

# IN DEFiance



## THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION McBRAYER / BRIER / MAKBRAR

VOLUME 8, NO. 3

JULY 1997

### From the Chief ●●●●●●●●

Where has the summer gone! We had at least one family association highlight, our 4th National Reunion in Chambersburg. Everyone seemed to enjoy it even with the weather not cooperating. As in many parts of the country at the time, the temperatures rose far above normal. Still, we had bright clear skies which made it enjoyable. I want to again thank Doris Osten, Terrell McBrayer and Reid Stewart for their cooperation and involvement which made it all possible. With the events scheduled, we became more of a family as there was time to share thoughts and experiences. Participants ranged in age from 16 months to 91 years. While there were different numbers for different events, it can be said that about 65 family members attended this reunion. More about it below.

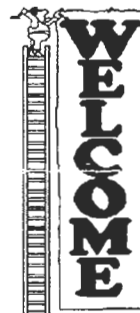
Those of you who spend more time than you will sometimes admit at a computer keyboard will understand what can happen when you do some upgrading of your system. I installed a new version of software plus added a photo scanner. Unfortunately the photo scanner is not working at this writing, so pictures from the reunion will have to be deferred until next issue. The people who write the advertising tell you how easy such things are, maybe so, but Murphy's Law always seems to triumph.

Since the question has come up about how family members are referenced, the following explanations are given. On the mailing label, there is a number/letter combination following the first or middle name, such as (97A). This is just a means of keeping track of dues status. If you do not have a "97",

this means your dues have not been paid for this year (of course, that does not hold for Life Members who have an "L" shown). This number has no other purpose in identifying family.

In the newsletter, you will see identification such as "M 454/2A, 8th". These refer to the way the records are maintained by our family historian, Carl McBrayer, and include the generation in North America. If you want a further explanation of this system, you can find it in Carl's books (if you are fortunate to have one, or you can write me and I will send it to you).

Chief and Newsletter Editor



### to our new members

As might be expected, the reunion brought in a lot of new members. With the exception of two, those listed below attended:

**Sondra Jean McBrayer Turley**  
(M 403-5/?, 9th) Lives with her husband Ron in Mt. Olive, AL.

She came to the reunion with her sister, La Faye Stover, and a family friend, Barbara Crowe. There are some inconsistencies in current family records that we hope can be resolved by her membership.

**Bert William McBrayer, Jr.** (M 36-7, 8th) is from Huntingdon, PA. His father Bert and brother Arthur are current members.

**Craton G Pitner** and his wife Elizabeth live in Venetia, PA. Craton is descended from David (M 3, 1st) through his daughter Susanna who married a Carmikal (Carmichael).

**W. L. "Les" McBrayer**, his wife Bertie and son, Leston, Jr. came down to the reunion from Camp Hill, PA. His connection is being clarified. Les was in the real estate business.

**Kent Derrele Rattan** (M 454/9B, 8th) wife Nicki, children Sean, Julia, Elizabeth and Claire are from Frederick, MD. Kent is a supervising architect for the Marriott Hotels. His mother, Toni Samaniego, and cousin, Odell McBrayer, are members.

**Martha Aurelia McBrayer Braegher** (M 218-5/2, 8th) and husband Earl, Jr. live in Roxboro, NC. They came to the reunion with her sister Ruth Dover and her husband Jack. Ruth is a long time member.

**Phyllis Ann McBrayer Dixon** (M 174/5, 8th) is a daughter of member J. Earl McBrayer. Her son, Tom Dixon is also a member as are her brothers, Jack and Phillip, and niece, Terry Nixon. Her husband, Bert, could not attend the reunion because he was keeping their grandchildren for the weekend. Bert and Phyllis live in Baltimore.

**Terry Denise Ellington Nixon** (M 174/1B, 9th) is one of J. Earl's grand-daughters. She, her husband Doug and children Adam, Emily, Caroline and Ethan had planned on attending the reunion, but unfortunately at the last minute they had to cancel. They live in Lititz, PA.

**Linda McBrayer Green** (M 226-5/5E) and husband Billy live in Temple, GA.

**Odell Lavon McBrayer** (M 316, 7th) is a retired attorney. Earlier this year he moved from Amarillo, TX to Idabel, OK. His aunt Toni Samaniego and cousin Kent Rattan are members.

**Rebecca (Becky) McBrayer Farmer** (M 341-4/1, 9th), husband Greg and son Andrew (Drew) are from Woodstock, GA. Becky is the daughter of member Terrell McBrayer. Drew was particularly happy to be at the reunion - see below.

Honorary Chief Benjamin E. McBrayer (M 35, 7th) has upgraded his membership to Life. He has been a strong supporter of the family association and was instrumental in its formation in 1988.



**Dinna gut your fish till ye get them.** Scottish Proverb meaning the same as "Don't count your chickens until they've hatched."



## FAMILY MEMBER NEWS

**Rebecca (Becky) McBrayer Scarcello** (M 351/6, 9th) has contracted with Gallery FunctionArt, Pontiac, MI, as an independent art consultant. She also is working as the interior design office manager for Scarcello Associates.

