



IN DEFIANCE !

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THE MACBRAIR FAMILY
ASSOCIATION, INC.

RESEARCHING THE
VARIATIONS OF THE
SURNAMES MACBRAIR,
MCBRAUER AND BRIER
SEARCHING FOR OUR
SCOTTISH ROOTS

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What I hear - I forget
What I see - I remember
What I do - I understand
unknown



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FROM THE CHIEF ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

No, I have not dropped off the end of the earth. Again I offer apologies to all of you for the delay in getting the newsletters out. I also want to thank those who have shown their trust by sending in their dues so that the newsletter can be continued. It is my intention to get caught up as soon as possible and again am sending you a double edition. Even though the dates of this issue are January and April, the actual date of completion is December. I hope this does not cause undo confusion since some of the content is dated someplace between. Wherever possible, dates are given for the content below.

Looking back to when I took over as editor of this newsletter in 1993, it was a four page paper. With changes in format and the type of content, it has grown to what it is today. By watching costs as much as possible, it has been possible to maintain the dues structure which was established at the time of the MacBair Family Association in 1986. Your support makes this possible.

As is readily evident, the format of the newsletter is being changed once again. Not only the style, but the primary type font are being changed with the hope of making the newsletter more easily read. Your comments will be greatly appreciated. I would also appreciate your comments on the content of the newsletter. Is there anything you want to see more of, less of or in addition?

SCOTLAND'S GUARDIAN THISTLE

The thistle, heading the column above, is a long standing symbol of Scotland. Flowers have served as symbols throughout history. Why did the thistle, sometimes considered a weed at least here in America, become the emblem of Scotland? The real truth will probably never be known, but it appears it comes from a Scottish legend.

This legend dates back to the earliest Scottish kings, the House of Alpin, sometime between 800 to 1000 AD. The legend says that a party of Danes, who are known to have repeatedly invaded Scotland in those days, tried one night to take an encampment of Scots by surprise. Only one Scot was on patrol duty. As the Danes silently crept nearer, no alarm was sounded. Then in the dark, a Dane stepped upon a thistle and let out a howl of pain. The Scots sprung up from their sleep and roundly defeated the Danes in a terrible slaughter.

The plant, one of several species of thistle, thought to be the Scottish Thistle, *Onopordon Acenthium*, became known as the Guardian Thistle. Its motto is *nemo me impune lacessit*, meaning "no one provokes

me with impunity." A looser translation in Scot's is "Wha daur meddle wi' me."

Apparently it was during the reign of James III (1460-1488) that the thistle became the badge of the Stuarts. It continued to be popular and the Most Noble and The Most Ancient Order of the Thistle was founded by James VII on May 29, 1687. The symbolism has continued through the years and you find the thistle decorating many items from weapons of war, to jewelry to advertising. One particular item decorated with the thistle has been the traditional Scottish drinking cup, the quaich as shown on the left. (See also the July/October issue of ID, page 13 in the article on the renewal of vows by Paul and Lyn Brier.) Mary, Queen of Scots was very close to the Guardian Thistle. At the spot



of the now demolished castle where she was executed in England, the thistles bloom in a display. It is said that Queen Mary herself planted the thistles there shortly before her death. They are now sometimes called "Queen Mary's tears." Robert Burns called the thistle "the symbol dear" in his poem *The Guid Wife of Wauchope House*. (Information taken from "The Highlander - The Magazine of Scottish Heritage", Vol. 40, No.6, Nov/Dec 2002)

THE SALTIRE



The Saltire, or St. Andrew's Cross flag (blue and white) is another well-known symbol of Scotland along with the Rampant Lion Standard (yellow and red) shown at the right. Now the Saltire has been attacked as reported in the article below.



US Far-Right Group Hijacks Saltire

Scottish tourists going to Florida are being advised not to display the Scottish Saltire flag on their clothes as an extreme right-wing group known as the League of the South has adopted the symbol as part of its tactics to establish a political system run by Celtic "kith and kin" and "revitalisation of a general European cultural hegemony". Members are given a Saltire lapel badge and the flag is also displayed on the society's website. The cross of St Andrew, on which the Saltire flag is based, was adopted in the 9th century when a cloud formation was seen in the sky as an omen when a combined army of Scots and Picts defeated a larger force of Northumbrians. It is thus probably the oldest national flag in the world. St Andrew was adopted as the patron saint of Scotland after his relics were said to have been brought to the Pictish settlement of Kilrymont (later renamed St Andrews) in Fife. (**Scottish Snippets**, Issue 285, 28 Sep 2002)

HAGGIS

If one in the U.S. is asked to name a "typical" Scottish food, the answer may well be haggis. Actually, unless you have been to Scotland, you probably have not tasted authentic haggis as U.S. laws prohibit the use of some of the ingredients. Even at that, most will agree that haggis is definitely an acquired taste and goes best with a goodly amount of Scotch whisky! The following abstract is from an article which appeared in the September 25, 2002, issue of the *Anchorage Daily News*, Alaska.

U.K. food regulators can't stomach haggis

By LANCE GAY - Scripps Howard News Service

What poet Robert Burns once blessed as the "great chieftain of the pudding race" is passing: The United Kingdom's Food Standards Agency is proposing to ban sheep intestines in the making of haggis. But Scottish-Americans are alarmed. James Durward, president of the Long's Peak Scottish Highland Festival in Estes Park, Cob., brought up the matter with British representatives who attended last month's festival, one of the largest Celtic celebrations in the United States. Durward acknowledged that for many Scottish-Americans, haggis is a once-a-year acquaintance, often at a Robert Burns dinner when the poet's "Address to A Haggis" is read, and the pudding downed with Scotch whiskey to the accompaniment of bagpipes.

The recipe for haggis is deceptively simple. It consists of a sheep's stomach bag turned inside out and salted, one sheep's lung, one sheep's heart, one sheep's liver, a half-pound of suet from around the animal's kidney, three-quarters of a cup of oatmeal, three onions finely chopped, one teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of freshly ground pepper, a half teaspoon of cayenne pepper, a half teaspoon of nutmeg and three-quarters cup of stock. The concoction is mixed together and stuffed loosely in the sheep's stomach and boiled for at least three hours.

The Food Standards Agency, similar to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, said it's seeking a ban throughout the European Union of the use of sheep stomachs and intestines as a "precautionary measure against the theoretical risk" of mad cow disease in sheep. Scientists believe the disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, could have spread to British cattle after parts of infected sheep were used in cattle feed.

IT WAS IN THE NEWS

Searching old newspapers can lead to learning about our ancestors and their way of life. Even if the particular individual named cannot be readily identified, there is still value in gaining and understanding of life many years ago. Some are just fun to read because of the style used in the past; punctuation and spelling are given as they were in the original. If you have a clue as to who some of these folks are, please pass the information along.

The Stevens Point Journal, Stevens Point, WI, reported on June 23, 1883, in the News Summary column:

On Robert Williams' plantation, near Greenville, S.C., a boiler of a threshing machine exploded a few days ago, killing **Ned McBrayer**, the engineer, and a negro, and fatally injuring two others.

The Chillicothe Constitution, Chillicothe, MO, in the "Little Cons." column of March 20, 1891, reported: T. Putnam of Chillicothe, purchased eleven head of horses here from **Sam McBryar**, for Platter Bros. Of his city. - News Graphic.

"Hensley News Notes" in the **Bluefield Daily Telegraph**, Bluefield, WV, January 7, 1905, tells us: Misses Janie Peck, **Edna** and **Mearl McBrayer** who spent Christmas in Pearisburg have returned to Twin Branch.

The **New Smyrna Daily News**, New Smyrna, FL, of Saturday, May 29, 1926, had a long article "Veterinarians of State Registered." Among those listed was **Dr. R. A. McBrayer** of Quincy. Yes, veterinarian was misspelled in the title of the column.

The "As the World Wags" column of the Wednesday Evening May 14, 1930, issue of **The Charleston Daily Mail**, Charleston, WV, reported:

A pair of hand-forged manacles and a bayonet were unearthed on the property of the **U. L. MacBrair** company at Middletown, N. Y. They are believed to be relics of the revolution.

Even buying a car was occasion for making the news! **The Wichita Daily Times**, Wichita Falls, Texas, Sunday, September 2, 1917, on page two had a column "Last Week Good For Auto Dealers Here."

