

---

# IN DEFIANCE



---

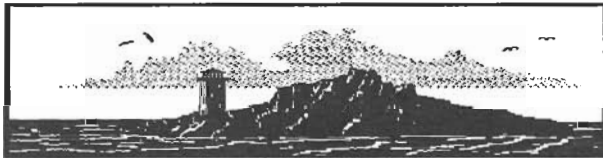
## THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION McBRAYER / BRIER / MAKBRAR

---

VOLUME 5, NO. 2

APRIL 1994

---



### F R O M            T H E CHIEF ●●●●●●●●●●

Greetings and hello to all of you. We are still working on the program for the coming National Reunion. Some obstacles have been encountered, but none are insurmountable. We

had been aiming for a mid-June date in the Dallas, Texas area, but we have recently found that this time will not be good since the World Cup Soccer games will be held then. Hotel rooms are sold out and prices of everything are way up. For this reason, the reunion will be moved into July.

Martha Humphries, our District Representative is working hard on the arrangements. I met with her during the past week and as soon as arrangements are firm, another announcement will be sent out. Tentatively our headquarters and most of our sessions will be in Irving, near to the Dallas - Fort Worth Airport. I have talked to the prospective hotel and the representative is determining what can be done. I hope that many of you will be planning to attend and participate as you are needed in our planning for the future. Only your participation in some way can make our Family Association stronger.

So, to you nice people, relatives and friends, let us plan for a good reunion and get better acquainted with one another. You will find a bunch of nice people in the MacBair Family Association.

Until next issue, Chief Ben.

P.S. If you have not yet sent in your dues, please do so soon.

# Editor's Corner



As in previous issues, I want to thank those who have sent in information for the newsletter. It has helped (according to those who have let me know) to give a more interesting and awaited piece of mail. Please keep it up!

As dues have come in, an attempt is being made to check files to be sure that the Family Association has information on YOU. There are some big gaps and bit by bit I will contact families individually to get details. Please be aware that everything will be sent on to Carl McBrayer for the official records. Some interesting information is being found in this research and some of it will be made into articles for this newsletter.

My apology to Doris Osten\* for a mistake in an article in last issue. The death of her aunt was reported with the last name given as "Leolas". The correct name is "**Levens**".

We now have 117 members on our mailing list. As you know, membership entails payment of dues. The dues go to paying for the supplies, printing and mailing of the newsletter or other special announcements as well as the occasional contribution to family memorials in Scotland. So far for 1994 only 67 members have sent in their payments. If you are not one of these, please send in your dues as soon as possible. Please remember that in order to vote for officers or to hold an office, you must be a member. If I have not yet received your dues, there are two ways to tell. The first is on the

mailing label. If the top line has "94" and a letter, your dues have been received. Those who have not been heard from yet also will get a special flyer with this newsletter.

Thanks to those of you who ask about our daughter Natalie (M351/3). After many weeks in the hospital and some time with us for recuperation, she was finally able to go home to Alaska on April 4th. While a firm diagnosis was not made, the probable one is Still's Disease which basically is adult onset juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

Is there interest in having a mailing/phone list of all members sent to all members? If you are interested, please let me know.

IN DEFIANCE Editor Bob McBrayer  
Mailing Address: 952 Old Goddard Road  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146-4453



## TO NEW MEMBERS

Elizabeth Bright of Grapeland,  
Texas

Janet McBrayer Dulin (M36-5/6)  
of Bozeman, Montana

Sandra McBrayer Wetmore  
(M35/4) of Marshfield,  
**Massachusetts**



## FUTURE MEMBER

Janet Dulin\* reports on the

birth of grandson WYATT JAMES DULIN on December 12, 1993. Parents are Patrick and Sara Dulin of Bozeman, MT.



## WARNING

"Elmer McBrayer" and the Halberts are at it again. Most of you with the McBrayer surname have no doubt received over the years various offers of the family crest (their version is a real joke!), a history or a newsletter. Halberts is known by the consumer advocate people as a company promising a lot, but offering little. They seem to be very careful about the thin line between legal and illegal. The latest offer has been from "Elmer", who is listed as Director, and the Historical Book Offer. Instead of the Ohio address normally used, they used a Washington, D.C. address. Since the offer was made with a guarantee of satisfaction, I got it. The title of the book is "The McBrayers Since The Civil War". The book contains a section on how to conduct a genealogy search, a section listing McBrayers who have died and who had Social Security Numbers. The list has only a first/last name, date of birth, date of death with the state of death in some cases and the Social Security Number. Since Social Security was not instituted until 1935, the list obviously could not even pick up all the McBrayers who lived in the period following the Civil War. The last section is what amounts I am sure, to the mailing list used by the Halberts to send out their offers. It only has the surname McBrayer and by checking our mailing list, it is seen that they have an incomplete list. One omission is Chief Ben who has written them in the past complaining about their practices. Needless to say, the book is being sent back to the Halberts. (Bob McBrayer\*)



## LOS ANGELES EARTHQUAKE

The following children of Kenneth C. Brier (B 187) and grandchildren of Albert L. (B 13) survived the latest earthquakes while living on or near the epicenter in Northridge or Reseda:

Bill Brier and family

Betty Smith and family

Nancy Zugas and family.

