

IN DEFIANCE



THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 9, NO. 4

OCTOBER 1998



FROM THE CHIEF ●●●●●●●●●●

Where did the summer go?

As a family, we face a challenge. That challenge is to find the connection between William, James and David and our forefathers in Scotland. The vital link is missing and this creates some problems in convincing certain people in Scotland that we are the descendants of the Dumfries and Galloway MacBrairs. We certainly have family tradition that guides us, but we do not yet have documentary evidence. If any family member has any documentation that would clarify the position, please share it. Several family members are working very hard on this problem and anything anyone can do to help will earn the gratitude of the entire family. There are many clues to solving the mystery and you may have the key clue. As a goal, we should look to finding the answer by the year 2000 when we hope to establish memorials in Scotland. The primary memorial will be at St. Michael's Church in Dumfries which was the MacBrair Family church, where MacBrairs were interred in one of the aisle ways until a renovation resulted in the relocation of the remains and where the MacBrairs were the patrons of the St. Nicholas altar. Director at-large Terrell McBrayer worked particularly hard to get permission for us to place a memorial on the grounds of St. Michael's. Permission was recently granted and a bronze plaque will be installed in the courtyard of the church on a wall separating the old and new sections of the cemetery. The plaque will be installed as soon as possible so there will be an early dedication; details will be provided as soon as possible.

We will be having a fund raising appeal for this

memorial as soon as we have an idea of the cost.

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the plea for payment of past dues. While not all members are paid up, we are closer. A final dues notice for 1998 is being sent to only those who have not paid dues for this year. If you paid dues and our records are wrong, please let Chief Bob know. As a point of clarification, the dues status is also given as part of the mailing label following the member's first name. The date, such as 98, means dues are paid for 1998. Some people misunderstood this and paid twice for 1998; their second payment has been applied to 1999. Life members have an "L" instead of a date. If there is no date, dues have not been paid.

In efforts to build membership, a number of complementary copies of this newsletter are being sent out. If we can build our membership to consistently over 200 there is a possibility for getting better mailing rates.

IDABEL REUNION

The McBrayer Reunion in S.E. Oklahoma is held the first Saturday in October each year, this year on Oct. 3, 1998, at the Redland Community Bldg. east of Idabel just off of Hwy 3. Look for the signs. It is hosted by the descendants of Joseph G., J.W. (Wash), & Dr. Win. H. McBrayer families.

McBrayers of other lines and other areas are always welcome. Lunch is pot luck. For more information e-mail Sue Coffman (tom-sue@oio.net) or call her at (580) 286-3248 or call Melba Johnson at (580) 245-1439.



When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or the life of another. - Helen Keller

5th NATIONAL REUNION

Mark your calendars now for the third weekend of July 1999 for the 5th Family Association Reunion. Terrell McBrayer will be acting as the host for this reunion to be held in Bremen, GA, which is west of Atlanta, convenient to major highways and the Atlanta Airport. An interesting and varied program is being planned. Details are being worked out now and will be announced as soon as possible. There are many kin in this area and we hope to meet many of them there along with family from around the country.

Northeast of Bremen is the town of Tate in Picken's County. Until 1853, this area was known as Cherokee County; there still is a Cherokee county south of Picken's County. From old records it is reported that on February 6, 1832 in Tate at the Ambrose Harnage House, James McBrayer and John McBryer (not a misspelling) voted in a local election. (From the Cherokee County Web page.)

As you might expect with a county named Cherokee, there was a Native American presence in this part of Georgia. We hope to have some discussion of this presence. It is known that there were family members who married Cherokee women - it was lonely on the frontier.

THE INTERNATIONAL McBRAYER FAMILY NEWS

This is another one of those publications that claims to be representing the family. **IT DOES NOT**, it just is another money making venture. The publisher is "The Family News" in Denver, CO. They publish on an irregular basis and the subscription is \$ 12 for 4 issues. A copy of their recent issue says "The Voice of 479 American McBrayer Household". What do you get for a subscription - a 16 page 5-1/2 x 8 inch booklet. The inner 12 pages could be for any family anywhere. One page is a biography with a picture, but the person never gives his name! The cover has an old photo that is part of their "Missing Links Photos" with the question "Are they grandma and grandpa McBrayer?" and the back cover is half ads for various "McBrayer" publications or discounts for other merchandise. On the inside covers are "McBrayer Family Archives (Update) - New GEDCOMs". A typical entry is:

JAMES MCBRAYER WAS GROOM (AMELIA ANN RAMSBOTTOM (BRIDE); JAMES MCBRAYER (GROOM) .) AT LOCATION UNKNOWN 09/21/1873

Entries are given for nine people; these were checked in Carl McBrayer's latest book and all were listed, however there were some slight differences in detail which appear to come from birth, death and marriage records, no attribution is given. Never the less, this publication is of limited value. It is reasonably certain that no matter what surname family newsletter is sent, the middle pages are all the same.



SCOTLAND

Facts about Scotland

Scotland is 275 miles (440 km) from north to south and 154 miles (248 km) at its widest point. But the furthest you can get away from the sea is 40/50 miles. Scotland makes up over 30% of the area of the United Kingdom. The highest mountain in the UK is Ben Nevis (4,418 feet). (Rampant Scotland Newsletter)

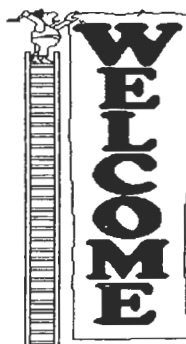
First Names

Most countries have their own naming customs, but the Scots had a very highly developed system of naming children. It went:

- The eldest son after the paternal grandfather.
- The 2nd son after the maternal grandfather.
- The 3rd son after the father.
- The eldest daughter after the paternal grandmother.
- The 2nd daughter after the maternal grandmother.
- The 3rd daughter after the mother.

Subsequent children would be named after still earlier forebearers, but generally the naming pattern in their cases would be less structured. (From *Family Tree Online*, June/July 1998)

If our forebearers followed this custom, perhaps this gives some further direction for research in Scotland.



TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Juanita "Nita" Wilson Ferguson is a descendant of 4th generation Jane F. McBrayer (M 82/6, Wm.). She lives in Wilburton, OK and recently met with Family Historian Carl

McBrayer. She will be updating her line in the near future. She also has been researching the Glenn family, her mother's side, and plans to research the ancestors of Elijah T. Wilson, the husband of Jane.

Mary Donna Ratliff Foley is 10th generation descending from Elizabeth C. McBrayer, the daughter of Ichabod. Mary Donna has provided an update which is given in the Update section of this newsletter. She lives in Russell Springs, KY. She has done extensive family research and has written a book "The Foley Family of southern Kentucky: Descendants of Spencer & Nancy Rector Foley". Her research includes the 12 children of Thomas and Elizabeth McBrayer Sanders.

