

IN

DIE FIANCIE

MAR 1982

OUR NEW COMPUTER HAS ARRIVED !!!!!

In our December issue of In Defiance we mentioned the idea of obtaining a small microcomputer for our family genealogy work. The idea was created to open a fund drive for this computer - with the understanding that if enough could be raised to purchase it, the title to ownership would be issued in the family association name. A request for funds was made and since that time several have contributed to it.

All contacted thusfar have been affirmative and have expressed a desire to help.

To date a total of \$271 has been raised. Another \$250 is to be transferred from the general account - money which had been contributed for the research fund. This gives us a total in the computer fund of \$521.

In early January a bargain, too good to pass up, was located. A computer and printer which would satisfy our needs was found. The price of the computer was \$1895 - \$600 less than the advertised price from Radio Shack. The printer was \$569 - \$210 less than most advertised prices. This meant that we could have both items for the cost of the computer alone.

I took it on my self and managed to float a loan for the amount and ordered (1) Radio Shack TRS-80, Model III, with 48k of memory and two disc drive units, and an Epson MX-80 FT printer. I have until June, 1982, to raise the amount needed to pay off the note.

We have been fortunate, too, in the fact that I have made a connection that can provide us with most of the programs that we need - FREE. This would save even more money. In fact what you are reading now is the result of one of these programs called "Scripts" (RS trademark), which is a word processing program.

SO, if you would like to help us with this purchase and keep this computer for the family, it would be greatly appreciated by all. Send your contribution to: Carl McBrayer, 412 Char Lane, Midwest City, Okla., 73110.

Be sure to indicate "for the computer fund".

Listed below are some who have already contributed:

1. C.H. McBrayer, C.H. McBrayer Corp.
2. Vera and Sandy Sanderson
3. Phyllis McBrayer Smith
4. Opal and Troy McBrayer
5. Robert L. McBrayer
6. Mr. & Mrs. Carol Presley
7. Mary J. Smith
8. Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. McBrayer

One EXTRA SPECIAL contribution, which deserves much credit and must be mentioned, has been made by Vera McBrayer Sanderson. In the memory of her father, Carl Henry "Skipper" McBrayer, she has contributed \$100.

I take this time to acknowledge this generous gift and accept it in the name of "Skipper" McBrayer. From all of us - THANK YOU !!!!

REMEMBER - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED !!!!!

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Don't forget the family reunions this year.

JULY: The annual Draketown, Georgia, gathering will be held the third Sunday of July this year. (18 July, 1982) It will be at the Draketown Baptist Church.

AUGUST: The annual Morehead, Kentucky, reunion will be held the third Sunday of August. (15 August, 1982) This gathering will be at the Morehead City Park.

JULY: The descendents of Seneca McBrayer have a reunion each year on the third Sunday of July in Indiana. This gathering began in 1943 near Hammon, Ind., and has been held every year since. Contact JOHN MCBRAYER, RR 1, Gresser Rd., Hobart, Ind. His telephone number is 1-219-759-2230. Final plans for this year's event will not be made until sometime after the first of March.

There are several other family reunions around the country, but unfortunately, I have misplaced the notes on dates and places. If those of you who are planning a reunion or know of a gathering not listed here, send me the information. This time we will put it in the computer where it won't get lost.

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MCBRAYER - FATHER OF THE OFFSET PRINTING PRESS!

(Reprinted from "Editor and Publisher", 28 Nov 1981)

Staley (T.) McBrayer of Fort Worth has become accustomed to being called the man who revolutionized the newspaper industry.

But he says he did not set out to revolutionize anything when he researched and conducted experiments that led to the first practical and economical offset press for newspapers.

That press which changed newspaper productions was born in the old Knights of Pythias Building, now part of Fort Worth's Sundance Square being restored to 19th century charm by Brass Brothers Enterprises, Inc.

The Fort Worth Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, of which McBrayer is a former national president, sponsored the October 27 unveiling of a plaque marking the location. Also in attendance at the ceremony were members of McBrayer Publishing Company's experimental staff...

McBrayer says of his achievement, 'I was sinking financially in the newspaper business. The development of offset was a way I survived. I found a less expensive way to publish.'