**Everett Jess McBrayer, Jr.** (Descendent of John Able (M 219, 4th) McBrayer) hosted the McBrayer Reunion in Butler, MO on June 14, 1997. The event was held in the City Hall. Approximately 70 people attended from places such as VA, WA, LA, IA, WI, MO and KS. Several members belong to this group including Billy Robinson and Frank & Stephanie McBrayer. Their reunion next year is planned for Lexington, MO on the 3rd Saturday in June.

**Ronald Harvey McBrayer** (M 354-7, 8th) has put forth a challenge to family members in Blount County, TN to build closer family relationships. He has also suggested that at least the head of an extended family maintain membership in the Mac Brair Family Association. Good idea, Ron!

Some of you will certainly remember **Sandra McBrayer** who was National Teacher of the Year. Many family members questioned where she fit into the family and several tried to contact her about this. Due to the heavy pressure of the honor, she did not provide anything other than telling one relative that she was from MO and knew little about her family. But now we know more. She is the daughter of member William L. (Bill) McBrayer (son of Leander Able McBrayer (M 219/8B, 6th) of Wheatland, MO. Several of us had the pleasure of meeting Bill at the National Reunion. We learned of the

connection from Karen Williams, daughter of member Billy Robinson, Bill's brother-in law.

There will be a McBrayer Family Reunion at Benbrook Lake in the SW part of Ft. Worth over Labor Day. For more information, contact Leldon McBrayer at 817-326- 2169 in Granbury, TX.

The Idabel, OK, area McBrayer Family will have their reunion October 4, 1997 at the Redland Center. Contact family association member Odell McBrayer at 405-286-1059 for more details.

Any Family Groups wishing to announce their local reunions are most welcome to put announcements in *IN DEFLANCE*. Please provide information to the Editor as far in advance as possible.



*"Yesterday's the past, tomorrow's the future,  
but today is a gift. That's why it's called the present."*

## NATIONAL FAMILY REUNION

The 4th National Reunion in Chambersburg was blessed with bright skies although it was a little warmer than had been expected. The heat did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the participants however. Our reunion headquarters at Wilson College were very satisfactory and if anyone went away from a meal hungry it was their own fault. The meals were plentiful, with a good variety of choices and very tasty. Those attending were given name badges fixed with lapel pins of the family coat of arms (see a following article for more about these.)

Events started Friday afternoon, June 20, with a tour of historical sites in what might be called "McBrayer Country" led by Reid Stewart. (Note: maps and description of the tours were made into a booklet. If you are planning to visit Chambersburg in the future, you may want to get a copy. Contact

the Editor and send \$ 1.00 for printing and mailing.) The route first went west on U.S. 30 which closely follows a road which William helped to establish. Going south on Warm Springs Road through the villages of Turkey Foot, Housum and Cashtown led to first the site of William Stewart Sr.'s farm. He was the great-grandfather of Andrew Reed who married David McBrayer's daughter Esther. The log house built by William Stewart Sr. still stands. Going on into Williamson, the tour visited the possible site of William and Rebecca McBrayer's stone house. Going on further on Williamson Road after crossing the Back Creek, is probably William McBrayer's farm. Close by after crossing the Down East "Gig" (Conococheauge stream) is the farm of David McBrayer. The log house built in the 1750'a has been incorporated into a more modern structure. The present owners of the home allowed our family to look around.

Proceeding on, the group visited the site of the Enoch Brown Massacre where school master Enoch Brown and 10 children were killed and scalped July 26, 1764. Family lore has it that the McBrayer children were not in school that day; which children has not been identified and there may be some speculation as to this story.

On the way back to Wilson College, the tour passed the former farms of William McBrayer's sons David and William, Jr..

Soon after the tour, the family gathered for a picnic on the grounds of Wilson College. It was a pleasant evening and the family had plenty of time to visit. As evening fell, the family joined for a short business meeting. The following items were covered:

**1. Election of Officers** - The following officers were elected for the coming three years:

Chief Bob McBrayer  
952 Old Goddard Road  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146-4453  
(313) 928-0398 or 928-3109  
e-mail RLMcBrayer@JUNO.com

Vice-Chief Reid Stewart  
2942 Leechburg Road  
Lower Burrell, PA 15216-4233  
(412) 334-2732

Secretary-Treasurer Deborah Reiser  
365 Hillcrest Blvd.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(313) 434-5128  
DAReiser@AOL.com

No-one was willing to serve as Director at Large, so that office was not filled.

**2. Membership** - Chief Bob reported that membership has been growing steadily and there are 176 on the mailing list (at the time of the meeting). If we can increase membership above 200, we will be able to get bulk mailing rates which will be very helpful. Everyone is asked to give suggestions for increasing membership.

**3. Dues structure** - Dues have remained the same since the formal organization of the Family Association in 1988. With the realization of 6 life members and a reasonable continued payment of dues, finances do not require at this time an increase in dues. If members want to forestall any future increases, they might consider changing class of membership from "Active" at \$ 10 per year to "Sustaining" at least \$ 11 per year. Of course, bringing in new members will also help.

**4. Family trip to Scotland** - The show of hands was not sufficient to really warrant serious planning for a family trip. There will be, however, some consideration for a trip sometime in the future. We need input from family who did not attend the reunion.

