



In Defiance

THE
McBRAYER FAMILY
NEWSLETTER

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

HISTORIC McBRAYER HOUSE TO BE RESTORED !!

The following article is a reprint from the Spring 1987 Listing of Historical Properties, printed by the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina.



McBrayer House

Shelby

In 1884 when Dr. Victor McBrayer built his showy house on the then unpaved North Morgan Street in Shelby, he lent to that part of the town a new, elegant air. Then and now the house is a striking building. Its original color scheme of yellow weatherboarding with offwhite trim and heavy accents of deep red made it a remarkable sight. Window sash, shutters and architectural details once sported the red that gave the house color and style.

The frame house is one of the most elaborate and best-preserved late nineteenth century dwellings in Shelby. It exhibits irregular massing and a profusion of eclectic ornament with elements borrowed from the Italianate, Gothic Revival and Queen Anne styles of architecture. The McBrayer House is one and a half stories high, with the dormers serving as ventilators for an unfinished attic.

The house was enlarged to its present size shortly after its construction with the addition of a bedroom wing on the south and a kitchen wing on the north. All details of these additions are nearly identical to the original block of the house.

A great variety of sawnwork enhances the McBrayer House, including unusual fish-scale patterned louvers, sawn bargeboard, board-and-batten sheathing with a scalloped lower end and heavy brackets. The interior also exhibits extensive decorative woodwork with paneled doors, elaborate mantels and hall dividers with colored glass and louvered doors.

Several dependencies of this late nineteenth century working farm remain. A milk house, a potato house and a storage house are located on the lot. The building complex sits on a large lot measuring 150' by 610', encompassing 2.3 acres.

Extensive repair work was done on the house in 1985, including wood and roof repairs, rebuilding original window shutters, and painting the exterior in a color scheme of off-white weatherboarding, white trim and dark green shutters. The house is in good liveable condition. A new buyer may choose to update the kitchen and bath facilities.

Known as the "City of Pleasant

Living," Shelby is a vital town of 15,000 in the foothills of the mountains. It is the leading town and county seat of Cleveland County (pop. 82,000). Shelby is a Main Street town that has witnessed more than \$3 million of new investment in the downtown area. North Carolina's largest city, Charlotte, is 45 miles east of Shelby.

Price: \$78,000

Square feet: 3,240

Lot: 2.3 acres

Zoning: Residential-Office

Contact: Anne R. Williams, Western Office, Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, P. O. Box 9349, Hickory, NC 28603-9349; 704/322-8705.

EYE DOCTOR HAS VISION FOR HISTORIC HOUSE

The following story is excerpted from "The Charlotte Observer, Thursday, June 4, 1987 - article written by Brian Melton. Other information submitted by Johnnie Mae Ware, Boiling Springs, NC.)

SHELBY - McBrayer House sold twice

Wednesday, first to the preservationists and then to the Shelby doctor who accepted their conditions for restoration.

Dr. Frank Hannah, a Shelby ophthalmologist, bought the 3,240-square-foot Victorian house for \$78,000. He plans to spend about \$150,000 fixing it and building a 1,000-square-foot addition in back.

Wednesday's sale ended four years of maneuvering by The Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, said Ann Williams, director of its western office in Hickory.

In 1983, the foundation asked McBrayer House owner Elizabeth McBrayer Owen about restoration. The house was deteriorating fast, four years after being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Owen had lived there on Morgan Street a few blocks from downtown since her birth. Her father, Dr. Victor McBrayer, built the house in 1884 and made it one of the city's social centers.

The foundation agreed to repair and paint the outside while Owen continued living there. Owen agreed to let the foundation handle the house's sale after her death. She died in January at nearly 90.

After arranging the sale to Hannah, the foundation bought the property from Owen's estate for \$78,000 at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday. In 30 minutes, Williams had preservation covenants attached to the deed and Hannah bought the house for the same amount.

The covenants let the foundation oversee the renovation to assure that it preserves the house's architectural value. The exterior, combining elements of Victorian, Italianate, Queen Anne and Gothic Revival styles, hasn't changed significantly in a century.

VIRGINIA BRIER, Rialto, CA, and a friend spent an enjoyable day on June 13 at the Irish Fair and Music Festival in Los Angeles. They absorbed the Irish and Scottish dancing, singing and merrymaking.

DICK ROUNDY, husband of JOYCE MCBRAYER ROUNDY, retired early this year from Hughes Tool Co. in Calif. They have since sold their home in Torrance, Ca. and have moved to Pea Ridge, AR, where they are having a new home built to their specifications.

EVELYN MCBRAYER DULL, daughter of CARL and PAT MCBRAYER, Midwest City, OK, underwent minor surgery in May. She has since recuperated.

A letter from JOYCE SPENCER, Springfield, MO, provides us with some additional clues to the research of the McBair family in America. According to Joyce she located some gravemarkers in a cemetery in Kearney, Neb., which carried the name "MACBRAYER". She indicated the dates of death was in the '50's.

LOIS BRIER GIRVAN, Santa Barbara, CA, is near publication of a series of books about Little Known Women achievers, a full length biography of a well-known woman and a series of books about first families on San Juan Island, Puget Sound, WA. For more information about current and upcoming books contact Lois at: Ideas Unlimited, P.O. Box 22959, Santa Barbara, CA, 93121-2959. Price of the books in the Womens series are \$9.95 each plus \$1.50 postage.

