



MAYBEE SOCIETY Communicator

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THE PALATINES (A continuation)



Last issue, we described the desperate conditions endured by the people living in the Palatinate, communities along the Rhine in Germany. When all seemed lost, a book brought hope. It promised the help of Queen Anne to anyone who desired to settle in America. Because their own leaders forbade them to leave, on the penalty of death, the first

groups seeking aid were a small trickle compared to the flood who eventually made their way to London. Just when London's generosity was stretched beyond its limits by thousands of Palatines, a delegation came from New York. The leaders were Peter Schuyler, Mayor of Albany, and Col. Nicholson, one of Her Majesty's officers in America. They came to underscore the need of help by their mother England against the French and their allies, the Indians, who were consistently making attacks against the Colonists. To further impress those from whom they sought aid, they brought five Sachems of the Mohawk Nation. The Indians achieved the group's desired result in catching the attention of the people there. The Indians were taken to see plays and many sights of the area and were presented in an audience with the Queen. Their purpose was then presented. The Colonists and the friendly Indians needed a more efficient defense against the French. The sights they saw were very impressive, but one had great influence on the future destiny of the Palatines. Sanford Cobb quotes Rupp's *Berkshire Co.*, p. 189, which in turn quoted *Hallische Nachrichten*. "In their walks in the outskirts of London they saw the unenviable condition of the houseless and homeless Germans; and one of them, unsolicited and voluntarily, presented the Queen a tract of his land in Schoharie, N.Y., for the use and benefit of the distressed Germans." This generous act had a profound effect on the Palatines and from then on their dreams seem to be centered around the Schoharie.

The Board of Trade saw a solution to their problem and the possibility of sending 3,000 immigrants to the Hudson. Based on the premise that Virginia produced tar (a very important commodity for Britain and its many ships), they believed, falsely, that the same conditions existed in New York on the Hudson River and that the Palatines could be profitable to the Crown and themselves. Lord Lovelace had died after only serving a few months as Governor and Col. Robert Hunter who was chosen for the position. He further urged that the Palatines be made Subjects of the Crown, be transported to America, have their initial expenses covered, and then after repaying the government for its investment by producing, tar, resin, and turpentine, they would have the privilege of owning the land.

Ten ships brought the eager Palatines to America in about January of 1710. Unfortunately because of the crowded conditions aboard those ships, nearly one-sixth (or about 470) died enroute. They encountered heavy storms and contrary winds, which lengthened the journey to seven months, causing further distress because of lack of food. Those who did arrive, arrived in such a weakened condition that disease was common among them. Within eighteen months fully one-fourth of the people were dead. The people of New York were alarmed and because of fear of contagious diseases they refused the immigrants entrance to the city and built huts for them on Nutten (Now Governor's) Island where they remained another long five months. Many children were taken and apprenticed despite the strong objections of the Palatines. These children were apprenticed from Albany to Long Island and from Rhode Island to New Jersey. Many were never seen by their families again.

Rather than the Schoharie, Hunter purchased land from Robert Livingston on the Hudson and the families were settled there, but, because the tract was not large enough, some were settled on the west side of the river. Widows, single women and children deemed unfit for making tar and pitch were left in New York City.

Unfortunately, the project that London had undertaken with great enthusiasm was soon forgotten. Hunter, out of his own pockets, provided the tools and stores that were

needed to continue the project. Tarmaking did not begin immediately as they needed to build shelters. In doing so they suffered greatly from the cold. They arrived with an insufficient supply of clothing and food. The Palatines also responded to the American Government's call to war but were not paid for their services. Discontent welled up among the settlers and they again requested to be sent to Schoharie. Only British troops taking away their arms caused them to again return to the duty of making tar.

The trees along the Hudson were the wrong kind, for the lucrative tar making that Hunter dreamed of. In America, from Virginia south to the Gulf, are the Georgia Pinetrees which would have produced great quantities of the desired ship stores, but the White pine of the Hudson valley could not possibly provide the desired amounts. Eventually desertions began to occur. The Palatines were returned by force. Hunter tried coaxing and threatening. He tried to lessen his oppressive costs by cutting the widows and orphans from receiving supplies. But, Mr. Carmer tells us, that they were already reduced to eating leaves and grass. Finally, the Governor suspended the work because his personal funds were completely depleted, but he felt a great bitterness towards the people who had deprived him of his dreams, power and fortune. At first he forbade the people from going out of New York and New Jersey so that they might be called back when the work resumed. Tickets were to be obtained for leaving and if any were to abandon the place they would be brought back, punished and confined. The Palatines did leave some of their people there because some were not equal to further migration. Others hired themselves out to neighboring farmers. The rest girded themselves for the journey to the "promised land of Scorie".