**5. Next reunion** - No firm site was selected for the reunion to be held in 2001. There are proposals for the Atlanta area (not in the city) and for the Nashville area. Those making the proposals need to develop ideas further so that a decision can be made by this time in 1998 to insure proper planning is done. The concept of this reunion needs to be used as a guide.

Out-going Vice-Chief Terrell McBrayer made a number of proposals honoring a number of people. He will be asked to formalize these proposals for future publication.

Following the business discussion, some members stayed to watch the movie "Rob Roy".

Saturday morning was more or less free time, but some family took a walking tour of downtown Chambersburg to see sites mostly associated with Civil War times such as the Old Jail which now houses the Kittochtinny Historical Society and museum.

Following lunch it was tour time again. This time it was to the Rocky Springs Presbyterian Church north of Chambersburg. The congregation was organized about 1738 by Ulster Scots (the "Scotch-Irish"). While there is no record of any of our family attending this church, it is representative of the church style of the time. The congregation sat in pew boxes in front of and at the sides of the high pulpit which stands along the long west wall. The church walls and interior floor are brick made in the area. Cast iron wood stoves heat the building. An interesting feature is that the stove pipes exit into the attic space; there are no chimneys. The reason for this was that the people did not want to alert hostile Indians that they were gathered together. The smoke was dissipated at night by opening vents in the gables. A very interesting presentation on the church's history was given by Mary Baker, a member of the DAR.

The highlight of the reunion took place Saturday afternoon with the dedication of the memorial plaques in the Old Brown's Mill Graveyard south of Chambersburg. As the ceremony began, the bag pipe played as it did at other appropriate times during the ceremonies. Chief Bob welcomed those present and Terrell McBrayer gave the invocation. Reid Stewart gave the dedication address which is printed below. Following this, Lillian Colletta of the DAR dedicated a marker for Andrew Reed, a Revolutionary War Veteran. Reid Stewart, as his descendant, placed a flag in the marker holder. Mary Baker then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Reid Stewart thanked the DAR for their participation in the ceremonies, and the dedication program closed with a benediction by Terrell Mc Brayer.

In the evening, the family gathered for the reunion banquet. The meal, featuring roast round of beef and roast turkey was served buffet style. Honored Guest Mayor Robert P. Morris of Chambersburg presented a proclamation declaring June 21, 1997 as the MACBRAIR/MCBRAYER FAMILY ASSOCIATION DAY. Lillian Colletta of the

Kittochtinny Historical Society (and family friend) and her husband Victor were also honored guests. Following the dinner, our speaker, Robert "Bob" Harrison related the history of the time of our ancestors' settling in the area. It is hoped that we will be able to have a copy of Bob's talk for publication later. Bob's wife Ruth also joined with us at the banquet.

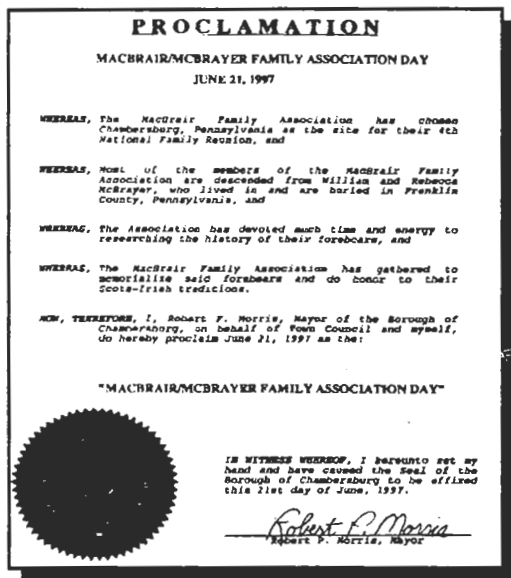
## MEMORIAL MARKER TEXTS

**IN MEMORY OF  
WM. McBRAYER C. 1696 -1795  
REBECCA McBRAYER 1704 - 1805  
SON: JAMES DIED 1796  
FRANKLIN COUNTY PIONEERS C. 1737**

**McBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION, 1997**

**DAVID McBRAYER C. 1699 -1771  
HIS WIFE ELIZABETH C. 1718 - 1791  
CAME TO "GIG" SETTLEMENT C. 1737**

**ANDREW REED C. 1733-1819 REV. WAR  
VET.  
HIS WIFE ESTER McBRAYER 1748 - 1822**



Door prizes consisting of two men's and two women's wrist watches were awarded at the banquet. The faces of these watches show the family coat of arms. Winners were Jack Lane McBrayer, Vergie Musgrave, Drew Farmer and Deb McBrayer (Jack's

wife). The winners names were drawn by our guests.

After a very busy day, a few family members gathered in Riddle Hall, the reunion headquarters for some talk and viewing of a travelogue of Scotland - we should have shown this before asking if anyone wanted to go on a family trip!.

Our reunion closed on Sunday fittingly with a devotion service led by Terrell McBrayer. Terrell emphasized the family aspects of history. Those who were able to attend felt more of a closeness in kinship at its conclusion.

