



Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

SUMMER/FALL 1997
Volume 15, Number 4

A Publication of the Van Voorhees Association, Organized in 1932
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NEW INTERNET SITE

William R. Voorhees, of Bloomington IN, has improved the Association Internet site. New interactive pages and more colors have been added. A Bach cantata will now play in the background as you move from page to page. More importantly, however, there is an "Inquiries" page listing the several persons to contact for new membership information, address changes, genealogical inquiries, purchase of publications and Association items, and so forth. Please do not send questions to William - find the appropriate person in the Inquiries page and contact him or her directly. A bulletin board is now in place to assist you with questions and comments.

The address has been changed to <<http://www.vanvoorhees.org>>. There is a referral link from the old address to the new one. This change is quite significant because of the ".org" at the very end. Internet addresses have suffixes that indicate the nature of the site. Our site is now registered as an "organization" with Internic, which means that no one in any country may use the phrase "vanvoorhees" in their Internet address. We should appear in the indices of Internet search engines, such as Yahoo and Lycos, and should ultimately be listed in such publications as the Internet Yellow Pages. Our site is interactively connected to several other sites including The Holland Society, Netherlands Genealogical Society, The Holland Page, the New York State Library, The Olive Tree and Ted and Pats New Amsterdam Baptism records. These are but some of the sites that you can now access from our related links page.

Our Association site is best viewed with Netscape 3.0+ or Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0+. (Internet Explorer can be downloaded free from <<http://www.home.microsoft.com/internet/center.asp>>.) Some people have experienced problems using other software, especially when trying to print. For the full effect, you may want to download the True Type font on the Coat of Arms page (it is free and can be used with your PC word processor). Finally, if you are using either Netscape or Internet Explorer, you may adjust the windows by placing the cursor over the window frame, getting a double arrow and then dragging the frame. Due to varying resolutions and monitor sizes, these windows may need to be adjusted.

Between July 1, 1997 and July 18th, there were 1,274 requests for accessing one or more pages of the Van Voorhees Association site or 73 per day (including a fractional day).

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OCTOBER REUNION

October 11th is the big day. Steven Coerte's grandchildren will gather at the Six Mile Run Reformed Church in Franklin Park NJ. As we have commented in the January and Spring 1997 issues of the Nieuwsbrief, Six Mile Run and the Church are very historic locations for us.

Our agenda will be:

- 9:30 A.M. Fellowship, coffee and Danish
- 10:00 A.M. Presentation by Judith Van Voorhis about our genealogical retrieval system and data base
- 10:15 A.M. Genealogical Workshop
- 11:00 A.M. Our speakers: Pastor David Risseeuw - History of the Six Mile Run Reformed Church (15 minutes) and Dr. Walton Van Winkle - Flatbush Church Records
- 12:15 P.M. Short business meeting
- 12:30 P.M. Lunch
- 1:45 P.M. Genealogical Workshop and fellowship
- 3:00 P.M. Optional observation of Voorhees' cemeteries and optional tour of the Buccleuch Mansion in New Brunswick - Genealogical Workshop and fellowship at the Church will continue
- 5:00 P.M. Optional dinner at O'Connor's in Middlebush

Lois and Manning Voorhees will host the traditional Family reception on Friday night, the Tenth, in their room at the Holiday Inn (see Lodging) from 5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

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CALENDAR

Annual Reunion	October 11, 1997
Executive Committee Meeting	April 25, 1998
Annual Reunion	October 10, 1998

New Internet Site – continued from page 1

The activity was spread across the 24 hour time span, with the midnight to 3:00 A.M. traffic showing a surprising volume. These statistics, and others that are not set forth here, are very impressive. Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson, has reported that several new memberships can be attributed to our Internet availability. There also has been a noticeable genealogical activity. The Internet is the educational and communication medium of the future. The Van Voorhees Association is in the forefront of this movement among Dutch family heritage groups. Thank you, William. Your efforts and initiative, once again, are very much appreciated. We also thank Judith Van Voorhis, who located a friendly Internet Service Provider to house our site.

NOTICE OF 1997 BUSINESS MEETING

This will constitute formal notice to the membership for the 1997 Annual Meeting of the Van Voorhees Association which will be part of the Reunion proceedings on October 11, 1997. Cornelia Mason, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, will nominate Manning W. Voorhees for election as President, Calvin Krapf for election as Treasurer and Patricia J. Zander-Carlo for election as Secretary. An absentee ballot is in this issue of the Nieuwsbrief for those members who are unable to attend the Annual Meeting. Those attending may consider other items of business that may be brought to the floor.

YOUR MAILING LABEL

Please check your mailing label on this issue.

DUES PAYMENT INFORMATION

The first number on the top line is your membership number. The second item, either numbers or letters, describes your membership. For example, LIFE or 94. The year "94" indicates that you have paid your dues through calendar year 1994. You might have paid dues since then, but at some point you skipped a payment or two. When you send a dues payment in 1997, your payment year is advanced one interval to 1995 or two intervals to 1996, accordingly. The label is not marked "97" unless you were up to date in the first instance.

If your last dues payment was in 1992, 1993 or 1994, you will be four or more years in arrears by January 1998. These labels will be printed in red indicating that THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE.

We have been slow to move on this because our record keeping has suffered since Steve Shyers passed away. Record keeping responsibilities have been fragmented and there have been several transitions from one member to another. At this time, the same volunteers have been on the job for over six months and we are rapidly getting the problems resolved.

If we are in error on your membership, please advise Judith Van Voorhis immediately so that she can make correc-

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October Reunion – continued from page 1

for those staying at the Holiday Inn or elsewhere that night. "Dutch Treat" dinner will follow at the Holiday Inn.

Pastor Risseeuw will tell us about the history of the Six Mile Run Church, the present church building and the involvement of many old Dutch families, including Voorhees. As one item of many, the communion table that is used today was donated in 1879 by "Mr. and Mrs. Abram Voorhees, Sr." Judith Van Voorhis reports that our data base contains 103 Abram or Abraham Voorhees's who were born between 1800 and 1860. Some of these names can be eliminated because they were not New Jersey, or so it appears. We look to Pastor Risseeuw, who might be able to shed a little light on our cousin and others in the long history of the congregation.

Dr. Van Winkle's Holland Society committee has completed the research and translation of the church records from Dutch Flatbush. This material is very important for family historians and we hope to learn more about the Voorhees Family. We understand that the Voorhees Family appears frequently in these old records that originated in the 17th and early 18th centuries. The Flatbush Church Records will be published by The Holland Society of New York. Dr. Van Winkle's presentation will give us an insight into the new information that will be in this forthcoming volume.

The Van Voorhees Family played an important role in the life of Six Mile Run and its Reformed Church. Our Family also was an important part of the Dutch community in Flatlands and Flatbush. The two themes complement each other at our Reunion. You cannot miss it. Please return the reservation coupon from this issue of the Nieuwsbrief with your check to Scott Voorhees. Don't procrastinate - do it now so that you will be certain to be included.

CORRECTION

The last Nieuwsbrief on page six listed information about several Voorhees' who were legislators that was obtained from an Internet site. With respect to Horace Jeremiah "Jerry" Voorhis, we quoted the Internet data that the location of his interment was not known. Jerry's son and Association member, Jerry L. Voorhis, of Claremont CA, wrote and advised us: "I want to correct what was written about the interment of Horace Jeremiah "Jerry" Voorhis on page six of your last newsletter. Congressman Horace Jeremiah Voorhis (1901-1984) in interred or buried at Mountain View Cemetery at 2400 North Fair Oaks Avenue in Altadena, California. He is interred there at the Voorhis family plot with his parents, Charles B. and Ella Ward Voorhis, and his wife, Louise Livingston Voorhis."

Thank you, Jerry, for this information. We will add it to our genealogical data base.

Visit the Van Voorhees Association
web site on the Internet at:

<http://www.vanvoorhees.org>

Courtesy of William R. Voorhees, of Bloomington IN.

ORIN A. VOORHEIS

Elder Orin A. Voorheis is twenty years old and a missionary in Argentina for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was attacked at night in a community about twenty miles south of Buenos Aires on April 9, 1997. Orin and a fellow missionary were walking home about 9:30 P.M. when the attack occurred. It was raining and the otherwise busy street was empty. The two missionaries attempted to avoid the three attackers, but were unsuccessful and became separated. The robbers held them at knife point. When only a small amount of money came from the missionary's pockets, the attackers became angry and one pulled a gun. The thieves went for Orin's backpack, which contained religious and teaching material. During the melee, the gun was fired and Orin was shot in the back of his head. The hollow point bullet exploded behind his ear and into his brain. He has been in a coma since that moment although he later responded to stimuli and opened his eyes.

