

Walter Stewart Clan

2023 Newsletter

www.walterstewart.org

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Stewart Descendants,

I am delighted to say that the 115th annual anniversary Reunion of the Walter Stewart Clan will be held the weekend of August 12–13, 2023. We are back to our normal two-day event and our normal location rotation with fun activities planned for both days at locations in Woodruff, Fountain Inn, and Simpsonville, South Carolina, including the historic New Harmony Presbyterian Church.

We will review progress on a number of fronts at the Reunion Business meeting this year, including development on our Walter Stewart History update project and other interesting projects being progressed by others in the family.

We have two terrific Saturday activities this year. The first is a show and tell including select artifacts from the families of 3 Robert and Rachel Stewart and 3.13. Samuel Turner Stewart and Louisa Ann Holcombe Stewart, generously hosted by cousin 3.13.612 Henry Fulmer at the Dr. James A. Fulmer House in Fountain Inn, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This house is the current residence of Henry Fulmer and Derrill Felkel. Henry is the recently retired Director of the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina, with more than forty years of service, and he is extremely knowledgeable in the history of the artifacts. Due to the size of the location, attendance at this event will be restricted to 25, and therefore advance registration is required (see registration form in this newsletter); and due to the fragility of the artifacts, we ask attendees to be at least age 12. Additional courtesies will be requested, including use of flash-free cameras only with specific permission and a specified parking location. We'll remind attendees of the requested courtesies just before the show and tell.

The second activity is a marvelous private art class focusing on a custom-made Stewart-related artwork created just for this purpose. It will be held at the Woodruff Community Center after a BBQ lunch in Fountain Inn. The cost for the art class will be \$25 for materials and instruction and we ask for registration in advance to make sure there are enough materials available (registration form is in this newsletter).

We will also have supper in a private room in a Simpsonville restaurant Saturday evening for any available to attend. Saturday evening is a great time for catch-up with our cousins and to suggest ideas for future activities and other ideas to help sustain and grow our family ties. However, if you cannot attend the reunion, our Walter Stewart Clan Facebook page continues to be very active and is a great place to share ideas, memories and family photos!

Our Sunday business meeting and potluck lunch will be held at New Harmony Presbyterian Church, where we are also kindly invited to attend the 11:00am service. I would like to thank Bordie Stoddard and New Harmony Church for allowing our Stewart Reunion Sunday activities to be held there this year.

Finally, I must echo a comment made by our Treasurers in their report below. Our bank balance was gratefully increased due to generous giving in 2022 but could still use a boost. Your dollars are used carefully to allow us to have wonderful newsletters like this one, hold great reunions, update our family records, maintain a website, and now, to support a major family history book update project.

We look forward to seeing you during the Stewart Reunion weekend to renew old ties and celebrate new ones. As it has for one hundred and thirteen years, the call still goes out, bring a full picnic basket and join us. We hope to see you!

Sincerely,

Judy Smith, Chief
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

TREASURER'S REPORT

Greetings Family! The following is our Walter Stewart Family Treasurers' Report prior to expenses of the Newsletter for the 2023 Reunion cycle. Our beginning balance was \$4,343.78 as reported in the 2022 Newsletter. Our deposits from the 2022 reunion totaled \$633.00 bringing our balance to \$4,976.78. Expenses from the 2022 reunion totaled \$193.00 including a \$100 check to Fairview Presbyterian Church for use of the facilities. Our balance after the reunion was \$4,783.38. During the year, we received checks totaling \$220 for purchases of books and CD's and donations. New checks were ordered for the Walter Stewart Family account totaling \$36.25. This leaves an ending balance before our 2023 reunion expenses of \$4,964.13.

The family has been generous in responding to calls for support for our big project of updating Walter Stewart Family records and eventually producing an updated book. We are sending out the call once more this year for needed funds. Thank you in advance for contributing abundantly at our reunion again this year as our project moves forward. Hope to see you all at the Reunion!

