

Sweetland/Swetland Lore #35

September 2005

Special points of interest:

- Google search showed five Karen Swetlands in the USA. p. 1
- Another successful reunion, p. 2
- Was your summer like this? p. 3
- Can you build a log cabin? David can., p. 4

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Internet Ramblings

What a marvelous store of information one can find on the internet, information one can hardly realize is at the twist of a hand. On page 2 you see data I found on Karen Swetland, our 2005 Scholarship Winner. Because of the way I entered the words Karen Swetland, I found more than expected.

Penn State tennis tournament results for the month of July show that David Swetland, our son, won the consolation finals for both singles and doubles. He never told us this!

Karen L. Swetland, in South Carolina is active as one of three editors of an e-journal called Transforming Traditional

Libraries. This magazine is to tell how new technology and the needs of users has reformed the way that libraries must operate in the future. The types of services they offer and the way they provide these services will both change.

Another Karen Swetland is in social studies in the Plymouth MA Public School System. It seems that the Google search showed five Karen Swetlands in the USA.

Entering the words with quotation marks before and after as "Karen Swetland" reduced the number of sites to search but still produced the same number of Karen Swetlands.

Help!

Now comes the point where you all can help. Jean suggested that I send out this issue with several pages partially blank to emphasize the lack of input from our members. Rather than hit you with blank pages, I am sending out a plea for your help.

Every family has stories to tell. All members enjoy reading the stories from other families. So pitch in and write a story that has so inspired you in your own life. You need not be a writer. Just tell the story as it comes to you and send it to me. You will receive recognition as a contributor to S/S Lore. You will feel a great sense of satisfaction from reading the story you wrote.

Email For S/S Lore

Mark Harrison will add your email address to his present list, and I will thank you, if you wish to have delivery via the Internet. Send Mark an email at his address, mark@genesistems.com giving him your name,

email address and the newsletter you want. He will acknowledge your message and you will receive future issues by email only.

As of this issue, some 50 members of the

SFA receive S/S Lore by email. In addition, I mail 120 copies by the USPS. You may know that mailing the newsletter is drudgery, nothing creative about it. So the more email copies Mark Harrison sends out, the better.

Your President's Message

2005 SFA Reunion

The summer is quickly fading and autumn is showing its signs with the trees starting to show some color changes, some partly due to the hot dry summer we have experienced here in the north east.

The SFA Reunion was held at the Miller Memorial Park at Munson Mass. And all that attended had a great time. We thank Virginia Miller and family for heading up this years reunion and the food was great. Meeting old and new family members is always a cherished moment. The weather though warm, co-operated and we enjoyed a "GREAT" boat ride on the Connecticut River on Friday night. There were a few problems as the Captain on the 4:00 o'clock boat ride got sick and the ride was cancelled. However we were able to book on the 6:00 o'clock boat ride and enjoyed it immensely. While waiting for the 6:00 o'clock ride, we all enjoyed our supper at the restaurant at the boat launch area and finished just in time for the boat ride. We returned to our places for the night and met at Miller Memorial Park at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday morning to start the reunion welcoming, lunch, and our meeting. The weather was warm but there was a nice breeze and all were comfortable. The luncheon was prepared by the Miller family and we enjoyed it very much. There were only 20 adults and two children present. There were a couple of cancellations at the last moment for personnel reasons which some times happens. A talk was given about Sweetland website, www.swetland.org



by Jamie Swetland on how he developed it and what it is capable of becoming. Mark Swetland also shared information on the S/S Lore website, <http://harrison.nenexus.com/S-S Lore.htm> and how you can get your Sweetland/Swetland Lore from it and by doing so reduces our cost for the newsletter. Our SFA scholarship was awarded to Karen Swetland (see below) and her grandmother, Nancy Swetland, was in attendance.

