



Newsletter

of

The Van Voorhees Association

ORGANIZED 1932

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

In the last issue I discussed the on-going research activities of your Association. Florence Christoph is completing the genealogical information gathering for the Fifth Generation, which will be published as Volume II of the Van Voorhees Family. Adriana Millenaar-Brown is locating and translating original documents that pertain to Steven Coerts and his immediate family in America. We hope to publish this work when it is completed.

There should be no surprise when I note that these activities cost money. No, I am not appealing for contributions. I am, however, appealing for timely payment of our very modest dues. The Executive Committee budgets our research and other expenses against the Association's cash flow, which consists of interest earned on some CD's and your dues. Interest rates have fallen dramatically over the past few years, which has materially reduced our income from this source. The research activities of the Association can continue at the present pace, nonetheless, provided that dues receipts are good.

Your last dues payment is noted by the year after your name on the address of every issue of the Newsletter. We maintain a policy of moving members from the active roll to a holding list when dues are not paid for more than two years. Members on the holding list do not receive the Newsletter.

Our basic annual dues are only seven dollars with Sustaining and Contributing categories somewhat more. But -- our delinquency rate is rather high. This situation is probably characteristic of most family organizations, but the realistic fact is that we cannot spend funds that are not provided. If you are not paid-up through 1994, PLEASE clip or copy the coupon in this issue and send it and your check to Barney Ward, our Treasurer.

Thank you very much.

Manning W. Voorhees

OOPS

Our printer inadvertently mailed the January Newsletter by third class postage rather than first class. While this saved money, delivery was delayed for many weeks and it is possible that some members have not received the January issue. If you did not receive it, please write to Manning Voorhees and one will be sent to you.

MATERIAL SOLICITED

If you have any material -- genealogical, historical, local, anecdotal, Voorhees site or whatever -- that would make an interesting article for our Newsletter, please send it to Manning Voorhees, Editor, at the address in "Who's Who". This will be appreciated and will make the Newsletter broader in scope and more engaging. Your by-line will be included wherever possible. (Do not send it to the publisher of the newsletter, Bob Van Voorhis, as this will simply slow down the process.)

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ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION, OCTOBER 8, 1994 IN THE AREA OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY -- MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO ATTEND. OUR SPEAKER WILL BE DR. FIRTH HARING FABEND, AUTHOR OF A DUTCH FAMILY IN THE MIDDLE COLONIES, 1660-1800.

WHAT IS YOUR ZIP CODE ?

Steve Shyers is confronted with the task of changing all of our zip codes to the new "five plus four". We have become accustomed to the five digit zip code and everyone has memorized it as part of his/her address. Well, the postal authorities have added four digits to the original five. This is shown as: 07704-3108, and pin-points your location for the mail carrier with greater precision. Sometime in 1995, we will be required to show the complete nine digits in all of our mailing addresses. If you know your "five-plus- four" zip code, please write to Steve and tell him. This will be very helpful - updating our mailing list is a very large job, indeed, as well as expensive. Steve's address is: Stephen LeC. Shyers IV, 26 Laurel Lane, Newark DE 19713-1009.

CAN YOU TOP THIS ?

Bob Van Voorhis, who composes our Newsletter with his desk-top computer software, reported a chilly -31° around January 20th in Cedar Falls, Iowa. This, of course, could not slow down the sturdy Dutch! However, we would prefer things a bit warmer.

YES, THAT'S A FACT

Trivia: We have all heard about BVD's - you know, those age-old flannel unmentionables that were (or are ?) popular with most everyone. Well, do you know what the initials represent? Yes, you're right: Bradley, Voorhees and Day. Our family really gets in the strangest positions. Thanks to Connie Walterschied, of Doniphan MO, for reminding us of this essential fact.

VAN VOORHEES SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTION

Some time ago, Fred V.V. Bronner, of New York City, sent us a listing of Van Voorhees' who fought in the Revolutionary War. The following data were obtained from New York in the Revolution by Berthold Fernow.

Name and Rank	Regiment	Company
Van Voorhes, Corp. Stephen	Brinkerhoff	Storm
Van Voorhis, Priv. Abraham	Hopkins	Van Benschoten
Van Voorhis, Priv. Abraham	Brinkerhoff	Van Wyck
Van Voorhis, Priv. Daniel	Hopkins	Van Benschoten
Van Voorhis, Priv. Henry	Hopkins	Brinkerhoff
Van Voorhis, Sgt. Jeromus	Hopkins	Brinkerhoff
Van Voorhis, Priv. William	Wessenfels	Livingston
Van Voorhis, Priv. Zachariah	Brinkerhoff	Brinkerhoff
Van Vorhes, Priv. Jacob	Brinkerhoff	Van Wyck
Van Vorhes, Priv. John	Brinkerhoff	Van Wyck
Van Vorhis, Corp Abraham	Brinkerhoff	
Van Vorhis, Priv. Jeromus	Brinkerhoff	Van Wycke (?)
Voorheese, Sgt. Garret	Yates	
Voorheis, Priv. Jacob	Thomas	Lyon
Voorheis, Corp. Samuel	Thomas	Lyon
Voorheis, Priv. Samuel	Thomas	Lyon
Voorheis, Priv. Samuel	Thomas	St. John
Voorhis, Priv. Abraham	Brinkerhoff	Storm
Voorhis, Priv. John		Fonda
Vorce, Priv. Daniel	Webster	Tozer
Vores, Sgt. Garret	Van Renesselaer	DeGarmo
Vorheis, Corp. Samuel	Thomas	Hubby
Vorhis, Corp. Samuel		Hobby
Vorhis, Priv. Stephen	Hays	Onderdonk
Vorres, Sgt. Garret	Van Renesselaer	

Fred asked The Daughters of the American Revolution to send him "anything that they had in their archives re: members of the Van Voorhees clan in the American Revolution", and he received the following:

- o James Voorhees, b. 1749, d. 30 Sep 1810, buried in Old Presbyterian Churchyard, Bound Brook NJ
- o John Voorhees, b. 18 Jan 1763, d. 5 Mar 1817, buried in Old Tennent Cemetery, Tennant NJ.

