



# Newsletter

of

## The Van Voorhees Association

ORGANIZED 1932

Volume 5, Number 3

JULY 1987

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### From the President

"The Extended Family" was my assigned topic in a seminar on "The Family" in which I recently participated. What a pleasure it was to tell the group about our Dutch origins, the growth of our family in America, and the role of the Van Voorhees Association in both the Genealogical area and in developing more ties within the extended family.

As I heard mention of the basic genealogical research being done by others. I was reminded once again of the debt we owe to Elias Van Voorhis for the massive effort represented in his 1888 published genealogy of the family. The need to revise and update that genealogy was the impetus behind the formation of our Association in 1932.

And what pride I found in describing our Association, the growing size of our membership and the good times we have in getting together

each year at our general meeting. As you might imagine, my colleagues saw in our Association a model to be emulated on other families.

While not appropriate to the seminar, my advice to anyone seeking to emulate the Van Voorhees Association would be to gather together a strong Executive Committee to plan and guide, with sub-committees for each of the functional areas of Association activity. This draws upon the capabilities of many while not over-burdening a few. It is this productive committee structure that leads me to be optimistic about the long-range future of the Association.

Again this year Lois and I invite any members who are in the Somerset area on Friday evening, Oct. 9, to join us at our room for our traditional "icebreaker" President's reception, at 6:00 pm, with dinner following at the hotel ("Dutch treat").

Don Vorhis

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### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Three offices of the Association will be open for election at the Annual Meeting. Nominating Committee Chairwoman, Cornelia Mason, reports the following slate of nominees:

President: Donald G. Vorhis  
Treasurer: G. Harold Buttler  
Secretary: Candace Voorhies

For those members who are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, a mail-in ballot is included at the back of this Newsletter. You are strongly urged to participate in the Association by voting, either in person or by mail-in ballot.

Profiles of the candidates also appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

# 55<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Saturday, October 10, 1987

Time: 12:00 Noon

Place: Somerset Marriott, Somerset, N.J.

Program: Luncheon

Business Meeting

Speaker - Dr. Leonard E. Dawson,  
President, Voorhees College

Punch Reception

## LUNCHEON

All those planning to attend the luncheon should make reservations no later than September 30, 1987. Use the reservation form near the back of this Newsletter.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The Marriott is holding a limited number of rooms for Association members at the special rate of \$57.00 per night. Please make your reservations directly with the Marriott, before September 30, 1987, noting that you are a member of the Van Voorhees Association.

Somerset Marriott  
110 Davidson Ave.  
Somerset, NJ 08873

Phone: (201) 560-0500

## GUEST SPEAKER

The Guest Speaker for this year's Annual Meeting will be Mr. Leonard E. Dawson, President of Voorhees College. There has been a long-established relationship between the College and many members of the Van Voorhees family, beginning with Ralph and Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees, who provided much-needed financial support in the early years of the College, and for whom the College is named. Our late President, Helen Voorhees was a frequent guest at the College's commencements and other activities, and Alan Voorhees currently serves on the College's Board of Trustees. A brief history of Voorhees College appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

# COMMITTEES

In recent years, President Vorhis, and the members of the Executive Committee have encouraged the members to participate in the Association's activities in various ways. Among these was working on one or more of the Association's Committees.

The revised Association Bylaws adopted in 1985, provide for standing committees, not to exceed eight in number, to work in the various areas of interest and concern to the Association. Chairmen are appointed by the President on the Executive Committee's recommendation, with the Chairmen responsible for the makeup and functioning of their respective committees.

We have received a number of inquiries from members as to what the activities of the various committees are. The following is a guideline, by no means exhaustive, of the activities of the present standing committees:

## PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

This committee is responsible for three of the four purposes of the Association, as enumerated in the Bylaws: stimulating interest in the family, promoting recognition of kinship among the various branches, and disseminating information about the family.

The recent activities of the committee have been directed toward increasing the awareness of the general public of the existence of the Association, and promoting sales of the new Genealogy. This has been accomplished primarily through placing notices in various publications, contacts with various historical and genealogical organizations, and distribution of copies of the genealogy to a limited number of genealogy resource libraries. In recent years, several hundred organizations and publications have been contacted by the committee.

Chairwoman: June Wick

## GENEALOGY COMMITTEE

Together with the History Committee, the Genealogy Committee is responsible for carrying out the fourth purpose of the Association, to assemble genealogical and historical information relating to the

family. The recently published first volume of the Genealogy, covering the first four generations, was the culmination of many year's work by the committee. The present work includes research on the fifth and sixth generations in preparation for volume II of the Genealogy, and attempts to organize the genealogical material which has been collected over the years into a useable body of information. The committee also attempts to respond to genealogical requests.

The biggest need of the Genealogy Committee, at this time, is for regional researchers to do primary research in local archives, especially remote from the NY-NJ area, and knowledgeable persons to answer genealogical inquiries.

