



# MAYBEE SOCIETY COMMUNICATOR

December 2022

ISSUE 130

## The President's Corner

### **A 4 Alarm Fire-----**

Dear Cousins,

I am so sorry to tell you that this is not the letter I wrote in October!

On this, Pearl Harbor Day, it does seem appropriate however!

PLEASE HELP!!! If you have computer skills, writing skills, need a hobby (besides genealogy—but this is included as a bonus) then we need you verrrry much! Below is what John said. He has been our database keeper for over 20 years, previously our president, and contacted me, Steve, and Ann back in November. But we dithered and hoped the issue might go away!? John wrote and that he needs to step down.

There are changes coming to the database arrangements and we need someone immediately so he can explain to them how to do it. Like December 31<sup>st</sup>!? To be honest, I do not even understand it all. I have only used my Family Tree Maker program for 20 years and do not want to change. This is the extent of my computer abilities, that I can complete this newsletter to you that Steve had started. He has it set up where it practically does itself! Thank

Goodness! Sooo, then we all got into a discussion that Steve too is having health issues and would also like to step back. I had hinted in the last Communicator that next year is my 10<sup>th</sup> in doing this job!! Soooo, we all can be on the change list if you would like!! We need younger, healthier, computer savvy and willing hands if we are to keep going forward!

Kim Mabee  
President

### **DATABASE KEEPER JOB DESCRIPTION----**

We are looking for a replacement for John MayBee as the Maybee Society Database Coordinator. He has been doing the job since 1999 and feels he is getting too old for the job.

The job is to receive information from members and nonmembers and add the information to our database, and to update our information on the website at [maybeesociety.com](http://maybeesociety.com), which is maintained by FamilyHistoryHosting.com. This would

take from 2-6 hours a month. Our database is kept in The Master Genealogist Program v.9 and will update to FamilyHistoryHosting.com using the The Second Site Program. TMG is no longer for sale, but John will transfer the program software, manuals, and registration data to a new database coordinator.

If the volunteer, has their own program they prefer, FamilyHistoryHosting.com can update our database using GedCom files, but that means losing a lot of data and all the pictures.

John Maybee  
Data Base Administrator

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR JOB DESCRIPTION**

Okay—Steve did not give me a write up but for the most part it is putting out the newsletter quarterly, and adding in the extras whenever and wherever you want so long as it is on the general topic of Maybees/Mabees/Mabies and genealogy!! You do not have to be a researcher extraordinaire! Let others help you, and ask for information and stories on their lineages etc! I don't know about all of you but I am always collecting historical info on everything, especially the Colonial period!

Kim

## **PRESIDENT JOB DESCRIPTION**

Hahahaha--- Guess you write a letter for the newsletter 4 times a year, plan the 5-year Reunion at the Mabee Farm Historic Site (next is set for 2025) and anything else you can find of interest!! I am willing to do 1 more year if we can fill the 2 most important jobs!

Kim

## **Research Update**

### **Blank for this Issue**

I have been working on one of Gary's lineages since summer, and will try to get back to print it in the January/February issue!

### **Editorial**

### **None at this time**

### **Book Column**

I read one on "Why the Dutch are Different" by Ben Coates

A SCOTSMAN TRAVEL BOOK OF THE YEAR\*

Stranded at Schiphol airport, Ben Coates called up a friendly Dutch girl he'd met some months earlier. He stayed for dinner. Actually, he stayed for good.

In the first book to consider the hidden heart and history of the Netherlands from a modern perspective, the author explores the length and breadth of his adopted homeland and discovers why one of the world's smallest countries is also so significant and so fascinating. It is a self-made country, the Dutch national character shaped by the ongoing battle to keep the water out from the love of dairy and beer to the attitude to nature and the famous tolerance.

Ben Coates investigates what makes the Dutch the Dutch, why the Netherlands is much more than Holland and why the color orange is so important. Along the way he reveals why they are the world's tallest people and have the best carnival outside Brazil. He learns why Amsterdam's

brothels are going out of business, who really killed Anne Frank, and how the Dutch manage to be richer than almost everyone else despite working far less. He also discovers a country which is changing fast, with the Dutch now questioning many of the liberal policies which made their nation famous.

