

THE FAMILY MACBRAIR NEWSLETTER - SEPT 1982

Privately printed by: Carl B. McBrayer, 412 Char Ln., Midwest City,
Ok., 73110...Telephone 1-405-732-1757

IN

DEFIANCE

***** I M P O R T A N T *****

I would like to call your attention to the new labels which are affixed to the envelope of this mailing of ID. It is very important that you understand just what the extra numbers located just above the name represent.

As mentioned in the last issue of the newsletter, I have begun putting the subscriptions, addresses, etc., into our new family computer. As you know, too, I have never mailed any reminders of subscription renewals, other than that which has appeared in the newsletter itself. There has been some difficulty with the old procedure in that some subscribers did not know just when their subscription expired and as a result did not renew on time to prevent missing some copies. Hopefully, this new method will eliminate that problem.

The mailing list is now computerized!!!! Each time ID is mailed to you a special code in the ATTN: line (just above the name) will tell you WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES. Look at it now.

The code consists of 3 digits, a dash, followed by 2 digits. The first three digits are the YEAR in which you will receive your last issue of ID; the following two digits indicate the month of issue. For instance if your ATTN code is "082-09" then your subscription will expire with the Sept. issue 1982. A code of "083-06" indicates your subscription expires with the June issue, 1983.

The computer is coded also to automatically purge and delete the names of anyone who does not renew their subscription prior to the next or following issue after expiration. Example: If your subscription expired with the Sept issue 1982, you would not receive the Dec issue until such time as a renewal is received and coded into the computer.

So!!!! IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU MONITOR YOUR EXPIRATION CODE. NO ADDITIONAL OR PERSONAL NOTICES WILL BE SENT. I will try to remind everyone in each issue to check their ATTN code each time ID is sent.

I want to point out, too, some of the additional letters which follow SOME of the expiration codes. A "CC" following the numbers indicates the subscription is a complimentary subscription; a "G" indicates your subscription has been sent to you as a gift by someone.

Carl

*** JOHN T. MCBRAYER RECEIVES AWARD ***

The following information is from an address made by Donald Goldwasser, President, Mover's and Warehousemen's Association of America, at the March, 1982, convention in Palm Springs, Ca.

"I had expected that the recipient would be in our audience at this luncheon, and that he would learn of his selection at the same time that you did. Unfortunately, the best laid plans sometimes go

astray. That's the bad news for the day. The good news is that, despite a triple heart bypass operation, John McBrayer is doing well, and should be more vigorous than ever once his recuperation period is complete."

"John is a native of Buchanan, Georgia, near Atlanta. He started his working career as a school teacher. During the depression he thought that there might be greater opportunities in the Big City, so he moved to Atlanta where he went to work for Weathers Brothers Transfer."

"He served in the Army during World War II, returning to Weathers Brothers after the war. At nights he attended Atlanta Law School, and he received a law degree from them, though he never practiced as an attorney. Instead, he moved to Washington where he became part owner and manager of the Weathers Branch Office there."

"In 1958 Weathers obtained I.C.C. authority, and John moved back to Atlanta to help them set up their van line operation. He became Vice President of the Van Line, and was active in moving industry organizations."

"He was elected Treasurer of this organization (Movers and Warehousemen's Association of America) in 1961, was it's Secretary in 1962 and 1963, and was our Executive Vice President in 1964 and 1965."

"He returned to Washington in 1962. In 1964 he was elected President of the Movers Conference of America, where he served for two years. He was so well respected by the diverse factions that make up that organization that he was employed by the Conference in 1965 to serve as their Government Liaison."

"He served the Conference until 1971 when he came to work for the Movers' and Warehousemen's Association in a similar capacity. The next year he became Director of the Movers Round Table. He also opened Capital Movers' Services, his own advisory organization, and became Executive Secretary to the M&WAA as our Government Liaison."

"He married Faith in 1963 and they are the parents of a teen age daughter and son."

"John's influence with the military on behalf of the independent movers who make up this organization is legendary. For those of us who can not afford our own full time lobbyist in Washington, John McBrayer is our representative. And he is an exceedingly able one. Most of you in this room who handle military household goods traffic have had to call on him many times, to answer questions or to solve problems. Whatever is asked of him is handled promptly, conscientiously, and expertly."

"Most important, John is respected by the military, for his knowledge of the industry, and for his ability to get things done. I can remember the summer, not too long ago, when Cameron Station had literally hundreds of shipments left on the street, for which they could not obtain service. They called on John McBrayer, gave him desk space at their headquarters and use of their telephones, and John went to work, and got all of the shipments moved. John illustrated not only his own ability to do a job, but also the ability of the independent van lines to come to the government's aid when necessary,

a point that John has repeatedly stressed to them in his dealings with them."

"John has represented industry at the Military-Industry Panel and Symposium for over a decade. Many of the provisions of the PPTMR were included at his insistence; many onerous proposals are not in the PPTMR because he led the fight against them."

"Tom Kingsley, who worked with John for many years at the Conference and the Round Table, told me that John was especially valuable because of his incisive thinking and his ability to articulate his views. It is these abilities that have been used so well and so long on our behalf, that make John McBrayer the logical recipient of the Carroll F. Genovese Award for Distinguished Service to the Moving Industry."

