



# MAYBEE SOCIETY

## Communicator

January 2018

ISSUE 112

### The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

This will be an update on all the people and writings that I missed in the last newsletter! You know the saying, “no good deed goes unpunished”!! I forgot one of my favorite people and authors, Fred Carlton Mabee Jr. (1914-2014) who died 1 week before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday December 2014 and who had won a Pulitzer Prize for his biography of Samuel F. B. Morse in 1944. I have even read his book on Sojourner Truth. Carlton was the historian for the town of Gardiner, NY and a professor at SUNY New Paltz. I talked with him on the phone sometime before he died. His last and posthumous opus that recently came out, and I need to get a copy of, is named “*Saving the Shawangunks: The Struggle to Protect One of Earth's Last Great Places*”. It was published by Black Dome Press, which specializes in books of regional and natural significance. It features a stunning full-color portfolio of photographs by Nora Scarlett and a smart introduction by Cara Lee, senior conservation manager at the Nature Conservancy and herself an important player in Mabee's narrative.

Then we were contacted by 2 members of the Maybee Society who are authors of current works.

One was Ross Mabey of Melbourne, Australia. He writes songs and poetry. It also looks like he has some award winners. Some of the songs were co-written with Jeffrey Ullsperger.

[www.broadjam.com/lyrics](http://www.broadjam.com/lyrics).

He has his own website at <http://www.rossmabey.com/>

The other is poet Elizabeth “Liza” Pille-Speacht of California. Both were generous enough to send us samples of their work and we will be printing them in the near future!! Liza can be found in New Jersey Poetry Publications from the 1980- 1990s. She is also part of an exhibit at the Hoboken Museum for running a Poetry Performance Artist series from 1982-1992 at the Beat N Path Café and then at Maxwell's Restaurant- both now closed... Also, what could use another mention is that R. Robert Mutrie is continuing to work on the histories of more of the settlers of Long Point Ontario.

<https://sites.google.com/site/longpointsettlers/>

Another one I failed to mention is the fictional book "Living to Tell" by Antonya Nelson about a dysfunctional Mabie family in modern day Kansas. I had never heard of this one.

Of course, I forgot to mention all the non-fiction books written about Schenectady that Jan and Anna always have a small part in. Several were by Union college Professor Jonathan Pearson.

Another hot topic these days, because it is going defunct, are all the history books on the Circus here in the States. Since Mabie Brothers Edmund and Jerimiah, were a big part of that, they get a nice mention. And last but not least, is a nice hardcover book named "Mabie in America: Writing Instruments from 1843-1941" by David Moak. It is a detailed history about John Mabie and his writing pen company. I did get a copy of this some time ago. You can get a copy on Amazon but it will now cost you an arm and a leg. You can also buy some Mabie Todd pens on eBay but some of them also go for a song! Ha!

Well, that's all for now folks, as they say! PLEASE keep me posted on any more you all find anywhere, anyplace!!!

Kim Mabee  
President

## **Research Update**

By Steve Mabie  
Vice-President

As you may know, I have always tried to make the results of my research available to everyone by having all of the actual records that I have found located on one, relatively easy to use web site. For a long time now, that web site was hosted on Roots Web. But over the years, Roots Web has changed

in concept, and for the last few months, they have been having major problems with their hosting system. As a result, my web pages have been off line and unavailable.

John MayBee, our past president who keeps busy maintaining the Maybee Society web pages and adding data to the awesome Maybee Society data base (which now has over 37,000 names plus photos and images), suggested combining the two web sites.

Thanks to the combined efforts of John and my wonderful tech support staff (AKA, my wife Nancy) this has now been completed.

The Maybee Society web site can be found at: <http://maybeesociety.org/>

On the left side of the Home page is a short menu of selections which now includes a direct link to the results of all of my research.

Alternately, this is the new site address for my records:

<http://maybeesociety.org/steve/steve.html>

Soon we hope to both add to the records available and update the existing files.

## **Finding Your Past on eBay**

In the last issue, one article discussed finding documentation proving that BG Oscar Fitzalan Long, a Medal of Honor recipient, was a descendent of Cornelius Mabee of Schenectady.

Now, in this issue, Kim has mentioned the fact that you can find Mabie Todd fountain pens on eBay.

In point of fact, if you go to eBay today and search on the word "Mabie", you will find

over 2,000 items for sale. Of these, just under 1,000 are considered “Collectibles” and almost another 1,000 are books, mainly those authored by Hamilton Wright Mabie and Henry Clay Mabie. Search on “Mabee” and you will find almost 600 items for sale, including medicine bottles, post cards and collectible plates.

