



Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

Our Internet site is very successful. As of April 16, 1998, we had 4,744 visits or so-called "hits" since March 16, 1966. William Voorhees, who initiated and maintains the site, has commented that the Association might add "International" to its name. Indeed, we have attracted visitors from several foreign lands and have found two cousins in England and the Netherlands who are descended from Albert Coerts, the brother of Steven.

We grandchildren have moved in every direction and distance from Flatlands. The Association has members in each state of the Union. Our Internet bulletin board and guest book afford fast and economical conversation among the cousins who enjoy this facility. Since close to half of the American population currently have computers, it may be presumed that about half of our members are able to talk with one another through this medium. Our virtual distances have shrunk dramatically. If we believe the pundits, the Internet will be woven into cable television and our communications will be advanced further. Needless to say, Steven Coerts would be flabbergasted. Many of us today are astounded.

There is something missing, however. Our "high tech" success is not a substitute for face-to-face reunions and good fellowship. The Annual Reunion each October offers an excellent opportunity to talk with your cousins and to renew past acquaintances. Adrienne Haney a few years ago initiated the annual gathering of the New England Region. Her efforts have been very fruitful and clearly point to the need for regional groups in other parts of the land. Perhaps you can organize an annual affair for your geographical region. Don't be bashful — if nothing is ventured, nothing will be gained. Please, send me a note.

Manning W. Voorhees

CALENDAR
Executive Committee Meeting
October 10, 1998
Annual Reunion,
October 10, 1998

ALBERT COERTS' GRANDSON CONTACTS US FROM ROTTERDAM

"Hello to all my cousins in the US! I'm Roelof Gortemaker from Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and a descendant ... of Steven Coerts' brother, Albert Coerts, who stayed at Voorhees." Roelof put this note in the guest book of our Internet site on February 22, 1998. Thus, we found a second cousin and descendant of Uncle Albert. Peter Newcombe, in England, contacted us in the same manner last September. Peter's descent from Albert was discussed in the lead article of the last Nieuwsbrief.

In subsequent Email conversation with Roelof, he set forth his genealogy which is a little complicated. Many marriages were among a small group of families and between descendants of Albert. Roelof said: "Most of these people were dairy farmers who stayed at the same farm for many generations. It occurred that both mother and father were descendants of a same ancestor, Albert Coerts van Voorhees." The data in parentheses show the number of lines that the particular person is descended from Albert. For instance, Roelof is descended through seven lines, thus (7x). Note might be made that Albert, Coert Alberts and Wessel Coerts are discussed in Through a Dutch Door. A diagram of Albert's branch of the Family is on page 86 of that publication. Roelof supplied new information for Wessel Coerts and his immediate family. Roelof's genealogy follows:

First Generation

Albert Coerts van Voorhees, brother of Steven Coerts van Voorhees. Albert is recorded as the tenant of Voorhees from 1614 to 1660, although his son, Coerts Albert, also shared the tenancy starting in 1642 (see page 23, Through a Dutch Door).

Second Generation

Coert Alberts van Voorhees (1x), married Swaentien Willems.

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Third Generation

Wessel Coerts van Voorhees of Veeningen (1x) married Aaltje Freriks Veeningen in 1677. Roelof said, "Wessel Coerts moved to a farm in Veeningen near Zuidwolde, Drenthe, owned by his wife. So he changed his name from Voorhees to Veeningen, as was the Drenthian custom in those days."

Fourth Generation

Frerik Wessels Veeningen (1x) married Jantje Jans in 1710.

Fifth Generation

(a) Wessel Freriks Veeningen (1x) married Hilligje N. N. in 1735. (b) Hilligje Freriks Veeningen (1x) married Jan Jans ter Haar in 1733 at Ter Haar, IJhorst.

Sixth Generation

(a) Lucas Wessels Veeningen (1x) married Roelofje Klass Mulder in 1772. (b) Annigje Jans ter Harr (1x) married Evert Harms Kloeten in 1767 at De Kloeterij, De Wijk. (c) Trijntje Jans ter Haar (1x) married Wessel Roelofs Lankhorst in 1779 at Lankhorst, IJhorst. (d) Jan Jans ter Haar (1x) married Claasje Middelveld in 1774.

Seventh Generation

(a) Hilligje Lucas Wessels Veeningen (1x) married Harm Everts Kloeten (1x) in 1794 at De Kloeterij. (b) Roelofje Wessels Lankhorst (1x) married Frederik Meeuwes Weide in 1813 at Lankhorst. (c) Roelof Jans ter Haar (1x) married Zwaantje ten Oever in 1815. (d) Annigje Jans ter Haar (1x) married Geuchien Egberts ten Kate in 1810 at Den Kaat, Avereest.

Eighth Generation

(a) Evert Harms Kloeten (2x) married Klaasje Willems Piperij in 1822. (b) Aaltje Harms Kloeten (2x) married Arend Warners van Schot in 1836. (c) Hilligje Freriks Weide (1x) married Albert Hendriks Westenbrink in 1838. (d) Jacoba ter Haar (1x) married Lukas Jans Stapel in 1847. (e) Egbert Geuchies ten Kate (1x) married Zwaantje Huizingh.

Ninth Generation

Lucas Everts Kloeten (2x) married Margje Alberts Westenbrink (1x) in 1869. (b) Warner Arents van Schot (2x) married Barta Hooijer in 1868. (c) Roelof Lucas Stapel (1x) married Annigje ten Kate in 1878.

Tenth Generation

(a) Klaasje Lucas Kloeten (3x) married Albert Roelofs Gortemaker in 1894. (b) Hilbert van Schot (2x) married Grietje Poortman in 1901. (c) Zwaantje Stapel (2x) married Roelof Bakker.

Eleventh Generation

Roelof Hendrik Gortemaker (3x) married Bertha van Strik in 1930. (b) Aaltje van Schot (2x) married Derk Bakker (2x) in 1936.

Twelfth Generation

Roelof Willem Gortemaker (3x) married Zwaantje Grietje Bakker (4x) in 1960.

Thirteenth Generation

Roelof Hendrik Gortemaker (7x) married Ellen Rutgers in 1987.

Roelof said, "Most family names were derived from the names of the farms they owned: van Voorhees, ter Haar, Weide, ten Oever, ten Kate, van Schot, Westenbrink, Huizingh, van Strik came from farms with the names Voorhees, Ter Haar, Weide, Luttkien Oever, Den Kaat, Het Schot, Westenbrink, Den Huizen, Het Strik. Sometimes it was the other way around: the farm De Kloeterij was named after the Kloeten family, Piperij after Piper, Hooijerij after Hooijer. In some cases, the family name came from the neighbourhood the family lived in: Veeningen, Lankhorst, Stapel. The last category are people who weren't farmers so they were named after their skill: Mulder (miller), Bakker (baker), Gortemaker (miller or grocer).

"In the south-west of Drenthe, many old farms were owned by the monastery of Ruinen, later Dikninge, De Wijk, founded in the twelfth century. This was the case with Voorhees, Ter Har, De Kloeterij, Weide and Het Schot. In 1641, after the Reformation, all these farms were sold. Another inhabitant of Hees, Geert Jans van Middlehees, also one of my ancestors (see pages 89 and 90, Through a Dutch Door), bought at least two farms: Weide at Ruinerwold and Ter Haar at IJhorst.

"My family, Gortemaker, lived at the same farm in Ruinerwold since 1818. I left Drenthe in 1978. I am an architect living in Rotterdam, 'the greatest harbour in the world' (at least, that's what we Dutch believe!). I have four children: Mattijn Willeke (1987), Roelof Willem (1989), Ella Aline (1991) and Lucas Albert (1993)."



Thank you, Roelof, for sharing your genealogy with your American cousins. It is exciting to become acquainted with our relatives "back home"!

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Virginia V. Ward

Ginny Ward has resigned from the Executive Committee and from her role of assisting members with their genealogical research. Ginny served the Association for many years and made innumerable contributions to our success. Thank you, Ginny, everyone will miss you.

Margaret A. Ramsey

Margaret Ramsey has also resigned from the Executive Committee and as Line Representative for the Aeltje Line. Margaret always had ideas and comments during our deliberations and we will miss her. Thank you, Margaret.

Bogert Cox Holly

Bogert Holly agreed to be our new Treasurer and will fill the unexpired term of Calvin Krapf. He is a retired executive of Bell Atlantic and worked with financial reports during his career with this communications company. We welcome Bogert to the Executive Committee.

Tomas A. Van Voorhies

We thank Tom Van Voorhies for volunteering to be our Treasurer pro tem for the past several months. Tom did a magnificent job and we are very appreciative of the time and effort that he expended in this responsibility.



FIRST NAMES

ELIYZAHTEBASILECARGYSBERTANTJE
 BEBARENTJENYTTLEADAMOTHNORAALY
 UBARNARDUSTEVENCADSLUSMICUEHET
 AELTJEEISACINIKKASIGKRSRKANBDL
 SEMAJLLUCASIEETLLEVBLEAAENCHELE
 MDAADLLUKEJIEASEEELNANCYCLOVISA
 PUYEKHEAATBSLCCORNELIUSAZHTIAEA
 HRRLAENWBESEUTACATRYNTIESTEIIJL
 KTUNISHILOTNJTAADRIANTIERTLRST
 ARSTUNRGTOCAERTITISKOELINGIBALJ
 TERREGEAIJAHEYRADRIAENTJEROME
 HGARRETLEVTPHNIRNEILANNETJENEH
 AEFAROELOFHEEAEIVNREIERNDMETJE
 REMARREGRIETIENACEOTNJANNACHEN
 IRAAEGEJUKRSLNTEEHNTETEEHALMI
 NTRTREOKLBIATIJNIPAALEJKHATEIH
 EJGMMGPAULNCJRETTEENLNKECRAJEG
 LEREEEAFFTEAEANJETLDINCIEBLTAR
 ITERJRERPHNNRHDEMSEREAITLAIPNE
 AETDEMFEIEGNETIIMTIEJJRYLKNMEM
 SIILMEOQTTPAMAVOAEETWNMDRILAERI
 ERAESCTIUVATICATLYNTIENAHWXLTC
 KJTNIHHELHGFIAEDDENYCBAAEMAZYLAH
 LJMANJKIOPQESRSSITTTUVHENDRIKA
 EBEHPECSJAQUESEZNSISNYHCENNEWNE
 TARREGIBATWXEMNAAEYNOAARAZADBL
 RLKJEBREMIIRHANCDACAGRNTESFMEDC
 UCMRPEATINONORAHPIHQUNTTUIRNMST
 ORRKERMXXNJOHNBHERWVAMARESARAHU
 CIKCTTYZAABCDADUEFGHRHIIJKREL
 TSCIRIPHANNAHOJSAMUELINPOMNTNM
 ETIRUEDEBORAHOOOQRANELADGAMIRH
 RIRRSNCNBZXYXHWVCFUTCAASIRSNYA
 ANDEHELENARABRABDOROTHYDETFUGI
 GANDLMAILENROCNGILBERTLKJHISHM
 RNEELAURENSOPQERSKTUUVBOCAJWXE
 ABHTEBAZILEANOSKRALCSICNARFZYR
 MLEHLINSEYTTIEJTIRRAMLUCRETIACE
 PETERNELLESFOLORDDRAHCIRULIFFJ
 REINSCHEEFMELLIWILLIAMHCIREBYW
 YZXAWBVCULUCRESYNMOLPKQJRISHTG

