

August 2010

ISSUE

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The President's Corner

The 2010 Maybee Society Reunion at the Mabee Farm in Rotterdam, New York is over. I was told that it was a good one. Unfortunately, I could not be there.

Thirty-six attendees paid \$35 each for the weekend event. This gave us proceeds of \$1260. We spent \$350 of that for the band, gave the Mabee Farm \$100 to defray the expenses that they usually receive from entrance fees, and spent only \$345 for the Maybee Society dinner.

Steve and Kim, being who they are, did all the work and still paid for their own tickets, just like the other attendees!

Because of the good turn out and the free labor of Steve and Kim, our receipts were \$465 more than our expenses. After consultation, the Maybee Society officers have decided to donate \$400 of this to the Franchere Education Center being

built on the Mabee Farm to help in its operation.

Thank you all for coming to the reunion, and a special thanks to Steve and Kim for all their hard work.

The 2010 Reunion

The 2010 Maybee Society Reunion was held at the Mabee Farm in Schenectady, NY on August 7. The following members of the society attended the festivities:

Catherine and Thomas Shaughnessy, Nancy and Steve Mabie, Kim and Gary Mabee, Susan Mabee Smith, John and June Mabee, Faye Mabie and Robert Morgan, Barb Kineke, Metje and Keith Mabee, Tim and Heather Mabee,

Michael, Andrew, Cassandra, and Samantha Companion, Will Mabee, John E LaBarre, Ken Mabey, Charlene Mabey, Bill Mabey Jeanine Kowalski, Lew and Nan Mabie, Angela and Peter Johnson Jonathan Mabee, Amanda Mabee and Joeseph Hope with Alexandra and Colin Hope, Penny Mabey Henry, Gina Mabey Bruno, Mike and Deb Waite, Firth Haring Fabend.

The activities actually began on Friday afternoon with a tour of the Mabee Farm, followed by a barbeque hosted by Kim and Gary Mabee at their home overlooking the beautiful Mohawk River.

On Saturday, many of the attendees started the day at the Mabee Farm with a Mohawk River boat ride. The Farm also was the host of Early Technologies Day, with demonstrations by a variety of craftsmen featuring technology of the 18th and 19th centuries.

At two o'clock, we adjourned to the Dutch barn for a presentation by me (Steve) on the current state of research on our earliest ancestors, Pieter Casparszen van Naarden and his wife, Aechtje Jans van Norden. As it happens, most of the newest

information deals with Aechtje and her first husband, Abrahan Willemszen van Amsterdam. The hope is that by learning more about these two, we can learn something about the elusive Pieter Casparszen. In a nutshell, here is the story as it is evolving, based on several years of research by myself and a good friend, Stephen Titsworth:

Abraham Willemszen was baptized on June 4, 1628. His father's name was Willem Scheerberch (we believe one of many mis-spellings of 's Heerenberg) and his mother's name was Tietje Agges. For roughly 7 years until 1647, he had been a seaman and gunner (bosshieter) on the West Indies Company (WIC) armed ship *Swol*, patrolling the coasts of Spanish America.

Aechtje Jans had been in Curacao (the *Swol*'s southern home port) with her father, Jan Albertszen, who had been contracted from Emden (17 miles south of Norden, East Frisia), as a master blacksmith, since 1642. When his contract with the WIC was up, they left Curacao for Holland on the captured prize ship *Tamerende*, sailing first to New Amsterdam. Either in Curação, or aboard the *Tamerende*, Aechtje met Abraham Willemszen, an 18 year old seaman and gunner then part of the ship's skeleton crew. The Tamerende left Curação in March 1647 and arrived at New Amsterdam in April. Aechtje married Abraham in New Amsterdam the same month. Then on August 16, 1647 Jan Albertszen continued his journey alone to Holland, without his daughter; only to meet disaster when his transport the *Princess Amelia* sank September 27,1647 at the Bristol Channel.

Aechtje and Abraham had a son, Willem, in August 1648. On November 12, 1649 Aechtje's husband Abraham was killed in a duel. Aechtje, who was pregnant with her second child at the time, was left without family, except for her uncle, Lambert Albertszen in Naarden. The next thing we know, Pieter Casparszen (from Naarden) is with Aechtje when she baptized her second child in April 1650.

We know from New York City Tax Lists that Aechtje died between August 1697 and February 1698. Since we now know that her first husband was born in 1628, it is reasonable to conclude that she was born roughly in this same time frame, perhaps a few years later.