Orin is Wayne and Florence Voorheis' seventh of nine children. They reside in Pleasant Grove UT. Orin is a dedicated missionary and a life-long worker for his Church. His

parents flew to Buenos Aires two days after the attack.

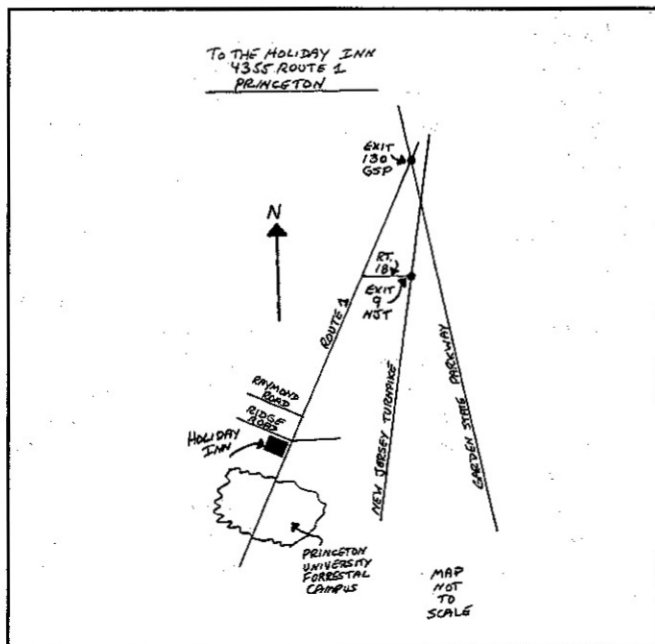
On April 30th, Orin flew home. A Mormon industrialist loaned his Gulfstream III corporate jet and three pilots for the flight to Argentina and return. Also aboard were two nurses and a respiratory expert together with sophisticated medical equipment that was loaded on the plane for the trip, which was fifteen hours one way. According to a news clipping dated May 23rd, Orin is in an extended care facility in Utah. He is still in a coma and "the prognosis is not encouraging." While "stable", Orin is in a comatose state. "He opens his eyes and looks around, but doctors say he shows no evidence of awareness."

Our prayers are with Orin Voorheis for full recovery and return to his calling.

The foregoing information and quotations are from several clippings of The Desert News. We thank Carole Cole, of Bountiful UT, for sending the clippings and hope that she will keep us informed about Orin's recovery.

MAPS FOR THE REUNION

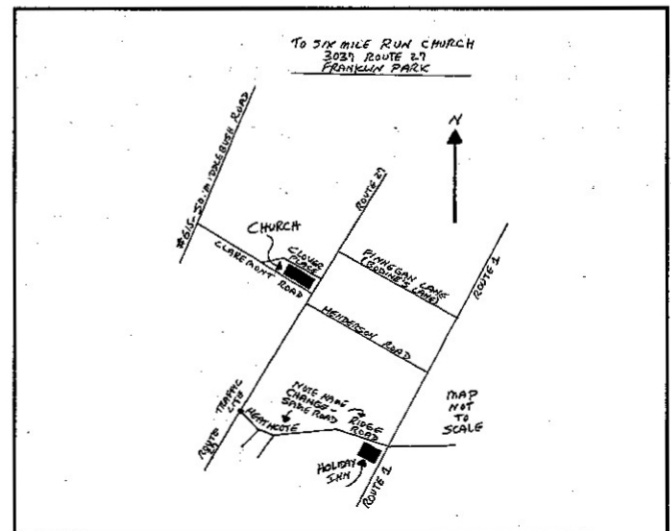
Directions to the Holiday Inn on Route 1 at the intersection with Ridge Road: (1) From the N.J. Turnpike - Exit 9 to Route 18 North to Route 1 South; 12 miles to the Holiday Inn on the right side, (2) From the Garden State Parkway - Exit 130 to Route 1 South; 17 miles to the Holiday Inn on the right side, (3) From Newark Airport - N.J. Turnpike to Exit 9 to Route 18 North to Route 1 South; 12 miles to the Holiday Inn on the right side. The Six Mile Run Church is on Route 27 in Franklin Park, between Claremont Road and Clover Place.



LODGING FOR THE REUNION

A block of rooms has been obtained for the Van Voorhees Association at the Holiday Inn on Route 1 at the intersection with Ridge Road. This is in the outskirts of near-by Princeton. Our rate is \$85.00 per night for a single or double room. Breakfast can be either from the buffet for \$8.00 per person or ordered from the menu. The Holiday Inn was built in 1985 and was recently renovated. It is very easy to find the Six Mile Run Church: exit the Holiday Inn directly onto Ridge Road, turn left and drive 7.4 miles with only one major turn. Telephone number for the Holiday Inn is 609-452-2400.

Princeton and its Palmer Square offer an interesting diversion for Friday afternoon, if you arrive early at the Holiday Inn. Princeton offers many historical sites including the University.



INTRODUCTION TO DUTCH NAMES -- MALE NAMES

by James Nohl Churchyard

The last issue of the *Nieuwsbrief* reproduced part of Mr. Churchyard's article on Dutch names that were used in New Netherland. This is the continuation with male names. We thank Dorothy A. Koenig, the publisher of *New Netherland Connections*, for permission to reproduce this material that

was originally printed in the October-November-December 1996 and January-February-March 1997 issues of her excellent *New Netherland genealogical quarterly*. *New Netherland Connections*, 1232 Carlotta Avenue, Berkeley CA 94707-2707.

Dutch	English	Dutch	English	Dutch	English	Dutch	English
Abel	Abel	Carel	Carl, Charles, Karl	Geleyn (see Gillis)		Jillis, Jilles (see Gilles)	
Abraham	Abraham	Carstian		Gerbert		Job	Job
Abros (see Ambrosius)	Adam	Casper,	Caspar	Gerbrant		Jochem	Joachim
Adam	Adrian,	Caspanus		Gerrit	Gerard	Johannes,	John
Adriaen,	Hadrian	Christiaen	Christian	Geurt (equivalent of "Geert")	Gerald	Hans	
Arien	Arnold	Christoffel	Christopher	Gillis, Gilles,	Giles	Jonas	Jonas, Jonah
Aernoudt	Arthur	Claes (see Nicolas)		Geleyn	Geoffrey,	Joost	Justin
Aert, Arte,		Claude	Claud, Claude	Govert	Jeffrey	Jorgen	Jurgen
Aart	Albert	Coenraedt,	Conrad	Guiljam (see Willem)		Jorgien,	George
Albert,		Coenraet,		Gustavus	Gustave	Jeurgie	
Albertus,		Coenradus		Gysbert	Gilbert	Joris	George
Alberto	Alban	Coert	Curt	Haecke		Joseph	Joseph
Albinus		Cornelis,	Cornelius	Hage		Juriaen,	
Allard	Ambrose	Kors		Hans (see Johannes)		Jeuriaen	
Ambrosius	Andrew	Cozyn,		Haricken,	Harry	Kever (perhaps a nickname)	"Beetle"
Andries	Anthony	Cosyn,		Harrick		Koos (see Jacob)	
Antheunis,		Couzyn		Harmen	Herman	Kors (see Cornelis)	
Anthonis,		Cryn	Quirine	Hendrick,	Henry	Lambert	Lambert
Theunis,		Daniel	Daniel	Hendricus,		Laurens	Lawrence
Teunis	Arnold	David	David	Hentrick		Leendert	Leonard
Arent		Denys	Dennis	Herkel,	Hercules	Lodowyck,	Ludwig,
Arie (see Adriaen)	Arnold	Dirck	Dirk, Derek	Herck		Lodovijk	Louis,
Arnoldus	Aaron	Dominicus	Dominic	Herman,	Herman		Lewis
Aron	Augustine,	Douwe (a Frisian name)	David	Hermanus		Lubbert,	
Augustyn	Austin	Eduart,	Edward	Heyman		Lobbrecht	
Auke	Balthazar	Eduwart		Hieronymous (see Jeronymous)		Lucas,	Luke, Lucas
Balthazar		Egbert	Egbert	Hilbrant		Luycas	
Balthus	Bernard	Elbert	Elbert	Huybert	Hubert	Luur	
Barent,		Eli	Eli	Huyck,	Hugh, Hugo	Machany	
Barendt		Elias	Elias	Huyge,		Malchus	
Bartel (see Bartholomeus)		Elmer	Elmer	Huyg		Marcus	Marcus,
Bartholdus	Bartholomew	Emmanuel	Emmanuel	Ide, Iden		Mark	
Bartholomeus		Ennem		Isaac, Isacq,	Isaac	Marin, Maryn	
Bastiaen (see Sebastiaen)	Baldwin	Enoch	Enoch	Isac		Marten,	Martin
Bauduyn	Benjamin	Evert,	Evert	Jacob,	Jacob, James	Martinus	
Benjamin	Baldwin	Everardus		Jacobus		Mathys,	Matthew,
Boele (a Frisian name)		Ezechiel	Ezechial	Jacques	Jacques,	Mathias	Mathias
Brandt		Fernande	Fernando	Jan	James	Matheus (see Mathys)	
(shortened form of "Ysbrant")		Floris	Florian	Jelke (a Frisian name)	John	Maurice	Maurice,
Bruyn		Frans,	Francis	Jessen	John	Melchior	Melchior
Burger,		France,			John	Melis	
Borger		Francois,			Julius	Meyndert	
Caesar, Casar	Caesar	Franciscoys,				Michiel	Michael
		Franciscus				Nathaniel	Nathaniel
		Fredrick	Frederick			Nicasius	
		Gabriel	Gabriel			Nicolas,	Nicholas,
		Gaert (see Coert)					