—Valerie and Les Jones, Treasurers

2023 REUNION SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 12—Fountain Inn, Woodruff, and Simpsonville

- 11:00 am Show and Tell of Stewart artifacts at the James A Fulmer Historic House, 303 N. Main St. Fountain Inn, SC. **Advance registration required**, as attendance is restricted to 25 (age 12 or higher). Parking at Fountain Inn Presbyterian Church, 307 N Main Street, Fountain Inn, SC, where we will gather to review the requested courtesies beforehand.
- 12:15 pm Dutch Lunch at Bucky's BBQ, 103 N Main St, Fountain Inn, SC. Ask for the Stewart party. This is about two blocks from the parking location for the show and tell.
- 1:30 pm Drive to Woodruff Community Center, 116 S Main St, Woodruff, SC.
- 2:00 pm Private Art Class at the Woodruff Community Center. Advance registration requested; if you wait for the day of the class, the instructor may not be able to accommodate you. Cost is \$25, payable to Walter Stewart Clan in advance.
- 4:00 pm Free Time.
- 6:00 pm Dutch Supper at the Simpsonville Carolina Fine Foods, 625 SE Main St, Simpsonville, SC. Ask for the Stewart private room reservation.

Sunday, August 13—New Harmony Presbyterian Church, 331 Reedy Creek Road, Fountain Inn, SC

- 10:00 am Registration begins adjacent to the Sanctuary (consider self-guided tour of the church cemetery)
- 11:00 am Church Service, to which we are all kindly invited.
- 12:00 pm Clan Annual Business Meeting in the sanctuary following the Service.
- 1:00 pm Potluck picnic lunch on the church grounds. (Bring food to share and chairs/tables for your party; drinks, plates and utensils provided.)

Directions, photos, and hotel accommodations on our website: www.walterstewart.org > This Year.

Editor's Note: Our art class will on Saturday will allow us to explore some of the symbolism associated with Scottish ancestry and the Stewart clan. The following essays illustrate some of that history. 🌿

ESSAY: OUR TRADITIONAL STEWART COAT OF ARMS

When you open your copy of The Walter Stewart Family History, you might wonder about the meaning and history behind the displayed Stewart coat of arms (first photo). The simplest explanation of the coat of arms itself is provided by the Court of the Lord Lyon, which is Scotland's Heraldic Authority: "A lot of Scottish coat of arms have a stripe called a FESS across the middle of the shield. This FESS sometimes has a checked pattern called CHEQUY. The most famous of these is the arms of the Stewarts, later to become the royal family of Scotland The blazon is: OR (as the shield is gold), a fess chequy AZURE and ARGENT—meaning the checks are BLUE and SILVER with BLUE in the first box." Therefore, our Stewart coat of arms is based on that of the Stewart royal family, which came to power in Scotland under King Robert II in 1371 and ended with the death of Queen Anne of Great Britain in 1714.


The Latin motto above the Stewart coat of arms adopted by the Walter Stewart Clan reads: "Nobilis est ira leonis." [The lion's anger is noble.] The Latin motto below the coat of arms reads: "Avito viret honore." [He flourishes in ancestral honor.] The ancestry of Walter Stewart Sr., who came from Belfast to Charleston in 1787/8, is not yet known, so we as his descendants do not at this time have definite evidence of whether our Walter Stewart was a descendant of the ancient Stewart royal dynasty.

However, interestingly, the mottos on our coat of arms are identical to those of the Marquesses of Bute, a noble title held by currently by the Crichton-Stuart family (second photo). The Marquess of Bute is the Chief of the Clan Stuart of Bute, which is a branch of the larger Clan Stewart. The Earls, and later Marquesses, of Bute trace their ancestry from Sir John Stewart, Sheriff of Bute (1360–1440s), who was an illegitimate son of King Robert II of Scots (1316–1390). The heraldic stamps of William Stuart (1798–1874), a grandson of the 3rd Earl of Bute, are now in the collection of the University of Toronto. One of Stuart's stamps contains a coat of arms that mirrors those used by our Walter Stewart Clan (third photo). Although it is impossible to know precisely how our ancestors settled on the usage of this particular coat of arms with the attached mottos, it is most interesting that the arms and mottos adopted by our Stewart family in South Carolina are practically the same as an aristocratic Stuart family that still flourishes today in the United Kingdom.

—Seth B. Leonard



“CLUARAN”—A STORY OF THE HISTORY OF THE SCOTTISH THISTLE
AYRSHIRE COAST (PRESENT DAY LARGS, SCOTLAND), OCTOBER 1, 1263
© 2023 Ruth Henderson

Editor’s note: This story by 3176522 Ruth Henderson is a vivid reimagining of the attempted Viking invasion of Scotland in the 13th century from the perspective of a Viking sailor and soldier. It turned out to be the last such attempt. Legend has it that because of the pivotal role the Scottish Thistle played in the outcome of the battle, the thistle was chosen as a Scottish national emblem. 

