

## STEWART FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2006

### BACKGROUND

The STEWART family in Texas was headed by Araminta COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART of Hopkins County. They had twelve children – seven of these married and had children of their own.

These seven were: Sarah Jane Stewart **MARTIN CLIFTON DRENNAN**, Mary Catharine Stewart **WADSWORTH FLORENCE**, Effa Matilda Stewart **POSEY**, Louisiana Caroline "Lucy" Stewart **RABE**, Daniel Morrison **STEWART**, Joseph Coleman **STEWART**, Araminta Emma Stewart **STOCKTON**, and Louvenia Domer Stewart **FLORENCE**.

### THE FAMILY REUNION

Five family lines were represented at the reunion: Sarah Jane STEWART MARTIN CLIFTON, Effa Matilda STEWART POSEY, Louisiana Carolina STEWART RABE, Joseph Coleman STEWART, and Araminta Emma STEWART STOCKTON. Between 35 and 40 people attended.

What I heard most often from attendees was, "We weren't going to come because we thought we wouldn't know anyone. But we got talking to everyone right away." People told me that even though they were meeting strangers that they felt like family they just hadn't met yet, which was exactly the case.

Two women, [Donna DAY MATHIS](#) and [Judi BRAWNER HAMMOND](#), who had been friends for a long time, found out they were actually cousins. [Brody and Mary KOON](#) discovered a photo of Brody's mother, Mae STOCKTON KOON, that will now hang in their home. [Warren STOCKTON](#) brought us Daniel STEWART's birth and death date, and Daniel's wife Araminta COLEMAN STEWART's birth date, along with a rare photograph of [Daniel with three STOCKTON men](#). Darryl STEWART brought a CD of rare family photos which included one of an eagle in a shed that turned out to be raised by [Robert Jay RABE](#) when the [Joseph STEWART](#) and [Reuben RABE families](#) lived next to each other in Eastland County.

I have to comment on the food. This was not one of those five salads and a bag of chips

### THE FAMILY REUNION, continued

California potucks that I'm accustomed to. This was a no-holds-barred, full-out, Southern extravaganza. The small area I assigned to desserts was quickly stacked with boxes of cakes and cookies, a peach pie, three cobblers, banana pudding, and home made ice cream. The lunch food included deviled eggs, corn salad and souffle, salads, baked beans, brisket, ham, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, biscuits, and much more. I've honestly never seen so much food in my life - and it was all delicious.

All in all, many introductions were made, photos and stories were shared, and relationships were forged, renewed, and strengthened.

I'm including an address and phone list. If you know of anyone that wants to be added to this list, or know of any changes or corrections, let me know.

### OUR TRIP TO TEXAS

In our 17 days in the state we put 2100 miles on our rental car. We landed in Dallas, stayed in Grand Prairie for a couple of days, and then moved to Lake Tawakoni near Wills Point where we rented a house for a week. We drove up to Sulphur Springs, over to Canton, up to Ardmore, Oklahoma, back to Dallas, over to Stephenville, Desdemona, and Ranger. We made one last trip, the day before we left, to Kilgore in the Piney Woods of East Texas. I had imagined Texas would be all scrubby desert brush, but it looked more like a beautiful golf course.

### MY 10 FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TEXAS

1. sweet, friendly people
2. open space and big skies
3. well-maintained, satin highways
4. cheap gas (it's about \$1 less a gallon than in CA)
5. lack of cigarette and liquor advertising
6. nearly universal air-conditioning
7. banana pudding
8. unsweetened ice tea in gallon jugs at drive-ins
9. dramatic storms
10. public records

MY 10 LEAST FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT TEXAS ARAMINTA COLEMAN STEWART, continued

1. chiggers (ee-gads! I still itch!)
2. humidity
3. science fiction-style bugs
4. dearth of healthy salads (yep, i'm from CA)
5. bugs in the swimming pools
6. bugs in my clothes
7. driving in Dallas
8. guns are banned in libraries (this one REALLY cramped my style!)
9. dry counties (i drink medicinally)
10. cigarette smoking in restaurants

Good and bad aside, we loved Texas, and may look into moving there some time in the next couple of years.

**ARAMINTA COLEMAN STEWART**

I added a photo of a woman I believe to be Araminta COLEMAN STEWART to the Daniel STEWART homepage.