Dutch	English	Dutch	English
Nicolaes, Claes	Nick	Sibert	
Noel	Noel	Sibolt	
Nys (see Denys)		Sibout	
Olof	Olof	Sibrant, Sybant	
Otto	Otto	Simon, Simen	Simon
Owen	Owen	Sjarel	Charles
Paulus	Paul	Stephen, Stephanus	Steven, Stephen
Philip	Philip	Stoffel (see Christoffel)	
Pieter, Petrus, Pietr	Peter	Theovenius	
Rem		Theunis, Teunis (see Anthennis)	
Resolveert	Resolved	Thomas	Thomas
Reyer		Tibout	
Reymer		Timotheus	Timothy
Reynart		Titus	Titus
Reynier	Renold	Tjarels	Charles
Reynout	Renold	Tjerck (see Dirck)	
Richard	Richard	Tobias	Tobias, Toby
Ritsart (see Richard)		Tys (see Mathys)	
Robbert	Robert	Ulderick, Uldrick	
Robyn	Robin	Urbanus	
Rodolf	Rudolph	Victoor	Victor
Roelant, Roelandt	Roland	Volkert	
Roclof	Ralph	Wernar, Warnert, Warnart	Werner
Ruijff	Ralph, Rafe	Wessel	
Rutger, Rutgert	Roger	Willem, Wilhelmus	William
Ruth (see Rutger)		Wolfert	
Ruyt		Wouter	Walter
Ryck (see Hendrick)		Yde, Yden (see Ide)	
Salomon	Solomon		
Samuel	Samuel		
Sebastiaen	Sebastian		
Severyn (a French name)	Severin		

Yntze van der Honing of Amsterdam comments, "The translating of given names from Dutch into English has always been a very arbitrary process. The first sound is usually the same, but the rest of the name was usually up to the creativity of whoever was responsible for the [English version]. ... I know that a name like 'Grietje' would become 'Grace' or 'Gertrude.' The Frisian name 'Sietse' would usually be changed to 'Sidney' but sometimes to 'Cyrus.'

"Frisian names are entirely different from Dutch names. I would say that Frisian names bear more resemblance to Scandinavian names. When Frisian names have equivalents in Dutch, English, or German, probably all of the names are Christian in origin. Many Frisian male given names end in '-e', including my own name - 'Yntze.' Many Frisian names originate from Germanic mythology, including my own which originates from the name for a Germanic god called 'Yno.'"

65th ANUAL REUNION RESERVATION

Please reserve the following places for me at the 65th Annual Reunion Luncheon:

Children under 10 years: # _____ @ \$7.00 = \$ _____

Adults: # _____ @ \$14.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Names of those in my group:

Adults: _____

Children: _____

I will visit the Buccleuch Mansion

I may visit the Buccleuch Mansion

Number of people: _____

I will join everyone for dinner at O'Connors Restaurant

Yes No Number of people: _____

My choice of entree is

marinated filet tips stuffed filet of sole

chicken parmigiana

My separate check for \$18.50 cost per person is enclosed.

Are you attending for the first time? Yes No

I 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

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 4, 1997. You may photocopy this form.

THE SPRING ISSUE, REVISITED

The Spring 1997 Nieuwsbrief discussed the history of the Six Mile Run Church, the derivation of the name Six Mile Run. "Mary Voorhees and the Blackwell House", and Peter A. Voorhees. June Wick, whose address is listed in Who's Who, kindly sent us several interesting pieces about these Spring articles. June wrote, "The latest issue of the Nieuwsbrief was of particular interest to me since most of my paternal ancestors lived in the Six Mile Run - South Middlebush area." Thank you, June. Thanks also to Russell Vail, of Lakehurst NJ, for the map of the Raritan Lots.

Six Mile Run Reformed Church

An interesting aspect has arisen about the location of the first church structure. We said that the original church in 1703 was built near the Elm Ridge Cemetery. As we mentioned in the Spring Nieuwsbrief, Abram (Abraham) J. Voorhees is said to have lived near the 1703 structure. Judith Van Voorhis reported that if Abram resided near the 1703 church, he had to have arrived shortly before that year. Our records do not support an Abram that would have been well established at that location in 1703. Another question is whether the correct cemetery in this context is the Three Mile Run Cemetery? Further, did Elm Ridge Cemetery acquire the Three Mile Run Cemetery? This latter question would appear to have some relevance for descendants of our Family interred in Three Mile Run.

This intriguing matter arose because of the following quotation from page 819 of History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey, by James P. Snell and published in 1881: "... As early as 1703, if not before, we find a church in existence at Three Mile Run. The people probably possessed a building suited to their [the Reformed congregation] circumstances. It was a little east of the old graveyard in that locality, and near the residence of Abram J. Voorhees." June sent us a photocopy of an 1873 map of that portion of

Somerset County. The property of A. J. Voorhees is noted at a place called Voorhees Station. It is on the other side of the now Route 27 from Three Mile Run Cemetery.

June also sent us photocopies of selected pages from 1710-1910, Six Mile Run Reformed Church, Franklin Park, N.J. by The Rev. Eugene H. Keator (Franklin Park, N.J., 1910), who was Pastor of the Six Mile Run Church from 1908 to 1925. We quote from pages 18 and 19, additional paragraph supplied:

"In relation to the churches of Somerset county the earliest record of an ecclesiastical order is dated March the ninth, 1699, and has to do with the First Church of Raritan, now the First of Somerville. It reads as follows: 'The following persons were chosen (meaning consistory), namely, John Tuynesen as elder, and Peter Van Nest as deacon, and were installed before the congregation by Guillian Bertholf. At the same time the ordinance of the Holy Sacrament was administered to the communicants by the above named person.' There are no documents and no traditions showing where these services were held. But there are records compiled by Dr. Messler, while pastor of that church, showing that the first house for the worship of God in the County of Somerset was built on the 'old burying-ground' on the road leading to Six Mile Run about one and one-half miles beyond the present city limits of New Brunswick near what is now known as Voorhees Station, opposite the former residence of Abraham J. Voorhees, now Lewis Ayers, and was then known as the 'Church of Ten Mile Run.' [Ed. This reference must be Three Mile Run.]

"The date of the construction of the building or the organization of the church are unknown, nor has the name of the minister who officiated on the occasion been transmitted to us; but some remnants of the foundation were visible on or about 1860, the recollections of which were enjoyed by a few who lived as late as 1870. It was never completed in its con-

Your Mailing Label -- continued from page 2

tions in time for the next newsletter mailing. This applies even if you are not on our endangered list. If we are correct and you wish to continue being a member of the Van Voorhees Association in good standing and receive the Nieuwsbrief, please send a check for your back dues and we will be delighted to reinstate your membership. The Regular dues rate was \$7.00 annually until January 1, 1997 when it became \$10.00 per year. The Contributing and Sustaining membership dues were also raised \$3.00 per year on January 1, 1997. Judith lives in Niskayuna NY and her address is listed in Who's Who.

MAILING ADDRESS

Postal authorities are returning our mail because of seemingly nit-picking errors in addresses. If the last number of your house address on the mailing label is one digit away from the correct number or the street is misspelled on the label in an insignificant way, your mail eventually will be returned as "undeliverable." This problem sometimes arises

after your faithful mail man or woman retires or is reassigned. The friendly mail person knew where you live and would deliver your mail with an address that is technically incorrect. However, that person's successor will return your mail to us. Incorrect zip codes on the mailing label are another frustration. This problem may seem a bit far-fetched to you, but we lose several members each year because we cannot get our mail delivered to them. The problem is compounded when we are not advised of your new address when you move and the Postal authorities do not put your new location on the returned mail. Yes, not all mail is automatically forwarded when you move.

