

the Timen Stiddem Society

ISSUE 19 / WINTER 2003

NEWSLETTER

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

Dutchman or Duetschman?

In Gothenburg, Sweden, Luloff Stidden was known as the Dutchman. But did he descend from a noble German family bearing a coat of arms?

by Richard L. Steadham



Luloff Stidden's surname was also spelled "Stitten" in the early Christine Church records in Gothenburg, Sweden, 1624-1725 (Ref: *The Descendants of Dr. Timothy Stidham, Vol. 1*, by Jack Stidham, p. 1-5). With this in mind, I did a search on the Internet for "Stitten," and lo and behold, one of

the sites that came up listed a noble German family by that name found in the book, *General-Index to the Siebmacher's coat of arms books, 1605-1957 (GISW)*, by Hanns Jager-Sunstenau (ISBN #: 3-201-00009-4). On the right is this family's coat of arms from that book. A brief genealogy is also given, plus a description of the coat of arms, all written in German.

I then made contact with the Main State Archives at **Schwerin**, Germany (Landeshauptarchiv Schwerin) and requested copies of the two documents concerning this family on file there. [Note: all place names in **bold face with underline** are located in the map on page 7.] I received seven pages written in (Continued on page 4)



Stitten

the Timen Stiddem Society

ISSUE 19 / WINTER 2003

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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 \$15 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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from the president's home to yours

Greetings family. Vikki and I hope your holidays were wonderful and wish you the best for the New Year. I sure miss the nice weather we had at the last reunion, it is a shivering 4° here at home as I write to you all. We, the officers and board, are busy making the arrangements for this summer's reunion, to be held August 14-17, in Bullittsburg, Kentucky at the Bullittsburg Camp and Retreat Center. This was the location of the 1st National Stidham* Family Reunion. It is located near the Cincinnati, Ohio/Northern Kentucky International Airport and Indiana. The next issue will include more information about it, including a program of activities and registration forms. The costs this year will be minimal with the lodging costs starting at just \$12.00 per day. We are planning a wonderful time that will include games, food, and a lot more fun. There will be activities that the young and young-at-heart will enjoy. Of course, we can not forget about the annual auction. We are anticipating a large turn out for this year's reunion since it is centrally located for a lot of family members. If you have not been able to attend a reunion in the past, you don't want to miss this one. We hope to see all of you there!

Going forward, we would like to say a special thank you to Richard. He has been publishing this newsletter for your reading pleasure, knowledge, and to keep everyone updated for the past five years. He has just announced that he will be stepping down from his position as newsletter editor after the publication of three more issues. He will, however, continue to serve on the board of the Timen Stiddem Society as well as continue his position as webmaster of our Timen Stiddem Society Web site. That's right our Web site will still be available, just a temporary set back of our newsletter only. Richard has done a wonderful job and we are grateful to him for all the hard work and dedication he has put into publishing it. Although he will be a hard act to follow, we are looking for another such dedicated person to fill the position of newsletter editor; I have been giving thought of the position myself, but due to my demanding work schedule I am not sure at this time. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please contact either myself or another officer so we can ensure you some type of training and support as soon as possible. If no one has volunteered for the position by the end of the year, your annual dues to the Society will continue to be used for, at the least, a bi-monthly or quarterly letter to compensate for the newsletter from the officers keeping you all

updated on the latest happenings and information available until the position is filled, as well as to help compensate for the annual reunion costs. Although a large portion of your dues is to defray the expense of the newsletter, the remaining portion of it has always greatly assisted the Society in covering the miscellaneous hidden expenses for our reunions each year. Your continued support is appreciated, because if it were not for family, we probably would have no one. Thank you again Richard, for the years of devotion and commitment to the Society and its members.

Well I am going to close for now, until next time, God Bless you all and enjoy the family and friends. Thank you all.

—Ules G. Stidam, Jr.
President

from the editor's desk

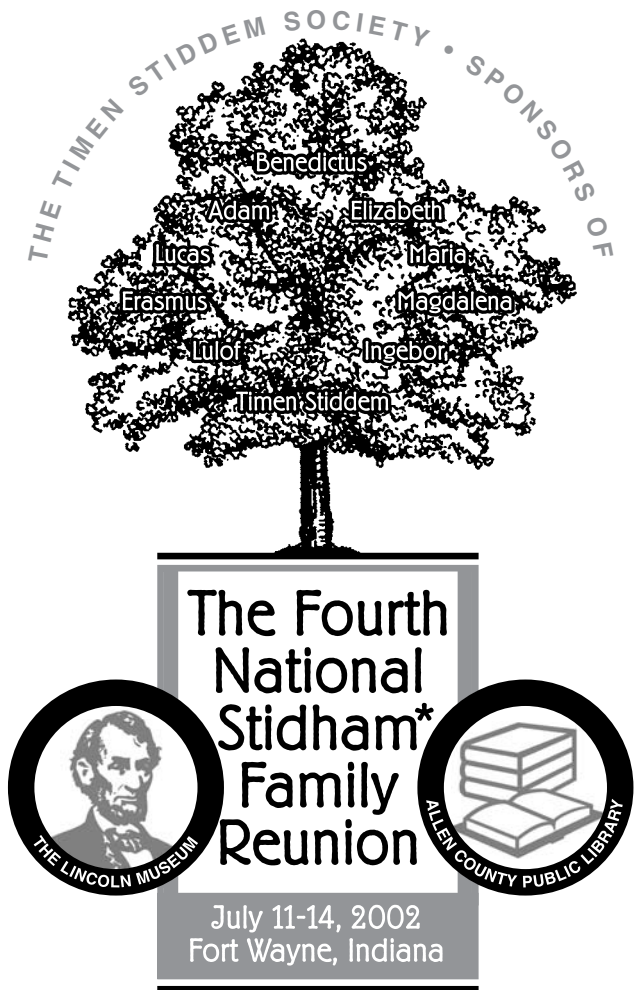
Dear family and friends, here we are in the middle of another winter, and for those of us back here in the East, it's cold. Hopefully the holiday season treated you and your loved ones well. We won't mention the treatment your pocketbook went through!