Otis Lester McBrayer (M 323-7, 8th gen, Wm.) and his wife **Tommie Sue** live in Nevada, TX. Tommie had sent in earlier an update which was published in the April 1998 issue of *In Defiance*.

Dorothy Joan McBrayer Nelms is 8th generation, the daughter of Clark Candler McBrayer (M 347/1, Wm.). She and her husband **John** live in Panama City Beach, FL. Her sister Carolyn also became a member recently (see below). Her daughter Debbie Williams has provided some update information which will be reported later.

Nicki McBrayer Perger is 9th generation, the daughter of Nicolaus Alexander McBrayer (M 109-7/3, Wm.). She and her husband **Scott** live in Tucson, AZ where she works for the Tucson Police Department in the Records Section. They have a daughter, **Allison Marie Perger**, who was born August 9, 1997. Nicki also brought her younger brother **Steven Michael McBrayer** into the Family Association. Steve also lives in Tucson.

Catherine Juanita Brank Suttles is 7th generation descending from Martha McBrayer (M 360/10, Wm.) who married John Seyn Fletcher. Catherine has done extensive research on the Fletcher branch and provided update published in the July 1998 and current issues of *In Defiance*. She and her husband **Jimmie** live in Flat Rock, NC on Suttles Road.

Carolyn McBrayer Zook, Joan Nelms' sister, also is a new member. Carolyn and her husband Glen live in Richardson, TX.

Our latest **LIFE MEMBER** is **Raymond Franklin Cathcart**. Raymond is descended from Joseph Green

McBrayer (M 265-7). He has many old records, including census records, but has been unable to find the connection to the family. Joseph Green's father was Joseph and his mother was Elizabeth, last name unknown. Joseph Green was born 24 May 1855 in GA. If anybody has information which would help Raymond make the connection, he would certainly appreciate it. He and his wife Ann spend their summers in Vermont and the winters in Texas.

THE McBRAYER CEMETERY

The following story was taken from the May 15, 1998 issue of the **Morehead News**, Morehead, KY, and the information was supplied by the Rowan County Historical Society. The cemetery inventory is available in the Rowan County Public Library. Member Arthur M. McBrayer sent the clipping in.

The McBrayer Cemetery is located in southeastern Rowan County on Lower Oak Grove Road. This area of land was set aside to be used for a cemetery from the 1,100 acres owned by L. P. McBrayer who is the direct ancestor to local residents and brothers Bert and J. Earl McBrayer. The cemetery is one of seven known cemeteries found on Lower Oak Grove Road.

It contains stones bearing the names of Bellomy, Bohm, Briseno, Dillon, Johnson, McBrayer, Renfroe, Roe, Sargent, Scaggs, Skaggs, Skinner, Terry and Woodrow. All burials except one occurred from early 1900s to the mid-1990s. The oldest burial is H. B. (Harry) McBrayer who died in 1899 when he was about 23 years old. The most recent burial is Harvey E. McBrayer who died on Feb. 1, 1996.

There are four unmarked graves. Known veterans buried there include a Union soldier in the Civil War, L. P. McBrayer (1828-1909); Charles Woodrow, who fought in Korea; and World War II veterans Matthew Bellomy, Rudy Briseno, Beecher McBrayer, Paul McBrayer and Talmadge Skinner.

The Historical Society described the cemetery as well kept, fenced in and spacious, a lovely rural setting, nestled on a knoll partially surrounded by trees. The cemetery was inventoried by Jewell Moore of Rowan County in July 1997.

Location: From Morehead take KY 519 and go 0.7 miles. Turn left on KY 1167 (Dry Creek Road) and go 5.1 miles to the top of the hill. Turn left and follow KY 1167 (Oak Grove Road) about 6 miles. Turn right on Lower Oak Grove Road 0.4 miles. Go left at McBrayer Cemetery Road to the cemetery on the right.

Of those mentioned in the article, the following can be clearly identified:

Lewis Parker McBrayer (M 282, 5th, Wm.)
 Bert McBrayer (M 36-5, 7th, Wm.)
 James Earl McBrayer (M 174, 7th, Wm.)
 Beecher G. McBrayer (M 32-5, 7th, Wm.)
 Harvey E. McBrayer (M 139-5, 7th, Wm.)
 Paul Vernon McBrayer (M 326-5, 8th, Wm.)
 Harrison Burns (H.B.) McBrayer (M 135-5, 6th)

A full inventory of this cemetery will be published in a latter issue of *In Defiance*.



ARE YOU A HAM?

With today's emphasis on new means of communications such as fax and e-mail, we often forget that there is an older means which is often forgotten. That is amateur or "ham" radio. Family Historian Carl McBrayer admits to being a ham and called the editor's attention to a Web Site (www.grz.com) which has a directory of operators. This gives the names of 18 McBrayers and 10 Briers. Of these, the following are Family Association Members:

Carl B. McBrayer WA5JDV
 Burgess A. Brier KC5SIU
 Robert M. Brier KB7JRC

If you know of any others, please pass along their names.



REST IN PEACE

We regretfully report the passing of the following family members. Our sincere condolences to their families.

Bertie Lou McBrayer, 69, of Camp Hill died Monday, May 4, 1998, in Harrisburg Hospital. She was a volunteer at the Lower Allen Twp. Municipal Building and with the Peace Church Historical Society and attended Perry Alliance Church, Shermans Dale, and Shiremanstown Church of God.

Surviving are her husband, Wandless Leston McBrayer Sr. (M 405-7, 7th, Wm.); two daughters, Katherine P. Port of Camp Hill and Cindy Woodsmall of Buford, Ga.; two sons, W.L. Jr., at home, and Mark of

Gadsden, Ala.; a sister, Lilly Mae Hanlin, and a brother Leachan Williams, both of Gadsden; and nine grandchildren.

Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Friday in Myers Funeral Home, Mechanicsburg. Burial was in St. John's Cemetery, Hampden Twp., at the convenience of the family.

(Adapted from the *Harrisburg Patriot News*, Wednesday, May 6, 1998) (Editor's Note: Bertie, Les Sr. and Les Jr. attended the National Reunion in Chambersburg in 1997. Les Sr. is a Life Member.)

Fred Cornelius McBrayer (M 118, 8th, Wm.), 81 of the Maple Grove (Resaca, GA) community died Wednesday May 20, 1998, in an area hospital. Fred was born June 9, 1916, the son of Luther and Carrie Lee Rogers McBrayer. He was an officer in the Murray County Singing Convention for 30 years and had served as chairman of the Murray County Board of Tax Assessors.