## **Dedication of the Mc Brayer Family Markers June 21, 1997 Browns Mill Cemetery, Antrim Twp., Franklin Co., PA Comments by Dr. Reid W. Stewart**

Imagine yourselves transported back in time 260 years to the year 1737. George II, King of Great Britain, had reigned 10 years at that time. The Quaker James Logan was serving as president of the Provincial Council of PA in the interim between proprietary appointed governors.

Three McBrayer brothers, William, David, and James set sail from Great Britain for the New World. They probably migrated from Ireland. Though the McBrayer family originated in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, where the name goes back to the 1300's, the family resided first on the estate of Almagill in Annandale and later at Netherwood nearer the town of Dumfries.

Sailing across the Atlantic at that time was dangerous in the small ships which carried about one person per ton of ship weight. Often food ran out and water became foul on these crossings which could take several months and be very storm tossed, but the three brothers landed safely on the shore of North America and set out for the frontier where land was cheap or could even be squatted upon without charge.

These brothers came to the Conococheague Settlement to what at that time was part of Hopewell Township, Lancaster Co., PA. Antrim Township was not created until 1741, and the name given to

the new township provides a good indication of the origin in Ireland of many of the earlier settlers. The "Gig" Settlement had only begun to be populated a few years before the McBrayers arrived.

The year the McBrayers arrived in the "Gig" Settlement, the Infamous 1737 "Walking Purchase" of land in Eastern PA from the Indians raised the animosity between the Red men and the settlers which strained relations for many years.

This place of the McBrayers' settlement became part of Cumberland Co. when it was carved from the northern and western portion of Lancaster Co. The earliest extant tax list for Antrim Township, Cumberland Co., PA, is that of 175£ enumerating William and David McBrayer as residents. The section of Antrim Township north of the flown East "Gig" became Hamilton Township in 1752 where William McBrayer had settled, and he is listed in the 1753 Hamilton Township tax list.

David built a log house on his farm which was warranted to him Feb. 3, 1755. William built a stone house near the confluence of Back Creek and the Down East "Gig" in what is now the village of Williamson. The village, of modern origin, was not named for William McBrayer, but rather for the wife of the village founder.

The summer of 1755 saw raiding Indians traverse this valley. General Braddock's defeat in the Monongahela Valley in Western PA that year gave courage and opportunity for marauding bands to press eastward. Not far away from here, the schoolmaster Enoch Brown and ten of his pupils were killed and scalped July, 1764, but fortunately none of the McBrayer children were attending school that day.

The David McBrayers were Reformed Presbyterians, popularly called Covenanters who had helped establish religious freedom in Scotland. These were people of stout faith and firm convictions. The William McBrayers may have been Associate Presbyterians, popularly known as Seceders, or mainstream Presbyterians. No records have been found to clarify this.

William McBrayer and his wife Rebecca became the parents of five children: James, William, Jr., Sam-

uel, David and Sarah. The married sons all moved away from Franklin Co. PA. Rebecca, William's wife, may have been a sister of Thomas Brown who settled at Brown's Mills in 1734.

David and Elizabeth McBrayer were blessed with five daughters, Susanna, Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, and Esther who married Andrew Reed and remained on her father's land throughout her life.

James McBrayer married Jane Montgomery and removed to VA and in 1779 to KY. They were the parents of six sons: William, James, Hugh, John, George, and Andrew.

The first of the McBrayer brothers to die, David, passed away in 1771 aged 72 years. He lived long enough to see all his daughters married, but did not live to see the American Revolution. His widow Elizabeth died in 1791.

William died in 1795 having reached the age of 99 years, and his widow Rebecca died in 1805, aged 101 years. Fortunately Rebecca's obituary in the August 20, 1805, Franklin County REPOSITORY reported that her remains were interred beside her husband's In Browns Mill Cemetery, giving proof of the family place of burial.

We gather here today to dedicate these markers to William and Rebecca McBrayer and their son James McBrayer and to David and Elizabeth McBrayer and their daughter Esther McBrayer and her husband Andrew Reed, a Revolutionary War veteran.

These intrepid pioneers helped bring civilization to the wilderness, not being overcome by privation and difficulty or the marauding incursions of Red men whose shadow often fell upon this countryside. We are here because they strove and succeeded in building a new land and establishing a new country.

## Rest in Peace

We regretfully announce the deaths of following McBrayer Family members:

**Harriet J. McBrayer** - age 85, of Elizabeth Street, Greenup, KY, died Wednesday,

June 25, 1997 in Vencor Hospital in Louisville. Mrs. McBrayer was born Aug. 6, 1911, in Portsmouth, Ohio, a daughter of the late Edward and Rose Shaw Schuler. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Adam McBrayer (M 47-7, 8th); and two sons, Gerald Ernest McBrayer (M 133-4) and Byron Richard McBrayer (M 39-35). She was a retired Greenup County treasurer, a member of Democratic Women's Club and MAC Club, Rebekah Lodge, where she was past secretary and treasurer, a Kentucky colonel, and a charter member of Senior Citizens in Greenup. Surviving are two sons, Charles Edward "Bud" McBrayer (M 50-7) of Piano, Texas, and Gregory Kent Mc Brayer (M 133-9) of Gary, N.C.; three daughters, Sharon Sue McBrayer Allen (M 47-7/3) of Louisville, Rebecca Diane McBrayer Carpenter (M 47-7/6) of Lloyd and Linda Susan McBrayer Woods (M 47-7/7) of Worthington;. 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday at Reed Funeral Home in Greenup by Bob Ellis, Roger Mc Caleb and Gary Carpenter. Burial was in Rushtown Cemetery in Ohio.

