Sun City Hilton Head, a Del Webb development. Presently, 700 homes are in SCHH. Del Webb plans for a total of 8000 when built out some 13 years from now. We won't worry about the total. Our period on earth may be measured in far fewer years. We can't be sure we will be here in the year 2000 let alone another 13 years.

Until the bookcases are finished and 35 boxes of books are unpacked, I can find nothing I want. Computer books, genealogy books, philately books, photographs are all stored in the garage. I am lost! The bookcases may be ready this weekend for books and some two months from now all books will be in place and I will know (I hope) where everything is. I have thrown away nothing I need. Jean tells me I have still saved too much even though we have sold about twenty boxes of books. My fervent plea is that this is my last move! except to the grave!!!

SWETLAND DESCENDANTS

Marjorie Scott tells us that her granddaughter, Abbey Scott, of McClellandtown, PA will perform in the second World-Scholar-Athlete Games which take place this year from June 22 to July 2 at the University of Rhode Island. Abbey is currently studying in the Cecchetti Ballet Council of America. She will have many opportunities there and take classes under some of the best instructors in the world. Some of the students will speak in front of the United Nations. The 1997 version of the games will bring together over 2000 students from all over the world.

Both Sonya Sweetland and Eunice Colson wrote me that Sonya's son, Dale A. Sweetland, was running for the New York State Senate last year. Word is that he was running against a strong candidate and later news is that he did not succeed this time.

Eunice also wrote that her address in the last query section gave her house number wrong. Her house address is 118 Hunter Drive, Baldwinsville, NY 13027. She also sent a clipping from October 1996 saying that 50 years ago, Otis Bigelow, will go to Hollywood for a screen test at Warner Brother Studio. Otis wrote the play "God's Island" in which he played the major role while in a summer stock company in Westover, MA. Otis married Lillian Sweetland 12 May 1880.

Gerald McHale was thrilled to hear from Peggy Gamma after seeing the Queries section of the last newsletter. For 30 years Gerald had been trying to tie Jonah Sweetland to the Revolutionary War. Peggy sent him word that they were 5th cousins and gave him a photocopy of the Revolutionary War roster naming Jonah Sweetland, of Lebanon, CT, who settled in the early 1800s at Triangle, Broome County, NY.

Perhaps others will send in queries. Unless you tell people what your are searching for, no one will know how to help you.

QUERIES

Brenda Robertson, 4301 Deer Lake, Wichita, KS 67210-1650

John Sweetland (1708-1752) of Hartford, CT married Abi Deming. Sarah "Sally" Swetland (1762-?) married Abner Abbe/Abbey (1758-1883) November 9, 1782 in Springfield, Hampden Co., MA. Would like to exchange information with their descendants.

An error exists in Abner's date of death but my files are still packed away and I can not check to see if I have the correct year of his death. He could not have lived 125 years and had this go unnoticed for so long.

CHURCH OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS, BEAUFORT, SC

For several month at the end of last year I went through records filed in the LDS records in Salt Lake City, using the facilities of the Family History Center in the LDS church in Beaufort, SC, 29 miles from our old house and now about 19 miles away. Two microfilms seemed of special interest. The first was CALL NUMBER, USA/CAN, FILM AREA, 1032586, Item 1. The title was Swetland/Outman family papers. The contents were:

Contains S. K. Stevens account book, 1873; S. K. Stevens Justice of the Peace docket book from Potter County, Pennsylvania, 1875-1885; and genealogical papers of Lena E. Stevens with family data of the Stevens, Swetland and Watrous families of Pennsylvania.

THIS RECORD FOUND UNDER

1. Stevens
2. Watrous
3. Swetland
4. Pennsylvania, Potter - County records

I went through this eagerly as I knew who Lena Stevens was. She was the genealogist who sent my grandfather much data he compiled in papers left to me. Another thrill came when I read that this material was only part of Lene Stevens records and the balance was filed with the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg, PA. Somehow I must go to Harrisburg to look up these papers.

The second microfilm was CALL NUMBER, USA/CAN, FILM AREA, 1035549, Item 3.

AUTHOR, Sweetland, Leon Hiram, 1904-0000 (ed: still alive when microfilmed)

TITLE, Sweetland family genealogy, Leon Hiram Sweetland and Emily Esther Sweetland Putnam.

CONTENTS Includes ancestry of Leon Hiram Sweetland (b. 1880) through William Albert Sweetland (b. 1845) and Celestia Miranda McNall to John Sweetland/Sweatland/Swetland (1603-1685) and his wife, Suzanna Temperance, whose family immigrated from England and settled in Massachusetts. Descendants include Mormons. Includes variant spellings, Sweetland and Swetland as well as Bradford, Brewster, Putnam, Warren and related families.

Many of us who attended the third reunion in Wilkes-Barre, PA will remember Ruth Sweetland and Emily Putnam giving a joint talk on their ancestry, the common ancestry and the differences. Of note from the microfilm is the fact that all of Leon Hiram Sweetland's files have been saved by his grandson, Leon Hiram Sweetland, III who lives in Evergreen, Colorado.

I have made photocopies of many pages from both microfilms and expect to bring them to the 1997 reunion. I will be sure to have them on Friday afternoon for our genealogy discussions. By the time we leave Bluffton, I will surely have opened the mystery box which contains these photocopies so I can bring them. Wish me good luck and the best to all of you till we meet.

Mark W. Swetland