



# Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

SEPTEMBER 1995  
Volume 13, Number 3

A Publication of the Van Voorhees Association, Organized in 1932  
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## IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR!

New Brunswick and its environs became the home for many of Steven Coerts' grandchildren commencing with the fourth and fifth generations. Our 63rd Annual Reunion will be in Highland Park, just across the Raritan River from New Brunswick. Mark your calendars for October 7th and make new friends and renew old acquaintances. We will gather again in the Parish House of the Reformed Church on South Second Avenue in Highland Park. Please fill out the reservation form in this Nieuwsbrief, attach your check and mail both to Scott Voorhees for receipt not later than October 3rd. A photocopy is OK.

Florence Christoph, our Association Genealogist, will be the featured speaker. Florence became our Genealogist in 1993 and has worked on completing Volume II of The Van Voorhees Family and compiling an enormous computer genealogical data base. She will talk about all of this and the insights that she has made into our complex family. Florence said that she will bring a big show-and-tell program. We are very pleased to welcome Florence and look forward to her talk and program.

Florence will join with the other members of our Genealogical Team, Ginny Ward, David Voorhees, Adrienne Haney and Fr. Bill Lydecker and answer your questions at the Genealogical Workshop. Not everyone, of course, is interested in genealogical details. Refreshments and good fellowship will prevail at the same time in another meeting room. Manning Voorhees will close the Reunion with slides of the 1984 and 1991 trips to Hees.

Our annual business meeting will be short. This will constitute the formal notice for the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Van Voorhees Association.

The agenda will be:

- 8:30 A.M. Executive Committee Meeting

- 9:30 A.M. Genealogical Workshop and Fellowship
- 11:00 A.M. Florence Christoph, our Speaker
- 12:15 P.M. Lunch
- 1:30 P.M. Short Business Meeting
- 2:00 P.M. Workshop and Fellowship
- 3:30 P.M. Slides on Hees, Manning Voorhees

Lois and Manning Voorhees will host the annual social gathering of the cousins in their room at the Ramada between 5:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. on Friday night, October 6th. Please join us. Dutch Treat dinner at the Marriott will follow.

Directions to the Church by automobile are elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief. New Jersey Transit serves New Brunswick from Manhattan and Newark. New Brunswick is also served by Amtrak from Philadelphia and Washington. Transportation is available from Newark Airport to Newark Penn Station and thence to New Brunswick by New Jersey Transit. Taxis are available at the New Brunswick train station. Lodging suggestions are also elsewhere in this issue. Baby sitting services will be available.

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### CALENDAR

Executive Committee Meeting  
September 9, 1995  
Annual Reunion  
October 7, 1995

# VAN VOORHEES WHO'S WHO

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Manning W. Voorhees, 2415 Spring Hill Drive, Toms River NJ 08755  
(908)886-0426

**Vice President:** Scott T. Voorhees, 147 Grand Boulevard, Emerson NJ 07630  
(201)967-1013

**Secretary:** Miss Rosina L. Ripton, 139 East 63rd St. #12A, New York NY 10021

**Treasurer:** Bernard V. Ward, 117 Arlington Ave., Somerset NJ 08873-1923  
(908)247-1630

**Past President:** Donald G. Vorhis, 1930 Camelia Circle, Midlothian VA 23112  
(804)744-8856

## Line Representatives

**Albert Line:** Mrs. Frederick (Marilyn) Brack, 24 Mary St. No. Haledon, NJ 07508  
(201)427-9246

**Coert Line:** Mrs. Glee Van Osdol-Krapf, 215 Washington St., Tamaqua PA 18252-1324

**Jan Line:** Robert S. Voris, 802 Berkeley Rd., Westover Hills, Wilmington DE 19807  
(302)652-5833

**Lucas Line:** Ms. Judith Voorhees, 30 San Salvador St., Toms River NJ 08757  
(908)505-9232

**Aeltje Line:** Ms. Margaret A. Ramsey, 2 Andrews Lane, Princeton NJ 08540-7633  
(609)921-2645

**Hendrickje Lines:** Vacant

**Jantje Line:** Vacant

## Members-at-Large

Mrs. George L. (Alice) Adams, 24 Redcliffe Ave. #1A, Highland Park NJ 08904-1636

Mrs. T. B. (Elisabeth) Ripton, 242-31 51st Ave., Douglaston NY 11362

Donald A. Sinclair 108 North 2nd Ave., Highland Park NJ 08904-2421  
(908)545-0568

Richard L. Voorhees 2116 Swinnen Dr., Westerloo, Wilmington DE 19810  
(302)475-2801

## Committee Chairmen

**Financial:** The Treasurer (see above)

**Genealogical & Historical:** The Rev. William J.F. Lydecker, Box 148, Ashland NY 12407-1048  
(518)734-5987

- ◆ *Genealogist:* Mrs. Peter (Florence) Christoph\*, 181 Maple Ave., Selkirk NY 12158 (518)767-3004
- ◆ *Member Research:* Mrs. Joseph (Virginia) Ward, 64 Ta'agan Point Rd., Danbury CT 06811-3841  
(203)792-2537
- ◆ *Transcriber:* David R. Voorhees, 209 Lamb-Hopewell Rd., Hopewell NJ 08525  
(609)466-1139
- ◆ *Hist. Research:* Mrs. MacAlister (Adriana) Millenaar-Brown\*, 41 School St., Williamstown MA  
01267 (413)458-9080

**Membership:** Albert T. (Tom) Van Voorhies 9 Purdy Ave., East Northport NY 11731-4501 (516)368-7483

**Communications:** Frank J. Van Voorhis 909 Evening St., Worthington, OH 43085, (614)885-8473

**Programs:** Scott T. Voorhees (see above)

**Publications:** Robert S. Voris (see above)

**Publicity:** Mrs. Robert (June) Wick, 3 Edgebrook La., Monsey NY 10952 (914)357-2770

**Nominations:** Ms. Cornelia V. Mason, 32 Elkan Rd., Larchmont NY 10538 (914)833-1276

**Planning:** George Davis, 310 Rockland Ave., River Vale NJ 07675 (201)358-0150

**Assoc. Sales:** Ms. Judith Voorhees (see above)

\* = not a member of the Executive Committee

## Regional Organizers

**New England:** Mrs. James (Adrienne) Haney 36B Fox Meadow Rd., Leominster MA 01453 (508)534-7283

**Western:** Mrs. Arthur (Patricia) Zumwalt 101 Rainbow Dr. #4766, Livingston TX 77351-9300 (409)327-0079  
Ext. 4766

## Newsletter:

◆ Editor: Manning W. Voorhees (see above)

◆ Publisher: Robert E. Van Voorhis, Jr. 4503 Coronado Ct., Cedar Falls IA 50613 (319)268-1511

## GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

A founding goal of the Association perhaps the goal was to update the genealogical data in Elias W. Van Voorhis The Van Voorhees Family, published in 1888. This goal has been before us for 63 years.

Volume I of the new The Van Voorhees Family became available in 1984 and covered the First through Fourth Generations. As noted elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief, Volume II should be ready in about one and one-half years. It will have data on the Fifth Generation. Why did production of Volumes I and II require so much time since 1932? The answer embraces both the difficulties occasioned by the immense scope of the necessary details and the inherent difficulties in finding these details. Six genealogists have worked on the effort over the past 63 years. In addition, Don Sinclair has made material contributions to our stock of knowledge.

