

IN DEFIANCCE

THE MACBRAIR FAMILY
NEWSLETTER

Privately published by Carl B. DeBruyer,
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Dedicated to the
MacBrair Family
in America

1 FEB 87

TO EACH OF YOU - GREETINGS - For months now I have pondered my decision of December 1984 to cease the publication of our family newsletter, IN DEFIANCCE, wondering all the while if my decision had been hasty, self-serving or even justified. Even now a final conclusion has still not been reached in my own mind. Mixed feeling still prevail. However, During the year +++ since that decision I have personally received many telephone calls and letters pleading for me to resume those duties and encouraging me to again publish our only means of maintaining family contact.

Recently I found a 'Notable Quote' in an article I was reading and immediately I understood. Perhaps you will, too. That quote stated "Don't be discouraged if your efforts are critized. At least you have done something worth talking about." My decision was promptly made. I would undertake the responsibilities I had assumed several years ago, and had given up, and I would again attempt to publish a quality newsletter devoted to the MacBrair Family.

With that.....Here I am!.

For this effort to be a success, though, I must call upon each of you who are interested in the history and heritage of our family, for your support and help. This must be a unified effort by all of us. I can not accomplish this alone. It will require the work of everyone, as personal involvement is the key. Remember - this is your newsletter and only you can make it

a success.

About the new ID:

The frequency of publication will remain the same as before. ID will be published quarterly - the first of December, March, June and September.

Rates for subscriptions, due to increased printing costs and postage, will be higher. The new rates will be \$12 per year (4 issues). (postage rates based on 1st class)

Some of you still have time remaining on your previous subscription. Those will still be honored and your new subscription will be extended to cover the time remaining. Please note your address label at this time. If the "ATTN" line contains a date such as DEC 86 or MAR 87, this is the expiration date of your current subscription. If your "ATTN" line contains only "G" it indicates that this issue is a 'gift' issue to inform you that ID is back in publication and that unless you subscribe and submit your subscription fee of \$12, this will be the only issue you will receive. For those of you who have time remaining - at the end of your current subscription period your renewal rate will be \$12.

Deadlines for material submitted for publication will be the 1st of the month preceding the publication date (i.e. Feb 1 for the March issue). Pre-written articles are not absolutely required, but would substantially reduce the preparation time and help me maintain a quality publication and, also, all pre-written articles will carry the author's by-line.

PUBLICATION RESTRICTIONS: There will be some publication restrictions with this new round of IN DEFIANCE. No articles will be accepted which are based solely on religion or politics. All items must be family or historically oriented.

From time to time editorials will be printed in IN DEFIANCE. The views presented do not necessarily represent those of the majority. Therefore, equal space will be allotted in following editions for rebuttals or opposing viewpoints from others.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS/ARTICLES

For the present IN DEFIANCE will not accept any advertisements or articles publicizing any product or service offered to the family or any member there-of unless said product or service is offered as NON PROFIT - family related items, nor, if and when a decision is made to accept such advertisements or articles, will ID endorse any such product or service offered.

These are the basic existing ground rules under which ID resumes publication. If anyone has suggestions, ideas, or recommendations to better this publication, please, send them to me. Any such item will be graciously received, accepted and given careful consideration. Remember -- I need your help.

Carl McBrayer - Editor/publisher

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REUNIONS

Presently I haven't any details pertaining to any of the regional, line, or group family reunions set for 1987. I know that some are scheduled, so if you wish to inform our cousins and readers, I recommend that either the reunion secretary or a responsible person for the reunion notify me with the pertinent information as soon as possible to insure that information is published in the very next issue of IN DEFIANCE.

I also encourage each of you to give serious consideration to a **national gathering** of the family. Think about a time frame (month, year, day, etc.), location for such a reunion (convention) and other suggestions relating to participation activities. Submit your ideas and recommendations and they will be presented to the family for additional input. We need to pursue our forward movement in progress of family unification and a national convention would provide just the catalyst we need to incite activity and interest of everyone. Let's not be stagnant in the efforts which have been realized in the past several years. Many of you do not realize all the progress that has been made in the past, but I can assure you truthfully that it has been very substantial. Let's not lose it. Let's continue to move forward.