"I am sorry that John is not with us today to receive this plaque, presented to him in Carroll's name, by the Movers' and Warehousemen's Association. However, it will be delivered to him next week, as evidence of our appreciation to him for all that he has done for us. We send it to him with our special wishes for a speedy recovery. Get back to work, John. The summer is coming, and we need you."

(ed note: Speaking on behalf of the family, I would like to extend our combined congratulations to John for the award and wish him a speedy recovery from his surgery. For those of you who do not know, John Talmadge is the 7th gen from the line of William, Samuel, John, Andrew, George, and John. He was born 27 Dec 1907 in Buchanan, Ga., the son of John Columbus and Dorcas Davenport McBrayer. He was married to Faith Farley, and has a daughter, Melanie Evelyn, and a son, William Farley. The family presently resides in Beltsville, Md.)

*** OUTDOOR WEDDING HELD ***

Sheila Rene Smets, the youngest daughter of Holly McDonald, was married in ceremonies on the banks of a shaded creek on their property near Yamhill, Ore., to Charles R. Jeffery. (date of the wedding not known at this time.) Sheila made her wedding dress which drew many compliments. Holly McDonald traveled by bus from Ark. to be in attendance for the affair. The new couple's address is: Rt 1, Box 32, Yamhill, Ore., 97148.

*** WEDDING VOWS EXCHANGED IN FLORIDA ***

Grant and Barbara June (McBrayer) Bartels of Lake Worth, Fla., announce the marriage of their daughter, Lisa Lynn Proffitt, to Raymond Francis Fox, Jr., on May 22, 1982, at the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in West Palm Beach.

Ray, the son of Mrs. Nancy Fox of Clearwater, Fla., and the late Major Raymond Francis Fox, Sr., is a graduate of Florida State University, majoring in Criminology. He is presently manager of the West Palm Beach branch office of the Graymark Security Group, Inc.

Lisa attended Palm Beach Junior College, majoring in Business Administration and is presently employed in the accounting office at Stewart Pontiac Company, West Palm Beach.

A point of interest regarding the ceremony performed by Father Thomas Vengayil is that Lisa's father, Henry M. Proffitt of Indianapolis, read from the New Testament, Ray's brother, Michael, from Tallahassee, read the second reading from the Old Testament, and Lisa's mother, Barbara Bartels sang the benediction, "The Lord's Prayer" by Malotte. Lisa was attended by her sisters, Laurel (Laurie) Ann Dieckmann, of Indianapolis, and Linda Leigh Proffitt of Tallahassee. Ray was attended by his brother, Michael, and Lisa's brother, David Charles Proffitt, Indianapolis. A real family affair.

Lisa and Ray are living in West Palm Beach.
-submitted by Barbara Bartels-

*** AUTOBIOGRAPHY CONTINUED ***

In the December 1981 issue of IN DEFIANCE we began the serialized autobiography of Charles Nelson McBrayer, edited by his daughter, Barbara June McBrayer Bartels. Unfortunately, we were unable to continue with the story in the March and June 1982 issues, but, as promised, we will carry on with it in this issue. The following is a continuation of that story of the young life of a "hill boy".

The motto of the McBrayer coat-of-arms is "In Defiance". The McBrayers, under the name of McBriers had been reported as carrying on feuds in Kentucky for years previously, and were supposed to be "quick on the trigger", thus the older kids were soon in battles royal with the ones their age in the neighborhood, over their being Yankees and Republicans, either of which was bad enough.

The Philadelphians knew that they were Republicans. My father and one other man, Sam Grant, were the only white Republicans in that district or township as we say now. This strife made a Republican of my mother, who had always been a staunch Democrat.

The Southern Aristocracy, being the pace-setters, had all probably been slave holders and still worked numerous negroes and poor whites for 50 cents a day with sometimes their dinners. The railroad section hands received 95 cents a day for 12 hours.

The Negro crushing stone or drilling or blasting holes with a drill and sledge, had a song with which he timed his strokes, mentions working all day long:

"Hammering, hammering, all day long."

"Kill John Henry, -- never kill me."

This he repeated over and over.

My memory of these leading families is that they were all religious people. W.E. Lenoir made his sons, Avery and Isreal, go bare-foot to church because there were boys there who had no shoes. The Lenoirs were quick to help those in distress and were admirable people. They had a piano! The first I had ever seen.!

One of my first memories there, was of the time of the death of my sister, Gertrude. The doctor pronounced it spinal meningitis. I remember the Lenoir hack hauling off the tiny black-covered coffin that one of the carpenters had made.

The second remembrance had to do with the fact that the county fair was on at London and all the school children were admitted free. My oldest brother, John, was hauling a wagon load of children and was in a stew of excitement and importance when I fell down the stairs and broke my arm (sometime later I fell out of a high chair and broke the other arm, while the first was still in splints.). I can still remember the heavy sole leather splints. I remember quite distinctly John's disgust at having to go for the doctor when he wanted to get started to the fair. Of course they eventually went on to the fair.