Chairman: Fr. William J.F.  
Lydecker

## HISTORY COMMITTEE

The History Committee is responsible for collecting historical material relating to the family, and the places and times of the early settlement and spreading of the family. This committee maintains the Association's archives. The History Committee is presently overseeing the research by Drs. Folkerts into

## COMMITTEES

the Netherland's archives which is looking for information on the Dutch origins of the family.

Chairman: Manning W. Voorhees

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is responsible to plan for the long range financial stability of the Association. The committee advises the Treasurer on investment of Association funds, and provides internal audit of the Treasurer's records.

Chairman: G. Harold Buttler

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Without the Publications Committee's work, there would be no way of disseminating the result of the History and Genealogy Committees' work, and a good deal less for the Publicity Committee to do. The most noticeable result of their work is Volume I of the Van Voorhees Genealogy, published in 1985. The committee also produced over the years, the Historical Handbook, 50th Anniversary History of the Association and a brochure which is sent to prospective members.

Chairman: Robert S. Voris

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Program Committee is responsible for planning, developing and "putting on" the various Association events, particularly the Annual Meeting, and biannual Executive Committee meetings. This includes making all arrangements for meeting space, luncheon, guest speakers, etc. The committee is presently considering new avenues for getting the members to meet. The possibility for a spring/early summer picnic is being investigated as a less formal activity which would encourage

greater participation in the Association by the younger members and their families, and a fun way to bridge the generation of the membership.

Chairman: Scott Voorhees

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee studies long-term goals and proposed projects for the Association. New services to the members are started, developed and sometimes carried out by the committee. Recent projects have included the Association banner and the Coat-of-Arms tile.

Chairman: Frank J. Van Voorhis

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

As its name implies, this committee is responsible for extending and maintaining the membership of the Association. This includes correspondence with all potential members from a number of sources. Due to the work of the Publicity Committee, the Membership Committee, and particularly the Chairman, have been up to their ears in work.

Chairman: Arthur R. Voorhees

### NEWSLETTER

Although the Newsletter is not a committee as defined in the Bylaws, we couldn't resist the opportunity for a "plug" for contributors. The product of the Newsletter "Committee" is in your hands, both literally and figuratively. Without your contributions, there is no Newsletter. Please help make our Newsletter a vital, interesting service to the members.

Editors: Pat and George Davis

Family news, book reviews, interesting articles, excerpts from research, copies of original source material of interest to the membership, etc. are always welcomed.

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Chairman Manning Voorhees reports that, based on recent correspondence from our Dutch researcher, Drs. Jan Folkerts, the archival research has been substantially completed. Drs. Folkerts indicated that the second draft of the report is presently being written, with the final report expected to be completed by late July or early August. We are eagerly awaiting the results of the research, which should be presented at the Annual Meeting.

## LOST AND ...

The Post Office has been unable to deliver recent Newsletters to the following members. If you know their new addresses, please contact us so that we may continue to maintain them on our mailing list.

Elizabeth Voorhees, Placerville, CA  
Mrs. Anthony C. Burdett, Salt Lake City, UT  
Suellen V. Soucek, Edina, MN  
William J. Voorhees, Dover, NJ  
Elbert Lewis Voorhees, Monrovia, CA  
Miss Margaret S. Conover, Highland Pk, NJ  
Mrs. Ulrich L. Voris, Richardson, TX  
John R. Voris, Manchester, MO  
Frederick C. Voorhees, Indio, CA  
Lt. J.G. Kenneth Voorhees, San Francisco, CA  
David H. Voorhees, New Orleans, LA  
Daniel A. Voorhees, N. Hollywood, CA  
Mary Walker Dodge, Little Falls, NY  
Lt. Col. Jack W. Stover, Carey, NC  
William G. Voorhees, E. Greenwich, RI

## QUESTIONNAIRE

We have received questionnaire returns (Jan. 1987 Newsletter) from only about one third of the members. Your cooperation in returning the questionnaires is necessary for us to complete the updating of our membership records. If you haven't sent your questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible.

## We Can't All Be Lucky!

(The following item appeared in the 4 January 1800 edition of the Ulster County Gazette of New York, next to a detailed description of the funeral of George Washington.)

By order of the Hon. John Lansing, Jun., Esq. Chief Justice of the State of New York, notice is hereby given to all the creditors of Jacob Van Voorhis, of Catskill, in the County of Ulster, an insolvent debtor, that they shew cause, if any they have, before the same Chief Justice, at his chambers in the city of Albany, on the first day of February next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why an assignment of the said Insolvent's Estate should not be made, for the benefit of all his creditors, and the said Insolvent discharged agreeably to an act of the Legislature of the state of New York, passed the 21st day of March, 1788, entitled an act for giving relief in cases of insolvency. Dated 30th day of November, 1799.