Research and experiments were conducted from 1947 to 1952.

McBrayer and his staff first invited executives of Alamo Machine and Engine Co. to dinner and asked them to build the press from the specifications. The machinery people were not impressed. Later McBrayer got a phone call from an Alamo employee, Grant Ghormley, who worked on the plans at night, then bought out the Alamo Company and in 1954 built the first press, Vanguard I.

McBrayer continued to operate his growing newspaper chain while selling Vanguard presses through his newly organized Offset Process Company of which he was president and Ghormley, vice-president. Ghormley's company built presses for the sales company. (submitted by Susan McBrayer)

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ROBERT L. MCBRAYER, senior technology associate for BASF Wyandotte, was the detail coordinator for a recent dedication of a new Urethane Laboratory at the BASF Wyandotte plant.

ITEMS OF INTEREST !!!!

SUSAN MCBRAYER, Shelby, N.C., JOHN H. and NANCY MCBRAYER, and JOHN R. and SYLVIA MCBRAYER attended a covered-dish dinner on the 14th of December sponsored by the Cleveland County (N.C.) Scottish Society. Susan reports a most enjoyable evening.

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MITCHELL FAMILY HONORED !!!

Former coach LLOYD MITCHELL and his wife, MADGE MCBRAYER MITCHELL, were honored in October 1981 at a special home coming celebration in Gatesville, Texas.

Mitch, who quarterbacked the Gatesville High School's athletic program with "notable success for more than half a decade", was paid the tribute by his old students, players and friends at a barbeque in his honor.

Also, at the same time, Gatesville Mayor, Creston Brazzil, in recognition of the tribute to the Mitchell's, issued a proclamation designating Saturday, 24 October, 1981, as "Mitch and Madge Mitchell Day" in Gatesville. It read: "Whereas, the people of Gatesville, Texas, owe a debt of gratitude to Coach and Mrs. Lloyd Mitchell for more than 35 years of service unselfishly rendered to the youth of this area; and

"Whereas, during his coaching career Lloyd Mitchell guided many championship teams in all sports at Gatesville High School and is one of the most highly respected figures among Texas coaches; and

"Whereas, Coach and Mrs. Mitchell were noted for encouragement and motivation of youngsters during years of effective teaching in the classroom; and

"Whereas, their former students have chosen to recognize and pay special tribute to Coach and Mrs. Mitchell during the 1981 Gatesville High School Homecoming;

"Now, therefore, I, Creston Brazzil, as mayor of Gatesville, do hereby proclaim Saturday, October 24, 1981, as Mitch and Madge Mitchell Day in this city and call upon all its citizens to join together in expressing appreciation to this fine couple who mean so much to our community."

Madge McBrayer Mitchell is the sister of Catherine McBrayer Attaway of Hewitt, Texas, and Thomas H. McBrayer of Lorena, Texas, both of whom were in attendance for the celebration.

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THE FOLLOWING POEM was written by ANGIE WALDRIP BALDWIN about her mother, LYDIA BRIER WALDRIP, the daughter of DAVID BRIER.

MOTHER

Loving and kind in all her ways,
Upright and just to the end of her days.

IN DEFIANCE - MARCH 1982

Sincere and true in her heart and mind,
A beautiful memory she left behind.

A nature you could not help loving,
A heart that was purer than gold.
And to those who knew her and loved her,
Her memory will never grow cold.

-Angie-

1925

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BOOK PROGRESS !!!!!!!

Work on the new book on the McBrayer Family History has come to a complete halt - thanks to the good people of Sears-Roebuck and Co. After almost 500 pages of "final type" copy on the book, the inferior quality of the firm's "top-line" typewriter presented its self.

Considerable arguing with local store managers and assistant managers produced no suitable results, and finally a call to the firm's main office elicited a decision to return the machine for a full monetary refund. No compromise could be reached.

Thus all our previous typing has been in vain - 500 pages "down-the-drain" with no hopes of recovering the monetary or time losses. However, now that we have a more reliable product to work with, work will begin anew. I will keep you informed as to the progress. Hopefully it won't take as long to retype due to the computer. Sears has lost at least one long-time customer because of this. How many more?