**HELEN A. McBRAYER**, - age 80, of Maryville, TN , died Sunday, June 22, 1997, at Blount Memorial Hospital. She was preceded in death by her husband, the late Robert Newton McBrayer (M 353, 7th). She is survived by one son and daughter in-law, Roger Newton (M 354-5, 8th) and Sue Mc Brayer of Georgia; three grandsons, Gregory Todman McBrayer (M 354-5/1), Blake Whitman McBrayer (M 354-5/3), both of Georgia, and Eric Bradford McBrayer (M 354-5/2) of Virginia; one brother, John Adams of Florida. Funeral services were held on Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Graveside of Sherwood Memorial Gardens with Rev. Raymond Burnett officiating. Remembrance donations were made to the American Diabetes Association.

**John B. McBrayer** - (M 125-3/1, 8th)-age 88, of Lucasville, died Wednesday, July 2, 1997, at Southern Ohio Medical Center. Born Jan. 13, 1909, in Greenup, Ky., a son of the late George McBrayer (M 125-3) and Serrildia Holbert Mc Brayer, he was a retired coal miner. Surviving are a sister, Ruth Early (M 125-3/4) of Ohio; a friend, Mavis Bowling of Lucasville; and several nephews and nieces. Grave side services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday at McBrayer Cemetery, with Elder James

Foster officiating.

**Robert L. McBrayer** - age 58, St. Joseph, died of congestive heart failure Tuesday June 24, 1997, at the VA hospital in Leavenworth, KS. Mr McBrayer (M 219/8Bx, 7th) worked at the former Goetz Brewery and then Pearl Brewery both in St. Joseph, MO for 17 years. He also was a deliveryman for St. Joseph Auto Parts for the past 10 years. Mr. McBrayer served in the Marine Corps. Born in St. Joseph on May 13, 1939, he was a lifelong resident of St. Joseph. He was a Christian. Mr. McBrayer married Helen Howard. They were later divorced. Then he married Janice Hamilton They were later divorced. He was preceded in death by his parents, Leander and Mary; and a sister Helen M Robinson (she passed away December 22, 1996.) Surviving are a son, Robert W. of St. Joseph; a daughter Chris Haarlammert of St. Joseph; a brother William, Wheatland, MO; a sister Elvona Kearnes, Billings, MT; and five grandchildren. The funeral service was 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Gladden-Stamey Funeral Home, St. Joseph with burial at Mount Auburn Cemetery, St. Joseph. (He had become a member of the Family Association only this past February. Bob had gone to the hospital after the local McBrayer Reunion in Butler, MO, on June 14, 1997.)

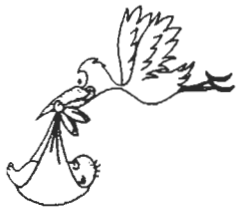
**RUTH L. McBRAYER**- age 92, passed away Sunday, January 12, 1997, at her home in Tennessee. Of the Baptist faith. Preceded in death by: husband, Frank (Benjamin Franklin) McBrayer (M 35-3, 7th; second marriage for both) and son-in-law, Louis Fayette. Survived by: daughter Mary Fayette of Knoxville; sons, Bill Singleton and wife, Mary of Kentucky, Larry Bruce Singleton and wife, Shirley of Ohio; sisters, Tennie Davis of Knoxville and Velva Scarce of Ohio; five grandchildren, great grandchildren. Step-daughter Mary Gladys Mc Brayer Sherwood (M 35-3/1) and four step grandchildren. Her funeral service was Tuesday at 8 PM at the McCarty Chapel with Rev. Ron Ramsey officiating. Family and friends met at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Highland Memorial Cemetery for the interment. Remembrance contributions were made to the building fund of Asbury United Methodist Church.

*A small boy's definition of conscience: something that makes you tell your mother before your sister does.*

## Burials at st. michael's

St. Michael's Church in Dumfries was the parish church of the McBrayer family from the very early days. It was built long before 1252 and obviously has been refurbished many times since. Records show that the family was the patron of the Altar of St. Nicholas and as late as 1747, Robert Edgar in his "An Introduction to the History of Dumfries", mentions the McBair Aisle under which members of the family were buried since time immemorable.

There has been some concern among some family member that during a renovation of the church, the bones of our ancestors were unceremoniously removed and dumped somewhere in the churchyard. Terrell McBrayer recently provided an excerpt from a history of the church by Rev. Paton which casts a different light on the event. "Not long after the accomplishment of this work [a renovation in 1881] it was discovered that proper precautions had not been taken when the Church was re-floored in 1869, and the whole flooring had to be taken up in consequence of an outbreak of dry rot. It was then discovered that the flooring rested on the earth, and that the whole area of the Church had been used as a place of sepulture. Gravestones, quantities of the remains of the dead, foundations of pillars, and the foundations of the grand altar of the old Roman Catholic Church were laid bare. All the remains of the dead were carefully and reverently removed and re-interred in a plat at the bottom of the new portion of the old churchyard. A heavy lair of concrete was laid down, and the present floor fixed above it." Thus it is that we can feel our forefathers were laid to rest again in dignity. There is some thought that the site of re-burial is near the Robert Burns Monument located in the corner of the churchyard.