Seven of their leaders preceded them and found the land beautiful and the Indians friendly, further deepening the anticipation of the people. Those that moved forward traveled in two groups. The first group, consisting of about 50, first wended their way to Albany where the people gave them help. They also were aided by the Consistory of the Dutch Church of New York City.

Their leaving aroused the ire of Governor Hunter. Despite the fact that they were suffering greatly from lack of food and supplies and despite the fact he had told them to shift for themselves, he had become so embittered that he declared that anyone who went would be considered a rebel. Returning meant certain starvation and punishment. Governor Hunter must have felt that his project could never be revitalized with them so far away and even though he had sponsored the project with his own personal funds, they had kept begging to be sent to "Schorie".

They settled themselves along the Schoharie in seven villages, called dorps or dorfs, including Weiser's Dorp (in the present Middleburgh); Fuch's Dorp (later anglicized to Fox) located at the junction of the Schoharie and Fox Creek; Kniskern's Dorp at the mouth of the Cobleskill. Unable to bring their tools from the Hudson Valley "they fashioned ingenious substitutes: branches of a tree for a fork used in haymaking, a shovel from a hollowed out log end, and a maul from a large knot of wood."

Other troubles awaited them. Twenty-five years earlier, Governor Fletcher had made some extremely generous land grants. One to Colonel Nicholas Bayard was a certain tract of land called the "Skohare" which included the land from the head to the mouth of the Schoharie River. Because of Fletcher's corruption, the grants he made had

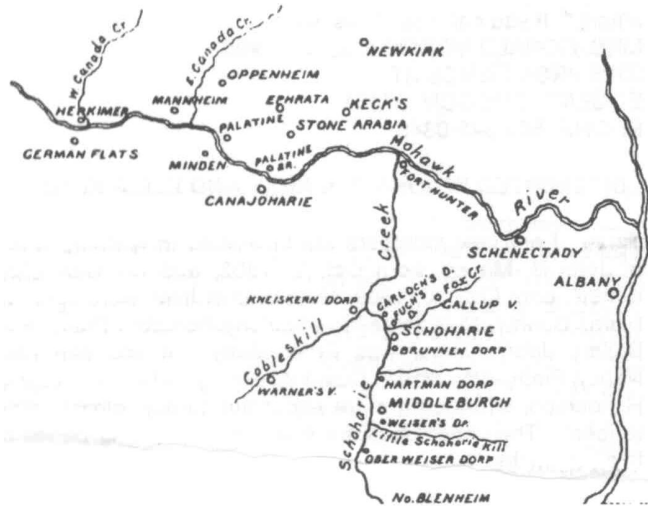
been repealed. Col. Nicholas Bayard's son, Samuel Bayard, was eager to have these lands restored but had not met with any success; however he did succeed in harassing the Palatines. Governor Hunter was not easily dissuaded and gave title for the land to five partners; namely Myndert Schuyler, Peter van Brugh, Robert Livingston Jr., John Schuyler and Henry Wileman. He also issued a patent to Adam Vrooman. However unfair the legal claim of these men, it was upheld by law, and warrants were sent to arrest the most riotous of the people, including Jon Conrad Weiser. Their leader, Weiser, escaped but when Sheriff Adams tried to arrest the others a riot ensued, and as Sanford Cobb states, "in which the women took a vigorous and leading part. Led by Magdalena Zeh, the women attacked the Sheriff, knocked him down and beat him; then dragged him through the nastiest puddles of their barnyards, and, putting him on a rail, 'rode him skimmington' through the settlements, a distance of seven miles or more, and finally left him, with two broken ribs, on a bridge well out on the road to Albany." Mr. Cobb suggests that, although the story may have been exaggerated, it carried much truth. Although the Palatines were the first white settlers in the area, no patent was issued to them until the return of Hunter to England, although some did obtain land from The Partners by purchase. Before leaving, the Governor had a meeting in which he called for three men of each village to meet him in Albany. They were there berated and commanded to either agree with terms set out by the recent purchasers from Albany or leave the valley, "forbidding them to plow and sow the ground until the necessary agreement be made." After a winter with no agreement a group of three men was sent to ask the Governor permission to plow the lands in the coming spring. When the request was denied, they determined, to escape such tyranny, they would have to send someone to London to lay their grievances before King George. Three men were sent, Weiser, Walrath and Scheff. Others abandoned their homes in Schoharie and purchased land in Pennsylvania.

Even their trip in pursuit of justice was not a simple one. They were set upon by pirates who took their money and left them only clothing and food enough to return to Boston. Mr. Cobb reports, "They took the money of the Palatine deputies, and not regarding it as enough, triced up Weiser and scourged him to compel a confession of a hidden purse." After three such beatings, Scheff was finally able to convince them that the purse taken from him was the money for the entire group. The ship was resupplied and the three men reached London absolutely penniless and lived on kindness and credit until their people at home could gather more money for them. The money was delayed in coming and the three were thrown into debtor's prison, where Walrath died. Their case did reach the Lords of Trade but Hunter, who was in town to recoup some of his losses, although unable to do so, was able to scuttle any hope of redress for the Palatines. The money that had been sent finally reached them and the surviving two men were finally released from prison. Scheff made one more attempt to petition for justice and then returned homeward broken both in body and spirit. After five years of struggle and in the midst of great suffering, Weiser also returned home.