I've been looking forward to doing this particular issue for a long time because I'm intrigued as to the origins of Luloff Stidden's ancestors. We know that *he* was a Dutchman because that's how he is referred to in Swedish records, but what about the line prior to him? My cover story examines some old German documents I've collected recently, as well as some interesting German Web sites to see if they yield any clues.

New Sweden Conference Report

The Second Annual New Sweden History Conference was held this past November 16th at the American Swedish Historical Museum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The title of this year's conference, "Men, Medicine, and Material Culture, New Sweden, 1638-1828," sounded like this is one I should attend because I was sure if "Medicine" was in the title, Dr. Timen Stiddem would be covered. Sure enough, the program's third speaker, Karen M. Reeds, an independent scholar at Princeton University, mentioned him in her presentation entitled, "Keeping Well in New Sweden: Diet, Health, and Medicinal Plants." She recalled Timen's many voyages between *(Editor's Desk continues on page 8)*

Extra Reunion T-shirts For Sale!



(design on back of shirt)

We have a limited number of commemorative reunion T-shirts left over from Fort Wayne. Even if you didn't attend this year, you won't want to miss out on having your own copy of this beautifully designed shirt. In fact, get one for each member of your family and show your Stidham* pride next time you all go to the park or beach!

The shirts are 100% heavy duty cotton, light tan in color with the design printed in two colors: dark blue and medium brown. The cost is just \$12 per shirt and includes postage and handling.

We have several Large and X-Large shirts, but just four Mediums and three Smalls left over, so don't delay! Your purchase will help offset the society's remaining reunion deficit.

To order, send your request and check in the proper amount to: Ules G. Stidam, TSS President, 396 Midway Drive, Valparaiso, IN 46385.

(Dutchman or Duetschman? continues from page 1)
old German script from them. Unable to read German of any variety, I turned to Gordon Hartig Translation Services in Westford, Massachusetts, and had all these documents translated into English. The description of the Stitten family from the Jager-Sunstenau book read as follows:

Stitten

Old family of Holstenian descent, counted among the noble families of the **Lübeck** societal circle. Coming to Silesia in 1592 was Hartwig von St. [von means from; St. is an abbreviation of Stitten for this entry] who entered into the service of the margrave Joachim Friedrich von Brandenburg – postulate administrator for the Hochstift of Magdeburg and, later, Kurfurst of Brandenburg – and who was chosen as a right-hand man and advisor in 1607 by this fellow's son, the margrave Johann Georg, when he was taking over the Duchy of Jagerndorf. In 1609 Hartwig von St. became provincial governor of the Principality of Jagerndorf, and in this same principality he acquired the estates of Pommerswitz, Rosnitz, Wiendorf, and Steuberwitz – all of which are in the District of Leobschutz. He was married to Magdalena von Asshelm, but he left behind no children when he died in 1621 in **Frankfurt** a . O. [on the Oder River, which now is on the border of Poland].

The table of descendants for the family is that which appears below:

(1) Hartwig von St. and Klindtroden; spouse Weilia von Kirchrin-gen; (2) Hartwig von St. at **Krempelsdorf** and Hannsfeld; spouse Athalia von Grawert (heiress at Krempelsdorf); (3) Hartwig von St. at Krempelsdorf and Hannsfeld (died 1577 at Hannsfeld of the plague with 7 children); spouse Margaretha, daughter of Sebastian Ehrsam, was first counsel to and chancellor of the **Bremen** archbishopric, last position syndic in Lubeck; (4) Hartwig von St. (born 1563 on the 7th of July, died in 1621 on the 22nd of December), only son of the above-named; princely privy counselor and provincial governor for the Principality of **Jagerndorf**; married in 1610 Magdalena von Asshelm and Goldschmieden.

Coat of arms: divided; up front in gold and situated on the division a crowned black ox head; behind in red a golden

diagonal chevron. Jewel: red wing with the golden diagonal chevron. Cover: red-gold. (In this way the coat of arms in the the A.S. (?) and in the church at Pommerswitz.) A family history book sketch: Antonius a Stiten (circa 1570) shows the same thing as below. In the divided shield in front in silver the half-crowned black ox head along the divide, with black horn and stuck-out red tongue; behind in red a silver diagonal chevron. Jewel: on red-silver hump red wing with the silver diagonal chevron. Cover: red-silver.

The first document in old German script from the Main State Archives at Schwerin reads:

644 von Stiten (v. P.):

Their coat of arms was divided long-ways to the right was situated a half black ox head in the golden, and to the left a golden diagonal chevron, in the right field. Above the helmet the cover of which gold and red, was a red eagle wing, and on the same the diagonal chevron in the field.