He was the husband of the late Bonnie Sexton McBrayer and a member of the Corinth Baptist Church. Survivors include a daughter, Linda Price of the Nickelsville community; five sons, John McBrayer, Cartersville, GA, the Rev. Jerry McBrayer and Lamar McBrayer of the Fidelle community and Roy McBrayer, Calhoun, Ga., several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Visitation was at Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home. Services were May 22, 1998 at 2 p.m. at Corinth Baptist Church with Charlie McBrayer and other ministers officiating. Burial was in Corinth Cemetery.

(Adapted from obituary in the 21 May 1998 issue of the *Chattanooga Free Press*.)

Harold Theodore McBrayer (M 135, 7th, Wm.), 83, Kansas City, MO, passed away Sunday, September 6, 1998, at his residence in Kansas City, MO.. Memorial services were Wednesday, September 9, at the New-comer Floral Hills Chapel. He was cremated. Mr. McBrayer is survived by his wife, Carlotta M. McBrayer, of the home; son, Brian and daughter-in-law, Sharon McBrayer, sons David and Alan McBrayer, all of Kansas City grand-daughter, Debbie McBrayer, Overland Park, KS; grandsons, Steve McBrayer, Overland Park, KS, and Robert McBrayer, Kansas City, KS; and McBrayer great-grandchildren, Kait, Matthew, Steve and Rebecca. Mac was born in Iola, KS, and spent his early years there, where he met and married Carlotta Mercedes Stivison. He attended

Kansas University and served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. His professional career in retail clothing included JCPenney and Macy's. He later worked with Textile Distributors as personnel manager and vice-president of personnel and advertising. In a lifetime of business, Mac was well known for hard work, honesty and professionalism. He was a true family man, loving husband and wonderful father. Mac was a long-time member of the Kansas City St. Andrew Society and loved all things Scottish. "Princes and Lords are but the breath of kings; an honest man's noblest work of God."—Robert Burns

(Adapted from obituary in the September 7, 1998 *Kansas City Star*. He was a Family Association member. He had become very ill during the past year and required frequent dialysis treatments.)

James Isaac McBrayer (M 183-8, 8th, Wm.) died Saturday, July 11, 1998, in a local (Chattanooga, TN) hospital. He was 68. A native of Rome, GA, he had lived in Detroit a number of years before retiring to Chattanooga. He was retired from General Motors after 30 years of service. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and received the World War II Victory Medal and the Army Occupation Medal in Japan. He was a Protestant.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lennie Arthur McBrayer and Delpha Jones McBrayer. Survivors include a son, Roger Dale McBrayer, Sevierville, Tenn.; and daughter, Sheila Elaine Foster, Chattanooga.

Grave side services were Monday, July 13 in Chickamauga Cemetery. Visitation was at Heritage Funeral Home, Fort Oglethorpe.
(Adapted from the *Chattanooga Free Press*, July 12, 1998 issue.)

Ruth Christian McBrayer, 77, of Saint Albans, West Virginia, formerly of Rowan County, KY, passed away Wednesday, July 15, 1998 at her home following an illness. Mrs. McBrayer was born May 14, 1921, in Rowan County, a daughter of the late Clella and Lizzie Barricks Christian. She was a resident of St. Albans for 57 years.

She was also preceded in death by her husband, George Washington McBrayer (M 132-7, 7th, Wm.), who died on August 3, 1996 and two brothers, Orville Christian and Andrew Jackson Christian.

She was a member of Saint Andrews Methodist Church in Saint Albans, West Virginia, Kanawha County

Republican Women, Saint Albans Woman's Club and National Federation of Republican Women.

Surviving are one son, William Patrick McBrayer of Hurricane, West Virginia; two daughters, Lucille McBrayer of Hyden and Jacqueline McBrayer Mullins of Bumpass, Virginia; one sister, Hildredth Kidd of Morehead; nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, July 18, at Lane-Stucky-Gray Funeral Home in Morehead, KY with Rev. Bill Turley officiating. Burial was in the Christian Cemetery.

(The above was compiled from obituaries appearing in the *Charleston Daily Mail* [7/16/98], *The Morehead News* [7/17/98] and the *Elliott County News*, KY [7/24/98]. James F. McBrayer and Arthur M. McBrayer respectively provided the first two.)

We have also learned of the passing of Family Association member Glenn Wilson Brier (B 117, 7th, Wm.). He died in January 1998. Additional information will be published when available.

The Obituary Daily Times

Since, 1995, a group of volunteers with Internet e-mail capability has been contributing to a database on the Web called *The Obituary Daily Times* (ODT). Each volunteer monitors his/her local newspaper and submits index citations in a standard format for obituaries they publish. Data is then distributed to the contributors on almost a daily basis. Once a specific obituary is found, you may contact the person who submitted the entry for the entire text. This database has become a source for family information, both for known family members and for unknown connections. Your editor recently became a contributor and some of the obituaries/death notices in this newsletter were obtained from the ODT. If you would like to become a contributor, please contact me at rmcbrayer@driveninc.com with the paper or papers you would be willing to review. I will check the publications list and let you know if your publication is available for review as well as the procedure.

Some of the "unknowns" are reported below. If you have any information about any of these people, please pass along the information.

Andrè McBrayer passed away at age 24. He was survived by his children, Keandra, Tiara & Tedra; parents, David & Betty Marsh; sister, Amelia; brother,

Jonathan; also survived by his fiancée, Ta Williams; other relatives & friends. A memorial service was held August 28, 1998 at the Brooks Funeral Home. (Adapted from death notice in the *St. Paul (MN) Pioneer Press* of August 28, 1998.)

William Allen McBrayer passed away July 10, 1998. A Pearl Harbor Survivor he was survived by son Wayne Allen McBrayer, and best friend Dorothy Hurdlow. Viewing was at Mayer Mortuary, 2859 Adams Ave., July 14th. Masonic and Church Services were held Wednesday, July 15th at St. John Episcopal Church 760 First Ave., Chula Vista, San Diego County, CA. (Adapted from obituary in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, July 15, 1998.)

Harold A. Brier, retired Chief of City of Milwaukee Police Department died Wednesday, September 9, 1998. (From the Milwaukee Journal Star, September 10, 1998.)