ETHEL BRIER KOLLER, Berkeley, CA, is the publisher of a periodical, THE MACBRAIR HERITAGE JOURNAL AND NEWSLETTER, which covers primarily the Scottish family of the MacBrairs. For information on obtaining a subscription you can contact her at 3100 College Ave, Berkeley, CA, 94705. Ethel is an authority on the ancient family and possesses vast volumes of information. Perhaps with enough

encouragement we can induce her to provide us with a comprehensive book on the ancient ancestors and history.

GARY WAYNE COCO, JR., son of GARY WAYNE and DONNA FAYE MCBRAYER COCO, graduated May 23, 1987, from North Pulaski High School, Little Rock, AR.

JOHN MCBRAYER, Sampson, AL, has suffered several bouts with ill health during the past few months and has spent several weeks in various hospitals in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. He has undergone several surgeries. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

WADE MCBRAYER, Burwell, SC, underwent cancer surgery May 2, 1987, and at last report was doing fair.

TROY MCBRAYER, Ft. Worth, TX, was in the hospital from Jan 4 through the 26 (1987). He underwent serious stomach surgery which required 8 units of blood. He is doing fine now and things are again looking up. (MYRTA MCBRAYER)

* * *

N E W C O U S I N S

We welcome the addition of our new 'Little' cousins to the family:

CRAIG MICHAEL DUFF, son of Bret and Debbie Duff, was born 18 June 1987, in Redondo Beach, CA. He is the grandson of Dick and Joyce McBrayer Roundy, Pea Ridge, AR. Craig weighed in at a hefty 9 lbs and 11 oz, and measured 21" in length.

Kaye Quinn sends us the list of new arrivals within her family line. Kaye is a descendent of David Brier, III. A grandson, Jonathan Michael Jenson was born 16 Mar 1987 in New Haven, Connecticut. Jonathan is the son of Hal Brockbank and Kathryn Marie Quinn Jenson.

Also nephew Arthur Arnold Jones and wife, Taffy Ulm Jones, have a new daughter, Ashleah Nicole Jones, born 29 April 1987 in Italy.

An adopted daughter has been added to the family of Michael Eugene and Marjorie Taylor Jones. Celisa Jones, born 2 July 1979 in Tennessee, became their daughter in 1985.

* * *

TEACHER SAW GOOD IN ALL HER STUDENTS

(Reprinted from a story by Tula Andonaras, Staff Writer for the Asheville (NC) Citizen-Times, South Neighbors, June 3, 1987. Article provided by Margaret McBrayer, Fairview, NC.)

Elfreta Frady of Hollywood Road in Fairview (NC) has been a teacher for 38 years. In all of that time, she has looked forward to each day with enthusiasm and dedication.

Twenty-eight of those years were spent at Oakley Elementary School, where Frady taught seventh and fourth grades. Hundreds of students have passed through her classrooms, and many still visit her home and send her post cards and letters.

Teaching was always something that Frady wanted to do.

"My parents always emphasized education," she said. "It was always understood that I would go to school and on to college. I always enjoyed school since I was 6 years old. It just carried through the years."

It was Frady's fourth grade and home economics teachers that influenced her to seek a career in education. A graduate of Appalachian State University, she first taught home economics and science at Farmington High School in Davie County.

She then taught in Rutherford and Polk counties before filling a position as a seventh-grade teacher at Oakley.

"That was before the middle school was built," she said. Upon completion of Reynolds Middle School, Frady was given a choice. She chose to remain at Oakley and was given a position as a fourth-grade teacher.

"I chose the fourth grade because I think it is the best age

level for a child," she said. "They are energetic and eager to learn. They want to be independent but expect you to be close to them."

Frady's philosophy of teaching has stayed the same for all the years she has been in the classroom. She has followed the traditional method stressing reading and mathematics.

"Basics come first," she said. "Added things are for enrichment."

She has always had three requirements of her students. They must behave, pay attention and try.

"If they can do that, then they'll learn," she said. She believes that each teacher needs to know and understand each child in the class to be able to help them with learning and any personal problems.

In close to four decades, Frady never had a child she didn't like.

"I always saw good in all of them," she said. Children are important to her. Because she never had any children of her own, her "kids" in the classroom have always had a special place in Frady's life.

"Most of my energies have always gone into my work," she said. "Its all been good and rewarding, very rewarding."

At the end of this school year, Frady will be saying good-bye to another fourth grade class and to the profession that has meant so much in her life.

"After you've taught that long, there comes a time to think of other things," she said.

Frady wants time to spend with her husband, Worth, a retired teacher from Erwin High School. She plans to do volunteer work in a hospital. And she wants to travel in the United States and, perhaps, Europe.

"There are just so many things I want to do that I haven't had time for," she said. "I just want to take time to enjoy my friends and neighbors."

There will also be time to reflect on her career.

"I was always fortunate to work with principles who believed in quality education," she said. "And,

from the very first day, my fellow teachers were always capable, professional and supportive. And some of my former students have brought their children into my class. I sometimes feel like I'm teaching my grandchildren.

The Oakley Elementary School faculty and staff sponsored a retirement reception in honor of Frady at the McDowell Museum on June 7. Many relatives, friends, co-workers and former students were in attendance.

* * *

AN EPISTLE ON HOMER HILL

(The following article is from information sent by Beth Hill Heiss. It should be shared - so, here it is.)

In your last book I was reading that my dad would not attend school. It's not important re your books, but I thought you would enjoy this story and it is not a 'legend'. First off let me say his F was most affluent and his parents were educated. I have proof his maternal grandmother was most educated. Homer (E.) Hill (Beth's father) was the 12th child - they all lived. Anyway his sister (Mary Carter) told me that Andrew Hudlow Hill, his dad, gave her money to give Homer's teacher to bribe him and yet he refused to come to school. Dad introduced me to reading. His grammar was OK. When I was a child there was not a library in town. He told me Aesop's Fables and believe this - He believed Nostradamus! These memories blow my mind. Where did he attain his knowledge?