AALTJE
 AARON
 ABBY
 ABIGAIL
 ABIGAL
 ABRAHAM
 ABRAM
 ADAM
 ADRIAN
 ADRIAENTJE

ADRIANTIE ANNACHEN
 AELTIE ANNATIE
 AELTJE ANNETJE
 AELTYE ANTJE
 AELTYN ARIAENTJE
 ALBERT AUKE
 ALETTA BARBARA
 ANDREW BARNARDUS
 ANN BARRENTJE
 ANNA CATALINA

CATHARINE
 CATHERINE
 CATIE
 CATLYNTIE
 CATRIENTJE
 CATRIENTJEN
 CATRYNA
 CATRYNTIE
 CATTRINA
 CLARKSON
 COERT
 CORNELIA
 CORNELIUS
 COURT
 CRISTINA
 DANIEL
 DAVID
 DEBORAH
 DERRICK
 DOROTHY
 EGBERTIE
 ELDERT
 ELEANOR
 ELENA
 ELIAS
 ELISABETH
 ELIZABETH
 ELLEN
 ELSJE
 EMIE
 EVA
 FEMMETJE
 FOLKARD
 FRANCIS
 GARRET
 GEERTJE
 GEORGE
 GERMECHJE
 GERRAT
 GERRET
 GERRIT
 GERTIE
 GERTRUDE
 GILBERT
 GRACE
 GYSBERT
 HANNAH
 HANS
 HEILTJE
 HELENA
 HELENE
 HENDRICK
 HENDRICKJE
 HENDRIK

HENRY
 HILLECHEN
 IDA
 ISAAC
 JACOB
 JAMES
 JAMINA
 JAN
 JANE
 JANETIE
 JANNETJE
 JANNITJIE
 JAQUES
 JENNEKE
 JEREMIAH
 JEREMIAS
 JEROME
 JOCOBUS
 JOHANES
 JOHANNAH
 JOHANNES
 JOHANNIS
 JOHN
 JOOST
 JORES
 JURIAN
 KATHARINE
 KATRENA
 KOERT
 LAMMETIE
 LAURENS
 LENA
 LENA
 LISBET
 LOVISA
 LUCAS
 LUCRESY
 LUCRETIA
 LUKE
 MAGDALENA
 MAKE
 MARGARET
 MARGARITA
 MARGRETIA
 MARGRIETJIN
 MARICKE
 MARIA
 MARREGRIETIEN
 MARRITJE
 MARTHA
 MARTIN
 MARTINUS
 MARY
 MARYTIE

MERGHIN
 METJE
 MICHAEL
 NANCY
 NEELTJE
 NELLIE
 NICASIE
 NIKKASI
 OLIVER
 OSSELTJ
 OUKEN
 PAUL
 PETER
 PETERNELLE
 PETRUS
 PHEBE
 PIETER
 RACHEL
 REINSCHE
 REM
 RICHARD
 ROELOF
 ROLOFSE
 RULIFF
 RULUF
 SAMUEL
 SARA
 SARAH
 SEYTIE
 SIMON
 STEPHANUS
 STEPHEN
 STEVEN
 STEYNTIE
 STYNTIE
 SUSANNA
 SUSANNAH
 TUNIS
 WENNECHYN
 WILHELM
 WILLEM
 WILLEMPTJE
 WILLIAM
 WYBERICH
 YORUM
 ZACHARIAS
 ZACHEUS

VAN VOORHEES INTERNET SITE

Our Internet site now includes back issues of the Nieuwsbrief with a rolling blackout of the last twelve months. Inclusion of the newsletter is intended to further our educational role pursuant to the Internal Revenue Act and to induce site visitors to join the Association. The listing of Association officers and committee members in Who's Who is deleted for the Internet rendition of the Nieuwsbrief. Tom Van Voorhis, our membership chairperson, reports that about one-half of our new members derive from our Internet site.

WHAT'S WITH THE COUSINS

Mara Lynn Vorhees, granddaughter of Marjorie and Roy Vorhees of Grosse Point MI, married Gerald Easter on June 7, 1997. Both are temporarily working in Russia, where Mara is facilitating joint ventures for Russian and American companies, and Gerald is studying relationships between states of the former USSR. Catherine Ann Vorhees is Marjorie and Roy's first great grandchild and the daughter of son Roy IV, who married Amy Grulikowski in 1995. Roy IV, known as Sunnie, is a CPA with Coopers & Lybrand in Detroit. Now, the story gets better — he and Amy expected a son around year-end 1997. Grandpa Roy III says, "I have not dictated that he be named Roy V." The proud father and grandfather read this poem at Sunnie's wedding:

*The first Roy Vorhees, with initials R. V,
Was called by his friends, Harvey!
With two Roy's in the family blood,
Roy Jr. was Buddie or just plain Bud!
Next generation, the game's the same;
Butch became Roy III's name!
Fourth time around, bet your money;
Roy IV is called Sunnie!
We have another Roy in the lobby;
Robert Roy is known as Robbie!
So! Do we have too many Roy's?
There's still more nicknames out there, Boys!!*

Jim Voorhees, of Evansville IN, recently retired from his medical educational administration career. He and Nita traveled east for a long vacation and attended the 1997 Reunion at Six Mile Run. They visited Pittsburgh and Paradise PA, Cape May NJ, Baltimore and Kentucky State Park. Jim took a great picture of several members of the Executive Committee which is included in this issue of the Nieuwsbrief.

David R. Voorhees, of Hopewell NJ, was named "apple tossing champion" at a joint meeting of the South River Branch of The Holland Society of New York and the Netherlands Society of Philadelphia on October 4, 1997. David is very active with producing our new genealogy, Van Voorhees Family in America. (Source: de Halve Maen, Fall 1997.)

Richard A. Scudder, of Cherry Hill NJ, was pictured in the February 19th issue of The Suburban and Wayne Times with other members of the Netherlands Society of Philadelphia at their annual meeting and dinner at Bryn Mawr College. Dick is membership chairperson of the Society.

Dr. John R. Voorhis, III, of Tequesta FL, received the Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement from The Holland Society at its annual meeting and dinner on April 3rd. John is a Trustee of the Society and was "honored for his dedication and valuable services to the Society." (Source: meeting notice of the Society.)

Ken Voorhis, of Tremont TN, is the Director of the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. He was invited to a conference during December 3-12, 1997 held in the Siberian city of Abakan. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is used as a model for a series of natural parks and refuges in Siberia. Ken discussed topics ranging from citizen participation to wildlife to environmental matters. He visited Siberia in 1991 and 1994 on similar missions. (Source: The Knoxville News-Sentinel, December 29, 1997 with thanks to Nancy Taylor, of Knoxville TN).

Keep a sharp ear on your radio for Rachel Van Voorhees and her classical harp music. She's terrific.

OUR FAMILY SILVERSMITHS, revisited DANIEL VAN VOORHIS

We discussed Daniel Van Voorhis in past issues of the Nieuwsbrief. He was and is a very famous American silversmith of the late 18th century. Daniel's work is on exhibit at the Winterthur Museum, Winterthur DE. A member of the Association kindly sent us the following excerpt about Daniel — for which we say, thank you. It is reprinted with permission from Ian M. G. Quinby, *American Silver at Winterthur*, pages 313-15, (Winterthur, DE: Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum, 1995), which is available from the Winterthur Bookstore, telephone 800-448-3883. Daniel was the son of Cornelius Van Voorhis and Neeltje Hoagland (Cornelius, Coert, Steven Coerts).

"1751-1824

- "New York, New York, w. ca. 1772 75
- "Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, w. 1775 82
- "Princeton, New Jersey, w. 1782 84
- "New York, New York, w. 1784 87
- "Bennington County, Vermont, w 1787 88
- "New York, New York, w. 1788 1803

- "Van Voorhis, Bayley & Coley, w 1784 85
- "Van Voorhis, Bayley, Coley & Cox, w. 1785
- "Van Voorhis & Coley, w. 1786 87
- "Van Voorhis & Schanck, w. 1791 93
- "Van Voorhis & Son, w. 1797-1805

"In spite of his peripatetic record, Daniel Van Voorhis is considered to be primarily a New York silversmith. He was born in Oyster Bay, probably apprenticed to a New York silversmith, and was living in the city in 1775 at the time of his marriage to Catharine Richards. Later that year he moved to Philadelphia. Almost immediately, and for the next several years, his name begins to appear in the accounts of Thomas Shields, who advanced him cash and paid him for making silver objects. Van Voorhis first appears publicly as a silver-

smith in his own right in 1780. Late in 1782 his move to Princeton coincided with the temporary relocation of Congress from Philadelphia to that city. In May 1784 he stopped briefly at New Brunswick before moving on to New York City. Once back in New York he formed a series of partnerships that make his career as a silversmith a complicated one. On December 18, 1784, the firm of Van Voorhis, Bayley & Coley announced itself as 'Real Manufacturers in Gold, Silver, Jewellery, &c. at No. 27 Hanover Square' and claimed 'the Goods they manufacture will be sold on much lower Terms than those imported, and will be found equal in point of Workmanship.' The firm was augmented in 1785 by the addition of a man named Cox. Both Simeon Bayley and Cox dropped out, but Van Voorhis and William Coley continued until at least 1787. They joined with the Rupert Mint in Vermont, making copper coins in 1787-88, another short lived venture. Garret Schanck became Van Voorhis's business partner in 1791-92. By 1797, the firm was Daniel Van Voorhis & Son. With Van Voorhis's appointment as weigh master of New York City in 1803, the silver business became a sideline carried on with the help of his partner and stepson Daniel Richards Van Voorhis. The latter's death in 1805 probably ended the elder Van Voorhis's career as a silversmith; he died in Brooklyn in 1824.

