



Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

WINTER 1998
Volume 16, Number 1

A Publication of the Van Voorhees Association, Organized in 1932
Copyright © 1998 and All Rights Reserved by the Van Voorhees Association

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

Following is the substance of Manning Voorhees' comments about the State of the Association at the Reunion on October 11, 1997.

I thank all of the volunteers that have managed our Association over the past twelve months and have made things happen. Without a dedicated group of volunteers — which we certainly have — nothing would be happening. The proof of their success is that things are happening. Our basic financial picture is good and our membership is growing. Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson, reported eighty new members over the past 12 months and sixteen new Life Members. Membership growth is a very key criterion of health. New members would not be attracted to an organization that does not accomplish things and is not on a sound footing. We simply would not attract attention. Obviously, we are attracting attention. Please help to spread the word.

The new genealogy, Van Voorhees Family in America, continues to be our biggest challenge. We have been waiting many years for our forthcoming genealogy. You can help to make it happen in the year 2000 by contributing to the drive for supplemental publication funds. If we fail to bring this work to completion now, I doubt that the present momentum can be replicated any time in the near future.

Manning W. Voorhees

DESCENDANT OF STEVEN COERTS' BROTHER CONTACTS OUR INTERNET SITE

Our Internet site is attracting a heavy traffic and has proven to be very successful. Peter R. Newcombe, who lives in Devon, England, put a note on our electronic bulletin board on September 15, 1997. "Steven Coerts ... is my 10th great uncle," he said, and then asked a question about the rendition of *de Bonte Koe* that is on one of our Internet pages. The query about our good ship was answered after which an Email correspondence arose that lead to Peter giving us his genealogy from Albert Coerts — the brother of Steven Coerts.

Peter engaged Duco van der Vlerk of Assen to do genealogical research in Drenthe. Duco obtained some manuscript copies of work done by Dick Wijmer, who wrote the lead article on Steven Coerts in *Through a Dutch Door*, working for Jan Folkerts. New information about the Albert Coerts' line has been shared with us for which we are very appreciative. It is interesting to note that Peter's ancestors remained in Drenthe until sometime around 1950. In fact, many were associated with Assen (20 miles north of Hees), Gieten (10 miles east of Assen) and Borger (10 miles south east of Assen). Peter's ancestors from Albert Coerts to Hilbert Coerts lived and farmed at Voorhees from 1614 to 1684. Coert, the father of Albert Coerts and Steven Coerts, moved to Voorhees from Middlehees probably just before Steven was born in 1600.

continued on page 2

95 COUSINS ATTENDED THE 1997 REUNION IN SIX MILE RUN. IF YOU WERE NOT THERE, YOU MISSED A GREAT TIME.

INSIDE...

The Civil War Diary of Alfred H. Voorhies	Page 3
Mary Voorhees and the Blackwell House, revisited.....	Page 8
Van Voorhees Family in America	Page 10
Genealogical Fund Raiser	Page 12
Handmarks of Steven and Albert Coerts	Page 12
The Flatbush Church Records	Page 13

CALENDAR

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

"The Four Letters of Hilbert and Albert Coerts" are in *Through a Dutch Door* on pages 147 to 163. They were written to Coert Stevense Van Voorhees, the son of Steven Coerts, who lived then in Flatlands, New Netherland. Hilbert Coerts was a son of Coert Alberts and an 8th grandfather of Peter. Albert Coerts was Hilbert's brother (do not confuse this Albert with the brother of Steven Coerts, Albert Coerts, because of the Dutch patronymic naming system).

Upper case letters show Peter's direct line in the following descendant schedule. The beginning generations may be found in charts L 2.1, L 2.1.1 and L 2.1.2 on pages 85 through 87 of *Through a Dutch Door*. Note should be made that some of the dates herein are slightly different than those in the charts and some date voids have been filled.

First Generation

ALBERT COERTS, dob 1590, dod about 1660
Wife not known
Lived at Voorhees 1614-60

Second Generation

COERT ALBERTS, dob about 1620, dod not known
Swaentien Willems, dates not known
Lived at Voorhees 1660-77

Third Generation

HILBERT COERTS, dob about 1644, dod after 1709
Geertjen Hendriks, dob not known, dod before 1709
Lived at Voorhees 1677-84

Fourth Generation

KOURT HILBERTS, dob 1691, dod before 1743
Auke Hendriks, dates not known
Both from Ruinen, Drenthe

Fifth Generation

JAN DULMAN, dob 1730, dod 1783
Lammigien Luigies, dob 1747, dod 1782
Both died in Borger

Sixth Generation

Hendrik Willems, dob 1767, dod 1866
AALTJEN JANS, dob 1768, dod 1849
Both died in Borger

Seventh Generation

KOOP SANDERS, dob 1814, dod 1893
(changed name from Willems)
Roelfje Eding, dob 1817, dod 1891
Both died in Borger

Eighth Generation

Hendrik Warringa, dob 1850, dod 1919
LUCHINA SANDERS, dob 1851, dod 1925
Hendrick died in Borger and Luchina in Anloo, both in Drenthe

Ninth Generation

WARMOLD WARRINGA, dob 1877, dod 1917
Henderika Lanting, dob 1877, dod 1944
Both died in Gieten

Tenth Generation

HENDRIK GEERT WARRINGA, dob 1905, dod 1992
Geertje Hibolling, dob 1908, dod 1976
Hendrik died in Assen

Eleventh Generation

ANNECHIEN WARRINGA, dob 1930 in Gieten, alive
Harm van Zomeren, dob 1919, dod 1991
Harm died in Bodmin, Cornwall, England

Twelfth Generation

PETER RAYMOND NEWCOMBE, dob 1956
St. Agnes, Cornwall, England
Born as PHILLIP WARRINGA
Adopted by the Newcombe family 1956

Peter Newcombe is our new cousin and friend. He is a civil engineer and project planner by vocation. Peter's avocation, obviously, is family history and he has put together an impressive ancestry file. The material that he sent to us include many siblings and data not extracted for this article. Thank you very much, Peter.