His brother, next older to him, was an M.D. who graduated from Vanderbilt and interned at John Hopkins. He lived in Tulsa and invested in dry oil wells. He died there in the early 40's and had one son - Jack Hudlow Hill - who I would love to find. Jack would be in his 60's.

Further, through the Hills we were related to Will Rogers. I have a file on this. Uncle 'Cap' (the M.D.) at an early age didn't want anyone to know of this

relationship. He was too proud in the early days when Will was roping.

The Hills were very proud people. My dad taught me to be the biggest with the big and the littlest with the little. This was his definition of a true aristocrat and that I was never to forget that I was and am an aristocrat.

Thanks for sharing with us Beth!

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AS A 98-POUNDER, AFFIE BARRY USED
LEAD SINKERS FOR ARMY BIT
(Plus 18 Bananas and beer)

(The following article is from THE EVENING TRIBUNE, Hornell, NY, 7 Dec 1977, written by Betty Foxworth, submitted by Major Lyman Barry. This is the first part of a two part series.)

Affie Hammond Barry was making fruit cake when the news broke that Sunday. She was stunned. She had no thought that four years later she would gather coconut fronds to make a Christmas tree, dig fox holes in a steaming jungle. Or be wearing the boots of a dead Jap.

It was 1941. The wife, now of retired Army Major Lyman Barry, Affie was 41 then, a career woman doing advertising research and helping set up a ration system for the government. She owned an apartment building in New York City.

When the shock of the Dec. 7 holocaust at Pearl Harbor had settled into daily reality, she said she found her friends were thinning out, her tenants leaving for military service or other wartime duties. She didn't want time - or an empty house - on her hands. She headed for a recruitment center. And was promptly rejected.

From her home on Town Line Rd., between Nunda and West Sparta (NY), Affie said her Army career was a "snafu right from the beginning."

"But," she explained, "I thus was forced to call upon my ingenuity which has stood by me ever since. I learned, too, that no matter what dilemma you find

yourself in, there's always a way out. If you can dramatize your plight, somebody will take notice and things will begin to happen."

Her three years and 11 months in the service, she added, also left her "unfit forever for civilian life."

Affie passed everything "in flying colors except for weight."

"I was just five feet, my age was no barrier. But I only weighed 98 pounds. I went home and ate everything in sight but didn't gain an ounce. So I bought a pound and a half of red fishing sinkers, wove them into my hair in an upsweep, ate some salted herring and drank a bottle of beer. On the way back to the center, I ate 18 bananas. The scales went up to 106. And I was in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

By late December she was sworn in. Awaiting her call, she went back to her home state, Kentucky, a visit that was to cause another problem.

She was ordered to report in January to the Daytona Beach staging area in Florida to begin basic training.

"We were piled into trucks and taken in for exams and aptitude tests which wound up in the middle of the night. I piled onto my cot, exhausted. I no more than hit the thing when we were rousted out to stumble to mess in the dark. My first job was to 'police the area'. I didn't know what that meant - until a corporal yelled, 'Pick up those cigarette butts, you'."

Orientation to Army life was rough. There was no pause from reveille to taps. Everything was utter confusion to me. I was told to do one thing and somebody else would order me to do another. It finally dawned on me that something was amiss. No wonder I was being ordered to do the work of two people. I had enlisted from New York, entered from Kentucky. I notified my superiors - my name was on both lists."

"I had more trouble trying to board a vehicle taking us for further training. They wouldn't take me on the New York truck nor on the Kentucky truck. Headquarters, with normal

efficiency, had corrected my double listing - by taking my name off both lists."

I gave up. Encouraged myself on my duffle bag in the middle of the area and sat there until all the trucks pulled out. After a bawling out from a sergeant, I was bundled into a staff car and carted off in style to join the New York bunch. Just where I wanted to be in the first place."

G.I. clothing was scarce in small sizes. Affie was issued only regulation pajamas, underwear, a bathrobe, slippers and a spotless Army hat.

An order came to report to drill practice in full regalia. She decided there was only one way she was going to get the complete uniform. She appeared in line wearing what she had. Her sergeant received a tongue lashing for neglect of duty. But she was taken to the quartermaster's and emerged "beautifully arrayed".

She was being turned into a classification specialist - "a personnel person in charge of placing square pegs in round holes", as she described herself. She was trained as any G.I. except for arms combat. It was rough. No time to think about the war going on someplace.

At swampy, mosquito-ridden Camp VanDorn in Mississippi, the company commander was single-mindedly determined to produce the best marching unit in the Army.

"I was small," says Affie, "Always out of step. You know, the one marching five in a row, always at the end. I liked the end because I was out of sight and could pay attention or not. Once I was actually walking backward when we rounded a bend and I became visible. The corporal yelled, 'Halt, Corp. Hammond!' I marched up front and stood at attention. She said with a nasty gleam in her eye, 'Corp. Hammond, you take command!' So I did. I yelled, 'About face. Forward march!' - right back to our barracks - then, 'Company halt! Company dismissed!' I got heck, but the girls were grateful for the rest."

The auxiliary in WAAC was

abandoned. Now Affie became a WAC, a regular part of the U.S. Army. A request for overseas duty denied, she prepared to enter officer's training. On the day of her interview, she was ordered to report for overseas training.