"Van Voorhis's work is mainly early neoclassical, with hollowware that is urn shape or oval in plan and engraved with shields and swags. A substantial number of pieces survive and can be found in various public collections. A flat top tankard made for Robert Lenox of New York is at the New York Historical Society. It is surely one of the last examples of the form made in America.

"References:

"Gottesman, Arts and Crafts, 1777-94, pp. 74-77.
"Rita S. Gottesman, "New Delvings in Old Fields: The Partnerships of Van Voorhis," Antiques 39, "no. 6 (June 1941):314 15.
"Jones, Old Silver, pp. 152, 337, 460. 509.
"John Marshall Phillips, Barbara N. Parker, and Kathryn C. Buhler, The Waldron Phoenix Belknap, "Jr., Collection of Portraits and Silver (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1955), pp. "94 95. Prime cards, Winterthur.
"Von Khrum, Silversmiths, p 132.
"Williams, Silversmiths of New Jersey, pp. 117 22.
"Waters, "Precious Metals Trades," pp. 73 74."

ABRAHAM VOORHEES

The September 1996 Nieuwsbrief briefly discussed Abraham Voorhees and incorrectly inserted "Van" in his name. The source of the "Van" was Noel D. Turner, American Silver Flatware 1837-1910. We also noted that Connie Walterschied, of Doniphan MO, was seeking the artisan of a silver spoon with the hand mark "A. Voorhees." (see the Fall/September 1995 Nieuwsbrief). Connie, it would appear that the following Abraham is the artisan of your silver spoon.

Curtis R. Buttenheim, of Dennis MA, wrote to us in September 1997 as follows: "In one issue ... there is reference

to Abraham Van Voorhees as a silversmith active about 1840. I am wondering if the 'Van' is an error. At that time my grandfather, Abraham Voorhees, of New Brunswick was a silversmith. He did not use the 'Van' in his name. An antique dealer sent me some years ago a chapter from a silver-oriented book, the chapter dealing with silversmiths of New Jersey. This chapter includes my grandfather. My mother had a handsome fluted sugar spoon which I grew up with. Curtis sent us the following biography and accompanying portrait from History of Union and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey, edited by W. Woodford Clayton, Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, 1882, pages 671-2. Note might be made that the present tense used in the article is circa 1882. Thank you, Curtis, for your information and correction.

"Abraham Voorhees. — Steven Coerte, or Coerten, the common ancestor of the Voorhees or Van Voorhees family of Long Island and New Jersey, emigrated with his family from Reinen, Drenthe, in the Netherlands, in April, 1660. This family by old letters can be traced back one generation in the Fatherland, and, like most of the early settlers, had no proper surname, adopting as such the name of the village or locality from whence they emigrated. Minne Van Voorhees, son of the emigrant, born in Flatlands, L. I., married, April 25, 1717, Antie, daughter of Garret Pieterse Wyckoff, removing to New Brunswick, N. J., the same year. He afterwards married Lemtje Stryker, widow of Jacob Wyckoff, of Six-Mile Run. Three of his brothers came to New Jersey with him, viz.: John, Roeloff, and Albert, and also two sisters, Catrinche and Wellentje. From these have sprung a numerous family, whose descendants are settled largely in Hunterdon, Somerset, and Middlesex Counties, N. J., and members of this family are found among the most substantial business men, and prominent in the professions and legislation of the State and country. [Ed. Note should be made that the foregoing genealogy is

not correct. Minne Lucasse Van Voorhees was the son of Lucas Stevens Van Voorhees, who was the son of Steven Coerts. Certain spellings are also not correct. See The Van Voorhees Family, Vol. I, pages 53 and 73.]

"A l b e r t Voorhees, recently a judge of the Court of Appeals and also Lieutenant-



Abraham Voorhees

Governor of Louisiana, traces his ancestry to Middlesex County, N. J., and Daniel W., United States Senator from Indiana [Ed. See the article on Daniel Wolsey Voorhees in this Nieuwsbrief.] is the great-grandson of Stephen of New Jersey. A detailed history of the Voorhees family may be found in the history of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Lucas L. Voorhees, and his maternal grandfather, Isaac I. Voorhees, both residents of Somerset County, near Millstone, who reared large families of children. Isaac L., father of Abraham Voorhees, married Abigail, daughter of Isaac I. Voorhees, who bore him the following children: Lucas, John, Abraham, Isaac, Peter, William, Sarah Ann (wife of Cornelius Gulick), Jane (wife of William Williamson), Joanna (wife of Garret Garretson), Matilda (second wife of Garret Garretson), Emma (wife of John Garretson), and Maria (wife of Jacob Veghte), all of whom settled in the vicinity of their birth after their marriages. Isaac L. Voorhees was a farmer by occupation, and resided near Six-Mile Run, in Franklin township, Somerset County. He was much interested in church matters, and reared his family under the influences of the Reformed Dutch Church at Six-Mile Run, now Franklin Park, in which he served as precentor for over thirty years.

"Abraham Voorhees was born near Millstone, Somerset Co., N. J., Sept. 18, 1817, and spent his boyhood in the routine of attending the district school and on the farm. At the age of fourteen he went to Morristown, N. J. and for four years was an apprentice in learning the trade of silversmith. In 1835 he came to New Brunswick, and established himself in the watch and jewelry business, which he carried on successfully for twenty-five years, during which time he became identified with many of the local enterprises of the city, and has ever taken an active part in church, school, and kindred interests.

"Upon the failure of the State Bank in New Brunswick in 1873, Mr. Voorhees was the first one to make a move to resuscitate the bank, an institution which had stood for sixty years, and he contributed liberally, giving twenty-six thousand dollars towards this object.

"At the alumni dinner the year before the centennial celebration of Rutgers College, in 1870, Mr. Voorhees was the largest donor to the centennial fund, and President Campbell, in referring to the matter in an address delivered on that occasion, said, "The work in reality began last year at the alumni dinner, when Mr. Abraham Voorhees, of this city, presented a property worth ten thousand dollars to the college. That gift was the first fruit, and for all time Mr. Voorhees has the honor of being the first subscriber to the centennial fund." The continuation of this subscription by others raised a fund of one hundred and five thousand dollars.

"Abraham Voorhees was baptized by Rev. James S. Cannon upon the occasion of the first sermon preached in the Reformed Church at Franklin Park after its erection, and from early manhood has been engaged in Sunday-school and church work. For twenty-nine years he was superintendent of the First

Presbyterian Church Sunday-school in New Brunswick, and energetic and faithful in the discharge of his duties, always entering upon and continuing his services with fervor, zeal, and earnestness. In connection with the same church he is one of its ruling elders. His first wife was Jane, daughter of Jesse Jarvis, of Rye, N. Y., who died April 8, 1875, leaving one surviving child, Willard Penfield Voorhees, who graduated at Rutgers College, studied law with Judge Woodbridge Strong, of New Brunswick, and is practicing his profession in that city. His present wife is Mattie J., daughter of John Van Nostrand, of New Brunswick, by whom he has two children, — Howard Crosby and Florence Eliot." [Ed. Curtis said in his letter that two children were omitted: Marian Raymond, born in 1883 and Curtis' mother, and her younger brother, Clifford Irving born in 1885, although Curtis is not certain of the latter date. Curtis also mentioned in another letter that Willard Penfield Voorhees was an excellent musician — "I can hear my mother saying, '... and he was the finest organist in the State of New Jersey.'"]

PHOTOS AT THE NEXT REUNION

We have thirteen excellent color photographs of nineteen pieces of Daniel Van Voorhis' work and three color photographs of two spoons of Abraham Voorhees' craftsmanship. The hand marks of both artisans are pictured. These photographs will be displayed at the October 10th Reunion.

1997 REUNION

Some Executive Committee members at the 1997 Reunion: left to right, Father Bill Lydecker, David Voorhees, Manning Voorhees, Glee Van Osdol-Krapf, Scott Voorhees and Judith Van Voorhis. Photo by Jim Voorhees. Thank you, Jim.



MISSING COUSINS

Mail was returned marked "undeliverable" for the following member. This situation results when we are not informed about a member's new address and the forwarding time with the postal authorities has expired. PLEASE send us your new address when you move. Hopefully, someone will be able to tell us the new address of our missing cousin. Otherwise, he will be lost forever.

Thomas R. Voorhees, 4 University Road, Apart. 103, Cambridge MA 02138-5729. Thomas is a Life Member.

MORE ON DANIEL WOLSEY VOORHEES

by Jean Dones

Jean Dones is a frequent contributor to the Nieuwsbrief. Thank you, Jean.

Though known for his oratorical ability, Daniel Wolsey Voorhees (see the January 1997 Nieuwsbrief) should also be remembered for his contribution in building the present Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Earlier the collection had been housed in the Capitol where the materials were crowded into corridors, attics, and the crypt under the Capitol Dome. Items were piled in the halls between the committee rooms and through the working space of each House. In 1882, it was even proposed that the Dome of the Capitol be raised fifty feet in order to secure additional space in and near the rotunda for the Library.

A design competition was held and the support of Daniel Voorhees was a key element as the building plans progressed.

In *The Tall Sycamore of the Wabash*, a 1936 biography of Daniel Wolsey Voorhees, Leonard S. Kenworthy wrote the following:

"To Daniel Voorhees the nation owes a debt of gratitude for the magnificent Congressional Library in Washington. He conceived the idea of such a building, took a paternal interest in it, guided its planning and directed its building. He served continuously on the Library committee from the 45th Congress, 1st session, to the 54th Congress, 2nd session (March 18, 1879 March 3, 1897). In the 46th Congress he was chairman of the Library committee. Then under the act of June 8, 1880, which provided for a joint select committee on additional accommodations for the Library of Congress, he served from its creation until he retired from the Senate, and during the greater part of the time was chairman. When the new building was completed, he felt just pride in the achievement, for he had dreamed of it, helped to plan it, and pleaded for it with all his eloquence. Surely a large share of the credit belongs to him."

Today in the First Floor Great Hall of the Library of Congress, a plaque on the central pillar commemorates Daniel Wolsey Voorhees. The inscription reads:

AS A MEMBER FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE,
ON THE LIBRARY, AS

CHAIRMAN FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF THE JOINT SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ADDITIONAL

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE LIBRARY, AND IN MANY ELOQUENT
PLEAS ON THE FLOOR

OF THE SENATE TOOK A LEADING PART IN OBTAINING THIS
LIBRARY BUILDING FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

When you may visit the Library of Congress, remember the contribution of Daniel Wolsey Voorhees!

