

# the Timen Stiddem Society

ISSUE 12 / WINTER 2001

NEWSLETTER

THE FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER FOR THE DESCENDANTS OF THE IMMIGRANT FROM SWEDEN IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY TO NEW SWEDEN (WILMINGTON), DELAWARE, ENCOMPASSING THE SURNAMES STIDHAM, STIDAM, STIDOM, STEDHAM, STEADHAM, AND STEDDOM, AMONG OTHERS.

## from the president's keyboard

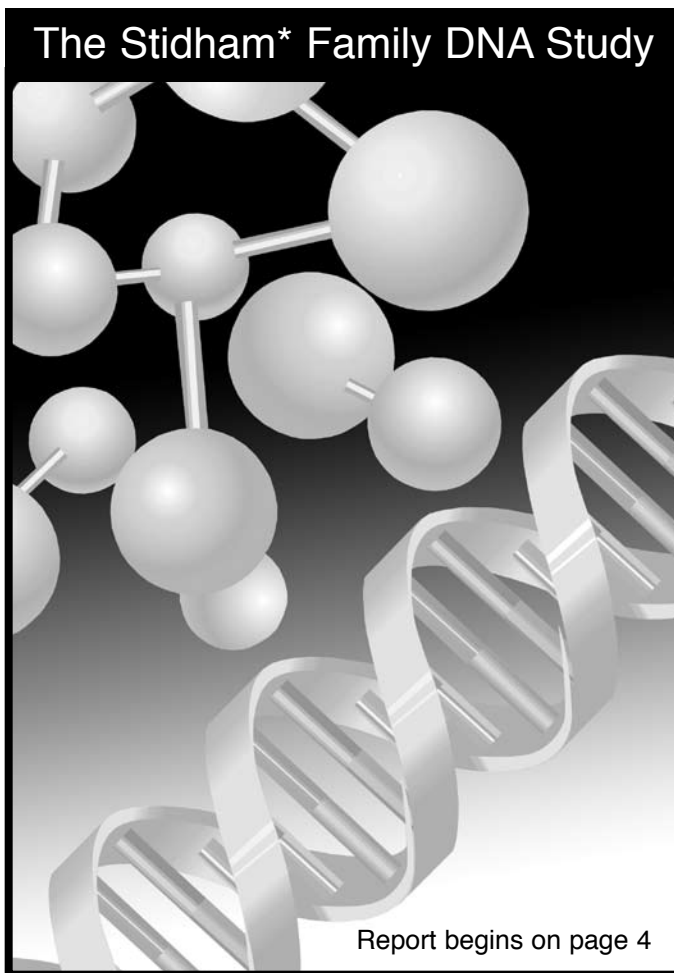
Y chromosome, DNA, genetic genealogy—the cutting edge of family history research, and the Timen Stiddem Society has taken the lead! Richard Steadham, our newsletter editor, presents the findings of one of the first family DNA studies done in the United States—a study in which eleven members of the Timen Stiddem Family participated. The results of the study, as Richard explains, were enlightening, unexpected, and controversial. And, there was disappointment—especially for me. You see, the scientific facts of the study prove my father and I probably are *not* biological descendants of Timen Stiddem. Has my father's 30 years of Stidham research been in vain? Should he forget about publishing his Stidham book (which so many of you eagerly anticipate)? Should I resign as President of the Society? The answer to these questions is, of course, NO. And now, the rest of the story.

When Richard first received the test results from the DNA laboratory, he was dismayed! He was in a separate group from my father's and other known descendants of Samuel Stidham,

the Revolutionary War soldier from Ashe Co., North Carolina. This research, after all, was Richard's brainchild. He has never been truly convinced of his descent from Timen's son, Benedictus. Now, with the "scientific proof" to disprove his Stiddem pedigree, Richard was ready to resign as editor, and suggested my father remove his line from *The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham* before the book is published. Richard then went about trying to find his "true" family. The logical choice was

the Scottish immigrant, John Steedman. The Steedmans were in South Carolina living amongst the Stidhams and Steadhams, and many of Steedman's descendants go by Stidham and Steadham even today. However, when I pointed out to Richard that his Benjamin Stedham was in South Carolina as early as 1722, but John Steedman was still in Europe as late as 1760, he took another look at the data. When he realized that members of his DNA group descended from three of Timen's sons, he knew he had to be a true descendant. It was the members of the Samuel Stidham group (which included my father) that were not!

My father is not a descendant?!? That's when my own interest in the DNA study perked up. Could the sci-



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The *Newsletter* is the official publication of the TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY. It is published four times a year: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. It is distributed to all active members as a benefit of membership. The objectives of the Society are to encourage and promote the accurate recording of family data, vital statistics, and individual accomplishments of Dr. Timen Stiddem and his descendants.

Membership dues are \$12 annually for which a member receives four issues of the *Newsletter*. All members are classified as either **Descendant** or **Associate Members** based on documented lineage from Dr. Stiddem or not. Anyone with an interest in this Society is eligible to join as an **Associate Member**.

**Note, Stidham\* followed by an asterisk, refers to all spelling variations of the surname when speaking of Stidhams in general. This spelling is the most commonly used form of the name by Timen Stiddem's descendants today.**

**Disclaimer:** The Society and its officers disclaim responsibility for any errors or omissions, although accuracy is always strived for. It is each researcher's own responsibility to verify any data presented in these pages against the original evidence, if that is of importance to them. Each contributor is responsible for their own material not violating existing copyright laws.

The TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY is a family association member of the **National Genealogical Society** and the **Federation of Genealogical Societies**. In addition, the SOCIETY is an organizational member of the **Swedish Colonial Society, Philadelphia**.

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Richard L. Steadham, the TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY,  
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entific data be unreliable? Sure enough, I found what seemed to me to be an obvious error. The scientists analyzing our DNA placed two individuals in a third group (two from a common ancestor, but not Timen Stiddem). I was convinced these two were descendants of two different sons of Timen, and I thought it would be impossible for them to be in the same DNA group.

Bennett Greenspan, President of Family Tree DNA, however, said he stood behind his results and would bet the lab at the University of Arizona, on its reliability.

Never-the-less, Richard asked the lab to retest. Sure enough, the first test on one of the questionable results turned out to have been extracted from DNA of poor quality and thus produced erroneous results the first time.

Playing the devil's advocate, I then asked parenthetically, "Could the other data be unreliable?" But I really knew the answer. After the retest, the results of the individual in question made sense. And, the other DNA proof cannot be disputed. I am not a paternal descendant of Timen Stiddem. At some time in my family's history, probably during the time of Christopher (grandfather of Revolutionary War Samuel), there had to have been one of those non-paternity events Richard talks about in his article. Perhaps Christopher took Adam (Samuel's father) in as an orphan. Maybe he was a child of Christopher's sister or female cousin. However it happened, there is one undisputed fact which even the DNA white coats can't dismiss—Samuel and my father and myself and others who are Stidhams\* because of some unrecorded non-paternity event are members of the "Timen Stiddem

## CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

**This quarter we have two generous contributors:**

- Noria Gerig (#DCM101) ..... \$50
- Floyd & Gloria Enfinger (#DM287) ..... \$13

Those wishing to make a financial contribution to the society in order to help offset the many expenses we incur beyond the costs of the newsletter, are recognized here as "Contributing Members." If you are able to help and would like to contribute, please send your donation to: Grant J. Stidham, TSS Treasurer, 235 Taylor Avenue, Bellevue, KY 41073. Donations in any amount are welcome. Make your check payable to the Timen Stiddem Society and write "TSS Donation" on the memo line. *Thank you!*

Family.” I carry the name and am descended from a long line of Stidhams\* who trace back to our immigrant ancestor. I may not have all the genes, but the family ties are there none-the-less.