JACOB VAN VOORHIS, Insolvent.  
Thomas Maule, James Snider, Abraham Brinkerhoof, petitioning creditors.

Don Vorhis

## 1888 GENEALOGY

If there is one thing in genealogy which hasn't changed much in the last 100 years, it is the need to reach out to distant cousins for information needed to fill in the research gaps and find the "missing links".

Recently, while perusing the papers of his great-grandfather, The Rev. William Brownlee Voorhees, Manning Voorhees came across a letter dated Nov. 13, 1883 from Elias W. Van Voorhis, who was seeking information for his genealogy. The letter is reproduced on the following pages.

William Brownlee Voorhees was the Pastor of the Reformed Church in Blawenburg, NJ.

If you have not your lineage  
back to our emigrant ancestor -  
Steven Goole van Voorhes - and  
can send me your line back to  
grandfather, or great grand father -  
perhaps I may be able from the  
records that I have, to trace it  
and send it to you which I shall  
be only too pleased to do -

W. V. K.

Tuesday Nov 13<sup>th</sup> 1883

Per-William Brownell writes

Dear Sir

I have been  
engaged for a number of years  
in collecting material for a family  
history or genealogy of the van Voorhes  
family, from which I am descended -  
and find it necessary to have the  
baptisms and marriages from the  
registers of all the old Dutch Churches  
of New Jersey - through the courtesy  
of the several pastors I have been  
allowed to make searches of the registers  
of the Churches of Hackensack, Paramus,  
Schraalenburgh, Weehock - Somerville -  
New Brunswick - Franklin Park -  
Millstone and others, and write to

with if you will kindly allow me,  
the same privilege or rather in  
this case if you should allow some  
one whom you may suggest at Plain-  
-borough, to make the searches for -

which I will pay a reasonable compensation - as your village is so far from New York that I could not go out, and do the searching and return to the City the same night - and it is impossible for me to remain away from home over night, on account of an invalid mother - I would also ask if you would send me your lineage as far back as you have it, with dates of births, deaths and marriages, as far as you have them, to be used in the proposed work - Dr. Meacham of your place sent me your address, and he has also kindly sent me much information collected by Mrs. Meacham whose mother was a brother - I send you by this mail under another cover a work on the Butchers Co N.Y. branch of the family from which I am descended - published by me two years ago, and since which time I have obtained and placed in line of descent about 2500. additional brother names - principally of New-York.

Nothing would please me better (with your permission) than to call on you personally and do the work myself - and at the same time make the personal acquaintance of a distant kinsman, but as I said it is impossible just now to leave New York for over night - and if you should have one at your place who would do the work for a compensation, and that you would be willing to have do it, I would be so much obliged to you - also I would very grateful for anything you may send me regarding your John kind of descent - Hoping I may be able to get the information I need for the proper completion of the work and with much respect -

Yours in Commerce meeting

E. W. Van Cortlandt.

129 East 36<sup>th</sup> St

New York City



The following letter from Voorhees College President, Dr. Leonard Dawson, appeared in a recent issue of the College's Alumni magazine, and is excerpted here as an introduction to those who are unfamiliar with the recent developments at the College, which were instituted to respond to the varied needs of the student body.

This letter is written to bring you up to date on some of the most recent developments here at Voorhees College and to assure you that we are well on our way toward restoring both academic credibility and financial solvency to your alma mater. When I assumed the Presidency here on September 1, 1985, I immediately determined that the two most important tasks for the institution were to develop an academic program that was responsive to the needs of our student body and the society in which they must function and to staff and implement an effective fund raising program. These related goals have occupied a large percentage of our time and continue to represent the most important challenges facing us.

As you perhaps know, several programs and majors were phased out of the academic program during the retrenchment that occurred in 1983. This action was necessary to enable the college to reduce recurring costs and to carry on essential services. After a very careful analysis of program offerings and student desires, we have managed to restore a major in the Humanities to our curricular offerings. This development represents a major achievement since many of our students choose to matriculate in this area. With the help of a \$150,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation, we are presently phasing in a major in Criminal Justice. Our reading of the present and future employment needs in the field suggests that this is a viable curricular development, especial-

ly in this area of the United States. In addition, we have instituted a major in Computer Science that is presently attracting a large number of students.

Several other strengthening efforts are underway at the college. The Teacher Education Program is receiving a great deal of attention so that students who graduate from Voorhees may acquire unconditional certification to teach. Entrance requirements to the program are also being upgraded. This represents a high priority for us at Voorhees. The institution has traditionally had a strong Teacher Education Program and the demand is as great as ever. The State of South Carolina is placing a great deal of emphasis on program standards and outcome measures. We intend to direct all of our energies and best efforts toward building a top quality program here at Voorhees.

