



MAYBEE SOCIETY COMMUNICATOR

July 2017

ISSUE

110

The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

I hope this finds you all well! I feel like I am always playing catch up for various projects. I just emailed Mary, the office administrator for the Schenectady County Historical Society (SCHS) to see if the monument men had come to repair the farm cemetery. It has been raining cats and dogs for much of June, so not done yet!

We had lots of company the end of May. My aunt and cousin came from Oregon. Favorite (only remaining) auntie was diagnosed as terminal with cancer. She came to visit and we took her for a couple of bucket list items; to see Canandaigua, where she grew up, visit home locations, and talk with friends, and then to see Valley Forge. We were able to accomplish all of that even as she slept to and fro. At Valley Forge we had a special private tour that was super informative and educational beyond what was expected! It was a beautiful place (now) and time of year to visit. Well worth it if you ever head that way.

This past Saturday we had a baby shower for our daughter in law and son, with the help of all the sisters. They are expecting a boy the end of July or beginning of August. We will keep you posted!

I attend meetings each month as a member of the board of the SCHS where I learn of all the upcoming events and help make policy. They have just, for the first time ever, hired an executive director. I drag my feet on change, so it should be interesting. It was first recommended 12 years ago when I was president, and no one would even consider it!

We are all so proud of our family members and specifically grandchildren! Ha! In May, ours were leads in their school play "Mulan". Alexandra was Mulan and Colin was Shang. If you have a Facebook account, become friends with me to see some video clips! So PLEASE, if you have a family member you are proud of, don't hesitate to share with us for the newsletter!!! That would be great fun to learn! Thanks!

All the Best,
Kim Mabee, President

Research Update

By Steve Mabie
Vice-President

Over the past few years I have been asked several times about DNA testing, and whether or not I felt it might be useful in solving the mystery of our Mabie Family heritage. Were our ancestors from France? Scotland? England? Germany? Why can't we use DNA to answer this question once and for all? After all, one can hardly miss the TV commercials from Ancestry.com or 23 and Me, and Our Heritage in which some lucky person suddenly discovers that they have a previously unknown significant Native American ancestry (and presumably can now open a casino in their back yard.)

To be clear, I am NOT an expert on DNA. My college degrees are in Mathematics, not Biology or Chemistry. But I do know how to research a subject and I have a very well developed ability of being able to separate facts from the nonsense presented in television ads.

In our January 2016 edition, we ran an article about a Maybee Family DNA study on Family Tree DNA. That study was actually started in 2005 by Chris Mabie and it is now being coordinated by Joanna Richmond, nee Maby. I recently looked at the on-line page for this study and as best I can tell, only 5 or 6 people have participated, with results that appear inconclusive at this point. Of course, this is a Y-DNA Study, and most of the TV ads are for Mitochondrial DNA testing. So, if enough of you sign up and pay a lot of money, will we learn where Pieter Casparszen was really from? Well, unfortunately, no.

The science behind DNA testing is really quite simple: each of us inherits exactly

half of our DNA from each biological parent. So at the risk of over simplifying, let me explain using my own ancestry as an example. My maternal grandparents were both born in southern Italy. Their families had resided in the area for at least 100 years. So I know with absolute certainty that I am 50% Italian (with perhaps some Greek, Slav, or other Mediterranean ethnic group thrown in.) The important point for the Maybee Society is that this 50% tells us absolutely nothing about Pieter Casparszen.

So what about the other 50%? You know, the 50% that came from my father, Walter Mabie? Well, 50% of his DNA came from his mother, and her parents were German (father) and English (mother). Likewise, my father's other 50% was half from his paternal grandmother (Irish from Ulster, so perhaps some Scot to boot). If you carry this line of reasoning back the 9 generations of my ancestry to Pieter Casparszen, you quickly realize that Pieter contributed less than 1% of my DNA, and that a percentage that small is virtually undetectable with Mitochondrial DNA testing.

What about Y-DNA testing? First, that is limited to males. But I am told that any two males with a common male ancestor within the last 15 generations will have very similar results. Having said that, I will now report that my own Y-DNA test results do not match at all with any of those who have participated to date with the Maybee Study on Family Tree. Did the lab err? I think they did. I know that they gave me a refund when I complained.

Cheryl Lynn Anderson (MS #111) has been particularly interested in this subject. Her mother's mitochondrial results (Cheryl's Mabie ancestry is maternal) were 32% Great Britain, 31% Eastern European, 22%

Scandinavian, 6% Italy/Greece, 6% Western European, plus other small contributors. Cheryl has also been investigating records from England and Scotland and she has found some interesting items:

On June 5, 1682, Robert Mabie and his wife Christian Stewart baptized a son named William Mabie in Kilmadock, Perth, Scotland.