The Staley Motor Co. made retail sales to C. E. Bates, city, J. B. Evans, Burkburnett, **B. T. McBrayer**, Burkburntt, and E. W. Brogan, Byers; and wholesale sales to the Motor Supply Co., Newcastle (one car) and Electra Motor Co., Electra (two cars).

The same paper in the Sunday, March 10, 1918, issue had the following: "Deeds Filed for Record" (probably "filed") :

Sterling Black and wife to D. T. McBrayer, 10 and 11, Fowler addition to town of Burburness, \$ 1,500. (Burkburnett - Burkburntt and Burkburness are misspellings - is on the border of Texas and Oklahoma north and a bit west of Wichita Falls. Of interest is the town of Scotland, south of Wichita Falls.)

Of course, newspapers also have news of casualties of war. **The Wichita Daily Times** of Monday, January 13, 1919, listed casualties reported by the Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Forces. **Private Ed McBrayer** of Wiliki, Okla. Was reported as wounded severely.



Editorial cartoons also were featured in some papers. The one to the left was published on the front page of the **Wichita Daily Times** on Wednesday, November 9, 1910. The caption was "The Next Generation - The way our necks will grow in time if this interest in aviation continues." If they had only known how common air travel would become.

This issue's headlines focused on the recent election and had headlines "Democratic Landslide Over Entire Country," "Democrats Will Have 60 Majority In Congress," and "Democratic Enthusiasm Uncorked For the First Time in Eighteen Year." A minor article headline however is of interest to us: "Tragedy in Haskell County." *John*

F. McBrayer, Treasurer of Haskell County, Okla. Shoots and Kills County Judge, A. L. Beckett. Special to the Times. Muskogee, Okla., Nov. 9. - Bitterness in Yesterday's election over the state resulted in tragedy in Haskell Co., this morning when John F. McBrayer, county treasurer, shot and killed county judge A. L. Beckett, in the streets of Sigler, Oklahoma. It is claimed that Beckett attacked McBrayer with a hoe and the latter fired in self-defense. (The article does not state who belonged to which party, but the articles seem to indicate Oklahoma went Democratic this election. Haskell County is in eastern Oklahoma. Close-by to Sigler is Briartown.)

More (old) news next issue!

FAMILY STORIES FROM THE PAST

Life in Mt. Peak, Texas

The following story is an account of one family in Ellis County, Texas, at the turn of the 19th Century to the 20th. Our family tie is **Sarah Elizabeth McBrayer**, daughter of **Newton Minet** and **Edna Caroline Laster McBrayer**, who married **George W. Wadsworth**. More on this branch of the family may be found in the updates section of this newsletter.

Although it is not known why or with whom, George Wadsworth left his home in Blount Co., AL, at a very young age. He eventually settled in Ellis Co., TX, where relatives from both sides of his family had been residing for many years. Soon after his arrival, he found work in the cotton fields of a man known as "Cap" Bellew.

George arrived in Ellis County before 23 Jul 1891, when he joined Oak Branch Methodist Church. Founded by his great-uncle Asa Bynum in 1870, this church was located about 5 miles southwest of Waxahachie (the seat of Ellis County). It was here where he first met and later married Bettie [Sarah Elizabeth] McBrayer, whose family moved to Ellis County from St. Clair Co., AL, in 1888 and joined Oak Branch in 1890.

G.W. Wadsworth first appears on Ellis County tax rolls in 1893 with two horses (valued at \$150), one cow (\$15), one hog (\$2) and assorted tools/machinery (\$25). In January 1894, George and Bettie celebrated the birth and mourned the loss of their first child. She was buried in the cemetery at Mountain Peak (about 5 miles northwest of Oak Branch), which indicates that the Wadsworths were early members of the Methodist church that once stood there.

George must have been prospering, as Ellis County deed records (v. 97/237) show that he purchased 50 acres of land from Southwestern Manufacturing Company 01 Oct 1895. The \$1,250 purchase price included \$150 cash; six promissory notes for \$150 each (due annually on 01 Dec for the next six years); plus a final \$250 note due 01 Dec 1902. This land was located in the old Fairview community about 4 miles northwest of Maypearl. (south of Dallas - Fort Worth)

On 23 Feb 1901, George and Bettie purchased an additional 71.5 acres from Southwestern Manufacturing Company for \$1,700 cash and notes (v. 165/281). They apparently sold this property to T.B. Odom in 1907 (v. 170/534) then bought it back from S.T. Stephenson in 1913 (v. 207/123). They sold it again in 1924 to W.S. Sharp for \$12,178 (v. 273/64). These deeds showed the signature of G.W. Wadsworth and the mark of Sarah E. Wadsworth.

Not only a successful farmer, George was also an astute businessman. In 1910, he helped organize and became one of the founding stockholders in the Farmers and Merchants State Bank at Maypearl. Because all of his children were able to attend school -- a rare luxury in those days -- some people in the community believed that George was quite wealthy. In reality, the family "had as much money as any of them but no more than most."

In the years before the Great Depression, George invested heavily in real estate and accumulated a lot of debt. Ellis County deed records show that he purchased 200 acres near Boyce (about 19 miles west of Fairview) in 1924 and two additional 100-acre tracts on opposite sides of his home place in 1925 and 1928 (v. 274/40 & 536; v. 297/490). His oldest children and their families lived and worked on these farms until the "loan companies" took possession in the 1930s.



**Photo taken about 1907 in the old Fairview Community (SW of Mountain Peak).
L to R: Loyd, Grady, Estle, George, Lola, Bettie, Orby, Nolan and Lone Wadsworth**

George stood 6 feet tall, weighed about 200 pounds, and had brown eyes and brown hair. Supposedly to hide a blemish above his lip, he grew a mustache at an early age and kept it throughout his life. He was a faithful member of the Methodist church and a backsliding Democrat, switching to the Republican Party late in life.

Although George owned a Model T, he never learned to drive it -- at least not very well. Once, while attempting to park the car in the garage by himself, he ended up crashing through the back wall and narrowly avoided hitting the chicken coop. His sons often drove him to Mineral Wells to "take treatments" in the local spas for his ailing legs. And every eight or 10 years, he and Bettie returned to Alabama to visit friends and relatives back home. He enjoyed listening to the radio, and he was especially fond of "mountain music."

Bettie Wadsworth was about 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighed 150 pounds, and had brown eyes and brown hair. She generally rose at 3:30 a.m. to start breakfast and begin her housework; and if the moon was shining bright, she sometimes would go out and pick a sackful of cotton before daylight. She was constantly on the go and told anyone who could not keep up with her to "make-ace" (make haste). She wore an old duck apron on the farm, but on Saturdays, she enjoyed dressing up and going into town wearing her favorite hat (adorned with brightly colored silk flowers). She also was said to have liked her snuff.

Bettie had a reputation for being a great cook. Her supper table was always filled with a large quantity and variety of food -- even during the Depression. She is fondly remembered for her fabulous creamed potatoes and brer rabbit syrup, a delicious concoction with the consistency of thick honey made with white Kayro syrup, water, sugar and raisins.

After more than 70 years of hardship and hard work in the "country," Bettie longed for the comforts of city life. In 1943, George purchased a large two-story house in Venus, just across the county line. Bettie was eager to leave behind all the mud and drudgery and to start a new life in what was then a bustling community. But she became ill and died just a few weeks after they moved.

Nine years later, George died of natural causes at his home in Venus. He passed away peacefully, sitting in his favorite rocking chair. He was buried beside his wife and near his baby daughters in the cemetery at Mountain Peak.

(The story above was written by Bobby J. Wadsworth of Carrollton, TX, in 1999 and is used by permission of the author. It may be found at <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~mtpeakt/> and Bobby can be contacted at bobbyjay@flash.net . His sources:

- [1] Interview with Nolan C. Wadsworth (1993)
- [2] Oak Branch Church Register (microfilmed records of Ellis Co., TX)
- [3] "History of the Bynum Family" (by Jasper E. Bynum, Oneonta, AL, 1916)
- [4] "The McBrayer Family Book II" (by Carl Bernard McBrayer, Qunitella Printing, Oklahoma City, OK, 1983)
- [5] Interview with Beula Belle [Hendon] Heedley (1993)
- [6] Interview with H. Louis Wadsworth (1993)

ARE YOU RELATED TO PRESIDENT POLK?