Margaret L. Brier, 89, Brookville, IN., died Friday, Oct. 17, 1997 at McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital in Oxford. She is survived by her sons, Lewis and John, and daughters, Marilyn Hewitt and Helen Keohane. Funeral services were Tuesday, Oct. 21 at Bath United Methodist Church. The Showalter-Blackwell Funeral Home, Baker Chapel in College Corner provided burial services. (Condensed from death notice in the *Hamilton Journal-News* [OH], Oct. 20, 1997)

Clair A. McBryar, 100, a resident of Masonic Home, Elizabethtown, and formerly of RD 1, Polk, and the Saegertown area, died Monday, July 13, 1998, at his residence. He was born in Brookville, Sept. 9, 1897, a son of David T. and Rachael Thrush McBryar. He married Tressie Eakin, April 13, 1925. She preceded him in death Dec. 27, 1988.

He retired as a self-employed carpenter. He was also a barber in the Franklin area. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War I. He was a member of Myrtle Masonic Lodge 316 in Franklin. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a member of Twelve Apostles Lutheran Church in Saegertown.

Survivors include a son, Robert C. McBryar and his wife Edith of Saegertown; five grandchildren, Thomas McBryar and his wife Judy, Lawrence McBryar and his wife Debra, both of Saegertown, Patricia Sutton and her husband Jack of Townville, James McBryar

and his wife Kathleen of West Springfield, Mass., Barbara Stoyer and her husband James of Polk; 12 step grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three brothers and seven sisters.

The funeral was Thursday, July 16, 1998, at the Hunter Funeral Home, Saegertown with the Rev. Gretchen Cranz of Twelve Apostles Lutheran Church officiating. Burial was in Hickory Grove Cemetery, Victory Township. (Adapted from the 15 July 1998 issue of the *Meadville Tribune*, Meadville, PA.)

Tim M. McBrayer, A STORY FROM THE PAST

Editor's note: The following story was found on the Internet site www.rootsweb.com/~arpike/pikerecords and is an interesting addition to previously available information. Annotations are made in parenthesis to tie to "The MacBraire Heritage 1735-1998". As reported in the book, it is not known how Tim became known as Tim as his name was originally Tilman or Tilmon. The middle initial is difficult to read in the old records and it may be either "M" or "W."



Tim M. McBrayer (M 390, 6th, Wm.), farmer, Murfreesboro, Ark. Mr. McBrayer is

a practical, go-ahead farmer, and fully appreciates the comforts of a competence gained by individual labor. His birth occurred in North Carolina, in 1852, and he was early initiated into the duties of farm life, receiving his education in the common schools until fifteen years of age. He then, in company with his elder brother, E. (Eli) W., came to Arkansas (2 June 1867) and settled in Clark County where they bought a farm. There our subject made his home until 1873, when he went to work for himself, and the following year was married to Miss Mary Wilkinson, a native of Georgia. In 1877 Mr. McBrayer came to Pike County, purchased a farm, and in January 1878, moved with his family to this county. His farm is located three miles southeast of town, and consists of 300 acres in the river bottom; and he has sixty-five acres under cultivation, all of which he cleared himself. He has good buildings, and is constantly engaged in opening new land. His principal crops are corn and cotton. Mr. McBrayer is a member of the Baptist Church, and he is much interested in educational matters, filling the position of school director at the present time. He is active in politics, and

his vote is cast with the Democratic party. He is always to be found at the front in matters of public improvement, and is satisfied to make his home in Arkansas. To his marriage were born six children: James (*James Wellington*), William (*William A.*), Flavey (*Flave Alexander*), Florence (*Florence Ida*), Beulah (who died in infancy), and Nash (died at the age of two years). Mr. McBrayer is one of the most successful farmers of the county, and has made the principal part of his property by individual labor. A part of his fine farm is covered with timber. Mr. McBrayer is the youngest of five children born to Tilmon and Almeda (*Elizabeth Almeda*) (*Bridges*) McBrayer, natives of North Carolina, where the father followed farming until his death. The mother died in 1859.

(Tim died in February or March 1891 and Mary in July 1919. Both are buried in Murfreesboro. His tombstone reads "Tim M., the husband of Mary J. McBrayer".)

TROY McBRAYER, Survivor of 1927

Sand Flat tornado tells a good tale

(The following story by Jon McConal, Editorial Columnist, Fort Worth Star-Telegram is reprinted with his permission. Troy McBrayer [M 393, 7th, William] is a long time Family Association member)

SAND FLAT -- With tornado season stirring, Troy McBrayer can offer a word or two of advice about surviving a twister. McBrayer lived in this tiny community east of Cleburne on April 19, 1927, when a tornado nearly ripped it from the sandy soil like the crops that farmers still plant and harvest here. McBrayer said it was the residents' honesty and working to help each other that helped them survive that tornado. But even making a living in those days was tough.

He told about the summer with no cooling but hand-held fans.

"We had a big gospel revival in the old arbor in the summer. It was covered with brush. The funeral home passed out hand fans and that is what we kept cool with," he said. "I can remember my sisters fanning themselves with those fans while old Brother Sanders preached." McBrayer and his family lived across the road from the Watts Chapel United Methodist Church. "When I was 17, I was hired as janitor for 25 cents a week. So every Saturday afternoon I would sweep and dust the church and on Sunday night I would light the carbide lights," he said. "In the winter I would build a fire early in the morning in a big coal-burning potbellied stove."

The family moved to another house across from the Baptist church. Then came the night of April 19, 1927. "I was sleeping on the enclosed back porch and was awakened by a very high wind," McBrayer said. "I got up, pulled on my overalls and my room began to pull away from the house." He and his family huddled in the hallway. "We could hear a loud roar as dishes crashed to the floor and the warming oven on our coal burning stove hit the floor. The tornado ripped off the roof and moved our house off the foundation," he said. "Then the rain poured in."

The family found temporary shelter at the home of a neighbor, who gave them dry clothes and made pallets for them. "The Baptist church was not hit. But the grocery store next door to it was blown away -- cans and groceries were scattered everywhere," he said. Then the people began doing what was expected of them.

"The neighbors all gathered and picked up the groceries that were scattered everywhere and returned them to the owner, Dick Bennett [Uncle Dick]," McBrayer said. "Most of the labels were gone from the cans, so folks would shake them to determine what was inside them." They didn't stop there. They began to retrieve the scattered lumber from the grocery store. They pulled nails from it and began building Uncle Dick another store. He was their grocer. They needed those groceries. Nobody thought about stealing them.

McBrayer left the community in 1927 when he moved to Fort Worth. He learned that that old saying that a tornado never hits twice in the same place is false. A young couple bought the McBrayer house and rebuilt it. Another tornado hit it the next year as they were holding their baby. The infant was unhurt, but the house was destroyed. They rebuilt it.

In 1932, lightning struck the house, burning it to the ground.

Scottish Humor



An Englishman entered a bar and stood beside a Scotsman. After they had chatted for a while the Scot asked "Where are you from?" The Englishman replied "I'm from the finest country in the world." The Scot looked skeptical and replied "Are you? You have a

damn funny accent for a Scotsman."

