



MACBRAIR/ERIER Brayer

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM DR. TERRELL MCBRAYER, EDITOR

Dear Cousins:

I cherish the opportunity to share with you again through this newsletter! In this issue you will find words from Dr. Ben, news from Ethel, news of new findings from Dorothy, a reminder of some reunions, and more.

May I encourage you to nurture your FAMILY ties. Our main concern should always be our immediate household, and households of faith. But, there is a special need to renew and maintain our extended family relationships. Of course, always we keep in mind that we are kin to all mankind, and therefore view all as our NEIGHBORS as we can help.

One of my dreams continues to be the continuing development of our extended family ties. My prayer is that we have your support. Here are some parts of my dream:

1. Membership growth of 122 new members in the MacBrair Family Association as soon as you read this article! Our latest list from Ethel shows we have 78 members, and this means 122 of you are receiving this newsletter will want to do your part by sending your \$10.00 in order to extend our efforts to keep our great family tradition alive.
2. Demonstrate that we can have unity with diversity. Our family, of all families, should cherish the right to be different. Let's just try not to be too cantankerous.
3. Broaden the base of leadership. We have some great talent yet untapped -- these people have track records and some now have time to help us develop the FAMILY COUNCIL. Let Ben hear from you if he hasn't already. DON'T be TIMID -- come on out!! We don't have time to woo you beyond this and other things that we are doing.
4. Demonstrate that we can forgive ourselves and others when we goof. I overlooked some information sent by Carl in the last issue. I kicked my own rear, and I am still repenting. But I will not let any failure stop me from going on! Our past is precious, and our cause is too important for our human failures to stop us! We simply must show our children that we will be big enough to forgive each other often and let nothing stop good things from going forward!
5. Give our leaders our support. Ben is giving a large part of his life to our family heritage and our dear Ethel is also giving herself and sacrificing to keep our heritage alive. I cried when I read again her letter stating she was sending \$200. to Lockerbie, Scotland, in the name of the MacBrair Family in America.

Love, *Terrell*

Dr. Terrell McBrayer,
MACBRAIR FAMILY NEWSLETTER
418 ALLATOONA WAY
WOODSTOCK, GA. 30188

Robert and Elizabeth McBrayer
952 Old Goddard
Lincoln Park, MI 48178

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Woodstock, Ga
Permit No. 58

This is a little apart from the previous discussion, so I will put it on a separate page. As you may know, Dorothy Anthony has just located another family member. His name is Reid W. Stewart, minister, Dormont Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa. Dorothy saw the mention of a book that the Rev. Stewart had just written and in the advertising blurb there was mention of McBrayer so she bought a copy. To her very great surprise, there were her direct ancestors, David McBrayer and his wife Elizabeth Carmichael. They are the ancestors of the Rev. Reid Stewart, also. This David was the brother to our William.* When we put together our Brier History in 1956, we knew of David and Elizabeth but they had five daughters and there our record ended. Dorothy Anthony and I became acquainted because we both advertised in the Genealogical Helper. Small world.

Dorothy sent me the book published by Reid Stewart. The title is A History of Scottish Dissenting Presbyterianism in Franklin Co, Pa. 1987. Price \$6.00 plus \$1.00 for postage. His address is 2958 Espy Pittsburg 15216-2119.

Another co-incidence. The name of his church is Dormont Presbyterian Church, Dormont, Pa. Ben, you will recall Nigel Carruthers from the first dinner meeting that we had at the Station Hotel during our first family tour, and that Nigel Carruthers was there as a special honoured guest of our family. Their family estate is Dormont, and it adjoins Almagil and the correct address is Lockerbie, not Annan. Nigel Carruthers wrote to me in 1970 that his ancestors stole our Almagil and Haliday Hill properties from the widow of Archibald McBrair. What is of special interest to me is that name. Dormont. According to the National Geo. Atlas, there is no town in Scotland bearing this name and there is only the one Dormont in the U.S. Carruthers had a very solid religious background and it will be interesting to discover, if anyone knows the reason for the naming of the town. There is room for speculation here.

I have written to Dorothy to ask if she will put together some info regarding the ^{STEWART} Steart connection for the Family Association Newsletter.

It almost seems as though we have access here to more family.

Yours Aye

Ethel

*The repetition of family names leads to confusion. The David mentioned above was brother to our William McBrayer, the emigrant ancestor.

WORDS ABOUT THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The official name of our family association is;
 "The MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION , INCORPORATED" and any person who can trace their ancestry to the families in Scotland and Ireland known as MacBrair, MacBrayer, Makbrar and subsequently as McBrayer, McBrair, McBriar, McBrier, Brier, Briar, and similar names are eligible for membership in the family group. Not only are they welcome but we strongly urge all to join and help guide the destiny and future of a proud family and to preserve in perpetuity a beautiful and strong heritage of the past. We must not let personal feelings and prejudices interfere with our participation, an active member can always express their opinions, ideas and hopes for what they prefer and by their vote become a part of the decision making process to determine our course. This may not be the best way to open this message but it does need saying. This is not an organization for any one individual but a group for ALL OF US who come from the same heritage.