Resources:

1. Kenworthy, Leonard S., *The Tall Sycamore of the Wabash — Daniel Wolsey Voorhees*
2. Goodwin, Charles, *Treasures of the Library of Congress*
3. Internet (thanks to the Reference Librarian)

Mark Willey, of Maquoketa IA, sent us an Email saying: "Did you know that Senator Daniel W. Voorhees is very famous for a speech he made on the floor of the Senate in 1888? He addressed Senator John J. Ingalls of Missouri about rich men's practice of buying substitutes from prison to serve for them during the Civil War: 'Liar! Scoundrel! You are the dirty dog!'" (Source: *Inside Congress*, Ronald Kesser, Pocket Books, New York, pages 62-63.) [Ed. Our cousin knew how to make his point!]

William R. Voorhees, of Bloomington IN, also sent us an Email: "Last week [November 3-8, 1997] I was in D. C. for a conference. My wife and I were wandering around the Capitol and around the corner from the Old Supreme Court Chamber (main floor, front entrance) was a plaque with Daniel Wolsey Voorhees's name on it. The plaque is right above the Masonic corner stone identifying the approximate place of the cornerstone that Washington laid." [Ed. Thus, there are two Daniel Wolsey Voorhees plaques to look for in Washington.]

Thank you, Mark and William.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new members to the Van Voorhees Association and hope to see you all at the October 10th Reunion. Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson, reported the following new members as of March 20th.

Deborah L. Rayfield, Midlothian TX

Benita Rae Van Cleave, Roanoke VA

Daniel Eugene Voorhees, Port Orchard WA

Richard J. Voorhies, Katy TX ***

David J. Vorhis, Elkton TN

Thomas Daryl Engle Jr., Woodbury MN

Robert Raymond Engle, Oklahoma City OK

Darin Hughes Engle, Atlanta GA

Velvajeane Bright, Sherman TX

Donald L. Smith, Laurel MT

Rhonda Gabehart Auld, Farmington NM

Evalyn Kay Demeaux, Hemet CO

Angela Nicole Vorhease, Texarkana AR **

Annette Marie Brehmer, Deer Creek IL

James William Vorhease, Texarkana AR ***

Teresa D. Vorhease, Texarkana AR ***

Danyel-Lee Ann Vorhease, Texarkana AR **

Vanessa Marie Vorhease, Texarkana AR **

Joseph Dale Coston, Colorado Springs CO

George Alfred Van Voorhis, West Yarmouth MA

John M. Voorheis, Robinson IL

Vanessa M. Midgett, Robinson IL

Dr. John H. Barker, Coldwater ONT CAN ***

Mary Ella Van Voorhis, Canyon Country CA

B. J. Kendrick, Venice FL

Daniel E. Vorhes, Pittsburgh PA

Gillian Coerte Blackman, Mountainside NJ ***

Doris Amelia Freyermuth, Easton PA

Robert Edwin Piper, Bakersfield CA ***

Lee V. Grove, Oxford MS

Marian Patricia Schomp, New Milford CT **

Aline L. Garretson, Mansfield PA
 Sheila K. Wolf, Charlotte NC **
 Christopher Van Voorhis, Leominster MA
 Jane Voorhees Kiss, Grand Junction CO
 Helen Platt, Hillsdale MI
 Stephen Coerte Van Voorhis, Perry NH
 Cody Allen Coates, New Hartford IA
 Kay Bebout, Farmers Branch TX
 Dr. Kenneth H. Gilmore, Tuscaloosa AL
 Terry L. Atwood, Helena MT
 Dr. Aileen Poole Koehler, Solana Beach CA
 Victor Ray McElroy, Ursa IL
 Bradley C. Van Voorhis, Bucyrus OH **
 Jane E. Voorhees, Northport NY
 James Bruce Voorhees, Scio OH

We also welcome our new Life Members and thank them for their strong support.

Jack Arthur Alan Voorhees, San Francisco CA
 Dr. John R. Voorhis, III, Tequesta FL
 Glee Van Osdol-Krapf, Tamaqua FL
 William D. Van Der Beek, Manasquan FL
 Alice D. Smyk, Binghamton NY
 Kym Voorhees Raque, Louisville KY
 Nicole Voorhees, Frankfort KY
 Ross T. Dunlop, Edina MN

Key: ** Sustaining Member
 *** Contributing Member

FLATBUSH CHURCH RECORDS

The Holland Society of New York has announced the availability of Records of The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatbush, Kings County, New York, Volume I, 1677-1720, translated and edited by Dr. David William Voorhees. Dr. Walton Van Winkle talked about the Records at the 1997 Reunion. The text of his presentation was in the January Nieuwsbrief. The cost is \$50.00 cloth until June 30th and \$60.00 thereafter. You may send your order to the Society at 122 East 58th Street, New York NY 10022. There is no sales tax. David is a member of the Association and will be our speaker at the 1998 Reunion.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Augustus Voorhees and the Relic of Pikes Peak —
 1858

General Alvin C. Voris of the Civil War
 The Dutch in the Americas 1600-1800

The deadline for the Fall Nieuwsbrief is July 13th. Please send Manning Voorhees interesting genealogical, historical and contemporary items about the Family, and indicate the publisher, its location and date of publication for excerpts from copyright material. Thank you.

VOORHEES HALL, HOPE COLLEGE

We have written in earlier issues of the Nieuwsbrief about the generosity of Ralph and Elizabeth (Rodman) Voorhees, who lived in Clinton NJ. The Spring 1997 issue listed many beneficiaries of their largess. Among them was Hope College in Holland MI. Lucille Nagelkirk, of Zeeland MI, attended Hope College and resided in the dormitory that Ralph and Elizabeth funded early in this century. Lucille kindly sent us the photograph of Voorhees Hall and considerable material about it and the College. She felt that more should be said about Hope College and the Voorhees gift — and we agree. The Spring 1997 issue also discussed the genealogy of Ralph Voorhees and his family history. Elizabeth Rodman's mother was Clarabell Woodruff Nevius.

Ralph and Elizabeth endowed two chairs, Greek and Latin, at Hope College with a gift of \$50,000. They then gave a \$100,000 annuity to the College, of which \$35,000 was to be used to construct a dormitory for women. Hope College was primarily a men's institution at that time, but this was to change. Voorhees Hall was constructed in 1907 at a cost of \$40,183 and could house 110 students. It was opened in September of 1907, at a formal dinner, and thirteen female students then moved into the structure. The dedication ceremony on the previous June 18th included an address by The Rev. Dr. Oscar M. Voorhees, founder of the Van Voorhees Association. Dr. Oscar "... outlined with great power the struggle and the final, glorious success of the Hollander." (quotation from the Commencement Issue, July 1907) Voorhees Hall was a women's dormitory until early 1969, when an electrical fire occurred and the building was declared to be unsafe as a residence hall. After minimal reconstruction, Voorhees Hall was utilized for faculty offices. It was renovated in 1979-80 at a cost of \$1 million and once again became a dormitory for women students. Lucille said that Voorhees Hall today "has the reputation of being the dorm where the 'scholars' like to live." It houses juniors and seniors.

Voorhees Hall bears a typically Dutch architectural design. The outer facade is red-orange Veneklaasen bricks, manufactured in nearby Zeeland. Hope College is affiliated with the Reformed Church of America. There are several Dutch families represented by the names of buildings on the Hope campus in addition to Voorhees: Van Vleck, Van Raalte, Nykerk, Maas, DeWitt, De Pree, Vander Werf, Van Wylen, and Van Zoeren, among others.

Reflecting both the religious values of Hope College and the tenor of the moment, the rules for living at Voorhees Hall in 1907 contrast sharply with today's setting. We quote:

"A Good Day at Voorhees Hall

"To rise at once when the bell rings, without waiting to ask whether I feel like it; to throw back the bed coverings over the foot rail; to take a cold sponge bath; to dress neatly and suitably; to open wide the window and breathe deeply; to start promptly for breakfast at the sound of the bell; to give a cheery greeting to those about me; to join sincerely in the prayer before and after breakfast.



"To go directly to my room, make my bed, and put things in order for the day; to go punctually to chapel, and join reverently in the service, lending my voice gladly to the hymn of praise to my Heavenly Father; to go forth with serene mind to face the responsibilities, the perplexities, the benefits, and the joys of the day. To be ever mindful of the high privilege of young womanhood; to waste no time in idleness or harmful gossip; to make the moments count for my advancement; to give heed to the instruction of all my professors, so that I may get the utmost possible benefit from my college course.

"To take a moment before lunch to tidy my hair and wash my hands; to go to lunch promptly; to eat leisurely and reasonably; to be courteous and agreeable to those near me.

"To spend the afternoon happily and profitably, to work while I work, and play while I play; to study earnestly during certain regular hours; to spend at least one hour out of doors, to take a long walk, to call on a friend, to do some helpful act; to waste neither time nor money; to attend promptly to the accomplishment of all necessary things.

"To dress attractively for dinner; to assist in maintaining an atmosphere of culture and refinement in the dining room, and during the social hour; to do my best to preserve quiet and profitable study hours; to heed cheerfully the regulations made for the benefit of the girls; to retire promptly at the appointed hour, thanking my Father in Heaven for a happy, useful day spent in His service."

Article based in part upon information in A Century of Hope 1866-1966 by Wynand Wichers, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids MI. Thank you, Lucille.

◆ MORE ABOUT ELIZABETH VOORHEES

Ralph and Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees also contributed funds to Jamestown College in North Dakota for a chapel and music building. This gift was listed in the Spring 1997 Nieuwsbrief and Ross Dunlop, of Edina MN, gave us some excerpts about the gift from A Prairie Saga, by Barend H. Kroeze, North Central Publishing Co., St. Paul MN, 1952.

The story relates the visit of Dr. Kroeze to Elizabeth Voorhees in her Clinton NJ home to discuss the need for a chapel on the Jamestown campus. He did not believe that his visit was successful: "He had often talked with her about the

college and had been singularly helped by her in his projects. What was wrong on this call he could not tell, but the conversation was all one sided — only his voice was heard, and in utter fatigue and despair, without a word from her relative to this building, he returned to New York with the conviction that his call had been a failure." (pages 81 and 82) The next day a check was delivered by mail to Dr. Kroeze's hotel room in New York. The chapel required two years to build. A photograph of the interior shows the many pipes of what must be a good size organ. (page 98)

Jamestown College was chartered in 1884 under the sponsorship of the Presbyterian church. It closed in the 1893 financial panic but was reopened in 1909 by the North Dakota Synod of the church under the leadership of Dr. Kroeze. It remains dedicated today to a Christian environment. Voorhees Chapel is shown on today's campus map. (Source: the Internet site of North Dakota, <<http://www.state.nd.us>>.)