An eager team is now propelling the effort: Florence Christoph, David Voorhees, Adrienne Haney, Ginny Ward, Judith Van Voorhis and Fr. Bill Lydecker. They are aided by many cousins who are forwarding the results of research into their particular family lines.

Bill reported to the Executive Committee on April 29, 1995 that Florence should be able to complete the revision and updating of Elias work within ten years. The momentum has accelerated. Achievement of our original goal has finally come into sight. Elias dealt with eight generations there are now fourteen or fifteen generations. So, we have come a long way.

As with everything else, this costs money. Ah ha, you say, the true intent is now revealed. I will admit my motivation. Your Association was the fortunate recipient many years ago of significant gifts and bequests to further its genealogical work. In addition, an Underwriters Fund was launched shortly after the Association was founded. Seventy members gave to the Fund. There is a clear precedent of contributory

funding for genealogical research.

The Underwriters Fund was invested in Volume I. Careful management of the other monetary gifts and bequests has preserved much of the amount received. Interest income on this principal satisfied a good part of our outlays. The problem today is that our principal will disappear within the next several years at the rate that we are expending it for the genealogical effort. This depletion will be well before accomplishment of the ten year target for revising and updating Elias. Interest rates paid on fixed value investments are far from those enjoyed in past years and the pace of our work has increased. After our current capital is expended, the Association's genealogical effort will necessarily cease or shrivel to a relatively minor output. Our dues and miscellaneous income will not pay for much, if any, genealogy after operating expenses are discharged.

Yes, we are asking you to meet in part the cost of revising and updating Elias historical volume. Partial expenditure of our principal will meet the remaining cost. Hopefully, interest income on the retained principal will be sufficient to pay for follow-on maintenance of the data and whatever research will be needed to resolve discrepancies and questions. The Van Voorhees Association is well known among family heritage groups for the depth and amount of its genealogical research. Our current momentum must not ebb the heightened effort is producing results that might not be replicated by future generations if the shop is shut down before the job is finished.

If you are able to contribute, please send your donation to our Treasurer with instructions to earmark it for Genealogical Research. Contributions are deductible for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Thank you very much.

Manning W. Voorhees

### ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

Rosina Ripton, of Manhattan NY, NY, has volunteered to be Secretary of the Association for the remaining unexpired term of Marilyn Brack. This is very good news and the Executive Committee welcomed Rosina at its April 29th meeting. Rosina is the daughter of Elisabeth Ripton, a charter member of the Association and a very long-time active Committee member.

### COERT LINE REPRESENTATIVE

Frank Van Voorhis has retired as Line Representative for the Coert Line. Frank has served in this position with distinction for many years. The Association is very grateful to Frank for his dedication and a job well done. Thank you, Frank, very much. Glee VanOsdol-Krapf, of Tamaqua PA, has volunteered to succeed Frank in this important position. We welcome Glee to the Executive Committee. Her address is in Who's Who.

### DATA BASE MANAGER

Judith Van Voorhis, of Niskayuna NY, has volunteered to be our Data Base Manager. She will fill the void left by the late Steve Shyers and will be responsible for maintaining membership information and, eventually, responding to member genealogical inquiries. Ginny Ward will continue to coordinate and assist members with their original genealogical research endeavors as distinct from obtaining data in the Association records. We will publish Judith's address when she has completed her preparations for the job. Judith will join the Executive Committee.

### OLD PHOTOS OF BROOKLYN

Carol Johnson, of Carlsbad CA, is seeking old photographs of the area in Brooklyn NY where Steven Coert and his family settled. She wants to put them in her family scrap book. Please write to Carol if you can help her.

Mrs. Oliver A. Johnson, 7331 Paseo Verde, Carlsbad CA 92009-7616.

## ALBERT VORIS

Albert Voris (1753-1830) was among those Revolutionary War fighters listed in the September 1994 Nieuwsbrief. David Voris, of Hanover IN, sent us a photograph of Albert's gravestone and marker in The Old Dutch Tract of the Pleasureville KY cemetery. He notes that the original gravestone had deteriorated considerably and a military marker had disappeared. Over the past two years, David and his cousin, Richard H. Voris of Tulsa OK, had the gravestone straightened and a granite marker placed in the ground. The marker has Albert's name, years of birth and death, and the phrase American Revolution.

David also writes: Albert is buried alone in Pleasureville and his wife is buried in Pleasant IN. (fifty miles and one river distant). Albert expired while visiting old friends in Pleasureville and fifty miles was too far to consider transporting the body.

An interesting tidbit of our early family.

*Dr. David C. Voris, 4189 S. 400 W., Hanover IN 47243*

## REVOLUTIONARY LOYALISTS

Elizabeth Peck, of Palatka FL, wrote to us about some Voorhees who were Loyalist soldiers during the Revolution. The Revolution divided many Dutch families of that day and ours is no exception. Elizabeth writes:

"You listed American Revolutionary soldiers in some recent issues of the Nieuwsbrief. There was an article in the NYGBR (Ed.: The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record) issue of April 1974 by Kenneth Scott on Kings County Loyalist Militia, 1777'. It was probably more prudent of these men to be listed as Loyalist Militia in order to protect their families since they lived so close to the British occupation.

On 26 August 1777 the officers of the Flatbush company of foot under Capt. Hendrick Van Der Veer listed a private named Lawrence Voorhees. The return of the Flatlands company made 25 August 1777 under Capt. Nicholas Schenck listed the following privates: John Voorhis, Peter Voorhis and Peter Voorhis, Jr.

The list of the Gravesend Company of foot under Capt. Joost Stillwell listed Sergeant Steven Voorhest, Corporal John Voorhest and private Jacob Voorhest. (According to family stories, Steven supposedly killed a Hessian soldier for trying to confiscate their cow and buried him in the cellar. Jacob seems to have picked up the patriot Dominie Martin Schoonmaker when he came to preach.)

A paper dated 1779 signed by Colonel William Axtell lists inhabitants holding woodlands on the banks of the river in Brooklyn and New Utrecht who consented to sell land to the Barrack Master General: Adrian Voorhees (10 acres) and Albert Voorhees (3 acres)".

Thank you, Elizabeth. The spelling Voorhest for our family name is new to us, although one can imagine how it came about in an era when people spelled words phonetically.

*Mrs. Elizabeth A. Peck, Rt. 4 Box 1218, Palatka FL 32177-9393.*

## A. VOORHEES, SILVERSMITH

Connie Walterschied, of Doniphan MO, has inherited from her mother a silver spoon made by A. Voorhees. The spoon apparently was given to Connie's mother around 1908 or 1909. Can anyone supply information about A. Voorhees? His hallmark is shown here. Please write to Connie.

A. VOORHEES 

*Mrs. Constance Walterschied, H.C. 7 Box 222, Doniphan MO 63935-8902*

## HISTORIC SAN FRANCISCO

Everyone has probably heard about the legendary courtroom lawyer, Melvin Belli (the King of Torts). But not everyone knows about the role played by William Van Voorhies in the development of Mr. Belli's office property on Montgomery Avenue in San Francisco.