CALVIN KRAPF

Calvin Krapf was called on December 9, 1997. Cal was hanging Christmas lights on the second floor of his house when he had a heart attack and fell backward from his ladder onto the ground. He had no history of heart problems.

Calvin was a true friend of our Association. While interested in Dutch genealogy, he did not have Voorhees ancestry but volunteered to be our Treasurer. We welcomed him to our management circle and will miss him. Our prayers are with Glee during this very difficult time. Glee is our Coert Line Representative and her address is in Who's Who.

ELECTION RESULTS

The following officers of the Association were elected at the business meeting of October 11, 1997: Manning W. Voorhees, President, Patricia Zander-Carlo, Secretary, and Calvin Krapf, Treasurer.

HENDRICKJE LINES REPRESENTATIVE

Ted Bogert, of Orlando FL, volunteered to be the Representative for the two Hendrickje Lines. We welcome Ted as spokesperson and contact for our members who are descended from these daughters of Steven Coerts and thank him for offering to help. Yes, Grandpa had two daughters with the same given name. This is what makes genealogy so much fun. Welcome aboard, Ted. His address is in Who's Who.

THE CIVIL WAR DIARY OF ALFRED H. VOORHIES

By Annie Brokaw Tobin

The Diary of Alfred H. Voorhies, accompanying material and photograph of Alfred, were contributed by Annie Brokaw Tobin. The story relates to Alfred's capture and incarceration at the infamous Andersonville prison in Georgia. Thank you, Annie, for an engrossing but chilling article about our cousin, Alfred. It is fascinating reading. Annie's address is: Mrs. Annie Brokaw Tobin, 145 Locust Ave., San Rafael CA 94901 or <ATobin@aol.com>. William Voorhees has put Alfred's diary on the Van Voorhees Association Internet site.

WHAT WAS ANDERSONVILLE PRISON?

Andersonville Prison was opened near Americus, Georgia on February 24, 1864. It was intended to be a model prison, spacious and with adequate water and abundant timber for firewood. However, the prison was built on the assumption that it would hold no more than 10,000 Union prisoners of war, and then only while they were awaiting exchange. Both of these prisoner exchanges had been agreed to by both sides early in the war.

After the U.S. Government ceased the exchange, Andersonville quickly filled with Union POWs. By June of 1864, the prison population had swollen to 20,000 men and by August reached 33,000 prisoners. This was also the summer of Sherman's march to the sea, when Southern farms, barns, and mills were being burned to the ground in the North's scorched-earth policy that was designed to starve the Southern populace into submission. Even medicine was declared contraband, and Union forces destroyed stores of medicines wherever they were found, even those in possession of private physicians. Needless to say, these privations worsened the lot of Union prisoners; the South could not provide the prisoners what it could not provide its own citizens, and because of disease, inadequate diet, and the summer sun, Union deaths at Andersonville began to soar. According to Confederate Veteran magazine of Sept-Oct 1991, 12,912 of the 45,613 Union prisoners at Andersonville died during its fourteen months of operation. Most of these deaths occurred during the period of August through December, 1864, when prisoners died at a rate of approximately 100 per day.

The 1st NY (or Lincoln) Cavalry — Alfred and his brother Robert's military regiment:

On April 13, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 men to enlist in the service of the Federation. This call, printed in the New York Tribune, led to the formation of the Lincoln Cavalry, First United States Volunteer Cavalry (also known as the "Carbine Rangers" and the "Sabre Regiment"). They were organized between July 16 and August 31, 1861 and left New York for Washington, DC by detachment. They were attached to Defenses of Washington and Alexandria until March of 1862. They were engaged in fighting in the area of Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia.

It was on May 6, 1863, that Alfred's 19 year old brother was killed by friendly fire while the cavalry was being used as a decoy to lure a Confederate regiment out of hiding. The 1st NY Cavalry continued to engage the enemy in this area. On May 13, 1864, after reenlisting for another three year stint, Alfred and 280 others were trapped and captured in New Market, Maryland. There began his journey into Hell.

Source: *Andersonville: A Legacy of Shame...But Whose?*, By Gary Waltrip.



DIARY NOTES

The following is the diary of Alfred H. Voorhies. It was transcribed from the original by his sister, Rebecca Voorhies Brokaw. Margaret and Gene Whelan had it in their possession and shared it with Patricia Whelan Brokaw who re-transcribed it to pass on to the family.

I have done some research to discover where Alfred fits into our line of the Voorhees genealogy. At first, the only information I found was from a book* published in 1902 about the 1st New York (or Lincoln) Cavalry in which he served. It read:

"Voorhies, Alfred H.—Age 22 years. Enlisted August 5, 1861 at New York; mustered in as private. Company H, August 5, 1861 to serve three years; re-enlisted January 1, 1864; captured May 13, 1864; died of disease August 13, 1864; at Andersonville, GA."

Interestingly, the next entry read: "Voorhies, Robert C.—Age 19 years. Enlisted August 5, 1861 at New York; mustered in as private. company H, August 5, 1861 to serve three years; killed May 6, 1863 in action at Upperville, VA."

In A List of the Union Soldiers Buried at Andersonville (copied from the Official Records in the Surgeon's Office at Andersonville) is listed:

"No. of Grave	Name
"5503	Voorhies, A.H.; 1 cav. Co H, died Aug 13, diarrhea c."

Since that time, I have discovered a missing page of the diary as well as the identity of Alfred. He and Robert were the brothers of Rebecca who transcribed the diary and my great great grandfather, Clark Grover Voorhees. (Note the discrepancy in spelling of the last name). Clark served in the Union Army as well in the 14th Brooklyn State Militia, and though captured and wounded, lived through the war.

*Beach, William H. *The First New York (Lincoln) Cavalry from April 19, 1861, to July 7, 1865.* Amundale, VA: Bacon Race Books, 1988. Reprint of 1902 edition.

