

The
McBrayer
Family
Newsletter

IN

OF -

BY -

FOR -

THE FAMILY MACBRAIR

DEFIANCE

1 June 1981

Privately printed by Carl B. McBrayer, 412 Char Lane, Midwest City, Okla.

THIS ISSUE of IN DEFIANCE promices to be one of interest as many have submitted much information and new stories and family-related articles. It seems the interest continues to grow. Many requests have recently been received for subscriptions to the newsletter and for information about particular ancestors. MUCH new data has been added to the files and to the notes for the new book and much more has been promices. An entirely renewed interest in our family is beginning to take shape. It has been a slow task, but with all of us working together, we are now making it work. KEEP IT UP !!!!!!!

REUNIONS.....

DRAKETOWN, GEORGIA.... The annual McBrayer-Leathers Family reunion is planned for July 19 this year and will be held, as usual, at the Drake-town Baptist Church. A large number of the family have indicated they will be attending this year's event from all over Georgia, Alabama, some from North Carolina, and Tennessee. Make your plans now to attend. See you there. For directions, additional information, etc., contact Leonard B. McBrayer, Rt #2, Temple, Ga., 30179 - telephone: 1-404-562-3602. Leonard is the chairman of the reunion.

Draketown is located west of Atlanta between Dallas and Buchanan on highway 120.

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY.... For those of you in the northeastern areas, the annual McBrayer family reunion in Morehead will be held August 16th of this year at the Morehead City Park. For directions and information, contact James Earl McBrayer, Rt #5, box 306, Morehead, Ky., 40351 or call 1-606-784-7974. A large turnout is expected for this year's gathering as members of the family have indicated they will be traveling from Ky. Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Ill., and possibly Pennsylvania. Hope to see all of you there.

WELCOME TO THE NEW MCBRAYER and BRIAR DESCENDENTS.....

MICHAEL JOSEPH PFLUG, the son of Mark Irving and Patricia Ann Pflug, was born 21 January, 1981, in Grand Rapids, Mich. Mark is the 8th gen. son of Mary Elizabeth Briar and Irving John Pflug. Mary was the dau of Mark Robert Briar.

DAVID BENJAMIN MCBRAYER, the son of William Patrick and Brenda Duke

McBrayer, was born 27 January 1981 in Charleston, West Virginia. David is the grandson of George W. and Ruth McBrayer of Charleston. At the Kentucky family reunion in August of 1980, George, beaming with anticipation of the new 'grandson', proposed that William and Brenda name the new member for his ancestor, Ichabod McBrayer. One question George.... could you not persuade the new parents to the name 'Ichabod'?

Congratulations to all and good health and best wishes to the new members of our family.

MANGUM, OKLAHOMA....The home of Mr. and Mrs Bert Carpenter of Mangum was gutted by an early morning fire on March 4th. The fire, which began in the bath area, was believed to have been caused by a faulty electric heater. Bert and Juanita lost all their belongings, but local relatives and friends immediately initiated a response which brought gifts of clothing and necessities, and donations of money to help them thru. As of this writing Bert and Juanita were buying another house and by now be settled is. Juanita is the daughter of Tom and Mary Frances McBrayer "Frankie" Mosley, and the granddaughter of the late Henry Walton McBrayer.

WILLINGBORO, NEW JERSEY.... Teresa Lynn Martin Klaiber announces the release of her new book, "KLAIBER COUSINS", which will be available on 1 June, 1981. "Klaiber Cousins" is nearly 100 pages of Klaiber information from across the United States. Several chapters are dedicated to the family of John Andrew Klaiber, who married Mary Ann McBrayer, daughter of James R. and Anne Sanders (Saunders) McBrayer, and their descendents. She reports that copies are limited and orders will be served as they are received. The 8 1/2" x 5 1/2" book is soft bound and sells for \$8.95 per copy which includes tax, mailing and handling. This book will be a very useful aid and will be invaluable to those wishing to pursue the linages and descendents of Mary Ann McBrayer Klaiber. Order from: Teresa Lynn Martin Klaiber, 62 Medford Lane, Willingboro, New Jersey, 08046. Be sure to include your check or money order.