Over the years, I have found many interesting items, such as engraved silver spoons, old tin type photos, ham radio identification cards, 19<sup>th</sup> century business cards and a variety of Mabie Todd products. One of my favorites is a circa 1850 silver pencil case made by the Mabie Todd Company. Measuring just over 2 inches in length when closed, this product allowed a business man to carry a pencil in his vest pocket in an attractive case. And the wooden pencil is engraved Mabie, Todd Company.



But my true favorites are items that actually pertain to my own family line, all of which I found on eBay. One item is a booklet titled Proceedings of the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. This booklet memorialized the meeting held in Denver, Colorado in September 1928 and includes a full page photo of the outgoing Commander in Chief Walter C. Mabie, who I used to call Grand Pop.

Another item found on eBay is a blue match book that advertized this same grandfather’s printing business.



But my all time favorite eBay find is a self made Christmas card that my grandparents, Walter and Mae Mabie, sent to one of their friends!



I have learned from my older sister that Grand Pop was fond of making his own humorous cards and sending them to family and friends. This happens to be one of those from Christmas 1946. It is small,

roughly 3 ¼ by 2 ½ inches and includes a very small but complete 1947 calendar (the year I was born).

## **Obituaries**

E. Ruth Pors, 85, formerly of Marshfield, died at 8:10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16 at the Ingleside Nursing Home in Mt. Horeb. She suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

Ruth Pors was born Edna Ruth Mann in Regina, Saskatchewan on Feb. 7, 1925. She was the only child of John Fletcher Mann and Dr. Edna Kelley Mann. Ruth spent much of her childhood growing up in Hamilton, Ontario, where she graduated from high school. She met her husband, the late William (Bill) Perron Pors, at Milton College and they were married March 31, 1951, in Rockford, Ill.

They moved to Madison in 1953 where Bill graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1955. The couple then moved to Marshfield where Bill joined his father, Charles Miller Pors in the Pors and Pors law firm. In 1964 they moved to Harvey, Ill., where Bill directed a Savings and Loan and opened his own law office. He died in August 1965 of a heart attack at the age of 39. Ruth moved back to Marshfield with her four children the following year and was employed by Citizens Bank until her retirement.

Ruth was active in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), PEO, Marshfield Upham House and St. Alban's Episcopal Church. She was an amateur genealogist and historian and contributed to "The Marshfield Story 1872-1997," which was published by the Marshfield History Project.

Her courage and dedication to her children,

friends, and the organizations she cherished will always be remembered. Ruth is survived by her three sons, Charles Miller Pors II (Jenny Vanderlin-Pors) of Madison, Thomas Mann Pors (Elena Korakianitou) of Seattle, Wash., Richard William Pors of Madison; grandson Alexandros William Pors attending Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash.; and step-grandson Pavlos Nelson (Louisiana). Ruth was also preceded in death by her daughter, Janice Ann Pors who died in 1974. The losses of both her husband and daughter marked her life, causing more sadness than a wife and mother should bear at such a young age.

From Find a Grave Memorial ID 61983575

## **Barbara Mabee**

February 02, 1940 - January 10, 2018

Barbara Mabee passed away peacefully with loving family by her side, on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at her home, Talbot Road North, Simcoe. Barbara (Sargent) (Myke) Mabee, formerly of RR1 Walsingham, died at the age of 77 years. Barb was a member of the former Walsingham United Church and U.C.W. Barb's legacy is her love and care for her family. She was caregiver to her late husband George for a long period of time. She was predeceased by her beloved husband George Mabee (April 21, 1999) and also by her first husband Harvey E. Myke (December 5, 1980). She is survived by children: Chancey (Marti) Myke of Tillsonburg, Rose Myke of Simcoe, James Mabee of Simcoe, Wayne (Muriel) Mabee of Delhi, and Helen Mabee (George Johnson) of Simcoe. Loving grandma of 5 grandchildren: Morgan (Kyle) Mayo, Jeffery (Catrina) Myke, Jason (Michael) Mabee, Harvey (Georgina) Mabee, Walter Mabee, and 9 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents Andrew James Sargent and the former Doris (Woods)

Sargent. Also predeceased by step-sons, Larry Mabee (1961) and Don Mabee (July 30, 2015), and a daughter Jane Myke (2014).

### **A New Addition to the Family**

Tristan Adrian Mabee was born July 8, 2017 to proud parents Jonathan and Deanna Mabee, grandparents, Gary and Kim Mabee.



### **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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Photo of the Mabee Farm by Mike Diana of the Schenectady County Hist. Soc., using a drone after a recent snow fall.