A very belated thank you, Fred, for sending us this valuable information. Ginny Ward, our genealogical member research coordinator, commented that she has received inquiries about Van Voorhees' in the Revolution. If any member has further data, please send it to the Editor for future Newsletters.

VAN VOORHEES WHO'S WHO

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* = not a member of the Executive Committee

IN QUEST OF VOORHEES, HOLLAND

by Stephen F. Voorhees

The following article was kindly shared with us by Frank Van Voorhis, Coert Line Representative. Frank found it among his father's effects. Thankyou, Frank. With the help of Elizabeth Edgar and Don Sinclair, we have learned a few facts about Stephen Voorhees. He spoke at the 300th Anniversary (of Steven Coerts' arrival in New Netherland) luncheon of the Association at the Pines in Edison, NJ, on October 22, 1960 and discussed his then recent trip to Hees - the subject of this article. Mr. Voorhees was 82 years of age when he addressed the Association. He was a noted architect and civil engineer, holding an honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering from Princeton. Mr. Voorhees designed the Trilon and Perisphere at the 1939 World's Fair in New York. The Van Voorhees Letters were published in 1962 "through the courtesy of Dr. Stephen Francis Voorhees".

The Quest of 1937

In the late Summer of 1937, I left Amsterdam by automobile to find the village of Hees. I had gotten, in Amsterdam, a good road map that showed Hees to be near Ruinen. My companion was another architect. Together, we were confident that we could read the map and find Hees. We drove north from Amsterdam, across the great dyke (Afsluitdijk) which separates the Zuider Zee (now IJsselmeer) from the North Sea, down through Friesland to Meppel in the province of Drenthe, and thence eastward on a country road to Ruinen where we arrived late in the afternoon. Here our map failed us. It was getting dark, the day had been rainy and cold and we were chilled to the bone, so we decided to give up the quest and head for Zwolle where we had arranged to spend the night.

As Dirk, our chauffeur, swung the car around, our headlights picked up the name of a cafe, "S. Hees, Proprietor". This stopped us. We went in to get from Proprietor Hees the location of Hees. While Dirk was doing his best to get the directions, Russell and I had some jenever (Dutch gin). It was most gratifying - warmed us from within. But it was not joyful. I learned later that the taste must be acquired.

Dirk was having a tough time communicating with the proprietor since he spoke Dutch according to the usage of Gouda, his home, and the proprietor spoke according to the usage of Ruinen. However, we got enough information to indicate the route, so off we went in the gloom and downpour, taking first a road to the right, then a left turn, and then across "two bridges". We had arrived on a country road surrounded with soggy fields - no houses. Now we were frustrated and so decided to go back to Ruinen and on to Zwolle. When we came to the next crossroad, we found a sign pointing to our left saying "HEES, 2 K.M.". We made these two kilometers in no time flat and came upon a cluster of three or four houses.

We sent Dirk to find if this was the village of Hees. He came back with a teenager who spoke excellent English and told us this was Hees, and moreover he knew where Voorhees was. So we went down the road a way and came to a house back in a wide field which we crossed, with mud up to our shoe tops in places. Here we found a family of father and mother and two children in a small brick outhouse used for cooking. When they learned our mission, they invited us in to the main house which,

as usual, was one end of the barn. As they went in they kicked off their klompen (sabot) and walked with stocking feet-heavy woolen ones. We felt we ought to take off our shoes also. The floor was wood and as highly polished as a table top. But we did not have the right kind of socks, so at the insistence of the family and stepping very lightly, we edged into the living room. The mother assured us that this was Voorhees and to prove it looked for her insurance policy, but unsuccessfully. So, after a little visit, we left for Zwolle.

My impression of Voorhees was very low. All I had seen was soggy flat lands and a few rather small house-barns. It was obviously not as rich a country as Friesland where there were large barns and fine cattle. The land was poor and much of the province was moor land and peat bogs. It seemed quite obvious why our ancestor left for the bright prospects in America but I wondered where he got the money to make the purchases of land and other farm property when he arrived at Gravesend in Long Island.

We spent a comfortable night in a Zwolle hotel after a delicious dinner. The next morning was bright and clear, blue sky filled with white puff clouds. The contrast was so great from the previous day that it made me think even less of Hees. We motored back to Amsterdam through Deventer, Zutphen, Apeldoorn and Hilversum - all beautiful towns surrounded by lovely country.

The Quest of 1960

When we arranged - my sister, Margaretta and I - for our cruise through the canals of northeastern Holland in the Summer of 1960, we decided to make another and longer visit to Hees to see if it was really as dreary as I remembered it. We tied up our yacht, the "Alicante", at Kampen, hired a car and motored to Ruinen and Hees through Zwolle and Meppel, a distance of thirty miles. It was a glorious day - blue skies, puff clouds and a gentle breeze, and that iridescent atmosphere so characteristic of Holland.

When we arrived in Ruinen we found the "Hees Cafe" still going, so we went in for directions which were given by the proprietor in English this time. So we took off to find Hees. With me this time, in addition to my sister, Margaretta, was Mrs. Frances Black, the widow of a Dutchman and quite at home in the Dutch language. We found the same cluster of three or four houses that I saw in 1937; also the signpost pointing to "HEES, 2 K.M.". Everything was bright and cheery, the farmers were getting in their hay, and the whole aspect was so different from my memory that I was really thrilled.

I was taking a picture of a group of farm buildings when a woman standing by one of them beckoned me to come in. I did so. She took me in to the barn to show me a dozen little pigs, apparently here great pride. Well, I remembered enough of my farm experience to appreciate what a nice litter it was. Then we asked if she would take us into her living room which she was glad to do, together with her mother and the rest of the family.

The living room was most interesting. The walls were

HEES TODAY

finished in a bluish white tile from floor to ceiling, with decorated tile around the windows and doors. The floor was wood, highly polished. One end of the room was paneled in wood, some of the panels being doors which, when opened, revealed berths - good sleeping in cold and drafty rooms. I had seen the same thing in the cold parts of Norway.

