



MAYBEE SOCIETY COMMUNICATOR

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The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

I love the hobby of "history". It has led me down so many interesting paths. My favorite of these paths are education, preservation and conservation. There are so many historical events that go on here in our local area, many related to the Mabee Farm. The Mabee Family foundation made a donation to SCHS in December that will be used to repair the farm cemetery gravestones. Some of them were starting to tilt and break. We have cleaned out the enclosure and the stones several times through the last 25 years but sometimes it needs professional work!

The SCHS volunteer archeologists are getting a boost this summer by having a company do a project to help alleviate moisture and drainage near the old stone house. We hope to find out more answers to some historic questions at the same time if at all possible. All of these things take money. We have been lucky in that some of our SCHS members donate towards these efforts. I would like to say many thanks to them for their generosity.

We also have Maybee Society members who do other kinds of preservation work.

Member Ken Mabey has been working on a project to have the Cornwallville Cemetery put on the State and National Registers. It has several Revolutionary War veterans buried there, as well as Ken's grand and great grandparents. (The original church was moved and is now part of the Cooperstown Farmers museum). The state acted on it in September, and he received confirmation in December. They subsequently sent the nomination to the National, and that was confirmed in January 2017.

The Bradt family reunion is coming up again this summer. They have it every 5 years like we do. I am sure several of you also have them in your lines if you would like to attend. They really have a big itinerary, interesting speakers, and site visits! They also had Len Tantillo paint a picture of Albert Bradt's mill on the Normanskill. But alas, they have no original house or mill to visit. We are truly fortunate in that we have locations/buildings related to both main branches of our family tree!

All the Best,
Kim

Research Update

By Steve Mabie
Vice-President

For one reason or another, I have found myself recently in a rather reflective mood, thinking back on many aspects of my life. Perhaps turning 70 last month had something to do with this. And when it comes to genealogy, reflection invariably leads me to think of Royal Mabie.

At least once or twice a year, when people write to me, they include mention of the fact that their interest in genealogy started as a result of Royal writing a letter to someone in their family. A few months ago, I received such a missive from Elizabeth Maybee-Crispin (MS#367). In her case, Royal had contacted her mother, Carmela Chase-Maybee, and Elizabeth later communicated with Royal. In her words, "If it weren't for my mother asking me to follow up on the letter Royal Mabie had sent her, I probably would not have been on your mailing list."

I too was influenced by a letter from Royal Mabie. On July 13, 1964, Royal wrote to my grandmother telling of his hobby and asking for her to write back with information on her children and grandchildren so that he could include them.

Always the suspicious one, she passed the letter on to her son-in-law Alex MacKerell and he replied to Royal the following month, starting an exchange of correspondence which continued for at least 5 years.

As luck would have it, Alex periodically sent me a package of Royal's letters which frequently included family stories. This is how I learned of the Jan Mabie home, the

Old 76 House (originally the home and Tavern of Casparus Mabie), the tale of Simon Mabee, the Loyalist spy, the painting of the Mabie Children, the Mabie Brothers Circus, and several other interesting stories.

As time went on I would frequently reference these letters, especially when my own children needed information for school assignments.

Fast forward 30 years, to the mid-1990s. That is when, thanks to the internet, I first learned about the Maybee Society and, thanks to Belva Perry and Jack Maybee, the wonderful book by R. Robert Mutrie, "6,000 New York Ancestors: A Compendium of Mabie Research." I immediately purchased a copy and began to compare it to what Royal Mabie had sent to my uncle 30 years earlier. The discrepancies were numerous, but it was clear that these discrepancies were due to reliance on two researchers, neither of whom had a familial interest in the Mabie Family. Both Royal and Robert relied to varying degrees on the research of Edward C. Marshall (1896) and Grenville MacKenzie, and both Marshall and MacKenzie had made significant errors which were then promulgated through the works of others.

That is when I decided to do whatever hands-on research was necessary to resolve these discrepancies, relying as much as possible only on original records. And here we are after another 20 years.

It is fitting, I think, to take a moment at this time to thank Royal Mabie, Robert Mutrie, Jack Maybee and Belva Perry for laying the groundwork for where we are today .

A Reminder for May 4th

Jon von Briesen (MS#213) writes in to remind all descendants of Pieter Casparszen van Naerden and of Barent Jacob Kool to celebrate the 362nd anniversary of the day that Pieter and Barent were sworn in as the official wine and beer carriers for Nieuw Amsterdam.

To celebrate, simply raise a toast to our ancestors on May 4th.