Another project we must **seriously** consider is the formation of a formal family organization or association. Dr. Ben McBrayer of Dunellon, Fla., has agreed to oversee and lead such a project. In order, though, for any such plan to be a success, just as in the continuation of ID, each of us must lend our support and actively participate in any way we can. Such an association will benefit the family as a group. Have your say! It just might be that your suggestion or idea could be the key needed to unlock any problems that might be encountered. Dr. Ben will have a featured article in the next issue of this newsletter pertaining to the organization. Be prepared to help! Support him!

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FAMILY HISTORY BEING UPDATED

A new flurry of interest in the printed history of our family has brought about a decision to update and reprint the 1983 family book. However, due to the volume of new information that has been received during the past three years an entirely new set will be printed. This new set will contain at least

three volumes. Each will be fully indexed making cross-reference much easier. Volume one will contain most of the information on the McBrayer surname; Volume two will cover the Brier/McBrier/McBryar, etc. lines, while volume three will contain updates that have been received since the composition of the first two volumes. This will be a three-volume set and will be sold as such. This compendium will be the final printing in this form. In the future only up-date volumes will be published.

Already volume one has been completed and contains over 700 pages (not including the index of approximately 15000 names). Indexing is continuing on this volume.

If you would like to have a set of the latest history of the MacBrair Family send your reservation now. Only those who reserve on a pre-registration will receive notice of the actual release date which will be later this year. Reservation now does not constitute an obligation to purchase. It allows me to determine approximately how many sets must be printed. The number printed or ordered determines the cost per set. (The more ordered the lower the printing cost - the less you have to pay, so spread the word.) DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY WITH YOUR RESERVATION.....

You will be notified at a later date of the release date and the final cost.

If you have new information which you would like to have included or corrections which need to be made from the previous book, send them to me NOW. Don't delay.

My address is: Carl McBrayer, 412 Char Lane, Midwest City, OK., 73110.

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FAMILY TIDBITS

ELLARIE SKAGGS WHITE retired on 1 March 1985. She visited with her daughter, **Valarie**, in Okla. City, Ok., in August, 1985. While in the area she and Valarie paid a visit in the home of Carl and Pat

McBrayer, Midwest City, Ok. * summer vacation brought **WORTH** and **ELFRETA MCBRAYER FRADY**, Fairview N.C., through Okla. City during August 1985. They, with Elfreta's sister, **BEATRICE COLLEGE**, Asheville, N.C., spent a talkative evening with Carl and Pat McBrayer of Midwest City. *

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FAMILY BIRTHS

VALERIE EILEEN and **CLYDE DUNBAR** Okla. City, Ok., announce the birth of their daughter, **MEAGAN FLOYD DUNBAR**. The new cousin made her entry on 26 May 1985 in Okla. City. She is the grand-daughter of **Ellarie Skaggs White** and joins four brothers and one sister.

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BRENDEN WILLIAM MCBRAYER, the namesake of his grandfather, **GEORGE WILLIAM MCBRAYER**, was born 22 May 1985 in Ca. He is the son of **JEFFREY** and **STEPHANIE MCBRAYER** of Pacific Grove, Ca. **HALLIE MCBRAYER** is the proud grandmother who made the announcement. She is proud of the fact that this is the first grandson of George and is the only one capable to carry on the family name. "Stephanie had an ultrasound just 7 days before George died and the technician told them it was a boy, so they were able to tell George that he would have a grandson, and that his middle name would be William." Welcome to our new little cousin.

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JAMES EARL MCBRAYER, Morehead, Ky. reports that his first great-great grandson was added to the family charts in late Nov 1984. **JOEY GREEN** was born to **KELLY** and **JAMIE AUSBU GREEN** in Otsego, Mich. Jamie is the daughter of **REV. GARY** and **STELL FRANCES MCBRAYER AUSBUN**, Ashland Ky.

