

MAYBEE



SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2003

ISSUE 59

In this issue:

Our President resigns – page 1
New President – John MayBee –page 2
Biography of Jeanine Kowalski – page 2
Archaeology Students at Mabee Farm –
page 3
Dallin Maybee and Portrait of West –
page 5
Bevil Mabey on list of Britain’s
wealthiest people – page 6
Letters and queries – page 7
New additions – page 8
Coming next month: Biography of
Robert L. Maby, Jr., Member # 216

OUR PRESIDENT RESIGNS



***Jack and Mary Maybee on trip
to Skagway***

We regretfully accept the resignation of our President, John Albert (“Jack”) Maybee #58. Jack became Vice President in 1992. He agreed to take on the position of President when

George Maybee Martin died in 1994 to help Belva keep the Society going, but now would like to get on with other facets of his life.

We are deeply grateful to Jack for all the work he has done for the Society and for Mabies, Maybees, etc. everywhere.

John Albert “Jack” Maybee was born in Canton, New York, December 19, 1928, the son of Nelson Arthur and Margaret Cornelia Buffham Maybee. He is one of three children, with two sisters, Helen Clara Randi, #108 and Barbara Jean Gaines #122.

After serving four years in the U.S. Air Force, Jack returned to college, receiving a B.S. degree in Mathematics and a M.Ed. in Educational Guidance. In 1961 he went to work for the New York State Education Department and in 1988 he retired as Chief of the Bureau of Higher and Professional Educational Testing.

Jack and Mary Ellen Mc Crea were married in 1951 and have one son, Michael John, and a daughter-in-law, Lisa.

Jack was “bitten by the genealogy bug” in the 1960’s and has done a lot of work on his and Mary’s lines since that time. He also has faithfully recorded all the children born to descendants in the Jan Pieterse Mebie line.

He has worked very hard for the Maybee Society in his own quiet, modest way.

We hope that he and Mary will have more time now to pursue other hobbies such as golf, bridge and square dancing.



John MayBee and wife Kathy

John D. MayBee, Member #8, and our Data Coordinator, will be the new Maybee Society President.

GETTING ACQUAINTED:

We like having biographies of our members to use as obituaries and as part of their permanent family history. It is even nicer to get acquainted with the wonderful people in this very large group, right now.

JEANINE HAGUE KOWALSKI, MEMBER #317



Jeanine is a descendant of Clarence Mabie.

She says, “I was delivered July 4, 1936 by a midwife. My parents were Harlan Robert Hague and Wynifred Muriel Cumpsty. While in labor, my mother laid on a bed in the second floor of their home watching the funeral director embalm a body across the street. One cometh and one goeth. Friends were shooting off fireworks about midnight sending me into this world with a bang at 2:30 a.m. before the doctor arrived at 5:30 a.m.

I spent my early years in Newfane, New York and after graduation from high school was employed by a doctor in Lockport, New York. I married my late husband, Joseph, on July 23, 1955 and moved to Lockport. Our daughter, Jody, was born September 9, 1956. After the doctor’s death, I was employed at Bell Aerospace Textron in Niagara Falls, New York for 15 years. I was laid off in 1982. I decided to fulfill my old dream of becoming a nurse. I completed a practical nurses course and worked at nursing homes until my husband’s illness and our move to Hollywood, Florida in 1994. I worked 41 years in the medical field.

I am retired, live near my daughter and spend the summers in western New York. I have spent the past 5 years working on 9 family lines.

My older sister, Marilyn Ehmke, died February 13, 2003 and a brother Robert John in infancy. My younger sister, Linda Harper, lives in Henderson, North Carolina and my brother, Robert Jr., lives in Newfane, New York.”

She writes “This past summer, I took Ken Mabey up on an invitation to tour the countryside in South Westerlo, New York and see our family home and cemeteries. It was an exciting time for me, and Ken was a gracious host.”

She took pictures of the gravestones. This is what was written on the tombstones.

Old Baptist Cemetery, Carmel, New York.

“In memory of Sarah, wife of Abraham Mabie, who died August 12, 1816, aged 87 years.”

“In memory of Abraham Mabie, who died August 7 1817, aged 90 years.”

Christian Church Cemetery, Westerlo, New York.

“In memory of Stephen Mabey departed this life May 3, 1831, aged 73 years 9 mo. 17 days.”

“In memory of Abigail Penny, wife of Stephen Mabey, who departed this life Dec. 21, 1834, aged 64 years, 11 mo. 21 days.”