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY....James Earl McBrayer of Morehead, Kentucky, and Mrs. Helen Johnson of Middletown, Ohio, were married Saturday, April 11, 1981, in Ashland. Reverend Gary Ausbun, son-in-law of James, performed the ceremony in the parsonage of the First Church of God. Helen was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, but grew-up in the Ashland area. She is teacher with the Middletown, Ohio, school system. They will be making their home in Morehead. Our congratulation .

LAKEWORTH, FLORIDA....Barbara June McBrayer Bartels informed us in a recent telephone conversation that she has begun the task of sorting and typing her late father's (Charles Nelson McBrayer) memoirs, notes and 'recollections' and has agreed to share some of the old family stories with us, so keep watch in future issues of ID for these.

DUNNELLO, FLORIDA.... The year 1981 is one of many milestones for Dr. Benjamin E. and Helene Eva Leutenegger McBrayer. March 13 found Dr. Ben celebrating his 75th birthday. On the 11th of April Ben and Helene were married for a marvelous 50 years. Unfortunately, their children were unable to help them celebrate, so "We spent a quite day as usual. Of course, 50 years together means a lot to us, and sharing it together is the reward we gain." Last but not least in this memorable year is May 1981, which in itself marks the 50th reunion of Dr. Ben's medical class in Colorado. On the return trip from Colorado Ben and Helene plan on

a visit in Oklahoma City with yours truly. I can safely say there is much anticipation here.

AWARD PRESENTED....Susan Kaye McBrayer, daughter of William Paul and Dorie M. Blackburn McBrayer, Forest City, North Carolina, was recently honored with a coveted "Golden Press Award". It was given her for a news story she wrote about the Special Olympics held in Cleveland County, N.C. in 1980. The award, presented in Boston, Mass., by the American Legion Auxiliary, was for "North Carolina's Best Local Feature Article in the Interest of Youth-1980".

Susan is currently a political reporter with the Shelby (N.C.) Daily Star. Her background in the journalistic field is truly noteworthy. In 1973-74, shortly after her graduation from college, she was the assistant editor for a Burk Co. (N.C.) weekly; was assistant press secretary to U.S. Senator Robert Morgan in Raleigh in 1974; was a reporter at the Rutherford County news before joining the staff of the Star in 1975; and during a leave of absence in 1980 - served as assistant press secretary to Congressman Lamar Gudger in Washington.

Our congratulations to Susan.

It is also worthy to note that Susan has taken an extreme interest in our family history and heritage and has created considerable interest in others in her area. Through her efforts several new contacts have been established in the past few weeks. Thanks Susan !!!!!

MARGARET MCBRAYER DUKE recently received notification that she had been elected as a member of the International Society for University Trained X-ray Technologists. This is, indeed, an honor for her and congratulations are in order. Margaret is the daughter of the late William Wolford McB. of the Ky. line. He was the son of Lewis Parker, Jr. line.

JEAN MCBRAYER BROWN tells us that she is going into the second printing of her most interesting book, "A History of Kiowa (Ka.). Not only does the book cover the local history of Kiowa, Kansas, but goes into some detail on the history of early-day Oklahoma and the Indian territory. It is full of tales of the early pioneers, Indians, the first settlers, the run into the Oklahoma Territory. It also contains information of her father and grandfather. Jean states: "It was primarily written for Kiowans, but I am told that other people find it interesting. (I did. I had a hard time putting it down once I started it. Carl) It provides a picture of a small Kansas frontier town, which was surrounded by large ranches and huge cattle pools (where several ranchers went together, pooling their herds for "the sake of the economy, better protection of the herds, and the opportunity of upgrading the herds.) in Barber Co. and the Cherckee Outlet of Indian Territory. It was one of the points from which the biggest "run" was made into Oklahoma Territory in 1893. Carry Nation, of prohibition fame, smashed her first saloon in Kiowa in 1900." Jean's address is: 418 N. 6th, Kiowa, Kansas, 67070. Check with her on the price of the second edition. I heartily endorse this book.