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FAMILY MARRIAGES

BRENDAN RUFUS WHITE, the son of **ROBERT LUTHER AND ELLARIE SKAGGS WHITE**, was married 27 July 1985 in Holland, Mich., to **JOANNE KEMPS SECKACH**.

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MARY ELIZABETH (MARY BETH) AUSBUN, daughter of **REV. GARY and STELLA FRANCES MCBRAYER AUSBUN**, Ashland, Ky., was married in Ashland on Dec. 21, 1984, to **JEFF BLACKBURN**. Both are students at Anderson College, Anderson, Ind. Mary is the granddaughter of **JAMES EARL MCBRAYER**, Morehead, Ky.

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HOSPITAL NEWS

JOHNNIE MAE WARE, Boiling Springs, N.C., suffered a heart attack on 7 September 1984. After several months of recuperation in which she was beginning to regain her strength, she had a stroke in late April, 1985, that affected her eyesight and coordination. She is now slowly on her way to recovery. She would appreciate hearing from cousins around the country. Her address is: P.O. Box 22, Boiling Springs, N.C., 28017. * **JOHN MCBRAYER**, Samson, Al., recently fought a bout with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. He spent 8 days in a hospital in Tn. While there it was discovered he was loosing his eye sight. John's new address is: Rt 3, Box 228, Samson, Al., 36477. *

JAMES EARL MCBRAYER, Morehead, Ky., has been recuperating after a near fatal accident in early 1985. While cutting a tree on his property near Morehead, a portion of the hugh trunk fell, striking Earl in the back. He suffered a concussion, broken ribs, a broken leg and a broken neck. It is reported that during the first surgery he died on the operating table but was quickly revived by the medical team. Although still in considerable pain at last report Earl is now rapidly regaining his strength and health under the watchful eye of his wife, **HELEN MCBRAYER**. * **Pat MCBRAYER**, wife of Carl McBrayer, Midwest City, underwent surgery in Oklahoma

City, Ok., on the 24th of Jan. 1986. After a total of 14 days in the hospital, she is now recovering at home. *

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The following information has been provided by **Paul Neal**, Parkersburg, Iowa, a grandson of the **Ardella McBrayer** presented.

ARDELLA "DELLA" MCBRAYER was born about 1866-67 in Dade County, Ga., and died in 1950 in West Frankfort, Il. The 1880 Marion Co., Tn., census states she was born in Tn. The same census shows her mother's name as **Mary McBrayer**, age 48, born in S.C. No father was listed. Children listed included:

1. Drucilla McBrayer, 25, b Ga.
2. Della McBrayer, 14, b Tn.
3. John McBrayer, 7, b Tn.

Paul states he has been told there was an older sister, **Arebella**, but she may have been married and away from home by 1880.

Anyone who might be able to help identify the family connection can contact **Paul Neal**, Box 224, Parkersburg, Ia., 50665

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TO DON A KILT

article from James E. McBrayer

The original kilt, unlike the sharply creased and stitched, banded version of today, was simply a large rectangle of tartan, about 5' x 15'. The wearer laid his belt on the ground, pleated the tartan over it leaving a flat panel at each side, lay down on the whole and buckled it up. When he arose, he was garbed in a softly pleated skirt and the large top section hung almost to the ground, to be gathered up over one shoulder or worn like a cloak. The simplest of loom-shaped garments.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to **CHRISTINE EDSON**, Pinehurst, NC., for the new information on the descendents of **Dr. L.B. MCBRAYER**.

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MCBRAYER NAMED MISS MSU

(submitted by James Earl McBrayer;
written by **Beth-Ann Wolfe**)

The 1985 Miss Morehead (Ky.) State University Scholarship pageant was indeed "One Spectacular Sensation" for winner **Leslie Dawn McBrayer**. "I was shocked," said McBrayer. "it's exciting, but the best part is the scholarship."

McBrayer placed as first runner-up in the 1984 Miss MSU pageant. This year she didn't expect to win but "hoped for the scholarship money."

The Miss MSU pageant is a preliminary for the Miss Kentucky pageant. McBrayer said she is nervous and scared at the prospects of being in the Miss Kentucky Pageant, but looks on it as a "growing experience, and opportunity to meet new people, and to expand as a person."