In the April 2001 Issue of In Defiance, there was an update for the descendants of **Nancy Ella Agness McBrayer** (M 368/3, 6th, Samuel Marion 368, Andrew 15, John 223, Samuel 360, William 1). In Carl McBrayer's sketch for the family of Samuel Marion McBrayer, the only thing given for his wife, and Nancy's mother, was her name: C. V. "Campie" Weddington. A reference now has been found with a sketch on Campie's brother Alexander which tells us more about Campie's family and the way we can claim a distant relationship to President Polk. The sketch is in a small booklet reprinted by Mountain Press of Signal Mountain, TN, in 2002 entitled "Douglas County, Georgia Biographies." The biographies were taken from "Memoirs of Georgia" and "Historical Collection of Georgia" by George White. Which book Alexander's sketch was contained in and the date of publication is unknown at present. It gives an interesting perspective of life in the first half of the 19th century on the western frontier of America.

ALEXANDER G. WEDDINGTON, farmer and county treasurer, Douglasville, Douglas Co., Ga., son of Alexander Green and Hannah (Polk) Weddington, was born in Campbell (now Douglas) county, in 1839. His paternal grandparents, William and Polly (Gilliam) Weddington, of Scotch-Irish parentage, were natives of North Carolina. He was a soldier in the patriot army during the revolutionary war, serving with distinction, and died in 1836. Mr. Weddington's father was born in the "Old North state" in 1806, where he was raised on the farm and given a good country school education. In 1825, after having married, he migrated to Georgia and settled in the woods in what is now Campbell county. He made the trip in the old-time wooden-wheel ox-cart, held together by wooden pins, and hickory withes. The greater part of the journey a roadway had to be cut through the forests; at night they kept a fire burning to frighten off wild animals, and slept in tents, and under and in the carts. When they reached their new home in the woods filled with

Indians and wild beasts, the family slept as they had on the road, and lived in tents until log cabins could be built, after which a farm was cleared in the virgin forest. He engaged in farming and gold-mining, amassed quite a fortune, and died Oct. 7, 1890. His mother was a daughter of Charles and Nellie Polk—her father being a cousin of President James K. Polk—was born Sept. 1, 1812, and died Aug. 27, 1874. She was well educated for the times, and shared with her husband all the privations and hardships incident to frontier life. Of the children born to them these survive: Mrs. Pollie A. Hawkins, Mrs. Jane E. White, Mrs. Hannah A. Stewart, Mrs. Campie V. McBrayer, Mrs. Catharine L. Roach, Charles W., Atlanta, and Alexander G., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Weddington was raised on the farm; received as good an education as could be obtained at the time and locality, and on reaching maturity engaged in farming. In 1861, he enlisted in 'Company C—of which he was commissioned third lieutenant—Thirtieth Georgia regiment. In a very short time he was promoted to first lieutenant. The first service of his command was on the river and harbor defenses near Savannah; he was then sent to Vicksburg and participated in the battle of Jackson, after which his command was with the army defending Atlanta. He was in nearly every battle of importance between Nashville and Jonesboro. Just before the battle of Chickamauga he was stricken with fever which necessitated a furlough. At the end of three months he returned to the army and continued in the field until the surrender. He returned to his home to find it a scene of desolation—slaves freed and gone, stock killed or stolen, fences gone and houses rifled and almost ruined. Finding an old 'blind horse roaming at large near his home he "conscripted" it, and with it worked his first crop. Later he moved to Paulding county, where he successfully farmed six years and then came back and purchased the old homestead from his father. Adopting the progressive methods of farming, and using improved implements he thoroughly cultivated his land with the best of results, added to his possessions and improved and enlarged his buildings. In addition to his farming he established a ginnery and engaged in milling. In 1884, in order to give his children better educational advantages, he moved to Douglasville. For three years after this he was associated with A. W. McClarty in a general merchandise business, in which he cleared money. In 1892 he was elected county treasurer, and now holds the office by re-election. Among his old comrades he is known by the familiar name of "Sandy," and those who once stood side by side with him on the battlefield stand firmly by him now, as they all love him like a brother—and stand ready to bestow upon him any office he may ask for. Of untiring energy and excellent business judgment, he has made a success of everything he has undertaken, and is well fixed for life, happy in his domestic relations, and has a warm place in the affections of his fellow-citizens. Devotion to duty has been his motto, and his devotion has been rewarded. Obtaining ten days' leave of absence after the battle of Jackson, he hastened home, and Aug. 11, 1863, was married to Miss Luvinia, daughter of Thomas J. and Mary A. (Taylor) Blanchard—formerly of Columbia county, Ga.—a union blessed with the following children: Mrs. Rhoda E. Tanner; Mrs. Ella V. Burson, Mrs. Frances E. Griffith, and James L. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and a master Mason; and a life-long exemplary member of the Methodist church.

STORIES FROM PAULDING COUNTY

The following two biographical sketches were taken from a booklet entitled "**Paulding County, Georgia - History and Biographies**" which was taken from "**Memoirs of Georgia**" and "**Historical Collection of Georgia**" by George White. The original date of publication of the White books is unknown, but it can be seen that they are rather contemporary of the time reported. From dates in the sketches, the time was after 1891 and before 1908. The sketches are given as written. It is interesting to note that the surname is given as "**M'Brayer**" in the heading of the sketches, but "**McBrayer**" following. **James (Madison)** and **Peter (Paul)** were 5th generation descendants of William and are ancestors of many current Family Association members.

JAMES M'BRAYER, farmer, Oval, Paulding Co., Ga., son of Andrew and Nancy (Leathers) McBrayer, was born in Paulding county in 1835. Mr. McBrayer's father—son of John McBrayer, who was a revolutionary soldier—was born in Buncombe county, N. C., in 1807 whence the family migrated to Georgia in 1817, making the journey in an ox—cart, and settled in what is now Campbell and Douglas counties—living in a tent until land could be cleared and a house built. Three months' schooling, under serious disadvantages, was all he received, but by reading and

studying by a pine—knot light he acquired a fair practical education at home. In 1831 he moved to what is now Paulding county, where he accumulated a fortune, and died in 1891. Mr. McBrayer's mother, who is still living, was born in 1813, in South Carolina. Her parents were Samuel and Mary (Swanford) Leathers, an old family of revolutionary war times, who came to Georgia and settled in what is now Paulding county. In 1831 she was married to Mr. McBrayer, and of the children which blessed their Union, nine are now living: James M., the subject of this sketch; Peter T.; Samuel M.; Andrew J.; George W.; Wm. C.; Joseph C.; Mrs. Mary A. Walker, and Mrs. Susannah Waidrop. Mr. McBrayer was raised a farmer, and received such education as could be obtained in the country common schools at the time. In 1857 he began life as a farmer, and had gotten a good start when the unpleasantness occurred. In 1862 he enlisted in Company I, Nineteenth Georgia regiment, with which he was engaged in the battles of the Wilderness, Fredericksburg, and others. In 1862 he was taken prisoner, but was soon exchanged, rejoined his command, and remained with it until the surrender of Gen. Johnston, April 26, 1865. Like thousands of his comrades, he returned to his home to find it a desolate waste. By well-directed labor and close management he has restored it, and now has as good a farm and is as prosperous as the most favored of his fellow-citizens. Mr. McBrayer was married in 1857 to Miss Martha, daughter of Henry and Matilda (Jackson) Cleckler, who has borne him seven children: Joseph B., Mrs. Nancy V. McLarty, Andrew E., Mrs. Elizabeth Cornet, James, Robert L., and Etta E.

PETER M'BRAYER, farmer, Oval, Paulding Co., Ga., son of Andrew and Nancy (Leathers) McBrayer was born in Paulding county in 1837. Like his brother, James, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere, he was raised on the farm, and was educated in the old-time log school-house. In 1862 he enlisted in Company I, Fifth Georgia regiment, Col. Wadkins commanding. With his command, he participated in the battles of Laker's Creek, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Resaca, and numerous less important engagements. In April, 1864, he was captured and sent to Indianapolis, Ind., where he was detained as a prisoner nine months. While there he suffered for want of food, from insufficiency of clothing, and frozen feet. From Indianapolis he was sent to Baltimore, Md., and thence to Richmond, where he was paroled. On his return home he walked all the distance from North Carolina, and reached home three weeks before the surrender. He went to work at once to restore his farm to its antebellum condition, which he has accomplished, and by adopting improved machinery and methods, increased its productiveness and his resources. No neighboring farmer excels him in management or harvest. Mr. McBrayer was married Dec. 5, 1866, to Miss Mary F., daughter of Bennett and Jane (Ingram) Cooper, who has borne him nine children: William A., Mrs. Vilula Ellis, Andrew E., Ida D., Mary E., Peter I., Warner J., Fannie F., and Robert L.

