

JULY 1984



In Defiance

THE
MACBRAIRE FAMILY
NEWSLETTER

PRIVATELY PUBLISHED BY CARL B. McBRAYER, 412 CHAR LANE, MIDWEST CITY, OK., 73110

summer reunions set

N.C. REUNION PLANS FINALIZED

Susan McBrayer of Shelby, N.C., the prime coordinator and the energetic spirit for the 1984 reunion in Forest City, N.C., reports that the plans are now finalized for the gathering to be held there on August 11 and 12.

An informal get-together will be held on Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Isothermal College in Forest City. It will begin about 8:30 and will continue until ??? Carl McBrayer of Midwest City, Ok., will be available with the family computer for records checks and data exchange. Susan reports, too, that a copy machine will be available and a snack bar is located right next door. Be sure to bring your old documents, family data and photographs so they can be copied and added to the family files.

The reunion will be held on Sunday, Aug

12, at 1 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall at the First Baptist Church on West Main St. in Forest City.

Everyone is asked to bring at least one covered dish. Plates, cups, napkins, utensils and tea will be provided.

A special program is being planned for the Sunday gathering.

Susan has asked, too, that it be stressed in I.D. that she cannot begin to know all our McBrayer cousins around, and that each of us can help do our part by contacting our kin and encouraging attendance and participation. Let's strive to make this a very outstanding event.

Also...We need 10 volunteers to help set up and take-down the chairs and tables in the church. Anyone wishing to help can contact Susan or Paul at either of the numbers listed pre-

viously. Preparations will begin about 12 p.m.

For the out-of-town visitors several motels are available. One, the Big Horn Motel (1-704-286-3681) on Highway 74 Bypass between Forest City and Spindale, will be the 'headquarters' for Carl and Pat and anyone wishing to do so can contact him there. Two other motels, the Holiday Inn (704-482-6721) and the Governor's Inn (704-482-3821) are located in Shelby, about 25 miles to the east of Forest City. Susan informs everyone to make their reservations now as other activities in the area may result in few if any available motel rooms.

For additional information contact Susan at 704-484-7030 (Shelby) (toll-free in Cleveland Co.) during the day or Paul McBrayer (Rutherford Co.) at 704-245-4328 (Forest City) in the evenings. This is a

250 YEARS

toll free number for Rutherford Co.

We hope to be making some special announcements at the N.C. gathering so be sure and be there.

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REUNIONS AROUND THE COUNTRY....

WEST VIRGINIA.....

Roy McBrayer, Summersville, W. Va., sends the information that his family always has a gathering at the Wood County Park near Parkersburg, W.Va., every 4th of July. For further information contact Roy McBrayer at Rt. 1, Box 186, Summersville, W.Va., 26651.

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY....

The annual Morehead, Ky., reunion, at last report, is still set for the third Sunday in August this year at the City Park in Morehead. This is the Ky. descendents of Ichabod and James R. McBrayer. All visitors welcome. This is a covered-dish affair that usually begins about 10 A.M. Contact James Earl McBrayer, RR 5, Box 306, Morehead, Ky., 40351, or telephone 1-606-784-7974 for further information.

DRAKETOWN, GA....The annual McBrayer-Leathers Family Reunion is scheduled for the third Sunday in July this year. It is to be held at the Draketown Baptist Church and will begin with a

morning service at the picturesque church. A covered-dish meal is served at noon under the tall, whispering pines. At last report the point of contact was Leonard Bryan McBrayer, Rt. 2, Temple, Ga., 30179, telephone 1-404-562-3602. This reunion is the descendents of John McBrayer, who went to Ga. in 1820.

VILLA RICA, GA.... The descendents of Peter Paul McBrayer hold their annual gathering here. This reunion is usually held in Oct. The date is not known at this time, but will be carried in a later issue of I.D. The reunion secretary is Mildred Howell, whose address is: 1212 Morningside Dr., N.E., Gainesville, Ga., 30501.

Other reunions include: EASTERN OKLA. - descendents of Thomas McBrayer who moved to Okla. Date and place will be announced later. Contact is Bill McBrayer, 1306 Meadow Lane, Bartlesville, Ok...

TENNESSEE...The contact is Judy McBrayer Sparks, Rt 11 Morganton Rd., Maryville, Tn., 37801. This reunion is usually held the last Saturday in July. Contact Judy for latest details and date...

THE CONTINUING SAGA OF UNCLE WILLIE

by Brian McBrayer

"Uncle Willie" has been much in the lime-light recently. We wonder who he was and where he originated.

Just the other day, while doing some research in the library in Kansas City, I came across a book on Black History, and out of pure curiosity I looked in the index for a name so many of us had run across in the past couple years - William McBryar.