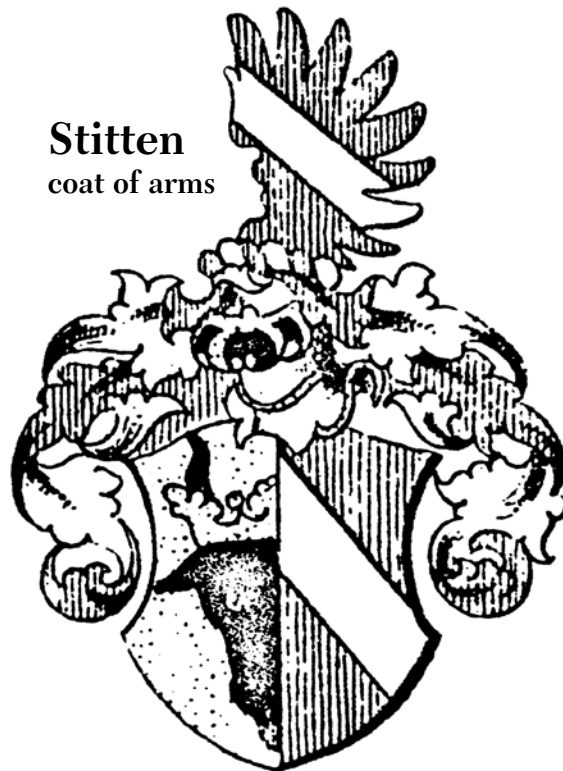
There is mention of this family as early as the year 1154 in the old **Ratzeburg** tithing register, in which there are 4 villages that list the name von Stiten, which were situated in the church parish of Begenthorp, and which had various owners of the same name.

Other than these, there are also 3 other Stitens present here in **Mecklenberg**, one in the Office of Sternberg and the others in the Office of Mecklenburg, from whence this family likely took and retained its name.

Afterwards this family moved to Lubeck, and there enjoyed important positions in the area of counsel; right away Franz von Stiten was town councilman there, and in the year 1573 was delegate of said city and it is attributed to him that he helped with misunderstandings in **Rostock**.

This family died out at the end of the 17th century with Hartwig von Stiten, whose tombstone inscription can be seen in a Lubeck church, where it is remarked that he was descended from the Mecklenburg nobility; op cit., page 257.

The second document in old German script from the Main State Archives at Schwerin reads:



Stitten
coat of arms

Legitimization Letter from Mr. Joh. Alberto on account of honorably received good ancestry, Hartwig van Stitten, received 1610.

We, Johann Albrecht, of God's grace, Duke of Mecklenburg, etc., do hereby announce in all the land with this open letter to all those who shall see it or hear it read to them, that there appeared before us, the honorable and beloved man advancing in rank Harthwigh von Stitten, legal heir at Pommerswitz in Silesia, privy councilor for the electorate and principality of **Brandenburg** and appointed provincial governor for the principality of Jagerndorf in Upper Silesia, and with him he also had the coat of arms of our likewise beloved younger Hartwigen von Stitten, heir of Krepelstorff and Schonenbuchen, and also on the maternal side Hierony and Luneburgen at Woysling and all other Luneburgen on the Bichorff, his cousins and uncles, with the announcement that he is of legitimate age-old noble lineage, and this then transmitted from and with our credible knowledge, as well as of his beloved ancestors, hereditary reigning princes, who would be in need of dividing up the subordinate property Pittendf among them in grace. If also on their account the above-noted, his next cousins and blood relative, had brought along, his native ancestral knowledge while awaiting execution on our part. After we have deemed such attempt as proper, we graciously therein consenting, and if one wishes to find with certainty here, through what condition the von Stittens are known by our national commission, so they have indeed left behind oral records that their ancestors sprouted from our principality of Mecklenburg and have also resided in same three hundred and more years ago. As they also have an estate Stitten bearing their name, the house along with villages large and small, Stitten and undifferentiable places situated here in the land, and today are present above one another with held nobility, also above that from unimaginable years. Above other residence-entitled nobility and ranking assigned for and have been, and yet are in the age-old order of the Eirwelb brothers at Lubeck. Upon this the above-named von Stittens turned and Luneburgs, for us satisfactorily, the first mentioned Hartwig von Stizen, their hereditary blood relative, cousins and uncles to be, and embodied ancestors of them from cousins and maternal relative to, he also from the same race or family, his rightful good ancestry and honorable birth sufficiently proven, indeed would be from such race or family, the Eckwarden, in East Frisia, Erhamen and Grossfeld in Franconia. Within fifty years died out, and entirely gone under. For that reason such as this has taken place, and above-named mea-

asures have been taken and have compiled and entered above information in this document and have legitimized same under our princely seal and have made this known and imparted it. Happened and given at our House Vordebusch in the month of March in the year of our Lord sixteen hundred and ten.

In addition to these three documents from the Main State Archives at Schwerin, mention of individuals bearing the Stiten surname (and in one case, a village by that name) was found on the following German web sites (all translated into English through the "Google" translating option available on most web browsers.) Keep in mind that sentence structure in the German language is different than in the English. Therefore, when reading the following passages from these sites, they will sound a bit odd in their grammar. To help locate the individuals concerned, they will be *boldface italic*.

- "*Stiten von: Elisabeth*; p: ca. 1570; d: n. 1617; m (M II): Lübeck 1600 Friedrich Dr.jur. Plönnies 1; *Georg*, 1590 Ratsverwandter in Lübeck, Mengstr.10, 1580 Zirkelbruder, Vorsteher der Markkirche; p: 1528; d: 01.04.1612; m: Mechthild (Metteke) Wibbeking 2; *Hartwich*, Zirkelbruder zu Lübeck; d: v. 1560; m: Lübeck 1518 Adelheid (Taleke) Grawert 1; *Hartwich*, 1489 Ratsherr, 1502 Bürgermstr. in Lübeck, Mengstr.2; d: Lübeck 03.04.1511; m (M II): n. 1492 Cäcilie Kerkring 2; *Heinrich*, 1447 Ratsherr, '66 Bürgermeister in Lübeck, '57/58 Amtmann in Bergedorf; d: Lübeck 09.05.1484; m (M I, F II): Margaretha Brekewoldt 2, vw. v.d. Howe; *Hermann*; p: ca. 1370; d: Lübeck 1432; m (M I): Magdalena NN; *Conrad*, 1380 auf Schönböken, 1388 in Lübeck, Fleischhauerstraße; p: Wismar ca. 1350; m: v. 1370 Taleke Schonenberg." From the web site, *Ancestor list Dr. H. Brandt* <http://www.brandt-krieger-r.de/Ahnen_S.htm>.