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SCOTTISH VISITOR !!!!

May Roberts, the McBrayer Family representative from Lochmaben, Scotland, arrived for a visit in America on the 14th of December.

Originally scheduled to arrive in Oklahoma City on Friday, 11 Dec., a severe snow storm which crippled London, forced her to spend 4 nights in the snowbound English capitol and delayed her flight three days.

Her visit in Okla. with Carl McBrayer and family was a fruitful one, however. Considerable family discussions were exchanged; plans were laid for the 1982 Scotland trip; and several other family-oriented plans and ideas were discussed.

After spending about a week in Okla. she departed by bus "to see America" and traveled to Amarillo, Texas, where she was met by her daughter, Linda, who is living and working in Hereford, Texas. Linda accompanied her mother on to California where they spent the Christmas holidays with Ethel Koller in Berkeley.

May returned by bus on the 31st of Dec. with a stop in Tulsa, Okla., to visit with Charles W. "Chuck" and Philelle McBrayer. From there she went to St. Louis for the return flight home.

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JOE RAMSEY, 16 year old son of Ralph L. and Carolyn Huey Ramsey of Atlanta, has attended the North American Academy of Piping camp at Valle Crusis, N.C., for two summers. Joe won first place in grade V (beginning) piping competition at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Gathering of the Clans in July, 1981, and third place at the Stone Mountain, Ga., games in October. He hopes to be ready to perform with the Atlanta Pipe Band in the near future. Joe's maternal grandmother is Myrtle Walton Huey, daughter of Lizzie McBryer Walton, who was the daughter of Joseph Candler McBryer of Draketown, Ga. Hopefully, Joe and Carl will be able to give us a bagpipe duet at the 1982 reunion in Draketown.

-Carolyn Ramsey-

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MCBRAYER NAMED COMMANDING OFFICER !!!!

ROBERT L. MCBRAYER, Worthington, Mi., has been designated as Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Intelligence Volunteer Training Unit 114 at the Naval Air Facility, Detroit. Robert holds the rank of Captain and has been an active reservist since 1959. He served 2 years active duty in 1955-57. Robert is the son of Dr. Benjamin E. and Helene McBryer of Dunnellon, Fla.

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OLD MEMORIES RELIVED !!!!

HARRY THOMSON, husband of JUNE HARLOW THOMSON, Hamilton, Mo., and a retired Air Force Pilot, spent the 12th of December reliving old memories of his A.F. days, when the Air Guard group at St. Joseph, Mo., flew in one of their old planes, a C-97 cargo craft, from Florida for permanent display at the Air Guard Base. All the retired pilots and crews were invited for the sentimental return.

-June Thomson-

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THE FOLLOWING are records uncovered in the National Archives, Room 400, M-602/135- Index to Military Service - War of 1812, Washington, D.C. -- located by Phil McBryer.

HUGH MCBRAYER - Johnson's Regiment, Mounted Ky. Vols
Corporal (also McBryer) (Originally filed
on Ref Card - Hugh McBryers)

JAMES MCBRAYER - 9th Regiment (Simrall's) Mounted Ky. Vol.
Sgt.

JAMES MCBRAYERS - Johnson's Regiment, Mounted Ky. Vols.
2 M Sgt.

JOHN MCBRAYERS - 1st Reg't, Light Dragoons (Simrall's) Ky,
Vols - 1st Sgt. (also McBryers)

JAMES MCBRIAR - 1st Reg. (Dodge's) N.Y. Militia

ANDREW MCBRIERS - Johnson's Reg, Mounted Ky. Vols - Cpl.

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VISIT MADE !!!!

IN DEFIANCE - MARCH 1982

LEWIS GIBSON MCBRAYER and his wife, VERDA STARR MCBRAYER, of Bakersfield, Calif., and MAJOR BARNES MCBRAYER, Phoenix, Ariz., traveled to Mangum, Okla., the second week in Nov. for a visit with their sister, VELMA CLARA MCBRAYER ROBERTSON. While in Mangum they stayed at the home of Velma and her daughter, INEZ ROBERTSON.