Other initiatives include dual degree and transfer programs in Law and Engineering with St. John's University and the University of South Carolina, restructuring of the General Education Program requirements, and development of an honors program.

On the fiscal side of the ledger, we continue to struggle in order to restore financial solvency to the institution. The major impediment at this juncture is the fact that we are having to pay off past due obligations from current operating income. This places a considerable burden on our present operations and forces us to delay critical program and physical plant improvements that we need desparately to implement. Happily, though, all of our obligations are current and we have managed to finish the last three years with a small surplus of income over expenditures.

As we look toward the future, we are heartened and optimistic. We are terribly pleased that Voorhees College has so many persons from various sectors who are committed to our programs and willing to be of assistance when called upon. Our Board of Trustees, state and federal legislators, corporations and foundations, the Episcopal Church, and friends of the College have all evidenced a willingness to rally around us during these difficult times.

Join with us as we strive to make Voorhees an institution of which we can all be proud.





Denmark, South Carolina 29042

The following material is an abbreviated history of Voorhees College. The full article from which it was taken was written by Robert J. Blanton, an alumnus of Voorhees College, Hampton University, and the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. Mr. Blanton is the author of The Story of Voorhees College, 1897 to 1982, published in 1983.

### A Brief Review of History

One of the most reassuring credentials of Voorhees College, and one that has endured, has been the quality of the education provided over the years. The reputation for sound educational programs is almost as old as the institution itself, except in fact for about the first five years—from 1897 to 1902—when Miss Elizabeth Evelyn Wright and a handful of loyal co-workers struggled valiantly and at considerable self-sacrifice to establish the original Denmark Industrial School. The main facilities during most of that time were twenty acres of land on which stood three old and dilapidated farm houses that were required each year to serve well over two hundred grade school students who were hungry for any kind of education.

This rough start began steadily to be overcome in the latter part of 1901 when Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Voorhees, well known philanthropists of New Jersey, became interested in Miss Wright's heroic effort and afterwards gave both generous financial support and their name toward helping the new school to get on its feet. From that time until his death in 1907, Mr. Voorhees donated funds with which to purchase the three hundred and fifty acres of land on which the College now stands and for six new frame and brick buildings, all of which saw a relatively small but substantial public and boarding school campus arising almost miraculously

from out of nowhere. In turn, from 1907 until her own illness in 1919, Mrs. Voorhees continued the generous philanthropy with funds for two additional brick buildings, for the strengthening of trade training and other educational programs, and for starting and maintaining a school endowment fund. Other friends also contributed to the new school's promising development.

Tragically, Miss Wright was not to witness all of this because of her death near the end of 1906 from poor health and overwork at the untimely age of thirty-four. But even in the brief, hectic, yet triumphant ten years that it had taken her to establish what was by then the Voorhees Industrial School, she had managed to give it the unmistakable mold of Christian character, determination, and the dedication of purpose that the Black young people who attended would receive the best possible preparation for life that it was possible at that educational level for the school to give.

A brief tracing of the landmarks of achievement and service from that time to the present will reveal that this dedication has never wavered. By the summer of 1919, when the institution was known as the Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, eighty-three students had been graduated from the High School Department. Eleven of these had gone on successfully to matriculate at recognized Black colleges, and a much larger number had

gone on to serve their communities as primary school teachers or in the various building, nursing or other trades for which they had received training. In addition, a small number of students received special trade training certificates which did not require high school graduation but which nevertheless equipped the holders to work at the trades of their choice.

In 1924, under the administration of Joshua E. Blanton (1922-1947), Voorhees became affiliated with the Episcopal Church and continued to move toward even higher standards of educational performance and accreditation, while gaining wider regional and national recognition. The Voorhees Junior College Department was begun in 1929 with the establishment of a two-year college-level course in elementary teacher training, which was approved in 1931 by the South Carolina State Department of Education. In 1933, the Voorhees High School Department was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and in so achieving became only the second Black South Carolina high school to receive this approval. About the same time, the construction of three new brick and concrete structures to replace obsolete frame buildings on the campus had been completed and the erection of a brick Episcopal chapel was underway. By 1943, the Voorhees Junior College was in full operation, and in 1946, it was accredited (with no deficiencies) by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, thus making it the first Black junior college in the Southeast to become so accredited. In 1947, the name of the institution was officially changed to The Voorhees School and Junior College.