Nancy's daughter was temporarily trapped in her room by falling objects, but was rescued. All are now safe and well. Two residences were damaged and needed repairs.

(reported by Robert M. Brier (B 225))



## TOUR LEADERS

Barbara (M 54/1) and Grant Bartels\* will be leading a

small caravan of people who have medical problems and who are fearful of traveling alone across the U.S. this summer. Barbara and Grant live in Fort Pierce, FL (when they are not on the road). They plan to visit, among other places, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Big Sur, Mt. St. Helens, Yellowstone, Rain Forest, Grand Tetons, Estes Park, Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs, Eisenhower's Home, Truman's Home and Hannibal. They will take 4 months for this journey and then will leave the group to visit their children in Indianapolis and New York.

During the past three summers, they have camp hosted for the Forest Service in the Great Smokey National Park and the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina. In addition, they traveled to the Canadian Maritime area

last summer. So much for taking it easy during retirement.



## **TAKIN' IT EASY!**

Other members are taking it "easy" in retirement.

Carl B. McBrayer (M 41)\* started helping out with woodwork and maintenance for a rental complex in the Midwest City, OK area about two years ago. This was part time which left him time to work on his own woodcraft projects and he was able to sell a lot of craft. The "part time" ended up last summer as full time responsibility for 65 rental units. Carl still has found time to do some small scale gold prospecting and treasure hunting. He uses a metal detector around the rental units and has found an appreciable amount of coins, some collectibles. Wife Pat continues to work for their church.

Bob McBrayer (M 351)\* is continuing in retirement with conducting seminars on polyurethane foam technology as well as making some stabs at consulting in the field. There is more than enough opportunity. In addition, he is serving as chairperson for his church parish council as well as activity with the MacBrair Family Association. Wife Betty is active in volunteer services at a local hospital, currently serving as Recording Secretary of the auxiliary and working in the gift shop.

All wonder how they had time to work before retirement!

## **LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU ARE DOING!**

**WRA'S LIKE US  
DAMN FEW AND THEY'RE A' DEID**

The average Englishman in the home he calls his castle, slips into his national costume - a shabby raincoat - patented by a chemist Charles Macintosh from Glasgow, Scotland.

Enroute to his office he strides along the English lane, surfaced by John Macadam of Ayr, Scotland.

He drives an English car fitted with tires invented by John Boyd Dunlop of Dreghorn, Scotland.

At the office he receives mail bearing adhesive stamps invented by James Chalmers of Dundee, Scotland.

During the day he uses the telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell, born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

At home in the evening his daughter pedals her bicycle invented by Kirkpatrick Macmillan, blacksmith of Dumfries, Scotland. (a)

He watches news on TV, an invention of John Logie Baird of Helensburgh, Scotland and hears an item about the U.S. Navy founded by John Paul Jones of Kirkbean, Scotland. (b)

He has now been reminded too much of Scotland and in desperation picks up the Bible, only to find that the first man mentioned in the good book is a Scot - King James VI - who authorized its translation.

He could take to drink, but the Scots make the best in the world.

He could take a rifle and end it all, but the breech loading rifle was invented by Captain Patrick Ferguson of Pitfords, Scotland.

If he escaped death, he could find himself on an operating table injected with penicillin, discovered by Alexander Fleming of Darvel, Scotland and given an anaesthetic discovered by Sir James Young Simpson of Bathgate, Scotland.

Coming out of the anaesthetic he would find no comfort in learning that he was as safe as the Bank of England, founded by William Paterson of Dumfries, Scotland.

Perhaps his only remaining hope would be

to get a transfusion of good Scottish blood which would entitle him to ask:

**"WHY'S LIKE US"**

- (a) A replica of the bicycle may be seen in the Burgh Museum in Dumfries.
- (b) Near to the home of Mr. Alfred Truckell (see Vol. 5, No. 1 IN DEFIANCE)