They visited with several nephews and nieces while there - some they had not seen for almost 30 years. (Carl McBrayer, Midwest City, Okla., was one of these.)

On the 14th of Nov., TWILA GAYE, her husband, PAUL FLOYD, and their grandson - all of the Ft Worth, Tx., area, drove to Mangum to pick up her father, Major, and carry him to Texas for a brief visit before his plane flight back to Ariz.

Lewis Gibson and Verda later traveled to Okla City to visit with her sister-in-law before returning to Calif.

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NEW BOOK DONATED TO FAMILY LIBRARY !!!!

Our sincere thanks to CATHERINE MCBRAYER ATTAWAY of Hewitt, Tx., for the donation of the book "A HISTORY OF THE LORENA, TEXAS, AREA - 1854-1981", by the Lorena Historical Society, to our family library.

The book contains much information on the early days of Lorena and the association of JESSIE HARVEY MCBRAYER and his descendents on the history of the town. There are several sketches contained therein, too, which were contributed by Catherine and her brother, THOMAS HARVEY MCBRAYER, Lorena, Tx. There are also a number of pictures of these early day pioneers.

If anyone is interested in a copy of this hardbound, 337 page book, contact either Catherine M. Attaway, Bx. 414, Hewitt, Tx., 1-817-666-2660, or Thomas H. McBrayer, Box 697, Lorena, Tx., 1-817-857-4244, for cost, shipping and where to order. This is a recommended book. It is quite interesting.

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VISITS IN OKLAHOMA !!!!

BRIAN MCBRAYER, Merriam, Kansas, was the weekend guest in the home of Carl and Pat McBrayer, Midwest City, Okla., on Dec. 12 and 13. He had flown to Okla City in hopes of meeting with May Roberts of Lochmaben, Scotland, who was coming to America for a visit.

Unfortunately Mrs Roberts was delayed by the severe weather in England and he didn't get to meet her.

However, much family talk was exchanged. In addition Brian left Carl with a number of pictures of the old cemeteries in Daviess Co., Mo., for the files.

Brian also had the opportunity to visit with CHARLES W. MCBRAYER, Tulsa, Okla., who drove over for a Saturday night 'get-together'. The gathering was to have been in the honor of May (The 'missing' guest of honor). It was attended by several Scottish descendents and members of the Highlanders of Okla. City, a local Scottish Pipe Band.

Brian is of the Missouri branch of the family and is considered one of the historians and authority of that particular line.

A special thanks to Brian for the pictures and data.

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DURING WORLD WAR 1, Uncle Earl, the son of John and Eva McBrayer, and the grandson of William P. McBrayer, the only living one of a set of triplets, was stationed at an army base and on this particular weekend an important group of military personnel visited the camp at a time when most of the men had been given passes for the weekend.

As they wanted to entertain the visitors in some way and with not much means to do so, they decided on a boxing match. Their boxing champ was so tough that they were unable to get anyone to box with him, but in desperation, they convinced Uncle Earl that the champ would only spar around and would not hurt him.

Reluctantly Earl allowed them to tie the gloves on him and push him into the ring. Now, my uncle was a small man and very nimble on his feet and was able to avoid the champ for a short time. Finally, however, the champ got him cornered and was just beating the daylight out of poor Uncle Earl.

When Earl was about finished the champ threw a vicious punch. Earl attempted to spring back to soften the blow, but with the strong advance of the champ and Earl's backward movement, and as the blow struck Earl, he hit the ropes with such speed he rebounded as the champ was rushing in. Earl's head hit the champ under the chin and the champ was out cold. Needless-to-say what the old hard head of this Scotch-Irishman did to the champ, and Uncle Earl became the pride of the others at the camp. -Sherman McBrayer-

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TRAGEDY STRIKES !!!!

Ben Lomond, Calif.... The devastation of the January mud slides in California has taken its toll in the McBrayer family.

GENE RUMRILL, the father-in-law of JEFF MCBRAYER, of Pacific Grove, Calif., was killed when a mud slide engulfed his home in the Love Creek Heights Community just north of Ben Lomond. For days there was no word on the fate of Gene. His body was later found in the wreckage of the house.

