



# MAYBEE SOCIETY COMMUNICATOR

January 2021

ISSUE 123

## The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

### **NOTICE: THIS WAS THE FALL LETTER—JANUARY IS NEXT**

This letter seems to be a mish mash of information and ideas. I don't know how to describe 2020? The year from ????

Between pandemics, fires, hurricanes and politics, it is sure a crummy year that we might want to forget!

On the other hand, we have gotten a lot of work around the house done! Painting the shutters, trim, and stairs to the river. After about 15 years, it needed it. How about your place??

Sorry about having to postpone the reunion in July, but the farm and society are just starting to open back up. They had a spaced outside, Fall craft fair, and are planning to have the Festival of (Christmas)Trees with scheduled times in December. This year I thought I would go with an ocean theme. Naming it "They Came over the Sea". I found some glass ornaments last year at 75% off, so gathered them up: fish, star, shells and more with sea glass lights.

I am enjoying and getting used to, the laziness of Zoom meetings in pjs now, even our NY state DAR conference. Some I would not travel to, if they are too far away anyway. Since I finished my 21year stint on the SCHS board in July, they have sent me a plaque commemorating that fact. But the dates are wrong. What can you do?

Another item to mention, I am now part of another organization called the Colonial Project that years ago published a book called "Schenectady Genesis" they have now come out with a 2<sup>nd</sup> volume. See what happens when you go to them with corrections? It is now at this link on amazon.

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08JVZR47K>

Hopefully it is more mistake free. But Dr Staffa was in the early stages of Alzheimer's right about that time, and John Gearing currently has his faculties. He did have a heart attack right after finishing it however. We then hired an editor and he indexed it over the summer. Chris is a local historian also.

And lastly, Gary and I have gotten in lots of walks and rides with our new Electric bikes that we just love. We can go lots further, and not have to struggle so much uphill! Being a senior citizen is sometimes for the

birds! And that is usually what we see. There was a flock of turkeys running around the neighborhood last month and we see blue herons all the time on the end of our dock and in the canal. Gary came through his second eye surgery last month very well. I think the explanation is that it tore a hole with a wrinkle of the film? Something like that. We just had to do lots of drops. Today we ran for our flu shots, and then took our last boat ride. It was a short year, July 24<sup>th</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup>! He is now out power washing it off and I am going up to make a pot of beef barley soup! Take care, and we will catch up in the New Year!

Kim Mabee  
President

## **January 18<sup>th</sup> 2021 President Letter**

Dear Cousins,

Cousin Steve is on Hiatus. Hopefully he will be back soon. This computer stuff is not my thing.

Well, here we are. Still stuck in the covid 19 rut. It sounds like it is going to take a while to get all of us vaccinated that want to be. Here's hoping your holidays were acceptable! We got to spend it with our son and family, littlest grandson Tristan. We were on an every other year schedule with the other kid/grandkids family, but that got blasted.

The Historical Society did put on a limited Christmas Festival of Trees. I tried to help make up for the shortage of donors by doing a total of 5 trees. One small silver one they put in the lobby with masks that I made, to hand out to visitors. They would get shut down if they don't follow protocol. The next one was a small one with 20 knitted hats for donation, that I had been trying to use up old yarn. The 3<sup>rd</sup> was a

small white tree with gold/yellow, white, and purple décor and Votes for Women sashes topped with a hat for honoring the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The 4<sup>th</sup> tree was a 6-foot green tree that a couple of us DAR ladies did in Red, White and Blue for our Schenectada Chapter. The last tree was a 6-foot white one, done like I said above in silver and turquoise with the ocean theme for our ancestors that "Came Over the Sea" to get here! I am already thinking on a theme for next year. Since I like chocolate so much, and am still on a sugar high, I think it might have to be M & Ms! Anyone else have an idea??