A historical note: Paulding County was named in honor of John Paulding, born in Peekskill, New York, in 1759. Various accounts have been given of his involvement in the capture of a British spy, Andre. As a result of this, he was given honors by the State of New York and Congress even though there was some controversy about the actions taken and the loyalty of Paulding and his compatriots. They were accused of being members of a detestable gang known as "Cow Boys", but the accusations were fully refuted. He died in 1818 in the City of New York and his burial was marked by a memorial with the inscription below. Nothing in the account given shows him ever being in Georgia, nor the reason why he was commemorated by having the county named for him.

**"Here repose the mortal remains of
JOHN PAULDING,
Who died 18th February, 1818,
In 60th year of his age.
On the morning of the 23rd of September, 1780,
Accompanied by two young farmers of the county of
Westchester,
Whose names will one day be recorded**

**on their own deserved monuments;
 He intercepted the British spy, Andre.
 Poor himself,
 He disdained to acquire wealth by the sacrifice of his country.
 Rejecting the temptation of great rewards,
 He conveyed his prisoner to the American camp,
 and,
 By this act of self-denial,
 The treason of Arnold was detected,
 The designs of the enemy baffled,
 West Point and America saved,
 And these United States,
 Now, by the Grace of God, free and independent,
 Rescued from the most imminent-peril."**

On the fourth side of the pedestal:

**"The Corporation
 Of the City of New-York
 Erected this tomb
 As a monument sacred
 To
 Public gratitude."**

One of the siblings of James and Peter mentioned in the sketch on James, is "Wm. C." In Carl McBrayer's book, he is given as William (Clark) Candler McBrayer, M 433, 5th gen. The picture to the right, provided by Family Association Member Terrell McBrayer, has the caption "William Clark McBrayer, tax receiver, Haralson Co. (GA) abt 1900 (Young man in picture, not identified) W. C. McBrayer is the grandfather of Mrs Esther White Wilson, Eufula, Ala."



Esther is quoted in Carl's book as follows: "An accident during his teen years left him crippled so he couldn't do hard work like most men. So he sat at his desk a lot and read everything he could get his hands on. Years after he died we found beautiful poetry he wrote in the books he was reading."

The picture above was on a page giving lineage charts. Of the eight children of John B. McBrayer and Sarah Ashworth, three were mentioned: Andy (the father of James, Peter and William), Jack and Ashworth. The lineage states that Ashworth was a bachelor. This is not the case, he was married twice, first to Barbara Wigley and then after her death to Mary - ? - . Ashworth and his young family can be found in the 1830 U.S. Census in Campbell County, GA. He is listed as "Ashworth Macbriar." In the 1830 Census, only the head of the household was listed by name, anyone else just by age category. Thus follows: a) "Males - Under five years of age" - 1; b) "Males - Of twenty and under thirty (including heads of families)" - 1; c) Females - Under five years of age" - 1; and d) "Females - Of twenty and under thirty." - 1. Both Ashworth and Barbara were born in 1805, so they fit nicely in the categories for the older male and female. We do have, however, a question from previously

available information. Listed in Carl's book are a son, George born in 1830, and a daughter, Jane born in 1832. Obviously this does not correspond with the census data. One explanation is that the dates of birth of George and Jane are incorrect. Another is that there was another daughter born before 1830 who has previously been unknown. Can anybody shed light on this?

As was known, Ashworth moved his family to Coosa County, Alabama, sometime between 1843 and 1850. He can be found 1860 U. S. Census living in the Second Division of Coosa County. The local post office was Mt. Olive. The census was taken on July 16, 1860. Listed was A. McBrayer, age 55, a farmer born in North Carolina. His wife was Mary, a 47 year old woman born in Tennessee who reportedly who could neither read or write. A daughter, Mary F. was 17 born in Georgia. All this information agrees with previously known data. Their real estate was worth \$900 and Ashworth's personal estate was valued at \$1,500.

You can see some of the problem with tracking ancestors through the census. Ashworth's surname is changed and his given name is not shown in the 1860 census. Without census indices, it would be difficult to find him, particularly in 1830.

A search of the U.S. Government Land Office records (www.glorecords.blm.gov) shows that Ashworth was active in buying land in Coosa County. The following certificates of land registration were issued to him in Montgomery, Alabama:

No. 13368 on 1 March 1858 for "thirty nine acres and sixty nine and a quarter hundredths of an acre"

No. 14680 on 1 February 1860 for "seventy nine acres and thirty eight and a half hundredths of an acre"

No. 15032 on 1 October 1860 for "seventy nine acres and thirty eight and a half hundredths of an acre"

From the description, it appears these pieces of land were next to each other; one really needs a township land map to make the descriptions clear.

Ashworth and Barbara's oldest son, George L., was also active in buying land. His certificates found are:

No. 12205 on 1 August 1853 for "thirty nine acres and Sixty Nine and one quarter hundredths of an acre"

No. 14290 on 1 February 1860 for "forty acres and two hundredths of an acre"

No. 14312 on 1 February 1860 for "one hundred and twenty acres and six hundredths of an acre"

No. 15252 on 1 February 1861 for "Forty acres and Two hundredths of an acre"

These land appears to be next to his father's, so together they had an appreciable amount of property to farm. It would be assumed that Ashworth at least had property before this time which has not been found yet in the records.

Interesting is that on Certificate No. 15252, George's surname was first written "Brayer". Because of spacing, the "Mc" was added as a superscript and it appears to have been added later as the writing is definitely darker for the "Mc."

Other McBrayers that have land register certificates filed in Alabama include:

Andrew in Etowah County, Andrew J. in Colbert County, David in Etowah County, Humphry P. in Etowah and St. Clair Counties, John M. in St. Clair County, John Y. in St. Clair County, Joseph T. in Etowah County, Samuel B. in st. Clair County, Thomas in Etowah County, Thomas J. in Jackson county, Walker B. in St. Clair County, and William A in St. Clair County.

If you know one of your ancestors is in this list, please let me know so that we can look for additional information.

Ashworth, according to family lore was red headed like his mother, often quoted as the "red headed Ashworths." This same lore says that after losing his wife he moved back to Georgia. Since we know from the census that he was in Alabama in 1860 it was after that and prior to his reported death after 1870. Carl B. McBrayer's book reports that Ashworth was still in Alabama in 1870. It was said that he returned to Georgia with his little girl Sally, and they lived with his brother Jack's married son William. She then reportedly married a man named Smith and had a daughter. Nothing more is available to your Editor at this time regarding Sally. Ashworth was buried at the Friendship Primitive Baptist Church located on Friendship Church Road between Dallas and Villa Rica, Georgia. One account says that he was buried by his parents. Based on this report made by Carl Henry

McBrayer in a letter has been used by the descendants of John B. and Sarah Ashworth McBrayer to petition the Friendship Cemetery Association Members to permit the placing of a memorial plaque to them at the cemetery. The Cemetery Association has accepted this proposal. (Information in this paragraph and the one below were provided by Family Association member Terrell McBrayer.)



This cartoon appeared in *The Atlanta Constitution*, Friday, October 27, 1950 heading a column "Know Your Georgia" by C. J. Holleran. The caption was: 'Gold in Them Thar Hills' - - - And Also Lead.

In 1828 gold was discovered in North Georgia. Tough and lawless prospectors and hoodlums poured in from the Carolinas and, quick to take advantage of the Georgia law prohibiting an Indian from bringing suit or testifying against a white man, they "took over" Cherokee lands by simply filling the rightful owners full of lead. Southern hospitality was slightly in the raw at that time and white men were treated the same if they were inclined to linger on another man's "claim." The first gold in the State was discovered at Hix Town in 1826, and mines

there produced more than 20,000 pennyweights of the gold metal. It is the oldest town in Northwest Georgia, having been incorporated in 1830. You'll probably know it better as the prosperous and progressive Villa Rica.