Please check your mailing address on this issue and advise Judith as soon as possible of any errors, no matter how trivial they may seem to you. Please also tell us of your new address when you move.

struction, and is described as a building quite moderate in its dimensions and plain [sic]; yet it stood for more than sixty years in its unfinished condition and is said to have been at last destroyed by the British troops during the Revolutionary War. The fact that as late as 1729 it is spoken of as being in such a state of repairs as to render it questionable and unsafe for religious services strongly indicates its existence long before 1703, the latest record now available, and confirms the statement of its being the first house in the county of Somerset used for the worship of God. As has been said above, it is entirely probable that this church was organized by Dominie Bertholf. In 1703 a group of persons subscribed the amount of 10 lbs. (sic), 16 s. and 6 d to pay the expense of a minister from Holland; but no pastor was secured until 1720. [Ed. This was Dominie Theodorus J. Frelinghuysen.] In the meantime this little church sent out two colonies, establishing from itself the churches of Six Mile Run in 1720 and the First of New Brunswick in 1717."

The location of the first church structure cited by Pastor Keator appears to conflict with that given in 225th Anniversary of the Six Mile Run Reformed Church, published by the Church on November 17, 1935. On page 9 is stated, (emphasis in italics added): "At Three Mile Run, on land which is now part of Elm Ridge Cemetery, the first church building used by this congregation stood." This is the source of the statement made in the Spring Nieuwsbrief that the first structure was on an "old graveyard" now known as Elm Ridge Cemetery. Voorhees Station is a short distance from the Elm Ridge Cemetery and they clearly are not in the same location. Did Elm Ridge Cemetery acquire the Three Mile Run Cemetery between the early 1900's and 1935?

Dr. Richard H. Steele, Pastor of the First Reformed Dutch Church in New Brunswick, the congregation referred to by Pastor Keator, said in his Historical Discourse, Celebration of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Reformed Dutch Church, New Brunswick, 1967, page 22: "The first building erected within the bounds of our congregation for religious purposes, was about one mile and a half beyond the limits of the present corporation of New-Brunswick, on the lot at the east of the burying-ground, near the residence of Abraham J. Voorhees." June also sent us a photocopy of the appropriate pages from Dr. Steele's book.

It certainly appears that the first structure of the Six Mile Run Church was near the Three Mile Run Cemetery and that we erred in the last issue of the Nieuwsbrief. The question as to whether Elm Ridge Cemetery absorbed the Three Mile Run Cemetery remains outstanding. It also appears that Abram or Abraham J. Voorhees lived in the latter part of the 19th Century.

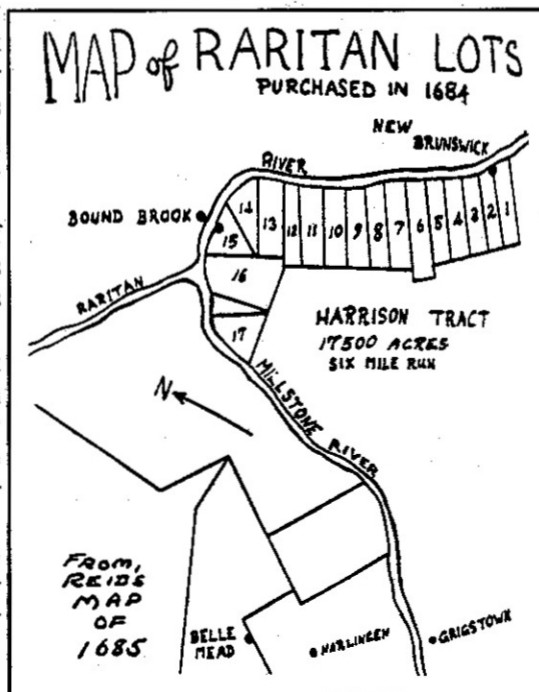
The Old Path

We mentioned in the Spring issue that the name Six Mile Run, as well as Three and Ten Mile Runs, derived their names from the points where different streams crossed "the old path" relative to the "fording-place" at the Raritan River. This information was from Snell's History, page 808. June advises that this path, which was carved out by the Indians, is now Route 27 which runs through Franklin Park and in front of the Six Mile Run Church. June wrote, the path "ran between New Brunswick (Inians' Ferry) and the falls of the Delaware River at Trenton. ... The old name for New Brunswick was Inians' Ferry. 'A grant was given to John Inians and his wife, Dec. 2d, 1697 to ferry passengers across the river, for which privilege he was to pay the annual rent of five shillings sterling.' The road continued to Rocky Hill and on to Trenton." The quotation within the quote is from page 18 of Historical Discourse, by Dr. Steele. He goes on to say, "The place was called 'Inians's Ferry' or 'The River' for about eighteen years."

Abraham J. Voorhees

Let us look at Abraham or Abram J Voorhees again. June wrote, "Abraham J. Voorhees, for whom Voorhees Station was named, was the son of Jacques Voorhees and Dinah Stryker (Lucas line), born 20 November 1794/5 and died 19 May 1880, interred in Voorhees-Nevis Burying Ground, South Middlebush. On 13 December 1817, he married Idah Van Liew, the daughter of Johannes D. Van Liew, [and] his cousin Ann Van Liew. They lived on Lot #1 of the Harrison Tract which had been Van Liew property". Elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief is an article on Voorhees Station that June sent to us. Voorhees Station is up Route 27 from the present Six Mile Run Church.

Harrison Tract #1 is depicted on the accompanying Map of Raritan Lots given to us by Russ Vail. The map originally appeared in the March 29, 1976 issue of the Courier-News of New Brunswick, page B-1. Forrest Clark, author of the associated article, said, "In November 1701, Frederick Van Liew purchased, with eight other early settlers, 10,500 acres of land in the Harrison Tract consisting of all of what is known as Franklin Township. Van Liew bought the land to the back of the Raritan Lots facing on the Raritan River and running all the way to the Millstone River and as far south as the present Middlebush on Amwell Road. The land stretched almost to Griggstown and the area of East Millstone. ... Each of these



continued on next page

lots, 17 in all, had one half mile fronting the Raritan River and extended back for two miles. ... In effect, nine families owned nearly all of what is Franklin Township in Somerset County ...”

Abraham Voorhees

June said: “The Abraham Voorhees who was killed in the accident with the train along with Peter A Voorhees was a nephew of Abraham J. Voorhees (my g. g. uncle and g. g. uncle). His parents were Jacques J. Voorhees and Ann van Liew of South Middlebush. He was born 7 April 1826, married Sarah Bronson in 1847 and had one child, Sarah Bronson Voorhees who married John S. Clark. Abraham lived on the east side of South Middlebush Road near the Six Mile Run brook and was called “Brook” Abraham to avoid confusion with his uncle Abraham J. He is buried in Willow Grove Cemetery according to his obit in one of Garretson Hageman’s diaries at Rutgers’ Alexander Library.” A biography of “Brook” Abraham’s (Abram) brother, Frederick Van Liew Voorhees, is in this issue of the Nieuwsbrief.

Peter A. Voorhees

The Spring issue mentioned that Peter A. Voorhees, an active member of the Six Mile Run Church, was killed in a train accident on 9 March 1883. June sent us photocopies of pages 64 and 65 of Pastor Keator’s book that contains the following, additional paragraph supplied:

“As a testimony of the respect in which these ... brethren were held we quote the following record from our church minutes: ‘It is with profoundest sorrow that we record the death of our late associates, Elders Peter A. Voorhees and Abraham Voorhees, who were killed at a railroad crossing near Weston, N.J., Friday, March 9th, 1883, while travelling on an important mission for the church. By the death of Peter A. Voorhees the church loses one of her strongest human supports. Having attained the age of eighty years, during fifty-six of which he has been in her membership, the present generation of officers and members found him already actively engaged upon the scene upon their first coming into service, and have never known what it was to lack the support which his Christian sagacity, courage and uprightness yielded. Throughout the entire community he was respected and



SIX MILE RUN CHURCH TODAY
Route 27, Franklin Park NJ
Photo by Manning Voorhees

beloved. He was honored by his fellow-citizens with numerous public and private trusts. He took an active interest in denominational affairs, and filled many important positions in the various boards, being probably more generally known throughout the Reformed Church than any other layman in the county. He was also prominent in the temperance and Sunday School work of the State. The same conscientious faithfulness distinguished the performance of his smallest private duties and marked that of the more public ones. His spiritual fervor and zeal for Christ’s cause seemed to be without fluctuation.