PRIVATE

"1864 Diary of Alfred H. Voorhies, from the time he was taken pris[o]ner untill 9 days before his death at Andersonville, Ga., which occurd August 13th, 1864." (Transcribed by Alfred's Sister, Rebecca.)

May 13th Came from long bridge in the morning crossed the mountains, went to New Market, but got in a trap, 280 of us against 4000 or 5000 men. Took to the mountains. Stopped there all night. Slept on a Rock on the top of the mountain. Rained all night. We thought to make our escape but no go.

14th Came off the mountain and was captured, taken to New Market and there joined many of the boys, there is five of us now. Left New Market about 2 P.M for Staunton. Raining this morning, my feet are so sore I can scarcely walk.

15th On to Richmond to day. The Jonnies took everything from me so I must do without them. Kept all night in a church, had a good nights rest for all we were so wet. I hope. I will keep well all the time.

16th (No report)

17th Left Staunton this morning for Harrisonburg. Changed cars at Charlottesville. day fine. am well as can be expected. arrived at Lynchburg. had very good Treatment, only had to lay on the ground without Shelter..quite a number of wounded are here. Night fine and Mild.

18th The morning is fine. was counted for Rations. received 4 oz. of meat, Some Rice and salt. and under close guard. Camped in a Valley, a stream of water Running through the Camp. The Officer in command is a fine Man. had a little Shower. Some of the 3rd New Jersey came to day. Some of the Boys are still behind. think we will be sent to Danville. I am in good Spirits. Hope to keep so. Wrote home this morning. The Remainder of the boys came in today.

19th Day warm - and 950 came in today all are Encamped on Flannery Island. Plenty of lice but not Much grub, but cant complain so far. feel quite well to day. hope to Remain so as long as I am here. Some of the boys that came to day look very bad. Have no shelter. Lay on the ground without cover-

ing. It is so bad.

20th Left Lynchburg at 10 A.M. took the Southside Rail Road four days Ride. passed through Farmersville, crossed the High Bridge some 200 feel high. the Country is poor and unproductive. day warm and pleasant. Changed Cars at Rushville Junction for Danville. travelled all night in box cars. No Rest for the weary.

21st Arrived at Danville at sun up, the R.R. runs along the Danville River. Town Situated on the River, are quartered in a large Building. Cant look out of the windows, it is against orders. Rations Issued today, Corn Bread and Bacon (Very good). It's warm here, the Country looks God Forsaken.

22nd Left Danville at 10 A.M.

23rd I am very sick

24th Passed Fort Columbus. Changed Cars, Rode all night, arrived at Augusta at 10 A.M. day warm and dusty, almost smothered. Changed Cars for Macon, arrived at Macon 5 P.M. Changed cars, am better to day.

25th Arrived at Andersonville to day, the place of our destination. See quite a number of My Regt. here, a hard place it is too, the boys ruff, all kinds of Huts and Shanties. Some have been here 8 Months. Feel a good deal better to day, a close place, 18,000 Men on 10 acres.

26th Dry and warm, fixed a Shanty to keep the sun and Rain out. Feel very weak today. Saw Davy Anderson of the 3rd New Jersey Cavalry. Drew no Rations to day. Caught a Raider, shaved one side of his head and drove him through the cam[p] for a Show.

27th This is one of the hottest southren days. The officer of the day came in for Sewerage and Tunnels, found 6 near done for. Was transferd from 61 to 12 date, feel quite well and in fine spirits. We hear nothing here.. Rebs had quite a scare today; had troops under arms and in line of Battle all day, cant see why they need be so affraid of us, we have no arms.

28th Warm and fine. Some of Shermans Men came to camp a great many die from Exposure. Some hard looking objects. Nothing of any importance to write every day the same. oh! that we soon May be Relieved from this dreadful Prison and Returned to our homes. have a great distress in My head today (George is well)

29th Warm and fine. More Prisners arrived to day, the Prison is crowded full. dont know What they will do with any More. How different from Home and Sabbath comeforts, all we can see is filth and dirt. all combined Makes it a hard lingering place. Some die, poor fellow from 30 to 40 per day. Hope I will live through this and see home once more. feel very well to day with the Exception of a slight cold.

30th This is Hell on Earth to day and Yesterday. More Yanks came in today so thick one can Scarcely Walk. A number of the boys go out to work on the Stockade to enlarge the Prison. dont feel Well to day. Some talk of a Parole Soon. Cant feed us With proper food. oh, that We may soon be Relieved. but we must wait, hoping We will not get sick.

31st Warm and dry today. George is very Sick dont feel well

myself. the boys commenced a Well to day. Some talk of an armistice for 9 days. How it is dont know only take us out of this.

June 1st Clear and Warm, had quite a Shower tonight, am Verry much indisposed today, feel about discouraged and Jerry is Sick too.

2nd Clear and hot most of the day, had a Shower in the evening and continued near all night. Some of the boys have no covering - am no better today, hope to be soon...

3rd Rain to day, cant Eat anything, am very unwell, am getting quite bony.

4th Raining to day, very disagreeable, feel bad yet, George is not well.

5th Cloudy, but no rain, not so warm to day, Was to prayer Meeting to night, a meeting in this place is not like going to one at home, feel quite Well today, a good many are sick, they die from 40 to 50 per day, Charly and I are better, hope to be so as long as We Remain in this place.

6th Am quite well today. Warm and Showery, 90 died today, no Signs of an Exchange.

7th Clear in the morning, but Rainy all night, a number of prisners came in to day-1200. dont feel well to day, have gone down a great deal since I came here.

8th Warm and Showery. Some More Yanks came in to day. am not well, feel very bad at times. George is very bad too. Two weeks since I came here. It is the hardest two weeks I ever spent, it is so sickly, so many die from exposure to rain and sun. No shelter.