STEPHANIE RUMRILL MCBRAYER, wife of Jeff and daughter of the deceased, stated that her father was an ardent outdoorsman - backpacking and cross-country trekking, etc., and had on occasion taught classes at the University of California Santa Cruz extension.

In checking through our family historical files we can find nothing on Jeff (or Jeffry) McBrayer. Does anyone know who he is or to what line he belongs? Leone McBrayer of Sunnyvale, Calif., reports that the zip for Pacific Grove is 93950 should anyone wish to write in an expression of sympathy.

Ethel Koller reports that Santa Cruz, which is about 75 miles south of San Francisco, has been declared a disaster area by the president. "Trees slid off the hills; mud rolled down in rivers taking everything in its way; houses were crushed and whole families were buried alive."

Further research is being conducted in an attempt to connect Jeff to the lineage. He is married to Stephanie Rumrill. She has at least two brothers, Randy and Steve.

Various mentions of the devastation and of Jeff and Stephanie McBrayer have appeared in several newspapers throughout the nation; including one as far as "The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer".

-information supplied by B.L. McBrayer, Ethel Koller and Susan McBrayer-

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HOSPITAL NEWS !!!!!

WILLIAM PAUL MCBRAYER, Forest City, N.C., who suffered a severe heart attack in August of 1981, had a relapse in November - suffering from chest pains and an irregular heartbeat. He was transferred to the heart clinic in Charlotte where a critical test was performed. He, at last report, was back at his home in Forest City, and was doing relatively well. The doctor tells him that he is not to go back to work, however. Your cards, calls, and prayers are all appreciated. Let us all send our sincere best wishes for a speedie recovery.

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NELL CORNWELL of Catlettsburg, Ky., was involved in an auto accident in Oct of 1980. She suffered a broken hip and two injured vertabrae, and was confined until just recently to the inhibits of crutches. She reports that she can now get around a "bit like Fred Sanford on TV". Nell also tells us that "Aunt Ida, her mom, now 86 years young, is now living with her in Catlettsburg.

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MARRIAGES !!!!!

GARY STEWART MCBRAYER, the son of NEWTON S. and ELLA WEISS MCBRAYER of Dallas, Tx., was married Saturday, 7 Nov, 1981, in the Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas to SUSAN JAN SOWARD, the daughter of JOHN and MARY LOW SOWARD.

Gary and Susan will make their home in Austin, Texas, where Gary is working on his M.B.A. from the University of Texas.

-Newton S. McBrayer-

WEDDING BELLS sounded on Saturday, 26 Sept., 1981, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. PAUL FLOYD of Saginaw, Texas, for RANDY FLOYD and SHIELA REVELL. Randy is the son of Gaye McBrayer Floyd and Paul Floyd and the grandson of Major Barnes and Mae McBrayer of Phoenix, Az. Sheila is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Revell.

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BIRTHS !!!!!

JAMES A. and DIANE HOLLAN COX, Nicholasville, Ky., are the proud parents of a new son, JAMES MATTHEW COX, who was born 10 Oct 1981. James is the son of Martha Klaiber Cox, the daughter of James Matthew Klaiber, the son of Mary Ann McBrayer and John Andrew Klaiber.

-Martha Cox-

ANDREW HARRISON WHITE, the son of Brendan R. and Nancy Harrison White, was born 20 Nov 1981 at Rochester, Mich. Andrew is the grandson of Robert L. and Ellarie Skaggs White of Rockford, Ill., and the great-grandson of Carrie McBrayer Skaggs of Louisa, Ky.

-Ellarie White-

ROXANNIA WILLIAMS was born 20 Nov 1981 at Louisa, Ky. She is the daughter of Rockie and Virginia Griffith Williams, and the granddaughter of Russell and Avious Lyon Griffith. Avious is the daughter of the late Lewis C. and Sarah McBrayer Lyon.

-Ellarie White-

Daniel Harvey and Cynthia McBrayer Campbell, Rutherfordton, N.C., became parents of a daughter, DANA GAIL CAMPBELL, on 21 Nov 1981. Dana was born in Rutherfordton. Cynthia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blanton McBrayer of Forest City, N.C.