A personal portrait of a fascinating people, a sideways history and an entertaining travelogue, *Why the Dutch are Different* is the story of an Englishman who went Dutch. And loved it.

## **OLD BUSINESS/Letter**

This is the one I wrote for October---  
Dear Cousins,

I want to tell you that I got an opportunity to “brunch” at the Old ’76 House again recently! Several ladies from our Schenectada DAR Chapter attended the NY State conference in Tarrytown at the end of September. So of course, I had to cajole them into coming with me before we drove home!!

The food was delicious and atmosphere out of this world to a history nut, or I should say, back in the old world! They have refreshed it some with décor but the historical is even more so. They now have a leafy side patio prompted by the pandemic I bet. I even broke down and bought one of their shirts, (don’t tell Gary) We spoke to the new manager Elisa Fritz since owner Rob van Norden is taking a break. She was a past employee that he had begged to come back. It was a typical fall Sunday in their arrangements. Can’t say that I have ever seen and heard a live band playing during the meal at that time of day! They were very good and contributed to the ambiance. All the ladies thoroughly enjoyed it! They now give me the business

and said they are going to start a drinking song for every time I mention something connected to the Mabees. They think everyone in our chapter is related to Gary, or that I can tell them how!

I have included some photos!

Have a great Holiday season everyone!

Kim Mabee  
President



## HUMOR



## NEW BUSINESS

Just to keep you up on it, yes, I did set up a Maybee Society Tree at the Schenectady County Historical Society Festival of Trees. It runs Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>---

The theme I chose this year was  
Bastke”try” and Bucke”try”

It has some of the Mabee Farm broom corn sticking out of the sides as a part of what it takes to make a basket etc. and I figured the buckets speak for themselves in that they were always needed on a farm!!

## Obituaries

Ross Mabey. MS #202

According to an email from his wife Linda received by the Maybee Society on August 13<sup>th</sup>, Ross Mabey died June 11, 2022. The following is his 2015 biography.

### **Ross Mabey Poet And Song-writer By Margaret Graham**

Ross Mabey is 72 years old and was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease (PD) in November 2005. He was living in London UK for 15 years before returning to Australia in June 2014 accompanied by his wife Linda. Their son Jonathon, 28 years old, returned to Australia in 2012. During his working life Ross was employed in various roles in the Telecommunications industry in Australia and later in the UK. His interests include writing poetry, lyrics for songs and family history. He is also interested in researching to help find a cure for PD.

<https://www.frostmagazine.com/tag/ross-maybe/> Posted on Frost Magazine, July 14, 2015





## **Treasury/Finances**

We currently have \$1600. The Maybee Society has been sending out 4 newsletters a year. The cost for the postage and printing is now about \$200 a year. Most of those receiving the Communicator are getting theirs via email. We have some members that get theirs via the postal system in the US and Canada. We no longer accept new subscriptions that require paper, mailed copies.

The database and website together cost \$215 last year. Renewal will be February/March of 2023

From time to time, we have additional small expenses that the Maybee Society incurs. We added participation fee of \$25 for the Festival of Trees at SCHS. We have had brochures printed to generate interest in the Maybee Society about once every 5-6 years.

## **AMERICA 250** **A SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL**

It is upcoming along with our next reunion! I do not know if any of you have paid attention to this, but there will be many upcoming events all over the country in the near future!

<https://www.america250.org/>

## **NEW NETHERLAND** **QUADRACENTENNIAL ??**

I was just made aware that 2024 is the quadricentennial of the ship *New Netherland*'s arrival in Albany and New Amsterdam!! To date, I have not heard of any events for this in New York or New Jersey! I will keep my ears open!

## **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.

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## SARATOGA COUNTY

## New county brand spotlights Revolutionary history

BY KRISTINA HANDY  
For The Daily Gazette

With its racing track, mineral springs, and battlegrounds, Saratoga has always been rich in history, but a new initiative will allow the county to truly dive into its roots. On Thursday, Saratoga County officials revealed the brand that will work in upcoming years to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War: America's Turning Point.

The brand name stems from the events of the Battles of Saratoga in which, on October 17, 1777, the British army surrendered to the Patriots. It has been known in history as the "Turning Point of the American Revolution."