Also in the room was a beautiful wooden wardrobe. The old mother opened it to show us her wedding garments including a gold casque. I had read that the women of Friesland wore these casques but I never expected to see one outside of a museum. The casque is made of two sections of gold sheet fitting the head tightly, over which a lace cap is worn. The rest of her wardrobe was equally interesting. We left with very happy memories of a very nice family, most cordial; and, furthermore, that the home was in Voorhees.

We had a good lunch on a terrace in front of a cafe in Ruinen - not the Hees Cafe - and were waited on by a young man who spoke excellent English which he had learned at school.

We then went over to the church in Ruinen where I think our ancestors must have worshipped. It is very early architecture, not too large but very spacious and dignified. Unfortunately, the Dominie was away but his assistant and a neighbor showed us around. In the late afternoon we motored back to Kampen and the "Alicante".

From this trip I have a very pleasant memory of Hees. In the twenty odd years that had elapsed, much had been done to improve the economics of the province. Means had been found to make the land more fertile after the removal of the peat; housing additions had been built to the barns, and it looked good.

A few days later on our cruise we arrived at Assen, the capital of Drenthe. Here, through an introduction from Mr. Sinclair of the Van Voorhees Association, I called on Dr. Schaap, who is doing some research work in Voorhees to find out about the ancestors previous to their migration to America. He spoke excellent English and told me some of the results of his investigation. The most important to me was that the name of Hees is the name of a district and not of a village. He said that Voorhees should properly be translated as "near Hees", having reference to Ruinen. He said there were other areas such as Middel Hees.



"Main Street" of Hees, looking west.

Farm of Voorhees starts on a line running along the rear of the house and small building, and into the horizon. This line dates from the 16th Century. View looks southwest.

Photos taken in September, 1993 by David H. Voorhees, 601 E. Washington Ave., Urbana, IL 61801.



All of this was in accord with my own observations. I am convinced that we came from the region of Hees -- not a village -- being that portion of the region that is nearest Ruinen. Also, that it probably was a pleasant place, even if not too fertile. Our ancestors were wise -- very wise -- in coming to America in 1660, with its greater opportunities which their descendants have so well exploited.

JOHN VOORHEES - 1780

by Bruce D. Chilton

To demonstrate that it is a venerable tradition for a Voorhees always to honor his debts, following is a transcript of a promissory note for 100 bushels of corn signed by John Voorhees in February 1780, and a certificate showing satisfaction of this debt in March 1795 - 15 years later!

The original of this note, left to me by my father, has been passed down through the family for seven generations. The John Voorhees who signed the note was my 5th great grandfather. During the Revolution he was Captain of a company of militia in Colonel Quick's Regiment, Somerset County East New Jersey.

Where as I have hear of Bob Stockton certficate for one Hundred & Sixty five Bushels of Corn at 30 Dolars ? bushel & but 65 bushels delivered I do promis & oblige myself to deliver one hundred bushels more Which is the Remainder when Stockton shall call for the same at Princeton and I set my hand this 29th day Feb:1780

John McComb

John Voorhees

[Note: John McComb witnessed this promisory note]

(Obverse side of same document)

This Day settled With Mr. John Voorhees on amt of the Within mentioned Corn and made Even and all other Rest Reaspecting the same in Void This 7 of March 1795 -

Bob Stockton

Thank you, Bruce.

Bruce D. Chilton, 22 Dolphin Lane, Northport NY 11768

DR. FIRTH HARING FABEND, OUR OCTOBER 8th SPEAKER

Dr. Firth Haring Fabend will be our speaker at the Annual Meeting and Reunion on October 8, 1995. She is a noted researcher and historian of the New Netherland and early American period. The following review of her recent award winning book, A Dutch Family in the Middle Colonies, 1660-1800, appeared in the August, 1992, issue of the Newsletter.

Dr. Firth Haring Fabend has written a fascinating book about the development, of the Haring family from 1662 to just after the Revolutionary War. The story commences with the marriage of John Pietersen Haring, whose parents had emigrated from Hoorn, the Netherlands, in the 1630's, and Grietje Cosyns, who was born on Manhattan Island in 1641 of Dutch emigres. Subsequently, the family joined the patentees of the Tappan Patent, which now straddles the New Jersey-New York border, and became farmers and property owners in a virgin woodland.

Dr. Fabend traces the development of a closely knit family as they slowly weakened their old Dutch ways and became Anglicized and eventually Americanized. However, while the descendants of John and Grietje gradually adopted different economic, testamentary, social and political standards, they still clung to elements of mid-17th century Dutch customs. The schism that occurred within the Dutch Reformed Church affected the family, as did the Revolutionary War.

There is no mention of the Van Voorhees family. Nonetheless, the forces that influenced the development of the Haring family presumably also affected the development of our family. The book is recommended for your enjoyment.

Firth Haring Fabend, A Dutch Family in the Middle Colonies, 1660-1800. Rutgers University Press, 1991 (326 pp plus xviii, including bibliography and end notes).

J. RUSSELL VOORHEES, ENGINE EXPERT FOR LINDBERGH

June Wick, our Publicity Chairperson, sent us this material about J. Russell Voorhees, her father, that is quoted From the Balloon to the Moon, by H. V. Pat Reilly (H. V. Publishers, 285 Genter Avenue, Oradell, NJ 07649). The book examines New Jersey's "Amazing Aviation History". Thank you, June.

To be certain that the Whirlwind engine in the nose of the Spirit of St. Louis was properly tuned along the route, the Wright Corporation sent J. Russell Voorhees, one of its leading engine experts, to Panama by ship to service the engine there. Voorhees, a Midland Park, NJ, resident, left for Colon, Panama in late December 1927 to await the arrival of the historic plane on Jan. 13, 1928. Once the airman left Panama, Voorhees hopped aboard an island steamer and made his way to Havana, arriving just before the Spirit landed.

The Panama and Cuban trips were not the first for the Wright motor expert as his letter from Cuba, dated February 4, 1928, indicated.