And don't forget that all descendants of Pieter are automatically eligible for membership in the best of all lineage societies: The Society of the Descendants of the Sworn Wine & Beer Carriers of Nieuw Amsterdam. No application is necessary!

Reader's Feedback

Hi Steve,

I was interested in seeing the Mabie circus announcement in the latest Communicator. These brothers appear to be from my side of the clan.

I'm originally from Chicago and a number of years ago, my wife and I visited Baraboo, Wisconsin, home of the Circus World Museum. We were looking for Mabie circus memorabilia but discovered that their circus, which is one of the first to be home-based west of the Appalachian mountains existed before the birth of the big billboards. The people in the museum directed us to the circus library and reference center. There we found a number of newspaper announcements of the circus, which was pretty innovative with respect to having no less than four elephants and other "wild" animals. We made copies of

the advertisements and display them in our house - advising visitors that it might explain our occasional bizarre behavior. There have been a number of musicians and stage performers in my family and I continue to perform as a jazz musician in the Virginia area. We were also directed to a memorial to the brothers in a park located in Delavan, Wisconsin - a place we visited as kids but never knew existed. The brothers made Delavan the first home quarters for any circus in Wisconsin.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the circus and the brothers, there is an excellent book called Badger State Showmen, A History of Wisconsin's Circus Heritage, by Fred Dahlinger, Jr. and Stuart Thayer, that is still available on the internet. The first chapter is devoted entirely to the Mabie brothers circus history.

Thanks for all of your hard work and research efforts for the "family."

Best, Lew Mabie, Williamsburg, Virginia

Ed. Note: Lew is MS #178

Obituaries

George William Maybee, MS#116

George William Maybee was born in Kent, Washington, and as a young man joined the U.S. Navy. He ventured to Huntsville, AL in 1964, where he became a key player in the advancement and development of the U.S Space program. George was a member of the Huntsville aerospace engineering community where he worked on numerous NASA programs, including the Apollo Lunar Rover, which was essential to exploration of the moon's surface; Skylab, the world's first manned space station; and

Spacelab, the first manned scientific lab in space. A graduate of the University of Washington with a B.A. in Engineering Physics, he was a senior member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and made numerous contributions to events and publications. George joined McDonnell Douglas in 1982, participating in mission control operations for Spacelabs 1, 2, and 3. He managed projects for UAH Consortium for materials in space and led the payload integration team for Consort 1, the first micro-gravity payload launched by a commercial licensed rocket in the U.S. Additionally, he managed various space technology projects including two Sounding rockets and a Shuttle mission carrying new technology experiments developed under his leadership.

Upon retirement, George devoted himself to his passions for music, writing, love of nature, family, and exploring the great west where he was raised and cherished immensely! He had three books published and wrote many songs, poems and short stories. He was a brilliant man yet loved the simple things in life and has shared so much with so many. He was nicknamed by friends as Alabama Bill and by family as Father of the Forest! He was a devoted father and husband and his greatest joy was having his family gathered sharing fun, food, laughter & good times. He will be greatly missed and his legacy will live on for generations to come!

George William Maybee, 85, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at his home in Harvest, AL.

George is survived by his wife, Madalyn Maybee of Huntsville; son, Mark W. Maybee of Huntsville; daughters, Betsy M. Jarrett of Huntsville, Suzanne M. Sons of Madison, and Jennifer M. Kilpatrick of

Decatur; sister, Lorna Maybee Tillson of Oregon; 7 grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

From Barb Kineke (MS#269)

Hi Steve, I thought maybe you may be interested to know we have had 4 deaths in our Mabie clan since last July. They are the following:

Larry Rouse of Gloversville, NY passed away August 29, 2016 in Amsterdam. Larry descends through the John Peter Mabie line in South Valley.

Howard Mabie of Port Crane, NY passed away November 23, 2016 at Wilson Hospital in Johnson City, NY. Howard was a long time attender of the annual Mabie Reunion and was 92 years old. He descends through the John Peter Mabie line from South Valley. Howard came every year with the exception of the past few. We are sad to lose him.

Joel Thomas Mabie of Jamesville, NY passed away November 12, 2016 at 31 years of age. Joel is a grandson to Gloria Mabie, who is a regular attender of the annual Mabie reunion. Joel descends through the Arba Mabie line from South Valley.

Dorman Harold Webb of Roseboom, NY passed away January 11, 2017 in Roseboom, NY. He was 76 years old and descended through the Mabie line from William and Sophia's daughter Margaret Clarissa Mabie and Lyman Powers.