My next remembrance is of a trip to the Helton Place, the 'farm' which father had just purchased. It was a small run-down place of about 40 acres and lay two miles from town around the road, and about 1 1/2 miles by path across fields and over fences.

The thing about this was that the house was "haunted" as the Southerners usually termed it. Dad was no more afraid of ghosts than he was of the sunshine, and frequently added a tall story for the fun of it, or to keep up the tradition already established, which he delighted in. It could scarcely be said that his children were altogether free of ghost fear, as this recollection reveals.

It was on a Sunday afternoon in the winter time when the two sisters, Maude and Mandy, decided to take Will and me to go see the farm and our future home. We arrived at "seeing distance", where the 'great' brick chimney showed through the timber, but dared not go on for fear of encountering Old Helton's Ghost. Helton was a "49er". He is reputed to have brought back from California several iron-bound boxes of gold, which he miserly retained excepting that he bought corn liquor freely and in his last days suffered delirium tremens. At the time of his death, upon the urging of some of his relatives that he reveal the hiding place of his money, he started for it but fell dead in the yard in front of the door. Helton was supposed to come back, especially at night, and search the place for his gold. My father encouraged these stories probably because it kept thieves from his chicken roosts. I remember seeing the holes dug hither and yon by treasure seekers, but I never saw the gold, much less Old Helton's Ghost.

One event occurring much later will illustrate the ghost psychology of the old Helton Place. After the McBrayers had lived on the farm a number of years, father, who was a practical joker, covered a small prized kitchen lamp with a paper bag on which he had drawn with charcoal a huge face, and placed it near the barn to frighten his son, John, who had been sent to town for some article from the store.

A crash was heard, and the lamp was no more. John came bounding up the hill and into the house exclaiming he had seen the devil out there. He had broken the lamp with a rick which he probably had been carrying anyway, just for such an emergency.

There was much to be done at the Helton farm, among which was the building on an addition to the existing log structure. It was

made box fashioned, that is of native sawed boards placed up and down which were 'batted' or 'stripped' where the boards met. This was the dining room and kitchen, all of which was heated by a wood burning 'step' cook stove in the kitchen.

The log house served as living and sleeping quarters. There was a loft above, divided by a partition where the children slept and where they kept their scanty wearing apparel. As was common, Father and Mother occupied a bed in the living room below. This room was heated by a large fire place about which the family gathered in cold weather.

There was no barn on the place; soon one of hewn logs was built which never received 'chinken'. It had two stalls, and a corn crib at one end. The door had wooden hinges and generally squeaked loud enough when opened for the sound to be heard at the house.

There was a branch nearby, also a well. That was a large open well which needed a cover. So, that was made by splitting a chestnut log and hewing it flat and smooth on the upper sides, called 'chinken', the lower side did not matter.

The drawing device for the water was a 'sweep'. That was not common in that part of the south, for most wells had a windlass or a pulley with a rope or chain with a bucket attached to each end. The sweep had a fascination and utility at the same time that the other methods, particularly the windlass, did not have. The windlass crank often slipped from the water drawer's hands and the wooden bucket would go down out of control. Frequently, an arm was broken by the whirling crank or the bottom was knocked out of the wooden bucket as it struck the water. The sweep was so weighted, as to about balance a bucket of water so that the pull usually was downwards more than upwards in the drawing process.

All the water for the family use and for the animals had to be drawn in this manner from this well, except when the 'branch' was running in the winter and spring when the stock were watered from it. It is astonishing how much a cow or an oxen can drink!

There was a large white oak tree near this well which "Pop" and John cut or 'felled'. The main trunk was 'rived' into clap-boards for the barn roof and the limbs cut into fire wood, while the upper trunk was dug out for a water trough and a wash basin for washing hands and faces after coming in hot and dirty from work in the fields in hot weather.

A bit of insight into Father's sense of humor is connected with this wash basin trough. To drain water out, a large hole was bored outward and downward from the inside wall, while another hole was bored from the outside inward and upwards. As it happened, the augur holes came together exactly, without showing where they joined. There was a graceful curve at the joining. This frequently raised the question which was invariably answered without a smile; How did you bore that hole on a curve?"

"Well, sir, I bent the augur", father would reply.

A plug held the water in while in use.

Above the barn on the hill opposite the house were ten or twelve acres of virgin timber, which was cleared for 'new-ground', and to

make rails for fencing about the entire place. Twenty-one rails was a day's work for the best rail-splitters. The McBrayer farm was fenced eight rails high with sometimes a "stake and rider", to add height where there were fewer rails. A good stake and rider fence was the pride of land owners, most anywhere in the rural south in those days.

Sometimes in late winter months, the neighbors, the Carters, the Hendersons, the Lenoirs, and others, came to the McBrayer place with cant hooks and hand spikes and rolled the logs into great log heaps, where later with the aid of smaller brush and tree tops, they were burned. A few trees here and there were "deadened" by chopping a belt or ring around them through the bark to the sap, so that they would not shade the ground during the first crop, also they were to make good fire-wood for the next winter. Many a fine tree was reduced to ashes, the which would bring a fancy price these days.

