



Sweetland/Swetland Lore #71 Fall 2014



SWEETLAND/SWETLAND FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Enjoy Highlights from the July Reunion In this Issue



(Above) Collage of reunion photos taken by Ed and Nancy Graczyk, shows many who attended the reunion in Freetown Corners, New York on July 18-19. Map from 1850 at right was photographed by Ed Graczyk as it hung on the wall of the Cortland County Historical Society and shows the various communities where attendees visited cemeteries to see graves of Sweetlands and their relatives.



(Right) Participants carpooled as Nancy led a tour showing where her relatives, the Backus, Watrous, and Sweetlands, lived in the Freetown area.

"Later at the meeting, Nancy had us doing role models and then moving from town to town. We had some good laughs with it all" (Priscilla Sweetland).

The last stop on the auto tour was at the entrance of the Freetown Cemetery where Aaron and other Sweetland headstones could be seen.

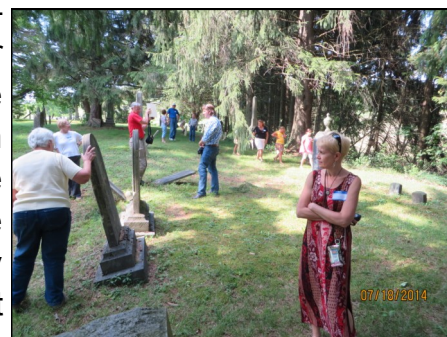
Aaron Sweetland lived in Salisbury CT, married **Lois Allen**, (relative of Ethan Allen) fought in the Revolutionary War with Fort Ticonderoga as the staging area, saw all the deserted homes and farms around Granville NY that fleeing Tories, people loyal to the British, left as they fled to Canada, and moved to Granville NY, maybe into a deserted Tory home.

Swetland Family Association Reunion 2014 - Cortland, NY

By Jamie Swetland, SFA Secretary

Friday afternoon, 18 July, we met at the Ramada hotel in Cortland, NY at 2:30PM.

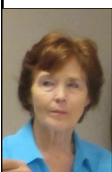
From the Ramada, we were taken on a tour of the nearby countryside of Freetown Corners, NY by Nancy Lounsberry Graczyk and her husband Edward. Nancy had maps and short histories that she handed out to those that attended the afternoon tour. We drove from location to location per her map and read the histories at each of the various stops along the path. It was a delightful and sunny in the countryside of the area that is mostly picturesque farmland, to say the least. Our last stop on the tour was at the Freetown Cemetery. It is one of those old, nearly abandoned, country cemeteries with large trees and faded headstones and memories. We observed various headstones from Swetlands and other relatives in the area.



Gravestone of Aaron Swetland and wife Lois tips a bit at Freetown Cemetery.



The end of the road tour had us returning to the Ramada hotel to freshen up and then join everyone at the local Perkins restaurant for some casual dining and re-acquainting once again. Upon the conclusion of dinner, everyone retired to the Ramada hotel for the evening.

Saturday, 19 July, we reconvened in the London Room of the Ramada hotel in Cortland, NY at 9AM.

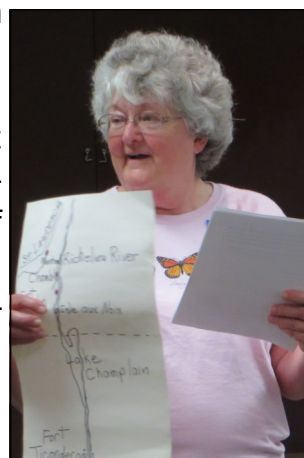
Thank you
Carol Gregoire for your
wonderful service as
president!

SFA President Carol Gregorie (at left) opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction to all in attendance. Of special note, Carol introduced some "new" Swetland attendees, Mildred Swetland Allen, her sister Jane Swetland Lehman with two of her children, Zeb and Maddy.

The meeting was then handed over to Nancy who began a historical account of her ancestry starting with her father and going back, including Gladys Swetland. Nancy spoke of the Siege of Fort St. Jean just before the onslaught of the American Revolution. Aaron Swetland*, Nancy's ancestor, was involved with the battle of Fort St. Jean from a battalion mustered from Fort Ticonderoga as Aaron had enlisted with a Regiment from Connecticut.

Everyone in attendance then took part in an interactive ancestor trail conducted by Nancy, tracing lineage and family moves from various towns in Connecticut to Freetown, NY to Mills, PA.