When shopping needed to be done in Albany the women went, but the men only went into town on Sundays as they assumed that on that day no "process" could be served on them. After some months with no signs of trouble, a party

of men went in on a weekday and were promptly thrown into "gaoi". After several days their release was secured by agreeing to either lease or purchase their holdings from the Albany Gentlemen. By this agreement, the spirit of the people was broken.

Finally, Governor Burnett, who succeeded Hunter as governor, gave some Palatines permission to purchase land from the Indians in the Mohawk valley. Indian deeds were generous and the deed of Conrad Weiser, Jr. reads, "westerly 24 miles on the Mohawk River to Ganendagaran (Canajoharie ?) on both sides of the river, and (north and south) as far as said Palatin or High Dutchmen, please." Unfortunately lands deeded by the Indians might be given by the Governor to someone else, so even these did not always remain secured. Weiser did not remain there, but a large contingent of Palatines did. Names such as Palatine Bridge and German Flats are permanent reminders of their settlement there. In 1725 Governor Burnett also secured land by the Burnetsfield Patent on the Mohawk "twenty-four miles westerly from Little Falls, on both sides of the river." Others settled on the Stone Arabia Patent.



It was not here, however, that attracted most of the Palatines. Governor Keith of Pennsylvania, on hearing of the troubles of the Palatines, invited Weiser and other Palatines to settle in Pennsylvania.

It appears that, when the Palatines, who had not yet emigrated, heard of the troubles in Schoharie they landed shiploads of their people in Philadelphia. An enumeration of the passengers of those vessels was preserved along with the names of thirty thousand of their countrymen from the Palatinate and other parts of Germany. It could be because of his knowledge of those people, who were an asset to the state, that Governor Keith so generously welcomed them. In 1728 many of those who had remained in Schoharie were led by Conrad Weiser to leave New York and go to Pennsylvania. We learn from Carl Carmer that the land so unsuited for tarmaking is now filled with fragrance of violets that will grow in Rhinebeck hot houses and nowhere else.

In 1722, after stopping briefly in England, another ship did land in New York with a large company of people. They may have landed there because of severe sickness on board. Mr. Cobb quotes, "The inspecting physicians reported to the Governor and Council that there was no 'Contagious Distemper on board the said Vessell.' but suggested that the 'quantity of Cloaths may have contracted

Noisome Smells,' because of the large number of the sick and 'the Length of the Voyage.' So it was ordered by the Governor and Council that no person from the ship should 'come on Shoar on this Island (New York) with any Cloaths, Chests of other furniture till the same have been thoroughly air'd upon Nutton Island during the space of six hours at least." I found it interesting that this ship carried four men named Erghimer. The son of one of these men was Nicholas Herkimer, the hero of Oriskany.

Among the names in *Palatine Families of New York, 1710*, by Henry Z. Jones, are many that we recognize. Either they intermarried with the Maybees or were sponsors at christenings. Mr. Jones points out that "Being the godparent in a German family was a great honor and responsibility. Sponsors very often were close relatives of the child being baptized: grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, etc. ... If a sponsor was not a relative, very often he or she was an old friend from Germany." Some names in Mr. Jones's book are: Ackerman; Anthony; Bach; Banta; Becker; Bellinger; Bogardus; Bogart (Bogaard, Bogaart); Brad (Bradt, Bratt); Braun (Broun, Brown); Bressler (Pressler, Presley); Brouwer (Brouer, Brower); Casslemann (Kasselmann); Class (Clas); Eckhardt (Ecker, Ackert); Ehle; Emichen (Emgen, Omgen, Empie, Empey, Emigen); Everts (Evertse, Ebert); Falck (Falk, Valk); Ferdon; Fischer (Fisher, Vischer, Visscher); Freer; Frey (Vry, Fry); Freymauer (Frey Meyer, Frymeyer, Freemire); Fuchs (Fox); Glock (Klock, Clock); Haas (Hass); Hagedorn; Haring; Hartwig; Hauch (Hauck); Haus (Hause House); Hess; Honig (Honigen, Hentgen); Ittig (Edic, Edich, Ittich); Jost (Joss, Joost); Kast (Cast); King (Konig, Koning); Klopp (Glopp, Klob); Klotz; Kuhn (Kuhntz, Koon, Cuntz, Coan); Laux (Lauk, Lauks, Loucks, Laucks, Lokes, Louks); Lent; Linss (Lince, Linn); Mattheus (Mattice, Mathes, Mattes); Nellis (Nelles, Nilles); Ness (Niess, Neus); Osterhout (Osterhoudt); Oostrander (Ostrander); Pickert; Quackenbosch; Rutan; Schermerhoren (Schermerhoorn); Schuyler; Van Alstyne (Van Alstein); Van Dyck; Veeder; Vrooman (Vroman); Walrath (Walrad); Weiser (Wiser);