9th Twas warm to day. Showry again in the afternoon. Night warm, a few more Yanks came to day. Over 21,000 in this place. So thick can scarcely move, feel better today. George is not much better, am afraid he will not come from this place if he don't take care of himself—

10th Warm and dry, a little rain at Evening as usual. Oh! This Bull Prison, when will we get from here, some would not go if they could.

11th This has been the hottest day I have experienced since I came in Georgia-at Evening a cool shower came to refresh us poor devils (for a man who is in here is none other than such) had a good dinner today, feel very well. George is no better, would not eat anything.

12th Cool and pleasant, a fine shower, a few more Yanks came to day. About 4 p.m. commenced to rain. Continuing untill dark, then turned into a Regular Storm and Kept it up all night, very hard on the boys who have not Tents. feel bully today, have a good appetite, Some get no beef nor Meal, only Rice and Meat.

13th This has been one of the hardest days With us a cold North East storm. I am thankful for the Shelter we have, oh, how hard it is to see so many men laying in the Storm Without the least thing to Shelter them. poor fellows, but we cant help them. one has all he can do to take care of himself here. Some must surely die if the[y] dont get help Soon.

14th Stormed to last night was a hard one on the boys. Was

so cold and So many have no Shelter. I hope to be Exchanged but how Soon, God only Knows. we hear all Kinds of Reports in this Bull Pen, but believe none of them. I feel very Weak (cold I guess). George is very much under the Weather to day, hope Soon he will be better, the Weather is very hard for the Sick, 50 died last night, some days over 100 die, poor Fellows.

15th Cloudy and Rainy this morning, only one day has passed this Month Without Rain and it appears as if it would rain all the Month. Cleard off at 4 P.M. 1100 more prisners came in the Bull Pen to day, none have Tents, a few blankets, poor Fellows, they Will not stand it long Without Shelter. I dont feel well. George is hard up but I hope he Will Recover.

16th Cloudy in the Morning and Misty all day. More Yanks came in to day. Place so full can Scarcely Walk. Feel Fine. Father H. is Much under the Weather, lent him Some Money, poor Fellow, he Will not Stand it long if he is not careful. No news of getting away from here.

17th Cloudy and misty all day, camp is in an awful state. So filthy but guess todays rain will clear it some. Rained so hard we could cook nothing. Rained all night, so awful to see so many without Shelter.

18th Rained again to day, this makes 18 days it has rained. Some more of my Regt. came in to day. Yanks are Moving, the lot was captured the 19th of May, had a hard time on the march took five days, yet they look Well. I feel well to day, George is very bad, yet I hope he will stand it though.

19th Am very well to day, Raining as usual. Nothing new in camp.

“... mean to live in hopes if I die in despair”.

20th Cloudy and rainy all day, this makes the 20th day it has Rained in succession, more or less. feel tolerable to day, cant Seem to make much in trading, yet hope to do better this week, its so Rainy we cant keep dry, more than half the time.

21st Warm and pleasant, did not Rain any, first clear day this month, went into the baking business, made 35 dolls among four of us, if we could do that every day, will do very well, can live, feel very well but want to get out of this Confederacy into a better land.

22nd Hot and dry in this Prsn, nothing new to write—Much the same every day, feel well and hope to outlive the Confederacy yet.

23rd Hot and dry. Rebs played a fine game on us-no Rations, and took from the Wood squad workmen all they brought in for the boys—some lost as high as \$550. I lost \$10. May the curse of God Rest upon the Rebels & Murderers. cant do nothing else, they must take what little food we can get outside the Bull Pen, dont feel well on this account. I say again may the curse of God follow them all their days.

24th Clear and warm, has the apperence of setteled Weather

now. Dam[n]ed Yanks cant feed us more than half we need, barely enough to keep us alive, I have lost all I had and now am bare, no money, no friends as is the case at all times. Nevertheless I will try and live through the Confederacy to fight them to the end. I am well, so is George.

25th Hot and dry, the Sun is awful in this Bull Pen, enough to take one down, but I Manage to Keep under cover as Much as possible. 40 more Yanks came in from Shermans Army. Some talk of a Parole, how soon it come, dont know. hope it will soon be for I want to get out of this, Never more to Return. May the God of Heaven speed the time.

26th This has been another of those hot days, the sun is so hot, We can scarcely stand it. Kept as close as possible in my Shanty, the Sun Kills a great many of our poor boys in this Prison, it Rumered that an exchange will take place soon, that the Rebs prisners are on their way to Savanah, how true it is dont know, but hope it is so feel Well to day and in good Spirits, mean to live in hopes if I die in dispair.

27th Verry Warm to day, no Rain for some days past, great talk of an Exchange. Report of Ft. Darling being captured, if it is so Richmond is gone up, feel Well and in good spirits, hope to keep so. So many of the boys are hard up, but hope none will be left behind in Georgia. I want to go home so I do but must wait till the time comes.

28th Clear and warm till near sundown when a heavy shower came up and cooled the hot air, a few of my Regt. came in to day, they bring a sad accunt of the Regt. Many are killed and wounded, they lost heavy during those Fights, hope soon to get out of this place. am Well and hope to keep so.

29th Warm and Showery to day, the Raiders Made another assault on the camp. Stopt all Rations untill they are found and given up, the boys caught 14 of them and are to Work yet, hope they will find them all.

30th This has been a busy day after the Raiders, diging in their Tents, they find Watches, Money, Knives and such like. they have 91 of them, they are to be tried by a Jury of twelve Men and receive their just dues for they Will deal severely with them. began to Issue Rations again this afternoon, did not get any though.

July 1st This has been another busy day, the Main ground was opened, have Moved over, this gives us plenty of Room to Navigate and the air has free circulation through the camp Which makes it much nicer. am well today. Lynch and Carson are very Sick.

2nd Cool and fine in the Shade but hot in the Sun. Jonny C. died to day, and Lynch is very Sick, tis my opinion We Shall spend our lives in this Bull Pen. Time Rolls on so Swiftly and I hope we may soon [be] out of this and in a Christian Country where we can get Something better than corn, feel boiling to day—all Kinds of Reports about the Exchange.