However it happened, there is one undisputed fact which even the DNA white coats can’t dismiss—Samuel and my father and myself and others who are Stidhams\* because of some unrecorded non-paternity event are members of the “Timen Stiddem Family.” I carry the name and am descended from a long line of Stidhams\* who trace back to our immigrant ancestor. I may not have all the genes, but the family ties are there nonetheless.

Our upcoming 3rd Annual National Stidham\* Reunion will be an opportunity for Richard and others to continue this dialog on the DNA study. I encourage you to attend. We will be meeting July 19-22 in Mobile, Alabama, which is near Ft. Mims and other sites important to Stidham\* history. I look forward to seeing you there.

Oh, by the way, my father decided *not* to abandon his “book” (actually he never even considered it). We just finished spending four days of intensive work putting on the final touches to get it ready for printing. It should be at the printers by the time you read this. Hope you enjoy it.

—David R. Stiddem  
President

## from the editor's desk

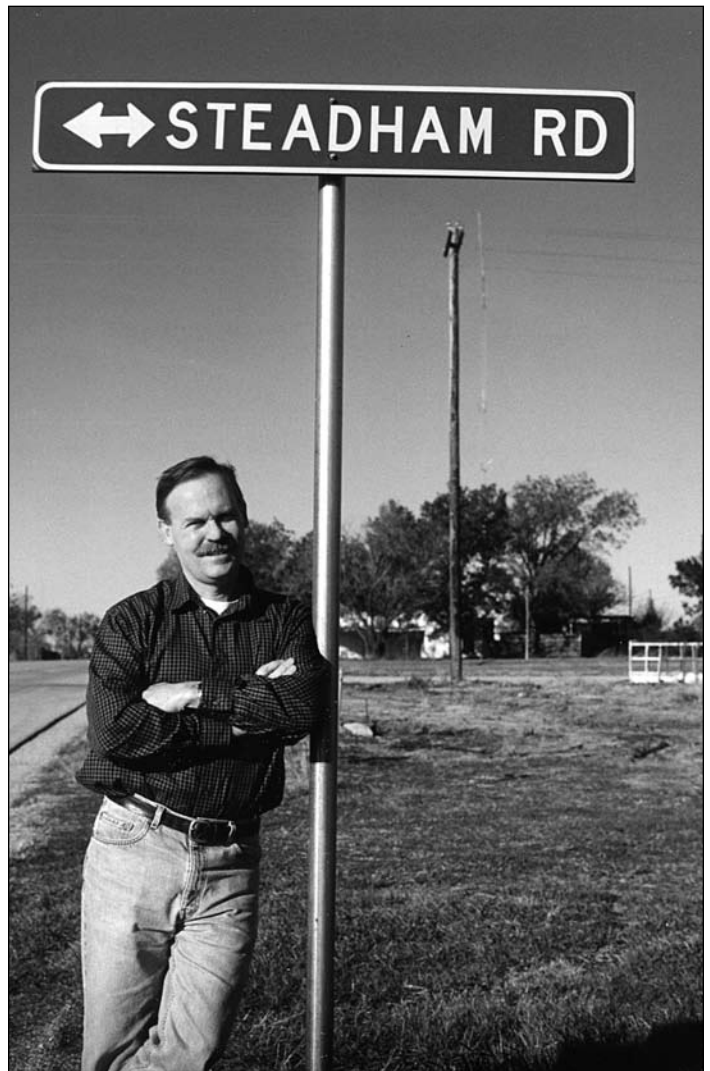
This Summer, we’re hoping to see a huge contingent of Stidhams\* descend on the beautiful Southern city of Mobile, Alabama. Mark your calendars now and plan on joining your cousins in a fun-filled family reunion set for the weekend of Thursday, July 19th through Sunday, July 22nd.

Our host lodging facility this year will be the Adam’s Mark Hotel, one of Mobile’s finest, located right on Mobile Bay in the heart of the downtown business and entertainment district. We’ll hold our annual membership meeting there in one of the conference rooms on Friday morning, do lunch, then take in some of the other unique sites this city has to offer.

The reunion committee is in the process of arranging a group tour of one of the city’s antebellum mansions such as the Bragg Mitchell in town or the famous Bellingrath Home and Gardens located 20 minutes south of town.

We’ll finish the day on Friday by touring the U.S.S. Alabama battleship located on Mobile Bay.

Saturday we plan to spend time over on the Baldwin County side of the Bay. Here we’ll tour the site of Fort



Here’s your editor looking rather proud of himself standing at the intersection of Texas State Hwy 114 and Steadham Road in Loving, Texas. The occasion came after the Thanksgiving Day holiday this past November, when my wife and I had the opportunity of driving across country from San Diego, California visiting family, to Woodbridge, Virginia, our home. The road is named after my 2nd-great-grandfather, Montgomery H. [1034] Steadham, whose house still stands a few blocks up Steadham Road behind me.

Mims, a place burned in the memories of many local Steadham families, as this was the site of the Fort Mims Massacre. It was here during the Creek wars in the early 1800s that many Steadhams lost their lives on that hot day in August of 1813. We can take a few moments to honor their memory with our visit there.

We’ll pass through the communities of Tensaw and Blackshear, home to many early Steadham families, on our way to the Steadham Chapel in McCollough where we’ll be feted with a fish-fry with all the fixin’s.

After our (Editor’s Desk continues on page 11)

# The Stidham\* Family

By Richard L. Steadham

After receiving the unexpected results of our first DNA study, one thing can sure be said: things don't always turn out the way you think they will. Of course, I knew this going in, I just didn't expect the results we got.

In embarking on this study, I was asked by many potential participants, "*what is the purpose of this study and what do we hope to find out?*" My answer was to respond with two questions: 1) Can a genetic fingerprint (Y-chromosome "score") of Timen Stidham's descendants be established, and 2) If so, what is that genetic fingerprint? The study was meant as a scientific inquiry only, nothing more. This as it turned out, was not a compelling enough reason for most to get involved. However, a few intrepid souls were interested enough in finding some answers to those questions and thus, our study proceeded.

The basis for the assumptions which follow are drawn from the scientific evidence as rendered by the lab, coupled with the documented constructions of all Stidham\* families found in Jack's book, *The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham, Vol. 1*, along with the position each study participant falls within those families (see the pedigree chart on pages 6-7).

From our pool of 11 participants, it was discovered that three *distinct male lines*, or *haplotypes*, were shown to exist. A haplotype is a unique set of genetic markers characteristic of all men descending from a common male line. For the purpose of our discussion here, I'm labeling these three lines: Group 1, Group 2, and Individual 3.

Group 1 *appears* to be a likely one at this point whose members possibly carry the Y-chromosome (from here on referred to as "Y") of Timen Stidham. The reason for this assumption is that members of this group descend from no less than three *different* sons of Timen: Lucas, Adam, and Benedictus. Conclusion: these three sons inherit their Y unchanged, from their father Timen, and pass that same Y down to their respective participant-descendants in this group.