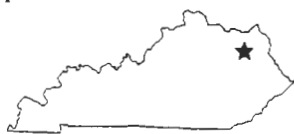
After discovering that they had won 15 million pounds in the Lottery, Mr and Mrs McFlannel sat down to discuss their future. Mrs McFlannel announced "After twenty years of washing other people's stairs, I can throw my old scrubbing brush away at last." Her husband agreed - "Of course you can, hen. We can easily afford to buy you a new one now."

One of the Edinburgh scientists who cloned a sheep, decided secretly to create a duplicate of himself by cloning. He did so, but to his surprise, his clone would only talk in the most depraved and obscene language. Not only could he not take him anywhere in public, people mistook the clone for him and he was asked to resign from his golf club and the scientists' lunch club. In despair, the scientist lured his clone up to the top of Ben Nevis and pushed him off the summit to his death. However, he was seen doing this (there are always crowds at the top of Ben Nevis) and the police came for him. In vain he protested that it was only his own creation he had disposed of. "No sir," said the policeman. "It's a serious offence. We're arresting you for making an obscene clone fall."

(From *Rampant Scotland* newsletter)

Old Kentucky Home

Member *Arthur M. McBrayer* has passed along an article from the "Kentucky Explorer" magazine of March 1998. It is abstracted below. Arthur notes that the town is "Elliottville" not "Elliottsville". The present day Elliottville is in Rowan County east of Morehead in the northeast corner of Kentucky. The gazetteer location does not correspond to the present location, nor is there a Bristol on a current map. The county seat, Grayson, is on the current map and its location and present location of Elliottville do correspond.



PRESENT DAY ELLIOTTVILLE

In 1879 a state gazetteer was published for the entire state of Kentucky. The book included a description of most every community from the smallest to the largest. Agents for the book must have traveled to all parts of Kentucky collecting names and advertisements. The gazetteer does not contain any photographs. Different communities, some now extinct, are featured just as they appeared in the 1879 Kentucky State Gazetteer. The only known copy is located in the Kentucky Historical Society's Rare Book Room in

Frankfort.

Elliottsville

Known as Bristol, in the northern part of Rowan County, nine miles north of Morehead, the county seat, and twenty-four miles southwest of Grayson, its nearest shipping point, on the E. K. Railway, and sixty miles east of Louisville. Semiweekly mail: W. P. Ward, postmaster.

Business Directory

Blair J P, blacksmith.
Click, James A, wagonmaker.
Day T. T., constable.
McBrayer, Henry, flour mill.
McBrayer, J. M., engineer.
Page, J. P, carpenter.
Parker, J. T, justice.
Ramey, M.E, physician.
Tabor, B. L, teacher.
Terrell, C. P, lawyer.
Turner, E. S, distillery.
Ward, C. F, shoemaker.
Ward, C. A., general store.
Ward, W. P, live stock.



Looking for Family

Donna Kinney is looking for information on her great-grandfather, **John J. McBriar**, b Feb. 1861 in England; both parents also were from England. John may have immigrated from Northern Ireland about 1880; he was a blacksmith. If you have any information, please send it to Chief Bob.



Don't Throw That Bottle Away!

Earl Allen McBrayer (M 98, 7th, James) passed along information on an annual Bottle, Jug & Ephemera auction held this summer in Montana. A bottle identified as follows was sold for \$ 35.00:

"Amber fifth tooled top whiskey cylinder, label only, "W. H. McBRAYER'S Cedar Brook Whiskey BATEMAN - SWITZER CO. GREAT FALLS, MONT." Bottle has front, back and part of neck label. Front label very decorative, about 90%. Bottle still corked, probably one of a kind."

FAMILY TREE UPDATES

The following updated information is keyed specifically to the latest Family History book, *IN DEFIANCE - The MacBraire Heritage - 1735-1998*, and so uses the numbering system in that book when applicable. Since this book is an update of previous histories, it may be difficult to reference earlier books. Please be aware that the latest book entries as well as these updates are being input into the *Family Tree Maker* format which gives the possibility of transferring data by GEDCOM files.

Page 444, correct entry:

✓ **275. LARKIN WELLINGTON MCBRAYER** ----- change paragraph 5 to read:

Larkin died at the Birchwood Manor Nursing Home in Cooper, Delta Co., TX, on 15 May 1978 and is buried in the Pecan Gap, TX cemetery (SSN 451-28-2215). He and Willie had issue (9th gen):

Page 445, correct entries:

✓ **275/3. MARGARET KATHERINE MCBRAYER**, 9th gen, b 11 Jun 1924 in Rattan, Delta Co., TX, m **GLENDEL REGAN** (div). They had issue (10th gen):

3A. **MARGARET KAY REGAN**

3B. **LEWIS RAGEN**

✓ **275/5. JOYCE EVELYN MCBRAYER**, 9th gen, b 21 Jun 1925 in Pecan Gap, Delta Co., TX, m (1) 26 Dec 1955 to **GEORGE WRIGHT BARBER**, who d in Paris, TX in Jan 1962 in Huntsville, AL and is buried in Mineral Wells, TX. They had issue (10th gen):

Change paragraph after entry for 5A. To read:

✓ She m (2) in Nov 1962 in Hugo, OK, to **J.T. WILLIAMS**, who was b 18 Jan 1927 in Lamar Co., TX. He was the son of **JAMES HARRISON** and **MAMIE MYRIAH LATHAM**. He d 10 Jun 1972 in Lamar Co., TX. Joyce was a secretary prior to retirement. And is a member of the Baptist Church. They had issue (10th gen):

5B. **ALLEN DAVID WILLIAMS**, b 14 Jun 1963 in Lamar Co., TX. He m 11 Jun 1988 to **MICHELLE MILLER** in Paris, TX.

(Information for all changes above provided by Joyce McBrayer Davidson in private correspondence dtd 27 Jul 1998.)

The following update adds to information given in the July 1998 issue of In Defiance:

✓ **360/10F8d. CHARLOTTE EMMA FLETCHER**, 6th gen, b 20 Jan 1921 in Fletcher, Henderson County, NC, m **LEON FRANK BRANK** 6 Aug 1939 in Greenville, SC. He was b 15 Sep 1921 in Swannanca, Buncombe Co., NC, d 21 Apr 1993 in Killeen, Bell Co., TX. They were divorced 30 Aug 1948 in Hendersonville, Henderson Co., NC. They had issue (7th gen):

✓ **1A. CAROLYN MOLETA BRANK** b 1 Jan 1940 in Henderson Co., NC, m (1) 3 Sep 1955 in Greenville, SC, to **HOWARD WORSHAM, Jr.** b 2 Mar 1936 in Henderson Co., NC. They had issue (8th gen):

1A1. KATHY DIANE WORSHAM b 31 Jul 1956 in Henderson Co., NC.