It was hoped that we would have a Family tour to Scotland in 1989 but for several reasons it was impossible to arrange it, partly due to poor timing, failure to start soon enough in planning, and insufficient response. A questionnaire was sent out to a representative group of family members concerning the feasibility and conduct of a tour and those answers are now being studied and will be discussed so that we can make our planning efforts more meaningful. An announcement will be made in the fall issue of the Newsletter that will give the details. I can tell you that about 80% of the questionnaires were returned by the deadline date and 100% were in favor of a tour, 72% felt they should be on a biannual basis, 93% felt we should emphasize those areas where we have family ties but also urged some visits to other areas of Scotland, 93% felt we should include the area of ^{as an option} Ireland where we have ancestral ties and all agreed that we should have a deadline for reservations with a deposit at least 70 days in advance of departure date. The last item was included since it is necessary for us to make a group deposit to the airline to hold a block of seats at least 60 days in advance. More of our decision will come in the next newsletter as well as a set date for a tour in 1990. If you have comments send them to me .

I am hoping to see some of you at reunions this summer and fall but at present cannot promise just where I will be able to arrange my schedule (and make my budget stretch). I do want to see as many MACBRAIR's as possible and will welcome letters and Promise you an answer as soon as possible.

There are two persons who I wish to pay particular attention to and thank them for their help which is invaluable to all of us. Terrel McBrayer who does such a marvelous job in preparing our newsletter, is our current Vice Chief and also is our registered agent for the Association, making him a valuable cog in our family. Ethel Brier Koller is our Secretary-Treasurer, one of our most astute historians and sources of information particularly about Scotland and the family origins. They both deserve a lot of credit for the progress we have made to date. There are many others but I will save them for later reports.

To those of you who have not yet joined the Association let me urge you to do so and help us make this the organization it deserves to be. Those of us who are now in office are but TEMPORARY custodians of these offices for YOU and want your help, your trust, and your assumption of the control and destiny of the organization. We welcome your comments, your criticisms, your ideas, but most of all we welcome YOU. I am sure Terrel will have as a part of this letter a form which will help you know and where to send your application for membership which includes subscription to the newsletter.

To each of you I extend the hand of fellowship, of family, and hope to become better acquainted with each of you.

Sincerely yours and best wishes for all,

Ben

Benj.E.McBrayer M.D.
 23488 S.W.Pony Ridge Dr.
 Rainbow lakes Est.
 Dunnellon. Fl. 32630

STEVE BUTLER (William, David, Samuel) was honored by 75 family members at a buffet lunch get together on Sunday, April 30, 1989 at Mt. Hamilton Co. Park, In Santa Clara just a few miles from where Steve was born in 1902.

Descendants of David McBrayer (1st gen.) who don't carry the name.

David McBrayer, one of the three brothers of the first generation to come to Pennsylvania from Ireland or Scotland, according to his will had only five daughters who grew to adulthood and married.

Mary married Robert Sloan; Susannah married James Carmichael, Elizabeth married Samuel Peden; Martha Jane who married Charles Robinson and Esther who married Andrew Reed/Reid.

Descendants have finally been located on the Sloan, Carmichael, Peden and Reed lines and hopefully Robinson descendants can also be found.

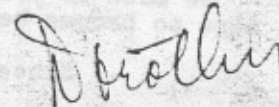
Some branches of some of the children can be brought down to the present. Most are in Pennsylvania and Ohio before the 20th Century.

Among allied families in the Carmichaels are Guthrie, McFarland, Ayers and Trotter; among Sloans are Steele, Cowden, McCleton, McLaughlin, Christy, Alcorn and Jackson; Pedens have Reids, their cousins; and Esther and Andrew Reid have Mitchell, Ross, Stewart, Douglas, McCleery, Parker and Caldwell.

Information on other related families is sought and any information available is for anyone who wishes it. Though these people lost the McBrayer name early they are just as much a part of the 'clan' as the male lines which are more easy to identify.

I am sending ^{above} a few grafs on the females' lines of David that you might put in the newsletter for the benefit of any descendants of "old" David if there are any I haven't been in touch with. They can contact me for explicit information, dates, places and family stories on any we have been able to locate if they like. I will eventually get it all together and send to Carl for the computer.