▲ STONE WALL

In genealogy, a stone wall represents a point where it seems one can go no further. Every attempt to find documented evidence seems to be a dead end. What do you do? Where do you go? This is a question we in our family have been asking for many years. We know that there were prominent people with our surname in the town of Dumfries, Scotland for many years. We know where ancestral homes of this family were. What we do not know is how we are related. We don't know when or exactly why our ancestors left

Scotland or how long they lived in Northern Ireland as most seem to accept. We don't know for certain that those of variations of our surname who came later to America from Ireland are directly related. We do not know for sure the origin of our name. It has often been reported that it comes as a derivation of "son of a friar." Since we know the name is old we might take a look at that. Given the condition of the village clergy in Scotland in old times we might find that that name variation could apply to many. The Scottish clergy apparently were not well qualified, perhaps basically uneducated and certainly paid little attention to any vow of celibacy. Of course there were well educated and rich clergy, some of who really were not trained churchmen but persons put in power of the wealthy church to keep the rich rich. That's just the way it was in those times. Certainly the name "son of a friar" could have come from one of these rich men as well - we just don't know. We know many records have been found in Dumfries, even into the 1600s and 1700s. What we don't have is the key to our ancestors that came to America. Checking is now underway to evaluate entries in the International Genealogical Index to determine if there is any firm DOCUMENTATION. If you look to entries for William, he was born in Scotland or Ireland, Rebecca was born in Ireland or Pennsylvania.

In attending recent genealogical meetings centered on research in the United Kingdom and Ireland, the very qualified presenters have pointed out the problems in finding old records. National records did not really begin to be developed until after record keeping on a Federal basis was well underway in America. Someplace in Scotland or Ireland there may be an old church with musty old records buried away in an old chest that contain the key to our history. We can only persevere, keep searching and pray that some of us greybeards may know the

answer before we meet our reward. Let's keep poking our way through the mortar on those stones and look for one to fall out so we see the other side.

I might point out other researching I have done on my maternal grandfather. I have a lot of information about him and know for certain that he came from Switzerland. I know when he left Europe, on what ship, what he paid for his ticket, how much luggage he had and where he was headed. He was headed to New York in 1896 which meant he should have arrived on Ellis Island in April. You may know that records of immigration at Ellis Island have been put on line and the many records are now available. BUT I CAN'T find my grandfather! Why? A stone wall after searching every way suggested by the experts. Then, at last month's meeting of our local genealogical society, a handout left out on a table was historic dates for Ellis Island. This reported that on June 15, 1897, a fire destroyed all the wooden buildings on Ellis Island. There were no deaths, but immigrant records dating to 1855 were destroyed. At least I know now why the wall appeared, but now I have to find the way through to find out what the immigration records may have contained.

WHENCE DID WE COME?

Continuing on the discussion in the paragraphs above; our constant search for many years has been to firmly identify our ancestors, specifically those who preceded William, David and James. We all seem to agree on the basis that they were originally from the area around Dumfries, Scotland. There can be no denial that McBrayers (by what ever spelling) were prominent citizens and are found named in the annals of Dumfries and Glasgow. What we also seem to agree upon is that sometime, probably in the early 1700's, family members left Scotland and settled at least temporarily in Ulster, now Northern Ireland. We know that some families of our surname immigrated to America much later than the brothers three. An example is the family which included Edwin Merton McBrier who was one of the founders of the Woolworth Stores. Even the Irish Genealogical Web site gives our surname as being of Scottish origin. What is lacking are the "Missing Links." We don't know when or where the brothers departed from, we don't know their parents names and we have no record of when they arrived in America. Some of the reasons why have been stated in earlier newsletters. Still we search with the hope of finding something definite.

From its title, the book "**Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625 - 1825**" by David Dobson, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1984, seemed promising. Certainly the time period was correct for our search. The book contains a main listing of approximately 3700 settlers. The total number of persons is higher due to families. One hundred references were cited. Unfortunately none of these were people who could be identified as our kin.

Why wasn't anybody of our family listed, we know they were here! We have records of them being here during that period. Perhaps the best explanation can be found in the Introduction to the book and quoted below:

During the early seventeenth century emigration from Scotland to America was minimal as emigrants were still going to traditional destinations such as Scandinavia, Poland, Germany, the Netherlands, and France, but increasingly to England and, later, especially to Ulster. The descendants of those who settled in Ulster formed one of the most important groups of immigrants in colonial America — the Scotch-Irish. Probably the bulk of Scots in seventeenth-century America were enforced immigrants, but there were individuals who settled within the English colonies as well as those who attempted to form independent Scottish colonies in Nova Scotia (ca. 1625), East New Jersey (1683), South Carolina (1684), and Darien (1698). The political union of Scotland and England in 1707 gave unrestricted access to the potential emigrant from Scotland, and this, together with changing political, economic, and social factors, stimulated emigration from Scotland to the American colonies.

Voluntary immigration to America came mainly from the Lowlands in the seventeenth century but during the eighteenth century it came increasingly from the Highlands. From the late 1730s Highlanders immigrated to Carolina and Georgia, later also to New York and Pennsylvania, and after the Revolution to Prince Edward Island (St. John's Island), Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Ontario (Lower Canada). The indenture system was widely used by those who were unable to pay for their passage. Such emigrants contracted with the sea captain or

merchant skipper for five to seven years service in the colonies with a colonist to whom the captain sold his rights under the contract. Some indentured servants were fortunate in that they were trained to hold productive positions, whilst others were so exploited that they broke the terms of their indentures and absconded.

The absence of ships' passenger lists for the seventeenth century and much of the eighteenth century has been a perennial problem for historians and genealogists. Early Scots settlers in America can only be identified from surviving manuscripts such as letters, indentures, land grants, diaries, and similar documents. This, however, only identifies a fraction of the total number of immigrants. By the early 1770s the high rate of immigration to America resulted in legislation which made compulsory the listing of emigrants. This continued until 1776 when emigration was prohibited. Those lists that have survived, in conjunction with a few of later date, do provide the names of many Scots emigrants of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Someone somewhere has that missing family bible, letter or other document which will open the doors for us. We just have to keep looking.

DNA

It would be hard today to pick up one of the popular genealogical magazines and not find an article or two on the use of researching family history using DNA, usually the paternal signature. In fact, it is hard not to see mention of DNA in your local newspaper or news magazine. Many of the newspaper articles have to do with proving accused were innocent, but there are other uses mentioned as well. It is, of course, not limited to humans. *Time* in a recent issue reported on use of DNA in the determination of the origins of the domesticated dogs. Smithsonian magazine told of a study to use DNA to determine the cause of the Irish potato famines. I have been told that DNA was used to prove that our cousin Ken McBrayer did indeed perish in the 9-11 attack.

Of course, our interest should be to prove our relationships here in America, and ultimately to our European origins. Once a DNA profile is determined, it can be compared to small data bases now being developed in several European countries. To date, the response to our attempt to carry out a family DNA project has been very feeble to say the least. Only three men have been tested to this time; two from the line of William and one from the line of James.

The results of the test for the two of us descended from William are extremely encouraging - our profiles were absolutely identical! It would be essentially impossible for us to not have the same ancestor. On a statistical model, one mismatch in signatures might have been expected and would indicate relationship within 8.9 generations; we did much better than that. No mismatches would indicated relationship within 3.6 generations. Here are the results:

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Patrick Allen McBrayer	11	13	12	14	30	24	11	14	13	14	12	15	12	12	11	11	11	10	D	H	13	12	23	27
Robert Lewis McBrayer	11	13	12	14	30	24	11	14	13	14	12	15	12	12	11	11	11	10	D	H	13	12	23	27

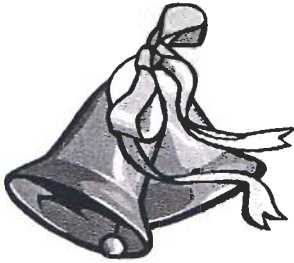
The top line gives the markers and the data lines are our individual values.