Well husband Gary actually had his 3<sup>rd</sup> and last eye laser surgery on the 29<sup>th</sup> so now he is done! All seems to be well with follow ups. Ahhhhhh

They powers that be did declare the Erie Canal bike path done (after talking and planning for 30 years!) however, some paving needs to be done in the spring. It will be wonderful not to have to go out on the highway. You take your life in your hands with that. At one time they even discussed trying to put it through the Mabee Farm lands. I argued that some years ago until I was blue in the face. It must have worked. They put the tunnel under the railroad tracks at the end of Scrafford Lane that all used to be Mabee land in the 17-1800s! So now you are supposed to be able to ride across the state from Albany to Buffalo and from NYC to the Canadian border! All good things! It snowed a little today, so I have been on the computer working on several projects.

One person I would like to spotlight today would be Barbara Brodie Kineke. She is always willing to pitch in with what needs to be done and help out! She does for many people, and she did for us at the 2015 family reunion at the MF, She has had the South Valley family reunion at her home

several times! She is their historian also, and cares for the scrap books and keeps the family statistics. Big Cheers for Barb! Thank you!

As far as history goes, I guess we are still currently writing that book!

Best, Kim  
President



## 2020-21 REUNION:

I am sorry to announce that we are going to scrap it totally until our next regularly scheduled REUNION for 2025. We should all be good to go by then, and not be worried about openings and closures of the Mabee farm and facilities etc. I sure feel bad for small businesses and organizations.

## Obituaries

### **Matthew Allan Mabee MS#436, September 23, 2020**

Matthew Allan Mabee was born in Riverton, Wyoming April 28, 1981. He graduated from Riverton High School with the class of 2000. He graduated from the University of Wyoming with a degree in geology and applied sciences and mathematics. His career began in Laramie, Wyoming, where he worked for Trihydro in environmental science for 9 years. Here he met Lindsey Yung and they were married in 2013. They moved to Torrington Wyoming, and Matt worked for the MC Schaff Corporation in Scottsbluff and then Great Western Sugar as the health and safety coordinator. Starting in December 2019, he was admitted to Regional West Medical Center numerous times. In September, he was transferred to the Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland, Colorado, in critical condition. He experienced organ failure, and on Wednesday, September 23, he was taken into the loving arms of his Savior. Matthew was an avid golfer, snowmobiler, Chevy truck enthusiast, fisherman, and shooter. He was a key member of a 4 man team that set a world record for the longest Jet Ski trip, when they navigated the rivers from the mouth of the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean. His team was the first to cross the United States on a jet ski from east to west and south to north. He also played an integral part and was proud of his association with Veterans Outreach Group. He was a member of the High Plains Auto Club. Matt was loved and admired by his family and friends for his gentle spirit, huge heart that made him want to take care of everyone, his quick wit and sense of humor that kept everyone laughing. His generosity always put the needs of others first. Matthew is the son of Allan and Cher

Maybe of Scottsbluff. He is deeply loved by: his daughter Claire and his son Cole, brother Marc and family Megan, Olivia, and Ava, brother Chuck and Alberta Maybee, nephew Tyler and Lauren Maybee, niece Katie Ringenberg, John and Charlotte, niece Christine Maybee, cousin Rob Mueller and Rebecca, Manfred Roenz, Mitzi and Wayne Mueller and many other family and friends. A celebration of life was held to honor Matt on Sunday, October 18, in the courtyard at Barn Anew Bed and Breakfast located at 170549 County Road L Mitchell, Nebraska, where he was married, and his children were baptized. Cremation has taken place and his ashes will be dispersed in the Snowy Range Mountains that he loved and spent cherished times snowmobiling, fishing, and 4 wheeling. Memorials may be made to the Claire and Cole Maybee Memorial fund at Platte Valley Bank in Scottsbluff, NE (1212 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, NE 69361).

**Mary Edith Rahn Ward, MS#142**

Mary E Ward, 93, died Saturday November 2, 2019, at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. (Seasons Hospice) of Wyandotte MI.

Born July 17, 1926 in Detroit MI, Mary was the daughter of Harry and Beulah Rahn. She married Lawrence L. Ward on December 12, 1945. Lawrence died on August 24, 1987. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother Harry Rahn Jr.

She was a librarian at Fordson High School Dearborn, MI retiring in 1986. She enjoyed reading, genealogy, working jigsaw puzzles and traveling especially in Canada where she visited her many relatives.