Hilltop Cemetery, Westerlo, New York

“E. Mabey, age 85 yrs. M. Mabey as above.”

: Samuel Mabey died Aug. 14, 1870 in the 78th year of his age.

Hilltop Cemetery, Westerlo, New York

“Hannah, wife of Samuel Mabey
Died March 11, 1873 in the 67th year of her age.”

Stanford Cemetery – Annsville, New York.

“Minerva, wife of HTB Hannay
Born January 23, 1807
Died Oct. 7, 1889”

“Henry T. B. Hannay
Died Dec. 13, 1879
Aged 72 y. 9 mo., 4 days”

Theron Hannay of Co. F. 146 Regt.
NYSV
Died at Frederick City, Maryland
July 2, 1863
Aged 22 yr. 18days.”

.....
Marian Tait, Member #114 sent the following article, which was sent to her from her Secor cousin who lives Albany, New York.

STUDENTS LEARN WHILE DIGGING UP A FAMILY’S PAST

Rotterdam – Mabee Farm and former church site open door on history for archaeology classes.

Mike Goodwin, Staff Writer.

“Amateur archaeologist Walt Silva was examining the stone foundation of a building at the Mabee Farm on Route 5S when he found two pieces of history left by someone who had lived long ago.

“Today, we’ve got a nail and a bone,” Silva, a software engineer by profession, said as he stood in a four-foot hole, scraping soil away from the slate foundation of the Rotterdam Junction farm’s one-time inn.

While owners of a contemporary home might find Styrofoam cups and cups of concrete in the soil next to their home, Schenectady County College professor Louise Basa offered that the bone and the nail, buried in separate layers of dirt, are the flotsam of earlier builders, debris left behind during excavations that date back hundreds of years.

“When they were building the wall, they obviously had a snack,” Basa said as another student examined the bone, still partially obscured by a coating of orange soil.

“Silva was one of a half-dozen archaeology students from Schenectady County Community College who spent Sunday morning sifting for artifacts at the farm.

“The farm lies along the Mohawk River and dates to 1680 when original owner Jan Mabee bought the property and started a farm that lasted more than 300 years. The original farmhouse is the oldest Dutch-built structure in the Mohawk Valley.

“The Schenectady County Historical Society took ownership of the property 10 years ago. For several years, students at the community college have spent their weekends and other free time searching for artifacts on the land that might provide a snapshot of life on the farm during various centuries in Mohawk Valley history.

“Plentiful deeds and business records exist for the farm, helping researchers explain who lived at the farm and when and what crops they relied on to make money. “We have their wills and we have their accounts,” Basa said, “But we

don’t have diaries. So we’re missing the personal accounts. That’s where archaeology comes in.”

“The discovery of the occasional artifact, like a recently unearthed monogrammed spoon from a tea set with the engraved initials of Jacob and Eva Mabee, a couple that lived on the farm in the early 1800’s, helps researchers determine how the various occupants might have lived, she said.

“The affluence of the Mabee family varied from generation to generation, Basa said. Some generations especially during the years when the farm was used to grow corn stalks for brooms, did well, while others struggled,” she said.

“They had their periods of trouble and they had their periods of affluence,” she said.

“While one group was digging outside the main house Sunday, three other students were examining the grown-over foundation of the First United Methodist Church. The Mabees rented part of their land to the church between 1893 and 1912, when the church was literally moved to its current location a half mile west on Route 5S, leaving behind just the foundation.

“A local tenant farmer grows alfalfa on the grounds, but historic society officials want to expand the amount of farming done on the nine-acre site.

“We hope to restore some farming activity,” Basa said. “The goal is to be a living museum with activities that reflect the farming heritage.”

The farm is open for tours and visits Wednesday through Saturday. Though some of the money for restoration has come from state grants, the historical society funds the farm through donations and user fees. It was recently rented out for a bridal shower.”

FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN WEST

Zina Maybee, Member #28 sent this article about **Dallin Maybee**. (Because of space considerations, we are using only excerpts.)

Deseret News, Sunday July 27, 2003

By Carma Wadley

PORTRAIT OF WEST EMERGES

“A hundred years of history plays out daily at the Festival of the American West.

American Indians hold powwows, mountain men rendezvous, pioneers scratch out a living in a dugout, Buffalo Soldiers go out on patrol; cowboys ride the range; snake oil salesmen come to town; farmers thresh grain with new-fangled steam engines. If it happened in the West between 1820 and 1920, chances are very good that you’ll find a reminder of it at the award-winning festival now in its 32nd year.