*It is very dark. The waters of the Ayrshire coast lay still. **Did the mighty Thor finally put an end to his tantrum?** you muse darkly. But that was no small tantrum. Viking leader King Haakon of Norway had tried to bring back the morale. Tried, and failed; you saw the despair in his eyes, though you dared not speak a word of it. That the gods had been so strong in their warning. . . that going back for the beached boats was so clearly not in their will. . . no, you dared not breathe it.*

All is still. The Scots are sleeping. . . who are you trying to fool now? The boy? You glance at your new little friend... a brother in arms? Hardly old enough for that; the boy will not stop checking his weapons. In the middle of that raging storm, there he stood, distracted— and fumbling with his knives. Just as he is doing right now. With a sigh, you reach out to still his hands. “You have counted them already, Sveinn; only two knives— one on each side, remember?” Your words come out like a low growl, or irritated thunder. But this boy is young. He still needs time to season. You remember those days well, after all. With a kinder smile, you heartily thump his shoulder. “Besides, what will those slumbering Scotsmen come at us with? Their nightcaps and bed-robos?”

He smiles. “I suppose you are right...”

You nod. “Of course I am.” But that is a lie. Shaking your head, you turn your eyes back to the dark silhouette rising up from the water. If the Scots are nothing to fear, why has your hand been on your sword since the sight of their land?

“—Leave all shoes on the boat,” the captain barks.

*If the Scots are nothing to fear, why so much caution? You slog through the water, careful to watch the shore. Nothing stirs; nothing moves. **Perhaps they really are sleeping**— Instinct has you cocky; reason has you doubting. Hand still on your sword, you know which of those two forces is winning. The grass is cool beneath your feet. You look back to see the boy smiling faintly. Anticipation— you remember it well, as a strong killer of fear.*

So, of course you are cocky. You are a Viking. Powerful. Feared. Favored by the gods. You have stepped onto Scotland’s sacred soil, and have found them to be sleeping. Legend will be born of this night; toasts will be made to this day. Children will gather around to hear the stories of old, and they will be told a new story. A story of—

*A sharp cry, loud and piercing. You curse and look back. The boy is jumping, hissing. **In pain.** But with no blood. “Thistle,” he seethes, pointing. There it is, set like a trap and buried in the grass. A heartbeat passes, and then another. **Perhaps the Scots sleep deeply.** The waves lap up on shore. **Perhaps they did not hear him.** Something moves off in the shadows.*

*The moon is playing tricks. Something is to the left now. **Surely the moon is playing tricks.** There is another hiss. **So, the wind has started playing, too.** And someone drops to your right.*

*Nei. You brandish your sword and you dig in your heels. Like the night, the Scots are closing in. Nothing is safe. You lift your shield and make ready for the fight. **Legend can still be born tonight.***

Legend was indeed born that October night, nearly eight-hundred years ago. But not legends of Viking conquest, looted shores, and a country caught unawares. During the heated months of 1263, Alexander III— the fourth High Steward of Scotland— devised a plan to gain an advantage over the “terrors of the sea.” By stalling negotiations, he forced the Vikings to navigate the sea during the harsh prelude to winter. A horrible gale— one so fierce that the survivors thought it to be an act of sorcery— forced many of their longships ashore on the Ayrshire coast. The invaders that King Haakon of Norway had assembled only days before now had a new mission. Stealthily, he and his men rowed through the waters, hoping to salvage their boats and cargo. But instead, they were pounced upon by the waiting Scots and the shore exploded in chaos and disarray.

There was no declared victor by the end. With a vow to return in vengeance and blood, King Haakon and his men retrieved their ships and sailed for Orkney. There, he died that same year before he could make good on his promise. The Vikings were never to launch another attack on Scottish soil. But. . . had their numbers been greater that night. . . had the storm not damaged their fleet and weakened their crews...and perhaps, had their feet not been bare and vulnerable . . the stories of our Scottish ancestors would not be the same stories that we have today.

Born from that night was the legend behind Scotland’s national flower— the Scottish Thistle. Stubborn and resilient, with a complex root system that tangles deep into the ground, the thistle does not give up its land easily— like the strong, courageous people who claimed it as an emblem for their nation. Armed with sharp spines for defense, and bearing soft down that often lines the nests of birds, this hearty flower symbolizes protection and safety. Although its history is rooted in legend, its beautiful symbolism has endured the centuries, as have the people who chose the thistle to be theirs.

