

# Sweetland/Swetland Lore #38

June 2006

### *Special points of interest:*

- More thoughts for the 2007 reunion, p. 1
- We find ourselves pulling out these (Memory Albums) more than a packet of pictures, p. 2
- S/S Lore Issues on line, p. 2
- Writing your family history, p. 3
- We need an Assistant Editor, p. 3
- Two obituaries, p. 4

### **Inside this issue:**

<i>Your President's Message from Roger E. Swetland</i>	1
<i>E-mail for S/S Lore</i>	1
<i>Memory Album of Swetland Reunions</i>	2
<i>For All Time—by Charley Kempthorne</i>	3
<i>Gladys Swetland Assistant Editor</i>	3
<i>This and That</i>	4
<i>Stuart W. Swetland Charlotte J. Sullivan</i>	4

## **Your Family President's Message from Roger E. Swetland**

May 21, 2006

Dear SFA Members,

We returned home from Florida on April 22nd. The weather was cool compared to Florida. It warmed up, was dry and now it is wet. We had frost this morning and probably again tomorrow. Once you get home, everyone finds out and you end up with commitments of all kinds. Our grandchildren were on the phone as soon as we got home and wanted to know why we weren't over to see them,.

This summer we have to go to the Brocton, NY, area to arrange for next year's reunion. Start thinking ahead and set your thoughts around the next reunion in the Brocton, NY, area. Don't for-

get about the Scholarship that will be available next year.

While in Florida we visited with Edna Swetland. She is a three-time cancer survivor and enjoys our visits. This week we had a call from Robert Swetland's wife, Esther Swetland, He has been in ill health the past few years and is starting to improve a bit.

Just before we left for Florida we had our computer cleaned up and thought we had all the latest and greatest software protection. The guy who updated it said a new virus was coming out at the first of the year. Yep! We got it! It attacked our Spyware and anti-virus as well as

the main Windows program. We lost our START and title bar .We lost our Word program and the drivers for our printer and CD program so we could not save anything that had not been saved before. We have not gotten it repaired and are debating buying a new computer. By the time we buy new software and have it loaded, a new computer may be cost effective. I wish these people doing the destruction could find some way to be more productive.

E-mail will not go through until we have a new computer. Our address is good, our mailbox works and I am sure e-mail is building up but we can not see it before we get a new computer.

## **E-mail for S/S Lore**

To help reduce mailing costs for the newsletter, you can chose to receive this newsletter by e-mail. Please send a message to Mark Harrison at mark@genesistems.com giving him your full name and email address.

Mark Harrison's company has several websites. I have used only www.genesistems.com.. This has a technical data base which has helped me.

SFA has two members who are talented

computer specialists, Mark Harrison and Jamie Swetland.

If only your editor had the same talents! Getting this newsletter to press and issuing it does not take talent, only perspiration and desire.

# Memory Album of Swetland Reunions

## By Priscilla Swetland

I am Priscilla Swetland, Treasurer for the Swetland Family Association. My husband, Roger Swetland, is your President. We have attended every reunion, except for the first one, due to the fact that Mark Swetland had not yet found us.

Over the years I have taken photos at reunions and some people have given us pictures. My husband started to put them in an album, but being a "male" thing, a picture became a picture to him and they got mixed up. Before our reunion last year I was going through his "mess" and decided I would attempt to put them in order and do a Memory Album

I started to do Memory Albums for myself about 6 years ago and find us pulling out these albums a lot more than we do a packet of pictures. The ones I do for myself I do put embellishments on but try to avoid that with the Swetland Album. I do not want to take away from the faces and the people. The only problem has trying to put names to faces.

Oh my, how we have all changed over the years! I find that I have put on weight and no longer have all the blond hair but more gray hair. Some people have also added color to hair and some have lost more.

At the last reunion some of the people tried to help with names to faces. Now that I have started this, I would like to continue with it. It does take time, that is true, and I now have two more reunions to add to that book. I say two but I really have three.

You see, Mark liked my idea and was kind enough to send me about 90 pictures, WITH NAMES, for the first reunion. It was a great idea to have individual pictures taken of everyone with their names. It has not been done since and I say "Let's do it again" Anyone with that kind of talent, please come to the next reunion and help me out.

Priscilla, let me help and tell everyone reading S/S Lore who took the pictures and who wrote the names of the people at our first reunion. David Sears Swetland and his sister Polly came. David knew of our request for a photographer and offered to take the photos. Polly kindly agreed to help him.

David set up a tripod outside the main door where the background was the best he could find. Polly had a small notebook where she entered the names.

We asked all the people inside to come out one by one or in family groups when they were ready. Cooperation was great. As one or two groups came back inside after being photographed, more groups went out. No one missed more than five minutes of the reunion.

After David finished taking the pictures, he gave me the films and Polly gave me her notes with the names. She had carefully numbered each of the pictures so we could identify everyone with their photo.