(Next issue - "Sorghum Molasses")

*** NEW ARRIVAL ***

James and Andrea Roundy, the son of Richard Arthur and Joyce Yvonne McBrayer Roundy, and the grandson of the late Henry Willard and Evelyn McBrayer, announces the arrival of their daughter. APRIL JANET ROUNDY was born 26 April 1982, and weighed in at 7 lb, 10 oz. Our hearty congratulations to the new parents and grandparents.

*** UPDATE NEWS ON THE STEWART WILLIS MCBRAYER FAMILY ***

(From June McBrayer) "... and speaking of keeping up, our own family has grown."

"Our oldest son, David, has taken a wife, Karen, a year and half ago. They are now the happy parents of a daughter, Melissa, who'll be a year old in 3 days (9 Jul 1982). Also our eldest daughter, Margaret (Peggy), has had her second child, a boy, Peter. Her first child, a girl, Katie, is now 3 1/2 years old. Little Peter turned one year last month on my birthday (19 Jun 1982). And adding more happy news, our youngest daughter, Barbara (Bobbie), who provided our oldest grandchild, Sara, 5 years old, is preparing to give us another grandchild this coming December. Our youngest son, Allen, and his wife, Terri, are still postponing parenthood... June McBrayer.

*** THE FIRST FAMILY SCOTLAND TOUR IS A SUCCESS !!! ***

From all initial reports received to date, indications are that the first 'MacBair Scotland Trip/Tour' was a great success. It is reported that 23 people made the trip. Although some minor problems arose, the success provided the incentive to plan this as an annual affair. Many of those on the first trip have already expressed a desire to return on the next one. So....

*** THE MACBRAIR FAMILY TOUR ***
submitted by

Dr. Ben McBrayer

Twenty-three members of the Family MacBrair joined together in Scotland for the first organized tour of the family and overall it was a successful venture, even though some mistakes were made which will be rectified in future tours.

Arriving at Heathrow Airport, London, on three separate flights we did manage to get together, board a coach to Euston Station where we boarded a train to Dumfries, Scotland. There we were met by our own coach and taken to various lodging places. Then followed ten days of inspiring scenery, tours, dinners, entertainment, family get-togethers, and a knowledge that we had learned some about our heritage, our ancestry, the land of our forebears, and a realization of the true heritage of th Family MacBrair. No matter how you spell your name, be it McBrayer, McBrier, MacBrayer, Brier, etc., or if you are a descendent of one of them, you share that heritage, and it is a proud one.

Under the guidance of May Roberts of Lochmaben, Dumfrieshire, we visited castles, ruins, sites of McBrayer names, churches, abbeys, and viewed marvelous scenery. We learned to know each other, and as one wife said, "These McBrayers are fine people, but each is a character in his own right." We must thank, in addition to May Roberts, Olive Butler, Ethel Koller, Lois Girvan and all those who made the tour because each contributed to the success.

On the last evening of the tour the 1982 participants presented this proclamation to May Roberts.

KNOW YE BY THESE PRESENTS THAT MAY ROBERTS OF LOCHMABEN has donated her efforts and assets to bring together McBrairs from THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to their ancestral home, and WHEREAS: May Roberts has no family connections with the said McBrairs, and WHEREAS: She has given her efforts only because of friendship, WHEREAS: We have come to admire and respect her for her devotion, We with the authority conferred upon us by no one, but assumed, as members of the first MacBrair Tour, do hereby Proclaim that MAY ROBERTS is herewith granted the distinction of being the first honorary McBrair and shall hereafter be known as MAY MCBRAIR ROBERTS.

Done this 7th Day of June in the year one Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Two.

/s/ THE FAMILY

We hope you will all respect and honor this proclamation. May deserves it !!!!

Plans are already being formulated for the 1983 MacBrair Tour and a full announcement will appear with more detail in the December "In Defiance. Tentatively the 1983 tour is scheduled to begin May 28th, 1983. For information before then, you may contact me, Dr. Ben E. McBrayer, Rt 2, Box 211 B5, Dunnellon, Fla., 32630.

From Ethel Koller comes this report.

You have asked for our thoughts on the recent trip to Scotland. Aside from the fact that in my opinion it was a smashing success and a hard choice for me to narrow it down to what was of the most interest to me personally, I will vote for the street signs. Now did you ever hear of such a thing in your life? Someone traveling half way around the world and then voting for street signs. I dearly love Scotland and everything about it and can look at the beautiful lush green rolling hills and the trees almost without end, without ever getting tired of the scenery. But, you know me so well and you know that I seem to have an almost consuming passion to get the family name back before the people of Dumfries, so my vote is cast for the signs. I can scarcely believe that they are finally being installed. Once again the great family name of MacBrair is going to be before the Dumfries residents. For the time being it will be as MacBrair Place, MacBrair Street and MacBrair Court. I would like to have seen the signs permanently installed, but for this trip we had to be content with the name on a marking stick and it will have to remain for us to see the final product next year when we return to Scotland.

From Bill and Evelyn McBrayer, Bartlesville, Ok.

"...a great time. Everyone enjoyed themselves very much."

From Jean McBrayer Brown, Kiowa, Kan.