3rd Clear and hot. No Rations to day, and some say we not get any for three days, hope the Dam[n]ed Rebs will all sink in Hell before tomorrow Morning, this is no other than a place of Starvation—a disgrace to any Government. I feel well only not enough to Eat. I hope Soon to get enough and

some to spare, this has been a great Sunday for me.

4th Cool and pleasant with Showers all day. I never spent such a day as this The Sight is awful, had More Rations issued today. Some Mush and maggotty, glad to get even this. Oh! for Revenge.

5th Hot and dry. no news from Richmond, hope it has fallen. Yesterday We got no news that we can depend upon. had Rations issued again to day. I feel well, hope to Keep so as long as I Remain here. George is well, but Lynch is very bad—he gets no Medical treatment, to[o] bad the way we are treated, beasts could be used no worse.

6th Some cooler today, but for the Wind the Sun would Kill us, dont feel well today, 350 more Yanks came in to day, drew no bread nor Meal, only Meat. Would not take it so I had to do without.

7th Awful hot to day, no news from Grant but any amount of comeforting Reports such as the capture of Fort Darling. Kicked over a number of the Sutlers tables, Rob[b]ed and let the boys take what they Wanted. Feel Well if I only got a little more grub.

8th Hot and dry, the hottest weather I ever saw. God keep us through and bring us safe home from this Prison.

9th Hot and dry, the sand is a hot as fire. I feel well, if I always feel so I can Stand it through. toward Night the Heavens became overcast and a heavy Shower came cooling the hot air. Near a thousand went outside to go to the H.P. Lay in the sun all day. half died from the heat. Lynch went out and I have not heard from him since. dont know wether he is alive or dead. More Yanks came in to day.

10th Hot and dry, apperence of Rain but did not come. More Yanks came in to day, dont feel well. A number of the Raiders are to be hung tomorrow if they are found guilty. I hope they will get their just deserts as a lesson to the Remainder of the gang.

11th Cool and pleasant with a Shower in the afternoon. Some of the Raiders were hung, the gallows was erected inside the camp so every one could see it. At 5 P.M. they were brought through the gate and turned over to our Men, who performed the Execution over 30,000.

12th Cool and fine, apperence of Rain but came not, but it Keeps the air cool. Some More Yanks came in to day, no news of any account, the old Capt. took a gang of Men out to chop wood. hope it is for the Camp for wood is So Scarce and draw half the Meal. Plenty of Wood all around us, yet we do not get it. God have Mercy on us and Send us Wood to cook our food.

13th Cool and Pleasant in the morning, but about 10 oclock the sun came down boiling and it was a terable hot day, another Tunnel was discovered and filled up to day. Feel well and all Right. May I Remain the Same as long as I am in this Prison. looked like Rain but did not come.

14th Clear and dry. In the afternoon the Rebel Camp Was thrown into quite a confusion. two guns were fired as a Signal to arms, they Were Soon at their posts, it proved to be

a false alarm. No friends came in today. Capt says if the boys dont stop tumbling he will fire the Camp.

15th This has been a terable hot day, a little Rain at night to cool the air. Great God, when will we get out of this horrible. Soon I hope to be in the land of the free. am well to day.

16th To day has been another of those Sunny South days, hot enough to fry the fat out of all the Rebs in Hell, if they were here. I seem to stand the heat very Well so far. To day the Rebs thought to make another haul by confiscation of the boys goods but dident make much. I had some but lost none. Am not well, hop[e] to be better tomorrow.

17th This has been a very pleasant and cool day, the Wind blew cool and Refreshing. had a lovely days Rations and a fine supper, corn bread and Molasses, good food...it for a soldier. guess if I was home dont think I would eat such food, how I do wish I was home tonight, how happy I would be, how would Sister feel if she knew how and where I was. God forbid She should know it, till I get out of this.

18th Cool and quite pleasant with a little Rain in the afternoon.

19th (No record)

20th Quite pleasant with a cool breeze, the Rebs began to throw up Redouts and Rifle pits for the protection of the camp, they [think] things look rather strange and show signs of a raid. Oh, God may they come soon. I feel quite Smart to day, loads of peaches and Melons and apples in camp, but they are to[o] cheap for me (over the left) only \$4 to \$8 ch, and peaches 50 cts each. Want a fortune to live here.

21st Hot and dry, not Much Wind. Rebs at Work on breast Work, a few more Yanks came in from Shermans army. Report a heavy Raid for some point, perhaps for this place. God Speed the time, am not well to day.

22nd Warm and dry. Rebs still at Work on fortifications. More Yanks came in to day, bring no news, talk of Early and Ewel[l] being in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Guess they will find some Yanks there, don't believe they'l Make Much this time. Feel well as usual. Raw Meat and Meal, No Wood to cook With. God keep us safe from death.

23rd Cloudy and cool apperence of a Storm, hope it Will not be a long one, the Weather is very changeable and unhealthy.

Father is hard up and Will have to be careful if he gets out alive. George has a bad cold. I feel as well as can be expected on forage and Raw Meat.

24th Cool and Pleasant all day, at night it was very cold, came near frost, the coldest night I have experienced in Georgia, drew fresh beef and Rice, dont feel well at all.

25th Very chilly and cold, dont feel Well at all, have an attack of the Diarhea, but hope it will not prove Serious. Sent out My pen and pencil and thats the last of them and the Negro. Guess he came back on Me. Will make him pay me Something if its only Wood.

26th Cool and pleasant for July. Oh, if I was only out of this place once More, but no Matter how cool and pleasant it is it Seems hard and Rough to be in prison and loose all the comforts and pleasures of life. Nevertheless I will live in hopes if I die in dispair, am unwell and feel bad, had a small shower.