On February 13, 1685, James Mabie and his wife Jennet Anderson baptized a son named John Mabie in Humbie, East Lothian, Scotland.

On September 3, 1699, a James Mabie baptized a daughter named Janet in Glassford, Lanark, Scotland.

On January 18, 1702, at the same location, James Mabie baptized a son named John.

Finally, for now, on June 10, 1744, William Mabie and his wife, Isabel Chalmers, baptized a son named Daniel at Edinburgh Parish, Midlothian, Scotland.

Of course, 5 isolated records spanning 60 odd years do not prove anything. But when you add to these the hundreds of records found throughout England between the mid-1500s and 1800, plus the fact that a Thomas Maybee lived in Ipswich, Massachusetts, between 1717 (when he was married to Sarah Kindden) and 1747 (when his wife died), raising 5 children who married.

Proud Grandparents!

Following up with Kim's comments about being proud of our grandchildren, Nancy and I (Steve) are very proud of our grandson Jacob Mabie.

Jacob turned 12 years old this past December, and he is currently a member of the Washington County (Texas) Little League All-Star Team from Brenham, Texas. Last week his team won five of their six games on the way to winning their district playoffs. Over those six games, Jacob was 11 for 17, with 6 home runs, a double, 4 singles, 5 walks (one intentional), and 2 times he was hit by a pitch. He drove in 18 runs and scored 12, striking out only one time.



In one key game, he hit a three run home run his first at bat, walked the next time up, then hit a two run home run, followed by another three run home run in his fourth at bat. The following day, the Brenham Banner-Press took note of his accomplishments and published the above photo of him hitting one of those home runs.

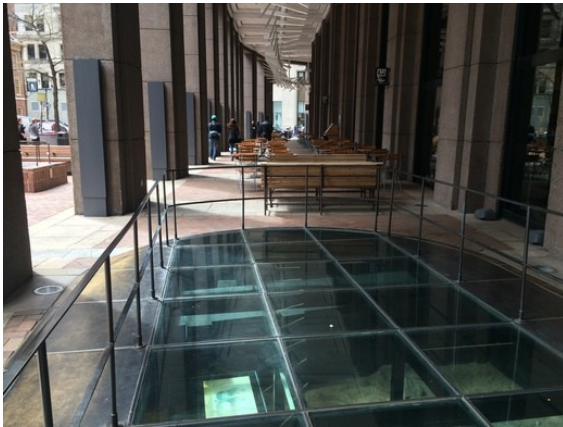
Jacob's journey continues this week as his team will play in the Texas East Section 1 Tournament in Brenham. His grandparents will be proud regardless of the outcome.

Of course, we are also proud of our other 5 grandchildren. We will have all 6 grandchildren together for the first time next weekend!

Preserved Remnants of 17th Century Manhattan

If you are preparing to visit New York City then first take a trip on the internet to the following site:

http://www.atlasobscura.com/places/preserved-remnants-of-17th-century-new-york?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=atlas-page



That is all one line with no added spaces or returns. This site contains a description, and photos, of what is known as “The Portal Down to Old New York” where you can peer down through the panes of glass in the sidewalk and see the remnants uncovered during archaeological digs south of Wall Street.

Reader’s Feedback

Thank you, Steve, for sharing information about the Society of the Descendants of the Sworn Wine & Beer Carriers of Nieuw Amsterdam in the Mabie Communicator (April 2017). One of my friends is a descendant of Barent Kool.



Above, on May 4th, Karen Wolzanski, descendant of Barent Kool, and Susan Godlewski (MS #253), descendant of Pieter Casparszen van Naerden raise a pint in celebration of the 362nd anniversary of our ancestors, who were sworn in as the official wine and beer carriers for Nieuw Amsterdam.

Jon Von Brieson (MS #213) also celebrated on May 4th. Here is a photo of Jon with Harry Scott, a Kool descendant.



Jon and Harry celebrated in Tappan at the Olde 76 House, built by Casparus Mabie in 1754.

93rd Annual South Valley Mabie Family Reunion

An invitation is extended for you to join the 93rd Annual Mabie Reunion on Sunday, July 9, 2017. This year it will be held at

the home of Roy and Janine Dykeman (see directions below). The meal will be served at 1:30 PM. Family pictures will be taken before that so please come a little early for the pictures. We ask that you bring a dish of food for the buffet table, juice, pop or punch for the mixed punch to be served and your own table service.