"We had a wonderful time in Scotland and were sorry that you and Earl were not among those present. May wrote me that it had been decided to make the MacBrair Tour an annual event... May did a fantastic job of organizing the (Scotland portion of the) tour."

From Olive Butler, who organized the transportation schedule and handled all the "state side arrangements":

First of all, we were extremely fortunate in a number of ways, not the least of which was that all of the travel arrangements from this end went off without a hitch, that everyone arrived at Heathrow when they were supposed to, and that the bus was ready and waiting to get us to Euston Station and the Dumfries Train.

Also we can never thank the Pope sufficiently for arriving at HRW when he did, (half-an-hour before we did) and sweeping the road clear ahead of us and so enabling us to reach Euston at least 15 minutes before our driver ever thought we could, so that we caught our train easily.

A great big plus must be awarded to all of the McBairs - they were a wonderful group of people, and we all felt we had made some rewarding new friends. Certainly the trip was greatly enhanced by having such participants.

Lastly, the weather was absolutely amazing, and certainly contributed an inestimable amount of plusses to the entire ten days.

Having brought lots of warm clothing, it was amazing to have to ship it back unused.

(There were some problems encountered on this first trip, as was expected. Though minor, these can and will be corrected for future trips. ED.)

Tom McBrayer, Lorena, Texas, one of the participants on the tour, had a considerable "write-up" in the Lorena paper upon his return. The article, in closing, quotes him. "And so," Tom said, "we departed, hearing echoes of 'Haste Ye back', and that I'd like to do."

Don't forget, another tour is being planned for 1983. If you think you would like to go, be sure to contact Dr. Ben McBrayer at your earliest convenience. He can get you started on what will be needed.

***** W A R N I N G *****

I have had numerous inquiries lately about a purported 'genealogy book on the McBrayer family' which is being offered by a lady in Ohio. From previous experience I can safely say THIS IS NOT a lineage book on the family as she leads you to believe. It is nothing more than an address book of McBrayers around the country. She states she 'has spent months researching' for this book. There is NO WAY she could have accomplished in a few months what it has taken others MANY YEARS to accomplish. She does offer a money back guarantee, so hopefully, you that have ordered this book can return it for a refund. I SAY AGAIN...IT IS NOT WHAT YOU ARE LEAD TO BELIEVE. -Carl-

*** JEAN MCBRAYER BROWN HAS STORY IN NATIONAL MAGAZINE ***

"(Wind)wagons Ho!", a history of windwagons in Kansas and Missouri, written by Jean McBrayer Brown, appeared in the Fall 1981 issue of HERITAGE OF THE GREAT PLAINS, a quarterly published by Emporia State University at Emporia, Kansas.

*** MCBRAYER-YOUNG EXCHANGE VOWS ***

Charlotte Darlene McBrayer and Thomas William Young were married Saturday, June 18, 1982, in the Biltmore Baptist Church in Asheville N.C.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs Paul Miller Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. McBrayer of Fairview, N.C. Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ted Young of Asheville.

Charlotte graduated in May from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute with an associate degree in nursing. She is employed by Belks in Asheville Mall and will be employed by Memorial Mission Hospital.

The bridegroom is a 1973 graduate of the air conditioning and refrigeration program at A-B Tech and is employed by 20th Century Heating Company in Asheville.

They will make their home in Asheville.
-submitted by R.L. "Bud" McBrayer-

*** THE COMPUTER FUND IS GROWING ***

Continual contributions and donations to our family computer fund is bringing our goal of \$2569 ever closer. Recent donations have been made by the following:

Carl T. and Patsy McBrayer, Seattle, Wa.
"Dutch" McBrayer, Seattle, Wa.
Charles W. McBrayer, Tulsa, Ok.
Bertha Leone McBrayer, Sunnyvale, Ca.
James McBrayer, Ft. Worth, Tx.
Troy and Myrtle McBrayer, Ft. Worth, Tx.
Linda McBrayer Froschauer, Olympia Fields, Ill.
Helen M. Whitaker, Cedar Bluff, Va.
Audrey and Frank Herrell, Villa Rica, Ga.
Mr and Mrs. W.R. Willoughby, Villa Rica, Ga.
Opal and Troy W. McBrayer, Ft. Payne, Ala.
Minnie McBrayer, Fairview, N.C.
Judy and Neal Sparks, Marysville, Tn.
Iva and Tom Stuart, Merritt Island, Fla.

THANK YOU - EACH AND ALL !!!!!

To date a total of \$1,288.07 has been raised. This leaves a total of \$1,280.93 balance.

*** OLD PICTURES DONATED ***

Our sincere thanks to Bertha Leone McBrayer, Sunnyvale, Ca., for the contribution of the old family pictures. Leone has sent some very old pictures of the Young Co., Tx., area, which included some of the McBrayers who lived in that area in the late 1800s and early 1900s. These have been added to the file of over 350 old pictures and negatives of various family members, and this number is constantly growing.

