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# IN DEFIANCE



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## THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION McBRAYER / BRIER / MAKBRAR

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VOLUME 4, NO. 4

OCTOBER 1993

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### *FROM THE CHIEF.....*

This is a very difficult report to give as you will learn as you read it. Shortly after the last issue of "IN DEFIANCE" was mailed, we received the news that our ex-Editor and staunch supporter of our organization, Charles W. McBrayer\*(157), had passed away. We had known that Chuck was in poor health with a heart condition, but that did not spare the shock that he was no longer with us in person. He will always be remembered as a loyal and loving husband of Philille\* and a good father. We will remember him for his contributions to the FAMILY and will miss him. We extend our sympathy to those he has left behind and know that he awaits them in the Heavenly home where he now abides. (Editor's note: Please see additional details below.)

Then the next blow hit. On August 1st, following a short trip back to Colorado, I called Ethel Koller \*(752) as was my custom on a routine basis, only to have the call answered by her daughter who informed me that Ethel had passed away suddenly a few days before. The conversation from that point on still is cloudy to me because of the shock of the news. I am sure that in my muddled mind at the time I was not totally coherent in my thoughts or properly sympathetic to her family. On September 13, I received a phone call from Ethel's daughter, Christine McNeil, who was able to give me some details. Ethel passed away on Saturday morning, July 24, 1993. She had been reading on the roof of her apartment building ( a favorite spot), evidently felt a pain, stood up and fell dead. A massive heart attack caused instant death. The graveside service was held very soon and Ethel was laid to rest beside her husband Charles

Everett Koller in the Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno, CA. I can say that the loss of Ethel has been a great blow. She contributed more to our Family Association than any of you will ever know. To know Ethel was a privilege beyond the ordinary as she was always looking for new information and ways of letting us have a share of her findings. Yes, we will miss her, but the memories of that valiant lady will always be with us.

In view of the above and pending the selection and installation of a new Secretary-Treasurer, please send all communications, new memberships and dues payments to our Editor at the following address:

THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.  
952 OLD GODDARD ROAD  
LINCOLN PARK, MI 48146-4453

I hope that my next message to you will be more cheerful than this has been.

Sincerely yours "IN DEFIANCE", Chief Ben

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**FROM THE EDITOR.....**

I too wish to express my sympathy to Chuck's and Ethel's families. Certainly all who knew them will share in this. I can only be comforted by the thought that Ethel now is visiting with our ancestors and learning the answers to the questions she always had.

I want to thank all of you who sent me information during the past couple of months with news and address changes. At the present time, there is only one "missing" member, that is one whose last newsletter was returned with the address given as incorrect. This was:

Newton S. McBrayer\* (493)  
404 Colgate  
Dallas, TX 75225

If anyone has information about Newton, please let me know.

With this issue, I am starting an identification system for members whenever

it is possible. Any member of the Family Association will be marked by an asterisk (\*) at the first mention. Further, whenever I can with certainty, there will be a number given which is the page number in "The McBrayer Family - Book II" which has been written by Carl B. McBrayer (132). Page numbers have been used rather than the alpha-numeric system which Carl uses since numbers are duplicated in several sections. This will help those of you who have the book to see where the person fits into the family. If you feel that there would be a better way to identify people, please let me know.

If you don't see an asterisk and you know the person well, please encourage them to become a member of the MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION.

CHARLES WILLIAM McBRAYER *CS1*

passed away on Sunday, July 18, 1993 at the age of 71. He had been ill for some time as our membership knows. He was born in

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Okmulgee, OK. Chuck received his BS in sociology from Oklahoma City University and a Masters from the University of Oklahoma. During WW II he served in an engineer unit in both the European and Pacific theaters. He was recalled during the Korean War and served as an infantry combat soldier.

For 7 years he served as the Children's Service Supervisor for the state Welfare Department in Oklahoma City and was district supervisor for the Department of Public Welfare in Shawnee. In 1963 he became executive director of the Family and Children's Service in Tulsa. Later he served as director of the Montgomery County Social Services in the Houston area and was executive director of DePelchin Faith Home in Houston for 11 years. He returned to Tulsa in 1981 and became director of agency relations and allocations for the Tulsa Area United Way.

He retired in 1986. He then volunteered with the Retired Citizen Volunteer Program; Methodist Conference Children, Youth and Family Service; Chamber of Commerce Tescot; and John 3:16 Mission. For several months in early 1987, he served as interim director of the Frances E. Willard Home.

In 1966, he was recognized as the outstanding social worker by the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Chuck was a member of the Boston Avenue United Methodist Church in Tulsa.

He is survived by his wife Phillele, sons Charles William II and Philip Andrew, and one grandson.

(condensed from "TULSA WORLD" and provided by Phillele McBrayer)

DOROTHY H. TRUE passed away at her home in Flintstone, MD on June 29, 1993. She was 88 having been born on July 19, 1904. She was the daughter of the late William E. Scott and Inez McBrayer Scott (693). She is survived by a daughter, two sons, 15 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

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(condensed from information provided by her niece, Alene Scott Cottle\*)

VAUGHN McBRAYER, son of Arthur, passed away July 17th. They lead the Rome, GA McBrayers and owned the McBrayer Brothers Furniture Store in Rome. Vaughn was a retired insurance executive out of Chattanooga, TN. Details of his death are unknown at this time.