“By the death of Abraham Voorhees the Church loses another of her best sons. Upright, wise, progressive, liberal, noblehearted, he was a bright example of Christian manhood. His memory will always be cherished with a peculiar fondness by his friends, for the uniform brightness and gentleness of his demeanor, which smoothed away so many of the asperities of life and made him a favorite of young and old. In the removal of these trusted Elders, in such a startling manner, and while engaged in official service, we recognize the work of the chastening hand of God laid upon us as a Church, and we earnestly call upon all the members to humble themselves before God, as we ourselves also do, to renew their covenant with Him, and to pray that this affliction may be sanctified to the whole congregation.”



---CUT HERE---

ABSENTEE BALLOT

A. I, _____
hereby authorize the following ballot to be voted for me at the 65th Annual Reunion of the Van Voorhees Association on October 11, 1997

FOR PRESIDENT

[] Manning W. Voorhees [] Other

FOR SECRETARY

[] Patricia J. Zander-Carlo [] Other

FOR TREASURER

[] Calvin Krapf [] Other

Please return your Absentee Ballot to Scott T. Voorhees for receipt not later than October 4, 1997. A photocopy of this ballot will be accepted.

Signed: _____

VVA #: _____

MISSING COUSINS

Mail for the following members has been returned as "undeliverable" with no forwarding address. If anyone knows the whereabouts of these cousins, please contact Judith Van Voorhis and she will correct our records. Thank you.

Ms. Margaret Voorhees W. Fleming, 7613 Elbow Lane,
Philadelphia PA 19119

Mr. John Voris Heyse, 307 Warrenton Drive,
Silver Spring MD 20904-2850

Mr. Everett W. Voorhees, 120 Trumble MDWS,
Kalispell MT 59901-6575

Mrs. Barbara G. Ellis, 101 Rainbow Drive, #4253,
Livingston TX 77351-9300

◆

MILESTONES

Thomas Van Voorhis Mansell, of New Castle PA, was called on March 1, 1997 ... he would have ninety years old on the following May 6th ... we have knowledge of one descendant, his son, Charles Y. Mansell, of New Castle PA.

Edward J. Voorhees, of Seaford NY, passed on July 18, 1997 ... he was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Army Air Corps as a Captain in the 72nd Bomber Squadron and was Superintendent and a teacher with the Seaford schools for thirty years ... he leaves his wife of fifty years, Hazel, and children Kathleen Ann, Mary Ellen, Eileen Brooke, Edward J. and Thomas G, and eight grandchildren. (Source: New York Times, July 20, 1997)

◆

NEW MEMBERS

Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson, reports that the following cousins have joined the Association as of July 2, 1997. We welcome all of you and look forward to talking with you at our October Reunion.

Patricia Lee Heisler, Altamonte Springs FL +

Nancy Merilla Faner, Hidden Hills CA

Rebecca Brooks Petrucci, Arlington VA

David B. Norris, Savannah GA

Bret Thomas Voorhees, West Des Moines IA

William H. Voorhees, Dunedin FL

Darrell B. Kitchen, Springfield OH **

H. Cullen Topence, Canon City CO

Terrie Coons Robbins, Gloversville NY **

Karen S. Voris, Los Angeles CA

Eleanor Gail Ingram, Skyland NC ***

Eunice H. Young, Sandy UT

Philip H. Voorhees, M.D., Midlothian VA

John G. Voorhees, Houston TX

Elizabeth Keeton DuBois, Bremerton WA

M. Eileen Leneschmidt, Gaines MI **

Shelly Eileen Miller, Plummer ID

Patricia G. Ewers, Spokane WA

Eleanor Hugg Casagrand, Wayne NJ

Hiedi Compher, Mattawan MI

William Alfred Leser, Rolling Meadows IL

Mary Ellen "Mell" White, Bucyrus KS **

John L. Kitchen, Greensboro NC

Stephen W. Leavenworth, Concord NH **

Marion Stone, Mason City IL

Mark M. Voorhees, Brooklyn NJ ***

Judith Voorhees Trope, Cranford NJ ***

Jane Voorhees Blitz, Belle Mead NJ ***

Alan W. Voorhees, Convent NJ ***

The following cousins became Life Members. The Association thanks each one for their generosity and outstanding dedication to our Family.

Charles C. Voorhis, 3rd, Nashville TN

Robert S. Voris, Wilmington DE

Clyde Voorhees, Jr., Portola Valley CA

George Gilbert Voorhees, Lexington KY

Sandra L. Conniff, San Jose CA

Ronald G. Van Voorhis, Murrysville PA

Donald J. Voorhies, New Iberia LA

Robert Allan Voorhis, Richmond VA

Key ** Sustaining Member

*** Contributing Member

+ Additional Contribution

◆

PAUL VORIES McNUTT

We asked in the January 1997 Nieuwsbrief if anyone can supply genealogical data on Paul Vories McNutt. He was a Governor of Indiana, contender for the Presidency in 1940 and a dean at Indiana University. Jack Vorhies, of Greenwood IN, responded: "Paul V. McNutt is not a biological Voorhees. He was born in the county I reside in, Johnson County Indiana. He was born in the small town of Franklin, near me. His middle name Vories came from a neighbor and friend of theirs. This county has had a multitude of our cousins who came from Kentucky. I have not checked into which one he was named after."

Thank you, Jack. Dr. Jack M. Vorhies, 4211 Waterbrook Way, Greenwood IN 46143.

◆

THE NIEUWSBRIEF

The deadline for the January 1998 issue is November 14, 1997. Please send Manning Voorhees material about your family, genealogical research, interesting historical items, news clippings about the Family and so forth. Let's make the Nieuwsbrief as interesting as possible. Thank you.

◆

THE RARITAN AND ITS EARLY HOLLAND SETTLERS

June Wick sent us a photocopy of this first page article of the July 1873 issue of Our Home, a literary publication written by Judge Ralph Voorhees and edited by A. V. D. Honeyman. The original had several black stains that rendered the text difficult or impossible to read - [?] marks these places. Please see Through a Dutch Door and The Van Voorhees Family, both published by the Van Voorhees Association, for revised lists of the children of Albert and Steven (second paragraph below) based upon research done subsequently to that of Tunis G. Bergen. Minne Voorhees ("Minna" in this article), the first Garret Voorhees and husband of Neltje Nevius, and Peter G. Voorhees are grandfathers of Manning Voorhees.

There is, perhaps, no family from Holland whose genealogy can be so reliably traced as that of the Voorhees'. Numerous letters of correspondence between the first settlers here of that name and their friends in the Old World have been collected and preserved by Hon. Tunis G. Bergen, of Bay Ridge, Long Island, to whose researches I am much indebted for the genealogy of this family. [Ed. These letters and others may be found in Through a Dutch Door.]

According to a custom prevailing in former times of adopting the Christian name of the father as the surname of the child, (1) the great ancestor of the Voorhees family was an Albert of Holland, who was born probably in the early part of the 15th Century. His children were Stephen, Courten, Hendrick, Jan, Hilbert, Wiavil, Gertian, and Mergin. Stephen Courten Van Voorhees, or Voorhuysen, son of Courten Albert, settled in Flatlands and married Wellimpie Roeliff's, whose father was the great-great-great-great grand-father of the writer. Stephen Courten emigrated from Reinen, in the province of Drenthe, in April, 1660, in the ship Bontekoe (Spotted Cow), Peter Luccasson, Captain. Van Voorhees means "from before Hesse." Hesse [Ed. Hees.] is a place about fifteen minutes travel south of Reinen [Ed. Ruinen.], in Holland, from which the name Van Voorhees is derived. His children were Mergin, Hendrick, Lucas, Jan, Albert, Abram, Alehe and Janetje.

Lucas Stephen Van Voorhees, son of the first emigrant, and an elder in the Church of Flatlands, had children named Elbert, Jan, Stephen, Janetje, Wellemetje, Anna, Catrinche, Elsha, Albert, Roeloff, Minna, Abram, Rensche and Lucas. (2)

Minna Van Voorhees, son of Lucas Stephens, was born in Flatlands, married, April 25th, 1717, Antie, daughter of Garret Pieterse Wyckoff, and removed to New Brunswick, N.J., about the same year. He afterward was married to Lemitje Stryker, widow of Jacob Wyckoff of Six Mile Run. Three of his brothers removed with him - John, Roeloff, Albert; also two sisters - Catrinche and Wellemetje. The four brothers were all members of the Reformed Dutch Church in that city at its organization in 1717. [Ed. 1717 is the year that a group split from the Three Mile Run Church to form the New Brunswick Church. The remaining parishioners formed the Six Mile Run Church.] Minna lived in 1723 in the vicinity of New Brunswick, owning a large tract of land on the south side of that city, including the mills on Lawrence's

Brook. His residence was on what is now known as the College Farm. His descendants intermarried with the most prominent families of the city, viz: - the Neilsons, Abeels, Bennets, Schuylers, Van Deuersens, Hazards, Pools, etc. His children were Lucas, Garret, Minna, John, Abram, and Katrina, as found in his will, made September 20th, 1733, and recorded at Trenton.