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT THE MABEE FARM

From an article in the *Schenectady County Historical Society Newsletter* by Barbara J. Wylie we learned that an archeological survey was made at the Mabee Farm in anticipation of a new garden to be planted, under the direction of the Master Gardeners of Cornell Cooperative Extension. The survey was conducted under the direction of professional archaeologists, Ron Kingsley and Louise Basa, with amateur assistants from the Mabee Farm Committee. They excavated five squares. Each measured two feet by two feet and approximately 20 inches deep.

The results were exciting. They found a variety of items including: an 18th century brass button, pieces of clay pipe stem (ca. 1620-1640), wrought iron nails, clam shells, as well as fragments of pottery, glass (both window and bottle), brick and bone. What appears to be a portion of drainage trough constructed of cobblestones was discovered in one of the squares at a depth of about 16" to 18". "This could be a significant discovery." ... "A more comprehensive survey of the entire property will certainly reveal more about the activities of this farm over its long history."

GETTING TO KNOW DOUG AND JENNIFER MABIE

"Let me begin by saying just a few words about myself. Jennifer, my wife, and I have finally completed our move from Madison to historic Delavan, Wisconsin. She is teaching English at Delavan-Darien High School, and I will be commuting three days a week to Milwaukee to finish my certification as a high school English teacher.

Twenty-six years-old, I am the youngest of 5 Mabies. My dad, Rolland Waldimar Mabie, and mom, Marilyn Jean (maiden: Edwardsen) Mabie, were born and raised in Milwaukee. In recent years, my dad received a sketchy Mabie genealogy. He received it from either a distant New York relative or a distant Florida cousin, Priscilla Mabie.

I knew of the Mabie circus heritage before moving to Delavan. When Jennifer and I decided we would live in Delavan, I decided to delve a bit further into the history. I was astounded at the wealth of Mabie information available. What hooked me was seeing an actual photo (it must have been a tintype) of Edmund and a well-drawn sketch of Jeremiah. I'm certain I saw Mabie features in these antebellum images, and was captivated. I decided it would be a crime not to learn about the Mabie past with such a strong, historical, familial tradition where I live. So, I began the quest to discover how I am related to Edmund and Jeremiah Mabie. The Delavan town elder and historian, Gordon Yadon, referred me to Sharon Sova, a California resident and direct Circus Mabie descendant. She told me of ... the Maybee Society. I can't tell you how excited I was to hear of the Maybee Society; you could have knocked me over with an old photograph. I am a student of literature, religions and history. To uncover a network -- a family society - tickles me and inspires me with a confusing pride. To be so connected what a great feeling. How does one digest so much family that he or she has never met? Somewhere, not too far back, our lines converge. I'm struck with the same wonderful, historical elation as when I gazed upon the Parthenon in Athens, the castle, Neuschwanstein, in Germany, and the millennia-old ruins of Sri Lanka. But this new sense of historical wonder is even greater, for I am connected to a living, breathing history: other Mabies, Maybes and Maybees."

FUN IN THE SUN

Jack and Mary Maybee, #58; Margaret Mabie, #87, and her daughter Marilyn Gresham; George Franchere, #117; Earl and Marietta Mabie, #93; Maisie and Willard "Bill" Mabie, #149, all had lunch together recently in Dunedin, Florida

NEED HELP!!!

"Can anyone help me establish who the parents of Bartholomew Mabee are? I think he was born about 1770 in Monroe County, New York. I think his father was Jacobus and his mother was Echle Veronica Christina Fedley. Need Help!!! I do know he married Mary (Polly) Hencher, daughter of William Hencher and Mehitable Moffatt. Also I have not been able to find a trace of Bartholomew while he was living in Ohio. He must have died there, but, where?"

MRS. JOHN C. MABEE #43
4545 YERBA SANTA DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92115
PHONE: 619-583-5194; FAX 619-583-2558

THE GORHAM FAMILY

Alice McDowell, #6, is looking for the ancestry of her ancestor, Mercy Gorham. Alice believes, "she was a descendant of the (Gorham) Mayflower family. She and her husband, Rescom Tallman (who spent the famous winter at Valley Forge) were the parents of Polly who married Jacob Mabie." If you can help Alice, write:

MRS. RONALD MCDOWELL #06
2235 PROVIDENCE ST.
EUGENE, OREGON 97401
PHONE: 503-345-0345

INTERESTED IN JOHN P. MABEY AND ELIZA KIMBLE

Three of our new members are interested in learning more of John P. Mabey, born Oct. 2, 1802, and his wife Eliza Kimble, born Oct. 10, 1809. Most of their lives were spent in Morris County, New Jersey (particularly Pompton Plains and Butler). John's father was Peter Maby. If you can help Nancy Pietruszka, #191, David A. Henry, #193, or Regina Henderson, #194 learn more about this family, please write to them. Their addresses are found in the closing pages of this newsletter.