She wanted to go to England, but the troop train turned west. There were soldiers, sailors, WACS and "everything else" at crowded Camp Stoneman in San Francisco. Enemy subs lurked in the Pacific. She waited there for a month. Finally, the G.I.s were trucked to a converted luxury liner at the wharf. But Affie's unit "marched so beautifully," the women walked the entire two-mile distance to the ship.

Some of our girls got seasick that night. We discovered the next morning we had spent the night in the harbor," Affie laughed.

(to be continued next issue of I.D.)

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MCBRAYER HALL

The Rainbow Lakes United Methodist Church (Florida) consecrated their new fellowship hall on Sunday, September 29 (1986) following the regular Sunday morning service. During the service Rev. Donald Hanna called Dr. Ben McBrayer to the pulpit, announcing that the Administrative Board had named the new structure "MCBRAYER HALL", paying tribute to the service given to the church by Dr. Ben and his wife Helene. Ben has been on the Board of Trustees for fifteen years, the last twelve as Chairperson. During that time he has also served as Chairman of the Building Committees for a new Sanctuary, a Parsonage, and now "McBrayer Hall". Dr. Ben also serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee and is active in the Methodist Men's organization.

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RESTORING A DREAM

(Information for the following

article was submitted by John H. Ramey and is excerpted from THE BEACON JOURNAL, Akron, OH, 7 Dec 1986.)

Once it had been a dream come true, a curved and polished dream with 8,000 parts, and she, newly married, sat before it with the grace of youth. Janet Szilagyi's piano measured the rhythm of her days, for in happy and sad moments, she found release in music.

But that was before Nov. 4, 1985.

in the town of Albright, W.Va., near the mountains east of Morgantown, Janet and her husband Imre were eating dinner that Monday night.

Heavy rains pounded the windows and slid from the roof. Their livelihood, a white-water rafting business upon the wild rivers pouring from the Appalachian highlands. Still a week of rain was enough.

Imre left the family that night to check on his computer and, with business associates, continued on to check on the river's height at the Route 26 bridge. Janet was tuned to the flood warning on TV. She was shortly joined by neighbors who were also concerned about the rising waters.

All were awake in Albright that night. Old-timers knew the danger, although there hadn't been a problem for more than 40 years.

Water from the Cheat River was creeping over its banks. It washed up the hill in waves, past the post office, cutting off the town from its neighbors.

Janet raced upstairs, gathered their daughter in a blanket and joined Imre, who had returned by this time in a company bus packed with rafting records. Their only refuge was the Albright School because of its high location. They waited through the night and the next day.

Then, on Wednesday, they left the schoolhouse in a cold rain and faced the truth. Their street, once tree-lined and residential, looked like a war zone. The brick post office was gone, as were five houses.

Janet and Imre's house, still on its foundation, was held secure by a deep-rooted sycamore. Their neighbor's house was off its mooring. Everywhere they faced broken glass, torn shutters and clapboards; river mud oozed from window ledges. A high-water line was visible beneath the second story window.

In the hall, the piano lay on its side, its keycover torn off. Neither Janet nor Imre spoke. They both knew that the pride of their household had floated for two days in river water.

Janet recalled the first time she had seen the piano. It was 7 years earlier. She and Imre had returned from a weekend of work on the river to find her mother, Carol Ramey, and the \$8,000 Yamaha grand in her living room. Weeks of secret negotiations and quiet logistics had been a success for Imre, who had requested the purchase by Carol. Janet was happily stunned.

Cleanup was a tame word for the work that followed. Four West Virginia river had overflowed and townspeople had nicknamed them "the killing waters".

Carol and John drove from Akron on Thursday to help their children. John, a professor of social work at the University of Akron, mobilized the family cleanup. They worked for four days. Piles of debris were hauled away by truck.

Janet and Imre fretted about the piano. Friends and neighbors told them to 'get rid of it'. But they left it where it rested, shoveling the mud around it.

On their way back to Akron that Sunday, John Ramey stopped in Washington, PA, and placed a call to a working telephone in Albright. "Tell Janet Szilagyi that her piano is worth trying to save, and that I'll do the work on it," his message stated. "Don't give it up."

When the Szilagyi got the message, Imre decided that if his father-in-law was willing to try to salvage the Yamaha, it was their job to move it to Akron. By Thanksgiving Day, the piano sat in the Ramey's garage, still covered inside and out with chalky, corrosive mud.

"I didn't know where to begin," John says. I started with a trowel, a bucket and a brush." It had three weeks of baths before the Rameys moved it to their living room where the hard work could begin.

With the advice of Harry Kepler, Jr., a well-known local piano tuner and technician who had restored numerous other pianos, none in this state of damage, though, John began the tedious job of restoration, perhaps wondering many times the wisdom of his decision to consent to the work. Through the weeks that followed, the piano was dismantled piece by piece. Each part was removed, cleaned and replaced if required.

Eventually patience paid off in large dividends - the piano was once again in 'like-new' condition. It has now been moved back to the Szilagyi household where Janet once again sits before the keyboard playing melodies in the Old-world and European tradition.

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W E D D I N G S

GARY WAYNE COCO, JR., son of Gary Wayne, Sr., and Donna Faye McBrayer Coco, of Jacksonville, AR, was married June 29, 1987, to Suzie Lancaster.

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Wedding vows were exchanged June 26 in the St. Teresa's Catholic Church, Harrah, OK, by EVELYN BERNICE MCBRAYER and RUSSELL EDWARD DULL, both of Harrah, The Rev. James Murphy officiated.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. McBrayer of Midwest City, OK, and Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Dull, Harrah.