Minna had so extraordinary a memory, I have been told, that, after hearing a sermon, he could retain it sufficiently well to repeat nearly the whole of it. He was a "helper" of the pastor as a catechist of the children. When the Reverend Theodorus J. Frelinghuysen, from hard travel and fatigue, after a journey to distant field of labor, was so indisposed as not to be able to proceed with his lecture, even when the people had assembled to hear him, he was known to say: "Minna, you perform the services." Minna would then conduct all the exercises, including the lecture.

One of Minna's sons, Abraham, married a daughter of Abram Van Doren, Sheriff of Somerset, and at an early date removed to Ohio.

Garret, [son of Minna], lived and died in Middlebush, in the house where John P. Smith now lives, and was the owner of the farm of 183 acres connected with it. A part of the house was built of and now contains [?] of the timber of the old mill of [?] Voorhees, which stood on the Six Mile Run Brook. He was born, May 13th, 1720, and married, first, Neltje Nevius, daughter of Petrus Nevius of South Branch. She died Dec. 9th 1780. He married, second, Sarah Stothoff, of Six Mile Run, in 1783, and died a short time after. Minna, son of Garret, born Sept. 30th, 1745, lived at Neshanic, and died June 8th, 1779. Roeliff, born Feb. 11th, 1748, married Maria Suydam, lived at Six Mile Run, and died, July 23rd, 1811.

Garret, son of the first Garret, was born, March 4th, 1750, married Feb. 8th, 1776, Matilda, daughter of Rem Ditmars, of Millstone, lived at Middlebush, rendered good service in the Revolutionary War, when his premises suffered much from the depredations of the British army, removed to Six Mile Run in April, 1820, and died Oct. 18th, 1823. His widow, Matilda, died March 21st, 1827. [Ed. Note should be made that O'Connors Restaurant now operates on the site in Middlebush where Garret's house and farm buildings were burned by the British. See the discussion about O'Connors with respect to the optional dinner at the October Reunion.] The other children of the first Garret were: Ann, who was born July 10th, 1752, married Abraham Beekman, May 3d, 1776, lived at Griggstown, and died May 25th, 1817; Catrinche, who was born Dec. 27th, 1754, and died Nov. 26th, 1764; Peter [G.], who was born May 7th, 1758, married Margaret [Mary] Boice, was a ruling elder in and a liberal supporter of the Reformed Church in New Brunswick, lived in Middlebush, and died on the old homestead; Neltje, who was born in 1760, and married Brogun Van Doren (an elder in the First Reformed Church at Somerville, who lived at Pluckamin, where he died, and was the father of Mrs. John Hardcastle of Somerville, and William Van Doren of North Branch, both late deceased;) and Catalina, who was born

May 21st, 1764, married John Van Doren of Millstone (father of Dr. Garret Van Doren), and lived at Bound Brook.

The children of Garret Voorhees and Matilda Ditmars were the following: Garret, born Nov. 22d, 1776, died March 23d, 1777; Lena, born March 11th, 1778, married Peter Voorhees, lived at New Brunswick, died Jan. 28th, 1827; Nelly, born May 27th, 1780, never married, died at Middlebush, Feb. 18th, 1810; Jane, born Sept. 13th, 1782, married Richard Manley, (3) lived at New Brunswick, and died Sept., 1845; Garret, (4) born Nov. 5th, 1784, married Sarah Whitaker, lived at Mine Brook, Somerset County; Dinah, born May 11th, 1787, never married, lived with her brothers at Mine Brook; Ann, born Sept. 24th, 1789, married Samuel W. Scott, lived in Yates Co., New York; John G., born Jan 17th, 1793, married Rebecca Van Derveer, lived at Fairview, Illinois, died March 31st, 1859; (5) Ralph (the writer), born June 20th, 1796, married, November, 1819, Sarah Van Cleef, daughter of John Van Cleef, of Six Mile Run; and Maria, born October 20th, 1798, married Daniel Polhemus, (6) lives now at Fairview, Illinois.

Maria, a daughter of Peter [G.] Voorhees, (son of Garret, first), and widow of Frederick F. Van Liew of Middlebush, is residing with her daughter, Eliza Ann, widow of William Cracken, at Batavia, Illinois. Minna, her brother, owns and resides upon a farm in the same vicinity, and Dennice, her son, is at Aurora, Illinois. Ellen, an elder daughter of Peter [G.] Voorhees, married Isaac S. Miller, who owned and conducted a manufactory with his brother at Little Falls, this State, subsequent to the War of 1812. John A. Miller, one of Isaac's sons, lives at Prospect Park, Newark, N.J., and another, Ezekiel, at Champaign, Illinois. [Ed. Children missing from this listing are: Seyche or Cynthia, Sarah, John Peter, Carolina or Cathelina, Garret P. and Ann Beekman.]

(1) In Norway until four years ago the inhabitants had no surname! But then the Government compelled its adoption.

(2) Anneka Jans, after the death of her husband, Dominie Bogardus, went on a trip to Holland, and while there one of her daughters, who accompanied her, married a Voorhees. Surely, we have a title to old Trinity!

(3) Their deceased son, John, labored for thirty-five years as pastor in the congregations of Manheim, Saddle River and Passack, N.Y. Ellen married Rev. Cornelius Wyckoff, of White House, now deceased. He was pastor of the Reformed Church in Rochester, New York, from 1841 to 1865, and was stationed for a short time at High Bridge, N.J.

(4) One of his sons, Samuel, resides on the homestead, and Nathaniel, Cashier of the Clinton Bank, and one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Hunterdon County, is at Clinton.

(5) His widow died April 1st, 1873. One of their sons, Matthew, served as Captain in the late War. [Ed. The Civil War.] John G. was one of the most active founders and ruling elders of the Reformed Church at Fairview, of enlarged liberality, and a true friend of the poor.

(6) He now ranks as one of the neatest and most practical farmers in that section of the State - a reputation possessed by nearly every Polhemus who is an agriculturalist.

GENEALOGICAL RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

We all know about the importance of (and how monumental) Florence Christoph's work on organizing the genealogical information of the Family from our collection of sixty odd years. But what happens after Florence has finished extracting the material from an old letter or membership form? Suppose another researcher wanted to look at that reference. How would he or she locate it? The answer is that they would not unless Florence just happened to remember the item. We are starting to lay out and design a document retrieval system. The goal is to be able to look at a citation in the genealogical data base and be able, in a systematic and reliable way, to find the document. We also want eventually to produce an inventory of our holdings. A short discussion and demonstration of our progress to date will be presented at the October Reunion. This is scheduled for 10:15 A.M.

Written by Judith Van Voorhis, who volunteers many hours each week to help Florence with the work for Van Voorhees Family in America at Florence's home. Judith's address is listed in Who's Who.

WHAT'S WITH THE COUSINS ?

Father Bill Lydecker celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his ordination as an Episcopal priest on December 15, 1996. The celebration was at St. Paul's Church in West Middleburg NY. Heartiest congratulations, Bill. We wish you well with your work for God. Bill is Chairperson of our Genealogical and Historical Committee. His address is in Who's Who.

Source: de Halve Maen, The Holland Society of New York, Winter 1996 issue.

Sergeant Tim Voris, of the Petaluma CA police, was in the news this past Spring with the death of a Chico State University student who consumed the drug GHB and alcohol. The student, who was 21 years old, probably succumbed to the effect of these two substances taken together. Tim said that GHB is readily available in the college town. While sale of the drug is illegal, Tim said its ingredients can be found on the black market and a recipe to make it is on the Internet. The popularity of GHB may be due to an incorrect report that actor River Phoenix died from an overdose of it. [Ed. That must be a classic example of reverse logic!]

Thanks to Robert B. Hamilton, of Santa Rosa CA, for sending us a clipping from the April 22, 1997 issue of the Press Democrat., Santa Rosa CA.