"Arrived here from Panama at 10 o'clock this A. M. Went out to the flying field as the factory sent some mail out there for me. While there I saw some of the boys from Pan American Airways, the planes I flew to Key West with. They sure were surprised to see me come walking in the hangar. I have some other work to do for the Cuban government so I will not have to hang around and wait for Lindy to arrive this time. It is not quite as warm here as it was in Panama but it isn't cold by any means."

In 1929, Voorhees turned down a chance to go to the South Pole with Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd and instead went to San Antonio, TX, as an engine instructor at the U. S. Army Aviation school. In February 1930, Voorhees accepted the position of service manager with Varney Air Lines in Portland, OR.

Two months after his Latin American trip, Lindbergh presented his sturdy plane to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C.

CURRENT SITUATION WITH VAN VOORHEES PARK, BROOKLYN

The Friends of Van Voorhees Park filed litigation in New York State Supreme Court to prevent condemnation of the Park for an eight level parking structure dedicated to Long Island College Hospital. Petitioners were the Friends, The Parks Council, The NYC Street Tree Commission, Transportation Alternatives, The Willowtown Association, and individuals representing business and residential neighbors of the Park. Defendants are the City of New York, the New York City Council, the New York City Planning Commission and the Department of Health of the State of New York. Preliminary responses are due at the end of this coming June. The Municipal Art Society, a quasi-governmental organization, supports the litigation. The Friends are hopeful that newly-installed Mayor Rudolph Guiliani will decide upon a tack different than that of former Mayor David Dinkins and set the condemnation aside. The Mayor has this legal power.

An exhibition, "Visions For An Endangered Park: Van Voorhees Park, Brooklyn" opened on April 6th at the Urban Center, Villard Mansion at 50th Street and Madison Avenue, Manhattan, and will run to May 18th. The exhibition will then open in Brooklyn with some enlargement by local school children. The Park has long been ignored by the City and is in need of repairs and upgrading.

While much of the legal work for the litigation is pro bono, significant expenses remain for the Friends to fund. Donations may be sent to the Friends of Van Voorhees Park, at 327 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, telephone (718)643-0754.

WATCH OUT !!

We have mentioned from time to time that there are "people out there" who will try to sell you publications that putatively contain genealogical information and listings of Voorhees' across the country. Most of this material is suspect, at best: the data are obtained from public records, such as telephone books, and are not particularly accurate or complete, to say the least. On March 1st, we received a flyer selling The Voorhees Since the Civil War at a cost of \$10.00. The book was said to list 1,263 "Voorhees namesakes".

Now, you know that our family embraces a healthy multiple of this number. Indeed, if there were only 1,263 members of the Van Voorhees clan, then something on the order of two-thirds of them belong to the Association -- and we know that ain't true. The flyer was signed in a computer type font by "Carol Voorhees i.a." We presume that "i.a." stands for inter alios ("among other persons"); i.e., Carol has many names.

It's your ten bucks, but don't expect much from something like this.

MORE TRIVIA

Dr. Desmond Voorhees is a minor character in Payne Harrison's *Thunder of Erebus* (Crown Publishers, Inc., New York; 1991). The fictional novel is about an undeclared war between the United States and Russia after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and the action takes place in Antarctica. Dr. Voorhees is a geo-physicist.

HELPFUL NAMES

The February issue of *de Nieuw Nederlanse Mercurius*, the newsletter of the New Netherland Project, contains several names and addresses of researchers in the Netherlands who may be helpful in your family genealogical and historical research. The following are some selected names:

General interest in New Netherland:

Mr. C.J.M. Kramers
Benoordenhoutseweg 30
2596 BB Den Haag

Prof. dr. R. Kroes
Universiteit van Amsterdam
Plantage Muidergracht 12
1018 TV Amsterdam

Mr. Edwin Pol
't Hazeveld 47
3862 XA Nijkerk

Ms. Juliette Roding
Rijksuniversiteit Leiden
Postbus 9515
2300 RA Leiden

Interest in the genealogy of Utrecht and vicinity:

Mr. Marcel S.F. Kemp
Perenstraat 133
2564 RW Den Haag

Interest in (a) Pieter Corneliszoom Ploekhoy van Zierikzee, who founded a colony in 1663 in Delaware; (b) history of emigration:

Mr. Jan Lucassen
Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis
Cruquiusweg 31
1019 AT Amsterdam

General interest: Netherlands colonial churches or emigrant churches of the 17th-20th centuries in either the WIC or VOC sphere and the United States. Dissertation research on the Nederduitsch Reformed Church in 17th Century Batavia, the influence of the church on colonial life:

Mr. Hendrik E. Niemeijer
Vrije Universiteit
De Boelelaan 1105
Kr. #7A24
1081 HV Amsterdam

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MILESTONES

Dr. Charles C. Voorhis, II, of Kent OH, was called on January 11, 1994 at the age of 80 ... Charles was a surgeon and an educator ... he leaves his wife, Beatrice, and sons, Dr. Charles III, of Panama City FL, a member of the Association, Richard of Kent OH, and two grandchildren

Dr. Kenneth Scott, of Douglaston, Queens NY, departed in late February, 1994 at the age of 93 ... Dr. Scott was Professor Emeritus of History at Queens College of the City University of New York, and was a scholar of New York and American genealogy ... he addressed the Association at an Annual Meeting during the Presidency of Helen Voorhees

Clarence T. Voorhees, of Sun City AZ and Hastings NE, passed on March 13, 1994 at the age of 77 ... Clarence was a Life Member of the Association and leaves his wife, Beth ... he will be remembered for the extensive genealogical data that he compiled for his immediate family and the family newsletter that he started ... Clarence's efforts were reported in the January issue of the Newsletter ... Clarence and Beth visited Hees and the Netherlands with the Van Voorhees group in 1991 where they celebrated their 52nd Wedding Anniversary

Clifford G Voorhees, of Manasquan NJ, died on April 6, 1994 at the age of 85 ... he leaves his wife, Elisabeth, a son and daughter, and two grandchildren.

GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

Compiled by Virginia V. Ward

Which Abraham VOORHEES received pension #4511610 for his Revolutionary War service? In 1776 he was a Sargeant in Captain Joseph BARCOCK'S company; from 1777 to the end of the War he was a Sargeant in a Light Horse Troop of Captain John STRYKER.