27th This has been another cold day, and a little Rain at night. More Yanks came in today from Hunters Army. am no better to day but hope to be soon.

28th Very unhealthy in this place, quite a number die daily. I dont feel well, have the Diarhea very bad. More Yanks came in to day, had quite a heavy Shower.

29th Hot and dry till night When We had a small Shower. More Yanks came in today 700 from every army. am quite bad to day hop[e] to be better soon, it is very disagreeable to be sick in this place. George is very bad. Talk of a Parole the 6th of August, hope it will be so for I want to go home out of this Bull Pen.

30th and 31st (No reports)

August 1st and 2nd (No reports)

3rd Hot and dry, am very stiff in My neck and arms, so I can scarcely get them to my head. Tis very disagreeable to be in this Bull Pen. Took quite a number out to day.

NO MORE ENTRIES

[Ed. Cruelty certainly knows no age.]

ALBERT VOORHEES WYCKOFF

Albert Voorhees Wyckoff was killed in action at Cold Harbor VA, June 2, 1864, and is buried in the National Cemetery, Washington, D.C. A memorial marker is in the South Middlebush Cemetery, Somerset NJ. Albert was with the 15th Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers. A noteworthy item about Albert is that he was killed at the age of nineteen years and eleven months with the rank of Sergeant Major.

Now, there must be a story as to how a nineteen year old attained the top enlisted rank at such an early age. Does anyone know the story? What is his Voorhees line — there must be one.

Please write to Manning Voorhees.

1998 DUES

An addressed envelope is enclosed with this Nieuwsbrief for remittance of your 1998 dues. Please send Scott Voorhees, our Financial Secretary, your dues for this year. It is important that we maintain our operating cash flow, part of which is applied toward Van Voorhees Family in America. Thank you.

Visit the Van Voorhees Association
web site on the Internet at:
<http://www.vanvoorhees.org>

NEW MEMBERS

Tom Van Voorhies, Chairperson of our Membership Committee, reported the following new members as of November 1, 1997. Welcome to the Van Voorhees Association — we look forward to talking with you at the Reunion on October 10th.

Elizabeth Voorhees Pels, Hancock NH
Martha B. Engle, Ste. Genevieve MO
Elizabeth Hall Albert, Ashville NC
Edward C. Waltz, Voorheesville NY
Marion G. Darman, Washington Mills NY
Beverly "Jean" Akre, Portland OR
William Robert Mayne, Lake St. Louis MO
Kathleen Ann Voorhees, Amityville NY
Marian S. Meyer, Bridgewater NJ
Myron Elliott Smith, Springfield VT **
Robert de Berardinis, Houston TX
Merle Milton Voris, Windfall IN
William Duyckinick Van Der Beek, Jr., Manasquan NJ **+
Joyce Dunbar Angotti, Millinocket ME **
Steven P. Van Voorhis, Corona CA **
Rhea Voorheis Hayden, Robinson IL
Charles R. Tullis, Remington IN
Jill Voorhees Ballard, Montana CA
Jeffry Mathew Voorhees, Arnold CA
Kristine Voorhees Williams, Salinas CA
Susan J. Threlkeld, Toronto, Ontario, Canada ***
Adrienne Barr, Wayne NJ
Lorraine M. Palmer, Livingston NJ
Rosalie A. Mulson, Bloomfield NY
Mary Hise King, Chico CA
Carolyn Voorhees Polhemus, Flemington NJ
Amy Beth Voorhees, APO AE ***
Patricia Mielbrecht, Spokane WA
Bernice Totten Manning, Florham Park NJ
Danielle Carlock, Las Cruces NM
Arthur G. Voorhees 3rd, Santa Fe NM **
Larry Michael Voreis, Taylors SC
Martha "Susan" Rood, Sebring FL

Life Members

Life Members are a special group who have shown particular dedication to the objectives of the Van Voorhees Association. We are very pleased to announce the following new Life Members:

Angela Mary (Curtis) Oliver, Caldwell OH
Amy Louise Lenow, Virginia Beach VA
Theodore V. Wood, Jr., Philadelphia PA
John Paul Voorhees, Sherman CT
James L. Drake, Raymond MO
The Rev. Frederick W. Pyne, Frederick MD

Key: ** Sustaining Member
*** Contributing Member
+ Additional Contribution

MARY VOORHEES AND THE BLACKWELL HOUSE

Who said that family history is easy? Well, we have news for you. A characteristic of our ancestors is that they liked to use the same or very similar names for their children. This was nice for the then generation, but it tends to create headaches for genealogists today.

The Spring 1997 Nieuwsbrief included an 1895 photograph of the F. Blackwell house that is hanging in the Rangers' office of the New Jersey State Park Services along the Delaware and Raritan Canal near Blackwell's Mills, in Somerset County. It pictures Jacob J. Garretson, his wife Anna and Mary Voorhees. According to data with the photograph, Mary owned the property and the Garretson's were tenant farmers. The three people lived in the house shown in the photo.

