

# ♦ Sweetland/Swetland Lore #9 ♦

(Formerly Swetland Lore)

January 1999

## SFA 1999 Reunion

**R**obin Leidhecker has been working on arrangements for the Sweetland Family Association Reunion which will be on June 17-19, 1999 at The Chautauqua Institute in Chautauqua, NY. Preliminary notice came to you in the previous Sweetland/Swetland Lore #8. It is probable that you will receive the notice soon from Robin with details on how to make reservations for the reunion. Her notice will also include a preliminary agenda.

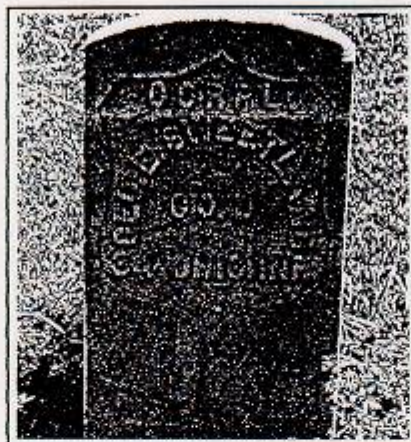
One idea comes to mind which may assist the SFA. This would be to prepare our own web page for the Internet. To do this may require more than two people. Most important is the content. The first person should be responsible for preparing the content.

The second person is one to create the web page and put it on the Internet. That person should also maintain the web page and update it as necessary. Costs may have to be spent to do this.

The web page could include each year's reunion programs in addition to the principal story of what we are and what we do.

Other family Associations have done the same thing which is where the thought came from. Do we have members who will help to make this come about? We have many talents among our members and their families. If you can help, please write to Margaret Smith, 4421 3rd Ave. W., Palmetto, FL 34221. Please respond before the reunion in June so we can discuss this at the meeting.

As the Hilton Head Island Genealogical Society delegate to the Federation of Genealogical Societies, I re-



*Evelyn Isherwood sent me the photocopy of the grave of Geo. E. Sweetland from the National Veteran's cemetery in Los Angeles, CA.*

ceive their quarterly magazine *FORUM* with many ideas for genealogists and their families. I photocopy pages from each issue and send them to others who have an interest in seeing us grow in stature. If you would like to be on my mailing list for ideas, send me a letter with your name and tell me what sort of information you want to see. You will only hear from me when something of interest to you comes to me in *FORUM*.

## Inside This Issue

SFA 1999 Reunion and Beginning Genealogy	p. 1
Marjori Scott's Sterling Ancestors	p. 2
Books on Sweetlands, Sweetlands and Sweatlands	p. 3
Notes From The Past	p. 2, 3
Odds And Ends	p. 4

## Beginning Genealogy

Your editor has undertaken a job which first thought said would be easy. I will be giving a 4-session Beginning Genealogy course starting February 10th at Sun City Hilton Head for the Genealogy SIG of the Sun City Computer Club. Starting March 17th I will repeat the course for the Creative Retirement Center in Beaufort, SC.

I have given a 6-session course, four times before. Wouldn't you think that giving a four session course would be easy? It isn't!

Much of the material used before fits the 4-session course without change. I may be too careful but I decided that the entire course must be re-thought. I have prepared a new outline and a new course description.

For these next two courses I am preparing transparencies for use on an overhead projector. I have used them while working but not for past genealogy courses.

If you had time, I could tell you about the problems of updating a computer but you may have your own stories. To make the story short, I lost my old hard drive. The "expert" says my old drive was corrupted but it was working when he began. The result - I have had to re-enter all my programs. He installed Windows 98 on my computer so I have had to learn how to get another driver for my HP LaserJet printer. Ugh!

I worried that you would wait a long time for this issue but luck made it possible to send this in January. However, your stories are still lacking. You will note that much of the information in this comes from long past letters from relatives.



## Marjorie Scott's Sterling Ancestors

**M**arjorie Scott has been of great help in send in information to pass on to the rest. Her latest letter sent much data on her ancestral lines of Sterling, Decker and Burgess. Her Sterling ancestors go back from her grandmother on her father's side. Material for the Sterlings came from the Tunkhannock Geological Society (40 pages of *The Sterling Genealogy*, 1901, The Grafton Press, New York). The book was compiled and illustrated by Albert Mack Sterling. The front of the book shows the coat of arms of Stirling. The parts of the book which Marjorie sent to us do not reveal how they are connected to the coat of arms. *Sterling (Stirling, Starling Genealogy) 1637 to date*

William Sterling - born 1637 - London, England - died 1719. Married 1659 to Elizabeth, died 1675 - 12 children. Settled in Bradford 1649 Rowley Village, Mass., had 5 children at this time, married 4 times.

