



### SEASONS GREETINGS

From Your Interim SFA President, Roger Swetland

During this holiday season it's a time when families come together. As a child growing up, our immediate family was always part of an extended family. My first cousins, particularly on my mother's side, were more like brothers and sisters. We would get together at my maternal grandmother's house and shared great times. We enjoyed delicious meals as everyone brought different parts of the meal.

My mother was one of eleven. As children, we played together as the adults had their own discussions. When we were old enough, we would sit with my father and uncles and play "pitch" cards. Of course this was before television. Even when television came about, we still played cards and the TV was never turned on. It was a time for family. On my father's side it was still a time of getting together, and although he was one of just two children and there was only one cousin, we enjoyed it.

In both cases, we got to meet aunts, uncles, and also second and third cousins. One thing about those times is that most relatives lived within a fifty mile radius. That made it easier to get to know family. Occasionally there would be visits from relatives who lived farther away. The most common time to meet relatives from distances was when there was a wedding or a funeral.

One thing that I believe strengthened the family back then was our living in close proximity to one another. Further, the Great Depression created the need for closeness. In today's world I sometimes think that the further ahead we advance the more behind we are as many who choose the material things will find it difficult to cope with the changes.

However, with the economy tight as it is now, it tends to pull families closer together for financial and moral support as it did during the Great Depression. Today's economic times are causing people to think more about family and less about material things. During this holiday I'm sure there will be less material goods. Hopefully the spiritual meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas will be more important and the family will rebound to the strength it once possessed.

Enjoy the Holiday Season and may God and family make it that much more meaningful for each of you.

*"Think more about family and less about material things."*  
—Roger Swetland

#### Special points of interest

#### HOLIDAYS AND FAMILIES

MARK SWETLAND'S MEMORIES OF DOUG SWETLAND

CALL FOR ARTICLES

CLUES IN TOWN NAMES

DAVID W. SWETLAND OBITUARY

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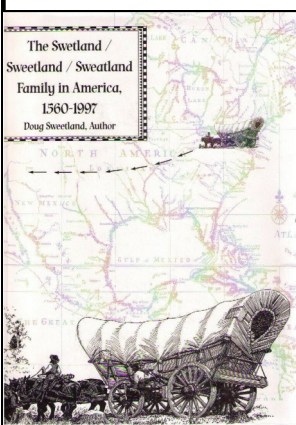
## In Memoriam - Douglas Patrick Sweetland

By

Mark W. Swetland, previous editor of *Lore*

Doug Sweetland's passing on July 23, 2009 was a shock. He was so young, eighteen years younger than I am. He was a man I respected and admired. His work on the three versions of the book he produced are amazing efforts. How can one man accomplish so much in one lifetime? Doug and I worked on family genealogy exchanging letters on a regular basis for twenty years.

Doug learned of our Swetland Family Association when we published the minutes of the 1986 reunion on Denton Hill in Pennsylvania. He immediately joined our association and remained a wonderful member until his death. Doug came to the 1987 reunion and reported on his branch of the family. He came back to the 1988 reunion where he ran the reunion. At the 1988 reunion we learned about his book "A Partial Genealogy of the Sweetland/Swetland/Swetland Family in America, 1560-1988."



Doug and his wife Karen suffered the loss of their home in Marshall, MN due to fire in 1996. He lost his records, his files, and all the remaining copies of his book. When I learned of this, I sent him my file of letters between the two of us from 1986 on. Also sent was a copy of the list which I had of some 300+ names and addresses. Others also responded to his need for help. In less time than one could believe he produced the next version of his book with the similar title in 1997.

Doug came to the reunions in 1997, 1999 and 2001. At the 1999 reunion he told me that three major events had just occurred. He and Karen had moved back into their rebuilt home in Marshall, MN. He had become President of Winona College. He announced the arrival of their first grandchild. He always gave an update on the next book he planned each time he came.

He then produced the second version of his book, "A Partial Genealogy of the Swetland / Sweetland / Swetland Family in America, 1560-1997." As new information came in, Doug decided to issue an updated book to correct any data that had been entered incorrectly and data that had not yet been recorded. This version came out with the title, "The Swetland / Sweetland / Swetland Family in America, 1560-2003."

Doug's book shows the debt that all of us and our descendants owe to him for his fabulous

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### Donation Form (Please make checks out to Swetland Family Association)

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I will arrange to have the newsletter emailed by simply doing the following:  
Send an e-mail to Mark Harrison at markh3326@gmail.com and ask to be placed on the S/S Lore email list.