Sure enough - it was there. I was very surprised, also, to find a picture of him. Even more surprising was the fact that although he is listed as Black, his features are very white. The brief article about him was: "WILLIAM MCBRYAR, Sergeant, Troop K, Tenth U.S. Cavalry Regiment. William McBryar, a black, was born in Elizabethtown, North Carolina. He enlisted in the army in New York City. In Arizona, on March 7, 1890, Sergeant McBryar showed outstanding bravery in battle with Apache Indians. He was awarded the Medal of Honor on May 15, 1890."

* * *

MY RESOLUTION

To enjoy only today as it holds the sum of my past experience - to wake up in the morning

1735-1985

happy knowing it's going to be a better day than yesterday and to keep a positive foresight of tomorrow because it holds all my future potential.

* * *

HOW THE CLANS WERE BORN

If your name is Mac-something, or recognisable Highland, you probably descend from clansmen. Or you may belong to a sept, a branch of a clan or a family historically attached to one.

"Clan" was the name given to a group of kinsmen united under a chief and claiming a common ancestry. They lived as one great family on the lands they possessed. The clansmen supported their chief with remarkable loyalty.

In the 13th century the clans rose to prominence. Records of their separate history have been kept, enabling all those of Highland descent to trace their ancestors to that period, and in some cases to a much earlier date.

'MAC' has become part of a great many Scottish surnames, and simply means 'son'. It is sometimes spelt 'M' or 'MC', but is pronounced just the same as 'MAC'.

In some places 'son' is used in place

of 'Mac' and in others dropped; MacDonald, Donaldson, Donald.

Clan histories and maps are available in most Scottish book shops, and there are genealogical firms in Edinburgh and Glasgow who specialise in tracing Highland family histories.

Register House in Edinburgh and parish records in towns and villages will disclose birth and parentage details dating back about 130 years.

(from a Scottish Tourist Board travel brochure - Scotland 84)

* * *

SEAMAN COUSIN HEADS FOR PORT AND HOME

by Jo Crews

Our grandson, Patrick Maldonado, the son of Gilbert and Pamela Kay Crews Maldonado, who is serving on the U.S.S. Ranger, will return to the U.S. on Feb. 29th after 4 months in the Arabian Sea. They left on July 16, 1983, and were diverted to the Honduras and while on the way to Australia they were diverted to the Arabian Sea to help protect the Persian Gulf.

He wrote us that the Ranger had set a world class record for the number of days at sea without a port

call.

They had a fire on board in Nov. and 6 boys were killed. They lost 3 more while out.

Now guess who is going to be on the dock when they pull in??? We'll be glad to have him back in the U.S. safely.

They will go to Bremerton, Wash., in April and be in dry dock for 2 years for an overhaul.

* * *

NETTIE UTT AND CHRISTMAS BASKET

article written by David Barr - submitted by Barbara June Bartel

Ninety-three-year-old Nettie Utt is blind and in a nursing home, but she has stored up memories of those many years when she gave meaning to Christmas for hundreds of families in need.

For 15 years, Greencastle's Mrs. Utt was a well known affectionately, as the Christmas basket lady as she put holiday giving on an organized and orderly basis.

What bothered Nettie Utt was the inequity in food distribution at Christmas as various organizations and individuals were moved to help those in need.

Although givers meant well, some families received more than one food basket from more than one source, while others equally deserving were left out.

Mrs. Utt's benevolent work, locally, was an outgrowth of a program she instituted in Terre Haute before she came to Greencastle (Ind.). There it was sustained through a council of clubs that raised funds through talent performances.

Later, Mrs. Utt appointed herself a committee of one to work out a plan whereby names of those in need could be matched with those who had the means to meet that need

This was a major undertaking, but Nettie Utt was equal to it. Her first move was to coordinate her efforts with the Welfare Department where she obtained a list of the needy. Later as her charities progressed, names flowed in from other sources.

Fortified with this information, she used what she termed the "direct approach". "I would go to a certain church and say, 'I have 15 families who need to be remembered with a basket of food'," Mrs. Utt said.

What she found out was that there was a great willingness to help once the real need for help was learned.

Over a 15-year per-

iod, her project snowballed. The list of the eligible continued to grow but with volunteer help she met wach challenge.

When a specific need was directed to her attention, Nettie made sure it was met, and although she couldn't always make delivery herself because she couldn't drive, she knew just who to call that could provide transportation.

With donations coming in, there came a time when a clearing house was needed. Storage was found in the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Albert and Betty Reynolds. "There were times when the home looked like a grocery store," she said.

While the main thrust of her efforts was food distribution, she found that the Christmas spirit moved folks to give in other ways and counted on her to see to it that the right people were helped.

On one occasion, she received 43 pairs of shoes and she successfully found 43 pair of feet that could use them, including one child who, in her words, had "mismatched feet". Often help for her project came in the form of money donations.