If the above *assumption* seems plausible, then members of the other two groups *apparently* descend from common male ancestors who were at some point in the past, brought into the Stidham\* family by unrecorded adoption, or illegitimate birth. The genealogical community has ascribed the neutral terminology of "non-paternity events" to these cases. A third possibility *could* be if the male children of a Stidham\* daughter used their mother's surname, rather than their father's, they would nonetheless pass their biological father's Y down, rather than Timen's.

Four of the members of Group 2 are on record as descending from their common male ancestor, Adam [102] Stidham. Adam is a great-grandson of Timen, in the Adam line (note this Adam's position in the Adam line in the pedigree chart on pages 6-7). The other two members of this group were previously classified as "unplaced," since we didn't know where they fit into the family tree—until now. They are now confirmed descendants of at least, this Adam [102] Stidham.

So what is the implication here? Either Adam [102] Stidham was adopted into the family of Christopher [33] Stedham, or one of the other non-paternity events mentioned above was the cause.

Now, had Lynn (Group 1), a descendant of the Adam line not taken part in this first study, we could have easily seen how Timen's Y could have been passed down through either Group 1 *or* Group 2, because we wouldn't have known at this point whether Group 1's Lucas and Benedictus carried Timen's Y, or Group 2's Adam did. However, with Lynn's genetic fingerprint matching the others in Group 1, a non-paternity event must have occurred somewhere else down the genetic line, and the most likely place was at either Adam [102] or Samuel [166].

So where does that leave Charles in Group (or in his case, Individual) 3? He would *apparently* descend from a male ancestor unrelated *biologically* to either members of Group 1 or 2. The same principles of a non-paternity event are relevant here too. It was always supposed, but never proven, that Charles descended from Timen's third son, Erasmus [4] Stedham. The DNA evidence would now lead to the assumption that if that were so, a non-paternity event brought one of his Stidham ances-

# DNA Study

tors into the Erasmus line at some point back up his genetic line.

## The Science

We are all made up of 23 pairs of chromosomes. Half we inherit from our mother, the other half from our father. Of these 23 pairs, a female would have a pair of "XX" chromosomes which would signify the female gender. A male would have an "XY" pair signifying the male gender.

This Y chromosome is therefore passed down from father to son to son.

The Y chromosome that males inherit can be analyzed to determine whether or not two men share a common male ancestor and an estimate of the time back to that common ancestor can be made.

When the DNA in the male chromosome is copied and passed down from generation to generation, small mistakes called *polymorphisms* are sometimes made (see Locus 12 for Richard in Group 1 on page 5). These mistakes (also called mutations) can be found at particular locations on the chromosome and are therefore passed down through the generations, father to son.

Chromosomes are composed of DNA, which itself is composed of four nucleo- (Continued on page 8)

## Scoring the Haplotypes

GROUP 1 HAPLOTYPE

Participant	Loc1	Loc2	Loc3	Loc4	Loc5	Loc6	Loc7	Loc8	Loc9	Loc10	Loc11	Loc12
Kenneth	5	8	4	5	10	12	4	4	4	5	5	6
Lynn	5	8	4	5	10	12	4	4	4	5	5	6
Thomas	5	8	4	5	10	12	4	4	4	5	5	6
Richard	5	8	4	5	10	12	4	4	4	5	5	7

GROUP 2 HAPLOTYPE

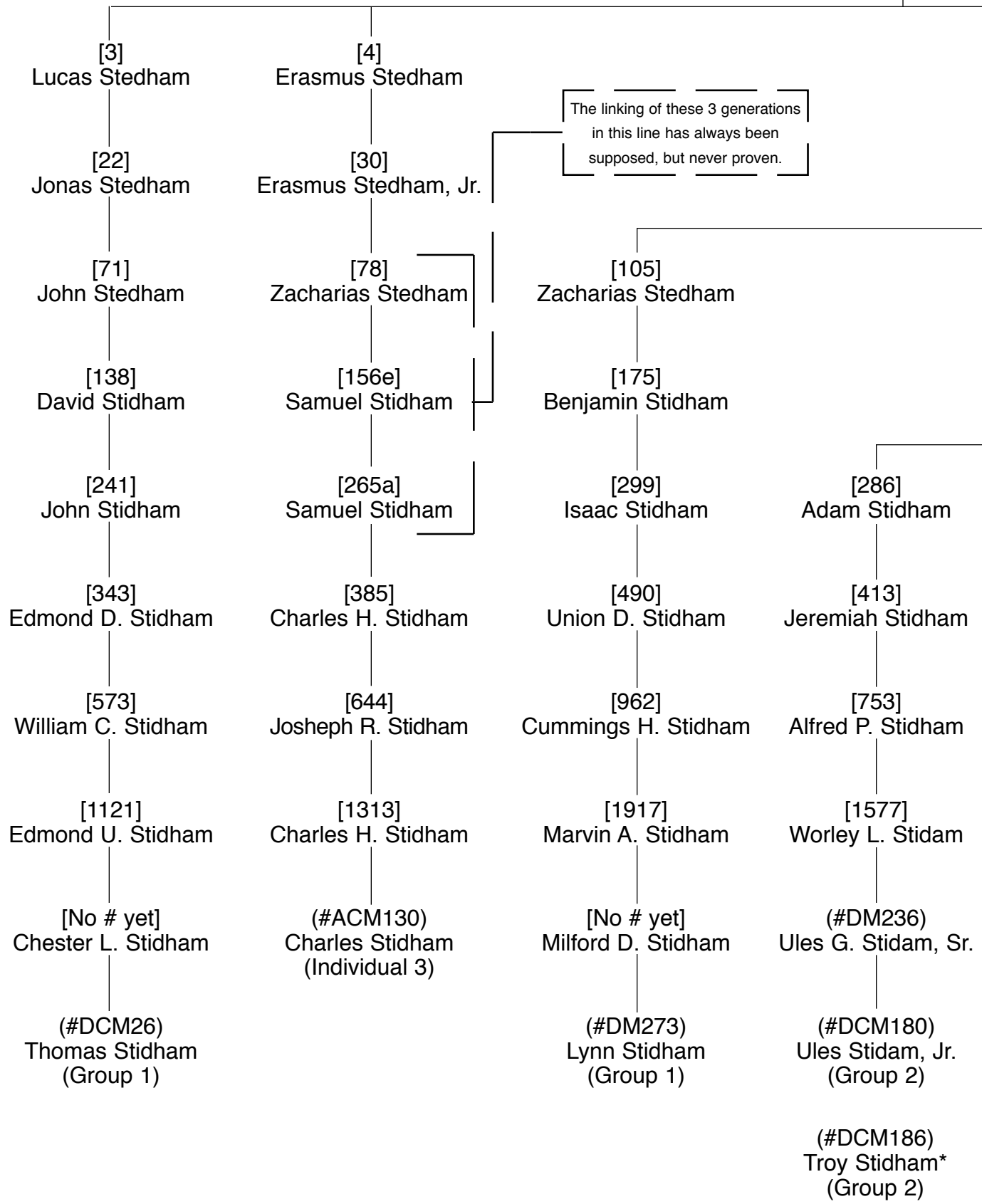
Participant	Loc1	Loc2	Loc3	Loc4	Loc5	Loc6	Loc7	Loc8	Loc9	Loc10	Loc11	Loc12
Arlie	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5
Daniel	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5
Jack	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5
Troy	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5
Ules	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5
William	5	8	6	5	5	8	5	4	2	5	7	5