CHIEF HISTORIAN'S NOTE: WHO ARE OUR PAST HISTORIAN'S?

The Walter Stewart Family records have been a work in progress for over a century. They owe their very existence to early family members, not then called Historians, although in fact, that is what they were. Together with his older cousin, **62 Wistar Stewart** (second Chief of the Clan), **373 Robert Walter (Walt) Stewart** (first Secretary / Historian of the Clan) recorded the first genealogy of the Stewarts, the original source of the present Walter Stewart Family History. Later, and crucially important Historians, were **683 Maude Stewart Buford** (1891–1972) and **3174 Nan Stewart McCarter** (1902–1967).

After the 1958 passing of Walt Stewart, our Secretary for fifty years, the role was passed to **683 Maude Stewart Buford**, a niece of Wistar Stewart. Maude was born in 1892 and was the third child of eight, and the first child to survive to adulthood, of 68 Twyman Clark Stewart and Malinda Abercrombie Babb. Maude and Dr. Joel Buford married in 1916 and lived in Greer for many years, where Dr. Buford was a respected pharmacist. At Maude's death in 1972, a Greer newspaper referred to her as "one of the most outstanding women in Greer's history" due to her many charitable activities. Maude was not a typist, so she turned to Nan Stewart for help after accepting the Secretary role.

3174 Nan Ella Stewart was born in 1902 at the family farm on South Durbin Creek, near Fountain Inn, Laurens Co., SC. Born to 317 William (Big Will) Clark Stewart and Jincie Wheeler Ballenger, she was the fourth child of seven. She graduated in 1925 from Winthrop College and later, the Duke University School of Nursing. In 1931, she married her cousin 3.13.11 Samuel Frank Stewart, who sadly passed away only three years later. For many years Nan was a medical technician with the Laurens County Health Dept. and McLawhorn Clinic in Fountain Inn where she was not only an expert lab technician but a good typist. Nan was working on the records of her mother's family, the Ballengers, and had already borrowed the Clan's genealogical records from Walt and made the first typed copy of them. Nan organized the nearly 1000 names of descendants and spouses by families in seven looseleaf notebooks, one for each of the seven Houses. Maude and Nan made an ideal combination: Maude with her concern for preserving the family's oldest records, her contacts with genealogical societies, and her trips about the country on the lookout connections to other Stewart families; and Nan with her passion for names, dates, and facts. Maude and Nan worked together very effectively for many years.



Nan Stewart and Hillard McCarter

Nan turned for help to her cousin **24221 Nell Cook**, who would later be the first Historian for the House of John. As word of their efforts began to spread, requests came in from various families for copies of their genealogical records, long before copiers were available. Nan supplied copies to an unknown but huge number of family members, for a reported charge of \$3.00 for many pages of hand typed records. As the requests for family history mounted, Nan also turned for help to her sister **3173 Fronde Stewart**, a retired nurse. In 1964, Nan married **Hilliard McCarter** of Fountain Inn, and was preparing to spend her retirement years working on family records at the time of her death in 1967. At this time, they consisted of data on nearly 3000 individuals in about 600 families. Nan is responsible for the first organized version of the Stewart Family records, to which she devoted many years of selfless and modest endeavor.

After Nan's death, her sister Fronde became the custodian of the family records until her own death in 1972. As we all know, our beloved first Chief Historian **31714 Mary Stewart Newton** picked up where Nan and Fronde left off in 1974 and published *The Walter Stewart Family History* in 1982. Mary also devised the important House Historian roles on which we now depend to continue development of our records. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to everyone, past and present, involved in maintaining and improving our Stewart Family records!

—LaMarr Brooks



Work continues on the updating of our comprehensive *The Walter Stewart Family History*, published in 1982. Thank you to our update committee. Progress has been made with targeted mailings and direct appeals for family updates and research on Ancestry.com but **your help is still needed**. Any updates you can provide would be greatly appreciated. There are several ways to submit updates:

- Use the paper form in this newsletter and scan/email or mail in;
- Use the web forms at www.walterstewart.org; or
- If you have lots of updates, email judy smith3.14@gmail.com for a form.

If you have questions about whether information on your family branch is missing or not, email Chief Historian LaMarr Brooks at thomasbrooks1@bellsouth.net or me at judy smith3.14@gmail.com with questions. We will be happy to send you a current report of everyone recorded in your family branch!