Marie Geers, of San Clemente CA, sent us an article describing a point in the history of Mr. Belli's adjoining buildings at 722 and 728 Montgomery Street. The story occurs during the twenty years or so before the Civil War when San Francisco was a roaring town. The Bay would flow over Montgomery Street, creating a grand mess. In November of 1852, it rained for a total of twelve inches and the Street was a sea of mud. During the same winter, three drunks were said to have suffocated in the mud and horses became glued in it, starving to death. Exasperated citizens finally built seventy-five yards of sidewalk that essentially blocked the flow of mud. It ran in front of the two properties on Montgomery Street. Malaria was said to be feared just below Montgomery Street. The locale was an active business and trading area for San Francisco. There's more, but that was the scene.

The building next to the one that is identified today as the Belli Building, which is a tourist attraction, bears a sign declaring it to be the Birthplace of Freemasonry in California. Number 728 Montgomery Street was known then as 247 Montgomery and was ready for occupancy on October 17, 1849. Among the eight petitioners for a charter from the Grand Lodge in Washington was William Van Voorhies, the Assistant Postmaster General for California. The petition was received and on the evening of October 17th, the first preliminary meeting was convened. On November 15th, Senior Warden Van Voorhies presided over the first formal meeting. Some forty meetings were subsequently held in that building, the last one on May 31, 1850. The Masons met in the loft where they could see the Bay. The view was probably great, but they had to rise carefully or they would whack their heads on the sloping ceiling.

Thank you, Marie.

*Ms. Marie Geers, 3807 Via Manzana, San Clemente CA 92673-2630.*



## VOORHEES COLLEGE

We have talked in earlier issues about Voorhees College in Denmark SC. Pat Buchna-Pokora, of Ormond Beach FL, writes that she has found an interesting book, Tuskegee to Voorhees by Dr. J. F. B. Coleman (The R. L. Bryan Company, Columbia SC, 1922). Look for it at your local library. Dr. Coleman relates the story of Elizabeth Evelyn Wright and Ralph Voorhees.

*Mrs. Patricia M. Buchna-Pokora, 742 N. Beach St., Ormond Beach FL 32174-4008*

## GOOD NEWS

Each issue of the Nieuwsbrief, unfortunately, lists one or more lost cousins whose copy of the newsletter was returned as undeliverable because their forwarding address instructions had expired. The bright note is that many lost cousins have been found. We have received several letters and telephone calls, including a few from members who have seasonal addresses and postal records were mixed up.

Thank you all very much.

## KEN VOORHEES AND USS CAVALLA

Kenneth J Voorhees is the Executive Officer aboard the submarine USS Cavalla. His boat was chosen for a 45 day scientific exploration of the Arctic. This is part of a relatively new program of Arctic investigations utilizing Navy submarines. Ken's proud parents are Maxine and Charles Voorhees of Milltown NJ. Charles sent us a lengthy clipping from the New York Times Science Section for February 21, 1995 and a piece from the boat's newsletter.

The Cavalla carried scientists from the University of Alaska, the University of Texas, Oregon State University, Columbia University and the Arctic Submarine Laboratory of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center. It also carried a dozen experiments from as many additional universities. The tour gathered data that will lead to a better understanding of our climatic change viz. the much-talked about warming of the earth and melting of Arctic ice. Insights should also be gained into fisheries biology, the makeup of the Arctic Ocean and its floor. Experiments were conducted in ice mechanics, water mass properties and geophysics, among other activities. Submarines are said to be well suited for Arctic exploration. They can measure the ice thickness, which is said to range from a few feet in summer to as much as 165 feet in winter. The Arctic Ocean has an average depth of 3,407 feet.

Ken wrote in the boat's newsletter that the Cavalla celebrated Easter deep below the Arctic ice by opening packages prepared by the crew members' wives. The Cavalla commenced under-ice operations on March 17th. The first surfacing was on March 31st and the second occurred on the day before Easter when 2 to 3 foot thick ice presented an excellent opportunity after more than two days of searching. A polar bear and cub visited the boat during the first surfacing in -63 degree wind chill weather, but they remained well clear of the craft. Sixteen surfacings were planned. On May 3rd, the Cavalla arrived at the North Pole, drove a 360 degree

course and awarded Magellan certificates for round the world travel.

Ken is a 1981 graduate of the Naval Academy and was recently promoted to the rank of Commander. He received a Masters degree from Villanova University. The Cavalla (SSN 684) is based in Honolulu where Ken, his wife, LoveLyn, and daughter, Asia, make their home. Ken has also served aboard the N.Y. City and Ohio.

Maxine and Charles returned home early in July from the homecoming in Hawaii and Asia's first birthday.

Thank you, Charles, for the Times and Cavalla newsletter articles. This is a great story.

*Charles F. Voorhees, 145 W. Church St., Milltown NJ 08850-1546.*

## REUNION QUESTIONNAIRE

Scott Voorhees reported at the April 29th Executive Committee meeting that he had received over 90 responses to the Reunion questionnaire inserted into the January Nieuwsbrief. The results of the survey were discussed at length. It is possible that the Association will offer a two-day Reunion every third year and one-day sessions in the intervening years with additional activities. The agenda for our October 7th Annual Reunion reflects some of the comments received. We hope to implement more. However, Scott must have assistance with the many scheduling details that are required for these extended Reunions to be successful. If you live in the NJ-NY-CT-PA area and can help, please write to Scott. His address is in Who's Who.

Many thanks to the cousins who responded. We appreciate it very much.

## NOMINATIONS

Cornelia V. Mason, Chairperson of our Nominating Committee, reported at the Executive Committee meeting of April 29th that Bernard V. Ward has agreed to stand for reelection as Treasurer, as has Manning W. Voorhees for the Presidency. Rosina L. Ripton will stand for election as Secretary for the unexpired one year term of the full two year incumbency. The Executive Committee accepted Cornelia's report. Elections will take place at the October 7th Reunion. An absentee ballot is printed in this Nieuwsbrief. Please use it if you do not plan to attend the Reunion.

## POSTAL COSTS

Postage for the Nieuwsbrief amounts to a goodly sum. It also has the nasty habit of creeping upward every few years. The Executive Committee in its April meeting decided to use Third Class postage for the January and April issues that should reduce our mailing cost significantly. Second Class is now reserved for commercial mailers. The trade-off is that delivery of the Nieuwsbrief will be much slower. First Class will be used for the September issue because it traditionally contains time-value information about the October Reunion. Please be patient but write to Manning Voorhees if you are experiencing an unreasonable delay in receiving your copy.

## H. C. VAN VORHES AND THE LEOLA

Ross Dunlop sent us photocopies of two articles from *The Alaskan* of Sitka for May 5 and 19, 1888. They pertain in large part to Henry Clay Van Vorhes and his shipwreck on the Leola. There is an interesting poem about the disaster by H. E. Haydon. The articles and the poem make an interesting story about a long-lost cousin.

The poem, in Ross' opinion, was written about Mr. Van Vorhes. The author, Mr. Haydon, was Secretary of the Territory of Alaska, having been appointed by President Cleveland, and was from Stillwater MN. Mr. Van Vorhes was also from Stillwater and was a pioneer prospector. He appears in the Sitka records as a grand juror and on land claim-filings. The other two people on the Leola do not seem to have been as well known, according to Ross. While the poem was optimistic about the ship, the three passengers were never found. Ross wrote in the January 1995 *Nieuwsbrief* about Abraham Van Vorhes, whose later life centered in Stillwater.