Alan. M Voorhees, of Alexandria VA, donated an extremely rare work of Thomas Jefferson to the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond VA. The pamphlet, A Summary View of the Rights of British America, was printed anonymously in Williamsburg in 1774 because it was presumed to contain ideas that the British crown would not welcome. Eventually, Jefferson's authorship became known and the pamphlet was reprinted under his name. Only nine copies

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FARMHOUSE DEMOLITION WILL REMOVE THE LAST TRACE OF VOORHEES STATION

This article, with its title, is from "Hindsight" by Jessie Havens in the November 1980 issue of the Somerset Messenger Gazette. June Wick kindly sent a photocopy to us. Voorhees Station is on Route 27 north of Six Mile Run and just a bit north of Three Mile Run Cemetery.

The last trace of what was once known as Voorhees Station is soon to disappear; the home of Abram J. Voorhees himself appears doomed to demolition.

A handsome, substantial house, it well expresses the pride and confidence Voorhees must have felt at his good fortune in having the railroad run through his back field, for in those days railroad and bonanza were almost synonymous.

His was not to know or care about the monopolistic machinations of the railroad builders, an unholy alliance formed by Ashbel Welsh and Hamilton Fisk, rivals who found mutual advantage in joining forces to gain control of transportation across New Jersey. Having merged the Camden and Amboy and New Jersey Railroads they were bent on cutting into the competition of the Delaware and Raritan Canal. What better way than to short circuit canal business by running a rail link from New Brunswick, the canal terminus, to East Millstone, a flourishing town which had sprung up on the middle reach of the canal.

Voorhees deeded a piece of his land to the United N.J. Railroad Company in July 1859, and almost certainly the house which stands beside the railroad's crossing of the New Brunswick-Princeton road (N.J. Route 27) was built with the money he realized from the sale. An unpretentious kitchen wing behind it was doubtless his earlier home.

One can imagine Voorhees anticipating how his fine new house would be the hub of development which must surely spring up around a railroad station. But it never came to be.

Had the Civil War not started just then, events might have gone differently. Then again, the railroad moguls may have found their interest well served by proceeding as they did, for it was about this time traffic on the Delaware and Raritan Canal began to decline. Its fall in freight tonnage is generally ascribed to coal strikes in Pennsylvania, severe droughts in New Jersey and damaging local floods without mention of the Millstone and New Brunswick Railroad.

Regardless which deserved credit, the canal began having trouble, and in 1870 the Legislature approved a takeover of the waterway by the joint railroad companies henceforth to operate as the United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Company. And thus the canal was destined to a slow death.

That same year however, there was renewed activity on the railroad branch because with monopoly won, the joint venture was again threatened by competition. This time it was the Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad (Reading) proposal to cross western Somerset County. To preclude it an extension of the Millstone line was pushed through to Harlingen, Stoutsburg, Hopewell and Trenton. But it was all to no avail, after losing money for 10 years that line known as the Mercer and Somerset Railroad was abandoned.

The Millstone and New Brunswick Railroad continued

to operate as a spur of the Pennsylvania. But it was not a road of any consequence. And after the big Fleishman distillery relocated from East Millstone to Poughkeepsie about all it had left to haul was passengers, providing through service to New York via four trains a day.

Substantial homes along the quiet village streets of East Millstone and Middlebush attest to the attractiveness of this convenience. But at Voorhees and Clyde, another crossroads stop, nothing materialized. Where no one was, no one else wanted to be, it seems.

Well, almost no one. After the turn of the century, 1914 to be exact, Voorhees' big house gained a new lease on life. It had been sold after his death to hay and grain merchants who used it for storage, and let it lapse into dismal disrepair. But when the Seidler family bought it, they lovingly restored its former dignity.

Coming from Newark they brought in their train a host of relatives and friends who jaunted out by train for weekends in the country. And the daughter of the house, Miss Bertha Seidler, became one of the handful of daily commuters who boarded the cars each morning at Voorhees, until the day in the '30's when she was the only one who appeared with an objection at PUC hearings on abandonment of the service. After that she was obliged to ride the bus.

Although the railroad never brought development to Voorhees the automobile age did. During World War II, New Brunswick overflowed and those least fortunate made do with crackerbox homes beyond the city line. Franklin's town fathers have since followed through by declaring this blighted area an industrial zone.

As a result an attenuated railroad spur line still functions, shunting freight cars to Franklin industries. And where the little Voorhees station once stood, there are now the great hoppers and silos of Phillips Concrete Co. ready mix plant.

Miss Seidler, who lived on here through her retirement years despite the changed environment, died last month, and her home has been acquired by Phillips Concrete Co. who have no use for the building only the land.

In another location this fine century-old, two story, five bay farm house would be viewed as a real estate find. It is well preserved and well worth preserving. But chances are it will fall to the bulldozers before long.



NEW WORLD BOOK OF VOORHEES, ETC.

In earlier issues of the Nieuwsbrief, we discussed the solicitations of Halbert's, in Ohio, and the Family Information Center, in Colorado, to sell you their compilations of information about the Voorhees Family. Please review our comments. Some members reported recently that they have received sales material for the publications. The effort to these publications continues.



OPTIONAL TOURS AND DINNER AT THE OCTOBER REUNION

After observing the Voorhees cemeteries (see below), if you should do so, and visiting the Buccleuch Mansion, which we hope you will do unless you wish to continue your genealogical research at the Workshop in the Six Mile Run Church, we suggest that everyone join together again at O'Connors restaurant for dinner. The restaurant is located on Amwell Road in Middlebush, strategically between the nearby cemeteries, at one end, and the Mansion, at the other end. O'Connors is located on the site of Garret Voorhees' home that was burned by Lt. Col. Simcoe in the Revolutionary War. The story was related in the Spring Nieuwsbrief. A part of the restaurant utilizes the home that Garret rebuilt after the War, although it is not identified as such, unfortunately. Nonetheless, the site is an historical one for the Family and will continue our theme of the Reunion. The meal cost is \$18.50 per person including sales tax and gratuity, but excluding alcoholic and soft beverages. There is a minimum of fifteen people. Please indicate your choice of entree on the Reunion reservation form. Dinner also includes salad, bread, potato, vegetable, ice cream or sherbet, and coffee. The Program Committee will appreciate receiving separate checks for the dinner at O'Connors and the Reunion luncheon at the Church.

There are several cemeteries in the vicinity of the Six Mile Run Church that were burying grounds for our Family. The Church is on Route 27 and along this highway are the Elm Ridge Cemetery and the Three Mile Run Cemetery. A short distance from the Church, along South Middlebush Road, are the Pleasant Plains Cemetery, Voorhees-Nevius Burying Ground and the South Middlebush Cemetery. The Middlebush or Cedar Grove Cemetery, is off Amwell Road, which commences at the end of South Middlebush Road. The area encompassing these cemeteries is not large, although it may seem to be from this description.

We suggest that you observe these old burying grounds from your car or the street during the afternoon of October 11th. A map showing the locations of the cemeteries will be available and we hope to provide listings of the Voorhees' who are interred in each cemetery. We do not suggest that you enter the cemeteries or the adjacent areas. Deer ticks may be in the grass and any overgrowth. Thus, there is a danger of acquiring Lyme Disease unless you are appropriately attired, which is not practical for the agenda of the day. We were told about one person's Lyme Disease problems as the result of a visit to one of the cemeteries - and no one would want to replicate that situation.

Subsequent to the article on the South Middlebush Cemetery in the Spring Nieuwsbrief, we were advised by the Chief Ranger for the D & R Canal area (the Cemetery is owned by the State of New Jersey) that the Cemetery has been cleared and it is possible to walk in it. Some of the stones were said to have fallen. We looked from our car at the entrance on South Middlebush Road after hearing this news, but we were not appropriately dressed for entering the Cemetery. The entrance on South Middlebush Road has not been cleared.

The Buccleuch Mansion in New Brunswick was built in 1739. It was occupied by British soldiers during the Revolutionary War. The structure is well preserved and has period furnishings from the 18th and 19th Centuries on its three floors. The Jersey Blue Chapter of the DAR maintain the Mansion and it is owned by the City of New Brunswick. It will be opened especially for the Van Voorhees Association on Saturday afternoon, October 11th, during the hours indicated on the agenda for the Reunion. Normally, the Mansion is open only on Sunday afternoon excluding the winter season. Therefore, we must know approximately how many plan to visit the Mansion. A check box is included on the Reservation coupon.

The various cemeteries are on a line to the Buccleuch Mansion. You can observe the cemeteries from your car and continue on to the Mansion, after which you can back-track 4.5 miles to O'Connors for dinner to conclude an interesting day of Voorhees Family history.