1A2. DONNA LOUISE WORSHAM b 24 Mar 1959 in Henderson Co. NC.

Carolyn m (2) 29 Oct 1971 IN Henderson Co., NC, to **BURGAN ASHWORTH STEPP** b 1 Jul 1938. No issue.

1B. CATHERINE JUANITA BRANK b 18 Mar 1942 in Fletcher, Henderson Co., NC, m 10 Jun 1958 in Hendersonville, Henderson Co., NC, to **JIMMIE HALE SUTTLES** b 16 Nov 1939 in Upward, Henderson Co... NC, the son of Luther Lincoln and Effie Stepp Suttles. They had issue (9th gen):

1B1. AMY NANETTE SUTTLES b 11 Jun 1961 in Hendersonville, Henderson Co., NC.

1B2. JEFFREY LAMAR SUTTLES b 4 Aug 1964 in Hendersonville, Henderson Co., NC.

1C. FRANCES EMILY BRANK b 21 Apr 1944 in Baltimore, MD, m (1) **DAVID BULIN SUTTLES** (1st cousin to Catherine's husband.) They had issue (9th gen):

1C1. ERIC DANIEL SUTTLES b 24 Jul in Henderson Co., NC.

Frances m (2) 21 Mar 1979 in Indian River Co., FL to **PAUL TAYLOR Jr.** No issue.

1D. DORIS LEONNA BRANK B 13 APR 1946 IN Henderson Co., NC, m 27 Jul 1966 in Yuma, AZ, to **NOAL THOMAS KITCHEN** b 15 Nov 1946 in Henderson Co., NC. They had issue (9th gen):

1D1. ARRION THOMEL KITCHEN b 1 Mar 1975 in Henderson Co., NC.

1D2. AMBER THOMELA KITCHEN b 28 Sep 1978 in Buncombe Co., NC.

1D3. AXTEN THOLAN KITCHEN b/d 22 Feb 1980 (stillborn).

(above information provided by Catherine Suttles in private e-mail correspondence dtd 26 July 1998.)

Page 272. Change and add to the following:

156/1. ELIZABETH C. MCBRAYER, 4th gen, was b 1801 in Buncombe Co., NC, supposedly shortly before the family moved from the area. Consent was given by Ichabod and **JACOB SANDERS** (father of Thomas; **JOHN SANDERS**, Rev. War, was the father of Jacob.) For her marriage on (bond date 8 Apr 1820) 13 Apr 1820 in Floyd Co., KY to Thomas Jefferson Sanders b ca 1800 in Virginia. She died after the 1870 Pike Co., KY, census and he died after the 1860, but before the 1870 Pike Co., KY, census. Both are buried in the Flatwoods of Pike Co. They had issue (5th gen): [as listed in the book]

1B. GREENVILE "GREEN" SANDERS b c 1823, d ca 1898. He m (1) on 15 Jan 1842 in Pike Co., KY, **RHODICA "RHODA" POTTER**, b ca 1824 d after 1871, the dau of **BEN & SUSANNAH POTTER**. They had issue (6th gen) at least:

1B#. JAMES HARVEY SANDERS b July 1846 Pike Co., KY, d 1 May 1938 Pikeville, KY, m (1) on 29 July 1869 **LUCINDA CASTLE** b 16 Apr 1848, d 2 Nov 1927 in KY, dau of **JAMES & CYNTHIA MOORE CASTLE**. They had issue (7th gen) 12 children including:

1B#x. NELSON "NELSE" SANDERS b 22 Nov 1876, d. 3 Dec 1942 Pike Co. m 2 Sept 1899 in Virginia, **ELIZA JANE MULLINS** b 17 Aug 1883 VA, d 8 May 1968 Pike Co., KY, dau of **RHODA BENTLEY** 1862—1953 and **DAVID MULLINS** 1857—1905. They had issue (8th gen) 8 children including:

1B#x#. MARY SANDERS b 27 Feb 1904 KY, d 19 Nov 1990 Pike Co., m 23 Apr 1925 in Pike Co. **PANKIE RATLIFF** b 10 Apr 1894 Pike Co., d 26 Mar 1980 Pikeville, KY, son of **JOHN EP. & NANCY JANE WOOD RATLIFF**. They had issue (9th gen):

1B#x#a. DENIS RACINE RATLIFF b 1 June 1926 Pike Co., m 1 June 1951 Pike Co. **PATIA LEE MASSEY** b 9 Dec 1930 in Perry Co, KY, dau of **KENNRED AUGUSTA & SARAH JANE WHITAKER MASSEY**. They had issue (10th gen):

1B#x#a1. MARY DONNA RATLIFF, ScD b 24 Nov 1953 Pikeville, Pike Co., KY, m 1972 in KY **GARY VESTON FOLEY** b 8 Sept 1952 TX

1B#x#a2. DENIS LEE RATLIFF

1B#x#a3. BECKY JANE RATLIFF

1b#X#b. GORDON FINLEY RATLIFF

(Above information provided by Mary Donna Foley, private correspondence, August 1998)

The following "S" entries were inadvertently left out of the latest family history book.

228. SAMUEL BRIER, CAPTAIN, 3rd gen (David-78, William-1), was born at his grandfather's farm of "Williamsburg" in Hamilton Twp., Cumberland Co., PA, on 25 Jun 1777. He was the son of David and Agnes Dickson McBrayer/Brier.

In 1794 he served as "Samuel Bryer" in the Whiskey Insurrection in western Pennsylvania with the Franklin County Militia. He was a Captain in the War of 1812 and served under **General Harrison**, who sent him to build Fort Brier near Greenville, Darke Co., OH (2nd Reg't, Ohio Militia, under Col. Price).

Samuel was married to **BETSEY CAMPBELL**, the daughter of **WILLIAM CAMPBELL**, on 26 Jan 1804 at Greencastle, PA. They were married by **DR. ROBERT KENNEDY** of Welsh Run. Betsey was a sister to **HUGH CAMPBELL** of Franklin and Westmoreland Counties of PA and was born 9 Jul 1781 in Cumberland Co., PA. She died 17 Apr 1849 in Fountain Co., IN, and both she and Samuel, who died in 1858, are buried in the Rob Roy Cemetery there.