Our linages:

William -1, William - 421, David -79, Elisha -104, David - 90, Reuben - 337-3, James - 204-8, Patrick - 325-3
 William -1, Samuel - 360, Ichabod - 156, James - 193, Henry - 141, John - 236, Benjamin - 35, Robert - 351

Not having a good match at this time with the descendant of James should not be taken as much of a problem now because there are many reasons why this could be. We definitely need more from that line and certainly could use more from William's line, particularly from those from the other son David considered the scion of the Brier line. If we can get men from the presently unknown ancestor lines, such as the McBairs, McBryars and the like,

our study will be even more valuable. The only requirement for participation is that one be male with an unbroken line of descent of males with the same MacBair variant surname. Any of the variations are welcome as we know name switches occurred often during the early history. Yes, it costs about \$200 per test, but this study will provide a legacy for our descendants that should not be questioned and something only we can give our children. Please consider participating. Just let me know and I will arrange for the test kits. All it takes is a few moments to rub a cotton swab on the inside of your cheek. The test we are using seems to be the best available today for the purpose.



FAMILY WEDDINGS

Wendy Marie Zook, youngest daughter of Glen and Mary-Carolyn McBrayer Zook. Was married in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 27, 2002, to **Kevin Thomas Mizerek**. The ceremony was held at The Cathedral of Christ the King

in the Buckhead area of Atlanta. Among her attendants was her eldest sister, Rebecca Diane Zook. Wendy and Kevin honeymooned in Hawaii while her parents "puppy sat" her "baby", a Sheltie named Emma. Wendy is the granddaughter of the late Clark Candler (M 347/1, 7th, Robert - 347, William - 433, Andrew - 15, John - 223, Samuel - 360, William - 1) and late Dorothy Adelia Bowman McBrayer.



On August 16, 2002, **Rebecca Diane Zook**, eldest daughter of **Mary-Carolyn McBrayer Zook**, was married in Granbury, Texas, to Thomas Taber in a civil ceremony. A religious ceremony was conducted October 18, 2002, in Granbury with Thomas' mother, an ordained minister, officiating. (The information on the weddings of Wendy and Rebecca was provided in private correspondence from Glen Zook, father of the brides.)



Loralie Wetmore (M35/4A, 9th, Sandra - 35/4, Benjamin - 35, John - 236, Henry - 141, James - 193, Ichabod - 156, Samuel - 360, William - 1.), daughter of Sandra Ann McBrayer Wetmore and David Lawrence Wetmore, was married to **Richard Clayton Gupton**, son of Nancy Gupton, in an outdoor ceremony on the beach at the west end of Pine Avenue, Anna Maria Island, Florida, on October 12, 2002. Lori was given in marriage by her godfather, Russ Otto. Darrell Kee conducted the civil ceremony. Nephew Andrew Wetmore was the junior ring bearer and his little sister, Sabrina, was the flower girl. The men in the wedding party were attired in black shorts, sport shorts and sandals, very suitable for the day when the temperature was in the 90's. Both of Lori's grandmothers, Helene McBrayer and Harriett Wetmore, were in attendance. The reception following the wedding was held at the Community Center in the Anna Maria Island Community Center. Rich and Lori honeymooned on a Caribbean cruise prior to returning to their home in Bradenton, Florida. Lori is a pediatric nurse and Rich is employed at a marina. (Information compiled by Chief Bob who was in attendance.)

Judy Corinne Rucker Wooldridge (M448-7/1C1, 9th, Dorothy Frances Lankford - 448-7/1C, Willie Mae - 448-7/1, William - 448-7, Jesse - 212, James - 188, James - 162, Samuel - 360, William - 1) married **Allan Susoeff** in California in 2001 (date uncertain). No further information is known at this time. (Source: private correspondence from Carl B. McBrayer.)



The first rule of holes: When you're in one, stop digging.

Molly Ivins



NEW FAMILY MEMBERS

And of course sometime after marriages we welcome the new born to our family!

Andrew Michael Crawford (M215/5A2a, 10th, Scott Andrew Crawford - 215/5A2, Patricia Diane Ferguson - 215/5A, Mattie Marion - 215/5, Joe Lee - 215, Joseph - 263, Andrew - 15, John - 223, Samuel - 360, William - 1), son of **Scott Andrew** and **Rebecca Heath Cooper Crawford** was born May 22, 2002, in Winter Park, Florida. (Information provided in private correspondence from Dianne Crawford.)

Michael Stehly, Junior, son of **Michael** and **Kelly Anne Zook Stehly**, was born August 12, 2002. He joins sisters Kaela, age 3, and Kyra, age 2, at home. Maternal grandparents are Glen and Mary-Carolyn McBrayer Zook. (Information provided by Glen Zook. See marriage of Aunt Wendy above for lineage.)

In the July/October 2001, issue of ID, the marriage of **Ronald Stewart McBrayer** and **Jessica Turbes** was announced (page 12). Jessi's daughter from a previous marriage, **Hannah**, was adopted by Ron on June 17, 2002. Hannah soon had a new little brother, **Jacob Stewart McBrayer**, born June 30, 2002.

Their cousin, **Paul Ryan Price**, son of **Donna Gail McBrayer** and **Steven Price**, was born January 25, 2002. Paul was born with his pulmonary heart valve closed, so he had surgery at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis on January 28 to remedy the problem. Happy to report that he is doing very well and is home with big brother **Aaron Stephen Price**, Mom and Dad. His new surgical procedure was written up in *Woman's World* magazine; see page 20. (Source: private correspondence from proud "eGrandma" Gail Alexander McBrayer, wife of Donald Waid McBrayer, M96-6, 8th, Ralph 335, Seneca- 370-1, William 456, James 193, Ichabod 156, Samuel 360, William 1)



◀ Hannah holding Jacob and in front, Paul and Aaron



Donna with Paul ▶

Ashley Lynn Farell, daughter of **Jini Teresa Wooldridge Farrell**, was born June 9, 2002 in California. No further information is available at present. See marriage of Jini's mother Judy above for lineage. (Source: private correspondence from Carl B. McBrayer)

Anna Pearl Harshman was born Monday, September 2, 2002, at 10:21 PM at Stanford Hospital to **Patricia Ann McBrayer** (M351/5, 9th, Robert - 351, Benjamin -35, John - 236, Henry -141, James - 193, Ichabod - 156, Samuel - 360, William -1) and **Patrick Jude Harshman**. Anna weighed in at 6 pounds - 7 ounces and was 18-³/₄ inches long. Her middle name Pearl honors her maternal great-grandmother Pearl Ann Fassler Marks. She joins big brother James Aedan at home with Mom and Dad in Menlo Park, California.

Anna's cousin **Benjamin Paul Scarcello** made his arrival on Sunday, September 8, 2002, at 2:26 AM at Providence Hospital in Southfield, MI, to **Rebecca Ann McBrayer** (M351/6, 9th, Robert - 351, Benjamin -35, John - 236, Henry -141, James - 193, Ichabod - 156, Samuel - 360, William - 1,) and **Paul John Scarcello**.

Ben came into the world at 8 pounds - 10 ounces and 20-½ inches. His first name honors his maternal great-grandfather, the late Chief Ben. He joins big brother Joseph Alexander at home with Mom and Dad in Huntington Woods, Michigan. (Source for Anna and Ben: Grandpa Chief Bob)



James Aedan & Anna Pearl Harshman



Benjamin Paul & Joseph Alexander Scarcello

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Sometimes in researching our ancestry we run across terms which may be very misleading. The following copyrighted article by Donna Murray Allen appeared in the *St. Petersburg Times*, February 28, 2002, (used with permission) may make you more cautious in claiming or stating a relationship.

Genealogy: Important: Get the last word on archaic terms

If there's one constant when it comes to language, it's that the meaning of words changes over time. When Shakespeare wrote, "Get thee to a nunnery," he didn't have a religious connotation in mind. After the Revolutionary War, pounds went on your hips and not in your pockets.

This tenet especially holds true when it comes to tracing one's roots. Every researcher eventually encounters archaic legal terms like "trusty friend" or "my now wife." Misinterpret them at your peril. At best, you'll charge off on a wild goose chase. Or worse, you'll link people to the wrong families.

"Trusty friend" is how John Murray is described by each person who signed a power-of-attorney document making Murray his or her personal representative in the sale of a parcel of land. The property was inherited jointly by the children and grandchildren of William Essick, who died without leaving a will.

The heirs lived in different counties spread across two different states. Two were named Murray, but the others had the surnames Stull, Kezzy, Seekman and Hamilton. Thus, it would not be unreasonable to conclude that Murray's connection to these people was limited to representing them in a legal capacity.