It is interesting to note the church affiliations of Hope College and Jamestown College. Voorhees College in SC has a relationship with the Episcopal Church. Many of the beneficiaries of Ralph and Elizabeth's generosity listed in the Spring issue also show a religious connection.

Ross Dunlop is a frequent contributor to the Nieuwsbrief. Thank you, Ross.

◆ 1998 REUNION

The 1998 Reunion will be Highland Park NJ, which is across the Raritan River from New Brunswick. We will convene at the Reformed Church, where we have met before. Fellowship, coffee and Danish will be ready at 9:30 A. M. with our genealogical workshop. We hope to show one or more relevant videos. "Our own" Dr. David William Voorhees will be our speaker at 11:00 A. M. David will talk about the Voorhees Family in Leisler's Rebellion. He is an acknowledged expert on Leisler's Rebellion. You might re-read the feature article in the January 1996 Nieuwsbrief that discussed David's discovery of a letter co-signed by Coert Stevense on November 22, 1678 about the imprisonment of Leisler in Algiers.

A short business meeting will follow David's talk and then lunch. During the afternoon you can resume your genealogical work and fellowship or join the optional tour of the Cornelius Low House a few minutes away in Piscataway.

The Low House, pronounced like "cow", was built in 1741 and is a well maintained two and one-half story stone structure. After the Low family, it was the home for the Pool, Metlar, Voorhees and Strong families. The exhibit will be Life in the Raritan Valley in the 18th Century. It is both educational and interesting. An optional dinner will follow in O'Connor's Restaurant in Middlebush. We enjoyed dinner at O'Connor's last year, which is the site of Garret Voorhees' home that was burned by the British in the Revolutionary War.

A block of rooms has been set aside for the Van Voorhees Association at the Clarion Hotel and Towers (732-287-3500) for the evening of October 9th. The Clarion is in Edison, which is just down the road from the Reformed Church. The rate is \$79 plus tax and includes continental breakfast. We stayed at the Clarion in 1996. Lois and Manning Voorhees will host their annual reception on Friday night. The Clarion has tentatively blocked a private dining room for us that night where we can enjoy a "Dutch treat" dinner after the reception. You can spend Friday night at any nearby hotel, of course, as there is no obligation to use the Clarion.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Reunion weekend and call the Clarion or your hotel of choice for a reservation if you plan to arrive on Friday. Please say that you are with the Van Voorhees Association. More details will be in the Fall Nieuwsbrief.

◆ MILESTONES

Arthur Bennett Kouwenhoven, of Short Hills NJ, passed away on September 25, 1997 in his 93rd year ... he was a contract manager for Western Electric Co. and was very interested in the history and genealogy of the colonial Dutch ... Arthur is survived by his wife, Rose Anne, two sons, Arthur and Peter, two grandchildren and six great grandchildren. (source: de Halve Maen, Winter 1997)

John Daniel Mellon, of Woodland Hills CA, was called on October 18, 1997 in his 72nd year ... John was a chemical engineer who enjoyed researching his family lines ... he is survived by his wife, Marilyn Mellon.

Russell E. Vorhies, of Minatare NE, passed away on November 7, 1997 ... Russell was a veteran of the Korean War and lost a leg in that conflict ... his hobby was scale ship models and he was making a model of de Bonte Koe at the time of his death ... his brother, Larry Leon is a survivor.

John Harley Voorhees of Brielle NJ, died on November 9, 1997 in his 87th year ... he was an ex-Chief of the Brielle Volunteer Fire Dept., an owner of Twin Willow Market in Brielle and Voorhees Market in Point Pleasant NJ ... John's wife of 62 years, Ruby Thomson Voorhees, survives him ... he is also survived by a sister, Trena Voorhees, daughters Susan Montgomerie and Marilyn Hansen, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Paul Francis Voorhees, of Kalispell MT, passed away on December 10, 1997 in his 73rd year ... Paul's sister, Ruth M. V. Voelker, is a survivor.

Helen Voorhees Post of Stafford NY, was called in her 89th year on December 19, 1997 ... she was an inspector for Bausch & Lomb in Rochester ... Helen's first husband,

Milton Voorhees, died in 1948 and her second husband, Seward G. Post, passed in 1996 ... she is survived by a son, Carl M. Voorhees, three daughters, Frances Whalen, Katherine Voorhees, and Louise Tiede, two stepsons, four stepdaughters, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Edward Burnett Van Voorhees, Nashville TN, died on January 15, 1998 in his 77th year ... he was a graduate of Georgia Tech and served in the Navy during World War II ... Edward was in the warehouse and distribution business ... he is survived by his wife of 50 years, Lucile Blue Voorhees, a son, Edward Van Voorhees, Jr., two daughters, Lucy Van Voorhees, M. D., and Jeanne V. Ellis, two brothers, John H. Voorhees, Jr. and William S. Voorhees, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

William T. Archibald, of New Brunswick NJ, died on January 22, 1998 ... a survivor is his brother, John L. Archibald.

Lester Allen Van Voorhis, of McCook NE, was called on January 30, 1998 in 76th year ... Lester was a graduate of the University of Nebraska and served in the Navy during World War II and the Korean Conflict ... his last position was as manager of the McCook office of Edward D. Jones Investment Co. from which he retired in 1988 ... Lester is survived by Elizabeth Nelson Voorhees, his wife of 49 years, two sons, Steve Van Voorhis and David Van Voorhis, his sister, Delores Sutton and two granddaughters.

Stanley Brokaw Voorhees, Sr., of Hudson NY, passed away on February 20, 1998 in his 84th year ... Stanley is survived by his wife of 57 years, Margaret Gurisic Voorhees, and his niece, Norma V. Sheard.

◆ THEODORE ROMINE VOORHEES RESIDENCE

Onarga IL circa 1910

Paul Van Voorhees, of Honolulu HI, sent us this interesting photograph of his grandfather's house last Christmas. We thought that everyone would like to see this old Voorhees homestead. Paul's grandparents are the three figures next to the house, looking from the left of the picture.

Thank you, Paul, for sharing your ancestral home with us.



Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

VOORHEES WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

by Michelle L. Klauka, North Pole AK

E L I Y Z A H T E B A S I L E C A R G Y S B E R T A N T J E
 B E B A R R E N T J E N Y T L E A D A M O T H N O R A A L Y
 U B A R N A R D U S T E V E N C A D S L U S M I C U E H E T
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 S E M A J L L U C A S I E T L L E V B L E A A E N C H E L E
 M D A A D L L U K E J K E A S E E L N A N C Y C L O V I S A
 P U Y E K H E A A T B S L C O R N E L I U S A Z H T I A E A
 H R R L A E N B E S E U T A C A T R Y N T I E S T E I I H L
 K T U N I S H I L O T N J T A A D R I A N T I E R T L R S T
 A R S T U N R G T O C A E R T I T S K O E L I N G I B A L J
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 T A R R E G I B A T W X E M N A A E Y N O A A R A Z A D B L
 R L K J E B R E M I I R H A N C D C A G R N T E S F M E D C
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 C I K C T T Y Z A A B C D A O U E F G H R H I I I J K R E L
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 P E T E R N E L L E S F O L O R D D R A H C I R U L I F F J
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 Y Z X A W B V C U L U C R E S Y N M O L P K Q J R I S H T G

AALTJE
 AARON
 ABBY
 ABIGAIL
 ABRAHAM
 ABRAM
 ADAM
 ADRIAN
 ADRIAENTJE
 ADRIANTIE
 AELTIE
 AELTJE
 AELTYE
 AELTYN
 ALBERT
 ALETTA
 ANDRES
 ANN
 ANNA
 ANNACHEN
 ANNATIE
 ANNETJE
 ANTHE
 ARIAENTJE
 AUKE
 BARBARA
 BARNARDUS
 BARRENTJE
 CATALINA
 CATHARINE
 CATHERINE
 CATIE
 CATLYNTIE
 CATHRIENTJE
 CATHRIENJEN
 CATRYNA
 CATRYNTIE
 CATATRINA
 CLARKSON
 COERT
 CORNELIA
 CORNULIUS
 COURAT
 CRISTINA
 DANIEL
 DEBORAH
 DERRICK
 DOROTHY
 EGBERTIE
 ELBERT
 ELEANOR
 ELENA
 ELIAS
 ELISABETH
 ELIZABETH
 ELLEN
 ELSJE
 EMIE
 EVA
 FEMMETJE
 FOLKARD
 FRANCIS

GARRET
 GEERTJE
 GEORGE
 GERMECHJE
 GERRAT
 GERRET
 GERRIT
 GERTIE
 GERTUDE
 TILBERT
 GRACE
 GYSBERT
 HANNAH
 HANS
 HEILTJE
 HELENA
 HELENE
 HENDRICK
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 HENDRIK
 HENRY
 HILLECHEN
 IDA
 ISAAC
 JACOB
 JAMES
 JAMINA
 JAN
 JANE
 JANETIE
 JANNETJE
 JANNITJIE
 JAQUES
 JENNEKE
 JEREMIAH
 JEROME
 JOCOBUS
 JOHANES
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 JOHN
 JOOST
 JORES
 JURIAN
 KATHARINE
 KATRENA
 KOERT
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 LAURENS
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 LISBET
 LOVISA
 LUCAS
 LUCRESY
 LUCRETIA
 LUKE
 MAGDALENA
 MAKE
 MARGARET
 MARGARITA

MARGRETIA
 MARGRIETJIN
 MARICKE
 MARIA
 MARREGRI-
 ETIEN
 MARRITJE
 MARTHA
 MARTIN
 MARTINUS
 MARY
 MARYTIE
 MERGHIN
 METJE
 MICHAEL
 NANCY
 NEELTJE
 NELLIE
 NICASIE
 NIKKASI
 OLIVER
 OSSELT
 OUKEN
 PAUL
 PETER
 PETERNELLE
 PETERUS
 PHEBE
 PIETER
 RACHEL
 REINSCHIE
 REM
 RICHARD
 ROELOF
 ROLOFSE
 RULIFF
 RULUF
 SAMUEL
 SARA
 SARAH
 SEYTIE
 SIMON
 STEPHANUS
 STEPHEN
 STEVEN
 STEYNTIE
 STYNTIE
 SUSANNA
 SUSANNAH
 TUNIS
 WENNECHYN
 WILHELM
 WILLEM
 WILLEMTJE
 WILLIAM
 SYBERISH
 YORUM
 ZACHARIAS
 ZACHEUS

NEW GENEALOGY & FUND RAISER

As of April 14th the total amount raised to help pay for Van Voorhees Family in America was \$23,435 or 52% of our \$45,000 goal. This includes earnings on the cash realized and pledges for 1998 and 1999. The response to our request last Fall for help has been impressive and solidly in the Van Voorhees Family manner.