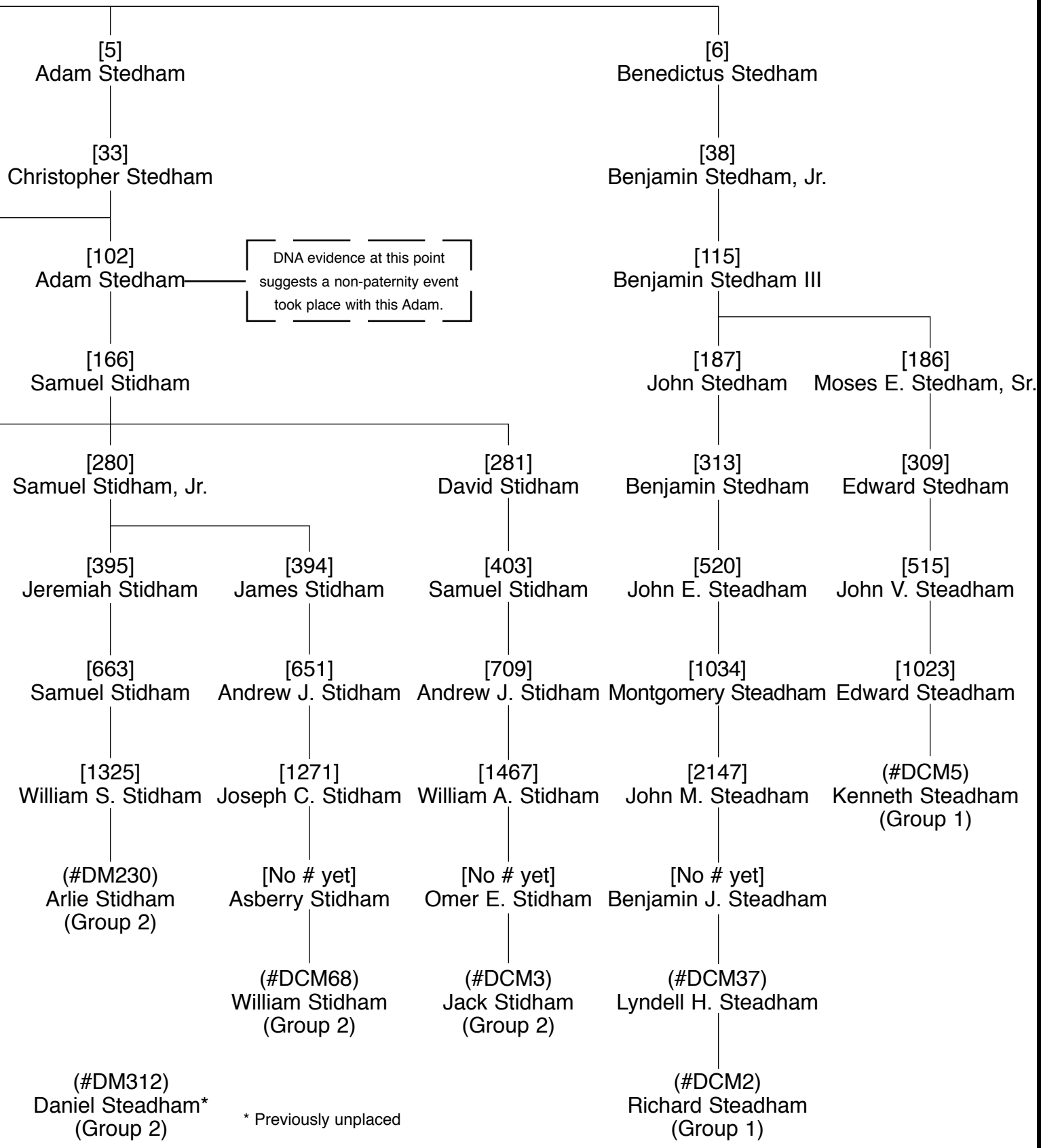
INDIVIDUAL 3 HAPLOTYPE

Participant	Loc1	Loc2	Loc3	Loc4	Loc5	Loc6	Loc7	Loc8	Loc9	Loc10	Loc11	Loc12
Charles	5	9	5	6	5	7	5	4	4	5	8	5

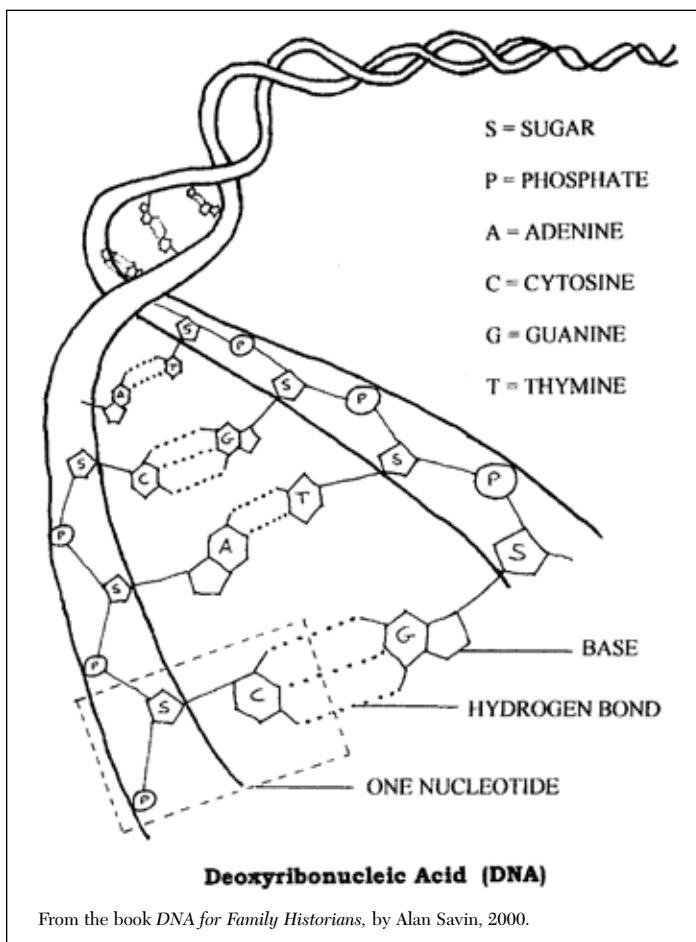
**Pedigree chart of study participants as presently recorded in  
The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham, by Jack Stidham.**

[1]  
Timen Stiddem





\* Previously unplaced



tides (also called bases) and they are: A (Adenine), C (Cytosine), G (Guanine), and T (Thymine). A combination of these four bases can form a sequence such as: GATC-GATCGATCGATCGATC (5 repeats in this example) and these varying combinations of repeats can be found at specific Loci on the Y chromosome. Collectively, the results of several Loci (12 in our study) are known as a *haplotype*. The 12 Loci that our lab, Family Tree DNA of Houston, Texas analyzes, are currently the most offered among labs servicing the genealogy community. More loci analyzed allows for a better determination of relatives and a better estimation of time to the most recent common ancestor.

It should be noted that Family Tree DNA is only the commercial side of the operation performing these DNA tests. The actual lab extracting and analyzing the DNA is the Laboratory of Molecular Systematics and Evolution at the University of Arizona, headed by Dr. Michael F. Hammer, the lead geneticist in the controversial Thomas Jefferson/Sally Hemmings case study that made big news last year. Dr. Hammer is also leading an ongoing study of the Cohanin name, believed to be the Y carriers of the priestly line of Aaron, brother of the Bible's Moses.