In 1950-51, the City of Denmark and Bamberg County public school officials at last took over the operation of the Voorhees Elementary School, which for over fifty years and in exemplary fashion had provided the only grade school education for the Black children of that locality. In December 1957, under the administration of John F. Potts, Jr., (President from 1954-1969 and again Interim President from 1983-1985), the Voorhees Junior College was admitted to full membership in

the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as one of eighteen Black institutions of higher education selected (out of a total of sixty-three evaluated) and was the only junior college in the group. In 1962, the name of the institution was changed to Voorhees College in anticipation of the imminent upgrading to a senior liberal arts college. Meanwhile, an extensive plant expansion program that was to see the addition of eight new residence-academic-library buildings had begun in 1960 and was to be completed in 1971. In May 1966, the resident Voorhees High School was discontinued in deference to the newly integrated Bamberg County School District II schools. In September 1966, third and fourth year college courses were established and taught for the first time to round out the four-year college curricula, and in May

1968, the first senior college class was graduated. In that same year, Voorhees received its first accreditation as a liberal arts college from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and also gained the further distinctions of being elected to membership in the United Negro College Fund and in the Association of Episcopal Colleges.

Today, under the administration of Dr. Leonard E. Dawson, who was appointed President on September 1, 1985, the College has as one of its highest and ongoing priorities the hiring and retention of teaching and counseling personnel who are capable of and dedicated to inspiring and bringing out the best in students. At present, the faculty, which is multi-racial in makeup

but still predominantly Black, numbers 32. The student-faculty ratio (Voorhees College) is at present 16 - 1, and the average class size is about 18, both of which make for effective teaching-learning relationships and the indispensable exchange of ideas between teacher and students and among the students themselves. When compared with the larger colleges, which are often overcrowded and in which some students are apt to "get lost in the shuffle," one distinct advantage for most students of the cohesive small college is that "learning becomes in part as much a group as an individual experience in which each student gains reinforcement from others." Voorhees can be considered admirably suited for this kind of academic environment which stimulates each student to put his or her best foot forward.

# Monumental generosity

by Jessie Havens

Ralph and Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees who were the early benefactors of Voorhees College did not limit their philanthropies to that institution. Theirs is a truly interesting and inspiring story, as you can read below.

This article originally appeared in the Somerset NJ "Messenger-Gazette", and is reprinted here from a reprint which appeared in the Spring 1987 Douglass College Alumni Bulletin.

Voorhees Chapel with its tall, white spire is the centerpiece of Douglass College. It makes a striking visual statement on the New Brunswick Campus. More striking still is the story behind the chapel, a story of giving on a scale so big, the tall, white spire seems to symbolize a final, fitting exclamation mark.

That story begins in Somerset County. A few miles west of New Brunswick at Middlebush, the Voorhees family homestead still stands,

although improved almost beyond recognition by O'Connors restaurant, which presently occupies the 1792 structure. Of the 10 children of Garret and Matilda Voorhees, one Garret (after his father) took as wife Sarah Whitaker of Mine Brook, Bernards Township, and removed to that end of the county where they raised a family of 11.

As these children, in turn, married and established homes of their own, much of the labor and responsibility

for running the family farm developed on the youngest, named Ralph after his father's brother who served in the New Jersey Legislature and as a judge of the county court. Ralph Voorhees might well have remained a farmer had he not been afflicted with blindness, first in one eye then in both. No doctor in 1864, not even a New York specialist, could be of help.

At age 27, this vigorous and capable man was reduced to dependency. Despair in time gave way to determination to make the best of it, and fortunately family circumstances were such that blindness did not render him destitute. He was able to maintain an active interest in family life and community affairs, especially the Bedminster library, whose books were read aloud on winter evenings. He also was deeply devoted to the Bedminster Reformed Church. Singing in its choir was one pursuit blindness did not force him to relinquish.

Another regular member of that choir was Elizabeth Rodman, only child of a widowed father, who had retired from business in the city to a quiet life in the country after his daughter completed her education at Moravian Seminary. She was the mainstay of his life, there being no

other immediate family, and until her father's death in 1887, no outward evidence indicated that Ralph Voorhees and Elizabeth Rodman were more than good friends, although when it was announced they planned to marry, many said "I told you so."

Voorhees was then 49, his bride three years younger. Their secret engagement had lasted 17 years.

Sale of the property Elizabeth inherited from her father brought enough for the newlyweds to buy an eight-room house in Clinton, and have sufficient capital to be in easy financial circumstances although by no means wealthy. It was ample for their modest tastes.

Seven years after their marriage, Mrs. Voorhees' uncle died, and she inherited a great deal of money. Just how much is not readily evident; they never discussed it with anyone. So far as their way of life was concerned, nothing changed except that when Christmas came that year each of 35 nieces, nephews and cousins received a gift of \$2,000. There were also gifts to various religious and educational institutions, and these contributions evoked any number of letters and visits from would-be recipients of money.

For the rest of the Voorhees lives, solicitations never ceased. College presidents and agents of many other institutions wrote to them and came to call on them in Clinton. Some came by introduction; not a few totally without warning. (The Voorhees never

had a telephone put in; they considered these devices intrusive.)

Although Ralph Voorhees occasionally spoke of those who came in uncomplimentary tones, many became good friends and were granted repeated requests. No record was kept of all the money these two gave away, but the list that has been compiled is astounding.