Samuel migrated to Ohio in about 1809 and settled in Dayton Twp., Montgomery Co. Nancy, his youngest sister, made her home with him and he was her guardian until she became of age. In about 1828 the family moved to Shawnee Twp., Fountain Co., IN. Samuel was a Presbyterian and a Succeeder, and a Whig in politics. On 29 Jan 1830 he bought land from his brother, James. He was a trustee of the Rob Roy Presbyterian Church in 1839. Earlier, in 1827, he was a Trustee of the Coal Creek Presbyterian Church. He sold some land on 22 Apr 1845 to his sons, Burgess B. and Samuel A. His will, dated 2 Aug 1853, was probated on 15 Oct 1858.

Samuel and Betsey had issue (4th gen):

1. **DAVID BRIER**, b 7 Mar 1805, d 14 Mar 1805, b-d in PA.
2. **MARY BRIER**, b 17 Mar 1806, d 4 Feb 1808
3. **MATILDA BRIER**, b 7 Sept 1808, d 13 Feb 1808 (1817)
4. **WILLIAM CAMPBELL BRIER**, b 7 Jan 1810, d 22 Jul 1810
5. George Washington Brier, b 1811 (#114)
6. Cynthia Brier, b 1812
7. Hannah Brier, b 1814
8. Burgess Buell Brier, b 1816 (#38)
9. **HARRIETT BRIER**, d 1819 in infancy
10. Samuel Andrew Brier, b 1822 (#232)
11. Margaret Robinson Brier, b 1824
12. Mary Brier, b 1850

6. **CYNTHIA BRIER**, 4th gen, b 12 Sept 1812 in Dayton Twp., Montgomery Co., OH, moved to Fountain Co., IN, with her father in about 1827. She m (1) to **JOSEPH S. ROBB**, on 9 Sept 1830 in IN. He was b in 1797 and d 11 Jun 1834. They had issue (5th gen):

6A. Hattie Robb

Cynthia m (2) to --?-- **HOUSER**, before 1853. No issue of record to this union.

6A. **HATTIE ROBB**, 5th gen, was m to --?-- **COTTRELL**. She d in 1921. They had issue (6th gen):

- 6A1. **EVE C. COTTRELL**, m **L.W. FLACK**
- 6A2. (DAU) **COTTRELL**, m **G.H. MESSENGER**
- 6A3. **CHARLES COTTRELL**
- 6A4. **MAY COTTRELL**, m --?-- **WARRINGTON**

7. **HANNAH BRIER**, 4th gen, b 23 Dec 1814, m 24 Mar 1836 to **WILLIAM GRIFFITH**.

11. **MARGARET ROBINSON BRIER**, 4th gen, b 6 Aug 1824, m 1 May 1845 to **WILSON FURMAN**, who was b 16 Feb 1824 on the Sangamon River in Decatur, IL. He was a merchant in Attica, IN, and served in Company "C", 86th Indiana Volunteers during the Civil War. In addition to the son listed below, they had four daughters (5th gen):

11A. **SAMUEL FURMAN**, m 6 Mar 1878 to **OLLIE M. KELLER**, had a son b on 8 Mar 1879.

12. **MARY BRIER**, 4th gen, b 16 Jun 1850, d 25 Oct 1845, m 8 Jul 1840 in Fountain Co., IN, to **SYLVESTER CRAIN**, had issue (5th gen):

12A. **FRELINGHYSEN CRAIN**

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230. **SAMUEL BRIER**, 4th gen (Andrew-17, David-78, William-1), was born in 1827 in Bethel Twp, Miami Co., OH. He was the son of Andrew Dickson and Elizabeth Thornby Brier. He was a carpenter at the time of the census of 1850 in Bethel Twp., Miami Co., OH. On 29 Dec 1862 he bought 1/5th of his father's estate from William and wife, Priscilla, then of Clark Co., Iowa. He bought an undivided 2/5th on 19 Aug from David Brier and wife, Abigail, and John A. Brier of Clark Co., Iowa. He sold the farm land lying between the Miami Rivers on 21 Apr 1866 and that same year purchased a farm "lying south of the State Road from Springfield to Milton, lying along the New Carlisle-Tippecanoe Turnpike Road".

He was married 10 Apr 1851 in Miami Co., OH, to **ELIZABETH COTTINGHAM**, and had issue (5th gen):

1. **HARVEY E. BRIER**, m 18 Nov 1889 in Miami Co., OH, to **LAURA A. CARTER**, who d in Nov 1904, had no issue.
2. (dau) **BRIER**, m --?-- **MEREDITH**, had one son:
 - 2A. **EDWARD BRIER MEREDITH**
3. **LUCY BRIER**
4. **MARY E. BRIER**
5. **SAMUEL BRIER**

* * * * *

232. **SAMUEL ANDREW BRIER**, 4th gen (Samuel-228, David-78, William-1), was born 11 Feb 1822 in Dayton Twp., Montgomery Co., OH. He was the son of Captain Samuel and Betsey Campbell Brier. He accompanied his father to Shawnee Twp., Fountain Co., IN, in 1827. He bought land there from his father on 22 Apr 1845. On 30 Aug 1853 he sold land to his sister, Cynthia Houser. He sold additional land on 27 Dec 1890 to his son, Solon, and daughter, Laura Gilbert. He was recorded as administrator to his father's estate on 15 Oct 1848 and on 9 Oct 1861, he was listed as guardian to Mary, Francis, Heby, George, and Charles Manlove, minor heirs of William and Nancy Brier Manlove, his first cousins. He bought some land on 18 Sept 1848 from his brother, Burgess. He was an Elder and Trustee of the Shawnee Presbyterian Church.

He owned 300 acres of land in Fountain Co., IN, 240 acres in Vermillion Co., IL, and 240 acres near Topeka, KS. He marketed his crops in Chicago "with the trip taking 2 weeks with horses and 4 weeks with oxen". He was a Whig-Republican. He died 29 Oct 1891 in Fountain Co., IN, and is buried in the Beulah Cemetery there.

He was married 18 Apr 1844 in Fountain Co., IN, to **FRANCES HATTEN**, the daughter of **WILLIAM HATTEN**. She was born 1 Feb 1822 in Ohio and died 16 Jul 1892 in Fountain Co., IN. She is also buried in the Beulah Cemetery. They had issue (5th gen):

1. **ELVESSA BRIER**, d 18 Jun 1862 at the age of 27 years
 2. **FLORENCE BRIER**, d 29 Sept 1847 in infancy
 3. **COLUMBUS C. BRIER**, d 20 Oct 1851 in infancy
 4. **ELIZA BRIER**
 5. Lizzie T. Brier, b 1857
 6. Solon Brier, b 1851 (#236)
 7. Burgess Buell Brier (#40)
 8. Laura B. Brier
5. **LIZZIE T. BRIER**, 5th gen, b 28 Nov 1857, d 8 Jan 1899, m **WILLIAM L. BROWN**.
8. **LAURA B. BRIER**, 5th gen, resided in Kansas City, KS, but was in Macon Co., IL, in 1890. She m **JOSEPH GILBERT**.