-- Rosalie Voorhees Stigletts, 5910 Green Springs, Houston, TX 77066-2334.

Seeking siblings and ancestry of Aaron Lane VOORHEES, b. 27 January 1860 at Larger Cross Roads, Bedminster Twp., Somerset Co., NJ. Father: Isaac VOORHEES, a carpenter, also b. Somerset Co. Mother: Margaret CUNNINGHAM b. Scotland.

-- Leanore Voorhees (Mrs. Wm. T.) Owens, RR 5390 Loch Ness Dr., Keystone Heights, FL 32656.

Ginny had some other questions at press time that were being researched by Steve Shyers and/or Florence Christoph. Please send your genealogical queries and news about your research activities/interests to Ginny Ward, who coordinates and assists members with their genealogical efforts. Ginny suggests that when you send her a query, that you tell her whether you have already checked with Steve Shyers to inquire if your line is in his family database.

MISSING COUSINS

At the time that this Newsletter was written, three undeliverable copies of the January issue were returned because there are no forwarding addresses. Perhaps more will arrive -- the January issue was still being delivered at press time. Returned copies of the Newsletter are a continuous problem because many members do not advise us of their new addresses when they move. Usually the new address is noted on the

returns by the post office, but unfortunately this does not occur in all instances because the forwarding time has expired. When this happens, the member is lost for ever. When you move, PLEASE complete the Change of Address Form and send it to Steve Shyers.

Do you know these missing cousins whose January issue of the Newsletter was returned as "not forwardable":

clip out

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Name _____

Old Address _____

Old City _____ Old State _____

Old Zip _____

New Address _____

New City _____ New State _____

New Zip _____

VVA # _____

Mrs. Virginia B. Fairbanks
1918 East Jefferson Blvd.
South Bend, IN 46617

Mr. Gary V. Hudson and
Ms. Joyce V. Hudson
116 Lawrenceville St.
Jefferson, GA 30549

Mrs. Gordon B. Bryant
1424 Arbutus Drive
Hudson, OH 44236-3807

If anyone can help locate these Missing Cousins, please write to Steve Shyers. Thank you.

Kindly enter the five-plus-four zip if you know the last four digits. Mail to Steve Shyers at 26 Laurel Lane, Newark, DE 19713-1009.

VAN VOORHEES-QUACKENBUSH-ZABRISKIE HOUSE

The Van Voorhees-Quackenbush-Zabriskie House in Wyckoff, New Jersey, is said to be one of the "finest examples of early American architecture in northern New Jersey". Built in three parts, it reveals numerous old Dutch building techniques and styles. There is also a good collection of period furniture and three formal gardens behind the House of a more recent era. The VV-Q-Z House has been designated a New Jersey Landmark and its plans are on file with the Library of Congress. Be sure to visit it when you are next in the region: 421 Franklin Avenue, Wyckoff NJ, telephone: (201)891-0057. There is real old-family here. Call for hours when the House is open.

Genealogically, the VV-Q-Z house is traced to Willem (or William) van Voorhees of the Third Generation (#58 in the Van Voorhees Family), son of Albert Stevense van Voorhees (#7). William with his older brother, Jan (#57), purchased the original 550 acre tract on August 17, 1720. Subsequently, in 1730, William built the oldest part of the VV-Q-Z structure. On April 2, 1745, William and Jan repurchased the property as part of the settlement of an adversarial claim. The Van Voorhees Family suggests that Jan farmed at Saddle River, New Jersey, and apparently did not live on the VV-Q-Z property; his will was proved in 1767. One of William's sons, Albert (#325), continued with the House. Sometime around 1824, at the tender age of 86 or thereabouts, Albert built what became the "main house" and second part, presumably to provide for his large family of children and grandchildren. The door knocker in use today bears the initials "A.V.V.H.1824", which represent Albert van Voor Haze. The VV-Q-Z House brochure and a piece in a book by Rosalie Fellows Bailey use "van Voor Haze" interchangeably with "van Voorhees" as the family name.

The Quackenbush family entered the story in the 19th Century. A kitchen wing "of no architectural style", the third part, was added to the structure in the 19th Century. In 1973, Grace Quackenbush Zabriskie gave the House through her will to the Township of Wyckoff, the present owner and operator.

In 1775, the House was

used as the village store and tavern when no more than twenty residents lived in Wyckoff. The region was little affected by the Revolutionary War because of its then remote location and small population. The original part built by William van Voorhees exists today, but it is almost hidden in the center of the House.

Thanks to Marilyn Brack, our Association Secretary, for sending us the VV-Q-Z material and the accompanying photograph. Marilyn and Fred are active docents for the House. Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson, and Cynthia Van Voorhies Collins were volunteer helpers during the past Holiday Open House.

Sources: the VV-Q-Z House brochure, which states, "Reprinted by permission of the Holland Society of New York from their *de Halve Maen*", and the Bailey book cited above: *Pre Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York* by Rosalie Fellows Bailey (The Holland Society, New York, 1936; repub. in paperback by Dover Publications, 1968). The Holland Society of New York is located at 122 East 58th Street, New York NY 10022. It might be noted that certain information was taken from the Van Voorhees Family, which differs a bit from that in the cited sources.



Van Voorhees-Quackenbush-Zabriskie House
Photo by Marilyn Brack, 1994

INSTITUTIONAL RECIPIENTS OF NEWSLETTER

Your Newsletter is sent to many libraries, historical societies and genealogical groups across the country.