—Chief Judy Smith

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chief of the Walter Stewart Clan is elected for life. Officers and house historians of the Walter Stewart Clan serve two-year terms. Officers and house historians are elected in alternate years. The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for officers for the 2023–25 term. Elections will be held Sunday, August 13, 2023 during the Walter Stewart Clan Business Meeting at New Harmony Church in Fountain Inn. Additional nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Secretary—Adele Stewart, 79 Weatherby St SE, Atlanta, GA 30316

Co-Treasurers—Valerie & Les Jones, 305 Pine Street, Clinton, S.C. 29325

Chief Historian—LaMarr Brooks, 664 Whisper Lane, Salem, S.C. 29676

—Robert Hall, Nominating Committee

WALTER STEWART CLAN BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES

REPORTED 2022–2023

132.11.53 WILLIAM JERRY WHITE, husband of Candace Hall White, passed away November 17, 2021 at Greenwood, SC with burial at Woodlawn Memorial Park, Greenville, SC.

25219122 JOHN LYLE McCLINTOCK, born Mar 25, 2022 to John Marion & Alexandra Gunderson McClintock. Grandparents: Harold William Jr. & Susan Simmons Smith McClintock. GGrandparents: Harold William & Margaret Virginia Kellett McClintock.

2.10.3132 KATHLEEN ANN RADER McCARTY, widow of Donnie L. McCarty, passed away June 31, 2021 with burial at Graham Memorial Cemetery, Pryor, OK.

3.13.224 FRANCES STODDARD COLEMAN, widow of Broadus Coleman, passed away May 29, 2023 with burial at Cannon-Byrd Memorial Park in Fountain Inn, SC.

317111 SALLY BETH STEWART BERG, wife of Cameron Berg, passed away September 13, 2021 in Fall River Wakefield, MA with burial at Oak Grove Cemetery, Fall River, MA.

3171321 RACHEL DILLON NORTON, daughter of Jean Stewart Norton & Blake Andrew Norton, married Horacio Martel Badillo on December 3, 2022 at Saint Andrew's Catholic Church in Clemson, SC. Horacio was born April 12, 1996 to Horacio Larraga, Sr & Linda Badillo Martel of Westminster SC.

3171422 ABBYE WAY CLARK, daughter of Laren McCree & Linda Lesslie Clark married Micah Frederick on October 16, 2021 in St. Louis, MO.

31751 JINCIE LOUISE SPERRY VAN METER, widow of Frelan Van Meter, passed away on August 1, 2022 in Circleville, OH with burial at Washington Cemetery, Washington Court House, OH.

32115221 APPOLLOS LEONARD, born December 1, 2021 to Mark Ryan & Brittany Noel Estelle Leornard in Greenville, SC. Grandparents: Benjamin Rhett and Sally Ann Karr Leonard. GGrandparents: the late Benjamin Rhett, Sr. & Kathryn Elizabeth Harris Leonard.

322221 MARVIN CAMPBELL STEWART, husband of Margie Ann Hudson, passed away Feb. 2, 2023 with burial at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Candler, NC.

32222311 JOSEPH TODD STEWART, son of James Todd & Brenda Sue Lopez Stewart, married Rachel Lynne Peters, on April 16, 2022, at Lion's Gate, Spartanburg, SC.

322223211 EZRA NILAN WEBB-MARTIN, born and passed away December 4, 2021 to Zachary & Ellery Grace Webb in Decatur, GA. Grandparents: Dirk Allen and Andrea Augustine Stewart Webb. GGrandparents: James Thornton & Ruth Joanne Todd Stewart.

32222332 CAROLINE JOANNE KING, daughter of Leslie Jane Stewart King & Arvle Calvin King, III, married William Scott Buckles on Mar. 27, 2021 at Providence ARP Church, Clinton, SC.

322223321 ALEXIS JOANNE BUCKLES, born March 1, 2023 to William Scott & Caroline Joanne King Buckles in Greenville, SC. Grandparents: Leslie Jane Stewart King & Arvle Calvin King. GGrandparents: James Thornton & Ruth Joanne Todd Stewart.

322241 LINDA STEWART WHITEFORD, wife of Ray Whiteford, passed away January 25, 2022 in Greenville, SC with burial at Rosemont Cemetery, Clinton, SC.