* * * * *

234. **SAMUEL W. BRIER**, 5th gen (David-62, David-60, David-78, William-1), was born in Franklin Co., IN. He was the son of David and Mary Jane Skinner Brier. He resided in Wayne Co., IN, and later moved to Franklin Co., where he settled in Laurel Twp. He died in 1922.

He married (1) to **ORA BELLE --?--**, and had issue (6th gen):

1. **CHAUNCEY LLOYD BRIER**, b 11 May 1892 in Wayne Co., IN, d 28 Oct 1918 in Base Hospital #42 in France. He is buried at Bazailles Cemetery, Vosges, France, grave #360. He was with the 362nd Inf. Reg't, 91st Div., when he was wounded and gassed on 26 Sept 1918 in the Argonne Drive.

Samuel married (2) to **MYRTLE --?--**.

* * * * *

236. SOLON BRIER, 5th gen (Samuel-232, Samuel-228, David-78, William-1), was the son of Samuel Andrew and Frances Hatten Brier. He was born in 1851 in Fountain Co., IN. He was a farmer in Fountain Co., but was living in Lafayette, IN, in 1909. He died 4 Dec 1916 and is buried in the Beulah Cemetery near Attica, IN.

He was married in 1876 to **HANNAH KATHERINE BURCH** and had issue (6th gen):

1. Orié Z. Brier (#204)
2. **AZATHALDA "ETHA" BRIER**, unmar., lived in Lafayette, IN, in 1956.
3. **EDITH M. BRIER**, m --?-- **CALVERT**, had a son who d in 1935.

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238. SOLON C. BRIER, 5th gen (George-110, David-60, David-78, William-1), also known as "**SCOTT BRIER**", was born 2 Dec 1876, the son of George Dickson and Elizabeth Hawkins Brier.

He married **MARGARET --?--**, who was born 15 Jan 1876 and died 22 Jun 1942. They had issue (6th gen):

1. a child who d at birth
2. Mildred Elizabeth Brier, b 1910
3. George Adam Brier, b 1912 (#109)
4. Leland Charles Brier, b 1915 (#189)

2. **MILDRED ELIZABETH BRIER**, 6th gen, b 23 Jul 1910, m **CHESTER ZAIDEL** and had issue (7th gen):

2A. **TEDDY LEE ZAIDEL**, b 27 Jul 1930

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239. STEPHEN D. BRYER, 6th gen (Robert-222, James-146, Robert-214, David-78, William-1), the son of Robert L. Bryer, was born 22 Dec 1906 in Athens, GA. He married 13 May 1935 in Wayne Co., IN, to **GERALDINE KIRCHNER**.

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220. ULYSSES (ROBERT) GRANT BRIAR, 5th gen (Mark-196, David-60, David-78, William-1), was born 14 Oct 1866 in Oxford, IN. He was the son of Mark Jacobs and Hester R. Anderson Brier (Briar). He died in Apr 1931 in Benton Co., IN.

He married (1) to **CARRIE E. BOWMAN** on 15 Mar 1893 in Benton Co., where they made their home. They had issue (6th gen):

1. Kenneth B. Brier, b 1893 (#186)
2. **ROBERT GRANT BRIER, JR.**, b 23 Jun 1896, never mar.

Grant married (2) to **CARY MAY BRILEY** and had issue (6th gen):

3. **LLOYD C. BRYER**, m **OPAL ROUGH**, had issue (7th gen):
 - 3A. **LLOYD BRYER**
 - 3B. **EUGENE BRYER**

He apparently preferred the name of "Robert Grant" as many records list him as such.

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Naomi Sheaffer Visits

Scotland

Member Naomi McBrayer Schaeffer (N 36-5/8, 8th, Wm.) and her family visited Scotland this August and she sends this brief report:

I've always wanted to travel to Scotland, and this summer my husband Bill, daughter Eleanor, and I spent two very memorable weeks there.

After staying three days in London, we drove to Dumfries, arriving the evening of August 4. The countryside of Scotland was even more beautiful than I had imagined, and the cool, fall like temperatures were a welcomed change from our hot Virginia weather. We chose to stay in Scottish farmhouse B&B's throughout our trip, and we were not disappointed. (I highly recommend the one in Dumfries. They also served wonderful dinners). I called Ken Harvey that evening and we arranged to have lunch together the next day. He took us to Almagill and Netherwood, ancestral home sites of the McBrayer families. These properties have been well cared for over the years, and are located in lovely areas around Dumfries.

The next morning my family and I visited the Robert Burns museum and his grave site at St. Michael's Church. It is my understanding that some McBrayers are also buried in the churchyard. We had lunch with Ken and his family at their home in Lockerbie. After a nice visit we drove to Caerlaverock Castle, a 13th century residence near Dumfries, where Robert Makbrier tutored the Maxwell children in 1634. Behind the existing castle an archaeological dig is taking place, uncovering an earlier castle that was discovered under a large mound of earth. This is a must see for anyone visiting the Dumfries area. Ken was very knowledgeable about the history of this castle, and we enjoyed hearing his stories about people who lived at this medieval fortress. After our tour of the castle, we said goodbye to Ken and his family. The next day we continued our journey north to Stirling, Inverness, Perth, and Edinburgh. Each of these cities were delightful to see, and are full of many museums and historical treasures.

I feel proud to be a part of the McBrayer family, and I am grateful to those who have spent a great deal of time and effort in doing the research that has uncovered so much valuable information about our ancestors.

Many thanks to Ken Harvey and his family for their warm hospitality and friendship during our stay in Dumfries.

Scottish Weather

January without fail
Brings tae Scotland sleet and hail;
February's bad an'a' -
Sauchiehall Street deep in sna'.

March's gales mak a'body chilled;
The wind gings whistlin' up yer kilt.
April showers? No, much worse, oh!
Poorin' rain fae Troon tae Thurso.

May brings frost; it mak's ye greet -
Kills the floo'rs in Princes Street.
June's that bleak yer face is blue;
Half o' Falkirk's doon wi' flu.

July is weet for the Glesca Fair
Deep depression everywhere:
Sodden picnics, trippers sad;
When August comes it's twice as bad.

In September fog and mist
Mak' ye feel like gettin' drunk.
October ice; yer car, by God,
Gings skitin' aff the Rhynie road.

November brings a change, that's richt -
Rain a' day an' sna a'night.
December's ten times worse, and then
January's back again.

(From Issue Sixty-nine of the Rampant Scotland Newsletter)

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Happy Holidays to All !!!!!!!!!!!!!