American Family Records Assn.
Aberdeen SD

Allen Co. Public Library
Fort Wayne IN

Baton Rouge Geneal. & Hist. Soc.
Baton Rouge LA

Bergen Co. Hist. Society
River Edge NJ

Brooklyn Hist. Society
Brooklyn NY

Detroit Public Library
Burton Historical Coll.
Detroit MI

Coutts Library Services
Niagara Falls NY

Dallas Public Library
Genealogy Section
Dallas TX

The New Netherland Project
Albany NY

The FGS Forum
Western Springs IL

NY Geneal. & Biographica Soc.
New York NY

New York Public Library
Division G
New York NY

Holland Society of NY
New York NY

Kansas Genealogical Society
Dodge City KS

Church of Jesus Christ LDS
Family Hist. Library
Salt Lake UT

Library of Congress
Gift Section
Exchange & Gift Division
Washington DC

Los Angeles Public Library
Genealogy Division
Los Angeles CA

Monmouth County Hist. Assn.
Freehold NJ

New England Hist. & Geneal. Soc.
Boston MA

New Jersey Historical Soc.
Newark NJ

The Newberry Library
Chicago IL

New City Library
New City NY

NY Historical Society
New York NY

Noble County Chapt. DGS
Caldwell OH

NY State Library
Cultural Education Ctr.
Gift & Exchange Section
Albany NY

Ocean County Geneal. Soc.
Toms River NJ

Orange County Library Sys.
Genealogy Department
Orlando FL

Paramus Hist. & Preserv. Soc.
Ridgewood NJ

Rutgers University
Special Coll. & Archives
Sinclair NJ Collection
Alexander Library
New Brunswick NJ

San Francisco Public Library
Rare Books & Special Coll.
San Francisco CA

Tarrytown Historical Society
Tarrytown NY

Texas County Missouri Geneal.
& Hist. Soc.
Houston MO

Metropolitan Toronto Library
Toronto Canada

William D. McIntyre Library
Area Research Center
University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire WI

Van Buskirk Clearing House
Monmouth IL

Westchester Co. Hist. Soc.
Elmsford NY

West Virginia Geneal. Soc.
Elkview WV

Wyckoff House Museum
Brooklyn NY

Wyckoff Historical Soc.
Wyckoff NJ

Reading Historical Society
22 West Benson Street
Reading OH 45215

The Association will be pleased to send the Newsletter to your local museum, historical or genealogical organization if you will send Steve Shyers the name and address. Manning Voorhees will appreciate receiving that group's newsletter.

ERWTENSOEP

Last Winter was frigid in the northern climes, to say the least, and some hearty Dutch pea soup would have been delightful. Peter Rose, a native of the Netherlands and our Annual Meeting speaker a few years back, has published a new book, *Foods of the Hudson* (Overlook Press, 1993) that contains a fascinating recipe. She advises that the soup is known as Erwtensoep and is often nicknamed Snert.

- 3 pounds soup bones plus a marrow bone, if available
- 1 1/2 pounds loin end pork chops
- 1 pound smoked sausage (Kielbasa or smoked turkey sausage)
- 1 gallon cold water
- 2 pounds green split peas
- 4 large carrots, scraped and chopped
- 4 large potatoes, peeled, washed and diced
- 2 leeks, carefully washed and cut into thin slices including as much of the green parts as possible
- 2 onions, peeled and chopped
- 3 large stalks of celery and at least 3 tablespoons of celery leaves, chopped
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1 large handful of fresh parsley, washed and chopped

- (1) Bring the soup and marrow bones to a boil in the COLD water. Skim as the water heats. Simmer for 2 hours. Add the loin end chops. Bring to a boil again. Skim. Simmer for another hour. Remove and cool. Refrigerate overnight.
- (2) The next day, take off and discard any hardened fat. Cut off any useable meat, set aside and discard the bones. Pour the broth through a sieve. Add the split peas to the broth and cook for about an hour until they are soft.
- (3) Add the vegetables and the whole smoked sausage. Stir occasionally; this soup tends to burn at the bottom of the pot. Cook for about 30 minutes, until they are done to your liking. Now add the cut-up meat. Gently simmer everything for another 10 or 15 minutes. Taste, season with salt and pepper. Remove the sausage, cut into slices and stir back into the soup together with the chopped parsley.
- (4) Serve hot with plenty of pumpernickel bread and butter. The soup will be a meal in itself. It freezes well.

Sounds great! We understand that the Kielbasa sausage is very similar to Dutch sausage and is a reasonable substitute.

Peter advises that her book, *Foods of the Hudson*, is full of Dutch recipes and stories of the Dutch in the Hudson River region. Look for it in your book store.

Article inspired by The Blauvelt News for December, 1993. Recipe reproduced by permission of Peter G. Rose, Indian Lane, South Salem, NY 10590.

FRANKLIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY

Maria S. Braun has written an interesting little book entitled, *Franklin Lakes: Its History and Heritage*. June Wick, our Publicity Chairperson, found some copies in a flea market. What a lucky find! June and Marilyn Brack, our Association Secretary, bought several copies for family and friends interested in the Van Voorhees-Quackenbush-Zabriskie House (see article in this issue). The copies were purchased from a fund raiser for a local VVW Chapter.

The author develops the history of Franklin Lakes from the very earliest times to the mid-1960's. Many Dutch family names are mentioned, such as Blauvelt, Ackerman and Demarest to cite only three, and there is a good section discussing individual homes dating from the 18th and 19th Centuries. Our family appears three times:

Albert Vanvorhas, who was elected a "commissioner" in 1767. (p.12)

On January 4, 1806, a petition was sent to the New Jersey Legislature protesting against a proposed statute to abolish slavery. William van Voorhees was a signer, among 133 other citizens most of whom bore early Dutch family names. (pp.13-14) [This William does not appear to be the same William who built the second part of the Van Voorhees-Quackenbush Zabriskie House - see article on the House.]

"The Campgaw School that had been built in 1873 eventually became overcrowded. In 1901, it was expanded by renting three rooms in the Voorhis home on the corner of High Mountain and Summit Avenues ...". (p. 36)

"In 1851 Albert and Mary Voorhees sold 27.07 A of land to Catherine Wood ...". (p. 71)

Thanks, Marilyn, for bringing this to our attention.

Franklin Lakes: Its History and Heritage, Maria S. Braun, Phillips-Campbell Publishing Co., Inc. 1965, 80 pages, hardcover; sponsored by the Franklin Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

ANOTHER GENEALOGICAL QUERY

Seeking the ancestry of Elizabeth Voorhees (1825 -- ?), wife of Christian Packer. Her children were: Amanda, Laura, Sarah, Arietta, and Joshua. She lived in Raritan, Somerset Co., New Jersey. If you can provide assistance, please contact June Gray, 12419 Shelter La., Bowie, MD 20715.

ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION, OCTOBER 8, 1994 IN THE AREA OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY -- MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO ATTEND. OUR SPEAKER WILL BE DR. FIRTH HARING FABEND, AUTHOR OF A DUTCH FAMILY IN THE MIDDLE COLONIES, 1660-1800.

NEW MEMBERS

The following cousins have joined the Association through March 27, 1994 as reported by Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson. We look forward to meeting and talking with all of you at our next Annual Meeting and Reunion on October 8th. Great to have you with us.

Evelyn Stryker Peyton
East Lyme CT **

Lee B. Van Voorhis
South Harwich MA

Mary Elizabeth O'Sullivan
Kansas City MO

Derrell Dwane Voris
Bolivar MO ***

Cora Jean Vander Ploeg
Phoenix AZ

Marcello Marie Connor
Granger IN

Florence M. Clark
St. James NY **

Larry Peter Soule
Palo Alto CA

John Daniel Mellon
Woodland Hills CA

June Davis Domanowski
Wilbraham MA

Dorothy Elizabeth Branson
Bordentown NJ

Elizabeth Eugena Irma Kapp
New York NY

Harrison K. T. Voorhees II
Maitland FL

Tracy Catherine Voorhees
Maitland FL

Richard Morris Lyman III
Novato CA **

Timothy Dean Voorhies
Columbus IN **

S. Lynne Ingalls
Tucson AZ **

Walter Terry Voorhis
Vista CA

Nancy C. Linnemon
Bloomington MN ***

Barbara Ann Carpenter
Lima OH

Joanne Gloria Van Voorhis
Roslindale MA

Margaret B. Watson
Hilltown PA

Beulah Belle Ganther
Sterling IL

Kaye Leah Holmes
Eugene OR

Brian S. Bozenbury
Bowie MD

* = Junior
** = Sustaining Member
*** = Contributing Member

VOORHEES COLLEGE

Do you know about Voorhees College? It is located in Denmark, SC, zip 29042. Judy Voorhees sent us a newspaper advertisement about the ten colleges that are related to the Episcopal Church, among which is Voorhees. Thank you, Judy. We quote:

Less well known than her contemporary Booker T. Washington is Elizabeth Evelyn Wright, founder of Voorhees College. Since 1897, the college has evolved from an industrial school to become the first black college to be accredited in the state.

In spite of staunch resistance through betrayal, arson and threats on Wright's life, Voorhees College opened its doors, dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities to rural, impoverished black youth - a mission which continues today.

Voorhees strives to produce highly competitive graduates through an intensive educational experience grounded in the liberal arts tradition. As the college approaches its centennial, it has 750 students.

It offers bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees in several divisions: business; humanities; natural sciences, mathematics, computer science; and social science. Ten academic majors are available within these disciplines.

Mrs. Wright was the former Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees. Your Association has contributed to Voorhees College in past years. Mrs. Wright was also instrumental in founding Voorhees College in India.

VOORHEES TOWN CELEBRATES FOUNDING

by Tom Plummer

Tom Plummer is active with the Reading Historical Society, Reading OH. Reading was originally known as Voorhees Town, and is located just outside of Cincinnati. In connection with this article, we draw your attention to the article in the August, 1993 Newsletter entitled, "The Samuel Vorhes House". This House is in the Sharon Woods Village open air museum, Cincinnati; the article was contributed by Marilyn McDaniel of Muncie IN. The Ohio Voorhees Family has a tangible heritage.

In the spring of 1794 Abraham Voorhees brought his family of 13 to occupy a 640 acre section he had purchased from John Cleves Symmes. This was a part of the 1,000,000 acre "Miami Purchase" which Symmes had secured in the Northwest Territory. Voorhees, a veteran of the Revolutionary War paid 533 dollars and 30/100 in U. S. Treasury Certificates for his section. About one year later, Harry Redinbo moved his family of 12 from Pennsylvania to settle on land adjacent to Voorhees' purchase.

By 1798 a town plan had been developed, and Voorhees was selling lots. The town plan was filed with Hamilton County on July 26, 1804. The delay in filing the plan was probably due to the problems Symmes was encountering with development of his large purchase, including Indian attacks and settlers fleeing in fear. Also, Ohio was not granted statehood until 1803.

Records show the town was known as Voorhees Town until sometime prior to filing the plan when Voorhees changed the name to Reading at the suggestion of Henry Redinbo, after the town of Reading, Pennsylvania, which in turn had been named for Reading, England by William Penn's family.

In 1994 the City of Reading, Hamilton County OH is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Abraham Voorhees family. During the week of June 5 through June 12, a series of events and activities will take place. On June 6, the Reading Historical Society's 6th annual Settlement Day Dinner will honor the Bicentennial. On June 12 we will dedicate an Ohio Historical Marker which includes on one side the story of Voorhees Town and on the other side a map of Abraham Voorhees' original town plan.

We would certainly welcome all members of the Van Voorhees Association to visit here. The City of Reading has a population of about 12,500 and is located adjacent to the north corporation limit of Cincinnati, about 9 miles from downtown Cincinnati.

There are many Voorhees connections here. The gravesites of approximately 17 family members are located in the Reading Cemetery, including Revolutionary War veterans. We have a Voorhees Park and a Voorhees Street. A Voris Farm House is one of the buildings relocated to become a part of the Village in Sharon Woods Park.