-Susan McBrayer-

LAURA ANN MCBRAYER, the daughter of John Dean and Elaine Braxton McBrayer of Greensboro, N.C., was born 13 Nov 1981 in Greensboro. Dean is the son of John Z. McBrayer of Mooresboro, N.C., and the late Mildred Williams McBrayer.

-Susan McBrayer-

Paula Floyd Clendening and Randy Clendening became parents of a 7 lb, 7 1/2 oz. baby boy on 16 Nov 1981. COREY BRANDEN CLENDENING is the grandson of Paul and Gaye Floyd of Saginaw, Tx., and the great grandson of Major Barnes and Mae McBrayer of Phoenix, Az.

-Major McBrayer-

IAN ANDREW BODSON, the son of John and Deborah Thomson Bodson, was born 8 Sept 1981 in Des Moines, Iowa. Deborah is the daughter of Lt. Col (ret.) Harry G. Thomson and June Harlow Thomson of Hamilton, Mo. Ian Andrew is the 10th generation in the line from Samuel McBrayer, Jr., thru Carlton McBrayer to Emily McBrayer who married Tilghman Reed, to Wilda Susan Reed who married Charles Francis England, to Esther Orphah England who married George Willard Harlow, to June Harlow Thomson.

(We now have three grandsons...two of them arriving in 1981! It is great.)

-June Thomson-

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DEATHS !!!!!

JUDE MCBRAYER, brother to Claude McBrayer, dec'd, Ft. Payne, Ala., passed away 13 Nov 1981, at the age of 65. He was buried in the Glenwood Cemetery, Ft. Payne.

-Opal and Troy McBrayer-

MRS KATHLEEN NOLAN DOVER of Dover Village, N.C., died Friday, 20 Nov 1981, in the Cleveland Memorial Hospital in Cleveland Co., N.C.

Kathleen, the daughter of the late John Beam McBrayer and Della McBrayer Nolan, was married to Charles T. Dover. She was a homemaker.

and a member of the First Baptist Church. She majored in music at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C., attended the Southern Conservatory of Music in Durham and taught piano for several years.

She is to be honored by having the auditorium of the new convocation center at the Gardner-Webb Auditorium named the Kathleen Nolan Dover Auditorium. The flower garden in front of the Bover Library at Gardner-Webb will also be named in her memory.

Surviving in addition to her husband are three daughters, Mrs Hoyt (Anne) Bailey and Mrs Harvey (Kathleen) Hamrick of Shelby, N.C. and Mrs Dorothy D. Dykers of Charlotte, three brothers, Dr. J.O. Nolan, Edward B. and Clyde Nolan, one sister, Mrs Ione Wray and seven grandchildren.

-Susan McBrayer-

JANE ALLEN MCBRAYER MCKITTRICK, 67, Lawrenceburg, Ky., died Wednesday (date not available at this time) at Woodford Memorial Hospital. She was a native of Anderson County, Ky., and the daughter of the late Hartwell J. McBrayer. She was a 1931 graduate of Kavanaugh and attended Fugassi Business College, and was a member of the Ninevah Christian Church.

Jane was the widow of J.S. McKittrick and is survived by one brother, Paul McBrayer, Lexington, Ky., and a number of cousins. Burial was in the Lawrenceburg, Ky., cemetery.

-James Earl McBrayer-

MRS ADDIE WOOD MCBRAYER, 86, Gadsden, Ala., died Thursday, 3 Dec 1981 at a local hospital. She was the widow of Thomas W. McBrayer, dec'd. She is survived by daughters: Mrs Aletha Eubanks, Hokes Bluff, Ala.; Mrs Geraldine Gray, Southside, Ala.; sons: Dillie McBrayer, Leesburg, Ala.; Tollie McBrayer, Glencoe, Ala.; R.B. McBrayer, Hokes Bluff, Ala.; 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

She was a native and life long resident of Etowah Co., Ala. Burial was in the Crestwood Cemetery, Gadsden, Ala.

-R.B. and Mae McBrayer-

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THE TARTAN STORY !!!!