Our technique for taking these photos worked wonderfully. The pictures of the first reunion are the most complete of any reunion. Today we know everyone who was at the reunion.

One problem is that it also tells us how many we have lost. Some seemed a bit older than others but we have also lost some of the younger ones. Their passing has been a loss to those left behind but with a picture we can remember who they were and how they looked and many times the photos let us recall some of their mannerisms.

I strongly urge all who come to future reunions to come with the thought that your picture will be taken. One member will need to dedicate his or her time to taking the pictures and bring a moderately good camera with a strong battery, perhaps with even a second new battery.

Time needed to take photos will depend on how many are at the reunion but each picture takes less than three minutes once the camera is set up. A tripod is helpful as then each person or group need only step in front of the camera, the camera snapped and the next comes forward.

Priscilla will be glad to bring a Swetland Memory Album so all at the next reunion can see what she has been talking about and how great a record of each reunion is. Such a record lets newer members of SFA know who these earlier members were who are no longer with us. It may be hard to realize but all of us will in some distant, I hope, future be among those who are no longer here.

### Swetland Family Treasury

Priscilla has sent an update as of April 27, 2006 on the status of our treasury.

Donations	\$85.00
Expenses	\$251.02
<b>Balance in checking</b>	<b>\$1,225.02</b>
Newsletter Fund	\$770.38
Scholarship fund	\$455.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,225.02</b>

### S/S Lore Issues On-Line

S/S Lore issues #01 through #38 are now on-line and can be found at [http://harrison.neonexus.com/S-S\\_Lore.htm](http://harrison.neonexus.com/S-S_Lore.htm)

If you have gone to the website, please tell me. I found it easy to use. Of course, if you do not have or use a computer, this information is of little interest.

Computer use has become so great that one can feel out of touch if the current information on the Internet is not at hand. And yet, some live comfortably without a computer. I could never produce S/S Lore without one.

## For All Time—by Charley Kempthorne

**For All Time—A Complete Guide to Writing Your Family History** by Charley Kempthorne is a well written, easily read book for all family historians. In 150 pages he tells one why family history is important. He shows techniques for writing family history. He then gives ten forms for writing history. The book goes on to talk about printing and publishing your family history. In three Appendices he provides resources for the family historian, shows how to start a family history writing group and talks about teaching others to write family history.

At the very end of the book he asks readers to comment and write him personally at the address he gives. He promises to answer every letter he receives. So I took him up on his promise. I did tell him my reaction to the book and he did reply. I had mentioned writing S/S Lore for many years so he asked that I send him a copy. I will do so and report on his comment later.

This is a short book, one that you can read in a few days. My wife Jean has begun to read the book and will complete it in a few more days. When I wrote to Kempthorne, I noted that I had read about 80% of the book. Since then I have read much more, nearly 100%. All of the book is enjoyable. His style makes one want to continue.

I found the book at the Hilton Head Island Library. You may find the book at your local library or at a branch library. Why should you look for the book? Writing family history re--creates your family experience, **your family history**. This is not ancient history but alive and vital for your understanding of your family. What was it like to live through the Great Depression? Where were you during World War II? Or the Korean War? Don't you have stories that your relatives, even your children, have

never heard? Family history gives everyone the time and place to tell these stories so that they may live forever. If they are not on paper or in a computer file, the writer may pass on without these experiences ever coming to light.

Nancy Graczyk has done a marvelous job of producing four stories about her ancestors. On a CD you can read her stories about Stephen Hopkins and about her Holland, Swetland and Reynolds stories. Each story is made more interesting by pictures which illustrate parts of the story. Woven into the story is the genealogy of each line. Nancy has graciously offered to send her stories to anyone who asks for them. Writing her at home this summer may not get a fast reply. She and Ed are spending the summer in Ontario, Canada. E-mail her at louedd@comcast.net. A small donation to her will pay the mailing and CD costs.

Although she uses WordPerfect for her stories, she sends the CD in .pdf format with instructions on downloading a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader. With this you can read all of her stories on any computer.

Her mailing address is 206 Cecil Ave. West Lawn, PA 19609. Nancy and her sister Beth Lounsbury have been a great help in keeping me informed on many activities. These two made it possible to have pictures from Gladys Swetland's funeral which poor health kept me from attending.

You may have realized that this page touches on several types of family history. Each of our readers has stories in our families to share with the rest of us. It does take time to write a story but don't think that the story must be a masterpiece of writing, suitable for publishing as a novel. Your story in your words counts the most.

## Gladys Swetland

The story of her passing was in the March 2006 issue. Since then I have collected several obituaries that came out at the time. If you want to see them, send me a check for \$2.00 and you will receive an envelope with photocopies of all those collected.