She is survived by her loving daughter Janet Gornick of Newport, MI. Three grandchildren Patricia Kivi of Ypsilanti, Michigan, Michael (Myra) Gornick of Douglasville, Georgia, and Mark (Patricia) Gornick of Brownstown, Michigan. Five great grandchildren Kaitlyn and Rebecca Kivi, Megan Taylor and Mitchell Gornick, and Brian Gornick. One great great grandchild Ellis Taylor. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive her.

**Marion Isabelle Smith Tait, MS# 114.**

Obituary of Marion Isabelle Smith Tait, UE, DAR (24 Aug 1925– 30 Sep 2020)

After a brief illness, Marion passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family. Predeceased by her husband Mitchell (2015); her parents, Dewey and Elizabeth (Gloyd); and her siblings, Helen, Betty, Myrl and Lloyd. Marion will be deeply missed by nieces Jane Paisley-Canning (George), Judy Paisley (Richard), Cyndee Case (Dave), great niece and nephew Paisley Canning and Robert Canning, nephews Wayne, Rick, Bill and Geoff Smith and many dear friends. Born in Dunnville, Marion lived a long and happy life. She married Mitchell Brown Tait, a Kiwi soldier, in 1951. During WWII, Mitch served with the 25th Battalion of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces until he was wounded by a land mine explosion in Italy. After returning from WWII, Mitch opened a photography business that flourished until his retirement. With a husband, brother, great nephew, and uncle who served in the armed forces, Marion supported efforts to recognize the tremendous contributions that veterans make to the lives of all Canadians. Although a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis added to

Mitchell's health challenges, Marion and Mitch enjoyed 64 happy years together. Through it all, Marion was Mitch's staunch advocate and caregiver – she continued to provide daily care for him until his death in 2015. Marion made many wonderful friends among the people who shared in Mitch's care over the years.

With a keen mind for details, Marion had a long and successful career in administrative positions. She started her career with the Royal Bank in Dunnville, then worked for Molly Hedrick's Insurance Agency for many, many years. She eventually retired from Duliban Insurance so she could spend more time with her many hobbies and with Mitch.

Marion cherished her family and was very close to her sister Betty. Wherever Betty went, Marion was right beside her – whether it was a quick shopping trip, a card party, or celebrating a family event. The weekly card parties organized by Marion, Betty, sister-in-law Gloria Smith, and friend Glenda Toll were marked by raucous laughter; although things got serious when it came to keeping score – after all, there were penny bets involved. Marion expressed her strong creative flair through many activities, including calligraphy, drawing, and wood carving. As an avid member of a local wood carving group she made both wonderful friends and beautiful works of art. Among her treasures are many species of ducks, ravens, raptors, kiwis (of course), bears, shorebirds and others. She readily shared her love of carving with others and carved daily until very recently. Marion was a gifted genealogist and very proud to be a Mayflower descendant, United Empire Loyalist, and a Daughter of the American Revolution. Marion loved chatting about her genealogy discoveries and with her extensive knowledge of family

ancestries, she could usually figure out the common connections that unite so many of us. She avidly encouraged others to learn more about their family histories and helped many people get started on their own paths to discovery. Accompanied by niece Cyndee (her 'Mayflower girl'), Marion made several trips to Plymouth Massachusetts to celebrate her Mayflower heritage. She treasured the family members and friends she discovered through her genealogical research.

From <https://memorials.ballardminorfh.ca/marion-smith-tait/4346962/>

Ballard Minor Funeral Home, Dunnville, Ontario, Canada

### **60 Year Anniversary**



Leland and Patricia (Norton) Mabie were the guests of honor as they celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at the residence of their daughter Debra and son-in-law Mark Anderson on Sunday, April 29.

Leland and Pat Mabie were married on April 27, 1958 at the First Christian Church in South Valley with Rev. Myron Tripp officiating. They have three children: Debra and Mark Anderson, Leland Fred and Frances Mabie, and Thomas and Kelly Mabie; also six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. About 35 people attended.





## 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 Societ

## 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.

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

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