- "[the Prussian cities at Hamburg]: like probably also Hamburg, a letter of the German buyer to Bruegge together with copies of the letters of different gentlemen received; afterwards the old person opened advice to Luebeck by Jordan Pleskow and *Klaus van Stiten* to the German buyer that he him against the inhabitants of Luebeck awarded sum of 4000 Marks of loetigen gold demand, and the buyer attained a delay with large trouble by 31 May..." From the web site, *Meeting to brown mountain, 23. April 1411 - HR 1,6, P. 8* <http://www.phil.uni-erlangen.de/~p1ges/quellen/hr1_6/hr_1_6_S_8.html>.

- “Pope Gregor (the 11.) determined in a document executed in Avignon that after dying the ‘rector’ **Johann v. Stiten** the Zitower Pfarrstelle is to be lent at Herrman Campz.” From the web site, *Time board for the history of the village Zittow part 1* <<http://www.zittow.de/1/Geschichte/geschichte.html>>.

- “Knight Heinrich v. Rambow confirms sales of the village **Stiten**.” From the web site, *Rambow Page* <<http://www.rambow.de/quellen.html>>. (Editor’s note, this village is known today as “**Groß Stieten**” or “Gross Stieten” and is located in the German State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.)

- “Directly at the village also the Arfrader yard lies. It is probably the same yard, which was sold to 1450 by the executors of the Luebecker of citizen **Jacob of Stiten** [untranslated: **Jacob von Stiten**] for 115 Marks to the citizen Gereke Plote, its tenants 1424 a Todschlagsuehne before the Luebecker mayor locked. **Of Stiten** acquired the yard later back and kept it then over 200 years possession.” From the web site, *History Arfrades* <<http://www.arfrade.de/history.htm>>.

- “Trenthorst: So-called Lueb property in the office district small nature mountain... Historical: The property was formerly a village, which 1529 of the king Friedrich I. its secretary Heinrich trained leaned and from this immediately thereafter to the Luebeck citizen Go for 2000? one sold; whereupon **v. Stiten** possessed it...” From the web site, *Topography of small nature mountain and environment* <http://www.peter-doerling.de/Geneal/Wes_enb_topo.htm>.

Dutch or German?

I began this article by posing the question as to whether or not Luloff Stidden (Stitten) was a Dutchman or Duetschman. Although these documents and web sites in and of themselves don’t answer that question, I believe they provide fertile ground for more research in these areas of Germany where better evidence may *someday* be found. Swedish records clearly say that Luloff *was* a Dutchman, so we have to assume he at least arrived in Sweden from the Netherlands (or Denmark, see below) with other Dutchmen at the request of King Gustavus II Adolphus as the first wave of engineers and city planners to help build and administer the new city of **Gothenburg**. He was the city’s first sheriff from January 28 to May 31, 1622 (Ref: *The History of Gothenburg, the*

Foundation and the First Hundred Years, by Helge Almquist, 1929, p. 93), as well as its “caretaker” (or guardian) in 1624 and was paid 180 daler silver currant for this position (Almquist, p. 98). He later held the office of “building contractor” until his death in 1639 (Almquist, pp. 95 & 96). The Swedish King chose this location for a city partly to provide a center of resistance and protection against the nearby raiding Danes. There were over 500 Dutch settlers in the first year, with lesser numbers of immigrants from Germany and Britain. The Town Council in 1624 consisted of four Swedes, three Germans, three Dutch, and two Scots (Ref: The website, *The History of the English Church in Gothenburg* <<http://educate.lib.chalmers.se/St.Andrews/subdocs/history.html>>).

There’s evidence that Luloff was for a time living in Copenhagen, Denmark, as a “Lijloff Stijdenn from Copenhagen” appeared before the court in Lodose (predecessor of Gothenburg) over a charter dispute involving a ship from Copenhagen (Ref: Stidham, p. 5-2). It’s because of this *one* reference, *plus* the close proximity of **Hammel**, Denmark, to Gothenburg, Sweden, we believe Timen Stiddem was probably born in *that* village of Hammel as opposed to the other places bearing that name in Germany. Could there be other Hammels though with a legitimate claim as to Timen’s birthplace?

In the northwestern German State of Niedersachsen, two other small villages with the name **Hammel** exist. The location of one is interesting because of its close proximity to the eastern border of the Netherlands. If Timen was *not* born in Hammel, Denmark, this one would be my guess as his most likely birthplace. For the record, there’s a third **Hammel** in the southern German State of Bayern, near the city of Munich.

What About DNA Evidence?

As we learned from the results in our Stidham* Family DNA Study, our genetic fingerprint (or haplotype in scientific terms) matches closely with results of participants found in a number of other DNA studies. Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), the company through which we had our DNA samples tested, keeps our results on file, along with those of all the other studies going through them, and provides us with information on participants in those studies who match us, or very nearly do.