384232 STACY LEANN CARTER, daughter of Francis Ewen III & Margaret Scarborough Carter, passed away on May 12, 2021 in Knoxville, TN. Grandparents: Francis Ewen Jr. & Frances Elizabeth Stewart Carter.

3.13.511 JAMES MARION STEWART, JR., widower of Joan Flowers Stewart, passed away October 21, 2022 with burial at Florence Memorial Gardens Mausoleum, Florence, SC. James was our first cousin to locate his Walter Stewart relatives though DNA testing; he was introduced and gave a talk on his search for his father's family at the 2007 Reunion and attended every year after that as long as his health permitted.

422162 PAMELA LYNN KARR CORDONIER, widow of Jerry Kenneth Cordonier, passed away October 18, 2019 with burial at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Gold Hill, Oregon.

422623 ERNEST CLAUD DUNSON, JR., 2nd husband of Gwendolyn Kaye Jones, passed away January 6, 2023 and his cremains were spread in Spade Cemetery, Colorado City, TX.

42761 RICHARD ALLEN STEWART passed away November 22, 2022 with burial at Boyd Cemetery, Boyd, TX.

4295113 ANNABELLE LEMON HAYNES, born July 13, 2022 to Matthew (Ed) Stewart & Tara Fouts Haynes in Atlanta, GA. Grandparents: Jerrell (Jerry) Harvard Jr. & Anita Jolene Abernathy Haynes. GGrandparents: Joseph Elijah Jr. & Martha Ida Stewart Abernathy.

6591 JAMES HARRY RODGERS, JR., husband of Fair Stewart Rodgers, passed away June 27, 2020 in Fountain Inn, SC with burial at Fairview Presbyterian Church, Fountain Inn, SC. James was our liaison with Fairview Presbyterian Church for many years.

REPORT FROM OUR WESTERN COUSINS

Here’s a bit of history of my branch of the Stewarts—the descendants of my great-grandfather 55 James Lewers Stewart (son of 5 Water Stewart, Jr.). As the Walter Stewart Family History states, James Lewers Stewart settled in Arkansas around 1859 after leaving South Carolina. The War Between the States intervened, and my great-grandfather joined the 51st Georgia Infantry, Co. C. He had an illustrious military record, rising from Private to Lieutenant over the course of the war, but his service ended in 1863 when he was wounded at Chancellorsville, the same battle in which the Army of Northern Virginia lost Stonewall Jackson. His left arm was eventually amputated above the elbow because of his injuries.



After the war, my great-grandfather stayed for a time in South Carolina, where he married Mary Louise Chamblin of Pickens County, and they eventually returned to continue to farm in Arkansas and reared a large family. They had twelve children, of whom ten survived to adulthood. Fast forward a bit to my parents, 5572 James Lures Stewart and Margaret June Kent, who met as kids in Odessa, Missouri. My grandfather 557 Thomas Gaston Stewart (Tom), my father and my Uncle Robert (5571), and eventually my Aunt Bessie (5573), lived in Odessa for a time. They were good friends with my mom’s family, the Kents, who had lived in Missouri most of their lives. Prior to WWII, my mom continued to live in Odessa and the Stewarts moved back to the family farm in Arkansas, where my dad graduated from Nashville High. My dad was Class of 1942 so his next stop was the US Army and the European Theater. My mom and dad married in December 1945 in Lexington, Missouri after his service in WWII.

In 1950 my parents followed my Uncle Robert and his wife Edith and kids Tommy and Margaret Lee to California (my Aunt Edith was born and raised in California). We would frequently visit my Uncle Robert and Aunt Edith even after they retired and moved east of Redding, California. We would often meet them in Reno, Nevada for a visit and dinner. I include a photo taken in Reno in 1991 by my Aunt Edith of my dad, 6672 James Lures, my mom Margaret, my Uncle Robert (l-r), and my son Ian (front). I was working and drove up to Reno later that evening or the next day, I don’t recall. Fun times!

—Donna Skarloken

2022–2023 WALTER STEWART FAMILY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chief 317143 Judy Lesslie Smith 3075 Pignatelli Crescent Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 843-870-4363 judysmith3.14@gmail.com		Chief Historian 351231 LaMarr Brooks 664 Whisper Lane Salem, SC 29676 864-640-0548 thomasbrooks1@bellsouth.net		Assistant Chief 317121 Dick Stewart 113 Lanneau Drive Greenville, SC 29605 864 -235-2019 dstewart@dickstewartmediation.com	
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*Name and email address corrected post-publication.