We did not achieve our goal as of April 14th, however. If you have not contributed, please clip out or photocopy the coupon in this issue of the Nieuwsbrief and join your cousins who have joined the appeal. Contributions are deductible for Federal income tax purposes. Donations of low basis stock are deductible for Federal income tax purposes at the market value of the stock at the date shown on the certificate. We need your help! Thank you.

Several members responded to the request for contributions in the Fall 1995 Nieuwsbrief. This request was not successful and led to the present fund raising drive. All members who contributed to the first request will have their name in the book as contributors with those who respond to the present drive. If you made a donation in response to the 1995 request, please send Manning Voorhees your name so that we will be sure to include all who answered that earlier request.

The Genealogy

Florence Christoph has transferred almost all of the accumulated information to the computer and will shortly commence the process of investigating contradictions and gaps in the data. The first six generations will be included and children of the seventh will be listed with their parents. A volume of about 1,000 pages appears probable at this moment. Active proofreading of the text has commenced by our volunteers. Judith Van Voorhis is spending several days each week helping Florence. Publication is targeted for the year 2000, hopefully by the October 14th Reunion. Approximately 56,000 names are in Florence's data base, although not all will be in the new genealogy.

JOHN G. VOORHEES

THE REUNION AT BENNETTS MILLS

Marilyn Voorhees Hansen, of Brunswick ME, sent us two very interesting items. First, there is her letter describing the Civil War experience of her great grandfather, John G. Voorhees, and his obituary in 1916. Secondly, there is a newspaper clipping from 1897 describing a reunion at Bennetts Mills. The reunion centered around Daniel, brother of John, and was held at the home of Albert and Lydia Voorhees, their then late parents. Thank you, Marilyn. Bennetts Mills, Hyson and Harmony are in Jackson Township, Ocean County NJ, and are near one another. The 1897 news clipping refers to Bennetts Mills as "Bennett Mills."

Marilyn writes about her great grandfather:

"Thought you might enjoy this copy of two old clippings. They were in the possession of my grandparents, George and Ethel Voorhees. The obituary is my great grand-

father's. During the Civil War he enlisted as a 21 year old into Company E, 28th Regiment of the New Jersey Volunteers. He was wounded with a mini ball in the shoulder in the battle of Chancellorsville. According to my grandfather, he lay for three days by a wooden fence with pieces being shot off with great regularity. A rebel soldier found him and placed a brick under his head. He was not captured by the enemy but was rescued by his comrades and hospitalized before being sent home. Records of the Pension Department for Ocean County NJ list him as receiving \$10.00 a month for a gun shot wound in the left shoulder. His brother, Joseph, had his right arm amputated and received \$24.00. My father remembered as a child sitting on his grandfather's lap and being quite fascinated by the large indentation in his shoulder.

"The home that John G. Voorhees died in was built by him after he came home from the War. It was a large lovely farm house with gingerbread trim, 500 acres and many out buildings. It stood on the county line road in Harmony. The home is now gone, burned down, but we do have a painting of it. A lot of the land is intact but its crop is now pine trees. This, too, will change soon. A distant cousin has informed me that it will soon be filled with condominiums. And so it goes.

"John G. Voorhees married Trena Sherman, daughter of Samuel Sherman and Katherine Hilliard, two days before he went to war."

"Obituary

"John G. Voorhees who would have been seventy-five years old next September had he lived that long, died at the home of his son George at Harmony on Tuesday morning last just before eleven o'clock. He had been ailing for a long time past. He was born at Hyson and was the son of Albert and Lydia Voorhees. All of his grownup days were spent as a farmer except the time he answered to the call of his country and engaged in the civil war. He was a republican in politics but never aspired to hold office. The funeral services will be held today at 1 o'clock at the Harmony church of which he was a member. Interment will be at Harmony. Surviving him are four grown children as follows. George and Mrs Frank Hulshart of Harmony and Mrs. Fred Davidson and Mrs Charles Newman, of Lakewood."

"Re-Union at Bennett Mills,

"Return of Daniel Voorhees After Forty-three Years Absence in the West.

"Saturday, August 7th, was a joyous day at the Voorhees homestead at Bennett Mills. The occasion was the return of a long absent brother. Forty-three years ago Albert Voorhees lived at Bennett Mills. His family consisted of his wife and twelve children — nine sons and three daughters, viz: Hendrick, Conover, Joseph, Katharine, Keziah, Daniel, John, James, Wesley and Jacob (twins), Lydia and Albert.

"Daniel, aged twenty, emigrated to Hillsboro, Ohio, where he remained ten years working at his trade of carriage painting and trimming. During this time he married Miss Jennie Work. They afterward went to Troy, Kansas, where they lived thirteen years. From this place they went to Topeka, in the same state. Mr. Voorhees purchased a farm near the city on which they have since resided. Five children

Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

came to them, two of whom have married and gone to Colorado.

"During this long absence, many changes have taken place at the old New Jersey home. Both father and mother and two brothers, Joseph and Hendrick, have died. The old home, remodeled, is still standing and is occupied by the youngest brother, Albert. All of the other members of the family remained in New Jersey, most of them having settled near their old home. Last year Jacob determined to visit his brother whom he could scarcely remember. He left for Kansas in November and returned in January, after a most delightful visit. The sight of this brother awakened in Daniel a desire to see the rest of his brothers and sisters. He left home with his wife in July and, stopping at Chicago to make a short visit, they arrived at Bennett Mills on the morning of August 6th.

"A reunion of the entire family was planned to take place at the homestead. This was successfully carried out by Albert and his wife, who arranged a delightful day's pleasure. Every member of the family was present with the exception of James who is an invalid. The meeting of those separated for so many years was a joyful one. A bountiful dinner was one of the features of the day, and was followed by games of various kinds. Mrs. Voorhees was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. Wright, Miss Wright, Mrs. Frank Voorhees, Miss Flora Wright, Miss Bessie Cook, and Miss Hyres. Joseph Voorhees, an aged uncle of the family, was also present."

WE HAVE SOME CONFUSION

We have two very active volunteers with the same given name and similar surnames. You can guess what is happening: they are receiving each other's mail. Judith Voorhees lives in Toms River NJ and manages our product sales. Judith Van Voorhis lives in Niskayuna NY and is the right-hand person for Florence Christoph with Van Voorhees Family in America. She also manages our management information system. So — how can we remember "who is who?" The best way is not to use a memory jogger but to remember to look up the correct "Judith" in Who'sWho that is in each Nieuwsbrief. Sending mail to the wrong "Judith" will delay your response. Please refer to our directory when you address your envelope. Thank you.

1998 DUES

We had a very strong response to the 1998 dues payment envelope that was enclosed with the January Nieuwsbrief. Our thanks to everyone who remitted their dues in the envelope and to those members who brought their dues up to date. We are continuing to correct errors in the date on your mailing label that indicates the last year that you paid your dues. Please advise us if the date is incorrect. Our policy is to remove from our mailing list those members who are more than four years in arrears with their dues. We removed delinquent members in January. Please bring your dues up to date if you wish to remain a member in good standing.

A dues payment coupon is included with this issue.

Please use it to pay your 1998 dues, if you have not done so, and to bring your dues current. Thank you.

VOORHEES TOWN

by Howard B. Voorhees

Marilyn Voorhees McDaniel, of Muncie IN, sent us the following history of Reading OH, which is near Cincinnati. Her father, Howard B. Voorhees, who is 93 years young, wrote it as a Christmas message for his grandchildren [and great grandchildren?] so that they "will remember our family background," as Marilyn said in her letter to us. Marilyn also sent us several commemorative coins issued for the Reading bi-centennial celebration. The coins will be on display at the October 1998 Reunion. Thank you, Marilyn. We reported the bi-centennial in the May/June 1994 issue of the Nieuwsbrief.

At one time Reading was known as Voorhees Town. In 1794, Abraham Voorhees, a veteran of the American War for Independence, brought his family of thirteen to a 640 acre section of land which was initially named, Voorhees Town. This land cost Abraham Voorhees 533 dollars 30/90ths in U.S. Treasury Certificates. Around 1804 the town name was changed to Reading after Reading, Pennsylvania. You must keep in mind that, when the Voorhees' settled in southwest Ohio, it was a territory and these early settlers here on the frontier still had to contend with Indian attacks. Well, those pioneer days are long past, but I thought that you should know some of the history behind the Voorhees name.

In 1994 Reading celebrated the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Abraham Voorhees family and members of the Voorhees family were there to join in the celebration. Abraham is my great great grandfather. He was born in 1730 and died in 1812. The Voorhees name in Reading has remained prominent. During a walk through the cemetery one can find at least seventeen Voorhees graves, including veterans of the Revolutionary War and the, Civil War. There is a Voorhees Park and a Voorhees Street in Reading. And, on June 12, 1994, the community dedicated an Ohio Historical Marker which tells the story of Voorhees Town on one side and displays a map of, Abraham Voorhees' original town plan from 1798. While it was a treat to see the family name figure so prominently in the history of this place and so proudly displayed, our experience of the townspeople's generous hospitality was the real highlight of this visit. I hope that each of you will one day make your way to Reading so that you too will have a warm place in your heart and memory for this fine town and its fine people.

Another highlight from '94 was our tour through Vorhes House which has been moved from its original location to nearby Sharon Woods Park. This house was constructed on land purchased in 1825 by Samuel Vorhes (spelling in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century was more an adventure than a science). In his will, Samuel Vorhes left his 123 acre farm to his wife, Jane Myers Vorhes, until the youngest of their thirteen children reached eighteen years of age, when it was to be sold and Jane was to receive either the income from one third of the proceeds or one third of the real estate. She apparently chose one third of the real estate in 1856 and

lived in this house until 1865. The lack of written documentation leaves the construction and purpose of this house a mystery — was it built by the Custer family who sold the land to Samuel Vorhes? Was it built by Samuel for his family? For tenants? As a dower house for Jane? Who knows if these mysteries will ever be clarified? But, if, you visit Reading, you should also tour the nineteenth century village erected in Sharon Woods Park where you will see this lovely Federal style, two story brick house where our relatives once lived so many years ago.