SIMON MABIE, 1792, & KATHERINE GRANT

Nita M. Scharmman, #96 writes, "I would like more information on Simon Mabie, 1792 and Katherine Grant. I seem to be having trouble with the names of all of their children, where they were born, and where Mary Katherine and Simon are buried."

NITA M. SCHARMANN #96
PO BOX 563
BORING, OREGON 97009



PETER MABIE LISTED AS ANCESTOR IN DAR RECORDS

Frances Thomas advises us that "Peter Mabie was listed as a New Ancestor in NSDAR records as of Oct. 15, 1994." Peter was born in 1731, the son of Abraham Mabie, 1705 & Sylvia Coquillet. If you are interested in joining the DAR, contact Frances who is the Registrar of her local chapter and has offered to help you in any way that she can.

FRANCES M. THOMAS #30
85 GARDENIA COURT
UPLAND, CALIF. 91786
PHONE: 714-946-2464

LIFE HISTORY OF J. MELVIN VAN ORDEN



Following are some excerpts from Melvin's history. "I was born December 28, 1917, in a two room rock house located 1 3/4 mile west of Thomas town site. My father was Jacob Lewis Van Orden and my mother was Wilhemina (Minnie) Steubesand. It is claimed by her family that she is a descendant of Peter Stuyvesant, the first governor of New York.

One of my first remembrances was visiting Uncle Neal and Aunt Gertrude Williams' in Pebble. It was there I caught cold which developed into pneumonia. I still remember Uncle Neal standing over me, holding my nose and trying to get medicine down me. With my Mother's help they still did not get the job done. My next memory was when I was lying in bed in the front room and Mother feeding me with a spoon. After what seemed ages, I was tired of bed and wanted to get up but fell on my face on the floor. I still remember Mom helping me to learn to walk again.

Church Experiences

I was blessed by my father, who at this time, added Jacob to my already recorded Birth Certificate name of Melvin Van Orden.

I was baptized 6 March 1926 in the basement of the old Second Ward in Blackfoot. My grandfather was in attendance and I didn't quite get dressed when I was called back and re-baptized. Grandpa found a mistake had been made. During my early church life, Sunday School was in the old Rock Church. Curtains were drawn to separate classes and we sat on homemade wooden benches. Neals Anderson led the singing practice and was known to come right into the audience and rap those who were not singing on the head with his baton.

In 1939 I was called to serve a mission in Texas-Louisiana.

School Years

...We were bussed to Rockford for the 7th and 8th grades. It was at this time in my life that my parents insisted that piano music was necessary in my life and I had lessons from several different teachers. I got so I could play for students to march to classes. My musical career was short as I couldn't keep my fingers out of casts -- first a horse fell on me and broke my ring finger on my right hand -- then I had a truck spring break while fixing it. I crushed the index finger 'til the bone came through the skin'. In 1948 I was

working in the Cultural Hall off the Church house and cut the end off the little finger on my left hand.

During my first years of High School, during the depression of 29 to 34, my father bought a Graham truck and made a school bus out of it and was hauling older students to Moreland. One winter when the snow was so deep he couldn't drive on back roads, I would drive the sleigh down to McBrides, Thomases and Jacksons and picked up and hauled these students to meet him on the highway. It was very nice having a team and sleigh at school. Almost every day a car or two would get stuck on the road east of Thomases and I would sluff school and rescue them for a small fee.

Graduating from High School in the Spring of 36, I had received a great love to read and had read all of the books in the small library.

The next year found me at the University of Idaho in Pocatello. I lived with my sister and husband and had to walk 5 miles one way to school. My eight o'clock English class was hard to get to.

Farm Experiences

Growing up before the days of tractors, I learned to drive horses almost as soon as I could walk. Before the age of 12, I had mowed hay, cultivated spuds and beets and had done all of the farm jobs. I spent two Christmas vacations and two birthdays in the Lavas getting firewood. Many times we would walk all the way home beside the teams as it was too cold to ride. ... Wins Covington was my ideal at this time. I still remember him getting up and building fires before he got dressed (in his bare feet). By 12 years of age I was driving 4 horse hitches over to the beet dump and I remember dumping my father's big bay mare in the beet hopper one cold November morning.

Then came the year when all the horses got sick with brain fever and we lost 14 head in 2 years. It was then that my father bought a Case tractor .. Father took a job of clean cultivating a field for Neal F. Boyle. I got to drive the tractor. One day on my way home I stopped to see Gayle Williams and while leaving his drive I rolled the tractor over and back on its wheels -- I wasn't hurt but the tractor was.