## So Now What?

I would personally like to see more men from each of the various lines come forward and take this test and contribute *their* genetic data to the overall pedigree of this family. To induce more potential DNA test participants into doing just that, the TSS board has agreed to giving one-year membership dues free to all those who take part in this ongoing study. More data will confirm *or even possibly deny* the assumptions I've made here, but until that happens, this is the way the evidence seems to point. What's certain is this: *no member* will have their "Descendant Member" status changed based on these—or any future—DNA test results. It's important to note that no matter how it is we all came into this family, the fact remains, we're *all* part of Timen Stiddem's family.

## Now It's Your Turn

I invited some of the study participants to write their own opinions on the results of this study so I could include them with this article, however, no one took advantage. That doesn't mean all were necessarily in agreement with the results. There's probably going to be some of you with questions, and comments though, so I look forward to reading and publishing *your* "Letters to the Editor," in the next issue of the newsletter.

## For Further Study

Some of the information about DNA and chromosomes was taken from the book, *DNA for Family Historians*, by Alan Savin, 2000 (ISBN 0-9539171-0-X). You can order your own copy of this book directly from the author. The cost is \$5.99 (U.S. dollars) plus \$1.00 for air-mail postage. Send your request with a personal check to: Alan Savin, 9 Bannard Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, England, SL6 4NG. Be sure to include your home address for shipping. Alan Savin can also be reached by e-mail at: [alan@savin.org](mailto:alan@savin.org)

Other information was found on the web site of Kevin Duerinck, Esq. at: <http://www.duerinck.com/genetic.html>

To follow a lively discussion of all aspects of DNA and its application to genealogical research, check out the GENEALOGY-DNA mailing list at Roots Web: <http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/Miscellaneous/GENEALOGY-DNA.html>. Lots of information can be gleaned from the archives of this mailing list and that address is: <http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index/genealogy-dna>

Finally, more information about Family Tree DNA, the lab we used for our study can be found at their web site: <http://www.familytreedna.com/>



# From Hopelessness to Hope

By *Teressa I. Wedlund, RN*



Hi! I'm an operating room nurse. I have helped with organ donations. I have been there when kidneys are taken after death has been pronounced.

Many operating room nurses have mixed feelings when helping with the kidney retrievals. The nurse may have very positive feelings about the two recipients. After the kidneys are successfully on the kidney machine, many sensitive nurses also feel sorrow for the family that has lost someone they love.

I made the decision to sign an organ donor card and have carried it with me always since that time. This decision is a very personal one. I found that my decision as an individual did not keep me from feeling the sorrow as a nurse when a patient is dead, even when the organs have been donated to help two other people.

Recently, I have had the opportunity to see organ donation from a different side. I know now how the family feels when their loved one dies and the organs are donated to give new hope and life to others—you see, my baby died on Christmas day, 1979.

Molly was born May 8, 1978. She was a happy, loving baby who also had her share of temper tantrums. I was so glad God had given me such a beautiful girl. When she fell, I knew that God has a purpose in everything and that He could give us strength for whatever was His will.

If she lived, I wanted my baby however I could have her. I didn't care if she was mentally retarded or if she was physically handicapped. I loved my baby and I knew she could bring us joy as long as we could have her with us.

I also knew that her condition was so critical that she might not live. I had a strong need to feel that if she died, something good should come out of the situa-

tion. My husband and I talked with the doctor ahead of time. We told him that if she died, we wanted her organs donated if they could use them. We did not know if she was too young. Even her doctor was unsure about the age requirements for organ donation.

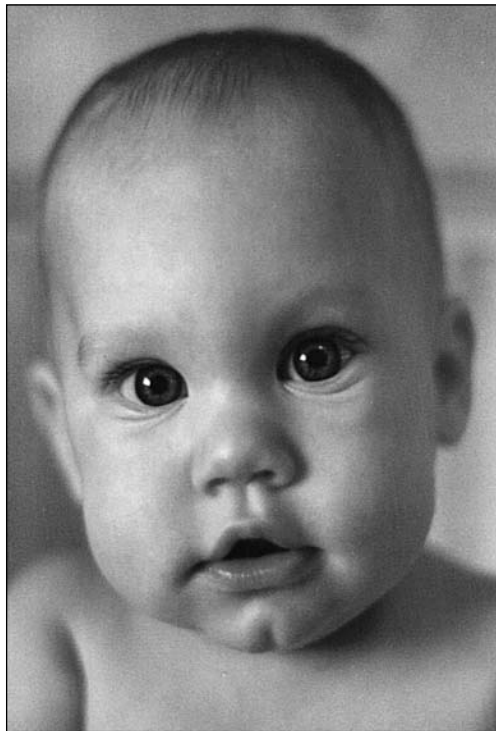
The operating team who took her kidneys were all people I knew. They had sat through pictures of her delivery, her first tub bath, her first Christmas and birthday. This was probably one of the most emotionally draining kidney retrievals the team had completed. Usually, the "family" is a vague group of people that are actually unknown to the kidney team. This time for the kidney team, "the family" was very real. "The family" was a part of the operating room family.

My baby's kidneys went to two children to give them a chance at a normal life. Truly the gift of life. The kidney team gave me something for which I will never be able to repay them... they gave me the knowledge that something good came out of what happened to my baby.

How do I feel now as a nurse helping with organ donations? I have helped with another kidney retrieval since my baby died. After helping, when I got home, I realized I no longer had the negative feelings. I knew the decision to donate organs of a family member can be the one source of comfort to a family. It doesn't change the loss or the empty feeling. Organ donation does allow the family to feel that something good may have come out of their loss.

When I helped with the organ donation after my baby died, I felt very strongly that I had to do everything I could to help this person's family have any good feeling that they could.

This is still a very individual decision. No person or family should feel forced to make a decision in favor of organ donation. But should they be denied the choice of having a positive feeling *(Continued on the next page)*



**Molly Lee Wedlund**  
May 8, 1978 to December 25, 1979

among so many negative feelings? I believe very strongly that medical personnel should not be so reluctant to furnish information to families of potential organ donors. Although the reluctance is often due to fear of adding more stress, the family may be denied making a decision they would like to. Later they may be saying... "If only I had known then about organ donation."

I'm glad we knew about organ donations. I can not have Molly with me, but us knowing about organ donation may prevent two sets of parents from going through what was unavoidable for us.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, ... James 1:17a.

*Teressa I. Wedlund is the daughter of Floyd (#DM287) and Gloria Enfinger. Little Molly is a 2nd-great-granddaughter of #1025. This article originally appeared in the Christmas/New Years (1980) Orlando Florida Hospital News.*

## Stidhams\* in the 1830 Federal Census in the State of Alabama

By David R. Stiddem



In the following summary of Stidham\* households in Alabama enumerated in the 1830 census, the identification numbers in brackets are from *The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham*, by Jack Stidham. Birth dates, when known, follow each name in parentheses, with the exception of the head of household. Stidham\* represents the various surname spellings in use in 1830 for descendants of Timen Stiddem, including Stidham, Stedham, and Steadham. It also includes various spellings (e.g. Stedman and Steadman) which may have been erroneous entries made by the census takers. However, some of the families listed below may be descendants of the Scottish immigrant, John Steedman.

The census tally follows the name of each head of household. The tally numbers represent, from left to right: the number of males under 5 years of age, males 5-9, males 10-14, males 15-19, males 20-29, males 30-39, males 40-49, males 50-59, males 60-69, males 70-79, males 80-89, males 90-99, and males 100 or older.