**+** **CONNIE AUSBUN**

**FULTZ** (M 174/4B)

Connie Fultz died January 24, 1994 in an auto accident near her home in Akron, Indiana while on her way to work in a Fort Wayne hospital. Connie was born February 27, 1962 in Anderson, Indiana. She was a clinical educator at Parkview Hospital, a member of the Akron Church of God, a national trauma nurse and a graduate of Anderson Indiana University where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biology and nursing in 1984. At the time of her death, she was finishing her Master's degree in biology at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Survivors include her parents The Rev. Gary and Frances (McBrayer) Ausbun, her husband The Rev. Stephen B. Fultz, a seven year old daughter, a three year old son, three sisters, her paternal grandmother Suzie Ausbun of Hugoton, Kansas, her maternal grandfather and step-grandmother J. Earl (M 174)\* and Helen McBrayer of Morehead, Kentucky and several uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces. Graveside services were held Friday, January 28 at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in Morehead with her father and brother-in-law, The Rev. Byron Fultz officiating. (Reported by J. Earl McBrayer\*)



Martha Lewis (B 38/7A2c1), granddaughter of Steve (38/7A2) and Olive Butler\*, received a Master's degree in Art from Yale last year. She then was awarded a scholarship for three months at the Carmago Foundation in southern France where she painted from September to December. She is now back in NYC where she freelances in advertising and window dressing at Macys and F.A.O. Schwartz as well as continuing with her own painting of abstracts. (Reported by Olive Butler\*)

*Brady*

Last year, Ginessa, Candice and Zachary McBrayer received the "Timothy Award" (most Christ-like attitude) for their respective grades at the Mt. Paran Christian School in Atlanta, Georgia. They are the children of Steve and Gina Lawson and grandchildren of David (M 299-5/2 deceased) and Betty F. McBrayer\*. (Reported by Betty McBrayer\*)

Chief Ben was surprised on March 27, 1994 by the awarding of "The Rainbow Award" at Palm Sunday Services at the Rainbow Lakes United Methodist Church. Along with the award plaque, he received a framed letter from H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr. Resident Bishop, The United Methodist Church, Florida Area. The Award was a surprise although his wife Helene and children knew of the affair beforehand. Son Jim (M 173) and June McBrayer\* and granddaughter Lori Wetmore (M 35/4A) were also at the service. Pastor Robert Fortier provided the following comments:

**THE RAINBOW AWARD**

As one of my last acts as Pastor of Rainbow Lakes United Methodist Church, I hereby

express my special gratitude to a long-time member and dedicated leader of our local church. In order to honor him properly, I have chosen a three-fold approach.

FIRST, a formal declaration that today, March 27, 1994, be designated in our local church as DR. BENJAMIN E. MCBRAYER DAY.

SECOND, an official presentation of a plaque that expresses my personal, deep-felt appreciation to the one who has been my right-hand man as Lay Leader of the Rainbow Lakes church for the past five years, as well as my dear friend and confidante while I have been your pastor.

THIRD, you are all invited to return this evening to McBrayer Hall for Family Night Supper at which the McBrayers will be our guests of honor.

I hope that this will become a tradition at Rainbow Lakes United Methodist Church, that is, that every year henceforth, someone will be selected to be recognized and honored with THE RAINBOW AWARD.

I have taken it upon myself, without consultation with the Administrative Board, to establish this award, because I feel strongly that we need to say "thank you" and "well done" to those who deserve it most.

I salute you, Dr. Benjamin E. McBrayer, for your strong leadership, your dedicated service to the church you love dearly and to its Lord.

(Reported by Jim McBrayer\*)



Dr. Carla D. Chapman (M 174/7B) has recently been transferred from Walter

Reed General Hospital in Washington D.C. to the Army Hospital at Fort Hood, Texas where she specializes in Obstetrics/gynecology. She earned her medical degree from Florida University in 1989. Captain Chapman is the daughter of Wayne and Hildreth (McBrayer M 174/7) Chapman of Winter Haven, Florida and granddaughter of J. Earl McBrayer\* (Reported by J. Earl McBrayer)

Bob\* and daughter Natalie (M 351/3)\* McBrayer recently assisted in the American Bar Association's Regional Client Counseling Competition at the Detroit College of Law. They acted as clients, Bob acting as a car dealer and Natalie as a strip mall owner. The competition was in part organized by Bob's son-in-law, John Reiser\*, who is a night student at DCL.

Last issue of IN DEFIANCE had an article on Sandra McBrayer ( page 5) who had been selected as one of California's Teachers of the Year. So far we have no clues as to how she is tied to the family, but your newsletter editor will try to reach her using clues given recently by Bertha Leone McBrayer (M 211-2/1)\*. Sandra was mentioned in an article in the "San Francisco Chronicle" covering a summit meeting on education in which Governor Pete Wilson participated. The "CTA Action" of March 1994 featured an article headlined "McBrayer teaches survival skills to homeless students in San Diego". The following is a sidebar from that article:

### **A shining example**

**After an impassioned plea for the souls of children entrusted to teachers, California Teacher of the Year Sandra McBrayer became the darling of the media and the education establishment during the recent California Education Summit.**

**Presenters and panelists invoked her name**

constantly as they offered their suggestions for improving public education. In the hallways, she was besieged by reporters and television crews.