LOST SISTER SOUGHT....Norma Lynn McBrayer Stiles and Linda Lou McBrayer Vance are seeking help in locating their half-sister, Connie Gail McB. The last 'where-bouts' they have of Connie was in the Chicago area. The sisters' father, Norman Leon McBrayer, left Ill. about 1960 and settled in Tuscon, Ariz., where he died in Dec of 1980. He had left Connie's mother, his second wife, and Connie in Chicago. (They were later divorced) The family lost tract and for the past 20 years have been searching for Connie. It is thought that her mother, Marion Isabelle McBrayer, died some years ago. Connie was born about 1958 in Chicago, and it is not

known if her mother remarried, if Connie retained the McBrayer surname, or if and when Connie may have married.

If you have any knowledge or information concerning Connie or her mother, contact: Dixie Jean McBrayer Arden, 1545 W. Pratt Blvd., Chicago, Ill., telephone 1-312-764-4837. Dixie can in turn contact Norma and Linda, whose addresses she has. Your help is needed.

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS....Brian McBrayer, in a recent conversation, reported that an acquaintance, while doing some person 'hunting' in the records at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., came across a document about a McB who won the nation's highest military honor - the Congressional Medal of Honor. After some local research I have found there indeed was a Sgt. William McBryar, 10th Cavalry, who won the medal 'for bravery' during the Apache Wars in the late 1880's. Additional research is being conducted to discover just who he was. If anyone should come across any thing concerning this individual, please, let us know so we can pass it on.

OBSERVES 90th BIRTHDAY.... Mrs R.B. Goldin was ninety years old Dec. 20th, 1980, and in her honor her children and their families hosted a tea on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21. Over 200 friends and relatives called to pay her homage.

The former Ada Estelle McBrayer, Mrs Goldin was born Dec. 23, 1890, the daughter of Joseph Candler McBrayer and Georgia Garner McBrayer, of Draketown, Georgia. She had six sisters and four brothers.

After graduating from the Draketown Baptist Institute, Estelle McBrayer attended Tift College, receiving a degree in 1913. She did graduate work at Columbia University in New York City, then for five years she taught school and served as principal.

In 1917 she married Dr. Robert Battle Goldin, also of Draketown, and in 1919 they moved to Rockmart.

The first Sunday after the Goldins moved to Rockmart, Mrs Goldin united with the First Baptist Church. For 58 years she served in various positions in the church, as a Sunday School teacher, WMU president, choir member, and others. She was also active in school and community affairs, serving for several years as P.T.A. president.

Her children are Mr. and Mrs R.B. Goldin, Jr., of Cartersville; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Goldin, of LaGrange; Dr. and Mrs. Harold Goldin, Mr. & Mrs. Joel Goldin, and Mrs. Henderson Hogg, Jr.

Many out-of-town guests attended the event.

Our congratulations to Estelle on her 90th birthday, and we wish her many more.

IN CINCINNATI, OHIO, there is a street named "McBrayer". "It goes up a hillside and comes to a place where it quits...then it becomes a 'stairway' and goes down through a rock formation and becomes another street."
-Barbara June McBrayer Bartels-

OWN YOUR PERSONAL RACEHORSE....After several years as a breeder and trainer/handler and owner of quality racehorses, and after a period of retirement, Clarence H. (C.H.) McBrayer, of San Diego, Calif., is making still another mark in the racehorse business. Tried in the tradition of his earlier ancestors in Missouri, where at one time Samuel McBrayer & J.C. Penny were partners in a livery/horse business, C.H. has now begun a new venture, "THOROUGHBRED INVESTMENTS", which is headquartered in San Diego.