The tally number repeat the same age breakdowns for females.

### BALDWIN COUNTY

*Created in 1809 from Washington County and part of Florida.*

**Stedham, Elizabeth** (11101-111001) – Elizabeth Welch Stedham (c1796) was the wife of Benjamin [313] Stedham who was murdered on 24 Oct 1829 in Jasper Co., Georgia. He was the son of John [187] Stedham of Baldwin Co., Alabama. Benjamin and Elizabeth's children, listed in the 1830 census, were: Mary Jane [520] Steadham (c1816), John Edward [521] Steadham (27 Jan 1818), Hannah Elizabeth [522] Steadham (c1821), William Henry [523] Steadham (c1824), Arriadna Amelia [524] Steadham (c1826), and Benjamin Thomas [525] Steadham (c1828). There was also an unknown male (age 20-29) living in their household in 1830.

**Stedham, Edward** (130001-10101) – Edward [309] Stedham (b. 16 Sep 1790, Mississippi Territory) was the son of Moses [186] and Winifred Eppinger Stedham of Baldwin Co., Alabama. Edward and his brother, Jesse [308], were among the few survivors of the Creek attack on Ft. Mims at Tensaw, Alabama in 1813. Their parents and siblings were killed in the attack. His wife, Nancy Files Earle (11 May 1809), and the following children were listed in the 1830 census: James B. [511] Stedham (c1824), Edward [512] Steadham, Jr. (c1826), Elizabeth Louise [513] Steadham (27 Jul 1827), and three unknown children.

**Stedham, Jesse** (2100001-102001) – John Jesse [308] Stedham (b. 26 Oct 1786, Mississippi Territory) was another son of Moses [186] and Winifred Eppinger Stedham. Jesse also survived the 1813 Creek attack on Ft. Mims. The name of his first wife is unknown, but their children listed in the 1830 census were: Winifred [501] Steadham (6 Nov 1825), Andrew Jackson [502] Steadham (8 Jan 1820), Josephine [503] Steadham (c1825), Jesse [504] Steadham, Jr. (28 Feb 1828), and two unknown children.

### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

*Created in 1818 from Shelby County.*

**Stidam, Benjamin** (21100000001-1011001) – Benjamin Franklin [175] Stidham, Sr. (b. c1757, Anson Co., North Carolina and d. c1840, Talladega Co., Alabama), was a son of Zachariah [105] and Rebecca Fraser Stidham of York

Co., Pennsylvania. Benjamin married Priscilla, thought to have been a Creek princess. In 1840, Benjamin was living with his daughter-in-law, Mary "Polly" Parker Stidham (1799), the second wife of Benjamin Franklin [301] Stidham, Jr.

Benjamin Jr. had apparently died by 1830, and his widow and children were living with his father. The children listed in the 1840 census were: Isaac [492] Stidham (c1818) and Zachariah G. Lamar [493] Stidham (20 Apr 1821), children of Benjamin [301] Stidham, Jr. by his first wife, Leannah Hallmark. Polly's children listed in the census were: John Morris [493a] Stidham (1824), Mary [493b] Stidham (c1826), William [493c] Stidham (c1831), and two unknown females (one of whom was probably Matilda Bell, a daughter from a previous marriage).

## PIKE COUNTY

*Created in 1821 from Henry and Montgomery Counties.*

**Stidham, Levi B.** (00012001-0) – There is no known Levi Stidham or Steadham born c1770-1780 who matches this census listing. The census tally is very difficult to read, and the spelling may be "Stindham." Nevertheless, there was a Thomas Stidham (b. 10 Mar 1811, North Carolina and d. 22 Dec 1896; bur. Dawson, Terrell Co., Georgia) listed in the 1840 Pike Co., Alabama census (and neighboring Barbour Co., Alabama in 1850 and 1860).

*The original census data for this article was compiled by Billie Lee Stephenson (#DCM48) of Rockville, Maryland. Her close proximity to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and her willingness to volunteer some time, makes her the ideal member to research census data for us at the source.*

*Billie will continue compiling the remaining states' 1830 census information which will appear in future issues of the newsletter.*

## Statistically Speaking

Did you know that **Stidham** is the **4,040th** most popular surname used in the United States? How about the surname **Steadham**? It's the **14,746th** most popular. The **Stidam** surname comes in as the **49,212th** most popular.

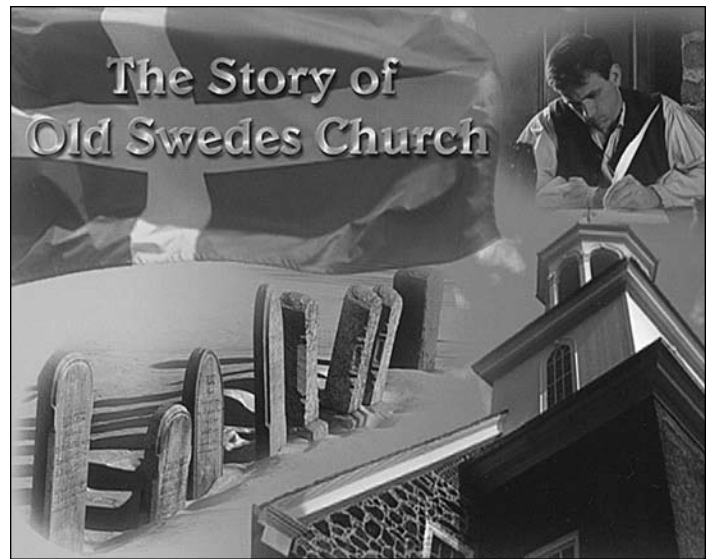
These interesting tidbits of surname trivia were found on the website [www.PlacesNamed.com](http://www.PlacesNamed.com). This site says that its reference information is mostly based upon publicly-available U.S. Government databases.

Unfortunately, other variations of the Stidham\* sur-

name were not prevalent enough in these databases to be included on their website.

The PlacesNamed web address is: <http://www.placesnamed.com/>. To go directly to the web page for Stidham, type in: <http://www.placesnamed.com/s/t/stidham.asp>. For Steadham: <http://www.placesnamed.com/s/t/steadham.asp>. And Finally, Stidam can be found at: <http://www.placesnamed.com/s/t/stidham.asp>. Check it out.

## Inspiring New Video Just Released



The Old Swedes Foundation has just released the video, *The Story of Old Swedes Church* for purchase. The price is \$20 each, plus \$5 shipping and handling. The video is a half-hour documentary about the first Swedish settlers in America and the role of Old Swedes Church in Delaware's history. It is professionally produced by Teleduction, Inc.

If interested in obtaining your own copy of this informative video, contact the Old Swedes Foundation at 606 Church Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. For questions concerning this video or the Old Swedes Foundation itself, they can be reached at: (302) 652-5629.

*(Editor's Desk continues from page 3)*

meal, we'll continue the tradition of holding our Saturday evening program of family stories and an auction of donated items to help defray some of the costs of the reunion. This is always a fun portion of the program.

On Sunday morning we'll plan on a good breakfast together back in one of the Adam's Mark convention rooms, after which it will be time to *(Continued on the next page)*

head our separate ways for another year.

If you haven't been to one of our national reunions yet, why don't you try and make it to this one. You won't be sorry!

The Spring issue will have a complete program of activities with all reunion expenses itemized. A registration form will also accompany that issue. Look for it.