Officers were re-elected with the only change being the secretary is now Mary Bishop. Mark reported on Gladys Swetland (113 years young) and showed us a book that he had put together on her and had it published through an internet publishing company. It is a very nice book and was reasonably priced. Nice work Mark! Speaking of Mark Swetland, he was given a certificate of recognition for all his years of hard work into starting the Sweetland/Sweetland Reunion and starting the Newsletter, which we all enjoy. Mark is now going to start enjoying the reunion, without all the hard work that goes into it. We are in hopes that younger people will now come forward to help keep these Reunions going.

Input for the next reunion location was received and the consensus was that some where around the Brocton N.Y. area was in favor. Mark has come up with guide lines for a reunion chair and committee that should help ANY VOLUNTEERS that would like to take on the task. The reunion

chairperson is probably the most important position in having a great reunion. We will continue to hold reunions on a two year frequency and the next will be in July/August 2007. We are not firm on Brocton N.Y. and are still open for suggestions. However, this reunion is over and it is time now to start making plans for the next one. It is amazing how time passes so quickly and usually reservation plans need to be made a year in advance for group gatherings. A donation collection was not taken at the reunion as we are in good shape for the next scholarship award and are inline for funds for the coming year on the newsletter. Donations are always welcome at any time to keep us ahead of expenses and a BIG THANKYOU for those who have donated in the past. The reunion was adjourned around 3:30 P.M. and we leisurely departed and met at the Hotel Saturday evening from 7:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. to socialize and better get to know one another.

It was another successful reunion with fun and fellowship had by all attending.

Your president,
Roger Swetland

Karen Swetland

The graduation picture of Karen to the left comes from Paul Swetland who sent a copy for use in this issue of the newsletter. From the Internet one learns more about Karen.

She has received a 2005 NFIB Free Enterprise Scholarship Award, a \$1,000 tuition award. Karen also received a 2005 Scholar Athlete Award. and is on the list of FHSAA Girls Water Polo Finals up-to-date statistics. She is mentioned in a webcast on SpaceShip-One, September 29, 2004.

Enter "Karen Swetland" in Google to learn how many Karen Swetlands are in 101 Internet references.

2005 What A Wonderful Summer!

This wonderful summer began before summer. I asked my sister Marcia Stillwagon if she had any more family papers in her attic I might like to see. She said no then. In June a surprise came, two boxes.

One box had an old Bible given in 1888 to Charlotte Thomas, the oldest daughter of my great-great-grandfather, Benjamin Thomas. The Bible was ten inches by 14 inches and weighed about six pounds. The binding had deteriorated but the pages were in perfect condition. Benjamin had been a Baptist pastor in several churches in New York State before moving to Harrison Valley, PA about 1853 where he was pastor of the Harrison Valley Baptist Church for many years.

Charlotte was the oldest of Benjamin's children, born in 1831. Family legend tells that she fell out of a swing as a youngster and landed on her head. From then on she was thought to be not quite right although she lived until 1899.

The second box had two photo albums, eight inches by ten inches, with old photos. Someone identified a few of the photos but the others are nameless. The photos seem to be my grandmother's family.

Also in this box was a miniature pulpit with two tiny New Testaments in a shelf under the pulpit. They are remarkably clear and still in good condition.

July 8-9 I attended the 2005 South Carolina Genealogical Society Summer Workshop in Columbia, SC. These meetings always stir and stimulate my interest in family history. Two principal speakers were Barbara Vines Little, President of the National Genealogical Society and Dr. Thomas H. Roderick. Dr. Roderick gave two fascinating talks on the use of DNA in genealogy. I now have another subject to study to take advantage of new learning.

We visited Gladys Swetland in Coudersport, PA July 20th and Sandy and Ginny Swetland of Pittsburgh, PA joined us to visit Gladys.

Gladys Swetland has become a teenager once more. She passed her 113th birthday on April 18, 2005. Not many people can become teenagers a second time in life. Gladys is still glad to see everyone these days but has a problem which did not show itself when we visited in 2003. Her hearing is a problem but if you realize that you must speak much louder than before, she responds to everything she hears. She knows what is going on. At 113 isn't that wonderful!