Ross' research shows that there were at least two other family residents of Sitka in 1887-88 in addition to Mr. Van Vorhes. One, Dr. Charles H. Voorhees, who had been an industrial physician in MI, WI and MN. After his stay in Sitka, Dr. Voorhees moved to Port Gamble in the Washington Territory. And two, Mary Voorhees, wife of The Rev. Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary to native Alaskans and who had served a parish with Mary in Rochester MN.

*From The Alaskan of May 5, 1888:*

The Leola brought word that the sloop Leola which left Sitka on March 1st, having aboard H. C. Van Vorhes, Richard H. Carlisle, and Captain S. H. Jenkins, reached Yakutat safely; but that the sloop sailed from Yakutat en route for Sitka on March 26th. Nothing more having been heard of her since, and the Leola never having arrived here the worst apprehensions are feared. When she left she had aboard only ten days provisions, and Mr. Van Vorhes expressed a wish to get back to Sitka as soon as possible. Forty days have now elapsed since she started for this point, and shortly after she set sail from Yakutat a heavy gale sprang up from the southwest. A relief party has been organized, which left this morning in a large Indian canoe, to make a complete search for the castaways along the coast.

*From The Alaskan of May 19, 1888:*

The entertainment for the benefit of the Leola Relief Fund, last Tuesday evening, was a success in every way. The second part [of the entertainment] opened with a recitation by Mrs. H. E. Haydon, entitled "The Rescue". The poem was written by Mr. Haydon and was not only excellent in its composition but apropos to the occasion, being a mystic representation of the rescue of the Leola's crew. Below will be found the poem referred to above, as being recited by Mrs. Haydon

## THE RESCUE

I

A rocky island in the Northern Sea,  
Where wild birds rest secure after long flights,  
And where the thundering anthem of the deep  
Its mighty monotone rings through the days and nights;

II

A narrow strip of yellow shellstrewn sand,  
On which the wild waves break with ceaseless moan,  
As if they came to search the barren land,  
And grieved because they found it bleak and lone.

III

Upon a rocky point dipped in the brine,  
Like a brown finger pointing toward the west,  
What men are those who, in this chilling clime,  
Have on rocks, like sea-birds, built their nest?

IV

Day after day they watch the distant rim  
And purple haze of the horizon line,  
Waiting and watching, with sad eyes, and dim,  
To see some sail glide up the world's incline.

V

Day after day, and through the dismal dark,  
They wait and watch and murmur in their sleep,  
And pray and weep, where there are none to mark  
Save Him who holds the hollows of the deep.

VI

No rescue comes, and hope grows sick and faint,  
They wonder if the world they left is dead,  
While from their quivering lips comes no complaint;  
Dull-eyed despair enthroned all else has fled.

VII

And slowly, surely, like a creeping fate  
With brains and bodies burdened over most,  
They see grim Death approach, a phantom late,  
As if he, too, was lost on that rude coast.

\* \* \* \*

VIII

But, at the last, across the silver sheen,  
Which like a curtain o'er the distance falls,  
They see a vision like a miraged dream  
Outlined against the heavenly-tinted walls,

IX

One little sail ! fanned by bright angels' wings,  
And wafting toward them hope, and love, and light,  
Comes flying where the golden sunshine flings  
A pathway like a meteor seen at night.

X

And succor comes, and brown hands brave and strong  
Are clasped upon that island's gloomy strand;  
And from all hearts wells up a grateful song;  
An rippling waves laugh as they kiss the sand.

XI

And cheerily upon her homeward way,  
Past verduous islands and the mountains brown,  
The little craft flies fast to the fair bay  
Whose waters kiss the feet of Sitka Town;



## XII

Above the green dome of the Russian Church  
They catch the shining of the holy cross.  
The lost are found; and Heaven upon our search  
Has smiled approval, bringing gain from loss.

## XIII

For, we whom sympathy has made one kin  
In one sweet act of charity well done,  
Will find our surest recompense within  
Our hearts; that God will bless us every one.

Thank you, Ross.

Ross T. Dunlop, 6328 Barrie Rd. # 1K, Edina MN 55435

## FAMILY TALK



While attending an Elderhostel seminar in Williamsburg VA last March, Jean Dones, of Columbus OH, and Bonnie Fey, of Oxford OH, enjoyed an evening with Marylyn and Bud Voorhees who reside in Williamsburg. They talked at length about the family and its heritage. Bud retired to Williamsburg several years ago and is working for Colonial Williamsburg. Jean is a frequent contributor to the Nieuwsbrief with genealogical findings about the Voris line. Bonnie and Jean are sisters. In the photo, left to right, are Jean, Bud and Bonnie.

## VOLUME II, VAN VOORHEES FAMILY

David Voorhees reported to the Executive Committee on April 29th that Volume II of The Van Voorhees Family is in the prepublication stage. Volume II covers the Fifth Generation. If all goes well, the genealogy should be available for purchase in roughly one and one-half years. Florence Christoph hopes to complete the Jan Line this summer the other Lines are finished except some minor bits of data. David distributed 175-page proofreading drafts to several members of the Committee.

We extend our congratulations and appreciation to David, Adrienne Haney and Florence Christoph for bringing this work to its present stage. The late Al Stokes carefully researched the Fifth Generation and much of the material is his accomplishment.

## CALLING ALL NEW YORK CITY MEMBERS

We understand that the cousins in New York City will soon be assigned so-called key numbers that will be required for delivery of their mail. These will replace apartment numbers. We also read that mail will be returned as undeliverable if the key number is omitted. Please advise us of your key number as soon as possible. Unless we are told, there will be many missing cousins, and you will wonder why we have disappeared. Thank you.

## NEW MEMBERS

Membership Chairperson Tom Van Voorhies has announced that the following cousins have joined the Association as of June 30th. A very hearty welcome to each of you!

*Pauline Schreck Mitzel, Finlay OH*  
*Dr. Kenneth M. Schreck, Highland Heights OH*  
*The Rev. Clifford L. Schreck, Goshen IN*  
*Brent J. Voorhees, Eagle River AK \*\**  
*Jacqueline P. Redgate, Sayville NY \*\*\**  
*Joan E. Carlson, Huntington Station NY \*\*\**  
*John Moller, Parsippany NJ*  
*Michelle L. Klauka, North Pole AK*  
*Dr. Joseph L. Druse, East Lansing MI*  
*Clyde N. Skip Voorhees, Loves Park IL*  
*Russell Edward Vorhies, Minatare NE*  
*Jack V. McMaster, Richland WA*  
*Elnora M. Seery, Marshfield MO*  
*The Rev. Frederick W. Pyne, Frederick MD \*\**  
*Roy S. Nollsch, Rancho Cordova CA*  
*Mary Ann R. Unger, Trenton NJ*  
*Agnes V. Barne, Brightwaters NY \*\*\**  
*William Deforest Barnes, Lake Ronkonkoma NY*  
*Belinda Lee Barnes, Lake Ronkonkoma NY*  
*Billie Jo Barnes, Lake Ronkonkoma NY \**

Key:   Contributing Member   \*\*\*  
          Sustaining Member       \*\*  
          Junior Member         \*

Tom asks that gift memberships be sent to him so that he can assign members numbers and send the new member package. Thanks very much.