President Carol then handed the floor over to SFA Historian, Roger Swetland.



Nancy illustrates her talk with map of Siege of Fort St. Jean.



Roger (in photo at left) started with a piece about Irwin Messick and his efforts to preserve the Swetland Homestead in Forty Fort, PA and his efforts to have Luke Swetland recognized as a soldier of the Revolutionary War. Roger then spoke about Ernest J. Sweetland and his inventions of oil filters, hospital appliances and more from the book by Dale and Anne Kirby.



Presentation by Samuel Swetland, assisted by his father, Jamie.

After a break for lunch at noon and an opportunity to visit with each other, we reconvened with a presentation with picture slideshow by Samuel Swetland on his trip to Australia as a People-to-People Student Ambassador. Carol then opened the business meeting. With no old news, we moved to the Secretary notes. The old notes from the 2012 SFA Reunion were accepted as written in the third quarter 2012 Swe(e)/(a)tlant Lore. Priscilla Swetland, as treasurer, read the latest status on the treasurer account which was accepted as read. Carol then moved into new business and presented a letter from R. David Kryder in regards to the Scholarship Fund. The motion was made and accepted to addendum the following phrase within the current guidelines for Scholarship: "First choice will be to a high school senior or college freshman, 'or any person wishing to continue their higher education.'" In regards to promoting the Scholarship program, the motion was made to print the notes on the Scholarship program into the 4th quarter issue of the Swe(e)/(a)tlant Lore each year preceding a reunion. This should allow time for those planning on college to complete their application prior to their time being consumed by current year finals, the college application process and preparations for a possible move to college.



Nominations for officers were started by nominating and acceptance of Joy Folsom for President, Wendy Blanchard for Vice-President, and the return of Jamie Swetland as Secretary, Priscilla Swetland for Treasurer, and Roger Swetland for Historian.

New business continued into developing a SFA Facebook page which was setup during lunch for all to use. A motion was made to publish an update on this newly established Swetland Family Association Facebook page in the 4th quarter issue of Lore. You may search for Swetland Family Association in your Facebook search bar. Further investigation into establishing the SFA as a 501(c)3 organization was moved to be followed up on by Jamie Swetland.

Suggestions for the 2016 SFA Reunion locations were raised and nominations were made for Ticonderoga, NY, some location in Maine, and Plymouth, CT. The vote was taken and Fort Ticonderoga was accepted as the location. Jamie Swetland volunteered as the Reunion Chairperson for the Ticonderoga, NY location. The motion was made to close the meeting and accepted by all.

*Aaron Swetland's descendancy goes to Reunion Chairman Nancy Lounsbury Graczyk and others through Aaron's son Harmon Swetland, Aaron's grandson, Morgan Swetland, and his great-granddaughter Luella Swetland, who is Nancy's great-grandmother (From notes by Nancy Lounsbury Graczyk sent to Anne Kirby, 2014).

View This Newsletter,
Past Issues and More at
SFA Website:
www.swetland.org



NAMES of THOSE ATTENDING 2014 SWETLAND REUNION

Millie Allen & Jane Lehman
Madeline Lehman & Zeb Lehman

Ed & Nancy Graczyk
Carol Gregoire & Wendy Blanchard
Alice Elderkin, Joan Pierce, & Clara Dvorchak
Warren & Gerrie Lee
Roger & Priscilla Swetland
Jamie, Becky, Samuel, Abigail, Zachary,
& Michaiah Swetland, and guest Seneca Matthews
Joy Folsom & Judy Nourse



Michaiah and
Zachary Swetland
Help with
Reenactment

Sweetland/Swetland Treasury Report After the 2014 Reunion

By SFA Treasurer Priscilla Swetland

Balance as of January 24, 2014	Expenses- \$73.08 Lore #69 & #70
\$1567.13	\$379.42 Balance owed
	for luncheon
Donations- \$86 Scholarship Fund	(A \$100 deposit had been paid in
Reunion Reservations- \$563.00	2013)
	Total expenses- \$452.50

Balance as of July 21, 2014
\$1,763.63

\$1,011.55 Scholarship Fund
\$679.08 Lore Fund
\$73.00 Reunion Fund

S/S Family Association

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Donation Form (Please make checks payable to Swetland Family Association)

My name is _____

Enclosed is my donation for the scholarship fund \$ _____ ,
and the newsletter fund \$ _____ .

To begin email delivery of Lore, please email: markh3326@gmail.com

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