“The festival provides a chance to experience the West the way it was. And if you listen carefully, you can hear a hundred different languages telling that story.

“The language of the rope is fluid and smooth in the hands of Mexican cowboy Benny Martinez as he demonstrates the techniques of his ancestors. The language of the fife and bugle corps is shrill and loud so it can be heard over

the guns of battle. The language of Native American dance conveys cultural differences and symbols in ways that words can’t.

“Our dances are a mixture of traditional and contemporary,” says

Dallin Maybee, a member of the Seneca and Northern Arapahoe tribes. Dances such as the jingle-dress dance or the hoop dance,” he says “are a great opportunity for the people to get a real taste of our culture. Many people are detached from our culture and history. This can give them a better sense of belonging.” That’s not only educational, but helps people connect, he says.

“Through history we learn more about ourselves, and hopefully, we can look to the future and make the decisions we need for the greater good.”

The New Buffalo Soldiers also speak of “the life and times of those who went before” says Diedre Simien, who narrates a vignette from their history. Most people don’t realize, she says, that for a time one in every five soldiers in the West was black and that between 1892 and 1901, Buffalo Soldiers were stationed at Fort Duchesne in eastern Utah. “They served honorably but virtually invisibly to all but their commanding officers.”

The troop of 23 re-enactors, made up of lawyers and dentists and businessmen and their wives and families is enjoying its fourth appearance at the festival. “We love coming here,” says Simien.

Another language you can hear at the Military Venue is that of the cannon, which is loud and booming. “Most

people never have an opportunity to see a cannon fired in real life,” says Ray Howser, who has a collection of the historic weapons.

“Everyone had heard of the Gatling gun, but most people don’t realize it was used only about four or five times in U.S. history.”

The language of gold is another powerful voice. “Gold fever is real,” says Jim Ashby, who operates the gold panning demonstration. “That lure of getting rich quick has always been with us. Even here, where we plant some, people see that speck of yellow and get so excited.”

A more quiet language is spoken at the American Heritage Quilt Show that is part of the festival. Carol Armstrong, this year’s quilt show chairman says, “Quilts used to be solely utilitarian, made out of whatever women had. A lot today are art quilts. But they carry on those traditions.”

Traditions are also heard in the voices of cowboy poets and the yodeling of cowboy musicians. They speak at the blacksmith’s forge and the farm wife’s spinning wheel and through the sheepman’s clippers.”

If you would like more information about the festival or the American West Heritage Center, which is at 4025 South Highway 89-91, Wellsville, Utah, you can e-mail www.awhc.org

ANOTHER MABEY OF NOTE:

Ross Mabey, Member #202 sent this interesting information. This is meant as some fun.

“On the list of Great Britain’s most wealthy, Bevil Mabey, founder of Reading-based steel fabrication plant Mabey Holdings, is placed at 196 with £130m.

Martyn Arbib, founder of the Perpetual insurance company at Henley-on-Thames in the Seventies, is at number 51 with £430m; Lord Rothschild - whose family home is near Marlborough and who opened an insurance business at Newbury a few years ago - is at number 60 with £390m; Philip Hulme, founder of the Maidenhead-based Computacenter chain in the Eighties, is at 127 with £190m; Bevil Mabey, founder of Reading-based steel fabrication plant Mabey Holdings, is placed at 196 with £130m. But John Nike, the Bracknell entrepreneur who built the ski slope and Coppid Beech Hotel fails to get a mention among the wealthiest top 300 people.”

REPORT FROM TOM LUTGE:

Tom Lutge, Member #246, says, “The latest newsletter was really great and I especially enjoyed the article re the genealogy center in the Bay of Quinte because I spent three days there this month at the Isaiah Tubbs resort on West Lake. We had great meals and played golf at the Picton golf course and in Wellington. The Hidden Bistro and Curraths were two of the dinner places we enjoyed and we had lunch at the Lake on the Mountain. Can you imagine a lake about 200 or 300 feet up overlooking the Bay of Quinte, which is on Lake Ontario? We came in on Route 33, which passes Adolphustown and dead ends at the Bay. After a five-minute wait, we boarded a ferry, which took us across the narrow part of the Bay. After

leaving the ferry, we had only nine kilometers into Picton.

It is just too bad I didn't know Rodney Green was so near; I might have been able to visit him. The Bay of Quinte area is really a great summer resort area and to have access to really a great genealogy resource really makes it just that much better. We were so near, but because we weren't aware of the center, so far."