(ed note: Plans are now being made for a "picture album" of old and current prints of the McBrayer family from around the country. Once the work is completed on the new genealogy/lineage book, I hope to be able to concentrate my efforts toward this new venture. It is hoped that many of you with old pictures will share them with us for inclusion in this book. I will keep you informed as to how and WHEN to send them if needed. Each of you might go through your old albums and see what pictures you might have that would be of interest. I might add that we are not asking you to send them permanently...only for a short time in order that I can make photo copies and immediately return the original to you. More on this later.)

*** OCTOBER REUNION SET ***

GEORGIA --- The descendents of Peter Paul McBrayer have an annual meeting and reunion in Georgia each year on the first Sunday in

October. It will be held in the Carrollton Federal Savings Building in Villa Rica. This year's event will be held on the 3rd of October. Mrs Fred (Jane Wynn) Robinson is the president for the 82-83 gathering. Her address is: Rt. #2, Dallas, Ga., 30132; Telephone: (404) 445-2283.

This reunion has in the past been held in the spring each year, but a vote and decision was made at the 1982 gathering to change the date to the first Sunday in October. This year will mark the first time it will be held on the new date.

*** NEW MCBRAYER ARRIVES ***

Sherrie McBrayer, the daughter of Arthur M. McBrayer, Phoenix, Az., is the proud mom of a new daughter. LISA MARIE MCBRAYER was born 11 May 1982 at 9:25 A.M. in Phoenix. She weighed in at 8 lbs, 2 oz. Sherrie (9th gen) is the granddaughter of Bert W. and Alta Lambert McBrayer. Our congratulations on the new cousin.

*** BOOK PROGRESS REPORT ***

After many long hours at the computer terminal over 700 pages of the new genealogy have been completed. All of the current information on the McBrayer lines are finished and work is beginning on the Brier section. Approximately 300 pages of material remain to be input to the computer before completion is realized, but, hopefully, I will have the finished product ready for delivery around the end of the year. It is doubtful it will be finished in time for Christmas, however.

*** TIDBITS ***

A most welcome telephone call was received on July 12th. A first cousin, whom I have never personally met, Loeta McBrayer Ray (Mrs. Melvin), of Roseburg, Ore, (the daughter of the late Samuel Lee McBrayer), provided a lengthy conversation which produced considerable updated information with a promise of more to come. Loeta reports that Melvin is now retired and they are planning future family visits.

*** A COUSIN MARRIES ***

Helen M. Walker notifies us of a change of address and status. She was married in ceremonies on 12 June 1982 to GUS D. CROUCH. They now make their home at 607 Potomac View Dr., Sterling, Va., 22170. Our congratulations to the newly-weds.

*** A COMMENT ***

"Our little branch, like others, felt a quiet pride in their Scottish heritage as a family. My father and uncles voiced their beliefs in dealing honestly, so one's word was as good as one's bond,

staying on the right side of the law and being conscientious in work and church." -Bertha Leone McBrayer-

*** DATA NEEDED ***

LYNDA LANGSTON, 6145 N. Blackthorne Ave., Lakewood, Ca., 90712, is wishing to correspond with anyone who might have any information on Elijah and Jane McBrayer Wilson (the daughter of David and Mary Young McBrayer) and/or their descendents. I'm sure there is someone out there who can help. Don't forget... We can also use information for the family files.

*** MCBRAYER GRADUATES ***

Jack Lee McBrayer, the son of Carl and Pat McBrayer, Midwest City, Ok., received his diploma from the Midwest City High School in graduation exercises on 24 May 1982. Jack, through extra work and credits, was the recipient of the "Beta Degree Diploma". In attendance for the ceremonies in addition to his parents was his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Bessie Sasseen of Mangum, Ok.

*** COUSIN MAKES A MOVE ***

Beth Hill Heiss, one of the leading supporters of the McBrayer-/Hill line of the family, has recently moved her residence from Lafayette, Ga., to Charleston, S.C. Beth is a tax consultant/preparer for H&R Block. Her new address is: 57 A Legare St., Charleston, S.C., 29401.

*** SUSAN BAUGH SEES MORE THAN MOST IN LANDSCAPES ***

The following article appeared in "The Harrodsburg (Ky.) Herald" on 21 Jan 1982. Susan is the daughter of Sam and Helen Virginia McBrayer Longshore, and the granddaughter of Charles Henry and Minnie Easterling McBrayer.

"I've always taken photographs, but they were mostly snapshots. About four years ago I bought a good 35 millimeter camera and about a year and half ago, I began exhibiting and selling photographs at arts and crafts fairs," says Susan Longshore Baugh.

The hills around her Central Pike home, the University of Kentucky campus where she works and her native Greenup County provide subjects for much of her work - seasonal views of landscapes, flowers and trees.

She shoots color slides and has prints made from the slides. She prefers slides because she can project how the prints should appear when they are returned from a company. She advises photographers to choose processing companies carefully, noting that sometimes, a bad print is not the fault of the photographer, but of the company which processed and printed the film.

Mrs. Baugh also enjoys black and white photography, but said it does not sell well. She develops her own black and white film and makes her own color slides.

Her works have been exhibited at the Lexington, Mercer County, Greenup County and Flatwoods libraries as well as the Turfland Mall branch of the Bank of Lexington. Locally, she photographed the Pioneer Days car show last year and some of her works are on display at Old Harrodsburg Pottery and the Country Cottage owned by Amos and Marie Luster on Central Pike.