With all of our older members passing away, and no new younger ones seeming interested I am afraid that our reunion will dissolve within a few years. It is sad. I remember when my mom used to say that

and I ended up only going to keep her happy. Now I am so glad I did, because I really enjoy the genealogy and now it is my desire to keep this going. Barb

Rolland W. Mabie, the father of Daniel Mabie (MS#199) and Douglas Mabie (MS#192)

Rolland W. Mabie found peace on May 22, 2016 at the age of 86 years. Beloved husband of the late Marilyn. Loving father of David (Cindy), Debra (Dennis) Horne, Daniel (Heather), Dean (Renee) and Douglas (Jennifer). Cherished grandpa of Joshua (Kerstin), Nathan (Lynn), Ashley (Micah), Ryan (Jacquelyn), Kristin Matthew), Lindsey (Jeremy), Rebecca (Kyle), Dani, Emily, Hannah, Matthew, Joshua, Calvin, Kyle, Andrea, Aniket, Misha Marilyn and Uwe. Special great grandpa of Madyson, Kaleigh, Abygail, Ingrid, Molly, Evelyn, Peter, Lukas, Lewis, Jack, Eleanor, Margot, Casey, Emma, Charlie and Landon. Preceded in death by his parents Rolland F. and Edna Mabie and his sister Margaret Mabie.

Grandpa Rollie loved fishing, camping and spending time in the natural beauty of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with his faithful golden retriever, "Trapper". He was a lifelong Wisconsin sports fan, and a die-hard fan of the Brewers and Packers. After attending the University of Wisconsin, Rollie served in the US Army as a Ranger in the 82nd Airborne Division.

He worked for the Wisconsin Telephone Company until 1985, and spent his retirement years traveling the country with Grandma Marilyn and Trapper in their Vanagon camper van. He loved reading, blackjack, cribbage, sing-alongs and his daily crossword puzzle. Above all else, he cherished every minute he spent with his

family. He was truly one of a kind and he will be deeply missed. Published in Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on May 25, 2016

Pueblo booster and former councilman Harold Mabie dies at 90

By PETER ROPER | The Pueblo Chieftain, Mar 10, 2017 Updated Mar 10, 2017

Back in 1984, Harold Mabie gave an interview where he chided local businessmen for not doing more for Pueblo -- giving back to the community where they'd prospered.

If that sounded like a locker-room scolding from a coach, it was. Mabie, owner of King Lumber Co., also was the District 4 city councilman, and an early member of the Pueblo Economic Development Corp.

No one could accuse him of not working for Pueblo's betterment.

"Harold worked hard at bringing jobs to Pueblo," recalled former Councilman Mike Occhiato. "He was a pleasure to work with and part of a good team in those days. We never let a job lead go unpursued and Harold was really on top of that game."

Mabie, 90, who would later become PEDCO chairman and receive many other local honors, died on Tuesday [7 Mar 2017].

Mabie was born in Pueblo and graduated from Centennial High School in 1944. He then joined the Navy and became a medical corpsman. He was recalled to the Navy during the Korean War.

He married his late wife, the former Beth Sexton, right out of high school.

"Everybody said it would never work, that we were too young," he laughed in that same 1984 interview. Mrs. Mabie died in 2008. They are survived by their two children, Van (and Karen) Mabie, of San Diego; and Leslie (and Tom) Towner, of Lakewood.

Mabie owned King Lumber Co. for 45 years, but was always active in civic affairs. He served on council from 1980-84, and was president of the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the city's Airport Development Commission.

In 1983, he was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the chamber.

Mabie was deeply involved in PEDCO's efforts to recruit new jobs after downsizing at the CF&I Corp. had staggered Pueblo's economy. Former Councilman Mike Salardino said Mabie had a bedrock optimism about what could be accomplished to get the city back on its feet. "I got to know Harold on council and he always had this great attitude so that, even if you didn't agree with his position, he would have you laughing," he said. He surprised skeptics in 1982 when he promised that two new 4-H dormitories could be built over the weekend at the Colorado State Fair -- and did it.

Dues

The officers of the Maybee Society would like to make clear that the payment of dues, while greatly appreciated, is not required to maintain good standing as members. Specifically, we understand that some of

our members are senior citizens living on fixed incomes, and we do not want anyone who cannot afford it to feel obligated. 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 be sent to Steve Mabie.

Our new Website is:
<http://maybeesociety.org/>

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