At another time, DePauw sororities brought her 600 wrapped gifts. Since she couldn't tell by ratt-

ling which was for a boy and which for a girl, she unwrapped and rewrapped each one before distribution.

Nettie Utt adhered strictly to on rule: She was never to be a one-woman investigating committee. If she was told that a family was worthy of help, that was enough for her. There were no follow-up visits after delivery.

True she received no money for herslef, but helping others who had needs she could help fill brought rewards she has today as she spends her declining years in a Greencastle nursing home. Bedfast, but very much alert, she still relives memories of those 15 years service to others.

Nettie Utt died on 30 January 1984.

* * *

THE TARTAN STORY

The following article has been condensed from the full story by May McBrair Roberts about the re-discovery and manufacture of the ancient McBrayer family tartan.

WHO STARTED IT ALL ?

by May McBrair Roberts

In the summer of 1969, Dorothy Harrold brought her American friend, Ethel Koller, to visit my family in Lochmaben.

Dorothy is a Mc-

Brair and she had corresponded with Ethel, who is from the same ancient Dumfries family, on their mutual interest of family research and Ethel had come to Dumfries to visit with Dorothy and do some more research in the Burgh museum.

I was interested in their talk of the McBrair family and particularly in their quest for the ancient tartan. Dorothy had the name "Border" and knew that it was a pre 1745 pattern (or sett as it is known technically) but that was all. By the time Ethel returned to California, we were good friends and I promised to continue the search for the tartan.

The first step was to visit the Tartan Society, then in Stirling, where they found for me the sett of the ancient 'Border' pattern. This is written in thread counts of the different colours to make up the pattern, but I was told that 'red' would not be the same colour as the red that we associate with modern tartans - similarly the green.

I contacted my friend Raymond Morris, a craftsman in leather, and he was able to give me the name of a weaver and expert in ancient tartans. I wrote to Jim Scarlett and asked him if he could weave me a sample of the Border sett. The reply was fascinating and I will

give you a direct quote from his letter - 9th October, 1969.

"I can certainly make your tartan, but must first tell you that you have only half the story. Wilson's made a number of patterns that were rather narrow and were intended to be joined edge to edge to make women's plaids; some of these designs had a border to one edge and what you have is the border part only of the 'Blanket Sett'. It is clear that the two parts of the count have become separated along the line but the weaving data in the 1819 Key pattern book make it quite clear that the two are intended to be read together. The material was about 22 inches wide. When the two widths were joined there was of course a border on each side. I hope that you have been able to follow all that, in spite of its being a bit tricky to put on paper."

"Wilson's wove the material at about 60 threads to the inch and I cannot do better than 39, so some modification to the count would be required if the pattern were to be made the same size as the original, but this presents no problem; as to colour, I have put fairly considerable effort into getting as close a match as possible to the originals."

This sample was made and sent to me -

it is beautiful and quite unique in pattern and colour.

The next step was to have this sample made up by Jim Scarlett woven in quantity by a mill. When I say that I found a mill prepared to do this, it skips over the letters, phone calls, hundreds of miles travelled to make visit different mills until I eventually found a mill prepared to make this material - to use vegetable dyes for the yarn and to make sure that every detail was correct for the relatively small quantity of 60 yards in the 22" width.

The bale, when it arrived some two months later, was perfect and was quickly sold to a few McBairs who had been contacted by Ethel.

However, this pattern was difficult to match and make up so the next bale was 54" wide, with the border at one edge only. Somehow, partly due to lack of communication amongst the McBairs at that time, but probably due to my own lack of interest due to personal problems, the remainder of the bale lay until 1979, when my interest was re-awakened.

There was talk by now of establishing a family association, so we decided to have the family tartan registered.

When I returned home from a visit to

NATIONAL REUNION PROPOSED

WHAT DO YOU THINK????

"The year of 1985 marks the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the McBrair/McBrayer/Brier/Briar/Bryar family in America."

This significant fact has eluded my personal attention for quite some time. And it wasn't until just recently that an observant cousin, James F. McBrayer, brought it to my attention. HE WAS CORRECT!!! It was in 1735 that our ancestors first set foot on this continent!!!

As many of you know I have advocated and proposed a national family reunion/gathering for several years now, and during the past two years support for such an event has been mounting. But one BIG problem always seem to cloud the issue: When and where could or would such a gathering be held????

We have all pondered a time and location during the many discussions that have been held - both in person and and by telephone, but no concrete decision or conclusion was ever forthcoming. NOW, HOWEVER,...We do have a perfect time. A time which will coincide with an anniversary of our family in America.

BUT...what about where????

Several locations have been mentioned and debated. What about N.C.? What about Pennsylvania? What about Ga.? What about Ca? All would be fine, but what about the distance those on the ~~opposite end of the country must travel to attend???~~ Who would plan it? These questions always see to end any discussion. BUT.. Now comes my new proposal... Why not have such a reunion at some central United States location? ...Some place that would be equally accessable from ALL corners of America... and those attending would not be required to travel 3000 miles... HOW ABOUT OKLAHOMA??? IS NOT OKLAHOMA CENTRALLY LOCATED???