She told the gathered experts that her philosophy hinges on the fact that she can't teach an empty desk. "I must keep my students alive."

She teaches "system kids" - children whose problems are created by the system, children who have not learned right from wrong, children whose world does not contain functional families or safe streets. But she figures she can do something about their problems in her classroom. "I can love every child in the classroom. I can respect every child who walks in the door."

McBrayer said she hoped her presence at the forum would serve as a reminder that "education is not about textbooks and ADA; it is about caring for children each and every one, each and every day."

Leone reports that Sandra reminds her of the same sense of mission and love of children shown by her cousin, Mary Emily McBrayer (M 321/1 deceased 1981). "Miss Mary" was an outstanding kindergarten teacher at the Sequoyah School in Oklahoma City from 1930 to 1957.

Editor's Note: We have had, and continue to have, a lot of teachers in our family. Perhaps there are stories of interest about them you would like to share. Please let me know, particularly about teachers that are now active. Of course I do not want to slight the other professions we have such as ministers, store keepers, doctors and lawyers. Any stories should be of interest. I will put in as many as possible each issue and if more pages are needed, we will have them.



Those of you who have been fortunate enough to visit the land of our forefathers may have been struck by the appearance of the Scottish landscape; much of it is barren although there are many large tracts of obviously new forests with the trees all neatly in rows and mostly the same size. Much of all Britain was originally covered with broadleafed and deciduous woodland. By 1905 after centuries of clearance, less than 5% of the entire land had trees. Scotland today has only 1.5% of its natural forest. Today as trees are planted across Scotland, controversy reigns as to what kind of forests, coniferous or deciduous, should be planted. There are problems in sheep raising areas because sheep will destroy many young trees. Efforts by many groups nevertheless are giving hope to forest restoration.



## QUEEN ELIZABETH II

### AND HER CATHOLIC CHURCH

We all know that the Monarch of the United Kingdom is the titular head of the Church of England, but she also owns a Catholic chapel in Scotland. How did this happen? This story goes back to the mid 1500's and the time of Mary Queen of Scots. During the Reformation, John Knox had a violent confrontation with Mary over her proposed marriage to the Catholic Lord Darnley. John Erskine, a fervent supporter of Knox and Moderator of the General Assembly of the Kirk, comforted the Queen. In January 1567, he helped crown her son, the infant James VI, taking an oath to maintain the

reformed religion on the boy king's behalf.

The splendid royal chapel where the Queen worshiped is at Falkland Palace, north of Edinburgh. It is an example of the most sophisticated Renaissance architecture of its time in Scotland. James IV began building the palace at the start of the 16th century and his son James V had it remodeled between 1537-42.

Today it serves as Falkland's Roman Catholic chapel for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Technically Falkland Palace is still a royal palace and so is owned by the Queen of England. The National Trust for Scotland maintains the Palace with its chapel today, one of several church properties under its care. (Adapted from "Heritage Scotland")



When new member Elizabeth Bright sent in her dues payment, she included some information on her husband's ties to the MacBrair Family. The earliest ancestor they have recorded is David (M 82 3rd Generation) McBrayer. From there the story continues. David was the 5th son of Samuel (M 360) and Elizabeth. Elizabeth's last name is unknown. Samuel was born about 1736, but his birthplace is uncertain since this was during the time his father and mother, William (M 1) and Rebecca were immigrating to North America. Some say he was born in Antrim Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; others say Northern Ireland. Samuel and Elizabeth, who married about 1763, had 8 children. Following Elizabeth's death, Samuel married the widow Mary Young in about 1787. Her husband,

whose name is unknown, had been hung by the Tories during the Revolutionary War. Mary had 3 children: Samuel, John and Mary. Nothing is known of Samuel Young from that time on. John Young took the McBrayer surname and lived to be "the oldest man in the county" when he died at the age of 92 in Alabama. Mary Young the daughter, married Samuel and Elizabeth's son David who at the time was also her step brother. Samuel and Elizabeth also had a daughter Mary. Samuel and Mary Young had four more children. This all means that Samuel was father and father-in-law to both David and Mary Young McBrayer and the father of two Mary McBrayers. You can see how easy it is to get confused with the early history.

Samuel's father William was the oldest of the three brothers who founded our family in North America. We are not certain where William was born, Scotland or Northern Ireland, but he definitely was of Scottish parentage. William's wife was a native of Ireland. For those of his line, we got good genes for long life. William lived to be 99 and Rebecca to 101.

William and Rebecca had five children, Samuel was the third. His younger brother was also named David. This David's descendants changed their surname to Brier. Isn't the family history interesting?

## LOOKING FOR A GIFT ?

If you are looking for a gift for a child or grandchild, why not think of a membership in the MacBrair Family Association. Give a gift of our rich heritage as well as contact with our diverse and interesting membership. Many members have joined us in this way.

