



Sweetland/Swetland Lore #89 February 2019

SWEETLAND/SWETLAND FAMILY ASSOCIATION



***Lore* Editor is Retiring New Editor Needed**

Please Help This Newsletter to Continue—any Volunteers?

I remember when the first editor of *Lore*, Mark Swetland, asked readers of his last issue to consider taking his place as the editor. Mark served in the volunteer position as the first editor for twenty-one years from 1986 until June of 2007 when he was 85. His headline in 2007 was, **Final Issue of Sweetland/Swetland Lore?** Mark wrote, “If you take over, you will be the glue that holds us together.”

When I read his plea I volunteered, and I’ve been the editor for the past eleven years. I first heard about the Sweetland/Swetland Family Association when Mark looked in phone books for Sweetlands and Swetlands and sent information to those families about the Association and invited them to join. My uncle, Eugene (Gene) Sweetland, in Oakland, California, sent the letter to me because he thought of me as the “family genealogist”. I later enjoyed meeting *Lore* editor, Mark Swetland, at a family reunion in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, not knowing that I would eventually take his place as editor.

Putting together *Lore* put me in touch with many of you throughout the country, as you contributed your opinions, articles, obituaries, and photos for *Lore* or diligently proofread each issue for me before publication. I’ve also enjoyed learning more about the Swetland and Sweetland family histories and especially the stories!

Don’t let this be the final issue! What you write will become part of a permanent record. Our publisher, Mark Harrison, has ensured that each issue is easily accessible on the website, swetland.org. and he provides a list summarizing the contents of each issue. There you will find information about Sweetlands and Swetlands, stories and photos from specific families, reunions, obituaries of SFA members, research tips, historic places to visit, and even how to arrange your ancestors’ photos on your wall.

Please volunteer to “be the glue the holds us together”. If you are interested, please contact me via email.

Anne M. (Sweetland) Kirby, Editor
anne.kirby9@gmail.com



Swetland and Sweetland Records are Kept in the Allen County Public Library’s Genealogy Center, Ft. Wayne, Indiana

In about 1994, Dr. Norman Bowers recommended at a reunion that the Swetland and Sweetland families preserve their records in one reputable repository, so that present and future generations alike would have access to them. The SFA decided to take his recommendation to designate the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, as the repository.

Too often when a person’s heirs sort through all the belongings, they don’t recognize the historical value of those boxes of letters, photos, newspaper clippings, family books and diaries, and they put them in the burn pile. Too late, they or their descendants wish they knew more (Continued on p. 2)

about their parents or grandparents. Please consider preserving original family records, or copies of them, in the Allen County Library. Call first to make sure they will accept them and learn the best way to send them.
—Anne Kirby, ed.

Contact:

Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center
(260) 421-1225

Books about Swetlands and Sweetlands in the Allen County Library's Genealogy Center

1848-2001, the Leon Hiram Stafford and Mary Jane (Swetland) Stafford family —by Myers, Lynda Ruth Ann.

A Partial Genealogy of the Swetland/Sweetland/Sweatland Family in America, 1560-1988. —by Doug Sweetland

Ancestry and Descendants of Sylvanius Eaton, Jacob Swetland and Christopher Reynolds —by Wight, Jane Adaline Eaton, 1839-

The Descendants of Aaron and Patience Sweetland of Hebron, Conn. — by Jerome, Lucy Wright Sweetland, 1852-

Ernest John Sweetland and his Fifty Years of Inventing —by Dale Z. Kirby

Genealogy of the Stebbins Family, including kindred lines of Swetland, Wilcox and Cheney families

Journals by Ernest John Sweetland 1917-1933*

Journals by Ernest John Sweetland 1934-1950

My Life and the Art of Inventing —by Ernest John Sweetland, Edited by Anne M. Kirby*

Partial Genealogy of the Swetland Family. —by Benjamin S. Brocton

Partial History of George and Emma Swetland family. —by Steinbrenner, Elizabeth O'Connor

Sweetland/Swetland Lore—by Sweetland, Mark W.

The Story of the Captivity and Rescue from the Indians of Luke Swetland: an early settler of the Wyoming Valley and a soldier of the American Revolution —by Edward Merrifield

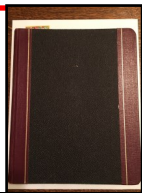
*Books received by library, but not yet in the catalog



Shirley Sweetland Enns

Shirley's daughter, Carole Tumminia, wrote that Shirley passed away in St. Louis, Missouri on January 1, 2019. She was the daughter of Herbert Sweetland and the sister of Dean Sweetland. Both are deceased. Carole stated, "My mom enjoyed reading your newsletters."





My grandfather used
lab journals like this for
his daily writings.

Journey of Journals to Allen County Library Genealogy Center

by Anne M. Kirby

When I took my first genealogy class in 1965, I began to look for old documents and records from my father, William E. Sweetland's, family line. Upon contacting my aunts and uncles, I learned that my grandfather, Ernest J. Sweetland, an inventor, had kept a daily journal from 1917 until his death in 1950.

My Uncle, Eugene D. Sweetland, said that he and his brothers Jack and Bill (my father) were asked by their mother Nell to help clear out the basement following Ernest's death in 1950 by throwing his old things into the incinerator. Gene wrote, "Salvaged from the flames were Dad's daily journals." Gene stored them in his home in Oakland, California.

At my request in 1977, Uncle Gene sent many of the journals to me. I began reading them and copying the pages that I found most valuable. Then I underlined important facts on my selected copies and put those in a notebook.

Years passed and in 1991 the Oakland Firestorm destroyed Gene and Nancy's home, including Ernest's journals from 1917 to 1933. Fortunately, my father and I had those from 1934-1950. Also, in my notebook I still had the copies of excerpts from the journals from 1917-1934 that had burned in the fire. All existing journals remained in my home in Salem, Oregon after the book was completed.

About 1999, I began to think that the journals would likely deteriorate over time or could be destroyed by fire or flood. I wanted to find a safe environment for them, where they would be available to all to read. Remembering the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, recommended by Dr. Bowers, I sent the original journals there to their Genealogy Center. Finally, in December of 2018 I found and donated the excerpts from the 1917-1933 journals. Now the library has entries from nearly every day of Ernest J. Sweetland's life from 1917 until his death in 1950. It is a good feeling to know that they are safe, inside the Allen Co. Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana—accessible and all together at last!



The Allen County Public Library
in Fort Wayne, Indiana



2018 SWETLAND TREASURER REPORT

BALANCE FORWARD
\$1315.73

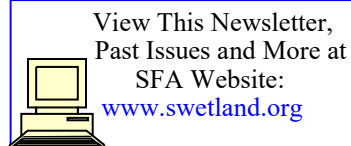
DONATIONS: \$138.00
\$88.00 SCHOLASHIP
\$50.00 LORE

EXPENSES: \$145.88
LORES, 85, 86, 87, 88
\$2.00 PAPER STATEMENT FROM BANK

BALANCES OF:
\$912.05 SCHOLARSHIP FUND
\$322.79 LORE FUND
\$73.00 REUNON FUND

BALANCE END OF 2018
\$1307.84

Priscilla Swetland, Treasurer

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**Donation Form**

My name is _____

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

(Please make checks payable to Swetland Family Association)

MAIL TO:

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