From his brochure, "Why invest in a race horse", was extracted the following biographical information, as reprinted from the official 1978 HOLLYWOOD PARK Yearbook.

C.H. "MAC" MCBRAYER has been around horses all of his life, beginning with his childhood days in South Dakota, when the horse was his best means of transportation.

Last year at Hollywood Park, Mr. McBrayer enjoyed his most successful season, winning ten races from just 41 starts.

McBrayer entered the Sport of Kings as an owner in 1949, when he employed Bill Molter as his trainer. But he decided to become his own conditioner, and two years later, after selling his lucrative television repair business, saddled his first winner.

In 1955, he too a string of horses to Portland Meadows and actually rode in a few races, before hanging up his saddle for good. "My biggest thrill came in 1957 when one of my horses, Sutter's Creek, won handicaps at Caliente two days in a row."

Because of his long association with the sport, Mac is well acquainted with leading ranches and breeding farms in both California and Kentucky. In turn, he is well qualified to represent ranchers and breeders in the sale of their stock to potential investors, so if you have ever had the desire to own your own personal racehorse, contact Mac at: 2511 Palm Avenue, San Diego, Calif., 92154.

Mac, in his last correspondence, sent a check for \$15 as a donation to the family research fund. We are deeply appreciative and sincerely thank you, Mac.

LORENA, TEXAS... (The following article is reprinted in part from a news-story which appeared in the Waco (Tx.) Tribune-Herald, on Feb. 9, 1981. It was written by Doug Williamson, Central Texas Editor, and was submitted by Thomas McBrayer, himself a retired post master.)

Zip Code 7-5-6-5-5 may never be the same again. The post office in Lorena is without a McBrayer for the first time in 80 years today, with the recent retirement of Mayme McBrayer.

Since 1900, the family has daily touched the lives, and mail, of the people served out of the office in the far south corner of McLennan Co.

Retirement was an easy decision for 71-year-old Mayme, the wife of Thomas McBrayer, who for 40 years distributed letters to the rural clientele.

"After I went through all that Christmas and Sweepstakes stuff this last year, I decided that was it. I called my supervisor, made the arrangements. On Jan 9, it was official. I retired after 41 years here," Mrs McBrayer said.

The withdrawal pains are there, but they're not severe. "I enjoy people. I miss them," she said. "I wanted to accomodate everybody. They expect it here in Lorena. I catered to the older people especially, since they have a harder time seeing and writing."

The McBrayer-Lorena Post Office history is easy to detail.

- Will McBrayer became a rural letter carrier in 1900
- His son, Thomas, became a substitute rural carrier in 1926
- Mayme, wife of Thomas, became an assistant to Postmaster W.A. McAdams in 1939. She was paid only \$1 a day.
- Thomas became postmaster in 1942 by beating Mayme out on an examination for the position. He was paid \$1,100 that year.
- From 1943-46, Mayme was acting postmaster while Thomas was at war.
- When Thomas retired in 1966, she became the postmaster.

There have been a lot of changes in the postal service during their

lifetime. Thomas, for example, carried the mail by horseback for a short while.

ANDERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY....(The following article was submitted by J. Earl McBrayer and was extracted from a past issue of the Kentucky Sheriff's publication.)

January 1974, Miss Louise McBrayer, took the oath of office as a Deputy Sheriff of Anderson County for the tenth time, already having served nine previous sheriffs over a period of thirty-six years.

Harold Birdwhistell was elected Sheriff in November 1973 on the Democratic ticket and appointed Louise as his Office Deputy for the same position she accepted in January 1938 under Sheriff Ernon M. Stinnett, the first Sheriff she served.

Louise began her work at the local County Courthouse over forty-one years ago as Secretary to Mr. William E. Dowling, County Attorney, the office which then adjoined the Sheriff's.