#### MAIL TO:

Priscilla Swetland, Treasurer  
RR #4, Box 121 A  
Montrose, PA 18801-9437

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work. It is almost unbelievable to imagine the hours of work that his books represent. And yet, Doug planned to issue an update to add data which had come in since version three. This time his plan was to issue only the new or corrected data on CD. Will one of our members issue this CD in honor of Doug Sweetland? He deserves recognition for his work and accomplishments.

His own words describe how he looked at himself: "I am not a genealogist and I have never pretended to be. I researched my own line back to western NY, assisted by Edwin and Ruth Sweetland and Dewey Eldridge and accepted B. S. Sweetland's history past that point."

Doug added these comments on his books in his letter of April 27, 2002: "This is YOUR history. I am just the editor. If this were the Middle Ages, I would probably be called a scrivener."

My Oxford Dictionary provides the following definitions for scrivener "A professional penman; a scribe, copyist; a clerk, secretary."  
(To see Doug's obituary, please see September 2009 issue.)



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## Matching Town Names Yields Genealogy Clues

By Anne Kirby, Editor



Pumpkin moon over Salisbury, Massachusetts

Have you ever noticed how many names of cities and towns in the United States are named after ones in the United Kingdom? Even though the colonists often came to the New England states to escape political and religious oppression, they held dear the land they came from and sometimes named their new settlements after the ones they had left. Since whole congregations, communities or groups of extended families frequently came to the New World together, the name they gave their new town may indicate their town of origin in England.

So when searching for branches on your family tree, check and see if a town in England exists with the same name as the town your ancestors first settled. A quick check in an atlas or on your Internet browser will provide the answer you are looking for. This may provide a clue worthy of your further research. For example, consider the Cruff line. Sometimes it isn't easy finding the ancestors on our maternal lines. Perhaps, like me, you are related to William Sweetland, the first child of John Oliver Sweetland and Rebecca Clark. William, my 6th great-grandfather, was born in 1685 in Marblehead,

Massachusetts and married Mary Cruff in 1711. This couple is listed on p. 421 of the 1997 edition of Doug Sweetland's "Big Book." Mary Cruff's ancestry is not listed.

Mary Cruff's parents appear on the internet in "Ancestors of Patricia Southcombe" as John Cruff (1664) and Eleanor Browne (1672), both of Marblehead. I have not found John Cruff's ancestors yet, but Eleanor's parents were William Browne (1648), born in Salisbury, Essex, Massachusetts, and Mary Chinn, born about 1644.

Salisbury exists not only in Massachusetts but also in southern England's rural heartland near the famous ancient ruins of Stonehenge. Sure enough, Mary Cruff's maternal Browne line connects from Salisbury, Massachusetts to Salisbury, Wiltshire, England: William Browne's parents are William Browne (b. 1622) and Elizabeth Murford (about 1620), both of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England. Records show William Browne's parents and grandparents also hailed from the same county in England, but from a different town by the name of Easton Royal, Wiltshire, England.



Near Salisbury, England

This Salisbury connection, as well as others in my family tree, shows the pattern of bringing the name of the English town to New England. Unfortunately, this is not always the case, as with Mary Chinn's father, George Chinn. He was one of Marblehead, Massachusetts' earliest settlers, being granted some of the first few "ackers" [acres] of land in about 1635 (see *Marblehead, The Spirit of '76 Live Here*, by Lord and Gamage). Unfortunately, a search of English towns and cities reveals no corresponding Marblehead in England. Nevertheless, the place name search process proves fruitful often enough that it's always wise to check on that first.

### David W. Swetland



David W. Swetland died on September 11, 2009 of cancer. Active until his final 3 weeks, he spent his last days looking over the fields of his Alna, Maine home. He was 93.

Commercial real estate was David's vocation. His grandfather, father and uncles had started the business in Cleveland in the late 1800's. He owned and managed the Park Investment Company in Cleveland and developed the Park Place Apartments in Palm Beach, Florida.

David will be remembered for his involvement with many community organizations. These included serving on the board of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History for many years. A former director, Dr. Mary Taylor, said, "Under a crusty, curmudgeonly exterior is a warm human being... He is quick and sharp, a visionary."

He also served on the board of The Holden Arboretum for many years. An extraordinarily energetic man, he was a former president of the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland, and lent his hand to a wide array of other worthwhile causes.

From the 1970's he divided his time between Cleveland, Ohio, Miami, Florida and Alna, Maine. He was an avid sailor and pilot, crossing the Atlantic both by boat and plane while in his seventies.

He was also a prolific writer: David published a family history and a book of poetry.

His first wife, Mary Ann Sears Swetland died in 1969. His second wife, Jean Thomas (Tommy) Swetland died in 2005. He is survived by 3 children; David S. Swetland (Paula S.) of Miami, Florida, Ruth S. Eppig (Michael D.) of Bratenahl, Ohio and Polly S. Jones (Richard) of Palm Beach, Florida