Richard Sterling - born 1663, in Rowley, Mass. Married Grace.

William Sterling - born 1695, died 1771, married Abigail Patchen in 1714, born 1695.

Samuel Sterling - born 1721, married Eleanor Westcoat.

Samuel Sterling - born 1746, died 1834. Married Mary Gregory, born 1752, died 1829. He was a Revolutionary War soldier.

John Sterling - born 1792, married 1812 to Sarah Overfield of Meshoppen. Sarah was born 1794, died 1860. They lived in Sterlingville (now Meshoppen). He was a farmer

Rev. Alfred Leslie Sterling - born 1829, died 1884, married Emily A. Aumick October 1858. She was born 1827. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mehoopany. He was a Civil War veteran.

Lydia M. Sterling - born 1874, died 1942. Married Fred M. Swetland Dec. 5, 1894. He was born Jan. 1, 1871, died Jan. 3, 1947.

Sterling Manley Swetland - born Sept. 27, 1896, died Jan. 9, 1962. He married Dorothy Decker Mar. 1, 1919. She was born Dec. 7, 1896 and died Apr. 27, 1990

The data on Sterlings continues with much more on the Rev. Alfred Leslie Sterling. He and Emily Aumick were married by L. J. W. Sullivan at Mehoopany; October 11, 1858. They had three daughters:

Nellie - died 1865, 5 years old

Addie - died 1865 4 years old

They died at Fairfax C. H., Virginia. (Company Headquarters) of scarlet fever during the Civil War.

Lydia May - born Apr. 21, 1874,

*Marjorie has papers of Alfred Leslie Sterling, will, discharge from Civil War, army payroll, daughters' death notices, etc.*

died 1942. Married Fred M. Swetland - born 1871, died 1947. They had 3 children. Lydia was the grandmother of Marjorie Swetland Scott.

The Rev. Alfred L. Sterling, born in Auburn, Apr. 26, 1829; married Emily

Aumick at Mehoopany, PA, Oct. 11, 1858. He saw three years' service in the Signal Corps of the U. S. Army during the Civil War. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; was connected with the Hartford Soldiers Orphan School for a number of years. Alfred was an invalid the last half decade of his life, seven years of which he was confined to his bed. The last three years he was totally blind. He died July 14, 1884. Emily died August 14, 1901.

Their three children were:

Nellie Sterling, born in Meshoppen Feb. 10, 1860, died at Fairfax Courthouse, VA Apr. 16, 1865.

Adaline Sterling, born in Meshoppen, Mar. 11, 1861, died at Fairwax Courthouse, May 7, 1865.

Lydia Sterling, born Apr. 21, 1874, Married Fred M. Swetland.

Marjorie is still working on this line plus the Decker, Burgess lines, also from Tunkhannock. Her letter mentions what may be a booklet, (22 pages) Swetland Family, 1729-1865, compiled by Margaret Croft, Librarian Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, Wilkes-Barre, PA. I need to see it.

## Notes From The Past

**PERSI** is the acronym given to the Periodical Source Index compiled by the Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, IN. It is a marvelous source of genealogical data. On CD, one can access this with a computer and search for any name desired. One such search showed that Swetlands must have intermarried with the Cherokee Indians.

H. Robert Swetland's son Bill sent a page which has more information than the reference I located with PERSI. This text follows:

*Cherokee Roots*

Author: Bob Blankenship

Description: In contrast with the Indian Wars which characterized the Indian-White relations in the Northeastern States, the European immigrants to the Southeastern States lived in relative harmony with the Cherokee Indians who occupied that region. As a result, intermarriage was quite common, and today many millions of living Americans with ancestral roots in the Southeast have Cherokee as well as European ancestry. *Volume 1, Eastern Cherokee Rolls* includes in the description Swetland Roll, 1869 as one of 11 rolls. Do any of you descend from them? I don't.



## Books On Sweatlands, Sweetlands and Swetlands

Wouldn't it be great to have a listing of all publications on or referring to Sweatlands, Sweetlands and Swetlands? Publications means books, magazines, primarily, but can also include newspaper mention as well.

For example, Austin Aaron Swetland (see Potter County Journal, Coudersport, PA, Jan. 3, 1963, page Ten) was Sunday School Superintendent at one time and his big family Bible (which Mrs. Dildine now has) was given him by the Sunday School.

What follows is a partial list which I know of.