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(condensed from information provided by Terrell McBrayer\*)

~~WESCO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER~~

to new members:

- David B. Dollard of Wright City, MO
- Katherine Lynn McBrayer of Valparaiso, IN daughter of John Paul McBrayer (426)
- Mrs. John Webb of Sequin, WA
- Mrs. Thomas Bacher of Palm Springs, CA
- Karen Brier of Missoula, Montana
- Carolyn Brier Rowe of Otterbein, IN

**MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**=====

The following is from our Constitution:

**ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Active, Sustaining and Life Membership in the Association will be open to:

- A. Those having the surnames of

MacBrair and various spellings of the name.

- B. Those who can trace their ancestry to the families in Scotland and Ireland known as MacBrair, MacBrayer, MakBrar, and subsequently as McBrayer, McBrair, McBrier, Brier, Brair and similar names.
- C. Those with connections with the above by blood or marriage regardless of the generation in which the connection took place.

Section 2. Honorary membership may be granted to persons giving meritorious service to the family.

If you know someone meeting these requirements they should be members of the MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION ! Invite them to become members. It is simple; all that has to be done is to submit simple information and pay the dues. In the last few months we have gained 18 new members giving a total membership of 109 members.

Dues payments are payable on January 1 of each year. A separate page sent with this IN DEFIANCE is your dues bill and it explains the dues structure. If you recruit a new member, please just copy this form. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope is also being sent. Due to the death of our Secretary-Treasurer Ethel Koller, dues this year are to be sent to the Newsletter Editor.

### **THE McBRAYER FAMILY BOOK—**

As many of you know, Carl B. McBrayer has already published volumes of the family history and genealogy. He reports that he has



two new volumes underway. One will be a picture album and the other an addendum to Volume I. Carl would appreciate any updating information you can provide and it

should be sent to him at:

412 Char Lane  
Midwest City, OK 73110

If you wish to submit photographs, PLEASE DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS as it will be virtually impossible for Carl to keep track of returns.

If you want to request genealogical information from Carl, please send him a SASE for the reply.

Carl also reports that IF there is enough interest, reprints of the previous volumes will be considered. If you are interested, please mark the spot on the dues notice.

### **CONGRATULATIONS!!**



TO: Debra McBrayer Lugar, daughter of James Ralph and Bonnie McBrayer \*(518) who graduated with a B.S. in Nursing in May 1993 from Valparaiso Univ. She has started working

on her Masters also in Nursing.

TO: Jim McBrayer who was elected a County Commissioner of Haralson County, GA during the past year.

TO: Bob McBrayer \*(535) who was elected Chairperson of St. Patrick Church Parish Council for 1993-94. He also serves as a Lector.

## ODD AND ENDS □□□□□□□□

Katherine Lynn McBrayer visited Costa Rica in May for vacation. She came back with interesting stories about the poor living conditions of the people of this small country. In March 1994 she will visit Guatemala as part of a surgical team where she will serve as the public health nutritionist/dietician.

Ronald Harvey McBrayer \*(538) reports that he is on disability leave until he retires in December 1994. He has a rare muscle disease, while not life threatening, which will cause deterioration of his leg and arm muscles. He has built a duplex with his son, Ronald Martin \* so that they will have family support as the disease progresses.

Terrell McBrayer is looking for the names of all the descendants of Andrew E. and John H. McBrayer, 4th Generation sons of John B. McBrayer who had come to Draketown, GA. Also he asked for assistance in locating the grave of John B. McBrayer, 3rd generation. If you can help Terrell, please contact him at:

418 Allatoona Way  
Woodstock, GA 30118



## REUNIONS ■■■■■■

The McBrayer/King Family picnic reunion was held on Sunday, July 25 at Redar Park in Schererville, IN. While

heavy rain fell in the morning, when it was time for the picnic, bright and sunny skies made the event a success. Tom and Kathy Hill planned this year's event.

The descendants of Jasper Newton McBrayer (376) held a reunion at the Blount County

Court House, Greenbelt Park, Maryville, TN on June 26, 1993. Of Jasper's seven sons who had families, each family was represented. Approximately 100 family members were present. Joseph Nelson \*(441), the only surviving son, lives with his wife Bertie Mae on a parcel of the old home place. Helen, wife of son Robert Newton (536), still lives in Blount County. Jasper moved to a farm on Morganton Road near Maryville, TN in 1917. Shortly thereafter, he purchased an adjoining farm to have about 100 acres. Over the years, the farm has been parceled out and partially sold. Parcels of two sons remain in the family. A son, 2 grandsons, 2 granddaughters and a great grandson have homes on the original farm. (See article "McBrayer Lane") - reported by Ron McBrayer.

