



# MAYBEE SOCIETY

## Communicator

April 2015

ISSUE 101

### The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

Hear ye! Hear ye! It's that time again! All of 5 years have passed, and as we have been telling you in past newsletters, we have been planning our family reunion. So please, if at all possible, join us at the Mabee Farm Historic Site in Rotterdam Jct., NY, on Saturday July 11th, from 11:00am to 5:00pm. And like some of our previous Mabee Society reunions, we are combining with the South Valley Branch Mabee descendants, on their 91st Annual reunion! It's great that they are willing to share with all of us this year!

So, they will be providing the salads, etc for our reunion, all others expecting to attend, please send treasurer Ann Christmann a check for \$20.00. That will cover the meat platter, rolls, and drinks, a small donation to the family site, etc, for us all. You may pay on site, but if you do, please let Steve or I know by email that you plan to attend. We need a rough head count by June 10th, so we will know what to plan for!

Our itinerary is to meet at 11:00, lunch at 12:30, Len Tantillo will speak at 1:00-1:30, telling us about the making of our Mabee Farm painting. Steve will then bring us up to date on his latest research, then I will close with a short power point on native Americans in early Schenectady.

Sunday morning, for those who are interested, at 11:00 I will be happy to lead folks around the historic stockade and point out places where the Mabees and extended families lived, worked, etc. I could even put a word in the new proprietor of Arthur's ear, for a group stop for coffee or sandwiches, etc. If more are interested, we could then go up to Vale Cemetery to see Jan P. Mabee and other family gravestones?

Please send your requests so we can know what you might like to see! It's possible that we could also make a day of it, and head out to Schoharie crossing to see the land that the Mabees also used to own. There is a whole list of attractions and historic sites that we can give you if you are able to spend time in this area! Just let us know. We are happy to be tour advisors and directors. If we don't know the answer,

we know how to find it!

See you soon, Kim Mabee, President

## **Research Update**

By Steve Mabee  
Vice-President

A few months ago, Carolyn Mabee Eye (MS #170) called me and asked if I could provide her with a narrative covering my latest research on her ancestors, William and Sophia Mabee who lived in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, NY, in the mid-1800s. William and Sophia are the ancestors of the South Valley Branch of the Mabee Family. I told Carolyn that I would, and then I promptly got caught up in the day to day activities associated with home life and grandchildren. Since this research also applies to several other members of the Maybee Society, I thought that I would answer Carolyn through this column.

Let's start with William and Sophia and try to work back for a bit. In both 1855 and 1865, the New York State Legislature ordered a census of all state residents, and specified that the enumeration was to include the identification of each resident's place of birth, either being the New York County for residents born in state, or the appropriate state or country if born out-of-state. For one reason or another, the place of birth listed on these two enumerations tend to be more accurate than those on the US Federal enumerations of the time. And it is on these two state enumerations that the places of birth for William and Sophia are listed as New Jersey (for William) and Connecticut (for Sophia.)

From his tombstone in the South Valley Pleasant Brook Cemetery, we can see that William (died August 13, 1877 aged 73 yrs 8 mo 9 days) was born in early 1804. So,

in looking for his father, the question becomes who was living in New Jersey in that time frame?

As you may or may not know, the US Federal Census enumerations for 1790 through 1820 are no longer extant, having been destroyed by a fire in Trenton. So identifying those living in New Jersey in that time frame is an inexact science. We do know through various tax lists and deed records that in the 1790s there were Mabee families in two New Jersey locations: Peter Mabee and his sons John, Mindert and Isaac were living in Harrington Township, Bergen County, while a John Mabee and a Jasper Maybee were in Wantage Township in Sussex County. Of these names, we know through various Wills and Estates that William Mabee could not have been related to the Bergen County families, nor to the John Maybee in Sussex County. The result of a very careful analysis is that the only possible father of William in New Jersey in 1803/1804 is Jasper Maybee of Wantage Township, Sussex County.

The name Jaspar is both interesting and somewhat rare in the Mabee Family, which is surprising since one of the two original brothers was named Caspar, and Jasper is the Anglicized version of Caspar. As it happened, while the original Caspar Mabee had 6 sons, only two of those sons named a child Caspar (eldest son Peter and youngest son John). Neither Simon, Frederick, Jeremias nor Abraham named a son after their father. As a result, in the 1790 census, there are only three Mabee men named Jasper or Caspar enumerated. And in 1800, there were only 4. That makes it very easy to identify who each was by location, with the result that we can definitively state that Jasper Mabee of Sussex County, New Jersey is the child born to John Mabee and Phoebe Ferdon on February 26, 1755

(baptized in the Tappan Reformed Church on March 23, 1755).

In the 1810 US Federal Census, there are also only 4 enumerations for a Jasper/Casper Mabie, and three are easily identifiable. The other was a Jasper Maybee residing in the Town of Ovid, Seneca County, NY, at that time adjacent to Steuben County. So, for several years researchers were faced with the question: Did the Jasper Maybee of Sussex County, NJ moved to Seneca County, NY?