This photo is from the collection of Johann ATTAWAY DAVIS, a great-granddaughter of [Effa STEWART POSEY](#), one of Daniel and Araminta's daughters. On the back there are two inscriptions in different inks. The first linearly, though not necessarily chronologically, reads,

*Would be Nancy Wadsworth*

The second reads,

*Probley Grand Ma Stewart, Matelda's Mother*

These inscriptions illustrate the confusion around the identity of Daniel and Araminta Stewart, oft confused with a couple named Nancy Wadsworth and Joseph Stewart. The confusion seems to have begun in the POSEY family and does not exist in Sarah's, Lucy's or Emma's lines.

The STEWART family was closely related to the WADSWORTH family through the marriage of [Mary Catharine STEWART](#) to Hogan WADSWORTH. One of Hogan's brothers (not a Joseph) married Nancy WALKER (making her a Nancy WADSWORTH), the sister of [John Hicks FLORENCE's](#) first wife Martha WALKER. John Hicks FLORENCE later married Mary Catharine STEWART WADSWORTH, after their respective spouses died.



Since there is so much documented evidence that the heads of our family were Araminta COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART, and there is **no** documented evidence of the existence of a couple named Nancy WADSWORTH and Joseph STEWART, I am inclined to give credence to the second inscription on this photograph and state that this is Araminta COLEMAN STEWART. If you compare this photo with that of her daughter Emma farther down the [Stewart Family homepage](#) you'll note a strong family resemblance.

In any case, thank you so much, Johann, for sharing this precious photo with us.

**COMPTON ROYALTY**

My great-grandfather, [Joseph Coleman STEWART](#) married [Nancy Louise Elizabeth COMPTON](#). Her great-grandfather, Hezekiah COMPTON married Jane FIELDS, a descendant of the [PLANTAGENET family](#), which includes King Edward the Third of England, Eleanore of Aquitaine, Edith of Talouse (who later became Mathilda of Scotland). Her mother was [Saint Margaret of Scotland](#)), and many other notable persons.

But before you Compton descendants get too excited about your noble birth, consider this:

*"King Edward III ...ruled England during the 14th century and had nine children who survived to adulthood. Among his documented descendants are presidents (George*

COMPTON ROYALTY, continued

*Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams, Zachary Taylor, both Roosevelts), authors (Jane Austen, Lord Byron, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning), generals (Robert E. Lee), scientists (Charles Darwin) and actors (Humphrey Bogart, Audrey Hepburn, Brooke Shields). Some experts estimate that 80 percent of England's present population descends from Edward III."*

by [Matt CRENSON](#), MSNBC

Looking at it another way, how many great (to the 25th power) grandparents does any one person have? Multiply each person in each generation by two. Start with your two parents - they each had two parents equalling four grandparents, multiplied by two equalling eight great-grandparents, then sixteen great-great grandparents, etc. In twenty-five generations that equals 134,217,728 great<sup>(25)</sup> grandparents. Since the entire population of Europe in the mid-14th century is estimated to have been 70-100 million we have to assume that a few of those people are counted twice in our family trees, if you know what I mean!

In perspective, probably everyone on earth descends from kings and queens, but it is fun to be able to trace the path.

Until next month,

Teresa Stewart Sitz  
[teresa\\_stewart\\_sitz@yahoo.com](mailto:teresa_stewart_sitz@yahoo.com)  
[www.ouramericanfamilies.com](http://www.ouramericanfamilies.com)

P.S. Please write – I love hearing from you!

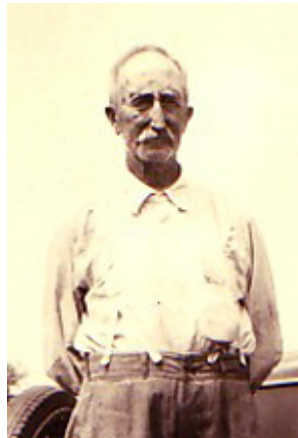
Teresa Stewart Sitz  
948 Tularosa Drive  
Los Angeles CA 90026

home: 323-667-0013

*"Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight.."*

- Percy Bysshe Shelley

VARIOUS PHOTOGRAPHS



Alexander Newton STEWART, circa 1930s



Daniel Stewart, Wilse Stockton, Johnny Stockton, Jr., Jim Ellison, Cal Stockton, before 1909