My first experience with dynamite came during the depression when I was about 13. My Father took a job of blasting rocks for the head of the People's Canal and I worked with him. We would blast the rocks and load them with a tripod and cable pulled by horses. As a powder man I worked with him on many jobs.

In 1983 I was laid up with diverticulitis for 3 or 4 months. The next spring I had my first heart attack on the 10th of January. Then in 1984 I had open heart surgery. I went back to work that fall and retired 1 1/2 years later on June 27, 1986. The following 6 weeks were spent on an eventful trip through the Mormon trails, meeting the Van Orden Ancestors and up into Nova Scotia, Canada. The result of this trip has brought us much joy. I have learned that I am a descendant of the first Van Orden who came to America 356 years ago. Also the first Van Orden who joined the Church 158 years ago in 1830. We have gathered many names of our ancestors and at the present time we have completed the Endowments for over 700 of them and by the end of the year the total should be over 1000.

I am the proud Father of 5 children. Charmaine and I love our family as each of you love yours."

Melvin died March 23, 1996, at 9 a.m.

ANITA JOHNSON

Anita Ruth Van Loh Johnson died on April 25, 1994, while vacationing in Arkansas. She was known to many members of the family and will be missed.

THE MAYBEE FAMILY REUNION IN UTAH

Thanks to Bill and Zina Maybee, #28, the Maybee Family Reunion in Salt Lake City, Utah, July 18 to 20th 1996, was great fun and very informative. We visited the world-famous Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which defies description. We had a no host lunch at ZCMI, gatherings at Lagoon, (a well-known amusement area), visits to Mormon historical sites and a buffet supper, all of which were enjoyed by old and young alike. The Bill Maybees' mass-produced an omelet breakfast and we all got better acquainted. Bill had sent out an invitation to share histories and several members, even those not in attendance, responded, telling more of their branches and thus helped weave the family together. One of our final activities was attendance at a broadcast of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. We enjoyed the multi-faceted and well-planned activities and being with other members of the family. Bill's final challenge to each of us was to write the histories of our family.



VAN ORDEN FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Peter Edmund & Laura Christina Bastian Van Orden gathered for a reunion at the Downata Hot Springs on July 27, 1996. Histories were shared, they had a sing-a-long, highlighted by special numbers from a few talented cousins, there was lots of good food and several took a "dip" in the hot springs. One exciting goal of the reunion was to begin a Van Orden Family video.

MABEY LANE

We have learned of a Maybee Lane in Colborne, Ontario, Canada, and a Maybee Lane in Santa Cruz, California;. now we have learned that there was a Mabey lane in Butler, New Jersey, in 1878.

CAN YOU TELL US MORE?

Patricia Magette, #91, writes, "I was interested, not long ago, in a radio PBS. program about the building of the Holland Tunnel at New York City. They spoke of one man, I believe it was John Mabie, that lost his life trying to save several of his co-workers. It (the program) emphasized the horrible working conditions that resulted in many deaths during the construction. Have you heard anything of this person?" If you know more about him, please let us know.

SKIP MABEE

Robert E. "Skip" Mabee, age 56, of Blufton, Indiana, formerly of St. Petersburg Florida, died June 12, 1996.

JUST LOVES DOING GENEALOGY !!!!

Mary Lou Bach, #179, started doing genealogy about 20 years ago with her Mother, Luella Mabie Brodie, #159. Mary Lou is very appreciative of the many members of the Maybee Society that have shared information with her. She tells us "I just love doing genealogy !!!".

ANYONE FOR A COCKTAIL??

R. Robert Mutrie writes, "I have fallen into a project that came at me from two directions - Lewis (Ludovicus) Mabee, UE and John Maybee, UE, said to have been brothers by family historian Royal A. Mabee. Royal went on to say that both Lewis and John Mabee/Maybee served as Loyalist soldiers in the American Revolution and settled in Willoughby Township, Welland County, Ontario afterwards (1784). John Maybee moved soon after to a United Empire Loyalist grant at Ernestown Township, Lennox and Addington County, Ontario, near the north shore of Lake Ontario's Bay of Quinte.

Lewis Mabee put down roots at Willoughby near Fort Erie along the Niagara River south of Niagara Falls and owned more than 1,000 acres of land given to him by the government for his Loyalist service. Lewis's son John was confused with his supposed uncle of the same name in many publications, but was the heir to his father's land and passed it along to his daughters Mary (Mabee) () Beam (wife of John Beam). I have a will of John Mabee, son of Lewis. He mentioned his daughters and those of his grandchildren born to that time (1825) and also his sister Mary Palmer. There is an interesting story concerning Lewis Mabee's daughter (c.1776-post 1825), who was known far and wide as 'Mama Palmer', owner of the pioneer tavern near Ft. Erie on the west side of the Niagara River. The story goes that on hot summer days travelers hung their hats in their assigned rooms, then were served cooling drinks on the covered porch overlooking the river. Mama Palmer served them liquor mixed with fruit juices and gave her patrons a long quilled feather from a cock in her barnyard to stir it. The story goes that this was the invention of the 'cocktail.'"