One of their first benefactions was \$2,000 to help build a new, larger, Bedminister Reformed Church. Similarly aided were the Reformed churches of Peapack, Finderne, Rocky Hill, Pottersville, and the Presbyterian Church at Pluckemin. Many other churches near and far also were helped. When Middlebush Reformed Church burned, \$10,000 was given toward its rebuilding. A like amount went to Somerset Hospital. Missions of the Reformed Church in India and China and the American Bible Society were generously supported.

Gifts to colleges were more numerous and much larger. The Voorhees endowed a chair for Rutgers Theological Seminary, built a library, and later enlarged it for Rutgers College. (It is now an art gallery.) Carroll College in Wisconsin was endowed with a library, science hall, dormitory and president's home; Huron College, S.D., dormitory and main building; Maryville College, Tenn., a chapel; Hope College in Michigan, a dormitory; Jamestown College in North Dako-

ta, a chapel and music building; Coe College, Iowa, a generous endowment, plus dormitories; Voorhees Industrial School, South Carolina, a 280 acre-site, its first building, a hospital, two dormitories and a trade school building; American Indian Institute, Kansas, a dormitory and many gifts; also large endowments to Lafayette and Wilson Colleges in Pennsylvania, Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts, generous gifts to the University of Dubuque, Iowa, Bloomfield Seminary in New Jersey, and to build and furnish the YMCA in Perth Amboy.

Mrs. Voorhees outlived her husband by 17 years and continued giving to causes they had jointly chosen, and to others she chose herself. Dean Mabel S. Douglass, of New Jersey College for Women (now Douglass) was one who called unannounced at Clinton and sought to enlist Mrs. Voorhees' aid for her school. Although cordially received, and encouraged to keep in touch, Dean Douglass was never given anything, not even for the chapel whose plan evoked considerable approval. But when Mrs. Voorhees died in 1924 her will named NJC residuary legatee, thus providing \$1.6 million for the chapel and organ and support of religious education. It was a sum greater than her inheritance from Robert Rodman 30 years previously, and was in addition to specific bequests to friends and relatives totalling \$365,000 and to institutions totalling \$215,000! □



## DUES NOTICE

In the process of computerizing the membership records, we have found a fairly large number of members on the mailing list who are behind in dues payments one or more years.

If you are in this category, please send your dues as soon as possible to:

G. Harold Buttler  
72 Upland Avenue  
Metuchen, NJ 08840

### Dues rates:

Member- \$5	Contributing- \$10
Junior- \$2	Sustaining- \$25
	Life- \$150

Volume/Number marking of Association Newsletter issues first appeared on the May 1987 issue, which was Vol. 5, No. 2. This was done at the suggestion of a member who is a library administrator. For reference use, the following are the numbers of the previous Newsletters:

Volume 1, Number 1	Nov. 1983
Volume 2, Number 1	May 1984
Number 2	Aug. 1984
Number 3	Nov. 1984
Volume 3, Number 1	May 1985
Number 2	Aug. 1985
Number 3	Nov. 1985
Volume 4, Number 1	Jan. 1986
Number 2	Apr./May 1986
Number 3	Jul. 1986
Volume 5, Number 1	Jan./Feb. 1987
Number 2	May 1987

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## Beatrice Bayley Look-Alikes

Some will recall the warnings given in the Newsletter to those considering the solicitations from Beatrice Bayley for the Family Heritage Book published by her firm in Pennsylvania. The book simply does not contain what it purports through its advertising and should not be ordered by any Association member seeking more than names and addresses of those in America who happen to share the same family name. This fact was behind the consent agreements signed some years ago by the Beatrice Bayley firm with the attorneys general of Pennsylvania and Wisconsin not to engage in the deceptive advertising of the past. It was also behind similar concerns of the U.S. Postal Service in their investigation of the firm's use of the mails.

We have known for some time of a similar operation conducted from Bath, Ohio, by a firm calling itself Halbert's, Inc. Now we can add to that group the name Mary Whitney of Ottsville, PA and Elizabeth Ross of Scranton, PA. The solicitations received by our members from these two firms appear to offer very much the same as offered by Beatrice Bayley and Halbert's. Not only that but the two solicitations are themselves so similar in format that one might easily conclude that Mary Whitney and Elizabeth Ross, possibly even Beatrice Bayley, are one and the same.

Members should be advised once again that none of these firms has contacted the Association as the most authoritative source on the Van Voorhees family in all of its spellings. Without such contact, none of these firms can possibly offer members anything approaching what the Association can now provide.