In reality, Murray was much more than a friend. Three of the heirs were his siblings. Another was an aunt. But the only place these family ties are clearly defined is in the 1810 courthouse document recording the transaction. That's where Murray is shown to have a personal stake in the land. Essick was his grandfather.

"Trusty friend" is often found in legal documents from the early 1800s. Like many labels and expressions used to describe relationships in earlier centuries, the phrase means something entirely different today.

"My now wife" is another term that causes confusion. Commonly used in the legal arena to differentiate between the current spouse and one that may come along later, its purpose was to protect the estate from future claims. Now was the operative word. But it bore no relationship to the number of times the man had wed. He could have had three previous wives. Or none at all.

The designations junior and senior have undergone an evolution. These days, parents tack junior on to a male child's surname when his name is identical to his father's. The older man takes on the senior designation when the younger one arrives on the scene.

It wasn't always that way. Before about 1900, these labels were often used to distinguish between two people of the same name — one older, one younger — who weren't necessarily father and son. They might be related. They could simply have lived in the same community. Women occasionally used these designations for the same reason.

In Colonial times, "in-law" signified any relationship that occurred as a result of marriage. When a woman referred to her father-in-law, she might be talking about her spouse's dad or her own stepfather. Likewise, her son-in-law could be either her stepson or her daughter's husband. In one probate record I saw, heirs-in-law referred to a married couple. The deceased was the wife's father.

Nieces, nephews, close friends or relatives came under the cousin umbrella. And brothers and sisters may be blood relatives or other members of a religious organization.

Some words have simply fallen out of favor. Relict and consort, once popular on tombstones, indicated which spouse died first. An epitaph reading "Mary Smith, relict of John Smith," means Mary outlived John. Conversely, "Mary Smith, consort of John Smith,"

A half-cousin is a person with whom you share one grandparent in common.



REST IN PEACE

We honor the memory of family members who have passed away.

Inez Catherine McBrayer Attaway (M 448-7/5, 7th, William - 448-7, Jesse - 212, James - 188, James - 162, Samuel - 360, William - 1.), daughter of William Harvey and Mary Hodges McBrayer, passed away on June 23, 2002 in Austin, Texas. She was born January 22, 1911, in Lorena Texas. She was living with her daughter at the time of her death. Her husband **Boyce** died in 1963.

(Source: private communication from Carl B. McBrayer)

Dorothy Adelia Bowman McBrayer, wife of the late **Clark Candler McBrayer**, died in Covington, Georgia, on March 16, 2002. She was 3 months shy of her 97th birthday. She was the mother of Mary-Carolyn McBrayer Zook, Nancy McBrayer Shipp, and Joan McBrayer Nelms (all Family Association members); the grandmother of ten, numerous great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. She was laid to rest beside her husband almost 52 years after his passing. (Source: private correspondence from Glen Zook)

Jason Bryan McBrayer of Kennedale, a piano man for McBrayer Piano Gallery for eight years, died Aug. 22, 2001 in Fort Worth. He was 22. Mr. McBrayer was born Oct. 4, 1978 in Fort Worth to Danny McBrayer Jr. and Mary McBrayer, both of Kennedale. He attended Eastern Hills Elementary and had lived in Granbury with his family from 1992 to 1994. He attended Granbury Middle School and Meadows Middle School before attending Kennedale High School. Our Jason was a gift from God for 22 short years. He came to know and love Jesus as his very own living Savior. He had a tender and strong love for his family and friends. He also loved music and a good cigar. He gave his best to many with a true heart that was as big as Texas. Even through Jason's struggles, he encouraged many in the Lord and has touched countless lives in his life and through his

death. See you in heaven, dear Jason. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ben and Evalene McKinney. He is survived by his parents, Danny and Mary McBrayer of Kennedale; one sister, Carol DiAnn McBrayer of Fort Worth; special niece, Aubree Danielle McBrayer; grandparents Dan McBrayer Sr. and Ouida Hill McBrayer; and every aunt, uncle, cousin and friend who called Jason, "Brother." Services were Sunday, Aug. 26, 2001 at Shannon Rosehill Funeral Chapel in Fort Worth with Troy Brewer and Jim Norwood officiating. Burial was in Shannon Rosehill Memorial Park in Fort Worth. Pallbearers were Gabriel Hardegree, Bryan McBrayer, Jeremiah Giles, Julian McBrayer, Jason Anderson and Robert Brenner. (Obituary from the **Hood County News**, Granbury, TX, 3 Nov 2001) *[If anyone has information about this family's connections, please let Chief Bob know.]*

Marjorie Eloise Chaffin of Albertville, a homemaker, died Saturday. She was 66. Survivors include one son, Michael Chaffin of Albertville; four sisters, Lamerle Barnes Booth of Madison, Sylvia Booth and Mary Olynn Haxby, both of Oregon, and Dorothy Nell Dennis of Grant two brothers, Howard McBrayer of California and Woodrow McBrayer of Albertville; and two sisters, Fay McDonald of Texas and Reba Weaver of Illinois. The funeral was to be today at 2 p.m. at Adams Funeral Home with the Rev. Dean Timbes officiating. Burial will be in Marshall Memorial Gardens. (Obituary from the **Huntsville Times**, Huntsville, AL, 30 Oct 2001. Marjorie was the 5th daughter and 7th child of Chester Leroy (M 60, 7th, Forest 111-5, Phillip 330, Samuel 364, David 82, Samuel 360, William -1) and Lillian Montana Bryant McBrayer.)

Charles Roby Burt, 81, of Chambersburg, PA, died Friday, Oct. 11, 2002, at Menno Haven Retirement Center. Born Nov. 6, 1920, in Trinidad, Colo., he was the son of the late John Thomas and Jessie McBrayer Burt. He was preceded in death by his wife, Charlotte M. Overholt Burt. He completed his pharmacy degree at Ohio Northern University. He was a pharmacist for People's Drug Stores, and served as district manager of a number of People's stores in Maryland and Washington, D.C. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theater for four years, first as a pharmacist mate and then as a lieutenant junior grade. He was active in the work of the church in the cities where he lived, and was active with Calvary United Methodist Church, Frederick, Md., where he held many offices and wrote the history of the congregation. He was active in St. Paul United Methodist Church, Chambersburg, where he became involved in the Young at Heart Adult Home Ministries and other groups. He also helped to write the history of the congregation. While at Menno Haven, he wrote the history of the retirement center. Memorial services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Chambersburg. The Rev. Robert A. Cook will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, 750 Norland Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201; or Menno Haven Endowment Fund, 2075 Scotland Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201. Arrangements are by Kelso-Cornelius Funeral Home Ltd., Chambersburg. (Charles M141/8A, 7th, Jessie Johnson McBrayer - 141-8, Henry - 141, James - 193, Ichabod - 156, Samuel - 360, William - 1. (Obituary from **Hagerstown Morning Herald**, MD, October 14, 2002. Charles' cousin Barbara June Bartels reported that he was cremated and interred by his mother.)

Leola McBrayer, 95, of Prescott, AZ, died Saturday, Aug. 17, 2002, in a local nursing home. Mrs. McBrayer was born Sept. 3, 1906, in Hempstead County, Ark. She was a homemaker and a member of Central Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, R.C. McBrayer, in 1982. Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Jimmy and Margaret McBrayer of Prescott and Bob and Cathy McBrayer of El Dorado, Ark.; three daughters and sons-in-law, LeJoy and Fincher Knight of Hampton, Ark., Peggy and James Norton of Atmore, Ala., and Nelda and Bob McCool of Pearl, Miss.; 11 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren. Services will be 2 p.m. today at Central Baptist Church with Chad Brandon and Jeremy Franklin officiating. Burial will be in DeAnne Cemetery under direction of Shackelford Funeral Home. (Obituary from the **Texarkana Gazette**, Texarkana, TX, 20 Aug 2002) Notes: "R. C." was Roy Clifton McBrayer, 7th gen, William - 460, Tilman - 389, Samuel - 362, William - 418, Samuel - 360, William - 1. In the previous record, the first born child of Roy and Leola was listed as Leroy; this is apparently incorrect as the obituary above list two sons and three daughters while the earlier record has three sons and two daughters. The obituary list seems consistent with names so appears to be the correct listing. "Leroy" was listed previously as married to - Hannah-, so gender cannot be ascertained. The obituary then would perhaps indicate a remarriage for LeJoy to Fincher Knight. Also in the prior listing, Nelda's second marriage is to Bobby McCoal whereas the obituary says Bob McCool; uncertainty here.