RAYMOND E. MEYERS W6MLZ (SILENT KEY)



Jean Lintner, #34, sent us several articles about her father, Raymond Meyers that we thought you might find of interest. He was the son of Lizzie Meyers. Lizzie was the daughter of Eliza Jane Mabee. Eliza, who married Benjamin French, was the daughter of Abraham Downey Mabee who was the son of Jeremiah Mabee.

Although the Meyers' family and others might lay claim to him, his accomplishments tell us that he had many Mabee traits.

As a boy, he and his brother were always fooling around with telegraph lines between houses. This interest led him to many exciting adventures. In 1910, at the age of 15, he became a telegraph and cable operator in New York City. He was probably the world's first disc jockey having broadcast music as early as 1913 in New York City. He became an NBC broadcaster out of Boston studios, but over the years he made many guest appearances over CBS, Mutual and the Voice of America. He also was a song writer and popular lecturer.

Ray Meyers served in World War I and in 1931 he served as an aide to Sir Hubert Wilkins KCB on the ill fated submarine, NAUTILUS. On that expedition 21 men set out to find a new way to the North Pole. Sir Hubert had persuaded the Navy to let them convert an old World War I Submarine into an under the ice scooter. The batteries of the Sub gave out on the dilapidated NAUTILUS, and a vicious storm threatened the lives of those aboard. Ray constructed a regenerative receiver out of his regular radio outfit allowing him to get a message through to the battleships USS WYOMING and USS ARKANSAS. As he reported the story, "When the ships came alongside, six or seven hours after they got our message, they offered to send over a line. It was their idea that we might want to come aboard hand over hand. But, even if we considered it, we didn't have enough life preservers to go around, and it is doubtful if anybody could have made it even with a preserver. The sea was running high, the submarine was rolling 53 degrees, both ways, so you can imagine what it would be like trying to hang onto a line under those conditions. This was in the night, remember. We decided not to try it, but we did make an attempt to make a tow-line fast. They carried away several times so we came to the conclusion we'd better wait until daylight before we tried again." When dawn broke, Meyers and a crew mate, Frank Crilley, were struggling to put the towline across the gap between the Sub and the battleship WYOMING. The Sub's commander came rushing forward to lend a hand to the two seamen, but he slipped and crashed into Crilley, whereby Crilley was washed overboard. Crilley later reported that he saw the sub slide down into the trough of the sea as if it were chasing him. But, just then a giant wave came along and threw the stunned seaman back on board the Sub. In the end a towline was secured and for two days the WYOMING towed the Sub through rough seas. Somehow the crew got the engine running again. When the seas calmed, a lifeboat brought the NAUTILUS crew fresh food and water. It was the first real meal they had had in

days, until then they were subsisting on canned tomatoes. That NAUTILUS never did make it across the Arctic continent; the privilege was reserved for Atomic Submarine NAUTILUS, August 1958. But, it did carry out a number of valuable experiments, and Meyers discovered a submerged mountain with the Sub's sonic depth finder.

He was also a member of the Le Cato-Williamson Amazon Expedition in 1933.

Raymond Meyers was active in World War II. He served as Officer in Charge, CINCPAC Radio Pools while serving on the staff of the late Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. He also served in the Navy on special service. He distinguished himself during uprisings in Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. In Nicaragua while attached to the cruiser, DENVER, he again was called upon to intercede in a precarious situation. A handful of men came ashore to secure American interests until the Marines could land. Ray, in command of communications, was among them. He discovered that salt water had damaged his precious radio equipment and, knowing, that the area bandits were about to pounce upon their little band, it was imperative that they get word to the DENVER. "As if by plan," a Model T Ford came chugging down the road. By sign language, Meyers was able to persuade the driver to let him have his spark coil to repair his equipment. He then was able to get a message back to the ship that responded by shelling the area to keep the bandits at bay.

He then crossed the Equator to Arica, Chile where he served under General George Pershing in the Tachs-Arica dispute.

Raymond Meyers has retired from four different careers. First, he retired from the Navy in 1947 while serving on the staff of Commander Western Sea Frontier; then the U.S. Civil Service as Superintendent of Police, Vallejo, California; and manager of radio operations at Lockheed Aircraft Co. in Burbank. He was editor of the world-wide Amateur Radio organization, Old Timers Club, Inc. as well as President of *Spark Gap Times*, official publication of that organization. He served as News Correspondent and Columnist for the *Los Angeles Herald Express*. He also wrote a ham radio column for the *Herald Examiner*.