And another important fact...there would be no question as to who could or would organize it!!!

So!!! If a decision is made to "break ground" and "fire up" with a 1985 national family reunion it can be held in Oklahoma City, Ok., and I will personally see to all arrangements and planning, freeing everyone else to the mundane chore of simply enjoying themselves at OUR FIRST NATIONAL MCBRAIRE FAMILY CON-CLAVE!!!!

A BIG EVENT??? You bet!!! It will get national and some international coverage. It will be for any descendent of the early McBraire family - regardless of surname spelling. This would include the McBrair, McBriar, McBraire, McBrayer, Brier, Briar, Bryar, and any other families.

In pre-planning I have already surveyed several sites in the area and have located an IDEAL place. A major motel in the Okla City area has ample facilities - 190 rooms, a meeting hall which will seat up to 1200 people, reasonable rates, and an access which is not to be believed. And, too, the rates are very reasonable. It is located only 1 block off major east-west (I-40) and north-south (I-35) arteries and only 10 minutes from the Will Rogers World Airport. Downtown OKC is just minutes away as

are many of the major attractions of the area and several major shopping centers.

As for the duration of such a gathering - I am proposing that the reunion be held for at least 3 days - a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. However, it would need to be at a time that would not conflict with other reunions around the country nor with any other major events. In checking a calendar for 1985 I have found that the first part of July is occupied with some very famous Highland games, the middle and latter part is taken by pre-scheduled family reunions. Then the latter half of August is covered by other family reunions. The ONLY really open dates are 2-3-4 August, 1985. It is during a prime vacation time which would allow EVERYONE to begin now planning your vacation around the gathering.

Personally, at this time, I am very excited about the idea, BUT I need to know your opinions, ideas, suggestions, and recommendations. In short - I NEED YOUR HELP!!!

I know interest has been growing in the past couple of years to hold a national reunion, but would such interest support a gathering such as this? Would enough response be forthcoming if it were held in Oklahoma City? What is your opinion. Would you plan on coming for such a three-day event - making a vacation of it - and meeting your 'cousins' from all over America (and possibly some from Scotland) ??? Would you spread the word and help us advertise it and encourage attendance and support for such an endeavor?

I desparately need your ideas and opinions. How about taking a few minutes - RIGHT NOW - and letting me know what you think.

This could be a great event, but it will take your support and your help. WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE OUR 250TH ANNIVERSARY? WHAT WOULD BE MORE FITTING?

the States, I had an appointment with my lawyer in Edinburgh. When I told him what I required, he promised to make enquiries for me and on 11th January, 1980, he sent me the following information (in legal terms, but I repeat this more simply.)

A Scottish family, not historically established as a clan, cannot claim a clan tartan. However, the McBrairs are established historically as a Scottish family.

Only a clan chief can apply to Lord Lyon's court for a clan tartan, or a head of family for a family tartan. To find a 'head of family' which would be acknowledged by Lyon Court, this would have to be proved to be the eldest son of the eldest son through a direct line from the head of family who left Dumfries in 1723 - an impossible task. Legally, it would appear that the idea of a family association with elected

office bearers would appear to be what is required. A person acting on behalf of the family can petition the Tartan Society to have a new tartan registered, or an ancient tartan adopted, but this cannot be called 'The' McBair Tartan. It can only be called 'A' McBair Tartan, but that means that we could have several tartans, all based on the original pattern but with colour changes.

Now that I knew

what the legal position was I decided to take the next steps on my own. ...The next stage was the Tartan Society.

I went up to Crieff, where the Tartan Society are now based, and talked to Dr. Michael McDonald, the curator of the museum, and had a long discussion with him. We decided that what was required was for the Tartan Society to accept the 'adoption' of the ancient tartan to be called "A" McBrair tartan. I had to put in a petition to the Society, with a sample of the tartan, stating why the McBrairs wanted to claim this particular tartan as their own.

As there were so few documents in those far off days when the McBrairs lived in this area, it is not possible to prove that this was their tartan, but there are so many pointers it shows that legally 'within reasonable doubt' this can be claimed as the McBrair Tartan. The pointers are first of all the name "border" that Dorothy had and the research facts given by Jim Scarlett and also that this tartan was 'lapsed' at the time when the McBrairs left Scotland.

The original pattern was rejected...it was suggested that I re-submit the petition along with a new sample of the tartan, omitting the Border.

The Society had said that they would only accept a simple sett, not double, as this one was originally. ..It was also suggested that this be an 'errisaid' or dress tartan which would be in line with today's tartans and ...the indication was it would be accepted.