## NEXT NIEUWSBRIEF DEADLINE

The next Nieuwsbrief will be the January issue and the deadline is November 15th. Please send your news and interesting material about our family to Manning Voorhees. Our newsletter can only be as interesting as you make it. His address is in Who's Who.



## GRADUATIONS

Aleda Voorhees Sadowski, daughter of Charles Voorhees of Milltown NJ, received her MS in Nursing from the Rutgers University Graduate School in Newark NJ. Aleda is a member of the professional staff at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center in New Brunswick NJ.

Steven Coerte Vorhees, son of Randall Vorhees and grandson of Roy Vorhees, of Grosse Point MI, graduated from Bowling Green University. Steven is a computer programmer. Grandpa Roy read this poem at Steven's celebration party:

In 1660 Steven Coerte  
Founded a family of report.  
Now in 1995, Steven Coerte is still alive.

Here is the latest Steven Coerte;  
The Vorhees who made graduation a sport.  
First it was here; then it was there,  
But you knew it was not Laissez Faire!

Best wishes to you, Steven Coerte;  
We knew you would not abort!

Your future is bright,  
Show us your might.  
Do what is right,  
And turn on your light!

## GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

Seeking parentage of Stephen VOORHEES (b. NJ, 19 Aug 1786, d. Wayne Twp., Crawford Co., PA 27 Oct 1856), married NJ before 1811 Anna HIBBERTS (b. NJ 20 Jan 1794, d. PA after 25 Aug 1870). Stephen and Anna were in West Almond, Allegheny Co., NY by Nov. 1831, then Crawford Co., PA by June 1832. Virginia Sprague, 543 Reed Dr. Davis CA 95616-1806.

Would like information about Peter VOORHEES (b. when?, d. 1864) of South Amboy, NJ, and his wife Millicent B., who died in South Amboy 24 July 1899. Cheryl D. Kline, 4025 Lake Rd., Williamson NY 14589.

Seek proof that Richard VOORHEES (b. OH, 2 Jan 1796, d. Jefferson Co., IN, 24 Aug 1884) was the father of Garret VOORHEES (b. OH, 1821, d. Jefferson Co, IN, 12 Mar 1864). Carol Montieth Watts, 448 Knoll Dr., Los Altos CA 94024, (415)948-2091.

Compiled by Virginia V. Ward.

## GENEALOGICAL POSSIBILITY

Fr. Bill Lydecker writes that the Association has been collecting records for the past 63 years and that Florence Christoph has produced 28,000 names from only one-quarter of the records, which excludes spouses. Florence is very excited and believes that with \$10,000 she could get the rest of the matériel into her computer within a year and be ready to start getting it into form for publication.

She is ready, eager and willing to forego all other work if we give her the chance. CAN YOU HELP?

## MISSING COUSIN

Mail has been returned forwarding order expired that was sent to Ms. Susan I. Voorhees, Building B, Townhouse Grounds #E, Hightstown NJ 08520-3231. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Ms. Voorhees, please write to Manning Voorhees. His address is listed in Who's Who.

## DONALD SINCLAIR

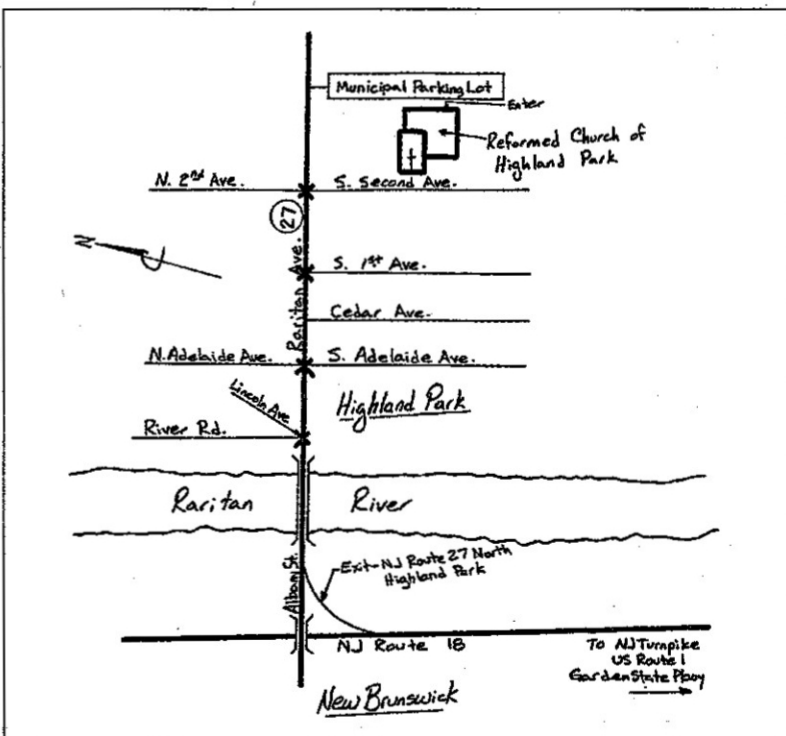
Don Sinclair was awarded the 1995 John A. Booth Prize by the New Jersey Historical Society on April 26th. The prize is awarded annually by the Society to someone who has made a substantial contribution to the understanding and appreciation of New Jersey's history.

Don is widely regarded as a historian, curator, bibliographer, archivist and genealogist. Yes, we know Don has made very significant contributions to our genealogical information and understanding. Congratulations, Don!

Source: NJ Historical Commission Newsletter, May 1995.

## HOW TO DRIVE TO HIGHLAND PARK FOR THE 63rd REUNION

From Exit 9 (New Brunswick) on the New Jersey Turnpike, travel west on NJ Route 18 to the exit for NJ Route 27 North Highland Park. Cross the bridge over the Raritan



River, go straight past the fourth traffic light at 2nd Avenue. Turn right into the Municipal Parking Lot about 150 feet past the 2nd Avenue traffic light. Enter the rear of the Church Parish House from the parking lot.



## A MARRIAGE OF HISTORY AND GENEALOGY, PART II

By Florence Christoph  
Certified Genealogist

*Copyright 1995 and all rights reserved by Florence Christoph*  
We thank Florence for allowing us to reproduce her talk before the Rensselaerswijck Seminar of the New Netherland Project held in Albany NY on September 17, 1994. Part I of the series was presented by Peter Christoph and was reproduced in the previous issue of Nieuwsbrief. Florence is our Genealogist and will be our speaker at the 1995 Annual Reunion. Her address is listed in Who's Who.

Peter has suggested that a historian may begin with the question "why." A genealogist begins with the question Who am I? Where did I come from? After answering those questions he may ask Why?

Beginning with their parents and working back to communities like Fort Orange, genealogists have a preconceived view of a city town or area. If their knowledge of the New York Dutch comes from the "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" they may think Fort Orange was a quiet uneventful place. If they are descendants of Albert Bradt and know of his numerous court cases they may feel that it was a city of tavern brawlers.

Many people identify strongly with their image of their immigrant ancestors. A Schuyler descendant whom I proved was a descendant of a German Shuler rather than Dutch Schuyler, said "I am still going to say I am Dutch."

What effect does this view have on the genealogist's style of research, what records might he discover, how does he interpret them and would they be of value to the historian?