For the talent category of the pageant, McBrayer sang "Come Rain or Shine" and "Mr. Melody." "I picked something I was comfortable with, and practiced whenever I had any spare time."

McBrayer is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **Jack McBrayer** and granddaughter of **James Earl McBrayer** of Morehead, Ky. She is a senior business major with an option in management and manages the Custom Corners frame shop. She is a member of Rho Epsilon, church choir and is a Sunday school teacher.

"We are proud of her. I didn't encourage her (to enter the pageant), she had a lot of self motivation for that, but we encouraged her after she entered." McBrayer's mother said.

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OBITUARIES

CARRIE ELIZABETH MCBRAYER SKAGGS the daughter of Edward Pleasant and Della Wheeler McBrayer, suffered fatal heart attack in mid-August and died 16 August 1985 in Skaggs Ky. She was 87 years old.

Carrie, born 24 Nov 1897 at Skaggs, Lawrence Co., Ky., was married 14 Nov 1920 to Rufus H. Skaggs, who preceded her in death on 21 Apr 1951. They had three children.

Funeral services were held 20 August at the Young Funeral Home in Skaggs; interment was in the Skaggs Cemetery.

Carrie is survived by one son and two daughters and numerous grandchildren and great-grand-children. (data by Ellarie Skaggs White)

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ROBERT LUTHER WHITE, the husband of **Ellarie Skaggs White**, died 11 June 1984 while at his job in Rockford, Ill. He suffered a severe heart attack.

Robert, born 2 May 1922 in Monroe Co., Ark., was the son of Thomas Washington and Ethel Chrestman White. He was married Sept 1945 at Beaufort, S.C., to Ellarie. They have six children.

Burial was in Rockford, Ill. (data by Ellarie White)

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ESSIE MCBRAYER BROOKS died 29 June 1985 at her home in Canton, Ohio. She was 75 years of age.

Essie had suffered a heart attack in the fall of 1984 and had undergone surgery for a pacemaker.

She was born 2 March 1910 at Linn Branch, Elliot Co., Co., the daughter of Edward Pleasant and Della Wheeler McBrayer. She had a twin sister, Tressie. Essie was married in Akron, Ohio, 6 Jul 1931 to **Lester Lloyd Brooks**. They had three children.

Interrment was at Otaway, Ohio. (data by Ellarie Skaggs White)

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WALTER RAYMOND SEXTON, 1931A2a, pg 353, Jasonville, In., the son of JOHN and LIZZIE KLAIBER SEXTON, grandson of JAMES M. KLAIBER, great-grandson of JOHN A. and MARY ANN MCBRAYER KLAIBER, died 11 Nov 1983. He was the operator of the Western Auto Store in Jasonville for over sixteen years.

(data supplied by James E. McBrayer)

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GEORGE WILLIAM MCBRAYER, 9th gen son of JAMES FREDRICK and ODESSA JEWELL LEWIS MCBRAYER, died 25 Nov 1984 in Pacific Grove, CA. He was born 25 Oct 1923 in Portsmouth, Oh.

George was married 8 Jan 1947 to HALLIE L. ARBOGAST. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1962 and served as an insurance inspector from then until his death.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and two grandchildren. Burial was in Pacific Grove, Ca.

(data by Hallie McBrayer)

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The McBrayer Family experienced a tragic loss in June 1985 with the death of one of our leading supporters in the genealogy field. JUNE MARIE HARLOW THOMSON died Sat. 27 July 1985 at her home in Hamilton, Mo.

June, the daughter of GEORGE W. and ESTHER ORPHAH ENGLAND HARLOW, was the great-great-granddaughter of CARLTON MCBRAYER. She was born 1 June 1922 in Hamilton and was married 11 May 1947 in Bethany, Mo., to HARRY GILLIAM THOMSON, JR.

As an avid researcher of her family history, June spent countless hours collecting data on her forefathers. She provided much of the information contained in THE MCBRAYER FAMILY - BOOK II on the branch of the family that settled in Mo. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

A memorial service was held Sunday, August 4 in Hamilton with burial in the Hamilton Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Harry, two daughters, DEBORAH LYNN

& STEPHANIE, and 4 grandchildren.