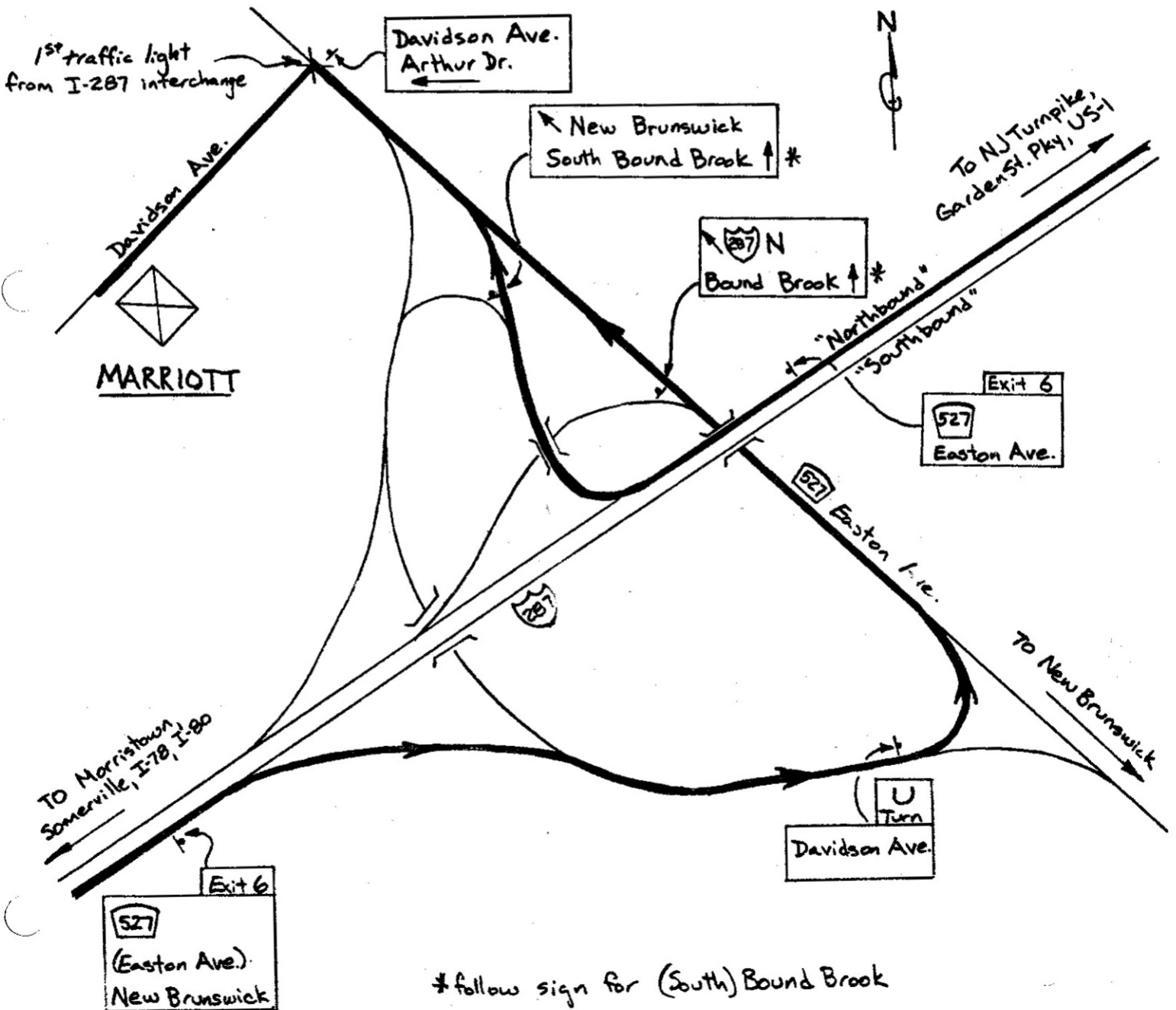
# ANNUAL MEETING

From NJ Turnpike (Exit 10),  
Garden State Parkway (Exit 127),  
or US 1:

Follow signs for South Bound  
Brook.  
Left at first traffic light.  
(Davidson Ave.)  
Marriott will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on left.

From I-78, I-80, US 22:

Take I-287 South to Exit 6 -  
New Brunswick.  
Follow signs for Davidson Ave.  
and Bound Brook.  
Left at first traffic light-  
Davidson Ave.  
Marriott will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on left.



# Profiles of the Candidates

President: Donald G. Vorhis

Don attended his first Annual Meeting in 1958, but did not become a "regular" attendee until 1968, after five foreign postings in East Asia.

Since then, he has used the Annual Meeting as an opportunity for a family reunion with his father, brother, and two sisters, and their children. All of Don's children are Life members of the Association. Don is descended from the Lucas line.

Don was elected president in 1981, just in time to help plan the 50th Anniversary celebration, which gave momentum for the Association's current growth.

Don and his wife, Lois, visited Hees in 1978 during a walking tour in Holland.