While she is mostly self-taught, Mrs. Baugh has taken some classes. She recommends the Fayette County adult education program on basic photography and a 1 1/2 day photographer's program sponsored by Nikon in Louisville.

Mrs. Baugh uses black and white photography under a microscope in her work as a histological technician in the Animal Sciences Department at UK to determine what makes meat tender and tasty. She also supervises cooking for taste panels.

Her photography outside her work is almost exclusively scenic shots although she has done some portraits. She does not take wedding pictures - "If it can't be done over, I don't do it," she explains.

She enjoys going out on picture-taking sessions with friends who are also photographers and other hobbies she likes include embroidery, gardening and science fiction novels and movies.

She and her husband, Michael, built their home and enjoy adding finishing touches to it. They moved to the 15 acre site on Central Pike seven years ago. Their 16-month-old daughter, Erinn Marie, also keeps them very occupied.

-submitted by Helen Longshore-

*** NEW ADDRESS REGISTERED ***

Hallie and "Mac" (George) McBrayer, Pacific Grove, Ca., sends the info that their son Jeff and his wife, Steff, have moved. Their new address is: 348 Laurel Ave., Pacific Grove, Ca., 93950. Hallie also informs us that her home telephone is unlisted, but that should anyone want to contact her or Mac, they can do so through the Pacific Grove Police Dept., where she works.

***** NEW INFORMATION GATHERED - NEW FAMILY MET *****

As many of you know Pat and I took our vacation this year and planned the schedule around some of the family reunions. Unfortunately we were not able to attend all of them, but those we did visit filled us with much pride in our family.

We also accomplished much research, not as much as we would liked to have done, but enough new material was gathered to keep me occupied several months just sorting through it and entering it into the files.

Pat and I left Midwest City, Ok., on Sat., 31 July. Our first 'family' stop was in Gadsden, Ala., where we were treated to the friendship offered by R.B. and Mae McBrayer. The following Mon. found

us pouring over the old records in the court house in St. Clair Co., Ala., where many much needed documents were located and copied. From there it was on to the court house in Etowah Co. for more records and a chance meeting with Jerry Jones, who has considerable data on the McBrayers who settled that portion of Ala. in the early 1800's. That evening was spent going over and sharing some records with Jerry.

While in Ashville, Ala. (St. Clair Co.) we had the opportunity to meet with A.B. McBrayer, his wife and family, and gather some data which had been neglected. This was a very delightful family and Pat and I enjoyed our brief but fruitful visit with them.

Tuesday found us in Ft. Payne for a search of the records in DeKalb Co., Ala., and short but happy reunion with our family cousins, Opal and Troy W. McBrayer.

Sightseeing took us up into Tenn. and eventually on to N.C. where we arrived on Wednesday afternoon in Forest City, N.C. That evening was occupied with another of our McBrayer cousins, William Paul and Doris McBrayer of Forest City.

Thursday found us back in Buncombe Co., N.C., for a look at some of the old cemeteries of the area, graveyards where our ancestors were buried. While there we had the opportunity of meeting with Minnie McBrayer, the widow of Ubert M. McBrayer, and her daughter-in-law, Margaret McBrayer. Numerous pictures were recorded of the old cemetery on the Cane Creek. Later that afternoon we were met in Chimney Rock, N.C., by Earl and Helen McBrayer of Morehead, Ky. They had traveled down for the N.C. reunion scheduled for the following Sunday. Later that evening we had the privilege of meeting with R.L. & Margaret McBrayer and their children, who had driven over from Fairview to visit with us at our cottages on the river.

Friday was devoted to further family research, with a meeting with Daintry Allison and her son, a visit to the old Samuel Jr. homesite, and much new information collected. It was Daintry who pointed us in the direction of the old Pioneer Cemetery for which we had searched for two days, but on finally locating it we were wishing we had not been so lucky.

Located on the side of a hill, partially hidden under the trees, the old burial grounds were in the saddest shape imaginable. The site was enough to bring tears to my eyes as I stood there looking around at the defaced graves. The owner of the property had allowed his cattle to roam at will under the trees and being one of the coolest spots around had trampled the mounds and knocked over most of the tombstones. We had to watch closely where we stepped. The site was deplorable. Sickened to no end we left, our hearts heavy that anyone could allow such as this to occur. That sight will remain in our memory for a long time to come.

Saturday was another day of visiting old cemeteries, recording the markers, visiting the old log cabin home of David and Delila McBrayer near Mooreboro, N.C., and visiting with many family members in the area, including John H. McBrayer, Ruth Dover, and Elizabeth McBrayer Owen, the daughter of Dr. Victor McBrayer, who took us on a tour of the old Dr. Victor home in Shelby. This home was placed on the Register of Historic Places a couple years ago. Our able guide

for the day's outing was none other than Susan McBrayer of Shelby and the organizer of the McBrayer Reunion in Forest City.