When we first received our results we were surprised to learn that our Y-chromosome matched several men of Jewish origin. In order to confirm this finding, Family Tree DNA suggested we have my personal DNA sample more thoroughly analyzed in order to confirm my “deep ances-

Germany and Surrounding Countries, 2003



try” by studying other markers on the Y-chromosome. This was done and the results showed my (our) haplogroup is called “YAP+”. The genetics lab at the University of Arizona where our DNA was analyzed said that one quarter of all Jewish men fall into this same category. However, at this time there is no evidence to prove our paternal descent is from a man in the remote past who *himself* was Jewish. In other words, our common male ancestor with these Jewish men could have lived *before* the Jews emerged as a people over 4,000 years ago. Neolithic farmers migrated from the Middle East into Europe about 10,000 years ago after the receding ice sheets from the last ice age. Nevertheless, the places of known origin (and their numbers) in Europe of those closely matching our Y-chromosome pattern currently in the FTDNA database come from: Belarus–7, England–12, France–1, Germany–9, Latvia–1, Lithuania–2, The Netherlands–1, Poland–5, Romania–3, Russia–9, Scotland–3, Ukraine–4, and Wales–1. I’ll present more “fun facts” about DNA and relationships in the next issue.

Other Questions

We might take a moment at this point and ask a couple of important questions in order to draw some conclusions based on this information.

- Is the surname **Stidden** derived from the surname **Stitten** or (von) **Stiten**?

There are no place names in Europe named Stidden or Stitten as stated above. The words themselves, as spelled, are not found in either the Dutch or German languages. Luloff was from the Netherlands, but surnames were not required there before 1811, at which time the French Emperor Napoleon then imposed them on everyone. However, the nobility, as well as families in the upper strata of society, did carry surnames in Luloff’s time, inferring that he *was* from one of these two groups. The origin of Dutch surnames by the way could have been from a person’s quality, as in Groot (big) or Dik (fat); their occupation, as in Schoenmaker (shoemaker); geographic place name, as in Van Buren (from Buren); or patronymic as in, Klaassen (son of Klaas).

Conclusion: **Stidden** *must have* evolved from a place name such as **Stitten** or **Stetin** somewhere in Germany, as there is no such place name in the Netherlands.


- The Hartwig von Stitten line died out with Hartwig #4 in 1621, so how could we be related to him?

It’s true that we would not be *directly* related to this line, but the first document in old German script says there is mention of several von Stiten families as early as the year 1154 in the Ratzeburg tithing register, Begenthorp parish.

Three other Stitens were present in Mecklenburg.

Conclusion: one of these von Stitens might very well be our earliest Stidham* ancestor.

To Sum It All Up

Germany—not the Netherlands—seems like the *most likely* place of origin for our family, whose earliest recorded members bore a reasonable spelling relationship—though remote—to our current version. The surname *appears* to have begun as **von Stiten** as early as the 1100s and was most likely derived from the village called **Stiten** (today known as **Groß Stieten**). These conclusions are based on the information known to us today, and is of course, open to different interpretation by others. It is presented here solely on the authority of the editor and leaves it up to others to decide its validity. 

(Editor’s Desk continues from page 3)

Sweden and the colony, including his harrowing adventure with the shipwrecked *Kattan* and the Spanish pirates off of Puerto Rico. She also relayed two instances when he practiced medicine in the colony. The bulk of her talk was on botany and medicinal plants though, which included a colorful display of various local plants which were used by those in Dr. Stidden’s time.

But, I’m getting ahead of myself. The morning session began with a scholar of history from Uppsala University in Sweden, Stellan Dahlgren, whose presentation was entitled, “Swedish Colonial Goals, Experiences, and Disappointments.” Professor Dahlgren and his colleague Hans Norman, who began the afternoon session, are authors of the book, *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden* (see box next page). After Professor Dahlgren, Peter O. Wacker, a professor of geography from Rutgers University gave a talk entitled, “Early Fennoscandian Influences on the North American Cultural Landscape.” Following Professor Norman’s after-lunch talk entitled, “The People of Swedish Origin in the Delaware Valley Region: Numbers, Ethnicity, and Cultural Identity, 1638-1790,” Susan E. Klepp, Professor of History from Temple University gave a presentation entitled, “Town and Country, Births and Deaths: The Changing Lives of Swedes in the Delaware Valley, 1690-1828.” Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, Historian of the Swedish Colonial Society, ended the afternoon session with some final comments and clarifications.

I’m not aware of the focus of next year’s subject matter concerning the New Sweden colony, but I’m certain the American Swedish Historical Museum will strive to make it

as informative as this year's conference. If you can make it, I highly recommend your attendance.

Editor to Resign Soon

Finally, the time has come for me signal my intention of stepping down as editor (and publisher) of this newsletter. The experience has been challenging, yet rewarding. I certainly have learned a lot more about our Stidham* family because of it. Along the way we've garnered national recognition for our efforts by receiving first place in the National Genealogical Society's family associations newsletter competition—twice (2000 and 2001), and we picked up a First Runner-Up award from them in 1998, the first year we published. Additionally, we took first place twice (2000 and 2002) in the Family Tree Newsletter Contest sponsored by the Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library in Moultrie, Georgia.

With that said, there will be just three more issues produced by me. The last one being Issue #22 this Fall. At this time we don't have a replacement, but some (such as David Stiddem, former president and current database manager, and Butch Stidam, president) have expressed an interest—if no one else comes forward. If any of you are willing to take on the position of editor, please contact the TSS President, Butch Stidam at: (219) 759-6924 or butch37@netnitco.net. —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:

Doriney Seagers - Registrar, Swedish Colonial Society
371 Devon way, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380
or visited us on the web at www.ColonialSwedes.org

Recommended Reading

Professors of History, Stellan Dahlgren and Hans Norman of Uppsala University in Sweden, coauthored the book, *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden, Governor Johan Risingh's Journal 1654-1655 in Its Historical Context*, (1988). I very much encourage you to find and read this book, if like me, you're interested in learning all the historical background you can on Timen Stiddem and his times. Of importance to us who are his descendants, this book goes into great detail on the voyage of the Swedes' 10th expedition aboard *The Eagle*, the last one Dr. Stiddem came over on and then remained for good in America. He is mentioned once on page 86 in reference to his position as barber-surgeon on *The Eagle*, as well as on the ill-fated *Cat* voyage.