Honor attendants were Deby Peterson and Ronnie Trent. Others were Roxanne Gerchman, Janice Dull, Dean Dull, Jack McBrayer, Sam Gerchman and Aaron Knapp.

The couple will live in Harrah.

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TINA LYNN TACKETT and RICHARD A. TOTH of Lorain, OH, were married April 18, 1987, in The Hungarian

Reform Church - United Church of Christ, Lorain, OH. Tina is the grand-daughter of Martha Klaiber Cox of Catlettsburg, KY, daughter of the late James M. and Julina Klaiber, the grand-daughter of John A. and Mary Ann McBrayer Klaiber. The couple spent ten days honeymooning in Hawaii.

Richard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Toth of Lorain. He is employed by the Mazda Auto Company. They are residing in Flat Rock, Mich.

(Information by Martha K. Cox.)

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OBITUARIES

I N M E M O R Y O F:

This is a sad occasion and a difficult article to compose. The McBair Family has lost one of the greatest supporters of the family heritage who ever lived.

Through many years she possessed a desire to assist her husband in his quest for the answers to our history and accompanied him on virtually every excursion he made in that search. She was a constant companion and an important aspect in his continuing hunt. Her encouragement of Skipper, along with his intense drive, has allowed us, their kin, to enjoy the fruits of their endeavors.

She is now with her beloved Skipper and the many ancestors whom she helped search for.

VERONA LENORE "DUTCH" METZ MCBRAYER died May 28, 1987, in Seattle, WA. She was born December 18, 1890, in Wapakoneta, OH.

Private entombment was in the Acacia Mausoleum in Seattle, WA.

CARL HENRY "SKIPPER" MCBRAYER preceded his wife in death on 14 March 1974. They were married 10 Nov 1910 in Wichita Falls, TX.

Dutch was loved by all and will be greatly missed by each of us, but we know she is happy in her new, final home.

Let us all remember her selfless contributions to the family and give thanks for a truly

wonderful person and cousin.

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GENEVA LOU BRIER

RIALTO, CA. - Geneva Lou Brier, 58, passed away May 7, 1987, in San Bernardino.

She was born in Yuba City, AZ, and was a member of the League of Women Voters and the Mended Hearts Support Group of St. Bernardine Medical Center.

She was a member of the Highland Congregational Church.

Survivors include her husband, ROBERT M. BRIER of Rialto; two daughters, VALERIE JEAN BASS and her husband, DONAVIN of Beaverton, OR, and MARIE ELLEN BRIER of Denver, CO; brother, K. RAYMOND RHODES of San Bernardino; sister, VESTA SUE RHODES of New York City; one granddaughter, DANIELLE STEPHANIE BASS of Beaverton, OR; sister-in-law, VIRGINIA LEE BRIER of Rialto.

Memorial service was held Monday, May 11, 1987, at the McNearney Mortuary Chapel with DR. G.W. ABERSOLD, of the Highland Congregational Church, officiating.

(Information provided by VIRGINIA BRIER.)

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CHARLES MARION MCBRAYER

CHARLES MARION MCBRAYER, 88, of Gadsden, AL, died Friday, June 12, 1987, in a local hospital.

Survivors include: wife, ERMA VARNON MCBRAYER; sons, BOBBY, of Gadsden, BETHEL of Geraldine, AL, CHARLES, Crossville, AL, CLIFFORD, Anniston, AL; daughters, JUDY JENKINS, Gadsden, NAOMI CROFT, Crossville, ETHEL OLIVER, Albertville, AL, ELSIE GILBERT, Cocoa, FL, DELORIS MCDOWELL, Anniston, RUTH GRUDGER, Calhoun, GA.

Graveside services were held Sunday, June 14 at the Rainbow Memorial Gardens with the REV. DENNIS JOHNSON officiating.

Other survivors included 25 grandchildren; 43 great-grandchildren; six great-great grand

children.

Mr. McBrayer was a native of Gadsden, AL, and a lifelong member of the Baptist church. He was retired from Republic Steel after 19 years of service.

(data provided by R.B. MCBRAYER)

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DONNA JEAN MCBRIAR

DONNA JEAN MCBRIAR, daughter-in-law of GEORGE MCBRIAR, Oshkosh, Wisc., passed away May 19, 1987, in Oshkosh, Wisc.

Survivors include: husband, ROBERT GEORGE MCBRIAR; daughters, AMY, BRENDA, TRUDI; son, SCOTT ROBERT; father, ROBERT EULRICH.

Services were held at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church with REV. MEIER officiating. Burial was at the Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh, Wisc.

She was employed as a cashier and computer operator at Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh.

(Information provided by GEORGE MCBRIAR)

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JOHN LINDSEY FANNIN

JOHN LINDSEY FANNIN died April 15, 1987, in Carpentaria, CA. He had been with his grand-daughter KATHY TEPPER since Sept. 1986. Before that he had resided in Terre Haute, IN. He is the son of MIRIAM KLAIBER and BELVARD C. FANNIN, grandson of JOHN A., and MARY ANN MCBRAYER KLAIBER. Burial was in the Bee Ridge Cemetery in Brazil, IN. John's brother, MILLARD FANNIN, died in Sept. 1986.

(Information provided by MARTHA K. COX.)

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DELBERT MCBRAYER

DELBERT MCBRAYER, Williston, SC, died at his home on March 31, 1987. He had suffered an overdose of radiation in 1955 while helping in

the Aiken, SC, bomb plant. He was buried near his sister, NELL, in Williston.

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EFFIE MCBRAYER

EFFIE MCBRAYER, wife of HOWARD MCBRAYER, St Marys, West Virginia, died in Dec. 1986.