## Old Swedes Foundation Membership

The society's board of directors voted in January for our organization to become a lifetime member of the Old Swedes Foundation. It was decided by majority vote of board members. Lifetime membership means the society will pay a one-time fee of \$500 for this distinction. If you'll recall, the Old Swedes Foundation is the organization which oversaw the Memorial Tree Program, its worthy goal being to replace many of the ancient, damaged and diseased trees in the graveyard of Old Swedes Church. The foundation's ongoing mission is the care and upkeep of this historic old church and grounds, as well as the Hendrickson House Museum.

## Consider a View From the Top

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about who the next slate of officers will be for term January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2003. We want some enthusiastic members who aren't afraid of a little work, to step forward and nominate themselves for one of the three offices up for reelection this Fall. Remember, only Descendant Members are eligible to hold office in the society, but all members can cast votes for their selection of candidates listed on the ballot, which will accompany the Fall 2001 issue. And no, a Descendant Member does *not* have to currently bear the Stidham\* surname to qualify for office.

Up for reelection are: president, treasurer, and membership secretary. David will retain his position as the computer database manager and "Stidham\* Family Tree" webmaster. Jack will *always* be the society's historian. I'll continue as editor of the newsletter for now, but wouldn't mind turning over this busy—yet rewarding—position to someone else with a little editing experience and the desire to give it a go.

Please send your nominations to: David R. Stiddem, President, the Timen Stiddem Society, 41 Dellwood Road, Worcester MA 01602-1835. The deadline for David to receive your nominations will be October 1, 2001. In addition to the ballot, a short bio of each candidate, along with their photo, will be published in the Fall issue. Here's a refresher as to what is expected of each position:

1) **President:** presides over the annual membership meeting each year at the national family reunion. Provides leadership in the direction the society takes as a family association. Delegates authority to others regarding various projects the society undertakes. Writes a message to the members each quarter which is published in the newsletter, detailing the programs and accomplishments of the society as he/she sees them.

2) **Treasurer:** opens a bank account in their local area under the name "doing business as the Timen Stiddem Society." Receives all membership dues from the membership secretary. Pays all vendors from the society's bank account, such as the newsletter printer, the U.S. Postal Service (stamps for newsletter), organizational membership dues to other organizations, etc. Sends a report to the editor each quarter for publishing the society's financial status in the newsletter for review.

3) **Membership Secretary:** receives all new and renewing membership dues and forwards the checks on to the treasurer. He/she keeps all officers up to date by e-mail as to who all the new and renewing members are.

—Richard L. Steadham  
Editor

### An Invitation to Join



## Swedish Colonial Society

The Swedish Colonial Society, founded 1909, is the oldest historical group in the United States that celebrates the history and legacy of the New Sweden Colony in America, 1638-1655. The SCS's bi-annual *Swedish Colonial News* spotlights historic sights from the New Sweden Colony and each issue includes the biography and lineage of one immigrant ancestor (a "Forefather"). Membership activities include an annual Swedish Christmas dinner and a spring Forefathers luncheon honoring these first settlers. All Timen Stiddem Society members are most welcome to join - and **TSS Descendant Members** qualify as SCS "Forefather Members."

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$25.     Family \$30.     Organization \$30.

COPY AND MAIL FORM WITH CHECK TO:

Wallace F. Richter - Registrar, Swedish Colonial Society  
336 South Devon Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087

## Another Page From the Stidham\* Family Photo Album

Here's a photographic treasure added recently to the pages of our ever-growing family photo album. If your next trip to the attic uncovers any old gems like this, please send a copy of it to the editor for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter so that we can *all* enjoy your find. Be sure to identify all individuals where known in the photograph.

**Alice Elizabeth Stedham [2421]**, born 30 Mar 1909, daughter of Howard Benjamin [1163] Stedham, is shown here on a postcard she sent to her cousin Jack Saunders dated 12 February, but with no year showing.

The card was postmarked from Cotulla, Texas and had the message written on it: "Guess who this is – wish you could play with me and my dollies – lovingly Alice Elizabeth."

Photograph and information found on the postcard courtesy of Jean Saunders Gillmore (#DM246), daughter of the Jack Saunders mentioned above.



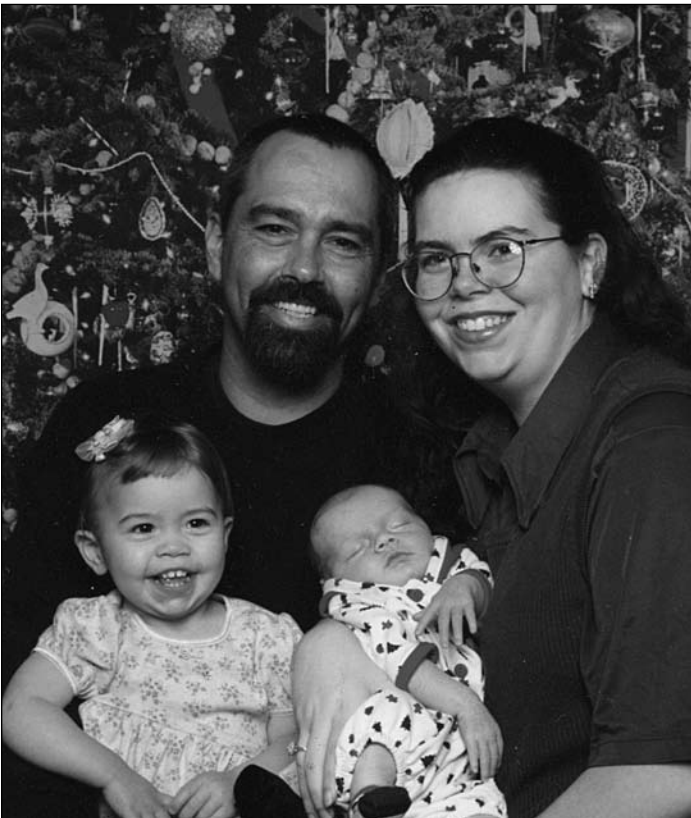
# CURRENT STIDHAM\* NEWS



## BIRTHS

**Bryant MacRae Steadham** [2nd-great-grandson of #1016a], was born 18 Nov 2000, in Morton, Washington. He is the son of Patrick and Jaimie Steadham of Mossyrock, Washington. Little Bryant is named after his grandfather Bryant Otto Steadham, Jr., and great-grandfathers Bryant Otto Steadham, Sr., and Keith MacRae Noble.

Bryant is a grand-nephew of Jessie Katherine (Steadham) Erickson (#DCM111).



The Patrick MacRae Steadham family with Patrick holding daughter Ruth-Ann Genevieve (17 mos.) and Jaimie holding the family's newest addition, Bryant MacRae.

## SURVIVING DISASTER

**Keisha Stidham** (lineage unknown), of Austin, Texas was one 33 sailors wounded in a terrorist attack on the

U.S.S. Cole battleship, refueling at the port of Yemen in the Middle East, last October. Doctors say that injuries to the sailors range from fractured ribs and collapsed lungs to multiple fractures, facial burns and contusions. 17 unfortunate sailors lost their lives in this cowardly act. Thankfully, Keisha was expected to make a full recovery.

## DEATHS

**Grace Stidham Griffith** [daughter of #1324], age 87, of Wheatland, WY, formerly of Breathitt County, passed away Monday, November 13, 2000, at Platte Co. Memorial Hospital, Wheatland, WY. Born August 8, 1913, she was the daughter of the late Jack and Elizabeth Huff Stidham. She was the widowed wife of Woodrow Griffith, a member of the Wheatland United Methodist Church and was a retired teacher and librarian of 36 years.