So now we had "A MCBRAIR TARTAN"

The next stage was a hunting tartan. ... The colours were changed and the pattern was reduced... and we had a McBrair Hunting Tartan.

I have been asked why this tartan is not available in shops and why it is not listed in tartan books. The answer to this is that if it was imported and sold in a store, the price would be very much higher, but, more importantly, we could not keep it exclusively to the McBrairs. I will guarantee only to sell this tartan to those of direct McBrair descent. This is known as a 'private' tartan and is a process used by many Scottish families who wish to keep their tartan exclusive.

The Scottish tartan was the first "club badge" ever to be used. Wearing it, whether it is a kilt, skirt, or only a tie, identifies that you 'belong'. You have a wonderful heritage. It is a beautiful, distinctive tartan, so wear it with pride.

May now has a goodly supply of both the 'dress' tartan and the 'hunting' tartan on hand. Sales, as mentioned above, are limited strictly to bonafide descendents of the McBrair family. I have order blanks for any who wish to order the tartan or any 'tartan material' goods, such as ties, kilts, skirts, etc. These order blanks explain how to take certain measurements for kilts, skirts, jackets, etc., and contain the cost of all goods. For copies of the special order forms and blanks send a SASE to me: Carl McBrayer, 412 Char Lane, Midwest City, Ok., 73110.

Order your tartan, kilt, skirt or tie today and, as May says, "Wear it with Pride".

DRUG SUSPECT IS APPREHENDED

'MIKE' ASBURY, 8TH gen, the son of Gladys McBrayer Asbury and the late Edwin Asbury, cooperating with the Oklahoma City Police department, recently assisted in the apprehension of a "crooked cop" suspected of taking drugs from burglarized pharmacies.

A daring 'trap' initiated by the OKC PD required Mike, the owner of a pharmacy in OKC, to fake a late-night break-in of his business in early March. The narcotics detectives had in-

stalled video equipment to monitor the suspected policeman and were also hidden within the premises when the alarm was sounded.

The suspected officer, the first to respond to the call, entered the pharmacy and allegedly did take controlled substances and drugs which had been intentionally placed and which were under constant observation. He was immediately arrested and charged, and, at this report, has been removed from the force pending a trial.

Mike has been verbally praised by the department for his assistance in helping the city remove a blemish from its force.

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**ALL NEW ONE ROOM
SCHOOL REALLY A FULL
SCALE COLLEGE**

by Charles Brennan -
submitted by Lorraine
A. McBrair Stacker of
Neenah, Wisc.

A world of knowledge can be obtained from within the one room school house walls of Wesleyan College in Southwest Florida, according to Academic Deans Dr. Sidney Davis and Dr. Mirian McBrair Davis.

The local college, located just over the Desoto County border off Kings Highway and one mile east of Interstate 75, provides

an opportunity to individuals 40 and over to earn a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree in three years.

Wesleyan College in Southwest Florida, ... is an extension of West Virginia Wesleyan College which is a liberal arts and science college founded in 1890.

Academic Deans Mr. and Mrs. Davis began operating the Southwest Florida branch of the college in Jan. 1980 and last May they commemorated the first graduating class. There were 14 graduates.

Sidney Davis, a Methodist minister, said the college offers a unique learning experience to its students. Each semester is composed of one course and each course encompasses many facets of study. He teaches Religions of the World and Mrs. Davis teaches World Literature.

Each semester a different professor teaches a class. Other courses taught are: Man and Science, Man in Society and Fine Arts (music, art and drama). During the final semester students undertake an independent study project.

The emphasis of the collegiate studies is on the intergration of a variety of educational facets. Rather than teaching several individual courses under the guise of one discipline, the Davis'

chose to make each course an all encompassing study of each discipline.

The course "Man and Science" includes a core study of "Science - The underlying Unity of Energy, Matter and Life," with major class options of "Environmental Issues" and "World Food Crisis" and a supplemental class option "The Ascent of Man."

"World Religions" includes the core study "Major Religions of the World" with options of "Biblical History" and "Religious Cults" with individual study options of "Women and World Religions", "Religions in America" and "Mythology".

Other courses are equally diverse.

"The 'Independent Study', done during the final semester, gives students the opportunity to tie all their knowledge together," Sidney Davis said.

Members of the 1983 graduating class did independent studies on a variety of topics. One student wrote a humorous autobiography, another did a study of historic buildings in Washington, D.C. and another wrote a fictitious dialouge between herself and two statues from each state in the country.

The Davis' said their involvement with Wesleyan College in Southwest Florida is rewarding because they

Nettie, who had suffered ill health for a number of years, was living in the Greencastle (Ind.) Nursing home at the time of her death. (data by Barbara June Bartels)

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WILLIAM HARRISON MCBRAYER

by James F. McBrayer

William Harrison McBrayer, 7th gen, the son of the late Benjamin Franklin and Myrtle White McBrayer, died Monday, March 5, 1984, in Sarasota, Fl. He was buried on March 8 in Clearfield, Ky., next to the final resting place of his only child, a daughter, who was born and died in 1937-38.