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BLONDIE L. MCBRAYER WHITE

BLONDIE L. MCBRAYER WHITE, Rossville, GA, died June 4, 1987. Services were held June 6 at Lane's South Crest Chapel in Rossville (?) with interment in the Tennessee-Georgia Memorial Park. Rev. Gary Grogg officiated the services. Pallbearers were Greg White, Mike Pineda, Greg McBrayer, Steve McBrayer, Jamie McBrayer and George McBrayer. "She was very proud of our heritage, and we will all miss her patience, courage, and love," writes her nephew, James McBrayer, Ringgold, GA.

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REV. DAVID MCBRAYER

REV. DAVID C. MCBRAYER, 57, of Marietta, GA, died Friday, May 1, 1987.

Funeral Services were held Sunday, May 3, at the Milford Church of God in Marietta with Rev. Charles Davis, Rev. Steve Brown, Dr. Robert Fisher and Rev. Clarence Busby officiating.

Graveside services were conducted at 4:30 p.m. at the Buchanan Church of God cemetery. Nephews, elders and officers of the Milford Church of God and fellow ministers served as pallbearers.

McBrayer was formerly pastor of Tallapoosa Church of God, Nashville (Ga.) Church of God, Atlanta Northside Church of God, Fitzgerald Church of God, LaFayette Church of God, East Atlanta Church of God, Valdosta Church of God, McDonnough Church of God and the Milford Church of God for the past 10 years.

He served several years as a district pastor, and was a member of the state council - the highest state board of his denomination - and was known for his ministry to other ministers and to the broken and hurting.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Fletcher McBrayer of Marietta; one son, Stephen Andrew of Powder Springs, Ga.; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin V. McBrayer of Buchanan, Ga.; six sisters, Janet Conrad of Woodstock, Ga., Maxie Thomas of Jonesboro, Ga., Charlotte Golliam of Buchanan, Imogene Evans of Mableton, Ga., Martha Puckett and Margaret Sampson, both of Dallas, Ga.; four brothers, Terrell McBrayer of Canton, Ga., Van McBrayer of Buchanan, Jerry and Dr. Danny McBrayer, both of Atlanta. Also three grandchildren. (information provided by Terrell McBrayer.)

* * *

UNKNOWN CONNECTIONS

Listed below are a number of various records for which no connection has been established. These are printed herein in hopes that someone can help discover who these individuals are and where they fit into the family. If anyone can identify these 'cousins', please, let me know.

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William A. McBrayer and Harriett Adkins, married 11 March 1847 by James H. Neel, J.P. License issued on 9 March 1847. St. Clair Co., AL.

John Young McBrayer and Eliza A. Pierce, married by E.J. Robinson at the bride's home in St. Clair Co., AL, on 5 Nov 1881.

Rachel I. McBrayer and John C.R. Ash, married by P.S. Montgomery, M.G., 6 Oct 1870, St. Clair Co., AL

James A. McBrayer and Dorcus Ann Jones, married by Eli D. Newton, J.P., 5 Aug 1856 in St. Clair Co., AL.

America M. McBrayer and John T. Pearson, married by S.B. McBrayer,

J.P., 22 Feb 1866, St. Clair Co., AL. (A. Merecia and John F. Pearson - St Clair Co. Court records - John F. underage, consent given in writing by his parents. A.M. is of lawful age. Neither have been married before (21 Feb 1866) John A. Zellens, Judge Probate Court, Pg 126 St. Clair Co. Court Records.).

John G. McBrayer and Rachel Isabelle Scoggins, married by Eli D. Newton, J.P., 22 July 1855 in St. Clair Co., AL.

Boyd McBrayer and Eva Mae Thomas, married in Etowah Co., AL. Record book P, pg 208.

James W. McBrayer and Harrie J. Parrish, married 14 May 1914 by J.T. Williams, M.G. (Book s, pg 500) Etowah Co., AL.

Stella McBrayer and W.E. McClesky, married (book 2, pg 457) Etowah Co., AL.

Grady L. McBrayer and Mary Dowd, married (book 6, pg 564) Etowah Co., AL.

Anthony McBrayer and Eve Gibson, marrie 4 Jan 1882 by Rufus Croft in Etowah Co., AL, certified by Aushing (?) McBrayer and S.W. Cowan.

J.W. McBrayer and Lillie Ashley, married Jan 9, 1907 by T.R. Samson, M.G., Etowah Co, AL.

James Weaver and Reba McBrayer, married 6 Jan 1940 by Rev. Curtis Stevenson, Etowah Co., AL.

Susan McBrayer and Elisha Smith married by Rev. M.M. Roberts on 5 Aug 1869 in Lumpkin Co., GA.

Nasti McBrayer and Newton W. Satterfield, married by J.H. Satterfield, J.P., 24 Dec 1876, Lumpkin Co., GA.

Ellen McBrayer and James R. Dobbs, married by John Sietz on 2 Feb 1883 in Lumpkin Co., GA.

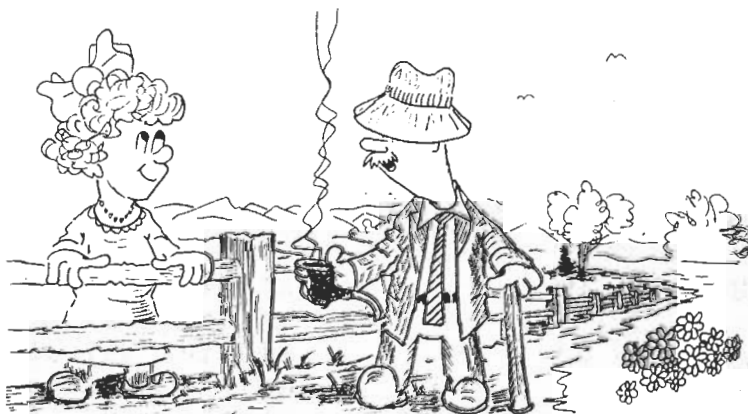
Cathrine McBryer, married Francis Moore, 29 Mar 1866 in Rutherford Co., NC.