Enough of this history lesson! I hope you enjoy these tokens and, since I cannot travel to be with you, write to tell me what you are up to. Have a Happy Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

[Ed. This is a wonderful Christmas letter to Howard's grandchildren and a fine example for others to emulate.]

VOORHIES, IOWA

We wrote about Voorhies IA in the January 1995 Nieuwsbrief based upon an article from the Waterloo Courier of July 26, 1992 that was sent to us by Lois Richards, of Gillette WY. An unanswered question in our article was the derivation of the town's name. Mark Willey, of Maquoketa IA, sent us an Email saying, "I just happened to have a few minutes at the Iowa Historical Society in Iowa City and I looked up the name Voorhies (or variants) in the 1850-1870 Iowa Censa for Blackhawk County (that is the county that Voorhies is in). It is very unlikely that the town would have existed before 1850 because that part of Iowa was not settled yet. Iowa was opened for settlement in 1838 and people naturally started at the Mississippi and slowly worked west. There was no entry in 1850 and none in 1870, but there was a Martin H. Voorhies in Blackhawk Co. in a section called 'E. Waterloo' for the 1860 census. Since Voorhies is directly South of Waterloo, I doubt that he was the founder — but perhaps. If I were to speculate, I would say that the town was named after 1870 and therefore the Blackhawk County Historical Society is very likely to know the story of the naming of the town. Iowa history is pretty solid after 1865. A minor note: the town is in the township of 'Lincoln' but probably it did not get the name until after Abraham was president. We don't have the answer yet, but often finding that there is no information is also of value."

Thank you, Mark. The question of how Voorhies received its name remains, but we are closer to an answer.

WILLIAM MERRELL VORIES

Rachel Voorhees, of Leavenworth KS, sent us a very interesting article about William Merrell Vories that was in the May 27, 1997 issue of the Leavenworth Times. Thank you, Rachel

William Merrill Voorhees was born in 1880 in his grandfather's home at 1044 Fifth Avenue, Leavenworth. A Presbyterian and an architect, William left Leavenworth as a young man and missionary for Japan, where he spent the remainder of his life. He lived in Omihachiman and married

a Japanese teacher from that city. Using income from his architectural work and from the Omi Brotherhood, Ltd., William funded "schools, a library and a hospital" in Omihachiman.

The Omi Brotherhood is a Christian organization started by William early in this century. It is "a group that includes five corporations and six enterprises." Interestingly, the product line "include(s) skin care products, including Menturm, previously known as Mentholatum."

William was celebrated on May 27, 1997 by the mayor of Leavenworth and several Japanese from Omihachima. Among the Japanese celebrants were the current chairman of the Omi Brotherhood, the general manager of that organization and the deputy mayor of Omihachima. There were 42 Japanese who attended the celebration of William Merrell Vories.

OUR FRIEND CAROL

Carol Voorhees continues to send mail to our members selling The New World Book of Voorhees. Note might be made that she adds the letters "i.a." her name to indicate that Carol uses the name "Voorhees inter alia", or among things or names. Thus, Carol has more than one and probably many surnames. The sales material for The New World Book states, "There are now over 2, 381 Voorhees households worldwide." We all know that cannot be true. It also states that The New World Book contains Voorhees households in the Netherlands. That also cannot be correct since we know that the name "Voorhees" is not used in the Netherlands. The sales piece has a rendition of several emigrants huddling on the deck of a ship sailing past the Statue of Liberty. We are told that Carol has found "11 rare Voorhees immigration records of Voorhees who arrived between the 17th and 20th centuries each having a story to tell." This statement might justify the pictorial of those elated people waving at the Statue of Liberty — but we know that Steven Coerts is the sole progenitor of the Van Voorhees Family in America and he arrived in 1660. As a generality, publications of this sort derive their data from sources such as telephone directories and mailing lists. Halberts, the publisher, is under cease and desist orders from the Post Office because of misrepresentation problems (see the Nieuwsbrief for September 1996). If you elect to purchase The World Book of Voorhees, be aware of that well known warning, caveat emptor.

Thanks to Ed Voorhees, of Dallas TX, Nick Voorhees, of Sarasota FL, and David H. Voorhees, of Woodstock IL, for alerting us to the continued mailing of sales material for The World Book of Voorhees.

BRUCE AND WAYNE VAN VOORHIS

Mary P. Haumann writes that she wishes to learn more about Lt. Commander Bruce Van Voorhis and his brother, Lt. Wayne Van Voorhis. An article about them was in the Winter 1994 issue of the Nieuwsbrief (named Newsletter at that time).

Mary writes, "I am greatly interested as two of my broth-

ers served in the South Pacific during WW II, one of them, William James Pulver was killed there; the other flew B 29's." If anyone can help Mary, please write to her at her address listed in Who's Who. It will be appreciated if a copy is sent to Manning Voorhees for the Nieuwsbrief.

ALBERT VOORHEES WYCKOFF

We asked in the Winter 1998 Nieuwsbrief about Sergeant Major Albert Voorhees Wyckoff, who was killed in the Civil War at the age of nineteen. How did a nineteen year old attain the top enlisted rank at such an early age? We received replies and help from Nancy C. Baird, of Harrisonburg VA, Aline L. Garretson, of Mansfield PA, June V. Wick, of Monsey NY, and Edward Wyckoff, of Beachwood NJ. We also received permission from the Wyckoff House and Association and Grace Clark, author of an article about Albert in the 1996 Bulletin of the Association, to condense the article for the Nieuwsbrief. June generously gave us a copy of the article, which is based on family tradition and The Fifteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers, by Alanson Haines and published in 1883. Through the kindness of Aline, we received data from the Civil War Research and Genealogy Database on the Internet at <<http://www.civilwardata.com>>, copyright by Historical Data Systems, Inc., of Kingston MA, and referred to herein as "the Internet Site." Aline and Edward gave us genealogical data about Albert. Nancy thoughtfully arranged for us to meet with Edward. Thank you, everyone.

Albert Voorhees Wyckoff was the oldest living child of Sarah Jane Voorhees and Jacob Wyckoff. He was born on 27 June 1844 and died in the Battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia, on 2 June 1864. Sarah Jane's line was: Albert P., Peter, Albert, Coert, Albert Coerte, Coerte Stevense and Steven Coerts. Jacob's line was: Simon, Simon, Pieter, Cornelius Pieterse, and Pieter Claesen, the progenitor of the Wyckoff family in America. Jacob was a farmer in Middlebush, Somerset County, NJ. Sgt. Major Wyckoff was known as "Albert" to his family and as "Voorhees" to his friends.

He answered Abraham Lincoln's call for men and enlisted as a Private in the 15th Regiment of the New Jersey Volunteers on 2 August 1862 in Flemington. He was eighteen years of age. The 15th Regiment was comprised of men from Warren, Sussex, Somerset, Morris and Hunterdon Counties. It was one of the four original regiments from New Jersey. According to the Internet Site, one company was from Somerset and the 15th was part of the Sixth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

The 15th was mustered into Union service on 25 August 1862. Albert was disappointed that the men were issued slower, older Enfield rifles and not the better Springfield rifles. After spending time organizing and drilling, the Regiment departed from Flemington on 29 August after speeches by local luminaries. The 15th headed by train for Washington via Lambertville, Philadelphia and Baltimore, receiving greetings and food from the people along the way. When he arrived in Washington, Albert could hear the guns firing at Manassas, where Generals Lee and Jackson were beating

General Pope. On the next day, the 15th marched up Pennsylvania Avenue to Fort Pennsylvania. The troops waited four hours in the rain for orders and spent the following day setting up camp, also in the rain. However, Albert was excited that the Regiment would soon begin to fight. They were surrounded by men from Pennsylvania who had no shoes, very little clothing and no food. However, the Pennsylvanians were fit from fighting and within a few days left for the front. The 15th stayed behind and slashed timber for new military roads.

On 30 September, with two months of military experience, the Regiment went by train to Frederick MD. Two days later, the 15th camped at Antietam. The Union and Confederate armies had clashed at Antietam two weeks earlier. Albert was sobered by the many newly dug graves, the hospitals tents full of gravely wounded men and the use of churches as hospitals. On 1 November, the Regiment crossed into Virginia where they were surprised by a snowstorm. The troops had no winter equipment. General Burnside, who had just assumed command of the troops, attempted unsuccessfully to capture Fredericksburg. This was the first engagement for the 15th, who lost four killed, twenty wounded and five missing on 13 December.

After Fredericksburg, the Regiment moved into winter quarters at White Oak Church. Typhoid fever was prevalent and there was an aura of gloom as many soldiers died from cold and disease. Albert met Edmund Halsey, who was a private in Company K and the adjutant's clerk.

On 20 January 1863, the Regiment cooked three days' rations for another attempt by General Burnside to take Fredericksburg. But, it rained all night and the men, their clothes and equipment were soaking wet when the order came to move forward. Only fifteen boats of the eighty required were available to cross the river. The mud was terrible and hundreds of horses and mules fell exhausted from trying to pull the boats through the mud. Albert and the others were then ordered to pull the boats by ropes through the knee-deep mud. Burnside's order was abandoned when on 24 January fewer than half of the boats were at the river.

Albert was happy when President Lincoln replaced General Burnside with General Hooker. Conditions improved immediately. Food, clothing and equipment were issued to the men. Promotions were also made and Albert's friend, Edmund Halsey, was appointed Sergeant Major.

Once again, the 15th moved to the river in an attempt to capture Fredericksburg. The town was taken on 9 June after heavy losses. On one day there were 154 casualties among 350 men. The victory was less significant, however, because General Lee had vacated Fredericksburg and was marching north to Gettysburg. On 22 June, the Confederate Army crossed the Potomac River and entered Chambersburg PA the next day. The Regiment crossed the Potomac on 27 June and marched to Westminster, north of Baltimore. General Meade assumed General Hooker's command on 28 June after the former was refused the 10,000 men stationed at Harper's Ferry.

General Meade immediately moved to protect Baltimore

and Washington while General Lee marched toward Gettysburg. The first day of the Battle of Gettysburg was a disaster for the Union Army. However, General Lee did not press his advantage and this gave General Meade time to move in reinforcements, including the 15th Regiment. The latter reached Gettysburg on 2 July after walking 35 miles in 16 hours. Albert made some coffee, looked at the photo album of his family that he carried with him and wrote home. The men were then ordered into battle, reinforcing Little Round Top. However, there was no fighting because the Confederates withdrew as the Regiment arrived. On 3 July, the 15th was held in readiness and sat listening to the battle around them. General Lee withdrew on the night of 3 July. The next day, the Regimental commander took his men to the battlefield and everyone was able to get a new Springfield rifle for himself. The Enfields were abandoned.