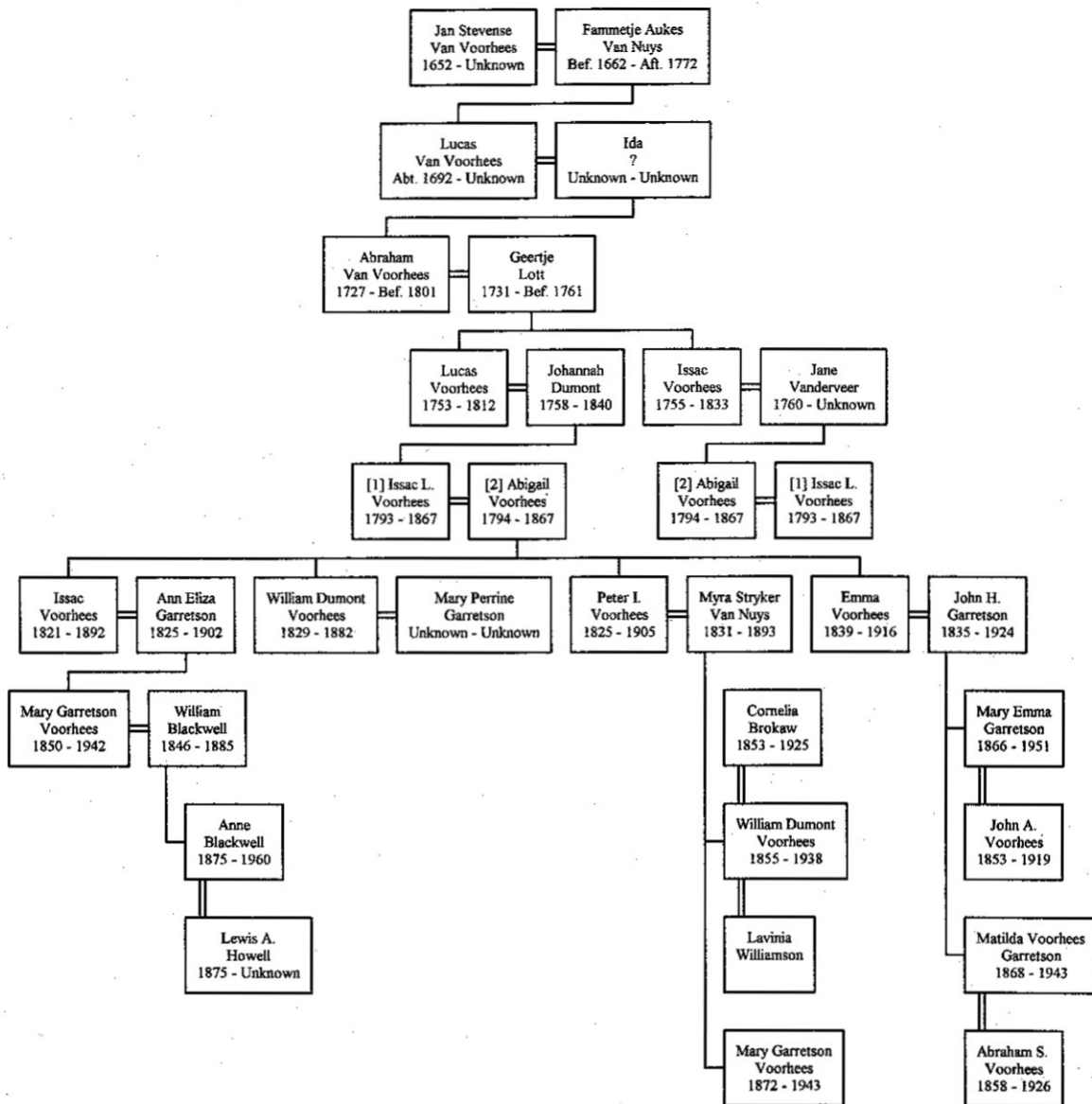
We attempted to supply Mary's genealogy. Unfortunately, the challenge proved to be rather complicated and the lineage in the Nieuwsbrief was not correct. June Wick drew our attention to the error. She supplied some data and then we went through the 1996 draft version of Van Voorhees Family in America to put it all together. June points out that the lady in the photograph, and apparent owner of the farm and house, is Mary Perrine Garretson who married William Dumont Voorhees. That seems simple — yes? No. There are more than one Mary Garretson and William Dumont Voorhees in the immediate family, and similar names. The next earlier generation was Isaac L Voorhees and Abigail Voorhees, who were first cousins. Marriages of cousins were not unknown in the 17th century and a good part of the 18th. The picture was further complicated when Mary Emma Garretson married John A. Voorhees and Matilda Voorhees Garretson married Abraham S. Voorhees. John and Abraham were brothers. They were also brothers of June's grandfather, George Buckingham Voorhees of the Lucas Line. Her father is J. Russell Voorhees, born in 1902.

June suggested that we publish a descendant chart so that all of this can be simplified. The chart accompanies this article and is based on the 1996 draft genealogy and some information from June. Mary Perrine Garretson was the wife of William Dumont Voorhees, 1829-1882. There was no information in the 1996 draft for their children. The next question is, who was "F. Blackwell" for whom the house is known? Did he have any connection with William Blackwell, 1846-85, or is the name of the house derived from someone else in the family associated with Blackwell's Mills? Any takers?

All of this is "real family" for June. Her father was born in the same house in Blackwell's Mills that was the birth place of Emma Voorhees, 1839-1916. Pastor David Risseeuw, of the Six Mile Run Reformed Church, at the Reunion last October gave June copies of a photograph that shows Mary Garretson Voorhees, 1850-1942, with June's great uncle, Abraham S. Voorhees and his family. June is very happy to have the picture.

Thank you, June. Her address is in Who's Who.

MARY PERRINE GARRETSON AND BLACKWELL HOUSE



MISSING COUSINS

Mail for the following members has been returned as "undeliverable." If anyone can contact a "lost cousin" or forward his/her new address to us, we will appreciate it. To prevent this situation, please send us your new address when you move. The Post Office will forward mail for a limited period, which seems to vary across the country, after which you will become "undeliverable" and lost forever to the Association. If the Nieuwsbrief arrives with a yellow address sticker containing your new address, please advise us because you will shortly become "lost". Thank you.

Earl A. Hart, P.O. Box 13, APO AE 09880-9000
 Mrs. Barbara G. Ellis, 101 Rainbow Drive #4253, Livingston TX 77351-9300
 Mrs. Susan Wickem, 4800 Jefferson #501, Kansas City MO 64112-1869

Everett W. Voorhies, 120 Trumble Meadows, Kalispell MT 59901-6575
 Walter R. Haines, P.O. Box 3, Newton IA 50208-0003
 Mrs. Elsie M. Snow, 742 N. Beach Street, Ormond Beach FL 32174-4008

MIDWEST VORHEES REUNION

A Midwest Voorhees Reunion will be held this year at a location and date to be determined. Darlene Vorhies (Mrs.) asks that interested cousins write to her at 306 West Harrison, Fairfield IA 52556, telephone 515-472-4449. Darlene has organized reunions for many years and they are a lot of fun. Don't miss it — write or call her.