"Brown-Gilbert and Allied Families," published 1947. Data on Lydia Sweetland who married David Brown, Oct. 16, 1761 and lists her ancestors.

"History of the Counties of McKean, Elk, Cameron and Potter," published about 1891. Data on Austin Aaron Swetland and his son Chester A. Swetland. Gives dates on when Austin and his parents moved to the Harrison Valley area.

Mrs. Lucy Wright, "The Descendants of Aaron and Patience Sweetland of Hebron, CT," 1890. Data on six generations starting with Aaron and Patience Sweetland. Note the same data but with the surname Swetland starts on p. 79 of "The Partial Genealogy of The Swetland Family, 1676-1908," 1908, 96 pp. Brocton, NY by B. S. Swetland, M. D..

Dr. B. S. Swetland, "Proceedings of the First Annual Meeting of the Swetland Family, held at Brocton, NY, September 15, 1896," 25 pp., and chart.

Seth Albert Sweetland, "The Genealogy of the Sweetland Family," 13 pp., Beloit, WI, 1968

Ancestry and Descendants of Sylvanus Eaton, Jacob Swetland and Christopher Reynolds," compiled by Mrs. Jane Ada-

line (Eaton) Wright, Springfield, MA (1900)

"Swetland Narrative and Genealogy," (1875) (Could this be the Luke Swetland Narrative below?)

"Longmeadow Massachusetts Centennial," p. 89

"Sedgwick's History of Sharon, CT," p. 115

Fredeick Adams Virkus, Editor, "The Compendium of American Genealogy, Volume VI, pp. 552-53, The Institute of American Genealogy, Chicago, IL 1937.

"Written by Himself, A Narrative of the Captivity of Luke Swetland in 1778 and 1779 among the Seneca Indians," 38 pp., 3 pp. supplement, by A. O. Osborn, Waterville, NY, 1875.

Edward Merrifield, "The Story of the Captivity and Rescue from the Indians of Luke Swetland, An early settler of Wyoming Valley and a soldier of the America Revolution." Scranton, PA

1915, 68 pp.

"Public Records of Connecticut," Volume 8, p 537, Volume 10, pp. 392-393, Volume 11, pp. 146-147, Volume 12, pp. 260-261, pp. 310-312.

John Camden Hotten, Editor, "The Original Lists of Persons of Quality; Emigrants; Religious Exiles; Political Rebels; Serving Men Sold For a Term of Years; Apprentices; Children Stolen; Maidens Pressed; and Others Who Were Taken From Great Britain to the American Plantations," Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1974

A book of interest to Swetlands descended from Stephen Hopkins, 14th signer of the Mayflower Compact, and his daughter, Constance who married another signer of the Compact, Nicholas Snow, is the book, "Cape Cod, Series, Vol. I, History and Genealogy of the Mayflower Planters and First Comers to Ye Olde Colonie," by Leon Clark Hills, Washington, DC.

Please add to this list and it will appear in a later newsletter.

## Notes From The Past

H. Robert Swetland's letter of June 1996 sent a group of Internet pages which his son Bill Swetland, <bills@nash.punix.net>, had taken off his computer. The first was from Ben Swetland <sarss@usa.pipeline.com>. His Email Search Results turned up Paul Sweetland, <Paul.Sweetland@bb.co.uk>, and Tom Sweetland, <sweett@mentor.cc.purdue.edu>. He also had messages from Brian J. Swetland, <swetland@ncsa.uiuc.edu> and Anne Gilliland-Swetland, <swetland@umich.edu>. The pages showed four email addresses for Brian J. Swetland.

Another page listed the following:

Brian D. Sweetland  
Dave Sweetland  
Jeffrey E. Sweetland  
Lorraine F. Sweetland  
D. Swetland

swetlab@ecst.cschico.edu  
edave@netcom.com  
jsweetla@escape.ca  
lsweetln@scape.net  
100564.3055@CompuServe.COM

Since the pages are dated 1995 and 1996, it's anyone's guess as to whether any of them are valid today. Perhaps we have a member who will up date list of Sweatland, Sweetland, Swetland email addresses.



## Odds And Ends

**A** better statement might be that the material for the newsletter is nearing the end. Not much longer will a search of the past fifteen years reveal something of interest to anyone other than myself.

**Thelma Sweetland.** My first contact with Thelma was June 1985. We corresponded the rest of the year but have never heard from her since then. Her letter of July 29, 1985 still has interesting information. One was an extract from the original ledger of the Salem, MA vital records. This shows births under Sweetland for Peeter, 1671, Grace, 1679/80, Jn. (John?), 1681 and Joseph, 1683.