Elizabeth McBryar, married Moses W. McDaniel, 28 Feb 1861 in Rutherford Co., NC.

William McBrayer married Sarah Dye, 11 Jan 1841 in Rutherford Co., NC. Bondsman and witness: Peter Jolly and S. Wilkins

W.J. Wilkie and Delila McBrayer, married 25 Jan 1859 in Rutherford Co., NC.

Francis Moore and Mrs. Catherine McBrayer (widow), married 29 Mar 1866 by A.W. Harrill, J.P., Rutherford Co, NC.



Aye, Lass, A McBrair I be!

Carl Sez



Many thanks to each of you who have sent update information. I have received so many letters during the past couple of months, the task of naming each person is impossible. I want you to know, though, that your help is appreciated - not only by me but by everyone who is interested in our family heritage. Your data will be in the next update of our family history.

Have you checked your subscription expiration date???? You may notice that your date has been extended. The reason being - David McBrayer has sent all the renewals and new subscriptions he received in 1985 and 1986. If you had renewed with David during that period I credited your subscription for the additional copies. If the ATTN line on your address label reads SEPT 87 or 870909 this will be the last issue of ID you will receive until a renewal has been received.

Volume II of THE MCBRAIR FAMILY will be forthcoming in a few months.

The following information in this copy of ID pertains to a national family reunion, the establishment of a memorial fund and the formation of the family association. All of these items need to be addressed immediately. Urgent participation is necessary from each member of this family.

* * * * *

NATIONAL REUNION PLANNED

by Alan R. McBrayer

We are pleased to announce that plans are under way for a national family reunion. This reunion is tentative scheduled for October,

1988, in Western North Carolina near the original homestead of David and Delila McBrayer. (The date of the reunion may be adjusted to conform to the schedules of families with school-age children.) Information on accommodations and nearby scenic attractions will be sent within the next three or four months to all McBrayers for whom I have an address. There will be a nominal registration fee to cover the costs of refreshments, entertainment, hall rental, etc. Anyone wishing to help or place their name on the mailing list should contact me at the address below as soon as possible or call 1-704-525-4525. Donations toward meeting the initial expenses of planning will be greatly appreciated.

Alan McBrayer
1320 Heather Lane
Charlotte, NC
28209

(ed note) Alan McBrayer was elected in 1986 as the Chairman of the North Carolina Branch of the McBrayer Family (reunion). In a recent telephone conversation Alan expressed his desire to expand next year's gathering to encompass the national family. Hence his personal volunteering to host such an event. In order for this to be a success, though, as with any other family project, cooperation and help must be forthcoming from members of this family. How about some help for him? Names and addresses, assistance in contacting others. donations to help cover expenses (mailing, etc.) - any help will be appreciated.

This is OUR opportunity!!!! Let's not pass it by. Why not begin now planning a vacation around this gathering? If you have never been to the mountains of western NC, you don't know what you have been missing. Go once and you will want to go back a second time. You will see the majestic beauty that lured our forefathers to this country. Think about it!

* * * * *

MEMORIAL FUND STARTED

An article several years ago in Ethel Koller's newsletter triggered an intense interest for Terrel McBrayer of Canton, Georgia. That interest was then carried with him and his brother, Rev. David C. McBrayer, as they journeyed to their forefather's homeland of Scotland a few months later.

The article in mention pertained to the old Church of St. Michael's in Dumfries. In the early years the McBrayers were prominent supporters of the church and even had an aisle within the church dedicated to them. It was under this aisle that many of our ancestors were laid to rest.

During the late 1700s or early 1800s the bones of these ancestors were disinterred and were removed to a 'common grave' in the outside churchyard. There they were unceremoniously deposited - left for future generations to ponder over - in an 'unmarked' piece of earth.

Terrell and David were so moved by the article and from visiting the site in mention, they immediately began a personal endeavor. The following is a letter Terrell has since mailed to numerous family members and is reprinted here that each might read and, hopefully, be so inspired as to become equally involved and dedicated to contributing to this project which will eventually recognize and honor our forefathers.

- - - - -

July 8, 1987

Dear Folks:

My brother, Rev. David Columbus McBrayer, has completed his earthly journey, and moved on to Glory last May 1. Just two years ago David and I travelled to Europe and Scotland and I shall always cherish this time together. David gave generously toward the family plaque for St. Michael's, and was very interested in the family heritage.

He was with me when the project was mentioned to Rev. Pagan, the pastor. Our most gracious host, Mrs. May Roberts, was also with us, and has been our link to St. Michael's all along.

Once we returned from our trip to Scotland, I brought the matter of a memorial to our branch, the DRAKETOWN (GA) MCBRAYERS. With their approval I then sent letters to over 100 McBrayers all over the USA. Since contributions were received only from our branch I recommended to our group that we go ahead and limit the project to our branch. However, in subsequent communications I learned that there CAN BE ONLY ONE MEMORIAL FROM THE ENTIRE MCBRAYER FAMILY IN AMERICA. Also, I heard from Dr. Ben McBrayaer that he had already started a project and that it couldn't be done until a formal family organization was formed. When I started the project I had heard nothing of anyone else starting it, and I have read the family newsletters carefully. I am not meaning to be contrary, and if someone else will do it that we can depend on, I will gladly prefer them. But I have received a number of letters of concern that I go ahead with the project lest we keep delaying on and on.