The Schuyler and Voorhees projects begin with the immigrant ancestor and trace their families to the present which gives me a different perspective from those who trace from the present back to the immigrant family.

Working closely with the staff at Schuyler Mansion has been an experience that should happen more often between historians and genealogist. The objective was to identify descendants of General Philip Schuyler and locate people who may still own papers or furniture that once belonged to the General. The Van Voorhees project works in the same manner: as I work from 1660 to the present I look for people with records of families who left New York and New Jersey.

The following examples concern the Revolutionary War period but they could apply to the seventeenth century as well. General Philip Schuyler was born in 1733, a great grandson of the immigrant Peter Schuyler. In 1875, one hundred and twenty-four years after her father's birth, Philip's daughter Catharine writes, "I give to my son the shoe buckles which my sister and I received from General Burgoyne." These shoe buckles are part of the collection at Schuyler Mansion. Family tradition stated that they were given to the General's daughters by Burgoyne but it was genealogical research that provided proof. The historian may first study the shoe buckles but the genealogist starts with the people who owned them. Thousands of children visit Schuyler mansion each year. Isn't the story different if we say to those students,

"Two small daughters of General Schuyler met Burgoyne when he was a prisoner in their home. Perhaps the girls would play near his feet and notice his fancy shoe buckles. General Burgoyne gave them to those little girls." Then we can show them the shoe buckles. Would history be different if it were told from the view point of the individual people rather than their houses and accomplishments?

In 1925 William C Malcolm gives his daughter Hilda Harrel of Washington, D.C., the chest that belonged to his great grandfather General Philip Schuyler. This record is 192 years after the general's birth, but genealogical records of the family prove that Hilda Harrell was a direct descendant of Philip Schuyler. Museum curators could have dated the shoe buckles and the chest but would they look in 1857 and 1925 to identify a Revolutionary War item?

Genealogists often have to trace a family for 100 to 200 years to answer their questions. If you limit your research to pre-1664 or even 1700 you may miss a lot of information about early Dutch families. Some Dutch immigrants did not die until after 1700 and their children and grandchildren lived well into the eighteenth century.

The genealogist uses court records, deeds, probate laws, handwriting styles and may spend months or years studying the history of a small piece of land. Many times our research projects overlap each other, resulting in a network of information about descendants of the early Dutch immigrants.

David Schuyler, a grandson of the immigrant David Schuyler, lived in Albany and the Mohawk Valley. In his will of 1760 David appointed Sir William Johnson, Abraham Yates and old Major Pieter Schuyler among others to be executors of his estate. Who was this man to associate with such a variety of people? His descendants inherited land along the Mohawk River, on the Van Horn patent near Indian Castle. Local deeds show no records of David purchasing the land. The Calendar of Indorsed Land Papers says the patent was purchased by Abraham Van Horn and others, with no mention of David Schuyler.

*Looking at the actual land papers, we find in 1731: Philip Livingston of Albany, on behalf of himself, Abraham Van Horn, and others has a license to purchased land from the Indians in Mohawk country. But the said Indians have a great affection for David Schuyler and believe that David should have their lands. Therefore any land purchased by Livingston and his associates or by David Schuyler shall be divided into 5 equal parts giving David Schuyler one fifth. Apparently Livingston felt that this would satisfy the Indians. Yet David Schuyler is never listed as one of the "others."*

To learn more about this land, Peter suggested that I look at the Van Vechten papers at the State Library. He recalled that Abraham Van Vechten was involved in land disputes in the Mohawk Valley. Using those papers, I traced the land for over 150 years. In 1763 descendants of the Livingstons, and others, part owners of the Van Horn patent, quit claim unto Johannes Car-e-ho-ga, Kayin-quer-ego and Baker-e-dig-ha and all of the Indians of Canajoharie Castle, a tract of land beginning at the fence of David Schuyler so that the

Livingston, George Knock or John Duncan may have no claim to the land. This document was sealed in the presence of William Johnson and Guy Johnson.

The Van Vechten papers also contain a 1764 survey book of this patent, showing Indians on the lower end of the orchard of David Schuyler. A copy of the survey book, dated 1789, includes the Indian church, the house of Molly Brant where Peter Schuyler now lives, the house of Joseph Brant where Jeremiah Smith now lives. Thus I know that David lived across the fence from the Indians and his descendants lived in their abandoned homes.

When an archeological dig was done at that site, wasn't it significant to know that white men were living in the home of Joseph Brant in 1789? Forts and Firesides of the Mohawk Valley, a popular book by John Vrooman, tells us that the Indian Castle church was built in 1769 under the direction of Sir William Johnson on land donated by the Indian Joseph Brant. The aforementioned deeds would indicate that Brant had nothing to do with it. The Livingstons, Van Hornes, etc., had title to the land and deeded it to the Indians of Canajoharie Castle for five shillings.

What is the whole story here? The Johnson papers tell about mysterious trips in the night to survey the land when the Indians were asleep.

The genealogical network added even more to this research. A Schuyler descendant in California had a map of the Van Horn patent but could not determine which lot David owned. I had a survey book but no map. Between the two of us we can probably tell you more than you wish to know about the Van Horn Patent and the descendants of Philip Livingston, David Schuyler, the Klocks, and the Fondas.

Why was David Schuyler a friend of the Indians? Was it because he was the grandson of David Schuyler the immigrant and Indian commissioner, who died as a result of the Schenectady massacre? A generation later in the 19th century, Schuyler families are living as squatters on the Indian reservation in Madison County. They are forced to move and their houses burned, coming full circle from the Schenectady massacre. Some family records indicate that there are Indian descendants of these Schuylers.

In the Van Vechten papers I also found a map of Claverack dated 1767. It was drawn at the request of William Coventry to determine the bounds of the land granted to Hendrick van Salsbergen and Garret Slichtenhorst in 1661, one hundred and six years after their patent was granted. The map has symbols of houses with the names of people including "Jan Roothaar, Caspar Salisbury, and Ephraim Moor. I had compiled a genealogy of the descendants of Jan Hendricks van Salsbergen. He was also known as Jan Hendricks and Roothaar, which is a Dutch nickname meaning Red Hair. He was born in 1633 and purchased land in Claverack with Garret van Slichtenhorst. The people listed on the map were Roothaar's descendants. Ruth Piwonka, an architectural historian, has located an eighteenth century house in Claverack which she is trying to date and identify. She had a nineteenth century map of the area, but with this map and the genealogy of Roothaar's family, she can now date the house more precisely.

The history of Columbia county will tell you that the first settler in the Claverack area was Jan van Hoesen, who purchased land next to Roothaar in 1662. How can van Hoesen be the first settler if he settles near Roothaar who is already there?

Alexander Coventry owned Roothaar's land after the Revolution. At the Albany Institute of History and Art, there is a journal written by Coventry telling of trips he made through the Mohawk Valley, past Indian Castle where the Schuylers lived. Thus my research went round and round from 1663 to 1790, from family to family, to present day research on an eighteenth century home and an archaeological dig. Wouldn't it be nice if every historian could plug into a data base and locate genealogists who have maps, surveys and genealogies for territories and subjects they are interested in?

One last comment on old Roothaar. His descendants eventually changed their names from van Salsbergen to Salisbury. I have traced the family from 1633 to circa 1800. Charly Gehring is descended from a Salisbury born in the early 1800s. One of these days we hope to prove that Charly is a descendant of old Roothaar, even though he does not have red hair.