Selected Activities in the Reading Celebration:

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------|
| June 3 | Ecumenical Service |
| June 4 | Settlement Day Dinner |
| June 11 | Bicentennial Festival |
| June 12 | Historical Marker Dedication |
| June 12 | Bicentennial Festival |

Voorhees Gravesites

Reading Cemetery, Reading OH

Recorded by Tom Plummer, April 3, 1994

OLD CHURCH SECTION

- OC-2 Harvey Voorhees 1819-1901
(Large Stone with American Revolution Soldier on west face.)
- OC-2 Garrett Voorhees, d. 14 December 1861 in 99th year of his age (south)
- OC-2 Garrett Voorhees, d. 27 September 1844 in 20th year of age (east)
- OC-2 Harvey Voorhees, d. 8 Decembere 1801 in 83rd year of life (north)
- OC-2 Garrett Voorhees, Jr., d. 27 September 1844 aged 2 years
- OC-8 Col. Jacob Voorhees, d. 9 January 1827, aged 50 years 3 months
- OC-11 Sacred to the memory of Abraham Voorhees, Jr. who died 3 August 1833 - aged 13 years 7 months 22 days
- OC-11 Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Bridget Voorhees who departed this life 4 October A.D. 1834 - aged 73 years 12 days
- OC-11 Sacred to the memory of Abraham Voorhees who departed this life 22 September 1830 - aged 70 years 9 months 22 days (soldier in American Revolution Cincinnati Chapter HSDAR)

SECTION 2

- 2-8 Susanna wife of Jacob Voorhees, d. 23 July 1819 - aged 52 years 5 months (?) days
- 2-8 Jacob Voorhees, d. 18 July 1819 - aged 51 years 3 months 9 days
- 2-9 Rhoda Jan Voorhees daughter of Maria (?) Rebecca Voorhees d. 18 May 1880 - aged 3 months 18 days
continued on next page

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SECTION 3

3-12 Helen L. Voorhees 1832-1890
3-12 John T. Voorhees 1823-1885

SECTION 6

6-13 Elizabeth Voorhees wife of S. Burkhalter, b. in Reading
2(8) November 1796 d. 6 December 1869

SECTION 9

9-11 Mary A. Voorhees Mayme 1871-1927
9-11 Nancy A. Voorhees Mother 1840-1910
9-11 Richard Voorhees b. 15 May 1898 (Veteran of Civil War)

For further information on the Voorhees Town celebrations and the foregoing cemetery markers, contact Thomas H. Plummer, 1138 Alwil Drive, Reading OH 45215, telephone: (513)733-5734.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

The Executive Committee, at its October 9, 1993 meeting, decided to launch a campaign to increase the membership of the Association. You can help. Can you recruit a member of your family or other eligible descendant of Steven Coerts? There must be a legion of potential members that are known to us. How about it? The Committee hopes for a good response.

Tom Van Voorhies and his Membership Committee have placed advertisements in the Genealogical Helper. A copy of the ad is shown on this page. Please write to Tom at 9 Purdy Avenue, East Northport NY 11731, for membership applications and brochures describing the Association.

A greater membership roll will result in a deepening of the Association across the country, a heightened flow of ideas, more volunteers and an increased cash flow from dues to fund our research activities. Let's make this a great success.

BOOK ORDER FORM

*Through a Dutch Door -
17th Century Origins of the Van Voorhees Family*
___ copies @ regular price, \$22.00 \$ _____

*The Van Voorhees Family
Volume I*
___ copies hardcover, \$20.00 \$ _____
___ copies softcover, \$15.00 \$ _____
(10% discount for 6 or more copies to the same address)
\$ _____
Total \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to "The Van Voorhees Association" and mail to: Mr. Robert S. Voris, 802 Berkeley Rd., Westover Hills, Wilmington, DE 19807. Please enclose this complete form or a photocopy with your order.

Did you previously purchase Volume I, *The Van Voorhees Family*? Yes No
If yes, how many copies? ___ Hardcover ___ Softcover.
(We will send you the index.)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____
Zip _____
Telephone _____
VVA# _____
Amount of Check \$ _____

The Van Voorhees Association

**ATTENTION: Descendants of
Steven Coerts Van Voorhees**

(who came to America from the Netherlands in 1660)

Our non-profit family association, organized in 1932 is seeking all cousins of our common progenitor Steven. You are eligible for membership if your name or that of an ancestor is Van Voorhees or any variation there of.

For information about the benefits of membership write:

A. Van Voorhies
9 Purdy Ave., E. Northport, NY 11731

VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION ITEMS ORDER FORM

The Association continues to stock items of interest to members. All orders should be accompanied by a check payable to the Van Voorhees Association with your membership number ("VVL-xxxxx" on the mailing label). **PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.** All orders should be sent to:

Ms. Judith Voorhees
 30 San Salvador Street
 Toms River, NJ 08757
 Telephone (908) 505-9232

<u>Items for sale include:</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>	<u>Qty</u>
Tote Bag	10.00	11.00	_____
Coat of Arms Tile	10.00	12.00	_____
Coat of Arms Patch	5.00	6.00	_____
Historic Handbook	6.00	7.00	_____
Van Voorhees Letters	2.50	2.50	_____
Baseball Cap	5.00	6.00	_____
Handpainted Coat of Arms	10.00	12.00	_____
Tietac\Pin	15.00	15.00	_____
Lady's Charm	15.00	15.00	_____
Coat of Arms, X Stitch Pattern	1.50	2.00	_____
TOTAL			\$ _____

Purchases are sent postpaid with no additional shipping charges.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

VVA# _____

Amount of Check \$ _____

1994 DUES NOTICE

Dues through December 1994 were payable January 1, 1994. Please check membership desired and note any change of address. Mail to the Treasurer, Mr. Bernard V. Ward, 117 Arlington Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873. Please make checks payable to "The Van Voorhees Association". Your dues are deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Please report below the name and date of any new member of your family, with the names of his or her parents, and the immediate grandparents (with the Van Voorhees line).

MEMBERSHIP FEES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular \$ 7.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$ 27.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$ 2.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$12.00 | |

If you did not pay your dues in 1993, please add that amount to your remittance:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular \$7.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$2.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check here, and enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope if you wish to receive a 1993 membership card. | |

Name: _____ VVA # _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____

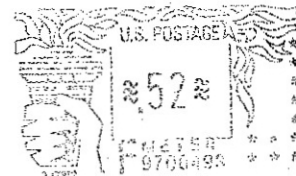
Zip _____

(If you know your nine digit zip code, please enter it for our assistance in revising the mailing list.)



The VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION
41 Oaklawn Road
Fair Haven, N.J. 07704-3108

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

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