Survivors include one daughter, Rowann G. and husband, Gene Scott, of Wheatland, WY; two sons, Larry W. and wife, Pat Griffith of Port Byron, IL, and Garry T. and wife, Brenda Griffith of Silvis, IL; one half brother, William Stidham of Bridgeton, NJ; one half sister, Louise Fox of Scottsburg, IN; five grandchildren, John and Pam Griffith of Colona, IL, Chad and Kay Griffith of Anchorage, AL, Jeannie and Ron Barakat of Rock Island, IL, Grant T. Griffith and Colleen Leake of Orland Park, IL, and Brant M. Griffith of Silvis, IL; seven great grandchildren, Stephen and Zachary Griffith of Colona, IL, Ty and Skylar Griffith of Anchorage, AL, A.J., Karen, and Elizabeth Grace Barakat of Rock Island, IL; and two step grandchildren, Amanda and Nathan Pagakis of Silvis, IL.

Graveside services will be Saturday, November 18, 2000, at 2:00 PM, at Griffith Cemetery, Houston, with Rev. John Bunn officiating.

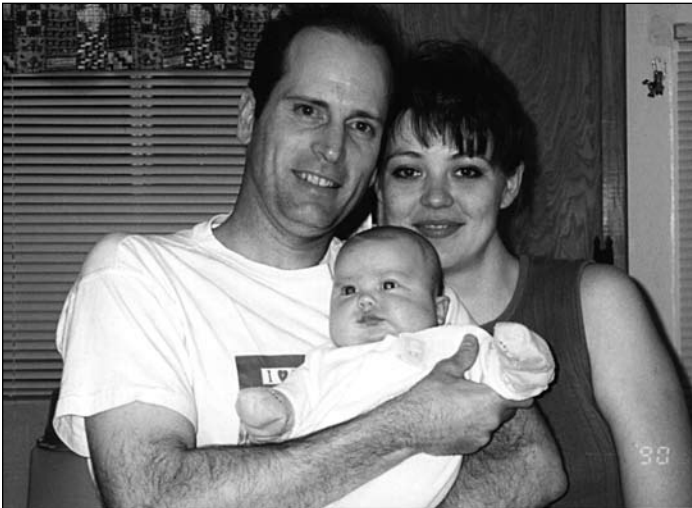
Breathitt Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

*The Jackson Times* (KY), November 16, 2000

## NEWS FROM ALLIED FAMILIES

### BIRTHS

**Jessie Andrea Erickson** [2nd-great-granddaughter of #1016a], was born 5 Aug 2000, in Loma Linda, California. She is the daughter of Kurt and Oksana Erickson of Yucaipa, California. Little Jessie is named after her grandmother Jessie Katherine (Steadham) Erickson (#DCM111) and also the sister of her aunt's husband who was killed in a tragic auto accident.



The Kurt Friederick Erickson family with little Jessie Andrea, father Kurt, and mother Oksansa looking proud.

**WEDDING BELLS**

Joshua Mac Donnell [2nd-great-grandson of #1025], married Rachel Alene Hays on 5 Jan 2001, at the Eastern Shore Bible Church in Galena, Maryland.

Joshua is the son of Rev. Kim Robbins and Beverly (Engfer) Donnell of the Whitesburg, Kentucky area,

and a grandson of Floyd (#DM287) and Gloria (Atkinson) Engfer, Sr.

Rachel is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Steve Hays of the Galena, Maryland area over on Maryland's beautiful and historic Eastern Shore.



Left to right: Beverly Donnell, Rev. Kim Donnell, bride Rachel (Hays) Donnell, groom Joshua Mac Donnell, Gloria Engfer, and Floyd Engfer, Sr.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Balance on October 13, 2000.....	\$1,870.98
<b>Revenue Received Since October 13, 2000.....</b>	<b>\$2,879.99</b>
New Member and Renewal Dues.....	\$564.00
Back Issues of Newsletters.....	\$22.00
Membership Certificates.....	\$10.00
Extra T-Shirt Sales.....	\$10.00
Donations.....	\$63.00
Bank Interest Credit.....	\$21.99
Family Tree DNA Study (Receipts).....	\$2,189.00
<b>Total Credits.....</b>	<b>\$4,750.97</b>
Expenses Paid Since October 13, 2000.....	\$2,705.80
Printing Issue 11, Fall 2000.....	\$385.00
Postage.....	\$131.80
Family Tree DNA Study (Test Fees).....	\$2,189.00
<b>Balance on January 18, 2001.....</b>	<b>\$2,045.17</b>

—Grant J. Stidham  
Treasurer

**new members**

Members joining the Society between October 18, 2000 and January 4, 2001

- Robert Allen Stidham #DM331  
[#573] William Chandler  
Stidham (Lucas line)  
Newark, Ohio
- Gail A. Matthews #DM332  
[#192] Honour Stidham  
(Lulof line)  
Sylvania, Ohio
- Linda Diane (Lockwood) Feist  
#DM333  
[#1948] John Harrison Stidham  
(Benedictus line)  
Lewes, Delaware
- Shirley (Steadham) Brown  
#DM334  
[#1018] Reuben Samuel  
Steadham (Benedictus line)  
Frisco City, Alabama
- Mary Elizabeth (Nickle) Casseday  
#DM335  
[#70] Ingeborg Stedham  
(Lucas line)  
Lewes, Delaware

- Virginia Heyes #DM336  
[#2207] Hazel Stidham  
(Adam line)  
Tucson, Arizona
- Betsy Farris #DM337  
[#2214] Mary Frances Stidham  
(Adam line)  
Tremont, Mississippi
- Jack A. Williams #AM338  
William J. Steadham (unplaced)  
Lake Mary, Florida
- Linda (Standifer) Singleton  
#DM339  
[#780] Adam John Stidham  
(Adam line) and [#701]  
Susannah "Susan" Stidham  
(Adam line)  
Noblesville, Indiana
- Jack W. Kirk #DM340  
[#427i] George Harrison  
Stidham (Adam line)  
Nevada, Missouri

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

**Fort Mims Alabama: A Personal Journey**

After a visit to the monument, one member imagines the horrors some of our ancestors encountered on that fateful day in August of 1813.

**The Third National Stidham\* Family Reunion**

Complete information about our reunion in Alabama this summer, including a registration form to complete and mail back.

**Stidhams\* in the 1830 Federal Census**

We'll continue locating Stidham\* families in the fourth national census.

PLUS:

**Current Stidham\* News**

**News From Allied Families**

**And More...**

IF YOU KNOW of someone who might be interested in joining the Society, please photocopy the form below and have them send in the completed form along with a check made payable to THE TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY in the amount of \$12 to: Ules G. Stidam, Jr., TSS Membership Secretary, 396 Midway Dr., Valparaiso, IN 46385.

I would like to join THE TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY as a **Descendant Member**. My known descent from Dr. Stidham is: \_\_\_\_\_

(You may enclose any documentation you have showing your lineage, or simply name your ancestors by generation back to Dr. Stidham. Use separate sheet if necessary).

I would like to join THE TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY as an **Associate Member**. I have an interest in this family's history, but don't knowingly descend from Dr. Stidham.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**the timen Stidhem Society**  
**41 Dellwood Road**  
**Worcester, MA 01602-1835**