The Schuyler and Voorhees projects have led me up and down the Hudson Valley, out to California, south to Mobile, Alabama, back to England, and on to Australia. Many times I find records like the Van Vechten papers that lead to other research projects. Don't let any one tell you that genealogists deal in a small realm of people, time and places.

To trace families of the seventeenth century you must have some knowledge of family business ventures in the seventeenth century and migration patterns for three hundred years.

Families form social groups and communities which help us to trace their descendants. Coert van Voorhees arrived in New Netherland in 1660 with seven children. His descendants spread from the Brooklyn area to New Brunswick NJ., Westchester County NY, and Fishkill NY. Later generations formed the Conowaga community near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The rolls of the Dutch Reformed church of Conowaga read like a transplanted community of New Jersey Dutch families. From there the next generations moved on to western New York, Kentucky, and Ohio. Could historians study migration patterns if they did not have genealogical records to prove who the people are that are migrating? The Voorhees and Schuyler families intermarried only in New Brunswick, New Jersey. If you know that a number of families from Schaghticoke NY. moved to New Brunswick to avoid Indian troubles, you can easily identify the Schuylers of New Brunswick. As these families moved, they took traditions and language with them. In the transcriptions of a Pennsylvania church's records, there is a note saying, "These letters are in Dutch which I can not transcribe." In a Revolutionary War pension application from 1830, I find the statement, "There are several items written in Dutch which I am unable to translate."

Voorhees family records include a journal telling of the move from Conowaga, Pa., to Ohio. It tells how some of the family belongings were shipped by water down the Monongahela, but other items were taken by land. A wagon was filled with dirt in which they carried "embryos" of cur-

rants and apples to plant in their new land.

What records of New York families might we find in Ohio and Kentucky? How long did the Dutch traditions continue in these families? When new Dutch immigrants arrived in the midwest in the 1800s, were they not welcomed by descendants of these seventeenth century immigrants?

To locate records of these people we have to follow the family for three hundred years. These records and personal belongings do not always remain in the families with Dutch surnames.

Staff at Schuyler Mansion recently received a letter from the assistant commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, stating that grandchildren of Norton Miller living on Long Island had inherited items that once belonged to Philip Jeremiah Schuyler, including portraits and furnishings. I was asked to identify the people and see if I could find evidence that they were descendants of General Schuyler.

General Schuyler had a granddaughter Mary Regina Malcolm, who was married twice and never had any children. To locate her will I had to know that she was Mary Regina Malcolm Starr Miller, and where she lived and died. In her will Mary Regina left part of her estate to her second husband's brother's children. This was the Norton Miller, grandfather of the people on Long Island. You could not find the will if you did not know the name of Mary Regina's second husband. After which you have to trace the records of her second husband's family. The estate remained intact until 1935 when Norton Miller died. His daughters shared the estate until 1961 when two sisters divided the furnishings. They have since died and items are now shared by a family on Long Island and one in Florida named Smith and Clay.

Mary Regina's will listed specific items that had belonged to General Schuyler. She also mentioned relatives in Mobile, Alabama. A genealogist in that area found records of Schuyler ancestors living on Van Rensselaer Street in Mobile in 1830. Was there a Dutch community on Van Rensselaer Street in Mobile, Alabama? The only items I have found are a gold watch and a lace cap which were willed to a friend of the family in Mobile. Was it an old Dutch cap or did they have lace caps in Mobile in the 1880s? We have not located these items.

These examples show how genealogy can trace descendants of colonial New York families. Other genealogical records can tell you about their lives and personalities. Historians can read about the Schuylers and the Van Voorheeses in official documents but genealogists will see them as people with families and personalities.

Official records tell us that Philip Schuyler was born in 1628 and came to Fort Orange as a gunstock maker with no family. At the age of twenty-two, he married Marguerite van Slichtenhorst, daughter of the director of Rensselaerwyck. From Philip's Bible records we learn something about Philip Schuyler, the family man.

Joel Munsell states: "The manuscript is in Old Dutch letters and is undoubtedly the autograph of Philip Pieterse Schuyler who died in 1683. His daughter's record is added in

another hand, in printing letters. His death is written in more modern or Italian characters."

The first entry reads:

In the year 1650 I Philip Pieterse Schuyler from Amsterdam married Margritta van Slichtenhorst born at Nykerck ... may the good God grant us a long and peaceful life to our salvation... Amen. We have been married by Antoni de Hooges ... secretary of the colony at Rensselaerswyck in the presence of both the officers and principal inhabitants.

1652 our son Gysbert van Schuyler is born "may the Lord let him grow up in virtues to his salvation" Amen. Philip Schuyler continues to enter the records of 10 children all with the same statement "may the Lord let him grow up in virtues to his salvation."

From these records we see Philip Schuyler as a religious man, proud of the fact that the leading citizens of the community attended his wedding. Does this sound like the writing of a gunstock maker?

There are 150 years worth of Bible records from the Schuyler family.

The Bible of Philip's brother David has not been found. but Jeremias van Rensselaer writes to Jan Baptist van Rensselaer in 1657, "David Pieterse Schuyler is betrothed to Catharine Ver Planck ... He has asked me to be his best man ... but I have declined. ... However I shall never the less have to accept it. ... send me my grey clothes, white Sayette Stockings with the silver ribbons ... my black Breeches. ... a air of leather shoes and some wine ... which must come down soon as we shall begin to feast any day."

Apparently Jeremias had some misgivings about the situation, but we know how he was dressed and that the wedding was a festive affair.

David's children and his death after the Schenectady massacre are recorded in his son Mynderts's Bible. Entries from this Bible show us events that were important in his life. He writes,

I received this Bible from Van Schack a merchant at Amsterdam. the Lord has granted me benefits in a remarkable way which I shall thank and praise him as well as I can.

I was born in 1672 and baptized by Dominie van Rensselaer.

I began to read the old testament after having read the new testament which I finished in 27 days.

A son-in-law continues the records.

I Cornelius Cuyler was born in 1696 My wife Catharine Schuyler in 1704 ...

1726 Wednesday at 8 our daughter is born she died Saturday morning unbaptized.

1727 our son John is born at 11 clock in the evening and taken to be baptized by my mother.

1728 daughter Elizabeth is born at 6 AM and taken by my mother-in-law to be baptized." (He then lists a total of ten children, many of whom were born in the middle of the night and taken to be baptized by someone other than the parents. Apparently the death of an unbaptized child affect-



ed him greatly.)

1726 My brother Abraham Schuyler died on an embassy to the Senecas sent there by William Burnet.

1745 my brother-in-law was killed by the enemy at Saratoga and the whole of Saratoga destroyed.

death records read:

John DePeyster died age 95 and was buried in the church north of where he had his seat.

My dear wife died with many proofs of her piety. she has gained a new and shining place in heaven she was bed ridden for 9 years. was buried in our church next to Schuyler just before the place where I sit.

General Philip Schuyler's Bible continues the family records. He writes:

1756 our first child is born the Lord grant that she grow up in his fear and enter into salvation.

1757 our second child Lord grant her peace on earth and eternal salvation hereafter.