If you can't find this book at your local library, you can purchase a copy for yourself on the Coronet Books Web site at: <http://www.coronetbooks.com/books/rise1377.htm>. The cost is \$57.50, hardcover, and is loaded with numerous maps and illustrations. Check it out.

—Editor

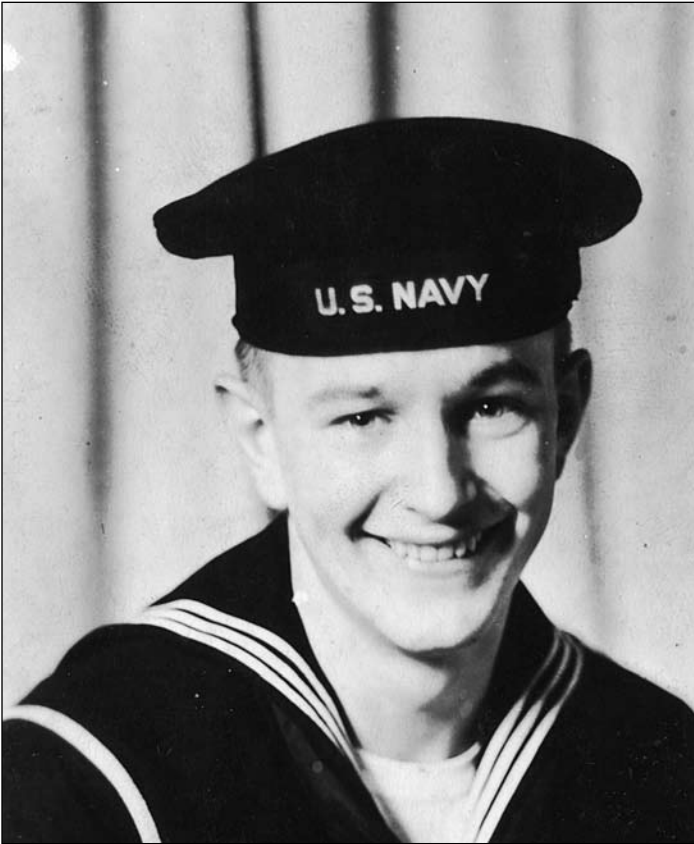


STELLAN DAHLGREN AND HANS NORMAN

The Rise and Fall of New Sweden

GOVERNOR JOHAN RISINGH'S JOURNAL 1654-1655
IN ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Stidhams* Who Served in World War II, Part 2



Lemuel "Otto" Stidham, 1945

Seaman 2nd Class L. "Otto" Stidham

Lemuel "Otto" Stidham, grandson of Andrew Jackson [772] Stidham, was born 18 Nov 1926 in Clayton, Illinois.

He entered the Navy on 4 Dec 1944 at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois. He was stationed at Norfolk, Virginia and aboard the U.S.S. Cone (DD866).

Otto earned the Victory Medal and the American Area Campaign Medal. He was honorably discharged on 4 Jul 1946 at the U.S. Naval Personnel Separation Center at Great Lakes, Illinois.

He died 22 Aug 1975 at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Photo and information from Otto's brother, Jack Stidham, TSS Historian.

Corporal, Francis Garland Stidham

Francis Garland Stidham, grandson of James Floyd [748] Stidham.

He was a veteran of World War II and a survivor of the battle of Kasserine Pass, North Africa. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart, 2 Bronze Star Medals, the American Defense Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge and the Honorable Service Lapel Button World War II. He qualified as a Bayonet Expert and Rifle Marksman. He served in Algeria, French-Morocco, and Tunisia.

Garland died 30 Oct 2002 at Louisville, Kentucky. He was interred at Highland Memory Gardens, Mt. Washington, Kentucky, on 1 Nov 2002.

Information and photo from Garland's grandson, Michael Steinmacher.



Mary Yachisko and Garland Junior Stidham at their wedding.

3rd Class Petty Officer, William H. Stidham

William Harrison Stidham, grandson of John Calhoun Breckinridge [1353] Stidham, was born 28 Sep 1924 at Allais, Kentucky. He joined the Navy on 9 Jul 1941 and worked as an aircraft machinist stationed in Pensacola, Florida. In 1943, he served on the U.S.S. Cole as a fire controlman. His job was to take care of all optical and electrical equipment for the gunnery.

In 1944, as a 3rd Class Petty Officer, he went to Fort Pierce, Florida, for amphibious training then to Boston where they met up with more to commission a gun boat. They went from east coast to west coast by way of the Panama Canal. After reaching San Diego, California, they headed for the invasion of Okinawa. They were in Butler Bay when they got word that the war was over.

While in Siapan, he got his foot crushed. After recuperating, William was sent to Panama Cuba on the U.S.S. Deadlus which was a repair ship. He served on that ship until he was discharged in June of 1947 after going to Norfolk, Virginia.

Information and photo provided by William's sister, Susan Stewart.



William Harrison Stidham, 1940s



Bert Warren Stidham, 1940s

Seaman, Bert Warren Stidham

Bert Warren Stidham, grandson of George Washington [840] Stidham, was born 16 Mar 1925 at Bristow, Oklahoma. He grew up in Tunas, Missouri. Like most young men at that time, he had never been very far away from that community. Shortly after graduating from high school, he was inducted into the U.S. Navy on 22 Aug 1943.