Sunday was one of the more delightful days we spent on our trip. It was the day of the first reunion of the family held in quite a number of years in N.C. Susan's hard work, many hours on the phone, considerable expense with the various advertisements and letters she sent, paid off in the end. The gathering, held in the Fellowship Hall of the Forest City First Baptist Church, was a resounding success. The final tally of those in attendance numbered in excess of 200. For those of you who missed this event you missed the time of the year - meeting with so many cousins and partaking of some the finest food ever cooked. There was an abundance of all kinds of 'vittles' and no one went away hungry.

A special thanks must also be given to Blanton McBrayer for all his hard work in setting up the meeting hall for the gathering and to all those who assisted.

A later article which appeared in the local newspaper stated that a total of nine states was represented at the gathering. The 'special guest' was your's truly, who tortured those in attendance with the wail of the bagpipes and a talk about the family. However, everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time.

IF we can talk Susan into making the preparations for next year, maybe we can all see one another again in 1983. How about it, Susan?

On leaving Forest City the next day Earl and Helen, Brian McBrayer and his wife, Sharon (of Merriam, Ka.), and Pat and I went to Asheville for a tour of the famous Biltmore House. It was there that Brian and Sharon headed back over to Buncombe Co., N.C., for a couple of days of meeting with various family members and doing some additional research. Brian's persuasion with our cousin, R.L. "Bud" McBrayer, who lives in Fairview, brought the results of having the old Pioneer Cemetery previously mentioned cleaned and fenced to protect from future damage. Bud talked with the owner of the property and was given permission to do whatever was necessary. Our thanks to Bud and Margaret for their interest and assistance in correcting a deplorable condition, and our thanks to the owner of the land for his cooperation.

The following couple days was spent under the hospitality of Judy McBrayer Sparks and her husband, Neal, of Maryville, Tn. While near Knoxville we took in the World's Fair and on the afternoon of the 11th of Aug. met Dr. Ben McBrayer of Dunnellon, Fla., who had traveled up by bus to attend the Kentucky reunion, which was scheduled the following Sunday.

Thursday was another traveling day that found us on our way to Morehead, Ky. Friday was devoted to Pat and her lust for antiques as we spent the day near Washington, Ky., with a side trip over into Ohio. Saturday Dr. Ben, Earl, and myself, drove over to Coalton, Ky., to visit the birth site of Dr. Ben's father. While there we visited with John Klaiber, a descendent of Mary Ann McBrayer and John Klaiber. We also located one of the many cemeteries which are scattered among the hills of eastern Kentucky. Unfortunately it contained none of the stone for which we were searching.

Sunday, August 15, found us in the company of the Kentucky McBrayers at the annual Morehead reunion. Numerous states were represented. Although the turnout was less than normal, everyone had a good time and plenty to eat. Dr. Ben gave a talk on the first MacBrair Tour which had just returned from Scotland; Georgeann McBrayer, the wife of Jack L. McBrayer, and their children, Brian, Melissa, and Leslie, provided a very beautiful selection of gospel songs. Their singing brought delight to all. Again, your's truly provided the anguished ears as my 'arm was twisted' into squealing the pipes. For those of you who could not attend this years for one reason or another, you missed a good time and plenty of good food.

Then it was that time...return home. Sightseeing and relaxing occupied most of the following days untill our arrival back in Okla.

Nineteen days were spent on the road, visiting with my relatives, attending reunions, and researching for family history. They were the most enjoyable 19 days I can remember.

I want to take this time to personally thank some very special people who made our trip successful and so enjoyable. Their hospitality, their friendship, and above all just being my 'family' were the keys to a fantastic two weeks. In Alabama: R.B. and Mae McBrayer, A.B. McBrayer and his family; in Tn.: Judy and Neal Sparks; in North Carolina: Minnie McBrayer, "Bud" McBrayer and Margaret, Paul and Doris McBrayer and their children and especially Susan McBrayer who made the success of the McBrayer Reunion possible; in Kentucky; Earl and Helen McBrayer, our hosts and companions on some of our travels. Thanks to each of you for being special people - family.

We met so many kin on this trip it is impossible to mention each of you personally, but thanks for everything. We hope to see each of you and more of you as the years pass.

Now comes the chore of sorting the data, entering, and filing. ...tired but HAPPY!

***** TOM MCBRAYER HONORED *****

(From the Hamilton Memorial Hospital's "Happenings", July 12, 1982)

Tom McBrayer (the son of Thomas Lynch McBrayer, director of Radiology Services at the Medical Center, has been named president-elect of the Southern Region for the society of American Hospital Radiology Administrators. The 2,200 member national association sponsors publications and meetings to keep abreast of new standards and techniques in radiology. The Southern Region has 354 members in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Tom is currently president of the Northwest Georgia Society of Radiologic Technologists. He is also a member of the Society of Ultrasound Technical Specialists, and the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine. He has been director of Radiology Services since 1979.

-submitted by Paul and Doris McBrayer-

There is much more data for our newsletter, but unfortunately we must stop somewhere. Let's save the other for the next issue. I can assure you that all that we have obtained in the past few weeks will come along then for all to share and enjoy.

A sign in a motel in Gadsden, Ala., sums it up:
"Count your age by Friends - not years."
"Count your years by smiles - not tears."