Gladys lived to the remarkable age of 113. She became a member of the supercentenarian group. The requirement for membership in the group is that you reach 110 years of age. An article on this group appeared in the Wall Street Journal last year. The copy which came to me did not have the date on it so I can't tell you where to find it. If you send in the \$2.00 check, I will add a copy of this article to the obituaries.

### Assistant Editor

Several members have offered to help put out the newsletter but as yet I have not accepted their offers. I feel that the newsletter must go out on a regular schedule and chose to publish every three months in March, June, September and December close to the first of the month. On occasion it comes a bit later but you should be able to rely on its arrival.

This means that the help I need should fit this schedule well. Roger told me I should tell members of the need so now you know. The reason for help is that no one my age is ever certain of being around forever or even next year. No, I do not expect to pass away soon but I don't control the future. To keep the newsletter going needs a member to become the assistant editor. A trained assistant editor is essential. Tell me if you want the training. I will send the volunteer several articles to be written and then posted to me for insertion in a newsletter. Later you may write an entire issue. Jump in! It is fun! And you meet wonderful people.

# This and That From Our Members

## SWETLAND FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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E-mail: Markws@hargray.com

### Assistant Editor

Open—We need a volunteer who can quickly learn everything needed to replace the editor at an early date.



## Organization

President—Roger E. Swetland,  
RR 4, Box #121A,  
Montrose, PA 18801-9437  
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,  
RR 4, Box 121A,  
Montrose, PA 18801-9437  
Reunion Chair—open

Priscilla Swetland noted in an earlier letter that S/S Lore had been using a wrong four-digit zip code at the end of their address. Please note the change in this S/S Lore. She also said that by year end they should have a new address. That is a surprise.

Mary Swetland Bishop thoughtfully sent the obituary for Stuart W. Swetland shown at the bottom left of this page.

My grandmother, Ida Stout Compton, died shortly after my mother's birth, May 15, 1886. Ida Stout married Joseph Compton perhaps in 1885. I have never been able to find anything about her family or herself other than what my mother told me as a child. During the Civil War an Edward Stout of New Jersey enlisted 31 May 1864 and was in Company A, 37th Infantry, New Jersey on 23 June 1864. He was mustered out on 1 Oct. 1864 in Trenton, NJ. He enlisted for 100 days. The Infantry was in six battles at Petersburg, VA. Is this man related to me? I may never know.

If you want to find a Zip+4 code, Mark Harrison has pointed out that you go to <http://www.usps.com> and click on "Find a ZIP Code." If you do not have a computer, many libraries and school systems have computers available for your use and may even have beginning computer courses which can help. Both the Bluffton and Hilton Head Island libraries have ten computers which require only that you have a library card to use. They will show you how to begin and courses are available at local computer clubs, if you need that kind of help. I have been using the HHI Computer club for over four years to scan photos and slides.

## Stuart Swetland December 30, 2005

Stuart M. Swetland, 81, of Murrells Inlet, SC, formerly of Tunkhannock PA, died Friday evening in Waccamaw County Hospital, Murrells Inlet after and illness

Born January 18, 1924, and raised in Pittsburgh, he was a son of the late Sterling and Dorothy (Decker) Swetland. He moved to Mehoopany in 1963 and later relocated to Tunkhannock

He founded the Swetland Insurance Agency in 1973 and was a longtime member of the Tunkhannock Rotary Club, serving as President from 1976 to 1977, and a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In 1991 he retired to South Carolina where he was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Murrells Inlet.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by sisters, Shirley and Marjorie.

He is survived by his wife Ernestine Ester Swetland; daughter Christine Swetland Sheffler; son and daughter-in-law, Craig and Lynn Swetland, Paso Robles, CA; son, Monsignor Stuart W. Swetland, Champaign, IL; sister Patricia Myers, Tunkhannock; grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Monsignor Stuart W. Swetland officiated at a Memorial Mass on January 4, 2006.

## Charlotte J. Sullivan February 10, 2006

Charlotte J. Sullivan of Monroe Township, MI, formerly of Suffield, died on Friday (February 10, 2006) at her home. She had been seriously ill for six months. Born on November 30, 1939 in Hartford, she was the daughter of Carl Dwight and Florence Mae (Sweetland) Mexcur, Jr. She married William A. Sullivan. He died in 1987. She is survived by a daughter, Donna (Frank) Kimberly of Monroe, MI; a sister, Marilyn Freck of Orlando, FL; three grandchildren, and a great—grandchild. In addition to her husband and her parents she was predeceased in death by an infant son. Funeral services were held last month in Michigan.

Those who came to reunions, while Flora Sweatland Paine came, will remember that Florence Mexcur was a niece who came with her. Flora Paine was a person it was impossible to forget. She enlivened every reunion she attended. In her 100th year she recited a long poem she had learned in the eighth grade. We all loved Flora and her lovely nieces. Dot Hinckley still writes.