She finished school and entered her first position in the depression years and at that time it took several jobs to make one good one. This was the reason she worked for the three officials, County Judge, County Attorney and Sheriff and in addition to the ten Sheriffs, she has worked for four County Judges and two County Attorneys, over the forty year span. In September 1939 she accepted a side position as news correspondent for the Lexington, Louisville and Frankfort papers and continued in this work -until Jan 1, 1974, when she resigned to devote full time to the Sheriff and County Judge's clerical duties.

Louise is an identical twin and has much fun in her identical appearance with her twin sister. On occasion the twin has substituted at her office desk, church committee meetings and assisted in transporting voters to the polls for each Sheriff with all parties concerned believing Louise was performing the duties in place of the twin. She and her twin still laugh about taking an elderly lady to the polls and when the twin sister reached the home of the voter the lady remarked, "Louise, I am over the age of 80 and this is the first time I ever consented for a candidate to take me to the polls," The twin, with a twinkle in her eye, replied, "Don't worry. Your record is not broken. This is the twin sister."

Louise is the daughter of Mrs William S. (Ramsey Fidler) McBrayer and the late William Stewart McBrayer. She is from a family of five children -two brothers and two sisters. She and her twin sister, Agnes, reside with their mother.

She is a strong Democrat and all the Sheriffs she has served have been Democrat.

Louise was educated in the local elementary schools, a graduate of Lawrenceburg High and Fugazzi Business College, Lexington.

She is an avid sports fan-enjoys watching any game, baseball, basketball and football. Plays a little golf, but her real hobby is fishing. In fact when she retires at the close of the present term she is going to fish every day the weather permits.

The new book is underway.... Final typing on the new book on the history, lineage and heritage of the McBrayer/Brier family is scheduled to begin the first of July, with a hoped-for release date prior to Christmas. A REMINDER...if you have additional information for the book, by all means send it as soon as possible. There can be no guarantee your information will be included after that time.

This next book will include all the info and data contained in the first volume, and, in addition to all the new material on the male gen-

erations, will cover in some depth, all the daughters and their descendents for which records are available. It will also include a section on the children of 2nd generation, David McBrayer/Brier, and his BRIER LINE.

At this time it appears there may be as many as 800-1000 pages in this next book. The first chapter is being written by Ethel Koller, and will cover the Scottish branch of the family. Ethel is the family authority on the ancient family in Scotland. Hopefully, the book will be printed by a company in Ill. and will be hard bound, custom printed. As yet we don't know the cost, but will keep you informed through the newsletter and personal contacts. I also hope to have enough copies of this one printed to go around, too. The last one went so fast it was amazing. In fact I am still getting orders for it. So.....

SEVERAL NEW FAMILY ITEMS.... are in the planning stages and should be available in the near future. One- a metal-etched replica of our ancient family seal- is now at the engravers' and we hope to have some of these available in time for the July reunion in Georgia. The samples I have thus far received are fantastic. They are 9" square, of copper and black with the seal etched into the metal. The other copies are in silver and black, same size. As yet I am not sure as to the cost. We'll keep you informed.

A REPORT FROM MAY ROBERTS indicates that some have ordered the family tartan. She is rather disappointed, though, that more have not taken the opportunity to have some of the beautiful material. Her address is: May Roberts, Magdalene House, #6 Bruce Street, Lochmaben, Dumfries, Scotland, Dg11 1PD. The cost was \$30 per yard (36"x54") , plus \$5 shipping if surface or \$10 for air mail service.

As you probably know by now, the Scottish Tour that had been planned for the latter part of this year has been postponed. Many reasons led to the decision. Additional planning is underway, and a tour is tentatively scheduled for 1982. We will keep everyone informed as anything new comes to light.

OLD PICTURES.... Quite a number of old pictures and negatives have been received lately and have been added to the Family Foto Library. We sincerely appreciate the loan of the negatives and the donation of the old prints. Many thanks to those who have helped.