MABEE SCRAPBOOK

Tommie Mazzola writes, "What a small world this Internet system and Ancestry.com has made. Several years ago I purchased a scrapbook, which was compiled by a Mable Mabee. Her son, Geddes, was serving in the U.S. Army during WW2 and she saved postcards, greeting cards, and one wonderful letter from him. I found this book at a flea market and felt it needed to be kept in case I might locate a family member who would value it as much as I do. The cover is wooden and in beautiful condition as are the objects she saved but the pages are beginning to show age. If you know of anyone in the family who would care to have the book, please contact me. I would hope that it would go to someone who really wants to preserve it.

I don't want to sell the book - just get it in the hands of his family.

Thanks, Tommie Mazzola
E-mail: TommieM5@aol.com

SEARCHING FOR RALPH D. MABEE, JR.

David Kern wrote looking for any members of his family. His father is Ralph D. Mabee Jr. He says, " From what my mother has told me, he was not

close to his family at least that is what she was lead to believe. He had three sisters, Barbara, Helen and Kathy. Parents were Ralph D. Mabee Sr., and Mildred Tower Mabee.

Please respond to me either way, I am desperate to know beneficial things, religious, cultural, ancestral type." Email: dkern@kconline.com

NEW GRANDPARENTS:

Two of our Maybee Society members just became grandparents.

Steve Mabie, Member #257 writes, "Our daughter is Elizabeth Mabie Chambers and her new daughter is Abigail Ruth Chambers. Abigail was in something of a hurry to get home before Christmas, so she arrived a couple of weeks early, but she still came in at 6 pounds, 5 oz."

Benita Saatvedt, Member #85 has a new granddaughter. Kyrsten Lee Strange was born December 15, 2003. Krysten is the daughter of Benita's son, David and his wife Amanda

OTHER BIRTHS

Tom Lutge, Member #246 says, "We have another grandchild for your records. Emily Rose Lutge-Clausen was born November 11, 2000 to Angela Lutge and Martin Clausen November 11, 2000.

John MayBee, Member #8, has a new granddaughter Isabella MayBee, who was born at 4:50 p.m., 22 Sep 2003. Isabella is the daughter of John and Amy MayBee.

I have had a bumper crop of great grandchildren this year. (Barbara Carter, Member #3)

On March 27th. Shayna Elizabeth Ryan was born to my granddaughter, Anita (Ayers) Ryan and her husband Stephen Ryan.

Next was Rylan Anthony Alfera son of Anthony and my granddaughter, Michelle (Cook) Alfera – May 1, 2003

Gavin Cook, son of my grandson Milas Cook, and his wife Erin, was born – June 25 2003.

Judy Maybee Bell, my sister and the sister of John MayBee, member #8, has a new grandchild, Griffin William Bell, born November 7 2003 to her son, Jon Bell and his wife Romany.

DUES AND DONATIONS

It is that time of year again – time to pay our dues. If you get printed newsletters, the dues are \$15.00 a year; for email newsletters the dues are \$8.00 a year.

It is vitally important that everyone pays dues, and pays them in a timely manner. We depend on your dues for postage, paper, ink, and repair of equipment such as computers, printers and so on.

Donations are greatly appreciated. They make the difference between suffering along with bad equipment and being able to purchase newer computers, etc.

We would like to acknowledge the donation of a CD-Rewriter from Bret Perry, Member #86 and Byron Perry, Member #83. Bret and Byron also donate many, many hours of computer repair.

Sound Marine Services donated a Canon Multipass C5000 Printer/Fax/Copier.

A huge vote of thanks to the following members who have made donations:

Donna Hablitzel, #52
Orvan Mabie, Jr., #68
John Albert (Jack) Maybee, #58
Mrs. Joan Kliner, #150
Richard and Ruth Mabie, #12
Kim and Gary Mabee, #78
David Wayne Mabie, #134

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Maxine M. Smith #183
1900 Dartmouth Ave. #148
Clovis, CA 93612-3860

John D. MayBee #8
(See below)

A publication of the Maybee Society
Annual Dues \$15.00 (U.S.) (printed newsletters) or on line Membership - \$8.00 (U.S.)

John MayBee, President
154 Wolverine Way
Scotts Valley, CA 95066-5111
E-mail: jdmaybe@pacbell.net

Barbara Maybee Carter, Executive Secretary
10809 16th Ave. SE
Apt. 218
Everett WA 98208
Maybee3@Juno.com

Charles Gorton, Copy Editor

Website:
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~maysoc/index.htm>