



Sweetland/Swetland Lore #43

September 2007

SWEETLAND/SWETLAND FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Mark Swetland Recalls Twenty-one Years as Editor

Now that you have a new editor, you may wish to learn how our family newsletter began. The idea came after the first official Swetland Family Association reunion held in July 1986, one hundred years after the first recorded reunion in Brockton, NY in 1886. After the reunion minutes went out, it didn't seem that we should wait a year until the next reunion to communicate with our members so we started to publish our family newsletter, called Swetland Lore.

At that time I had no idea how Sweetlands, Sweatlands and Swetlands were tied together. Not until a number of Sweetlands joined our group did I realize that our name was too restrictive. The result was that our newsletter became Sweetland/Swetland Lore.

To pay for the newsletter we tried several methods of charging for printing and mailing it. After several different methods, we thought that we should send out the newsletter to everyone on the mailing list and depend on the generosity of the members to support it by donations. This seemed a novel idea. We did it and it worked. What a pleasure it has been to publish the newsletter with no thought of where the money has to come from and realize the members are interested enough to support its publication. I have blessed each and every one of you for your kindness and your generosity in supporting the newsletter. You have also been most helpful in supplying data on our ancestors that I would never have found by myself. If I try to list all that have made this newsletter so interesting, I would be sure to leave out someone. Best I don't make such a list. But you know who you are and my thanks go to you for sending your data. This may seem like a one-man operation but its success is the work of all of you. You will never know how many times I have blessed you for your help by sending me your data.

Editing and publishing the family newsletter has been a labor of love. Contact with so many members has added to the enjoyment of family genealogy. You have truly become my family. The chance to meet you at reunions, to receive your letters and read the data you sent for publication has made my life a happy one. It has given me a purpose.

Let me now ask that you give Anne Kirby the same support and help that you have shared with me for over 22 years. Little then did I suspect that I would be here now still writing you. Now that you have a new editor, don't think this is the last you have heard from me. From time to time I will prepare an article for Anne, just as I hope each of you will also do.

Those at the 1995 reunion in Tunkhannock met Anne and her daughter Ruth Anne, our scholarship winner. Anne and I have corresponded often on our Swetland genealogy. She is knowledgeable, talented and dedicated.

Don't forget that donations to our treasury make publication and mailing possible.



Mark Swetland

Special points of interest:

- MARK SWETLAND BOWS OUT
- SUCCESSFUL REUNION
- DONATING TO SFA
- HELP NEW EDITOR
- REUNION PHOTOS
- ADD TO DOUG'S BOOK

Inside this issue:

REUNION REPORT FROM ROGER SWETLAND, SFA	2
TREASURER'S REPORT	2
NEW EDITOR	3
REUNION PICTURES	4
PRESERVE YOUR HISTORY	4

"You have truly become my family"

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Reunion Report from your President

by Roger Swetland

The National SFA Family Reunion was held at the Day's Inn at Dunkirk, N.Y. on Friday, July 20, 2007. Our group met at 3 p.m. in the lobby and proceeded to view the outside and grounds of Dr. Benjamin S. Swetland's home in Brocton, N.Y. From there we drove to the Portland Evergreen Cemetery and walked the grounds. Sue (Swetland) Chadwick's father, Ray Swetland is buried there along with Dr. Swetland and Sue's great-grandfather, Ormal Reed Swetland, a brother to Dr. Swetland. There are several other Swetlands and a couple Sweetlands buried there as well. After a leisurely walk through the cemetery, we returned back to Brocton and ordered our supper at the American Legion. We had a separate room where we could relax, chat and renew old friendships. After that, each returned to their abodes for the night.

Saturday morning we met at the Day's Inn meeting room and the meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. Everyone introduced themselves. The youngest was Zachariah Swetland (son of Jamie and Rebecca Swetland) at 19 1/2 months and the oldest was Virginia Miler, turning 85 years young in March of this year. We had four new members attend this year from South Carolina. They were Sue Chadwick, Heather and Kyle Kokko, and Michelle O'Quinn. Sue donated a quilt made by her great-grandmother to the SFA for the Swetland Homestead. Virginia and Sandra Swetland of Pittsburgh, Pa attended again, their first visit since the second reunion at Wilkes Barre, Pa. There were 17 attendees and all had a very good time. The food was some of the best we have had and there was plenty left after seconds and a few sandwiches fixed for traveling.