After a short period of training Bert was sent to Guam in the Pacific Theater where he was assigned to the staff of Admiral Nimitz at his headquarters. His duties there were in the Weather Bureau where he served until the end of the war. He was honorably discharged on 18 Feb 1946.

Information and photo provided by Bert's daughter, Peggy Stidham.



Emory Everett Stidham, 1940s

Private 1st Class Emory E. Stidham

Emory Everett Stidham, son of Hezekiah “Carl” [1731] Stidham, was born 1 Jan 1909 at Pound, Virginia.

He was inducted into the Army Air Force on 25 Jan 1943 at Abingdon, Virginia.

Emory’s military occupation was a “Duty Soldier 590” and his classification was a “Carbine Sharpshooter.” He served as Charge of Quarters, responsible for housing men and following set routine in arranging combat crews for briefing.

He fought in the battles of Rome-Arno, North Appennines, Po Valley, Southern France, Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, Air Offensive Europe, and Air Combat Balkans.

He achieved the European-African-Middle-Eastern Theater Ribbon W/2 Silver Stars, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge.

Emory was honorably discharged at the Separation Base, Patterson Field, Ohio on 13 Oct 1945. He died 8 May 1988 at Norton, Virginia.

Information and photo from Emory’s daughter, Sylvia Irene Chonka (#DM414).

Lt. Colonel Charles Clinton Stidham

Charles Clinton Stidham, grandson of Wiley Thornton [1568] Stidham, was born 10 Feb 1921 at Naples, Oklahoma.

He was stationed in England and was a briefing officer to the bombing crews, some of which came back, while others did not. He died 7 Aug 1984 at Scottsdale, Arizona.

Information from Charles’ sister, Margie (Stidham) Visbal (#DCM14). Photo not available.

Stidhams* Who Served in World War II Continues

This was Part II of our WWII special section. We’ll continue running this feature as long as *you* keep sending information and photos in on your relations for future issues. Please keep in mind, only servicemen *and* women who bear the Stidham* surname are eligible for inclusion. Note, if you’re wondering where to get service info on a soldier or sailor, a gold mine is found in their discharge papers. When you’ve collected all you can, send your material by e-mail, including scanned photos, to: **RLSteadham@aol.com**, or regular mail to: Richard Steadham, TSS Editor, 14085 Ryon Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193. Now get busy!

CURRENT STIDHAM* NEWS

MILESTONES

Scott Stidham [Son of #1343], celebrates 100th birthday in Hazard, Kentucky. Below is an article from the *Hazard Times* newspaper.

On Sunday, September 15, 2002, many family, friends and well wishers were present to help the centenarian celebrate on this special occasion.

Scott Stidham was born September 15, 1902. Scott was born and raised at Barwick in Breathitt County, Kentucky. He was one of nine children born to Joe and Nance Ann Stidham.

Among many childhood games and pastimes, running foot races was his favorite. Scott recalls none could out run him. He and his pals would pass fun-filled hours at this game.

Scott married Dora Ella Morgan. The couple didn't have children, but did make their home to eight children who they raised as their own.

Many well wishers stopped by to greet Scott on his big day, and to shake the hand of a centenarian.

Family and friends had much to say about Scott.

"He's done it all, that Scott has," commented his brother, Mac Stidham. "He's worked hard at farming, shoeing horses and dehorning cattle."

"Scott had had many, many years of gardening," said Ruth Noble. "Scott would tell us stories of how he used to raft logs down the river, said he had many 'Blue Eyes' following him (meaning his girlfriends)!"

Others talked about Scott's influence on his community.

"Scott has worked hard all his life, he lived on a big farm and helped all his neighbors," said Colene Baker.

"He's helped a lot of people in our community, gave freely of his time and even money," said Johnny L. Noble. "He's helped me kill a lot of hogs. He was real good at trimming steer."

"Scott loves to talk about old times, he's a true through and through Old Timer," friend and neighbor David Mullins stated.

Scott has looked forward to this milestone; he has mentioned it many times in the last couple of years.

"I'm going to have a big party. I'll invite all my family and

friends," he said. "I'm going to dance with all the nurses here!"

"He has counted down the days leading up to this day!" HNH nurse aide Elizabeth Gibson commented about Scott.

When asked of Scott what he enjoyed doing now as a pastime, he replied, "I like to watch my family dance and frolic."

Scott loves bluegrass music; he has played the banjo for many years. He is even shown in the opening of the movie "Fire Down Below" playing his banjo.

The love of family and friends was obvious at Scott's party, evidenced by the many guests, much food and many gifts.

Scott will long be remembered for his outgoing and generous nature. He has always been and continues to be a "people person."

We wish all happiness to Scott and as he celebrates. Scott invites his family and friends to continue to visit him here at HNH.

Photo and newspaper clipping from Scott's nephew, William O. Stidham (#DCM68).



Scott Stidham on his 100th birthday.

DEATHS

Paul Stidham [Son of #1815], passed away 8 Jan 2003. Below is an article from the *Hopewell News*, Hopewell, Virginia, dated Thursday, 9 Jan 2003:

N. C. plane crash claims life of former Hopewell man.

A late-morning plane crash claimed the lives of all people on board, including a 46-year-old former Hopewell man known by many people in the community.

Paul Stidham died in the plane crash that occurred late Wednesday morning in Charlotte, N. C. The plane crashed and burned at takeoff when it struck a hangar after the pilot reported an emergency.

Stidham, who lived in Dayton, Md., is survived by his wife, Dora, and two children. Many of his family and friends still live in the Hopewell area.

The former Hopewell resident served as director of Environment Health and Safety at the corporate headquarters of W.R. Grace in Columbia, Md. He joined the company last year from PQ Industries near Philadelphia, Grace Spokesman William Corcoran said.