The McBrayer-Leathers reunion was held on July 18, 1993 at the Draketown Baptist Church. Attendance was good. A great meal and fellowship were enjoyed by all. The meeting then moved into the Church for their traditional time of sharing, singing and honoring of those who have passed since the last meeting. After congregational singing, Rev. Steve McBrayer sang "The Love of God" and Dr. Terrell McBrayer gave a brief report on a trip to Chambersburg, PA, where the first generation ancestors settled. Terrell also provided handouts with information about the connections to the early McBrayers and urged communications with other McBrayers before the next reunion scheduled for the third Sunday in July 1994. Rev. Steve was elected chairman for next year and Martha McBrayer Pucket will again serve as secretary. - reported by Terrell McBrayer.

**NOTE:** Planning is now underway for the National Reunion to be held in the summer of 1994. The reunion is tentatively planned to be held in Texas or Oklahoma. If you

have any comments, please contact any officer or regional representative as soon as possible.

## McBRAYER LANE ○○○○○○○○○○○○

Three of our member families live on McBrayer Lane in Maryville, TN. How did McBrayer Lane get its name? Bertie Mae McBrayer, wife of J. N.\* (441) has provided the answer.

The first J.N. (Jasper Newton - 376) married Addie Davis in Reliance, TN. They had 8 boys and 1 girl who grew up alongside of the Hiwasse River. J.N. was the Road Commissioner. They moved to Georgia, but the climate was bad for Addie, so they moved to Maryville. J.N. bought a farm off Morganton Road. His sons ran the farm and he had a coal business in Maryville. The youngest son was J.N. 2 (Joseph Nelson - 441). When a farm next to the J.N. farm came up for sale, J.N. bought it. There was a dirt road between the farms that later became McBrayer Lane. All the boys left home except J.N. 2 and Arthur (William Arthur - 666). Farming continued until J.N. 1's death. The farms were then divided into strips and deeded to 7 sons. One son, Albert, and the daughter Nora had died.

J.N. 1 had built J.N.2 a house by the side of the dirt road dividing the farms. In time all the farms were sold for housing development except J.N. 2's and Luther's (Bascome Luther - 122 - father of Judy Sparks). Luther's land was the original farm. Luther's son Keith (447) bought a house on the other side of the road that came by J.N. 2's house. When road development began off Morganton Road, Keith went to the court house and asked that the road between the two farms be named McBrayer Lane in honor of his grandfather; and so it was. Keith's family outgrew their small home, so they moved away. J.N. 3

(James Nelson - 347), J.N.2's oldest son had twin sons J.N. 4 and 5 ( Jonathan Nelson and Joel Nicholas).

J.N.2's son Douglas has property to build a house bordering Morganton Road. His son Ronald Harvey \*(538) has built his retirement home as a duplex on McBrayer Lane. His son Ronald Martin \*(539) shares this duplex. J.N. 2's one twin daughter Jeane Newlin (441) has an acre on McBrayer Lane and she and her husband built a retirement home on it. Joan Collins, the other twin, has been willed an acre. J.N.2's youngest daughter Barbara will inherit J.N.2's home and she is now taking care of her parents there now. Barbara and her husband now have a home on Morganton Road next to a place called Greenback.

So now you know all about McBrayer Lane and the McBrayers living there.

## **ELLIS ISLAND**

Many of you probably have read about "The American Immigrant Wall of Honor" which was established during the renovation of Ellis Island, the major port of immigration at the turn of the century. This immigrant wall was to serve as a memorial to all immigrants to the colonies that became the United States even though Ellis Island was not even there when they came. Our ancestor William has been honored with an official certificate of recognition as an immigrant from Scotland. If you ever have the chance to visit Ellis Island, be sure to look for his name.

**FINAL NOTE** - Thanks to those who provided information for the expansion of the newsletter. There are articles left for the next issue, but anybody who has additional family news or history, please send it to me. If there is enough the newsletter will continue to expand. IN DEFIANCE!

# THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

1994 DUES are due January 1, 1994. Dues payments are to be made in accordance with the following schedule taken from the MacBrair Family Association Constitution.

## ARTICLE V - DUES

Section 1. Active Member - annual dues for immediate household, including subscription to the quarterly Newsletter shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per calendar year. New members joining after July 1 will pay Five Dollars (\$5.00) for the balance of that year.

Section 2. Sustaining Member - including subscription to Newsletter shall be Eleven to One Hundred Dollars (\$ 11.00 to \$100.00) per calendar year.

Section 3. Life Member (after age 60) - including subscription to the Newsletter shall be One Hundred One or more Dollars (\$ 101.00 or more) at the person's choice.

For further clarification, Sustaining Membership requires a payment each year and the payment amount is at the member's option between \$ 11.00 and \$ 100.00 each year; the amount does not have to remain constant each year. Life Membership is a one time payment. Please make your check payable to "R L. McBrayer" and send it in the preaddressed envelope provided. If you previously have paid Life Membership dues, please complete this form with that noted because we currently do not have the records that were maintained by Ethel B. Koller. Please print the following information so that your mailing will be accurately done.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide any updated personal history items on the back of this page. The information will be forwarded to Carl B. McBrayer for incorporation into the family history.

I/we are interested in possible reprinting of the volumes of the McBrayer Family Books .