There were talks given before lunch and Jamie Swetland presented a walk-through of the Swetland.org Website. The secretary was not present and the minutes were accepted as presented from the last reunion. The treasurer's report was given before officers were re-elected for another term. The location for the next reunion was discussed and New London, Ct. will be looked at. Carol Gregorie and Jamie Swetland will be working on the next reunion to be held the third weekend of July, 2009. (More reunion pictures on page 4)

Reunion Memories, 2007



Ruins of Dr. B.S. Swetland's first home in Brockton, N.Y.



Abigail Swetland,
age 3, at reunion

SFA Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$532.75
<u>Received</u>	
Reunion money	425
Selling of 2 Crest books	20
Donations at Reunion:	
General Fund	185
Scholarship Fund	40
<u>Total</u>	\$1,202.75
<u>Expenses</u>	
Days Inn Bal. Due	119.28
<u>Balance Total</u>	\$1,083.47
Total General Fund	\$668.47
Total Scholarship	\$415.00

Donation Form

My name is _____
 Enclosed is my donation for the general fund for _____
 For scholarship fund for _____
 Please begin sending the newsletter by email at _____

Mail to: Priscilla Swetland
 RR #4 Box 121A
 Montrose, PA
 18801-9437

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New Editor Requests Your Help

By Anne Kirby



Anne (Sweetland) Kirby

I am both excited and humble to follow Mark Sweetland's valiant footsteps as editor of S/S Lore. I couldn't help but volunteer when I read on the SFA website (www.sweetland.org) that the interest of the Association is in "uniting and helping other Sweetland, Sweetland, Sweatland (s) learn more about their ancestry and heritage." With your help, we can continue to do just that!

My great-grandfather, William H. Sweetland, a shoemaker from Marblehead, Massachusetts, came west to Nevada.. His son, Ernest J. Sweetland, an inventor, settled in the San Francisco area when my father, William, was young. My parents raised me in Oregon. Then my husband and I lived in Utah while we studied at Brigham Young University. After several moves, we are back in Oregon, living in the Salem countryside.

"I depend on you to help me make this newsletter interesting and worthwhile."

My interest in genealogy and family history began in my teenage years, as I began researching my maiden name, Sweetland, and I have been at it ever since.

Sometimes I am asked to teach classes on filing and organizing genealogical research and data. It's fun when I am invited to someone's home to help them get their stacks of papers in order so they can make sense of it all. Annual trips to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City always boost my efforts because new information continues to come to light.

My husband, Dale, and I enjoy working as a team. Since we like to discover and record history, we have collaborated on three self-published books, one on his home town and two on my ancestors. We recently participated in a reporting project on cemeteries in our area. Dale offered to help me mail out the S/S Lore newsletters, so I am a lucky lady!

In addition to family history involvement, I enjoy volunteering both in my church and in the community. I retired from piano and organ teaching, but am still our church organist. Other interests are bird watching, hiking, swimming, traveling, and spending time with our five married children and our grandchildren. My photography hobby enables me to capture the people and scenery along the way and share my pictures with our newspaper and others.

Now that you know a little about me, I hope you will help me get to know you as you send information my way. Please share your stories of heritage, family traditions, impressions of your ancestors' towns and times, new genealogical finds, research tips, queries on names you are looking for, as well as news about your current lives. I depend on you to help make this newsletter interesting and worthwhile, so please drop me a line at:

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S/S Family Organization

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Reunion Organizers Priscilla and Roger Swetland



Jamie Swetland explains Swetland website navigation



Sue Chadwick, left, and daughter Michelle display quilt made by Sue's great-grandmother, Emma Swetland, born in 1858. She donated the quilt to the Sweetland/Swetland Family Association. Priscilla Swetland contacted the Swetland Homestead and they are very interested in accepting the quilt.



Reunion Attendees Gather for Photo. L to R, back row: Michelle O'Quinn, Sue Chadwick, Kyle & Heather Kokko, Sandra Swetland, Virginia Swetland, Roger & Priscilla Swetland, Rebecca Swetland holding Zachariah, & Jamie Swetland with Samuel and Abigail. Front row: Virginia Miller, Clara Dvorchak, Alice Elderkin, Carol Gregorie.

Preserve Your Family History in Doug's Book: Updates Needed Now



Doug Sweetland, the author of *The Sweetland/Sweetland/Swetland Family in America from 1560* prepares to update this book. Doug states, "I do not intend to put out a revised "big book," but I will be producing a CD for anyone interested."

He requests information for the last six years of marriages, births, deaths, and corrections to his book. If possible, please state where in the book your information should be placed. The author writes that "any data which people did not send me at the time of the last update (five or six years ago) will be added."

This book in CD form will continue to be a valuable resource to researchers and to all of our posterity, and more so if all of the S/S Lore readers send their updates.

Please help Doug's book's accuracy and completeness by sending your family's updates to:

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