The Pennsylvania State School Retirees make Gladys's birthday a day to remember and many visit her that day. Members of the Potter/Tioga Chapter have visited Gladys on a regular basis. With the wondrous stories Gladys can tell this is often the highlight of their day.

This year PASR bought a recliner for Gladys so she can be more comfortable. She was enjoying the recliner when we saw her in July. Gladys's age has an effect on those who hear about her. When the store heard for whom the recliner was being bought, they sold it at a bargain rate.

More importantly, members of PASR visit Gladys regularly so she has company on a regular schedule, not only when relatives can come. Her cousins are scattered around the country, Washington, Ohio, South Carolina, New Jersey, New York and elsewhere. Everyone who knows Gladys knows that she is still one special person.

Late that afternoon Marcia Newcomb visited us at the motel and brought a green suitcase with more material which Gladys no longer wants. The suitcase had sev-

eral envelopes with papers, a number of books which Gladys's father Chester had used for his business records and more photos. Among the photos is one of Pamela Stevens Swetland seated at a spinning wheel outside Miner Swetland's house. I feel sure several of her descendants will want copies of this picture. We learned that Marcia is a cousin by marriage. She is the granddaughter of William Reynolds who married Gladys's sister Grace in 1945. They had no children.

Sandy Swetland brought me an envelope with some data from her father Albert Swetland who also lived in Pittsburgh. She brought a letter which Gladys had sent to Albert with a family photo and a list of all the people in the photo dated 1907. She also brought pictures of great-great-grandmother Metcalf, and Morgan Wayne Swetland and Pamela Stevens Swetland, Gladys's and Albert's grandparents

July 22-23 Jean and I attended the 14th Swetland Family Reunion. The following pages tell you much more. Those who paid for the reunion are receiving minutes and a photo of the reunion with this newsletter. If you wish a copy, send me your name and mailing address or email address and you will receive the minutes of the reunion.

These stories of the summer tell you what has come my way from various sources. As always the big question is where to store or what to do with these acquisitions. I will distribute copies of the photos once they are in the computer. The Swetland data and photos will go to the Allen County Library. Information on other lines will go most likely to the Potter County Historical Society. Do you want any of this material? First request for the information will get the material. Hurry! Hurry! Jean is anxious for my den to return to its normal disarray.

Pennsylvania Log Cabin

SWETLAND FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Mark W. Swetland
13 Raymond Road
Okatie, SC 29909-4526
Phone: 843-705-5661
E-mail: Markws@hargray.com

David Walter Swetland, youngest son of Mark & Jean Swetland, has been building a log cabin for the past year. Two photos here taken July 23 show the status then. David says that today the siding on the second floor is in place and the look is totally different. Electrical work is under way and the major work to finish and move in is to install the inside stairway and the balcony railing on the second floor.



Organization

President—Roger E. Swetland,
R. D.#4, Box #121A,
Montrose, PA 18801-1934
Vice-President—Jamie R. Swetland,
RR #1, Box #2575, Gillett, PA 16925
Secretary—Mary Bishop
P. O. Box 55
Tunkhannock, PA 18657-0055
Treasurer—Priscilla Swetland,
R. D. #4, Box 121A,
Montrose, PA, 18801-1934
Reunion Chair—open

Certificate of Recognition

Blank!



I appreciate the Certificate of Recognition which was awarded to me at the 2005 Reunion. You know my contribution is an act of love, inspired by many people who donate money and stories so S/S Lore can continue.

A serious point we face is that we need younger members to assure that our family association continues. Begun in 1986 SFA has existed nearly 20 years. S/S Lore is what binds us together. I turned 84 Aug.15th! Don't assume I will be here forever. How will you contribute?

Physics says that nature abhors a vacuum. Editors say that they abhor a blank page. Note that too much of this page is blank for lack of information from members. What will you do to change this?