Displayed in the Jacobite Room in Edinburgh Castle is a small swatch of an ancient tartan. On a card below is the inscription: "Ancient Tartan, Pre-1740. Origin unknown".

It was a touching moment some years ago when this display was first seen by Ethel Koller of Berkeley, Calif. She immediately recognized it as the ancient MacBrair Dress Tartan. Since that time much has been discovered about the tartan; the cloth has been woven and made available to the family; and efforts have been formulated to have it registered in the family name.

As promised in the past - contained below is the story of the re-discovery of the tartan as told by May Roberts, a principal in the story.

The search for the MacBrair Tartan began in 1969 during a meeting with Ethel Koller. Ethel was visiting in the home of a friend and May, also an acquaintance of the same individual, was invited to join them. During the course of their conversation the subject of the MacBrair tartan was brought up.

A question was raised by Ethel as to whether or not such a family tartan existed; nothing had ever been located in several years of family research.

May Roberts, as she listened, became more and more interested. Was there such a tartan? The question became an obsession to her and, hoping to quell the nagging uncertainty she began her search - partly to assist Ethel - partly to satisfy her own curiosity.

During the following months May visited many libraries in Scotland and searched countless old records, but to no avail. "I went to almost everywhere I could think there might be some reference. I finally located an ancient tartan book which...listed the Scottish border tartans. We didn't know what the colors were... it was (only) listed as red, green, white and black."

"I then decided I needed an expert on the tartan and contacted Raymond Morris."

Raymond Morris recommended a weaver in London who was renown for his authentic tartan weaves. May wrote to him explaining the circumstances - that she had the thread count and basic colors - and asked if he could produce a sample.

Within just a few days a reply was received and as May read the letter she detected the excitement expressed by the gentleman from London. "He stated...of course he would be thrilled to weave a sample, but first he wanted me to know that I had only half the story. The pattern I had sent was for the 'border' sett. He, through the years, had managed to find the 'blanket' sett and had never been able to locate the remainder of the pattern - the border sett."

Not only that, but he had also extensively researched the colors and after careful combinations of vegetable dyes, had managed to come up with the exact shades in subdued colors. "He carefully checked all his yarn for the exact size in order to match the threads per inch as described in the pattern guides."

After a few agonizing weeks of wondering and anticipation the much awaited parcel arrived. Trembling with delight - May tore into the package and what emerged was worth those torturous weeks of waiting.

Holding in her hands was an exact duplicate of the ancient MacBrair family tartan. Down to the smallest detail it had been reproduced as it had been made over 250 years before. The material contained both setts - border and blanket; the thread count was exact; and even the colors were of the subdued shades (not the bright colors of modern-day tartans). Here was the authentic reproduction.

May then began contacting mills in Scotland trying to locate one who could and would weave the material in quantity and in exactly in the same manner as the original. This took some time as most wanted to use modern dyes, etc. She steadfastly maintained that unless it was made correct and exact it would not be reproduced. One was finally located and 60 yards of the material was woven.

Thus the re-birth of our family tartan.

It might be interesting to note that ancient tartans contained both the blanket sett and the border sett. Modern-day tartans contain only the blanket sett.

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Bud McBrayer, a lonesome Kentuckian in Texas, passes along his 'how-dies' to all the relatives back in Kentucky.

IN DEFIANCE - MARCH 1982

IMPORTANT !!!!!!! IMPORTANT !!!!!!! IMPORTANT !!!!!!!

SCOTLAND TRIP SCHEDULED FOR JUNE, 1982.

The planned trip to Scotland has been scheduled for the first week of June, 1982. Olive Butler, 1909 Cedar, Berkeley, California, 94709, is handling all the arrangements.

Those of you who had expressed an interest in making the trip last year should have been contacted by now with information on the new arrangements. If you HAVE NOT received a notification, it is imperative that you contact Olive immediately for details.

For those of you who did not have your name on the list last year and who would like details of this year's excursion, contact Olive immediately. TIME IS CRITICAL !!!!

One point that needs to be made is your passport. BEGIN NOW in obtaining the necessary documents and pictures. It normally takes about 6 weeks to receive your finished document.

REMEMBER! Time is important, so if you plan on making the trip, contact Olive immediately.