It was not until the spring of 2007 that this question was answered in the affirmative. Thanks to a then new web site now called Fold3.com, the Revolutionary War Pension request of a man named John Britten was found to contain the answer. By 1818, Britten had moved from New Jersey to Steuben County, NY and he needed support for his pension request. So his friend, Jasper Mabey, submitted a deposition which Fold 3 included in the Britten file.

The deposition reads in part:

“State of New York, Steuben County. Jasper Mabey of the Town of Jersey in the county aforesaid, aged sixty-six years and some months, being duly sworn saith that he is well acquainted with John Britten and has been for upwards of 40 years. That the said John Britten enlisted in the Jersey line in the early part of the summer of the year 1782. That part of the time the said John Britten was in the service his wife lived at my house. That in the summer of 1783 after the termination of the Revolutionary War the said John Britten returned home. That after his return he showed me his discharge.”

Sworn to on October 17, 1820 and signed Jasper Maybey.

Thus, we know that Jasper Maybee, son of John and Phoebe, lived in New Jersey and then in Seneca County, NY, and then in Steuben County, NY. What do we know about Jasper's sons, if any?

First, we find that he had a son named Cornelius whose name first appears in the 1820 Federal Census in Steuben County, NY. Thereafter, Cornelius moved to Pennsylvania, then onto Ohio, and finally to Indiana. He had a son named Jasper. Further, there is a DAR publication which mentions a grave in Ohio for Jasper Maybee, a veteran of the Revolution. Cornelius had a large family and is the ancestor of several Maybee Society members including Allan Maybee (MS #48) of Mitchell, NE.

But Jasper also had a son named William. This is evidenced by the fact that in 1815, William Maybee of Seneca County, NY, was named Ensign in the 128<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the NY State Militia. Further, in 1816 this same William Maybee was promoted to Lieutenant in the same regiment. By 1820, this William had moved to Schoharie County, NY, where he was enumerated in the census. His son, William Mabie Junior married Sophia Caulkins on April 1, 1826 in the German Reformed Church of New Rhinebeck-Cobleskill in Schoharie County. Thus we have the link to William and Sophia Mabie of Otsego County. The elder William Mabie then moved on to Herkimer County where his two youngest sons, Jasper and James, spent the remainder of their lives.

### **2015 Maybee Society Reunion**

The next Maybee Society sponsored family reunion will be held at the Mabey Farm in Rotterdam Junction, NY on July 11, 2015. This time, our Maybee Society reunion

will be held in conjunction with the annual reunion held by the descendants of William and Sophia Mabie. The reunion is planned to run from 11 AM to 5 PM, with a lunch served at 12:30. **Our featured Guest Speaker will be the artist, Len Tantillo.**

Start planning now to attend this memorable event! For those needing accommodations, special group rates have been negotiated with the **Holiday Inn** at 205 Wolf Road, near the Albany airport. The phone number is (518) 458-7250 and the contact is Mary Rogan at extension # 482. The negotiated rate is \$112 per night plus tax and is good for both Friday and Saturday nights (July 10th and 11<sup>th</sup>). This special rate does not include breakfast. We need to book three rooms in order to get this rate.

### **Places to Visit near Schenectady**

For those of you who will be attending the reunion and who will be spending some extra time in the area around Schenectady, here are some points of interest that you may want to visit.

I won't go too far off the deep end with genealogical and historical sites. At one time or another, and sometimes twice, Nancy and I have stopped at every historic church and cemetery along the Mohawk River from Schenectady to Little Falls, and back up to Saratoga. But that is for the real zealot.

For those with a more modest genealogical bent, a stop at the Schenectady County Historical Society is a good first stop. And then the Montgomery County Archives in Fonda, NY.

If you are a descendant of Caspar Mabie (born 1660), you may want to drive down the Hudson River to Tappan, NY, and stop in for lunch at the Old '76 House. The building, located across the street from the Old Dutch Reformed Church, where many of Caspar's descendants were baptized and married, was originally constructed by Casparus Mabie in 1754. Casparus sold it in 1774, and it was later used to hold Major Andre during his trial.

For historians, don't miss Fort Johnson, Johnson Hall, and the historic site of Fort Hunter, all located along the Mohawk near the Schoharie Creek. And to the east, there is the Crailo State Historic Site in Rensselaer, NY, which includes the Museum of Colonial New Netherland History in the upper Hudson Valley.

And for those of you who want a change of pace, I strongly recommend a day in Cooperstown, NY, where you can spend a few hours at the Baseball Hall of Fame, and then stop by the historic Farmers Museum, where, among other items there is an original old 1700s era Dutch plow which was used as a model by Len Tantillo in his painting *The Mabee Farm*.