On the matter of the formal family organization, I sent a carefully thought out response with specific suggestions to Dr. Ben McBrayer, but I haven't gotten any feedback from him. I think it is time to move ahead. I wrote Ben several months ago that if he didn't take the initiative, I would recommend to our branch that we do so, (now) and invite others to join us.

My recommendation is that since there can be only one memorial at St. Michael's, that we broaden the project to include all who want to participate, that we extend the time period for one year, till Aug 1, 1987, and that we offer to work jointly with Dr. Ben McBrayer if he agrees to these conditions. I further recommend that we authorize our officers to move forward with a formal organization, with an invitation to all others to join

with us now or later. Our officers may appoint others to assist as needed.

Yours for unity and action,

Terrell McBrayer
Route 10, Box 170
Valley Ridge Drive
Canton, GA. 30114

(ED NOTE) In addition Terrell has volunteered to chair this fund-raising task. Let us ALL work with him on it. Since the above letter was mailed the annual Draketown McBrayer-Leathers reunion was held. Dr. Ben and Helene drove up from Florida to attend and met with Terrell to discuss his ideas and proposals. The following notice was recently received from Ben for inclusion in this issue of ID.

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On July 19 Helene and I attended the McBrayer-Leathers Family reunion at Draketown, Georgia, to join them in celebrating the Centennial of this part of our family and to discuss with them the future of the proposed family association, as well as renewing our association with this group whom we last visited six years ago. Following a social time and an elaborate pot-luck dinner, the business meeting was called to order in the sanctuary of the Draketown Baptist Church under the able direction of co-Chairmen Bill and Durette McBrayer, reports given and I was given the opportunity of discussing the proposed formation of the McBrayer Family Association briefly. All previously mailed materials had already been studied. They were well aware of our planning. Rev. Terrell McBrayer made a motion, and it passed, that the Draketown organization cooperate fully with me in this project, forward their suggestions to me, and if possible have a representative attend a meeting later this year to help form a temporary organization which would then be presented to all available family members for their consideration and hopefully their

approval. It is hoped that this can be accomplished this fall and perhaps be brought to final culmination at a National Meeting in 1988 where we would expect to have McBrayers from all sections of the country.

To me this meeting was very encouraging since it is the first time we have had a local group completely endorse our plans. I am grateful to the people of Draketown. I am so anxious to see this association come to life that I will make myself available for discussion at other meetings if it is possible and at least respond to your letters and inquiries. TO BE SUCCESSFUL it will take a concerted effort. Let us hear from you.

MAY I HEAR FROM YOU WITH ENCOURAGEMENT AND HELP!!!!

THANK YOU

Dr. Ben McBrayer
2348 SW Pony Ridge Dr.
Dunnellon, FL. 32630

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**IT IS EITHER NOW OR NEVER!!!
WE MUST EITHER FORM OUR UNIFIED
ASSOCIATION AND COOPERATE TOGETHER
OR WE CAN FORGET IT. IT'S YOUR
DECISION!!!!!!**

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The following is not presented as a finished product in preparing a Constitution for the MacBair Family Association, but as a working tool from which a final proposal can be prepared. It contains some suggestions that have been sent in by various members.

THE MACBRAIR FAMILY CONSTITUTION

Article I. The organization shall be called THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION.

Article II. The objectives of the Association shall be:

- a. The promotion and preservation of a spirit of kin and fellowship within the FAMILY.
- b. The collection and preservation of the history, traditions, and landmarks of the FAMILY.
- c. To compile, maintain and preserve a roll of all known family members.
- d. To assist with the research and correlation of family genealogies.
- e. To publish a quarterly newsletter with pertinent historical and current information concerning the family.
- f. To promote and encourage regional and national reunions.
- g. To establish memorials in places of historical family events (i.e. St. Michael's Cathedral in Dumfries, Scotland).

Article III. Membership in the ASSOCIATION shall be open to:

- a. Those having the surname of MacBair and various spellings of the name.
- b. Those who can trace their ancestry to the families in Scotland and Ireland known as MacBair, MacBrayer, Makbrar, and subsequently as McBrayer, **McBair**, Brier, Briar, and similar names.
- c. Those with connections with the above by blood or marriage, irregardless of the generation in which such connection took place.
- d. Honorary memfbership may be granted to persons giving meritorious service to the FAMILY.

Article IV. The Headquarters for the Association shall be located at ?? (Subject to discussion).

Article V. Officers of the ASSOCIATION shall be:

- a. President (Chief), Vice President (Vice Chief), and an Executive Council consisting of regional representatives from all areas in which there are family members. (Numbers, regions and method of election must be worked out.)
- b. The Executive Council shall elect a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- c. The President shall appoint committees with the approval of the Executive Council. Any member of the Family shall be eligible to serve on a committee. Committees shall include: Editorial, Genealogical, National and Regional Reunions, Membership, and others as determined as necessary.
- d. Terms of Officers (to be determined)(method of election to be determined)
- e. Duties of Officers (to be determined and outlined)

Article VI. Dues shall be of two catagories and wach will included:

- a. Annual subscription to the newsletter.
- b. Annual Dues (amount to be determined. Shall there be a division into active and retired persons? Both age groups will be active members.)
- c. Lifetime members (amount to be determined)

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There will be much more to discuss, changes to be made, and difficult decisions to make. Encourage participation. Ask others for opinions.

10WAT