## NEW ARRIVALS

We welcome the following babies to the family:

**Kieman Scott Cottle** was born August 30, 1996 to Matthew Scott Cottle (son of member Alene Scott Cottle) and his wife Mary Elizabeth in Princeton, NJ. Matt is Associate Dean for Development, College of Engineering and

Applied Science, Princeton University. They also have a 5-year old son, Devon Matthew.

## Dillan Leander Mc Brayer

was born May 27, 1997 to Robert Wayne (son of recently deceased member Robert L. Mc Brayer - M 219/8Bx, 7th) and Courtnie Renee Goldizen Mc Brayer of St. Joseph, MO. Dillan joins Hali Noel who was born April 4, 1994.



## WEDDING ANNOUNCED

## McBrayer - Proffitt

Dara Proffitt of Wilkesboro, NC, daughter of Linda and Darrell Proffitt of Piney Flats, was united in marriage with Steve McBrayer (Steven Trent Mc Brayer (450-9/3, 9th), also of Wilkesboro, son of Bill (William James, M 450-9) and Bess McBrayer of Maryville, in a May 24 Ceremony at Central Christian Church in Bristol. The Rev. Bob Robinson officiated at the ceremony. Vocalists Rick and Katherine Carrier; organist Kevin France, pianist Patty Booher and bagpipe player Scott McLeod provided nuptial music. Escorted by her father; the bride wore a white, off-the-shoulder, formal gown of organza. The bridegroom's father served as best man. Groomsmen included W. Neal Mc Brayer (William Neal - M 450-9/1) of Brentwood and Brett Mc Brayer (James Brett - M 450-9/2) of Swansea, Wales, United Kingdom, both brothers of the bridegroom, Wally Proffitt and Brad Proffitt, both of Bristol and brothers of the bride. The bride's parents hosted a reception at Belvedere Heights in Bristol. After a wedding trip to Negril, Jamaica, the couple is at home in Wilkesboro. The bride holds a degree in engineering science from the University of Tennessee. The bridegroom holds a degree in engineering science and a master of business administration degree both from UT. He is a logistics Specialist with Lowe's Co. Inc. in Wilkesboro.



*The pen is mightier than the sword - but only if it's a really big pen!*



## REPORT FROM SCOTLAND

Cousin Ken Harvey reported that when he received the April newsletter he got himself a mug of tea and went out into his garden to read it. He said they were having lovely weather with the temperature almost 17° in the sun which they consider hot. Of course that is degrees Celsius which works out for us in the "colonies" to about 63°F. It would be nice if we could send back to him some of the 100°F+ weather many of us have experienced this summer.

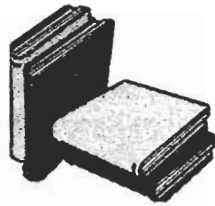
Ken says that he too considers Nigel Tranter his favorite author and that he is happy to report that Nigel is still alive and well. Ken hoped to be able to talk with him at the Roots '97 gathering in June. We look forward to hearing if he was able to do so.

In the last issue of *IN DEFIANCE*, the Border Gathering being held in mid-August was announced. The gathering is being established as a Scottish Festival commemorating the activities of the Scots reivers who raided English lands and brought back livestock, however Ken reports that the event seems to be getting more publicity south of the Border. He points out "the poor beasts had been misappropriated so many times it would be difficult to prove, to any great degree, exactly who owned them. And without definitive ownership there can be no theft!"

Along with his research into the family in Scotland, Ken has been checking into the McBairs in Ireland and is in contact with members of several different strands of the family there. He says that there is a great interest in family history in Ireland, and there is a terrific oral history, especially amongst the women in the family. Ken is considering visits to Belfast and Dublin. In addition to Ireland, he has made contacts in Australia and is looking into New Zealand.

As many of you know, there is an area in Dumfries that has used variations of the family name for the streets. He recently drove around the area and says it is a nice quiet estate with mainly private, detached houses. It is built behind Netherwood, near High-

town of Craigs, where the McBairs may have been tenant farmers in the 19th century. You can just see Hallidayhill and some of the other McBair properties. Ken is going to try to find out why they decided to use our family names. As he says, after all, there were a great many other significant families in Dumfries who do not have even one street named for them, let alone half a dozen. He speculates that maybe there's a descendant in the Planning Department.



## NEW BOOKS TO READ

"The Picts and the Scots" by Lloyd and Jenny Laing, Sutton Publishing, Gloucestershire, paperback edition 1994. This book attempts to explain who and what the Picts and the Scots were. There are many interesting facts to be gained from the book, but it is not a particularly "easy read". Perhaps this is because of the hard to pronounce (and remember) place names from those early days and the scholarly approach taken by the authors. Lloyd Laing is a senior lecturer in archaeology at the University of Nottingham. Jenny Laing is a former research fellow in art history and tutor in Roman archaeology and art at the University of Liverpool.