James Earl McBrayer of Morehead, Ky., delivered the eulogy and Frank Fultz, a childhood friend, preached the funeral.

Bill, born 26 March 1909 in Rowan Co., Ky., was married 3 September 1935 to Lottie Amburgey. He was a veteran of WW II and served almost 3 years with the famous 82nd Airborne Div.

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RUTH WELSH HILL

Ruth Welsh "Wannie" Hill, 90, died Thursday, March 8, 1984, in the Oak Ridge Hospital in Oakridge, Tn.

Mrs. Hill, was born in Birmingham, Ala.

She married Walter C. Hill, who moved to Oak Ridge in 1943. Mrs. Hill followed him in 1945 when accommodations were available. Mr. Hill died that same year.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Fannie Ruth and Edwin T. McBrayer, with whom she lived; two sons, Walter C. Hill Jr., Port Saint Lucie, Fla., and R. Welsh Hill, Mobile, Ala.; and eight grandchildren.

Services were held in the Weatherford Mortuary Thursday evening. A graveside service was held Friday, 9 Mar in the Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham, Ala.

(data supplied by James F. McBrayer)

(Edwin T. McBrayer is the 7th gen in the line of Humphrey McBrayer of Ala. His father was Ernen T., the son of Walker B., the son of Humphrey.)

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JEWELL BYRON MCBRAYER

Jewell Byron McBrayer, 70, the son of Alford "Alf" and Nancy Ader (Adie) Scott McBrayer, died Monday, April 16, 1985, at his home in Rainsville, Al.

J.B. was born 27 January 1914 in Ft. Payne, Al., and was married on July 8, 1939, to Iree Perry.

He was buried at Burnt Church on Sand Mountain near Sylva, Al.

Survivors include his wife and one son, Samuel Dewayne McBrayer, and three grandchildren.

(data by Opal McBrayer of Ft. Payne, Al.)

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KENNETH EDGAR MCBRAYER

A long and valiant battle against leukemia has ended in defeat for a young cousin, Kenneth Edgar McBrayer, who died Sunday, April 29, 1984.

Kenneth, the son of James Donald and June Ann Reiss McBrayer and grandson of Dr. Ben E. and Helene McBrayer of Dunnellon, Fla., was living in Worthington, Ohio, at the time of his death.

Born 17 February 1964, in St. Louis, Mo., Kenneth had attended Miami University of Ohio. His classmates served as pallbearers for the services held Friday, May 4. Interment was in Worthington.

Kenneth is survived by his parents, a younger brother, Tim, and a younger sister, Theresa Ann.

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TIDBITS

From "GRAPHIC ARTS MONTHLY", August 1983. -Atlantic Chemical Corporation, Nutley, N.J., has announced new additions to its sales staff. Wynand Gordon Hasselbach,

Thomas James Pratt, and Frank Warren Bancroft will be headquartered in Charlotte, N.C.; WILLIAM C. MCBRAYER, JR. will be based in Chattanooga, Tenn.

(data from Brian T. McBrayer)

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We seem to be reaching out to our far-flung family who are scattered over the face of the globe. The News Events edition which was mailed in January brought a response from JACK BRIER in Sacramento, Ca., MRS. CAMPBELL, Oxford, England, the HAROLDS in Glasgow, ALLISON HAYTHORNE, Sheffield, England, IDA SANDISON in Dumfries and probably may others that I am not aware of. (These include descendants of the McBrair line - Dr. MARIAN MCBRAIR DAVIS and LORRAINE MCBRAIR STACKER.) We are pleased that you are interested in our Family McBrair.

(Ethel Brier Koller)

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BE ADVISED...For those of you who have recently ordered one of the "Bailey Genealogy Books" or one of those from any other disreputable firm, or have ordered so-called "Coat-of-Arms" glasses from a certain credit card company, beware.. THE COAT-OF-ARMS they

are stating and showing as the McBrayer arms is a gross error. They indicate the coat comes from Stodardt's Arms, but ETHEL KOLLER recently was so infuriated she spent some time at the library checking into this and she now reports her findings. "They (those mentioned above) copied the Arms directly above the McBrair Arms. How could they do such a careless thing...The arms they copied was for Oswald of Fingalton." (Thanks to JEAN BROWN for bringing this to our attention.)