Sincerely



143 Main St., W. Farmington, Oh. 44791 Dorothy Sloan Anthony

REUNIONS AROUND THE COUNTRY

- West Va..... Contact Roy McBrayer at Route 1, Box 186, Summersville, W. Va., 26651.
- Kentucky Contact James Earl McBrayer, RR5, Box 306, Morehead, Ky., 40351 or phone 1-606-784-7914.
- Draketown, Ga.... The annual McBrayer-Leathers Family Reunion scheduled for the third Sunday in July each year held at the Draketown Baptist Church will begin with a morning service at the picturesque church. A covered-dish meal is served at noon. This reunion is for the descendents of John McBrayer, who went to Ga. in 1820. Contact Bill McBrayer, 12445 King Rd., Roswell, Ga., Phone 404-642-1840.
- Villa Rica, GA... The reunion secretary is Mildred Howell at 1212 Morningside Dr., NE, Gainesville, Ga. 30501.
- Eastern Okla..... Contact is Bill McBrayer, 1306 Meadow Lane, Bartlesville, Ok.
- Tennessee..... Contact Judy McBrayer Sparks, Route 11, Morganton Rd., Maryville, Tn. 37801 usually held last Saturday in July

Cost of 3/1/89 Newsletter

EXPENDITURES: 3/1/89 Issue (200 letters, 6 pages)

Duplicating Costs (paper, toner, etc.)	\$60.00
Postage	33.40
Clerical Costs	25.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 118.40

Please note: The costs of this mailout will be shown in the next newsletter. Monies for subscriptions are now mailed to Ethel Koller, 3100 College Ave., Berkeley, Ca. 94706. Ethel is our Sec. Treas. She has opened an account for the newsletter. The amt. on hand 3/31/89 was \$836.39. Make checks to MacBrair Family Assoc. If you haven't remitted since Oct., 1988, this issue should fulfill your present subscription. If I have made a mistake, or if someone has remitted for more than one year in advance, please let us know. We don't want to cheat anyone, but we can make mistakes. Just let us know. Send \$10.00 for membership & subscription.

CORRESPONDENTS NEEDED: We welcome news of common interests, such as outstanding achievements, reunions, "lost tribes," deaths, etc. We need news from those of you who contributed when Carl was editor. Unfortunately, I don't have time for individual acknowledgement or personal correspondence. I hope you understand - The deadlines for news are: 8/25, 11/24, 2/23, 5/25.

Dumfries Memorial Fund \$1,374.75

THANKS: Two of my sisters go the second mile to help me with part of the work on the Family Newsletter: Jeanette Conrad and Martha Puckett. We keep the costs as low as possible, but we have had to pay for some help in some of the typing. I am now putting the Newsletter on computer so that maybe the typing costs can be reduced.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR NEWSLETTER

Please enter my subscription and membership. Enclosed is _____ (\$10.00 per year/4 issues, includes membership)

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE _____ () _____

Return to Ethel MacBrair Koller, 3100 College Ave. Berkeley, CA 94705

PENNSYLVANIA

13

PENNSYLVANIA

William McBrayer, 1st generation, and David McBrayer, 1st generation, supposedly brothers, came from Scotland, presumably from Dumfriesshire or surrounding counties in the early part of the seventeenth century, and settled in Franklin county, Pennsylvania. There were also about this same time McBrayers in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, probably named Nathaniel, but we have not traced these.

The earliest record we have of William and David is found in a History of Cumberland, Franklin, and other counties, published in 1846 at Lancaster, Pennsylvania by Gilbert Hills—with appendix. Among the taxables for 1751 in Antrim township, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, were William McBriar and David McBriar, page 459. Mention is also made in other places in this History of David and William.

Page 484 of this History says the first settlers were Scotch. The same History places David and William among the taxables in Hamilton township, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, 1786. In the census of 1890 the same History gave William and wife, all children evidently grown with families of their own.

DAVID MCBRAYER, first generation, married Elizabeth—maiden name unknown. See deed from David McBrayer and his wife Elizabeth McBrayer to Andrew Reed, dated February 5th, 1770, and registered in Vol. I, Book C, page 53. Register of Deeds, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, at Carlisle, the county seat.

David and his wife, Elizabeth had issue:

Three girls whose husbands were probably Andrew Reed, James McKee and James Potter.

See will of David McBrayer, Book of Wills B, Will No. 45, page 83. The executors of this will were his wife, Elizabeth McBrayer, James McKee and James Potter. The will is dated Jan. 18, 1771, and the letters of administration were issued March 6, 1771. See Clerk of Court's office, Carlisle, Cumberland County, Province of Pennsylvania. So this seems proof that David of the first generation died sometime between Jan. 18, and March 6, 1771. He apparently leaving no male heirs to carry on the name we have made no attempt to trace his descendants further.

WILLIAM MCBRAYER

WILLIAM MCBRAYER, 1st generation in America, was born in Scotland, probably in Dumfriesshire or Galloway, in 1702, and died in Franklin County, Pennsylvania in 1795.