1761 fourth and fifth children were born one a son the other a daughter the son died unbaptized the daughter a month later ... the Lord giveth the lord taketh holy is the name of the Lord.

1763 a sixth child Cleanse him Oh God with the blood of they chosen son.

1764 our son John died all things according to they will.

Fifteen children are recorded, each with a separate biblical statement, not unlike his great grandfather's Bible of the 1650s.

These Bibles show us men who were proud of their marriages, rejoiced at the births and mourned the deaths of their children. From the first entry in 1650 to the fifteenth child of the general in 1781, there is constant reference to their belief in God. They read more like a journal than a family Bible, recording historical events, and giving us a hint of their personalities. Are they really less religious than the New Englanders?

They read their Bibles, quoted scripture and copied records from their parent's Bibles. These large family Bibles were kept by the families for over two hundred years. Many were donated in the 1880s to the Albany Institute, where you will also find those of other local families.

The Van Voorhees family arrived in the colonies in 1660. Their genealogy does not include copies of their Bible records but does tell you where many of them can be found and indicates that they were written in Dutch as late as 1780. From the Van Voorhees family we have personal letters sent from Holland in the 1600s to relatives in New Amsterdam. Reading between the lines we can sense what had been written to relatives in Holland.:

1684 from Drente. "We read how your wealth has increased in that country, how big your family is and that it is still a good country. If you write us tell us about those who came from this region, whether they are still alive and how they are doing."

1687 "I am astonished how cousin Jan has gained so much in the time he has been there. He was a prodigal spender. It must be a good country over there. If a man

went there with 2 thousand guilders would he have an opportunity to get ahead? Would you advise a man to settle if his family still lived in Drenthe?"

1698 "understand from your letter that you are all well living in a state of peace and have a good government, that you doing well, can pay your debts and still save. Are these comments relating to the fact that the British have taken over New Netherland?"

Like all relatives there are constant comments such as we have not heard from you, is everything all right? They seem concerned that letters may not be delivered correctly and give the following instructions:

Be so good as to direct your letters to Amsterdam, Bickers Island behind the Sluice next to number 16, the house with the door where the yellow clapper hangs, to the widow of Wessel Alberts, - carpenter of Voorhyes. then we will be sure receive them.

Wouldn't it be interesting to find letters written from New Netherland and know how the colonists expected their letters to be addressed so they could be delivered.

These letters, like the Schuyler Bibles, show people as individuals interested in family life, politics and the economy. They also indicate a strong religious influence in their lives with phrases such as "Bless the Lord always and forget not all his benefits," and "commend you to God's salvation."

We have traced over 4,000 descendants of the Dutch Schuylers from 1650 to 1880. The Van Voorhees records contain over 18,000 people with many more to be added. In most cases this accounts for only the male descendants. Including all females would increase this number to well over 100,000.

The arrival of these families and their assimilation into the new colony is but a small spot in the history of time, but their families and descendants have spread throughout the United States, carrying with them Dutch traditions, family records, and an interest in family history that has lasted for over three hundred years. Descendants of these families would leave hundreds of thousands of footprints across our country. A variety of studies could be done concerning migration, genetics, family traditions, furniture and clothing.

Genealogical research raises a lot of questions I would like historians to answer. How could Philip Schuyler have influence enough to marry the director's daughter? Why is a street in Mobile named Van Rensselaer? Can we find genetic traits to show why some families have many early deaths from generation to generation while others have large families, all of whom lived to be over 80 for three generations? Would this information be helpful to their living descendants?

Few genealogists are fortunate enough to be married to someone who worked in the Manuscripts and Special Collections section of the State Library for over twenty-five years and shares a common interest in the records, but as genealogists, historians, translators, and editors we can try to understand each other's research techniques, and use each others resources. Hopefully more of us can become involved with projects such as the Schuyler and Voorhees genealogies, where historians and genealogists can work together.





## LODGING FOR THE REUNION

A block of rooms has been circled at the rate of \$55.00 per night at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Sheraton) in East Brunswick NJ. There is no continental breakfast. If you choose this hotel, please tell the reservation clerk that you are with the Association. If by chance the block is fully reserved, the same rate will apply again, say that you are with the Association. The Ramada is at 195 Route 18, East Brunswick NJ 08816, telephone 908-828-6900. Use Exit 9 on the NJ Turnpike.

The Hilton Brunswick Towers (formerly the Ramada Renaissance) is in the same approximate location on Route 18 at 3 Tower Center, East Brunswick NJ 08816, telephone

908-828-2000. Again, use Exit 9 of the NJ Turnpike. The rate at the Hilton is \$79.00 per night including a continental breakfast.

These two hotels are relatively near Highland Park via Route 18 and the Raritan River Bridge. See the map elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief. However, the closest hotel to Highland Park is the Hyatt Regency, 2 Albany St., New Brunswick NJ 08901, telephone 908-873-1234. The rate at the Hyatt is \$124.00 per night. The Marriott and Radisson in Somerset are booked for the weekend of October 7th.

These hotels are listed for your convenience and are not necessarily recommended or warranted by the Association.

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### 63rd ANNUAL REUNION RESERVATION

Please reserve the following places for me at the 63rd Annual Reunion:

Children under 10 years:	# _____	@ \$ 6.00 =	\$ _____
Adults:	# _____	@ \$12.00 =	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

Names of those in my group:  
Adults:

Children:

Are you attending for the first time:  Yes  No

Do you need/would like Nursery Services:  Yes  No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ VVA # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your Line(s) of descent (check all that apply):

Coert     Lucas     Jan     Albert

Merghin     Aeltje     Jannetje     Hendrickje

Please enclose your check for the total amount payable to The Van Voorhees Association and mail to:

**Scott T. Voorhees**  
147 Grand Boulevard  
Emerson, New Jersey 07630

Reservations must be received not later than October 3, 1995. You may photocopy this form.

## 1995 DUES NOTICE

Dues through December 1995 were payable January 1, 1995. Please check membership desired and note any change of address. Mail to the Treasurer: Mr. Bernard V. Ward, 117 Arlington Ave., Somerset NJ 08873-1923. Please make checks payable to The Van Voorhees Association. Your dues are deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Please tell us the name and date of birth of any new member of your family, with the names of his/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 earlier years, please add that amount to your remittance:

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$7.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior	\$2.00
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Check here, and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to receive a 1995 membership card.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you know your nine digit zip code, please enter it for our assistance in achieving the lowest postal cost.

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### ABSENTEE BALLOT

A. I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize the following ballot to be voted for me at the 63rd Annual Reunion of the Van Voorhees Association on October 8, 1994:

FOR PRESIDENT

Manning W. Voorhees  Other

FOR SECRETARY, ONE YEAR TERM

Rosina L. Ripton  Other

FOR TREASURER

Bernard V. Ward  Other

Please return your Absentee Ballot to Scott T. Voorhees, Vice President, 147 Grand Boulevard, Emerson NJ 07630 for receipt not later than October 4, 1995. A photocopy of this ballot will be accepted.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ VVA #: \_\_\_\_\_

## BOOK ORDER FORM

Through a Dutch Door, 17th Century Orgins 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

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## ITEM SALES 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. 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**

Items for Sale	Members	Non-Members	Quantity
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	_____
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 # \_\_\_\_\_

The VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION  
2415 Spring Hill Drive  
Toms River, NJ 08755  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