General Meade ordered the Regiment to be part of the forces pursuing the Confederate Army. The chased General Lee to the Potomac, but General Meade decided not to attack. In August, the 15th moved to Warrenton VA. Several promotions occurred. Albert's friend, Edmund Halsey, was promoted to First Lieutenant and acting adjutant. Albert was appointed as his clerk. Later, on 14 November, Albert was promoted to Sergeant Major, the position vacated Lieut. Halsey. After some skirmishes around Mine Run in late November - early December, the Regiment settled down to their winter quarters.

General Grant replaced General Mead. On 3 May 1864, the former began to move against Richmond. The 15th left winter quarters on 4 May with five field officers, fourteen line officers and 429 muskets. Albert fought with the Regiment from 8 May through 13 May at Spotsylvania. They were part of a 100,000 men force that General Grant had amassed south of the Rapidan River. The 15th took terrible losses every day. The Internet Site reports that the Regiment "lost in all 101 men" on 9 May and twenty men the next day. "On the 12th the Regiment dashed through the abatis before the Confederate works, swept over a portion of the breastworks, which for a time it stoutly held, driving out the Confederates, or bayoneting those who tenaciously clung to the position. But the regiment was forced to fall back and when Col Campbell gathered his shattered battalion only 75 were found. Forty bodies, or nearly one-fifth of the whole regiment, lay on the breastwork, in the ditch or on the narrow open space in front."

After the Battle of Spotsylvania, Albert was recommended for promotion to Captain and the paperwork was sent to Washington. On 31 May, General Grant ordered the Sixth Corps under General Sedgewick to proceed to Cold Harbor. After arriving there the next morning, the Regiment was ordered to attack. It was hot and dusty. The Confederates were well dug in while the Union Army was exposed on an open field. The ground was shortly covered with dead and wounded. "When the 6th Corps charged at Cold Harbor 25 of the Regiment were killed or wounded ...," the Internet Site reports. The danger was heightened as a Union battery dropped shells on the 15th, killing and wounding some of the men.

Toward evening of that day, the Chaplain went to the battlefield to help the casualties. He found Albert near a little

house dangerously wounded. Albert was carried to the rear by some of his comrades. Near midnight, the Chaplain found Albert in the field hospital "insensible, with a bullet in his brain. ... The first look in his face and upon the wound, with the oozing brain, told me that all of our endeavors were useless, and it would be soon be over with him." (Quotation from Ms. Clark's article.) By morning, Sergeant Major Albert Voorhees Wyckoff was dead. He was buried at Cold Harbor.

There is no agreement as to the location of Albert's final grave. Some maintain that the soldiers buried at Cold Harbor were transferred to Arlington Cemetery at Washington while others believe that Albert's grave remains at Cold Harbor. In any event, there is a memorial marker for Albert at the South Middlebush cemetery. Aline Garretson wrote that the Wyckoff family farm bordered the cemetery on the north and the Garretson family farm was on the south side. Albert's marker can be seen today.

The Internet Site says, "Meade reported his loss in the Battle of Cold Harbor as 1,705 killed, 9,042 wounded and 2,042 missing. ... Gen. Martin T. McMahon, in 'Battles and Leaders,' begins his article on the Battle of Cold Harbor with the following statement: 'In the opinion of a majority of its survivors, the Battle of Cold Harbor never should have been fought. There was no military reason to justify it. It was the dreary, dismal, bloody, ineffective close of the Lieutenant General's first campaign with the Army of the Potomac, and corresponded in all its essential features with what had preceded it.'" These reflections, unfortunately, came too late for Albert Voorhees Wyckoff

◆ THE VAN VORHIES HAUS

Jerry and Lea Vorhies Bradley reopened the Van Vorhies Haus in Mt. Pleasant IA on November 18th of last year as a retirement home. [Ed. We wonder why the German word "Haus" is used rather than the Dutch "Huis."]

The structure was built "well over a century ago" and was closed early in 1997. The Bradley's, and their fellow investors Stan, Mary and Steve Vorhies, of Dallas City IL, refurbished the house and its furnishings including a new carpet. "Victorian Era architecture and furnishings are dominant ..." It is outfitted with several community rooms having television and kitchen facilities, a sitting room, parlor and multi-unit garage. Twenty residents can be accommodated in individual and family suite rooms. There is room for residents to bring some of their furniture. The roof will be addressed and more private baths are planned in the future. The Van Vorhies Haus is staffed 24 hours per day and provides laundry service, meals and cleaning.

Darlene Vorhies, of Fairfield IA, sent us an article from the December 6, 1997 issue of The Hawk Eye, Burlington IA. She writes that Lea and Stan are siblings and the children of Sam and Marie Vorhies. Sam is now deceased. He was the brother of the father of Merle Vorhies, Darlene's husband, among a family of fourteen children. Lea and Stan also are the proprietors of a restaurant in Mt. Pleasant.

Thank you, Darlene.

DE HALVE MAEN



Henry Hudson, an Englishman in the employ of the Dutch, sailed to the New World on de Halve Maen, or The Half Moon. A replica of this good ship has been constructed and it visits many locations during the warmer months. Marilyn Brack made this photograph of de Halve Maen. It is probable that de Bonte Koe resembled Captain Hudson's ship

Thank you, Marilyn.

CORRECTION

The Summer/Fall 1997 issue of the Nieuwsbrief contained a tabulation of old Dutch names with their English equivalents reproduced with permission from the January-February-March 1997 New Netherland Connections. For the male name "Ryck", Readers were referred to "Hendrick." A correction was subsequently published in New Netherland Connections stating that "Ryck" is an abbreviation of "Ryckaert", the Dutch for Richard. "Ryck" would thus loosely translate to "Rich." As a partial result of the Dutch patronymic naming system, "Ryck" became the basis for today's surnames of "Rycken/Rycke/Ryker/Riker." The name "Ryck" has nothing to do with "Hendrick."

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I am pleased to support our new genealogy, Van Voorhees Family in America. I will:

- Make a pledge of \$ _____ payable in two installments for 1998 and 1999. Enclosed with this coupon is the 1998 installment of \$ _____.
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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

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Baseball Cap	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00	_____
Tietac\Pin	\$15.00	\$15.00	_____
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Purchases are sent postpaid with no additional shipping charges.

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REGIONAL ORGANIZERS

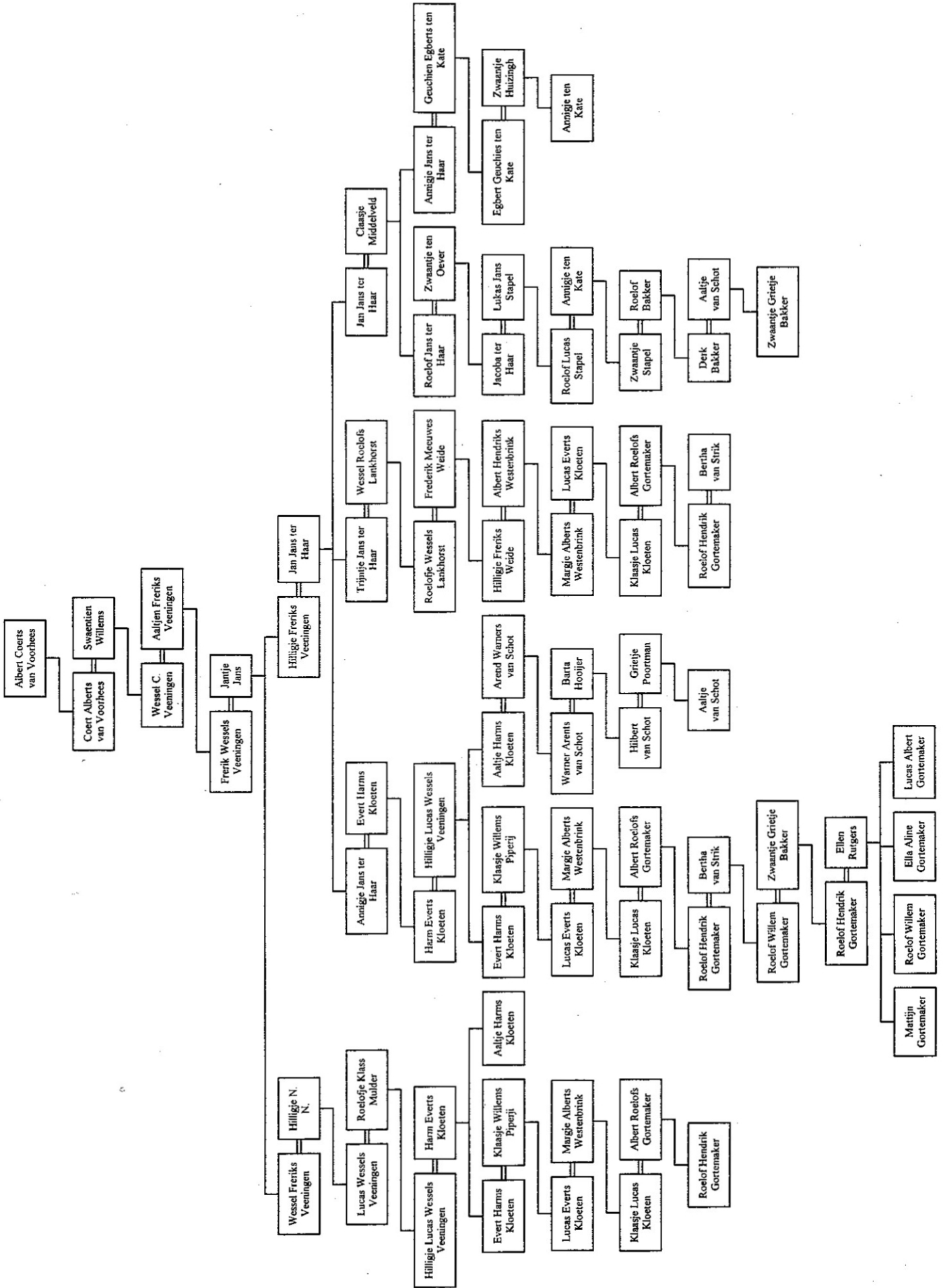
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ANCESTRY OF ROELC HENDRIK GORTEMAKER



1998 DUES NOTICE

Dues through December 1998 were payable January 1, 1998. Please check membership desired and note any change of address. Mail to the Financial Secretary: 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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular | \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$ 30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior | \$ 2.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life | \$200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$15.00 | | |

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 |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|

Check here, and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to receive a 1998 membership card.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
VVA # _____

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

FIRST CLASS

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