AN UPDATE ON THE MAGGIE MCBRAYER BEARRE family... Good news: ANDRIA CARMEN was born 16 August 1981 to SAM and NIKKI BOGGS. Bad news: ROBERT BOGGS, 42 years old, died of a heart attack on 9 Nov. 1981.

-Fay Bryant-

TWO NEW "GREAT-GRAND ONES" have been added to the Lewis Gibson and Verda McBrayer family. KATHRYN MARIE MACHADO was born 16 Dec 1981 to Julie and Mark Machado. Mark is the son of George and Sue McBrayer Machado.

Carolyn and Phillip Machado became the parents of an 8 lb, 10 oz son, JOHN DAVID, who was born 28 Dec 1981. Phillip is the son of George and Sue McBrayer Machado.

This makes L.G. and Verda even prouder as great-grand parents. They now have 7 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, 7 step great grandchildren, and 7 in-laws.

-L.G. and Verda McBrayer-

Major Barnes and Ana Mae McBrayer, Phoenix, are again proud great-grandparents. NICHOLAS DEAN WOJTYNEK, the son of Eugene and Denise Wood Wojtynek, was born 3 Jan 1982 in Scottsdale, Az. Denise is the daughter of C. Mack and Karen McBrayer Wood, and the grand-daughter of Major and Ana Mae.

Mr and Mrs Emil H. McBrayer, Danville, California, report they are very proud first-time grandparents. MELODY MICHELLE MCBRAYER, the daughter of Ricky B. and Debra Jean Carter McBrayer, was born Jan. 11, 1982. She weighed in at 5 lbs, 12 oz.

ANNISTON, ALABAMA...CLAUDE BRADFORD MCBRAYER, JR., of Anniston died January 13, 1982 after a courageous 6-year battle with cancer. Claude was born 9 Jul 1934 in Gadsden, Ala., the son of Claude B. and Lola Culpepper McBrayer. He was married in 1954 to Shirley Jean Cothran of

David Bradford and Brian Franklin. Claude was a strong supporter of the family genealogical efforts.

CARL AND PAT MCBRAYER ARE GUESTS IN KANSAS CITY

Carl and Pat of Midwest City, Okla., were the weekend guests of Harold and Carlotta McBrayer, Brian and Sharon McBrayer and David McBrayer, Kansas City, over the weekend of January 23-24 for the annual Kansas City St Andrews Celebration of the birth of Robert Burns.

The event, held at the Alameda Plaza Hotel's International Ballroom, saw approximately 500 people in attendance. The evening was filled with fine food, including a sampling of the native Scottish dish of haggis - a remarkable and unforgettable performance by the St Andrews Pipe and Drum Band - and native dances performed by local dancers.

It was truly an evening to remember. It was very impressive and totally enjoyable. In fact I look forward to attending the event next year.

I want to express a deep appreciation to Harold, his wife Carlotta, David, & Brian and his wife, Sharon, for their hospitality and friendship and for making our visit an exceptionally enjoyable one. It is one that shall be remembered for a long time.

-Carl-

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED !!!!

In December MYRTLE and ROBERT HUEY of Douglasville, Ga., were honored by their children with a luncheon at their home in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on 25 December 1921 in Haralson County, Ga. Myrtle is the daughter of Lizzie McBrayer and Iva C. Walton. Rob's parents were Amanda Hutcheson and Jesse Marion Huey.

The Huey's have lived for many years in Douglasville. He is a retired farmer - carpenter. Both have kept active during their retirement years with various hobbies.

Their children are Carolyn Ramsey of Atlanta, Jean Huey, Decatur, and Jerry Huey, Montgomery, Ala. They have 5 grandchildren; Ralph and Joe Ramsey, and Lynn, Sharon, and Philip Huey.

Others present for the luncheon were Ivis and Aaron Dewberry, Broughton Walton, Earl and Lillian Walton, Louise Almond, Eunice Huey, Elaine Webb, and Betty Davis. The guest were entertained by Joe and Lynn with bagpipe and clarinet music.

Reports the happy couple: " Everyone had a good time and we are looking forward to a 70th anniversary celebration."

-Jean Huey-

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