What's With the Cousins --continued from page 11

of the Williamsburg edition are known to exist and Alan's donation is said to be "the only one that survives in its original state." A Summary View is also said to be "a direct precursor of the principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence."

Thanks to Don Vorhis, of Midlothian VA, who sent us the Winter 1997 issue of History Notes, published by the Virginia Historical Society, from which the quotations are taken.

FREDERICK VAN LIEW VOORHEES

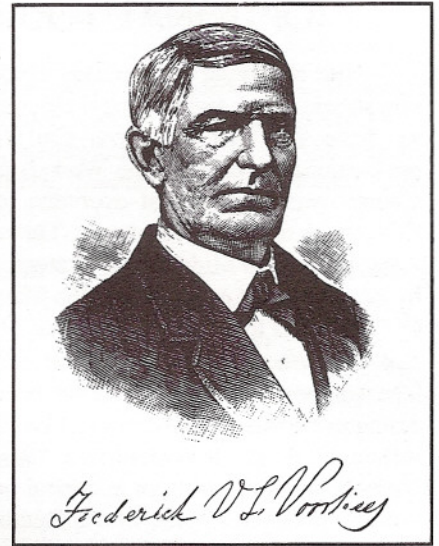
This article and portrait are reproduced from History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, by James P. Snell, Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, 1881, following page 800. We thank Russell Vail, of Lakehurst NJ, for loaning his volume to us.

Frederick V. L. Voorhees is a descendant of Koert Voorhees, of New Utrecht and Gravesend, L.I., from which place his great-grandfather, Jacques, came and settled in Franklin township, Somerset Co., where John Voorhees now resides. His grandfather, Jacques, resided on the old homestead. Married Dinah Stryker, of the same place, who bore him children, - viz., John, Jacques, Abram, Cornelia, wife of Dr. Pomeroy, of Utica, N.Y., and Ellen, wife of Lewis D. Hardenbergh, of New Brunswick. Only Mrs. Pomeroy is now living. His wife died May 10, 1831, aged sixty-three years. Jacques, father of our subject, born March 27, 1792, on the old homestead, married Ann, daughter of Frederick Van Liew, and Ann Rapplevea, of Three Mile Run, of Franklin. She was born March 15, 1795, and died at the age of seventy-five years. Their children were Jacques, born Oct. 18, 1815; Matilda, wife of John Demott, born Sept. 8, 1817;

Frederick Van Liew, born March 22, 1820; John, born April 23, 1822; and Abram, born April 7, 1826, all living. The father was a farmer through life, a member of the Dutch Reformed Church at Six Mile Run (now called Franklin Park), and died on the old homestead where he spent his life, Sept. 21, 1828.

Frederick V. L. Voorhees spent his minority at home on the farm, and received a liberal education in the district school and at a boarding school in New Brunswick, N.J. It was during the memorable time of the tornado in June 1835, that he was away at school in New Brunswick. After the death of his father his mother carried on the farm, and in this way kept the family together, and not only taught her children the value of labor and economy, but gave them such an education as she could afford. Mr. Voorhees married, Aug. 20, 1845, Eliza T., the eldest in a family of five daughters of Abram C. and Eliza (Houghton) Beekman, of Hopewell, N.J. She was born on June 24, 1823. Her father died Feb. 24, 1877, at New Brunswick, and her mother died at her old home, Aug. 2, 1864, aged seventy-three years. Mr. Voorhees purchased a farm near Blackwell's Mills, in the township of Hillsborough, containing one hundred and sixty acres, in 1844, upon which he has since resided.

He has not been active in politics, yet interested in all matters in any way adding to the prosperity of the people and the establishment of our government upon a firm basis. He was formerly identified with the Whig party, and naturally espoused Republican ideas upon the formation of that party. He



took an active part in the construction of the Millstone Railroad, running through the township of Franklin. His children are Abram B., Elizabeth H., wife of Eugene Nevius, of Franklin, Jacques J., Ida Van Liew, Frederick A., and C. Beekman.

VOORHEES WORD PUZZLE

by Carole Cole, Bountiful UT --Last Names

ACKERMAN
ALIEE
AMERMAN
BAERNSE
BAIRD
BALDWIN
BANTA
BARKELO
BENNET
BERGEN
BLOM
BLUE
BODINE
BONGAERT
BRINKERHOFF
BROMLEY
CAMMEGA
CHOPSON
CLARKSON
CORNELL
CORTELYOU
COUWENHOVEN
COVERT
CUTLER
CUYPER
DEMAREST
DENNIS
DITMARS
DOREMUS
DOTY
DUBOIS
EDGERTON
FILKIN
GARRETSON
HEGEMAN
HENDRICKSE
HOAGLAND
HOFF (X 3)
HOPPER

HUBBARD
JANSEN
KERSHOW
KIERSEN
KIP
LA ROUX
LAKE
LAROE
LEFFERTS
LONGSTREET
LUYSTER
MARSELIUS
MC CREARY
MESIER
MEYER
MINNES
NAGEL
NEVIUS
OUKE
PARELJE
POLHEMUS
POST
PRATT
QUICK
REMSEN
RUTAN
SCHENCK
SCHUYLER
SEBERING
SICKLES
SIMPSON
SLOTT
SMITH
SPRINGSTEEN
STAATA
STOOTHOFF
STRYKER
SUTPHEN
SUYDAM

TAELMAN
TERHYUNE
THORP
VAN ARSDALE
VAN BRUNT
VAN COUENHOVEN
VAN DAM
VAN DOREN
VAN DUYCKUYSEN
VAN DUYN
VAN DYCK
VAN GELDER
VAN GIESEN
VAN HARLINEN
VAN HOUTEN
VAN NOSTRAND
VAN NUIS
VAN NUYS
VAN ORDEN
VAN PELT
VAN VLIET
VAN VOORHEES
VAN WINKEL
VANDER BEEK
VANDER BOGART
VANDER SCHURE
VANDER VOORT
VANDERBILT
VANDERVEER
WESTERVELT
WILLEMSE
WILLIAMSON
WINTER
WIZZELPENNING
WOOD
WYCOFF
ZABRISKIE

VANDUYCKUYSENBANTAERUHCSREDNAV
AACKERMANOSTERRAGWOODOATSSNZAA
NPNESMERETLUOCIFILKINPMEEUENMN
HIOCOUBENHOVENNOOEEFPMNBMDIED
AKYODENNISNITBRNRBSEENEERWRE
RSIOBUDITMARSERRAGSRNRGERRODMR
LKCIUQVANVOORHEESSHIABABIONLAV
IBAIRDHENDRICKSETTONJJOANDAANO
NTLIBREDNAVANDYCKRWKKGEGIVBOO
EODNALGAOHEGEMANEUEALERBLUEBR
NLAROENYEMORYDERREARNKVNLPROHT
EDNARTSONNAVANPELTTHURASOEBGMA
SPDVVVANDERBEEKZEBROARNEMDRTAE
EOLAAAABSUIVENAGELEFTQDARRORRL
NSANNNCNVANWINKELKVFAUOEEAMESM
NTDBGDVAAGIESENWOROB AIRTKBLAEA
IAEREEANNRQUIREPYUCUTLERYBEGLN
MUMULNRDOSVWHOFFGOTSONGRUYNIT
KOANDVVOUNMDOANDAENIDOBYTHMOUO
GYRTEELNYINVANNUYSWILLEMSENBSR
BLELREIONE BWILLNBESTNAENUYHRET
FESABRUMEYERMOEHUGNIYNSTREFFEL
FTTKUTTTLUYSTERSNIBORWEIMLLHEE
OROEHSCHUYLERUTANSTTARPNAADV
HOBBERGENOSPOHCLARKSONUSELWDORP
TCORNELLSCHENCKYNATPARELJERYOE
OALIEECOOKRTINGFODRGNIRBESZMUT
OYRAERCMZEQIQFFOKCYWLAROUXZES
TPOLHEMUSPIMUMULSIRBAZABRISKIE
SICKLESIMPSONSSUTPHENOSMAILLIW
VANMUTREGDEDGERTONESREIKIERSHA
BARKELONAV MVNESEIGNAVNETUOHNAV

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Dues through December 1997 were payable January 1, 1997. Please check membership desired and note any change of address. Mail to the Treasurer: Mr. Scott T. Voorhees, 147 Grand Boulevard, Emerson NJ 07630. 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

[] Junior \$ 2.00 [] Regular \$ 10.00 [] Sustaining \$15.00
[] Contributing \$30.00 [] Life \$200.00

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

[] Regular \$7.00 [] Junior \$2.00

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