The Picts and the Scots came into conflict and cooperation in the fourth to eighth centuries and this eventually led to the establishment of Modern Scotland. Throw in the Romans who were trying to conquer the world at the time and you end up with a lot of myths which are just beginning to be dispelled. Never the less, the lack of written records hampers study. Understanding has to come from the archaeological finds.

As has been mentioned before in this newsletter, the word "Pict" is a Roman one. It was used from the late third century to describe people living north of the Forth-Clyde line. It meant "the painted people" and today most of the thought is that it had to do with tattoos the people used to decorate their bodies. It probably did not refer to blue painted bodies as shown recently in the comic strip "Prince Valiant" or in the movie "Braveheart". When all is said and done, it is hard to cleanly classify who the Picts were, and there seems to be no idea where they came from. They did, however, develop a specific

culture which can be determined from remains of buildings, graves and art.

Now to the Scots. These people came from part of what is now County Antrim, "Dalriada". The name "Scot" is an Irish one meaning "bandits". It does not seem that the Romans or the Britons gave them this name. The Scots took advantage of the disruption of the Roman activity to move to Scotland.

The Scots spoke a primitive Old Irish which led to the Scots Gaelic of today. The Pict language is lost, but is thought to have been a British Gaelic related to Welsh. Until the sixth century, history of both the Picts and Scots is largely based on legend. Only after St. Columba founded the monastery in Iona did documentary records begin to develop. The Picts were absorbed in some fashion in the ninth century under the leadership of Kenneth mac Alpin, the first king of Scotland. It is not clear how the traditions of the people came together, but they may have been aided by the impact of the Vikings who became a factor in the north of Scotland and who raided along the coasts.

The book goes in depth into the evidence found to explain the life and art of both peoples and how they seem to overlap in some aspects. Some of the evidence has only recently been found (1958). Many illustrations are included, but for the most part they are not keyed to the text and you have to keep an eye open to make the connections. References to further reading are given.

One interesting anecdote; a twelfth century Icelandic chronicler described the Picts as pygmies who "did wonders in the mornings and the evenings but at mid-day lost their strength and hid in holes in the ground". Leprechauns?

"Medieval Scotland - An Archaeological Perspective" by Peter Yeoman, B. T. Batsford Ltd., London. This book is one of a series of 18 or so published or planned for by Historic Scotland. It is a more readable book than the one above even though it clearly is a scholarly effort.

First off, "medieval" should be defined. For this book at least, it is the period from the reign of Malcolm Canmore in the later eleventh century up until the time of the Reformation of 1560. (Other

sources use considerably different time periods.)

The author first describes the role of the archaeologist and how the work is done. An interesting comment, "Latrines are always of great interest to archaeologists, because of what people dropped down them!".

The book sections are: Abbeys and priories, Holy beggars (mendicant friars), Churches and cathedrals, Towns, Everyday life in towns, Earthwork castles, Castles in context and Rural settlement. Each could almost stand alone as an article. Various aspects of life in each of the communities is described with good use of drawings and photographs of ruins and artifacts.

The "typical" house, both in town and country side was small, single story basically wooden structure. The walls were a framework of upright stakes around which were woven thin, flexible branches or "withies", to create wattle walls. These walls were rarely seen as they were then covered with clay, dung, mud, peat and turf. Sometimes they were left unclad for improved ventilation. Floors ranged from sand, clay or gravel covered with straw to wood laid basically on the ground. Windows were few. Roofs might be thatch of timber covered with glazed ceramic peg-tiles. No matter what, they were quite Spartan.

Food was rather plain. The staple diet was porridge, broth, bread and ale. Grains were oats, barley and rye. Wheat was expensive and so generally limited to the upper class. About one-third of the barley crop was used for brewing. Ale, a weak barley beer, was the everyday drink from breakfast though supper. Vegetables were limited, with the most common being kail, a kind of cabbage. Peas and beans were available as were wild fruits and nuts. Meat was available, but how much to the mass of the people is not known. The most commonly used meat was beef, followed by sheep, pig, goat, horse and deer. Surprisingly, a butcher's shop from the era has never been found.

No complete clothing articles have been found. The common garment appears to have been woolen, died usually red or yellow. Imported silk remnants have been found and they clearly were owned by wealthy patrons. Leather was important for clothing, foot-

wear, straps and belts. Most footwear were low ankle boots and soles were replaceable. Shoe accessories included a wooden patten for a child's shoe which raised the wearer up while walking through mud.

All in all, this book gives a good look at the time which covers a good portion of the known history of our ancestors in Scotland.

### NOW AVAILABLE



As reported above, watches with the family coat of arms (in color) were awarded as door prizes at the reunion. These watches are available now on a special order basis only. They are available in men's and women's styles. The face of the man's watch is approximately 1 inch in diameter and the women's, 5/8 inch. The Roman numerals are engraved on the outer yellow gold plated brass bezel. The watches are water resistant and have battery powered quartz movements. The standard band is black leather; an expansion band is available. If you are interested in getting a watch, send your order to Chief Bob with a check made payable to "The McBair Family Association". Each watch costs \$ 35.00 including mailing costs. The expansion band is \$ 2.00 extra. ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15, 1997. All orders will be placed with the supplier at the same time and delivery should be within four weeks.