Through marketing and event organization, America's Turning Point, in the years leading up to 2027, will aim to expand public education about the critical role of Saratoga in the Revolutionary War in order to honor the people, places and events of the Battles of Saratoga.

"I think milestone anniversaries like these allow us to shine a spotlight on local history whereas in other times it kind of plays in the background and it's not always first and foremost on everyone's minds," said Lauren Roberts, the chairperson of America's Turning Point and the Saratoga County historian.

The brand is backed by a commission made up of several local history experts and community leaders, including Saratoga National Historical Park Superintendent Leslie Morlock, Chairman of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Todd Kusnierz and Daughters of the American Revolution, our living history community, the National Park Service," said Roberts. "There are already quite a few things that we offer here for historic value but we just hope to really expand on that so that not only are our own citizens learning more about what happened in their backyard but we're also attracting visitors from all over the coun-

"It's really exciting," said Kelleher. "I think it's a great opportunity to really promote our community, promote our history."

The commission will be in charge of planning and organizing all of the celebrations, ceremonies, and other events recognizing the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in Saratoga County. Also on Thursday, the group received \$150,000 in seed money from the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors to jumpstart their mission.

"It's a really big sum of money so I assume that we will be able to use that in the coming years to be able to offer things like programming, maybe training," said Roberts.

The commission has identified three main goals in its commemoration of the Revolutionary War: "promoting education and appreciation" for Saratoga's role in the war, "increasing Heritage Tourism" and improving the infrastructure of the county's historical sites.

To increase public awareness and appreciation, the commission plans to host a variety of future events that will feature informational activities like educational displays and living history demonstrations.

"We do hope to bring in new scholarship; we hope to do lots of living history weekends, encampments, reenactments; partnering with our local stakeholders like the Daughters of the American Revolution, our living history community, the National Park Service," said Roberts. "There are already quite a few things that we offer here for historic value but we just hope to really expand on that so that not only are our own citizens learning more about what happened in their backyard but we're also attracting visitors from all over the coun-



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Saratoga County Historian Lauren Roberts discusses the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War on Thursday.

try and maybe even internationally."

Some upcoming events include an America's Turning Point Marquee tent at the Saratoga County Fair from July 19 to July 24, the Turning Point Parade in Schuylerville on Aug. 7, and a Path Through History Weekend on Oct. 8 and Oct. 9 at the Schuyler House. These events will not only teach participants about the history of Saratoga but, according to Roberts, apply their newfound knowledge to other parts of life and time.

"We as humans, I think, tend to look back to get a feeling or get an idea of how people handled these situations in the past and I think it's important for us to be able to do that in our own backyards," said Roberts.

The project will also seek

to increase heritage tourism, which would benefit the county's economy.

"Heritage tourists have been shown to spend more money than other types of tourists because they're looking for an authentic experience," said Roberts. "Not only that but they also tend to visit more sites and here we have sites that already bring tourists in like the track, things like that. This is going to be another added bonus where people will stay longer, there will be more for them to do, and they will be learning about history at the same time."

Finally, the commission will work to improve the services and infrastructure of the county's historical sites so as to maintain their quality and their ability to tell the stories of Saratoga history. One way

they are hoping to achieve this is through the incorporation of new technology.

"The county is meeting an effort to work with the National Park Service — we have some grants out there — to bring technology in to tell the story of the Battles of Saratoga outside of the national parklands," said Kelleher. "So that when people come into the village of Stillwater, they can see what happened there and the interesting stories that happened there using technology — we haven't been able to do that in the past."

By doing this, America's Turning Point will not only be for the history buffs — Kelleher is confident the new technology and historical information that will come in this project will draw in those

who, perhaps, weren't so interested in the past.

"I think it will bring in a non-traditional audience," said Kelleher. "There's so many good stories about what happened at the Battles of Saratoga and we're just starting to find them and dig them out and figure out how to share them with people so I think we are going to appeal to a whole new audience because of that."

America's Turning Point is just in the beginning stages of its mission but the Saratoga history it promises to commemorate has been momentous for almost 250 years.

"It's really important to appreciate the local history and understand how epic it was that the American victory happened here," said Roberts.

News you can use!  
Compliments of Kim Mabee

Editors Note: That is Mike Companion (MS #384) to the left in Colonial uniform.