Rosalyn Vergara, Stidham's first cousin, said he was born and raised in Hopewell and worked for a number of years at Allied Signal (now Honeywell).

Another relative said Stidham, after attending Saint James School and graduating from Hopewell High School, attended Old Dominion University and then Texas A&M where he pursued environmental science.

Stidham came to work it Allied Signal as a summer hire while in college, according to a former employee. He came back to the Hopewell area to work at the plant and eventually was promoted to work at the company headquarters in New Jersey.

"Anything like this is devastating," said one man who said he has known Stidham since he was a child but did not wish his name to be printed. "It's just so sudden."

Investigators have recovered the flight data recorder and the cockpit voice recorder for a commuter plane that crashed and burned during takeoff, killing all 21 aboard.

NEWS FROM ALLIED FAMILIES

DEATHS

Patricia Lydia Duckworth Lamkin [Granddaughter of #839] (#DM202), 74, passed away 4 Oct 2002, after a very brave battle with Lou Gehrig's disease.

Originally born in Chicago, Illinois, Patricia grew up in



Patricia Lamkin aboard the Kalmar Nyckel replica in Wilmington in May of 2001.

Hammond, Indiana and attended college at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. As a proud Air Force wife, Patricia supported her family through numerous transfers across the U.S., Europe, and North Africa. Patricia was an avid photographer, traveler, and amateur paleontologist, spending most of the past 10 years in the Big Bend area of Texas. Her free spirit and passion for adventure will be remembered by her husband of 52 years, Lt. Col. (USAF-Ret) A. W. Lamkin, her 2 sons, Alfred and John, her daughter, Marianne, and six grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston, in San Antonio, Texas on January 25, 2003.

Editor's note: Patricia's passing was mentioned briefly in the previous issue. Here we give a full obituary and include a photo, which were both sent by her daughter Marianne.

Mary Malissa Hack [Daughter of #1952], 92, was born

2 Aug 1909, near Tunas (Mo.), the daughter of the late B.W. and Otta (Barnhart) Stidham. She died 19 Jun 2002, at Jefferson City Manor Care Center.

She was united in marriage with Ralph Hack on 26 Aug 1929, in Buffalo.

She spent most of her life in Dallas County and worked for her father in the general store and the post office. When her father retired from the post office, she was appointed postmaster in 1957, but retired in 1969 because of health problems. They moved to New Bloomfield to be close to their daughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her hus-

band, Ralph, on 16 Sep 1977; one daughter, Ella Dewey; six brothers: Robert Stidham, Curtis Stidham, Loy Stidham, Charles Stidham, Glen Stidham, and Ted Stidham; and two sisters: Monta Gaunt and Velma Guntharp.

Survivors include her daughter, Treva Jennings, New Bloomfield; six grandchildren; one great-great-grandson; and one sister, Geneva McDaniel, Buffalo.

Funeral services were held Saturday, June 22, at the Debo Funeral Chapel in Holts Summit with the Rev. Rick Hopkins and the Rev. Bud Nichols officiating. Burial followed in Hopewell Cemetery in New Bloomfield.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on October 25, 2002	_____	_____	\$1,316.57
Revenue Recieved Since October 25, 2002			
Dues	_____	_____	\$567.00
Total Credits	_____	_____	\$1,883.57
Expenses Paid Since October 25, 2002			
Printing Issue 18, Fall 2002	_____	_____	\$410.00
Postage for Mailing Issue 18	_____	_____	104.96
Retreat Center Deposit for 2003 Reunion	_____	_____	100.00
National Genealogical Society Dues	_____	_____	40.00
Deposit Slips	_____	_____	7.60
Total Expenses	_____	_____	\$662.56
Balance on November 29, 2002	_____	_____	\$1,221.01

—*Juanita H. Sandifer*
Treasurer

new members

Joining This Quarter

Sherrie Flud #DM413
[#1205] George Stidham
(Adam line)
Hanna, Oklahoma

Sylvia I. Chonka #DM414
[#1731] Hezekiah Stidham
(Adam line)
San Bernardino, California

Carolyn Y. McDaniel #DM415
[#2478] Leonard Edward
Steadham (Benedictus line)
Pensacola, Florida

James Donald Berry #DM416
[#1253] David Leroy Stidham
(Lucas line)
Fountain City, Indiana

W. B. Bill Stidham #DM417
[#1803] William Blaine Stidham
(Adam line)
Gettysburg, South Dakota



Photo courtesy of Delaforum.com

Jackee Allmond, granddaughter of Charles and Frances Allmond (#DCM146), portrays St. Lucia at the Sankta Lucia celebration on December 8, 2002 at the Old Swedes Church in Wilmington. The celebration has been held there annually since 1977 and is a tradition practised in both Sweden and America during Christmas season.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

DNA Haplotypes: Convergence

Exploring how some people with different surnames can have the same Y-chromosome pattern, yet not be related—at least within the time span of families as we know them over the last 500 years or so. From an online article in *Facts & Genes*, from Family Tree DNA.

5th National Stidham* Family Reunion

Information and registration form on this year's event.

Stidhams* Who Served in WWII, Part III

More of your submissions, which weren't included in this issue due to space considerations, will appear next time.

If you haven't sent yours in yet, here's your chance.

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 \$15 to: Donna Besch, TSS Membership Secretary, 1627 Ridgeland Road West, Mobile, AL 36695.

I would like to join THE TIMEN STIDDEM SOCIETY as a **Descendant Member**. My known descent from Dr. Stid-dem is: _____

(You may enclose any documentation you have showing your lineage, or simply name your ancestors by generation back to Dr. Stiddem. 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. Stiddem.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Email Address (optional): _____

the timen Stiddem Society
14085 Ryon Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193-3705