As the attendees to the reunion checked in, they found on their name badges, lapel pins of the family coat of arms. These pins are also now available. They are approximately 1 inch high and are hard enamel on metal (cloisonne) with the outlines in gold. The colors are red, white, yellow and grey. The fastener is a standard military clutch type. The price of these pins is \$ 3.00 each or 2 for \$ 5.00 plus \$ 1.00 shipping for any quantity up to 10. To order, send the check to Chief Bob. Pins are immediately available. Those at the reunion purchased 59 extra pins, so you can tell they were liked.

The objective of the Family Association is not to make money on selling items, even though they are authentic. If it were not for the reunion, we would not have gotten these items.

### RELATIONSHIP CHART

Many times when groups of family members from different branches get together, time is spent trying to determine relationships. The chart on the following page will help you to do this.

**WANTED !** Several members are looking for anyone who would be willing to part with one of the Family History books published by Carl McBrayer. If you have or know of one that is available, please let the Editor know and a list will be put in *IN DEFIANCE*.

Also the object of a search is the book "Genealogy of the Descendants of Henry McBrier and Kezia Sloan McBrier" printed privately by Edwin Merton McBrier. If you know of a copy which could be at least borrowed for a reasonable period, please inform the Editor.

### BARLEY BANNOCKS

- ½ lb. Barley flour
- 2 oz plain flour
- 1 tsp cream of tartar
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ pint buttermilk
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda



Preheat the griddle - it should feel quite hot when you hold your hand over it about an inch from the surface.

Sift the barley flour, plain flour, cream of tartar and salt into a bowl. Add the soda to the buttermilk.. Stir in. Make a well in the center of the flour and add the buttermilk. Lightly make into a soft dough and turn out onto a floured board.

Flour the top and press out with your hand to make a round about ½ inch thick. Cut into quarters or sixths and bake. Turn and brown on other side. Wrap in cloth to keep warm and eat the day they are made.

Thanks to Ron McBrayer, Alene Cottle, Kaye Quinn, Terrell McBrayer, Karen Williams, Reid Stewart, Odell, McBrayer, Zelda White, Betty McBrayer and Ken Harvey whose contributions made this largest issue yet possible. Apologies if I missed anybody! Bob

EXAMPLES: 1. The relationship of No. 1 on the left and No. 1 on the top is brother or sister.

2. The relationship of No. 2 on the left and No. 4 on the top is first cousin, two generations removed.

## RELATIONSHIP CHART

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 Common Ancestor	son	grandson	great grandson	great great grandson	great great great grandson	great great great great grandson	great great great great great grandson	great great great great great great grandson	great great great great great great great grandson
2 son	brother	nephew	grand nephew	great nephew	great great nephew	great great great nephew	great great great great nephew	great great great great great nephew	great great great great great great nephew
3 grandson	nephew	first cousin	first cousin one generation removed	first cousin two generations removed	first cousin three generations removed	first cousin four generations removed	first cousin five generations removed	first cousin six generations removed	first cousin seven generations removed
4 great grandson	great nephew	second cousin	second cousin one generation removed	second cousin two generations removed	second cousin three generations removed	second cousin four generations removed	second cousin five generations removed	second cousin six generations removed	second cousin seven generations removed
5 great great grandson	great great nephew	third cousin	third cousin one generation removed	third cousin two generations removed	third cousin three generations removed	third cousin four generations removed	third cousin five generations removed	third cousin six generations removed	third cousin seven generations removed
6 great great great grandson	great great great nephew	fourth cousin	fourth cousin one generation removed	fourth cousin two generations removed	fourth cousin three generations removed	fourth cousin four generations removed	fourth cousin five generations removed	fourth cousin six generations removed	fourth cousin seven generations removed
7 great great great great grandson	great great great great nephew	fifth cousin	fourth cousin one generation removed	fourth cousin two generations removed	fourth cousin three generations removed	fourth cousin four generations removed	fourth cousin five generations removed	fourth cousin six generations removed	fourth cousin seven generations removed
8 great great great great great grandson	great great great great great nephew	sixth cousin	fifth cousin one generation removed	fifth cousin two generations removed	fifth cousin three generations removed	fifth cousin four generations removed	fifth cousin five generations removed	fifth cousin six generations removed	fifth cousin seven generations removed
9 great great great great great great grandson	great great great great great great nephew	seventh cousin	sixth cousin one generation removed	sixth cousin two generations removed	sixth cousin three generations removed	sixth cousin four generations removed	sixth cousin five generations removed	sixth cousin six generations removed	sixth cousin seven generations removed

1. Locate the position of yourself in the column at the left from the Common Ancestor (CA), Mark 1-9.
2. Locate the position of the person you are tracing the relationship to in the column across the top, designating his descent from the Common Ancestor (CA), marked 1-9.
3. The CORRECT RELATIONSHIP will be found where the parallel and horizontal lines cross.

**KEY TO CHART:**