GOOD TURN-OUT REPORTED.... Twin Lakes, located near Villa Rica, Georgia, was the setting for the annual reunion of the descendents of Peter Paul and Mary Frances "Fanny" Cooper McBrayer on Sunday, April 26, 1981. Tom and Iva Willoughby Stuart were the hosts. There were 50 present, representing eight of the nine McBrayer children and three generations. Words of welcome and the blessing were given by Tom Stuart, followed by a delicious luncheon, each family having brought a well-filled picnic basket. It was a beautiful, warm, and perfect day for a picnic.

A brief business session followed the meal. Iva Stuart read a letter from Carl McBrayer of Okla. and Geraldine McBrayer Scarborough told of the family newsletter.

There were five of the immediate family who had passed away since the last reunion. These were: Murphy M. McBrayer, 26 April 1980; George Furr, 30 Apr 1980; Charles Tarpley, 8 Aug 1980; May Doyal Ellis; and Joann Mobley Ellis.

Births since last reunion included: Jonathon Slade Broom, b 30 Apr

1981; Rachael Ann Hambrick, b 27 Mar 1981; Devin Mark Simony, b 17 Apr 1981; Matthew Lee Evans, b 19 Apr 1981; and Kerry Lee Evans.

Mildred McBrayer Howell, the reunion secretary, reports there were also two couples to marry with in the past year, also. These were: Herbert M. Mobley and Ruby Ruff on 22 Mar 1981; and Jody White Pettit and Allan Riley.

Other data included: the oldest mother present-Fanny Ellis Furr; the youngest mother present-Chris Obernauer; the longest married couple-Audrey Willoughby and Steve Harrell, who had been married since 20 May 1925; the farthest traveled-Iva Willoughby and Tom Stuart...over 500 miles from Florida; and the closest-David and Chris Obernauer, who lived just across the road.

Our thanks to Mildred McBrayer Howell for sharing this information with us. Hopefully, our plans for next year will include attendance to this reunion. Time will tell. Why not plan now to attend next year's gathering? For information about when, where, and all the details, contact: Mrs. J.W. Howell, 1212 Morningside Dr.NE, Gainesville,Ga., 30501; or Mrs Thomas D. Stuart, 500 Seacrest Ave.,Merritt Island,Fla.,32952. We're informed that all McBrayers and descendents are welcome.

This issue of Indefiance has been full of items of the family - all submitted by various members of the family. I encourage those who have anything of interest for our newsletter, and who have been negligent in getting it in, do so now. Remember - only you can make this a successful paper. Let's keep up the good work. Thanks to all those who have sent in those items. We all appreciate your work and you - for sharing them with us.

DON'T FORGET.... to check your local papers, magazines, and periodicals for any news items about our family.

Also, we have a new surge in interest in the family heritage and history. This can only be attributable to your hard work in informing others of our endeavors. MUCH new information has been received recently and I have been in contact with a number of others who have promised to send additional information. If you have any McBrayers in your area give them a call or pay them a visit and encourage their support and help if they are not already giving it. I have undertaken the task of compiling and filing our family history and lineage, but I can't do it alone. You know, as well as I, that it takes teamwork and what better team to rely on than the McBrayer Family. Our forefathers proved they could perserver; they defeated the odds they faced and in turn provided us a life, a heritage, and a family we can be proud of, so...let's be proud. Let's gather that information now so OUR ancestors might know of us and our generation. Remember...we're the history of our future and what we gather,store, and file now will be valuable to those of years to come.

THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR UNSELFISH GENEROSITY AND INTEREST. Until next time-we remain "IN DEFIANCE".

LATE NOTE: Judy McBrayer Sparks,Rt 11, Morganton Rd., Box 450,Maryville, Tenn.,is beginning the task of compiling names and addresses of all the McBrayers and descendents in America for a family directory. She urges that everyone send their current address,the addresses of all know relatives and children to her for inclusion. One section of the directory will list the names in alphabetical order and another by state. I urge your help in her endeavor. More on this next newsletter.