Secretary: Candace Voorhies

Candace descends from one of those poorly-documented Kentucky lines which lacked the good sense to leave adequate records behind them. She has no idea which of Steven's sons is her progenitor, but was delighted to discover, when she joined the Association in 1984, that there are lots of Voorhees cousins working on the same problem.

Candace first served the Association as a member of the Publicity Committee. She was appointed interim Secretary in 1985, and elected to that post later the same year.

She is a social worker in Rochester, NY, has two college-age sons, and is married to Acco Hengst, a Dutch sociologist.



Treasurer: G. Harold (Bob) Buttler

Bob is a descendant of the Lucas line, through his great-grandmother, Harriet Ann Voorhees, daughter of Barent Voorhees. An amateur genealogist since his college days, Bob had long been aware of the existence of the Association, and joined in 1978. Bob attended his first meeting in 1981, and was quickly drafted to fill the treasurer's position, which he has done with distinction ever since (with ample assistance from his wife, Meg). Since 1984, Bob has also served as Finance Committee Chairman.



ABSENTEE BALLOT

If you cannot be present at the 55th Annual Meeting of the Van Voorhees Association, the Executive Committee urges you to participate in the business of the Association by marking this ballot and returning it by October 9, 1987 to Association Vice President Arthur Voorhees, PO Box 125, Tuckerton, NJ, 08087.

Please check the name of one candidate for each office.

President     Donald G. Vorhis  
               \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary    Candace Voorhies  
               \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer    G. Harold Buttler  
               \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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RESERVATION FORM  
ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON

Please reserve luncheon seats for the 55th Annual Meeting as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose check for the Total Amount above, payable to the Van Voorhees Association and mail to:

Mr. Scott Voorhees  
30 Orchard Avenue  
Emerson, NJ 07630

Reservations must be received no later than Sept. 30, 1987.

Please list all persons on your group (above) who will attend:

Adults _____	Children _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## Executive Committee 1987

President: Donald G. Vorhis 4813 Bradford Dr., Annandale, VA 22003 (703)941-4614  
Vice President: Arthur R. Voorhees PO Box 125, Tuckerton, NJ 08087 (Apr.-Oct.) (609)296-8937  
1900 SW 83<sup>RD</sup> Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33324 (Oct.-Apr.) (305)473-2972  
Secretary: Ms. Candace Voorhies 1364 Highland Ave., Rochester, NY 14620 (716)244-5868  
Treasurer: G. Harold Buttler 72 Upland Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840 (201)548-8869

### Representatives

Albert Line: Ms. Cornelia V. Mason 2201 Palmer Ave., Apt. 4-M, New Rochelle, NY 10801 (914)576-0109  
Coert Line: Frank J. Van Voorhis 909 Evening St., Worthington, OH 43085  
Jan Line: Robert S. Voris 802 Berkeley Rd., Westover Hills, Wilmington, DE 19807 (302)652-5833  
Lucas Line: Mrs. Joseph (Elizabeth V.) Edgar 423 Harrison Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904 (201)545-6962

### Members-at-large

Mrs. George L. (Alice V.) Adams 24 Redcliffe Ave., Apt. 1-A, Highland Park, NJ 08904  
Mrs. T.B. (Elisabeth V.) Ripton 242-31-51 Ave., Douglaston, NY 11362  
Donald A. Sinclair 108 North 2<sup>ND</sup> Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904 (201)545-0568  
Richard L. Voorhees 2116 Swinnen Dr., Westerloo, Wilmington, DE 19810 (302)475-2801  
Miss Charlotte C. Voorhis Cathedral Village A-320, 8600 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128

### Committee Chairmen

Financial: G. Harold Buttler (see above)  
Genealogical: Rev. William J.F. Lydecker 19 Oak St., Allendale, NJ 07401 (201)934-9586  
Historical: Manning W. Voorhees 41 Oaklawn Rd., Fair Haven, NJ 07701 (201)842-0086  
Membership: Arthur R. Voorhees (see above)  
Planning, Communications: Frank J. Van Voorhis (see above)  
Program: Scott Voorhees 30 Orchard Ave., Emerson, NJ 07630 (201)967-8474  
Publications: Robert S. Voris (see above)  
Publicity: Mrs. Robert (June V.) Wick 69 Wyckoff Ave., Waldwick, NJ 07463 (201)652-6350  
Association Genealogist: Albert L. Stokes RD#1 Old Georgetown Rd., Princeton, NJ 08540 (201)297-2438  
Newsletter Editors: George and Patricia Davis 310 Rockland Ave., River Vale, NJ 07675 (201)358-0150

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The VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION  
310 Rockland Ave.  
River Vale, NJ 07675

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Westwood, NJ  
07675  
Permit #108

*July 1987*

MRS. JOSEPH H. EDGAR VVL  
423 HARRISON AVE.  
HIGHLAND PK. NJ 08904