WALTER STEWART FAMILY UPDATE REPORT 2022–2023

Please help us keep the records up to date on your family! Use extra pages if necessary.
Bring this information with you to the Stewart Reunion, give it to your house historian, or mail to:
Linda L. Clark, 265 Clark Lane, Dorchester, SC 29437.
New family data can also be added at www.walterstewart.org.
A small donation to defray the cost of keeping the family records is always appreciated.

BIRTHS

This child is #___ in this family.
Child’s Stewart code (if known) and full name:
Date and place of birth:
Father’s full name and occupation:
Mother’s full name and occupation:
Paternal grandparents’ names and residence:
Maternal grandparents’ names and residence:
Family’s mailing address:

MARRIAGES

Descendant’s Stewart code (if known) and full name:
Date and place of marriage:
Spouse’s date of birth:
Spouse’s parents and place of residence:
Descendant’s parents and mailing address:

DEATHS

Please enclose a copy of the newspaper obituary if available.

Stewart code (if known) and full name:
Age of deceased:
Date of death:
Place of burial (cemetery and city):
Occupation (before retirement):
Last address:
Name of spouse:

Your Name:	Phone:	E-mail:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip-code:



ORDER FORM: RESERVATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Return to: Linda L. Clark, 265 Clark Lane, Dorchester, SC 29437 **Checks Payable to:** Walter Stewart Family
Prices effective. June 2023–May 2024. No hard copies of the family history book remain available for purchase.

Please register___ (#) to attend the Aug. 12 Show and Tell (event limited to 25; RSVP required)	No Charge
Please register___ (#) to attend the Aug. 12 private art class (\$25/person; RSVP recommended)	\$_____
Please continue sending me the Stewart family newsletter at \$3.00 per year for ___ years	\$_____
Send ___ copy(s) of the <i>Walter Stewart Family History</i> on CD at \$35.00 each (postage included)	\$_____
Send ___ copy(s) of <i>Centennial Stewart Family Cookbook</i> at \$15.00 each (postage included)	\$_____
I am making a donation to future family history projects, including a major book update	\$_____
	<i>Total Enclosed</i> \$_____

Your Name:	Phone:	E-mail:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip code:

Walter Stewart Clan
c/o Linda L. Clark
265 Clark Ln.
Dorchester, SC 29437

Address Correction Requested



AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

FAMILY VETERANS. As part of our Stewart Reunion preparation in 2022, we developed a list of Stewart veterans of wars in the, and we were able to expand on it with help from attendees at the various activities last year. We intended to share the first results of that work this year and in future years, since it’s too much for a single newsletter to publish a list of all of our veterans, but we ran out of room this year. However, should you wish to see the complete list right now (and send in additions or corrections for it!), you can find it at www.walterstewart.org under History.

2022 REUNION MINUTES. The minutes from the 2022 Walter Stewart Reunion are available online at www.walterstewart.org and hard copies will be available at the 2023 business meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

2022 WALTER STEWART REUNION MINUTES (with corrections as identified in the 2023 Reunion Business Meeting)

Introduction and Opening Remarks—The 114th Anniversary Clan Business Meeting of the Walter Stewart Reunion was held Sunday, August 14, 2022, in the Sanctuary of Fairview Presbyterian Church in Fountain Inn, South Carolina. During registration and after the congregational service, Mary Kagin Kramer played her Great Highland Bagpipes outside. Chief Judith Smith called the business meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and then called upon the Associate Pastor Kenny Maple to open the meeting with an invocation. Chief Judy then made welcoming remarks and expressed gratitude that we are now able to return to our normal schedule.

Historians' Reports—Chief Judy welcomed LaMarr Brooks as the clan's new Chief Historian and called upon her and the house historians to give reports. Margaret Sumerel, House of Samuel, was not in attendance, but LaMarr reported three deaths. Anne Shaver, House of John, reported one birth, two marriages, and one death. Alan Fields, House of Robert, reported three births, two marriages, and twelve deaths. With the House of James historian vacant, LaMarr reported one birth. There was no report for the House of Walter, Jr., but one death reported for the House of Clark. There was no report for the House of David. Chief Judy followed the reports with a prayer of remembrance and led the singing of "Faith of Our Fathers," played by Roberta Stewart Kagin.