Speaking of the Farmer's Museum, Ken Mabey (MS #158) has added a piece on a church which has been relocated to the museum:

#### **THE CORNWALLVILLE CHURCH**

The church is now located at the Farmer's Museum in Cooperstown, NY. It has been beautifully restored, and is part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century village at the museum. A good history of the church and its removal in 1961, and restoration at the Village Crossroads is Wendell Tripp's, *The Church*

*at the Farmer's Museum*, a publication of the New York State Historical Association.

The church was the focal point of the hamlet of Cornwallville in Durham, Greene County, NY. Settled during the late 1700's it became an active, close knit farming community during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries symbolic of many rural communities of the time.

When my grandparents Ed & Alice Mabey were about 80, we took them to see the Cornwallville Church at the museum. As he walked into the church in that beautiful setting, his eyes misted over, and he said "my family all went to this church." It obviously meant a great deal to both of my grandparents, but made a lasting impression on me.

Attending this church as a child with my family, and having a "cradle roll certificate" made me aware of my place in the story. I have been a trustee of the cemetery association for several years now. Three of the five members are my cousins from my mother's line, (Parks & Sutton), but I am the only Mabey. We all share similar sentiments. In addition to my Mabey 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandparents, and great grandparents; my grandmother's (Alice Barnes Mabey) Barnes parents, and my maternal 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandparents Parks are also there. Due to the fact that my Great grandmother, Anna Whitman Barnes, (born in 1857) lived until I was eleven years old and was a font of knowledge into her 90's had a great influence on me.

All of the Mabey family in the Cornwallville cemetery is descended from the Casper line. They are as follows: Alanson Mabey d.7/22/1872, 76y; Ann Eliza (d/o Alanson & Eliza); Ann Eliza (Spettigue) Mabey (wife of Alanson),

d.10/17/1891, aged 84y; Ann Eliza Mabey (wife of Warren Finch) Horace Mabey b. 1843, d.1/1917, age 74y; Laura Louise Gruett (wife of Horace), b.1848, d. 7/8/1920, aged 72y; Cora Mabey (wife of Fred Randolph), d. 5/19/1937, aged 63y; Emily Mabey (wife of Leroy France) d. 4/28/1962, aged 84y. Emily and Leroy France had a daughter Elizabeth Mabey France who married Ferris Parks, (2<sup>nd</sup> cousin of my mother). They are also buried in this cemetery.

Alanson's parents and some of his siblings and their families are buried in the Mabey Cemetery on Maple Avenue in South Westerlo, Albany County near the Greene County line, less than half an hour away.

My grandparents Edward M. Mabey, and Alice J. Barnes; my father, Edward G., aunt, Margaret and, uncle, Newman H. are in the Oak Hill Cemetery in the town of Durham. There also is George Mabey, and his wife. (Brother of Horace, and eldest child of Alanson & Eliza)

Over the years our families, both women and men have passed the stories of our families on to us. They include verbal histories, and written documents, photographs, letters, family bibles, and artifacts. We are fortunate to have these, and do our part. The Maybee Society has been a link, and expanded our knowledge.

Ken Mabey, MS #158

## **The Maybee Society Database**

The Maybee Society has, for many years, been compiling a database of all Maybees, all spellings, in North America. This database is carefully maintained by our past president John MayBee. The fact that a copy of this "tree" has been put on

Ancestry.com is apparently causing some confusion. The fact is that the database has always been available for use, without joining Ancestry, through the Maybee Society web site:

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

Simply scroll down to the database discussion and click on the link: "All other Mabie/Maybee/Mabee".

Alternately, you can also access the same exact database now through my own web site:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~smabie/>

Simply scroll down to the link labeled "Maybee Society Family Tree" which was just added on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

And be assured that regardless of how you access this database, there is never any information on living people being put on-line by the Maybee Society.

### **How to Order a Print of Len Tantillo's Painting of the Mabee Farm**

For those of you who are interested in purchasing a print of Len Tantillo's beautiful painting of the Jan Mabee Farm, as it was in 1800, the best way to contact Len is through his web site:

[http://www.lftantillo.com/shop/19th-Century/Mabee-Farm/prod\\_2755.html](http://www.lftantillo.com/shop/19th-Century/Mabee-Farm/prod_2755.html)

The print shown on this page is priced at \$170, but pricing of all options is available by emailing Len at this address:

[copperkeel@aol.com](mailto:copperkeel@aol.com)

### **Dues**

Many of you have kept up to date on your dues – Thank You. For those who haven't, dues are \$5 per year if you select the e-mail version of the Communicator (in color!), and \$10 per year for the black and white, hard copy version sent via the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that no new orders for the hard copy version are being accepted. All dues should be sent to our Treasurer, Ann Christmann. Checks should be made payable to Ann, NOT to the Maybee Society.

### **Who We Are:**

The Maybee Society Communicator is a publication of the Maybee Society, 15 Van Buren Ln. Rd 4, Scotia, New York, 12302-9473. Dues should be sent to Ann Christmann, Treasurer, at the address below. Checks should be made out to Ann Christmann. Data and information should now be sent to Steve Mabie.

Website

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

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