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As usual there are some who do more than necessary and more than their share to insure the family group and the newsletter survives. More monetary contributions have been received. These include:

- * THOMAS and MAYME MCBRAYER, Lorena, Tx.
- * ESTHER WILSON, of Eufaula, Ala.
- * MAXINE WOLF, Mission, Tx.
- * GEORGE & HALLIE MCBRAYER, Pacific Grove, Ca.
- * MARGARET W. MCGRAW, Cheraw, N.C., donated in the memory of her mother, CARRIE MCBRAYER WEBB (May 24, 1888 - Dec 30, 1950).
- * MR. & MRS. GEORGE MCBRIAR, Oshkosh, Wis.
- * MR. & MRS. E. FRED MCBRAYER, Shelby, N.C.
- * BERTHA LEONE MCBRAYER, Arroyo Grande, Ca.

* DR. OLIVER G. WOOD, JR., Columbia, S.C.

* JAMES H. AND BETH MCBRAYER, Brandon, Ms.

I want to thank each of you who have contributed to the family fund. I have not listed any amounts of your donations because each, regardless of amount - whether \$1 or \$100 dollars - is sincerely appreciated and will be utilized to its fullest toward the various family projects and the survival of I.D. Thank you!!!

- - -

February 29th occurs only once every four years - and so does some birthdays - those who were born on Feb. 29th. Such is the case of ANN SINGLETON of N.C., who celebrated her "sweet 16" this year. (Susan McBrayer)

- - -

SUSAN MCBRAYER, Shelby, N.C., reports she has been contacted by another SUSAN MCBRAYER. In a recent telephone conversation it was discovered that Susan #2 was also of the David (3rd gen). Her line is that of the newly discovered descendants in Ms. We are looking forward to future information from Susan who lives in Va.

- - -

MAXINE WOLF reports that the name of the new granddaughter,

whose name was not available for the Mar. issue of I.D., is none other than VALERIE FAY LUKER, the daughter of JAMES and DONNA LUKER of Luling, Tx.

- - -

GLEASON BRIER reports that he has been 'more or less' incapacitated due to bad eyesight, BUT that he has now accumulated 'some additional family information' which he hopes to pass along to the files shortly. We'll be looking forward to all new data, Gleason, and we all wish you a speedy recovery and good health. We all appreciate your devotion and all the help you have provided in the past.

- - -

BETH HILL HEISS sends us the news that new granddaughters, JAMIE and KELLIE are now almost 6 months old, are regular comedians, are both healthy and happy babies. I'm sure that grandma and parents are also happy!!!!

- - -

JOHN W. and DOROTHY CORDELLA SLOAN ANTHONY of West Farmington, Oh. are planning their 50th wedding anniversary for July this year. "Although the actual date falls on June 7, the kids can't all get home then", says Dot. "I guess after 50 years a few weeks before having a

fling won't make much difference." (sincerest best wishes for a very happy anniversary and many more just like it. - Carl)

- - -

HOLLY MCDONALD, a descendent in the line of ELI WELLINGTON MCBRAYER, Hackett, Ark., reports that she and husband, DELBERT are now an active part of a Gospel singing group which performs in and around the western Arkansas area. "They are the happiest, friendliest group I have ever met", reports Holly. "We are not sitting home growing old. They come from Muldrow and Glendale, Ok., from all around Ft. Smith to 70 miles east and 3 miles south. I think this is the strongest show of Christian love I have every seen."

* * *

BIRTHS

HARMONY JOY MCBRAYER was born on January 31, 1984 to Rev. Rick and Debbie McBrayer of Vista, Ca. Rick is the music minister at Vista Aaaembly of God Church.

The proud grandparents are Emil and Lillian McBrayer of Danville, Ca. (submitted by Emil McBrayer)

- - -

HEIDI LEAH ROUNDY the, third child of James

Richard 'Jim' and Andrea Warren Roundy, was born 23 Jan 1984 in Carson, Ca. Heidi weighed in at 8 lb, 7 oz. She is the granddaughter of Richard and Joyce McBrayer Roundy and is 9th gen great-granddaughter of the late Henry Willard and Evelyn Peters McBrayer.

(data by the proud parents and grandparents)

- - -

TINA MARIE ANTHONY, the daughter of John Dennis Jr. and Janet Wheeler Anthony, was born on 14 Mar. 1984 in Cincinnati, Oh. Tina is the 10th generation in the line of David and Elizabeth Campbell McBrayer and the great granddaughter of John W. and Dorothy Cordella Sloan Anthony of West Farmington, Oh. Tina also has a 3-year old brother, John Dennis, III.

(data by Dorothy Anthony)

* * *

'84 SCOTLAND TOUR DEPARTS IN EARLY JUNE

Dr. Ben McBrayer, of Dunnellon, Fla., stateside coordinator for the 1984 McBrayer Family Scotland Tour, announces that despite some earlier problems, the '84 group is 'on it's way' with 16 members of the family scheduled to take in the sights of Scotland and sample the kindred

atmosphere of our ancestors with 14 fun-filled, educational days. "We expect a good time," he quotes.

We will all be looking forward to the return reports which we hope to carry in the Sept. issue of I.D.