Attendance and Outreach—Chief Judy then called for tallies of distance, ages, and roll call by states. 38212 Roberta Kagin came the longest distance, from Minneapolis; 31765 Jean Glenn came the shortest distance; 6591 Fair Rodgers was the oldest attendee at age 87. States represented included one from Minnesota, one from Florida, three from Georgia, five from North Carolina, two from Indiana, four from Texas, and "bunches" from South Carolina. Chief Judy reported that over four hundred newsletters were mailed and only about twenty were returned. She made a particular request that attendees make a point to provide updated address information for relatives who may not be on the mailing list. Chelsea Clark reported on updating of the website and veteran roll. The Facebook page is also being used on a continuous basis, and she encouraged family members to join it.

Secretary's Report—Mary Kagin Kramer reported that the 2021 minutes were in the 2022 newsletter. Alan Fields moved for approval, seconded by Seth Leonard, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report—Valerie Jones reported that the clan treasury is back in reasonable shape after being seriously depleted because of a lack of contributions during the pandemic. As a result of some generous donations, the treasury stood at \$5,243.52 at the beginning of the year. An additional \$339 was donated this year to date. The executive committee authorized the purchase of Family Tree Maker and tech support for the Chief Historian. Newsletter expenses were \$888.51. The current balance is \$4,343.78. Valerie moved to donate \$100 to Fairview Church for use of its facilities. Eddie Mattison seconded the motion and it passed on voice vote.

Nominating Committee Report—Dick Stewart presented the Nominating Committee report of behalf of Robert Hall. The nominations for house historians were as follows: Margaret Sumerel, House of Samuel; Anne Shaver, House of John; Alan and Kathy Fields, House of Robert; no nominee, House of James; Kathy Burton and Donna Skarloken, House of Walter Jr.; Meg McElroy, House of Clark; and Clark H. Stewart, House of David. Kathy Neal separately agreed (outside of the meeting) to continue as interim appointee House of James Historian. Susie Stewart moved to approve the nominations; Seth Leonard seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Old Business—Chief Judy reported on the history book update, which had a slow start because of Covid. However, recently several hundred new entries have been identified because of a targeted mail campaign to three houses. Three more houses will be targeted in the coming year. Judy added that Ancestry has been a big help in the process. She noted, for example, an entry for 42.11.1 "Toby" Stewart in the House of James, a grandson of Walter Washington Stewart. There was no further information on Toby, not his formal name, not even a birthdate. James Stewart, Historian Emeritus of the House of James, was able to find out that Toby's full name was Clarence Herndon Stewart, Jr. and his birth date was October 29, 1928 and death date December 4, 1992. Starting with clues on Ancestry.com, it was discovered that he had a Ph.D. in electrical engineering and made significant contributions to the early development of radar. He had a long military career and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. She noted that it will take the involvement and hard work by many over several years to accomplish the book update. For now, we need as much information on those who were born, married, or passed away since 1982 as possible. She thanked everyone involved in the update project and announced that the update committee will address next steps at a meeting after lunch.

New Business - Susie Stewart and Lucy Stewart reported on the threat to the Robert and Rachel Stewart family farm posed by the proposed Amtrak high-speed rail project, whose preferred right of way will cut through the farm. She said there is no zoning in Laurens County, that a good deal of high density development is occurring and that the rail line will intensify that process. The state archaeologist and historic preservation have been contacted. Carl Kramer asked if the farm is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and explained the additional measures that are required for federally-funded projects that affect sites on or eligible for the National Register. Susie and Lucy added that there is a potential for lawsuits. Judy added that there is information on the family Facebook page on how to get involved. Chief Judy also reported on Saturday activities. About 21 family members visited the Upcountry Museum, which interprets Greenville area history. The museum also hosts a temporary photo exhibit on the Vietnam War. Lunch was had at nearby World Piece Pizza. Supper was at Carolina Fine Foods in Simpsonville. Carl Kramer made a presentation on Stewart family participation in 20th Century wars. He and Judy then solicited additions to the current 20th century veteran list, as well as family members who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Judy also reported on a possible activity for next year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Kagin Kramer and Carl E. Kramer, Secretaries

Closing and Adjournment—There being no further business, Chief Judy thanked everyone involved behind the scenes in planning the reunion programs, activities, and the potluck lunch. She also thanked Roberta Kagin for playing the piano. Then we closed with a blessing for the meal and singing "Blest be the Tie that Binds."