She also sent a copy of her notes which read:

"Port Arrivals - Immigrants  
1763 - June 27 - Into Boston  
Schooner "Polly" from New York  
Capn. Sweetland - Mariner"

She told of problems with a John Sweetland (born 1687) whose vitals changed from Sweetland to Sweatland to Sweetland depending on whose records she was searching. In 1984 she finally found this John's grandfather who was born 1560 in England. (This was Isaac Sweetland.)

From the above you know that the Salem, MA, vital record original ledger still existed in 1985 and should be there today.

**DAR Patriot Index** One searcher sent me two pages from this index. Today the list there may be longer.

**Sweetland (including Sweatland & Sweetland)**  
**Aaron** b 7-29-1753 d 3-6-1819 m Lois Allen Sgt CT

**Benjamin** b 9-29-1756 d 9-29-1819 m Rosanna Hancock FifMaj MA

**Bowen** b 1-14-1756 d \_\_\_\_ m Nancy Bates Sgt MA

**Hannah** b 4-22-1738 d 1-8-1809 m Luke Sweetland PS PA

**Israel** b 1-12-1736 d p 1796 m(1) Dorcas Dewey (2) Mary Miner Pvt CT

**John** b 1751 d 10-23-1823 m Sarah Wood Sgt MA

**Luke** b 7-26-1729 d 1-30-1823 m Hannah Tiffany Pvt CT

**Nathan** b 11-27-1754 d p 1799 m Rebecca Tarr Sol MA

**Noah** b 10-1-1742 d 10-8-1793 m Molly Cushman Pvt MA

**Samuel** b c 1750 d p 1799 m (1) Sally Gay (2) Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews Pvt MA

**Stephen** b 1757 d 1853 m Mabel Hayden Pvt MA

**Eunice Colson** came to my attention because she placed an ad in *Yankee Magazine* in 1985. A friend of my daughter in New Jersey saw the ad and gave it to her. In turn she sent it to me and I answered the ad. Eunice was and still is searching for data on the parents of Archelaus Sweetland from whom she is descended.

Through Eunice we met Flora Sweetland Paine who came every year until illness prevented it. Flora with about six nieces or grandnieces came in 1986 as did my second cousin Gladys. Both then were 94 years old. Flora died at 102 but Gladys celebrated her 106th birthday last year. She plans to celebrate her 107th in April 1999 and may see many more.

Eunice sent me a copy of a letter written to Mrs. Blanche D. Williams dated February 25, 1959. The last page was not included so I do not know the writer who said "Mrs. Williams letter was given to me as I do all the work in this county." Data comes from both Cortland and Chautauqua Counties.

Perhaps, the writer was in Cortland County as she said there were Sweetland Wills at the Surrogate's Office and she would copy them, if wished. She also mentioned a book *Revolutionary Soldiers of Cortland County*, page 113

**Aaron Sweetland** - Town of Freetown - Freetown Cemetery - Born 1753 in Salisbury, Conn. - Died Mar. 4, 1819, aged 66 yrs. Military Record: Col. Hinman's Fourth Regiment 1775, Captain Samuel Elmore's Third Co., Private Aaron Sweetland - Enlisted in April 1775, discharged Nov. 24, 1775.

In *Connecticut in the Revolution*, p.289, it says he served as sergeant, clerk and conductor of military stores in Col Baldwin's Regiment, Connecticut Line.

He is listed in two Lineage Books Vol. 95, page 213, Number 94,700 and Vol. 109, page 303, Number 108,966.

## The Problem With Obituaries - Helen S. Boyd

**Helen S. Boyd**, 78, of 37582 Centerville Road, Centerville, died Thursday, Oct. 8, 1998, at Union City Hospital.

She was born in Arlington, Mass., Jan. 4, 1920, a daughter of Robert and Myra Lewis Sweetland. She married Franklin A. Boyd, March 27, 1941, in Pulaski, N.Y. He survives.

She was employed by Talon, of Meadville, General Electric in Erie and last by Sylvania in Pleasantville.

Survivors in addition to her husband include a daughter, Mrs. Howard (Frances) Matteson, Jr. of RD 1, Centerville, four grandchildren four great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her brother, Lewis A. Sweetland.

No where does it give the state in which she lived. Checking a map shows this to be Pennsylvania. But neither she nor her brother show in the index for Doug Sweetland's book. Now we have another line to find. If you know of these people, write Doug Sweetland, 401 South 4th St., Marshall, MN 56258-1229.