Those of us who must remain behind wish each a grand time and as the Scots say, "Haste ye back".

* * *

SURVEY RESPONSE ENLIGHTENING

by Dr. Ben E.
McBrayer

Over the past two years a questionnaire has been circulated to more than 100 family members taken at random from the mailing list in an attempt to get the feeling of people about a family organization. Although not an authority on statistics I believe that the percentage of replies is good and that the results justify further exploration and discussion. With the 250th anniversary of the **McBrayers coming up in 1985 we should discuss it at our local reunions and plan on attending a national reunion which is discussed in another story and planned for next year. This question will be one for discussion. Plan to take part.**

Some of the results of that survey are:

I. Are you in favor of organizing? 100%-yes

II. Are you in favor of the title "The Family MacBrair"? 81%-yes, 19%-no (the no's suggested "The Family McBrayer")

III. 69% favored a non-profit organization

IV. 75% said they would be willing to help draw up organizational rules and procedures.

V. 56% favored sponsoring the annual Scotland tour - 87.5% favored support of regional reunions, 87.5% for financial support of genealogical studies.

VI. 87.5% thought the association should recognize family historical sites with appropriate placques and markers.

~~VII. Many suggested that we enlarge the scope of the family to include ALL MacBrairs (and related surnames) sharing our common ancestry of Scotland, no matter where they live - that is, become an International group.~~

(ed. note: Dr. Ben and I would like to encourage all of you to begin an active part in the formation of a family unit. Discuss this among yourselves at your various local and individual family reunions this summer and submit any recommendations, ideas or suggestions to either of us for further evaluation. Remember ... This is YOUR

family, too, and you can have a say in any matters concerning it.)

* * *

MOVIE FEATURES N.C. FAMILY HOME

"Reuben, Reuben", a film about a Scottish Poet, nominated for several Academy Awards earlier this year, is just one more of the many top-rated movies being produced in a new studio in North Carolina.

E.O. Studios of Shelby, N.C., has only been in operation for about 10 years, but has grown solidly in those 10 years to rank as the largest independent movie studio on the east coast. It was founded by Earl ~~Owensby.~~

In the latest film, produced by 20th Century Fox, Susan McBrayer, of Shelby, N.C., informs us the prime attraction (for family members) is that almost 1/2 of the film is shot at a large old house called in the movie "The Dew Drop Inn". "That's where the poet stays while he's visiting in "Woodsmoke" (Shelby). In reality that house is the McBrayer-Royster house built about the turn of the century by R.R. and Olive McBrayer Royster."

The fact that a McBrayer connection is made in a movie makes it all the more interesting to our family.

See it the next opportunity you have. "Reuben, Reuben".

* * *

I.D. BREATHS NEW LIFE

Due to the tremendous response of morale support and encouragement which has been received during the past three months, I.D. WILL CONTINUE until at least the end of the year.

Although several new subscriptions have been received, a fully acceptable minimum level was not reached. However, by maximizing all efforts and holding publication and postage costs to the lowest possible level, we should be able to carry through until Dec. A re-evaluation of our financial and overall condition will be made then and a determination will be made as to whether or not to continue for another year.

I want to personally thank each of you who were so generous with your letters of praise and commendations. I sincerely appreciate all of you. Thanks!!

- Carl-

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WHITAKERS HAVE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

(data submitted by
Helen McBrayer
Whitaker)

Mr. and Mrs. J.B.
(Helen McBrayer)

Whitaker were honored with a surprise 50th wedding anniversary at the home of their daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Branche McGlothlin, Sunday, April 1. (1984)

Guests were served from tables beautifully decorated with greenery, floral arrangements, crystal and silver. Lavishly decorated cakes, petit fours, punch and mints were served to approximately 75 guests throughout the afternoon.

The Whitakers have three children, Frances McGlothlin of Cedar Bluff, W.Va., Joseph of Savannah, Ga., and James of Dublin, W.Va., nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. They have lived in Baptist Valley, W.Va. since their marriage in 1934. They operated their produce business 48 years.

Many out of town visitors were present.

Mrs. McGlothlin was assisted by her daughters, Anne, Melissa and Susan. Mrs. Hilda Whitaker also helped with the serving and arrangements.

(Helen Frances McBrayer Whitaker (8th gen) was the daughter of Charles William (#56) and Georganna Marsh McBrayer. She and Johan B. Whitaker were married in May 1934 in Tazewell Co., Va.)

* * *

LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT OUR UPCOMING ANNIVERSARY AND SINCERELY THINK ABOUT THE PLANNING OF A NATIONAL OBSERVATION AND FAMILY REUNION.

BEGIN YOU VACATION PLANS NOW! COMBINE A VACATION WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WITH FAMILY MEMBERS FROM ALL OVER AMERICA.

250 Years

NATIONAL

FAMILY

REUNION

SEE YOU
IN 1985.
Carl