Ronald Harvey McBrayer, age 66, of Maryville, Tennessee, died Monday, September 2, 2002, at Blount Memorial Hospital. He was a member of First Church of the Nazarene, where he was a longtime Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent. He was a Graduate of the University of Tennessee in Industrial Engineering. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, serving in the Korean War and retired from the American Plywood Association. Preceded in death by daughter, Dena Margaret McBrayer, and parents, J.N. and Bertie Mae McBrayer. Survivors include wife, Wanda Moore McBrayer; son and daughter in law, Marty and Cheryl McBrayer of Maryville; daughter and son in law, Rondalyn and Bobby Smith of Nashville; grandchildren, Audra McBrayer, Ty McBrayer, Daniel Smith, and Kyle Smith; brother and sister in law, Jim and Donarita McBrayer and Doug and Vicky McBrayer, all of Maryville; sisters, Joan Jackson and husband, Jim, Jeane McBrayer, Barbara Collins and husband, Lynn, all of Maryville; brothers in law and sisters in law, Joy and Carl Stinnett of Maryville, Don and Janice Moore of Maryville, Damaris and Ed Green of Mt. Juliet, David and Beth Moore of Maryville, and Judy Meyers of Maryville. Special friends Pam Dixon and Martha Luke, and numerous extended family. Funeral service will be 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 4, 2002, at First Church of the Nazarene in Maryville with Rev. Ray Couey, Rev. David Moore, and Rev. Gary Stinnett officiating. Family and friends will assemble 11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 5, 2002, at Grandview Cemetery for the interment. The family will receive friends from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 4, 2002, at First Church of the Nazarene, Maryville, 865-983-1000, www.smithmortuary.com (Obituary from *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, September 4, 2002. A shorter version of his obituary also appeared in the *Mooreville Tribune* which reported that he was a former resident of that community. Ron [M354-7, 8th, Joseph 267-5, Jasper 207, William 440, James 188, James 162, Samuel 360, William 1] was a strong supporter of the Family Association .)

James M. (Madison) McBrayer, 96, of Martha.Ky., passed away Friday, June 8, 2001 at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Ky. Mr. McBrayer was born January 30, 1905, in Elliott County, a son of the late Edd (Edward) P. (Pleasant) McBrayer and Della Wheeler McBrayer. He was a retired machine operator at General Motors and a member of the United Baptist Church. Surviving are his wife, Vertie P. McBrayer; two sons, Elmer McBrayer of Altoona, Alabama and Buell McBrayer of Wilmington, Ohio; one daughter, Marjorie See of Washington Court House, Ohio; one stepdaughter, Rachel Lang-ford of Ramsey, North Carolina; one stepson, Harry Montgomery of Freesoil, Michigan; two sisters, Buelah Fleming of Tarpon Springs, Florida and Androsie Monk of Illinois; six grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Monday, June 11, 2001 at Heston Funeral Home, in Louisa. Burial was in the Washington Cemetery, in Washington Court House, Ohio, under the direction of Heston Funeral Home. (Obituary from the Elliott County [KY] News; other versions appeared in the Big Sandy News [Louisa, KY], the Record-Herald [Washington Court House, OH] and the Wilmington News Journal [Wilmington, OH]. The photo, taken at his 94th birthday party on January 30, 1999, was supplied by his daughter Marjorie See. James Madison McBrayer, M188-5, 7th, Edward 101, James 181-5, William 445, Ichabod 156, Samuel 360, William 1)



Only limited information is available on the passing of the following family members.

Lewis Gibson McBrayer, M282, 6th, Henry - 144, Samuel - 364, David - 82, Samuel - 360, William - 1) died May 28, 2002, in Bakersfield, California. He was born July 17, 1905, in Hood County, Texas. (Source: private communication from Carl B. McBrayer, nephew of Lewis.)

James Robert Petroplus, husband of Family Association member Sharie Petroplus of Snellville, GA, died August 31, 2002, after a long bout with liver cancer. He was born October 17, 1953, in Maywood, IL. (Information from private correspondence from Sharie, Carl B. McBrayer and the Social Security Death Index. Sharie is Cheryl Elizabeth Arden Katt Petroplus M147-3/4A, 9th, Dixie Jean McBrayer 147-3/4, Homer 147-3, Lewis 282-5, Lewis 282, James 193, Ichabod 156, Samuel 360, William 1)



WE CALL HIM MR. SUNSHINE

This is the headline of the article describing the ordeal of Donna McBrayer and Stephen Price when their son Paul Ryan was born January 25, 2002 in Indianapolis (see page 15). The article was in the "Success of Modern Medicine" column in the October 22, 2002, issue of *Woman's World* magazine. Paul was born by C-section so his mom was drifting in and out of sleep as she thought about her new born son. His dad had to wake her up with the bad news that there was a problem with his heart. The doctors had noticed a bluish tinge on Paul's tiny fingers and toes. They ordered x-rays which showed that the right ventricle was three times its normal size and the pulmonary valve was sealed shut. Paul was being starved of oxygen. The condition is called pulmonary valve atresia; the doctors said this condition was extremely rare and unfortunately nearly always fatal. A doctor gently told them that the only hope was open heart surgery. Donna and Steven had to make a choice and they agreed to have Paul transferred to the nearby Riley Hospital in Indianapolis for the surgery. Donna could not go with Steven and Paul since she was still in recovery. The next morning, Steven was able to take Donna by wheelchair to Riley where she saw her tiny son connected in a tangle of tubes to equipment which helped him to breathe. Donna returned to the other hospital and called her church prayer line asking "Please pray for us. Please ask God to save our little sunshine!" She soon fell asleep and dreamed of the many prayers from family, friends and even those they did not know, streaming to Heaven. When she woke up, Steven and a doctor she had never seen were standing by her bed, both smiling. The doctor was cardiologist Mark Hoyer. Dr. Hoyer described a new surgical procedure called radio frequency perforation which did not require opening of the chest. In the procedure, a catheter would be inserted into a vein in Paul's groin and delicately threaded into his heart. Inside the catheter would be a wire conducted to the radio frequency equipment. When in place, the equipment would use radio frequency to superheat the wire, burning a tiny hole in the damaged heart valve. The wire would then be used as a guide to insert an angioplasty balloon. This balloon when inflated would further open the valve. What was so amazing about all this was that the procedure was so new that only a dozen hospital in the U.S. have the equipment. Riley Hospital had purchased the equipment only the month before Paul's birth. Only a few doctors had actually ever performed this surgery and Dr. Hoyer was one of those. Donna gave approval for Dr. Hoyer to go ahead. The next day, Donna gave Paul his first bath as he was prepared for the procedure. While Steven anxiously paced the waiting room, Donna was calm, trusting in the prayers being offered for her son. Over two hours passed when Dr. Hoyer was able to tell Donna and Steven that the procedure was perfect and that Paul was doing great. Two weeks later Paul went home and four months later an echocardiogram showed Paul's heart had healed. Today he is a happy, growing little boy tagging after big brother Aaron. And yes, mom says they still call him "Mr. Sunshine."



LIGHT UP A LIFE!

This year, as in the past two, a contribution has been sent to St. Michael's and South Parish Church in Dumfries for their "Light up a Life" Christmas Tree. The donation is made in the name of our Scottish ancestors. The funds raised go to needy charities. Tom Henderson, Convener, Service and Fellowship Committee, has told me that this year they raised over £2,500 (about \$ 3,900). Tom and his wife Janet send along the greetings "Have a very Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year from all at St. Michael's and South Parish Church, Dumfries, Scotland. God bless you all, we think of you often!" The tree will be lit for the first time at 7:30 PM on December 7, 2002.

Tom has watched over the plaque dedicated to our ancestors some years ago. He assures me that it is in good condition. We can indeed be thankful for "Friends across the sea."



That's it for this issue! Thanks again to those who have sent in family information. If it has not showed up yet, don't despair, I usually don't permanently lose anything; I just haven't found it again.

Betty and I send you our sincere best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy start to the New Year!!!!!!