If you have any updates on your family such as births, deaths, marriages, graduations etc., please email that to Barb Kineke at micknbarb1980@yahoo.com or mail to Barb Kineke 801 Robinson Road, Mohawk, NY 13407. If you cannot make it to the reunion and wish to send any news or greetings please email that to Mary Lou Bach at davenlou1968@yahoo.com or mail to Mary Lou Bach 21408 Star Rt. Meadville, PA 16335.

If you have any interesting tidbits to share you can bring that along to share during the business meeting.

For those of you on Facebook, please check out the *Marvelous Mabie Mob descendants of Wm. and Sophia Mabie*. There are new posts on there from time to time on family. You can join the group if you haven't already.

I am hoping for a really good representation of families this year. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us. Pack your car with relatives!!

DIRECTIONS: 286 Ingersoll Road Fultonville. Get off at Fonda exit on thruway, take 30a south and Ingersoll Road is on the right before you get to the village of Glen.

See you all on July 9th!!!

Obituaries

Marion Lucille Noyes Erstad, MS #214

Marion Lucille Erstad, 94, of Evansville passed away at the Evansville Manor on November 13, 2014. Marion was born in Janesville, Wisconsin on August 17, 1920 to Lula Belle (Mabie) and George Noyes. While a freshman at the Evansville High School, Marion was chosen to be prom queen by the prom king who had recently moved to Wisconsin from North Dakota. Marion graduated from Evansville High School in 1936 and then Madison Business College in 1938. In October of 1941, she married that prom king Robert Erstad, and their wedding dance lasted nearly 65 years until his death in 2006. Marion worked at the Janesville Gazette and the Three Sisters Dress Shop in Janesville before her marriage and then devoted her life to creating a home filled with love for her husband and two daughters. In 1965, Marion and Robert welcomed Evansville's third AFS student into their home and their lives. She was from Algeria and became their third daughter. Marion lived in Evansville most of her life and she embedded herself in the community as a Brownie and Girl Scout leader, a lifelong member and Sunday school teacher at the Congregational United Church of Christ, card clubs, and ladies' golf teams. Daily crossword puzzles and regular bridge games kept her sharp and she was rarely without a book in hand, often reading "a book a day". Marion enjoyed any gathering of people and any outing that included shopping or a meal out or a deck of cards. A woman of great compassion, faith, strength, and grace, she answered to many names: Marion, Mom, Mimi, Mummy, and Mernie. Marion spent a part of every summer out in North Dakota, at the Erstad family homestead farm where Robert was raised. For the past nearly forty years,

Marion spent the winter months in what she and Robert considered their paradise - Spring Creek Village in Bonita Springs, Florida. There, they enjoyed a wonderful retirement. Marion continued to spend winters there after Robert's death, and she had looked forward to returning there for the 2014-2015 snowbird season. That was not to be. For three months, Marion suffered medical challenges that required hospitalizations and rehabilitation. During this time, she was especially supported by her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom came to visit and love her.

Find A Grave Memorial# 138726231

Ruth Ann Cox Glenn, MS #121

Ruth Anna Glenn, 93, died in Philadelphia on Sunday, May 21 from pneumonia. She was born in Rotterdam Junction, and graduated from Woestina High School and then Katherine Gibbs in Boston. She worked several years as a secretary at General Electric. She married Floyd Glenn in 1943 and moved between IBM locations as Mr. Glenn pursued his career. Upon retirement they lived in Edinburg on the Great Sacandaga Lake and later Shaffer Heights in Schenectady until relocating to Philadelphia in 2006 to be with family. Mrs. Glenn is survived by her half-sister, Mary Tilton; her daughter, Jane Glenn; son, Floyd Glenn III; three granddaughters, and five great-grandchildren..

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Dues

The officers of the Maybee Society would like to make clear that the payment of dues, while greatly appreciated, is not required to

maintain good standing as members. Specifically, we understand that some of our members are senior citizens living on fixed incomes, and we do not want anyone who cannot afford it to feel obligated. Many of you have kept up to date on your dues – Thank You. For those who haven't, dues are \$5 per year if you select the e-mail version of the Communicator (in color!), and \$10 per year for the black and white, hard copy version sent via the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that no new orders for the hard copy version are being accepted. All dues should be sent to our Treasurer, Ann Christmann. Checks should be made payable to Ann, NOT to the Maybee Society.

Who We Are:

The Maybee Society Communicator is a publication of the Maybee Society, 15 Van Buren Ln. Rd 4, Scotia, New York, 12302-9473. Dues should be sent to Ann Christmann, Treasurer, at the address below. Checks should be made out to Ann Christmann. Data and information should be sent to Steve Mabie.

Our new Website is:
<http://maybeesociety.org/>

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