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ELM GROVE PHARMACIST DIES

submitted by J.F. McBrayer

Edwin T. McBrayer of 107 Balsam Lane died Saturday morning at Park West Hospital in Knoxville (TN) after an extended illness. He was 65.

His wife is Fannie Ruth Hill McBrayer.

Mr. McBrayer was a pharmacist at Elm Grove Drug Store for 30 years. After the Elm Grove store closed, he was a pharmacist at the Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge until retiring from there two years ago. At the time of his death, Mr. McBrayer was a part-time pharmacist at Ridgeview Psychiatric Hospital and Center.

Born in Boaz Ala., Mr. McBrayer received degrees in pharmacy and chemistry in 1942 from Howard College, which is now Samford College, in Birmingham, Ala.

When he first came to Oak Ridge in 1943, Mr. McBrayer was employed as a chemist at the Y-12 Plant. He worked there for six years.

Mr. McBrayer was a member of the First Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Becky and Larry Guthrie of Knoxville; a son Edwin T. McBrayer Jr. of Chattanooga; and three grandchildren, Lee, Greg and Gayle Guthrie, all of Knoxville.

The Rev. Dillard Mynatt and the Rev. Jack Prince will officiate at the funeral this evening at 8 at the chapel of Weatherford Mortuary. Burial will be Tuesday morning at 10 at Oak Ridge Memorial Park.

Edwin was a descendent of Humphrey P. McBrayer. He was born 16 June 1919 and died 23 March 1985. The above obituary, submitted by J.F. McBrayer, Oak Ridge, appeared in THE OAK RIDGER, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Monday, March 25, 1985.

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Please note the size of the type in this newsletter. I need your response on what you think of it. I have purposely selected a large print for this issue to demonstrate the style and to see if the elders of our family experience any difficulty in reading it. In the past I have heard from some that the newsletter was difficult to read because of the small print. What do you think????

If you wish to subscribe to IN DEFIANCE, please submit your check of money order in the amount of \$12 per subscription to:

Carl B. McBrayer
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1-405-732-1757

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During the past couple of years time has been a precious commodity around the McBrayer household in Midwest City. In fact 1986 was one of the most drastic years yet. So many distractions marred the year it was virtually impossible to accomplish anything. Pat's surgery and recovery during the early part of the year consumed almost total attention. Other problems, and necessary livelihood events, digested much of the remaining time. Work on Volume #1 was sporadic to say the least, but every available moment was devoted to its completion. As a result almost 100% of my correspondence was neglected. It HAD to go unanswered. Many of you provided new or corrected data for the book and, of course, you were expecting at least an acknowledgement of receipt. I sincerely apologize to each of you for being neglectful in my responses, but I hope you will understand. To those who sent new data, I will tell you - If it was received BEFORE the completion of the computer print run, your data WAS included in Vol. 1; If your data was received after the computer run was finished, it WILL NOT be in Vol. #1, BUT will be in Vol #3 (Updated volume). All the new McBair and Brier information WILL BE INCLUDED in Vol.#2 which is

being put together at this time.

In the coming months my personal schedule is going to be rather hectic and I would like to ask each of you for your cooperation. I do appreciate all your input, your cards and letters of support and the necessary provision of new data, but, for a while at least, could I prevail on you to enclose a SASE or an addressed postal card if you require a response to your letter. Not only is this necessary from the "time" factor, but it is also required because of a monetary problem. An economical crisis has engulfed our efforts - at least temporarily. Hopefully, this problem can be resolved soon. As you know when I quit publishing ID in '84 I sent the remaining money to a 'cousin' who had expressed an interest in continuing the newsletter. Now, though, I seem to be experiencing difficulty in getting this money returned. Therefore, I will be personally financing the newsletter and honoring all the subscriptions with time remaining in 1984 - at least until we can get back on our feet. Saving on the postage, as mentioned above, will be of a help to me accomplishing this. I ask your indulgence, restraint, and understanding.