Aechtje's son Willem eventually used the surname Tietsoort (basically kin of Tiet, after the name of his paternal grandmother), which over the years has evolved into the present day Titsworth and Teachout.

As an aside, if we assume for the moment that Pieter Casparszen was

the same person as the Pierre Gaspard who signed the Leyden Petition in 1621, then he would have arguably been at least 18 at the time, putting his birth year at 1603, or 25 years earlier than that of Abraham Willemszen. So, we would then have to believe that he was a 47-year-old man with no apparent trade who married a 22-year-old widow with two children so that he could push a cart around New Amsterdam. Is this plausible?

After this discussion, Kim Mabee gave a wonderful Power Point presentation on the family, including photos of Naerden, the Mabie Forest area of Scotland, numerous "Mabie" houses and farms around the country, and some key people including George Franchere, the last "Mabee" owner of the farm and the man who donated it to the Schenectady County Historical Society (SCHS). Also, Kim included photographs of the three family researchers to whom all current researchers owe a huge debt of gratitude: Royal Mabee, George Maybee Martin, and John (Jack) Maybee.

After all of the discussions and presentations, the attendees enjoyed a dinner catered by the Roman Villa and the evening concluded with several hours of music provided by the Riverview Ramblers.

On Sunday, we met at the SCHS for a tour of the Faces of Schenectady art exhibit, featuring portraits of Anna Mol Fairly Beck (the daughter of Engeltje Mabie and the niece of both Jan Mabee and his brother Caspar), and her second husband, Caleb Beck. This was followed by a walking tour of the Schenectady Stockade District.



Photo of the Portrait of Caleb Beck



Photo of the Portrait of Anna Beck

Obituaries

Margaret Sarah Busey Mabie:

Margaret Sarah Busey Mabie of Houston, Texas, formally of Palm Harbor, Florida passed from this life on Tuesday May 18, 2010. Mrs. Mabie was born in Champaign, Illinois on January 26, 1916 to Albert and Estella Busey. Mrs. Mabie was married to Byron Leroy Mabie at the University Christian Church in Champaign, Illinois on August 27, 1939. Following their marriage they moved to Rockford, Illinois where they lived until Mr. Mabie Retired from Eclipse Corporation in 1977. To this union two daughters were born. Carolyn (Harold) Eye of Richmond, Texas and Marilyn (Mel) Gresham of Monticello, Kentucky. Mrs. Mabie was a homemaker for most of her married life and was a member of several organizations including the Daughters of the American Revolution, Christian Womens Club, and Rockford Club.Mrs. Mabie was also a member for many years of the Tarpon Springs Christian Church and recently of Westside Christian Church in Houston. Mrs. Mabie is preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by her two daughters, six grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and her sister-inlaw Mrs. Betty Mabie of Rockford, Illinois. Mrs. Mabie will be truly

missed by all her family and friends. A visitation will be held at Curlew Hills Funeral Home on Monday, May 24, 2010 from 11 a.m. – 12: p.m. with a funeral service to follow at 12:00 p.m.

Visitations:

11:00AM to 12:00PM on Monday, May 24th, 2010 at Curlew Hills Funeral Home Chapel (map/driving directions)

Cemetery:

Curlew Hills Memory Gardens

Wayne F. Mabee:



Ruby Maybee:

Ruby Marie Murphy Maybee, age 85, beloved wife of Roderick McLeod Maybee for almost 63 years, died peacefully on September 19, 2009 after three weeks in a Laguna Hills hospital intensive care room. Her husband and oldest son. Roderick M. Ill from Texas were with her at the time of her death. Ruby is survived by her husband; two sons; and five grandchildren, Roderick McLeod Maybee III of Seabrook, TX, his wife Kathleen, grandson Jim Allred, granddaughter Wendy Murillo, grandson RMM IV, granddaughter Heather Lee Robinson and youngest son Miles Randal Maybee of Sunland, CA with granddaughter Michele. There will be no formal memorial service. Her husband will retain her ashes. After his death their ashes will be combined and placed at rest alongside her mother and father in Petaluma Cypress Hill Memorial Park rock garden.

From Press Democrat, Santa Rosa, CA, 29 Sep 2009

Reunion Photos

Who We Are:

The Maybee Society Communicator is a publication of the Maybee Society, 154 Wolverine Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066-5111. Dues, data and information should now be sent to this location and materials for the Maybee Society will be kept here.

Website

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~maysoc/index.html

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