His interest in Ham radio led to the founding in 1960 of the International Handicapped Network (IHT) composed of disabled handicap operators from all over the world. He was brought into contact (by a Priest) with two brothers in San Diego. Both brothers were paralyzed from the neck down with rheumatoid arthritis. Meyers said, "These wonderful young men were only able to roll their eyeballs and talk. They used to look around the room at four blank walls with the aid of mirrors. Now they talk to the four corners of the world, thanks to amateur radio."

In 1966 he was navigator aboard the raft, Lehi V. (according to my calculations he was about 71 years of age at that time. B.M.P.)

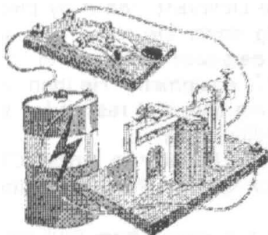
Ray has received many honors, decorations, citations and medals. On October 12, 1960, the President of Italy bestowed upon him the Columbus Gold Medal for "Outstanding Human Efforts" This is the only time this high award was granted to an individual for outstanding services to the handicapped. He accepted the award at Genoa Italy, the home of Marconi. Marconi once gave him a small wireless receiver that the inventor hoped would eliminate static. Many other awards were to come Raymond E. Meyers' way throughout his life. The Veteran's Wireless

Operators Association awarded him it's gold medal. He was named "Ham of the Year" by the Monterey Park Radio Club. In 1962 he was honored by the City of Los Angeles with a scroll that reads "In recognition of his work with the handicapped." He received the Annual San Gabriel Outstanding Older American Award from the Mayor and City Council of San Gabriel, California. Further, he was listed twice in the *Who's Who in California*.

Meyers was active in community affairs serving on Local, State and National levels, often without pay. For ten years he served on the Civil Service Commission, was Civil Defense Chairman, Chief of Communications for the city of San Gabriel watching over the interests of the Police, Fire and Municipal government radio systems to insure no encroachment on their frequencies. He served on the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

He was still in service in many of these areas when he died. He was born Mar. 2, 1895 and died Dec. 13, 1984.

We have compiled this information from several sources including the *San Gabriel Sun*, an article by Mary Ann Belyea, and his obituary.



WELCOME

LORNA M. TILLSON #190
34334 SLAVENS ROAD
WARREN, OREGON, 97053

We welcome, Lorna Tillson as a member of the Maybee Society. She is the mother of Tyrone Tillson, #103 and descends from David Maybee, b. 1761 or 62, of Canajoharie, NY.

NANCY PIETRUSZKA #191
621 ALWYN BLVD.
LADSON, SO. CAROLINA 29456

Nancy's great grandparents are Hannah Mabey, born abt 1839, & Dominic Sanders. Hannah's parents were John P. Mabey, born 1802, & Eliza Kimble; they were married in Pompton Plains, Morris, New Jersey. John's parents were Peter I. Mabie, born abt. 1770, & Jannetje Jersey. It is possible that Peter is the son of Jan Mabie and Leah Rutan. If you can help Nancy in tying this line together, please write to her.

DOUGLAS MABIE #192
509 SUGAR CREEK ST, #5
DELAVAN, WISCONSIN 53115
PHONE: 414-740-1140

Doug and his wife Jennifer have just recently moved from Madison, Wisconsin. Although his family and the circus family, who settled Delavan, are related, Doug descends from Reverend Daniel and Rachel Booth Mabie.

NITA M. SCHARMANN #96
PO BOX 563
BORING, OREGON 97009

Nita, with her mother, Anita Johnson, worked on genealogy until her mother's death April, 25, 1994. Nita is now continuing their work. I have assigned Nita her mother's membership number and so it is now Nita Mae Scharmman, #96.

DAVID HENRY #193
4830 TREASURE DRIVE
NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA 34652

Although David's genealogy looks like a who's who of Mabie family intermarriages, he is not a direct descendant of a Mabie. He counts the Tallmans, Blauvelts, Westervelts, Hoppers, Ackermans, Zabriskies, Terhunes, Van Winkles, Kimbles and many others among his ancestors.

REGINA HENDERSON #194
PO BOX 93
JASPER, FLORIDA 32052
PHONE: 904-792-1209

Regina Wernimont Henderson has traced her ancestry back to Hannah Mabey, 1839. Hannah is the daughter of John P. Mabey and Eliza Kimble and granddaughter of Peter I. Mabey. If you can help her learn more about this branch of the family from New Jersey, she would appreciate hearing from you.

ASSOCIATION OF PHILIPPE DU TRIEUX DESCENDANTS
% CONNIE BUTTERFIELD
3044 BUSH PARKWAY
CARMEL, INDIANA 46033-3645

A genealogical and historical association of descendants of Philippe du Trieux, a Walloon who came to New Netherlands from exile in Amsterdam in 1624, has agreed to exchange newsletters with us.

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