VAN VOORHEES FAMILY IN AMERICA

At the Executive Committee meeting on October 11, 1997, Fr. Bill Lydecker, Chairperson of our Historical and Genealogical Committee, announced that the latter Committee decided the previous evening that our new genealogy will include the first six generations. There had been some discussion about limiting the genealogy to the first five generations because a publication embracing six will be enormous. There was also some concern about the financial cost of a much larger book that would include the six generations. This decision has now been made and we move forward.

The genealogy will have an index of some 170 pages and a total of around 1,000 pages (500 individual sheets). These are the present estimates — the final product may vary somewhat. Financing a project of this size for our Association is no easy task. Raising supplemental funds to pay for the genealogy cannot be ignored, as we would prefer to do. Our present estimates are that we need to raise around \$45,000 to bring the book through publication. In this regard, please see the report on our genealogical fund raising drive elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief.

Florence Christoph and Judith Van Voorhis reported that nearly all of the information accumulated since 1932 has been entered into the computer (using Master Genealogist software). Near-term production goals have been established. The target for the end of 1997 was to perform a first proofreading by a few readers to determine the first cut on style. More extensive proofreading was scheduled to commence around year-end 1997 and into 1998. David Voorhees plans to contact members who have volunteered to be proofreaders over the next few months. (This Nieuwsbrief was written in November 1997.) The printer should receive the tome in January of 2000. David maintains a task-by-task listing with target dates for completion. These data are also produced in a Gantt Chart of time lines. Slippages may occur here and there, but the Historical and Genealogical Committee is using up-to-date management tools to track our progress.

An outstanding item to be resolved is the style of the index. This has been deferred to the next Executive Committee meeting. The large scope of the first six generations is taxing Florence's computer. This situation is aggravated by the 55,000 names that are stored in the data base for all of the generations since Steven Coerts. About 10,000 of these names are duplicates occasioned by marriages of cousins and multiple marriages. All of this affects the length and breadth for the index of Van Voorhees Family in America.

Progress is being made, thanks to our many dedicated volunteers. Nothing will happen unless people make it happen.

NEXT NIEUWSBRIEF

March 23, 1998 is the editorial deadline for the Spring Nieuwsbrief. Please send interesting genealogical and historical articles about the Van Voorhees Family and news of your particular family to Manning Voorhees. If you forward material that is copyrighted, please include the publisher of the book or magazine and the date of publication. We must obtain permission to reproduce copyrighted works. Thank you.

VOORHEES CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS

VOORHEES MEMORIAL SERMON

Many of our ancestors are interred in the several old cemeteries located in the broad area of Six Mile Run, Somerset County NJ. A tabulation of the Voorhees' in these cemeteries and a brief description of the burying grounds, with an index, was distributed at the October 1997 Reunion. Data were obtained from the Somerset County Historical Quarterly and The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey. A copy may be obtained by writing to Manning Voorhees. Please enclose three 32 cent stamps for postage. Thank you.

Also available from Manning is a photocopy of the memorial sermon for Peter A. Voorhees, Abram Voorhees and Thomas Gibson delivered on March 11, 1883 in the Franklin Park (Six Mile Run) Reformed Church. This was brought to our attention by Russ Vail, of Lakehurst NJ, who came across it as he was organizing our files. The biography of Peter and the story of the tragic death of the three men was in the Spring 1997 Nieuwsbrief. Please enclose three 32 cent stamps for postage. Thank you.

ORIN VOORHEIS

We have reported the tragic story of Orin Voorheis in past issues of the Nieuwsbrief. Elder Voorheis was a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Argentina when he was attacked on April 9, 1997 near Buenos Aires and very seriously wounded. An Elder of the Church donated his private jet airplane and flew Orin home to Utah. A hollow point bullet had exploded in his brain.

The following Email was written by Wayne Voorheis, Orin's father, and is dated October 1, 1997.

"Here is the latest, a modified version of the regular reports I provide to his mission president in Argentina with a small preamble regarding what happened to Elder Voorheis.

"On April 9th at about 9:30 Buenos Aires time, Elder Voorheis was shot just behind the left ear. There was one trajectory for the bullet (small caliber), but two small pieces broke off as it passed through the brain. The path of the bullet went through the brain stem but did not exit the skull. It came to rest in the left frontal lobe. The neurosurgeon said that history suggests less risk to leave it than to remove it, that is unless it gives him trouble later.

"Elder Hunstman sent his Private jet to Argentina to bring him and us back. We arrived in Utah April 30th and transferred Elder Voorheis to the University of Utah Hospital that evening. For a few weeks he was mostly paralyzed but gradually movement returned, first to his arms, then to his legs. By mid-June he could turn his head from one side to the other. Significant purposeful movement gradually began to develop later in July. During the first two months in the hospital, he fought for his against pneumonia at least three times. The pneumonia was caused by an antibiotic resistant strain of bacteria.

"Now, October 1st, Elder Voorheis performs tasks on

command much better now than he did even a couple weeks ago. Sunday, September 28th, Elder Voorheis was on the living room floor of our home with his younger brother Tyler, lying next to him on a makeshift mattress. I asked him to reach over to Tyler and take hold of his hand. I slowly moved his right hand toward Tyler's hand. After a few moments Elder Voorheis did reach and grasp Tyler's hand firmly without assistance. This morning, I asked him to wave goodbye to me by holding his hand up with fingers extended. He did it without any help. We have been working toward this achievement for about a month.

"Here is a short review, not as a Doctor would put it, but as we, his parents, observe:

"1. Is Elder Voorheis still in a coma? That is a good question! He may be, but may not be, depending on whose scale you use to evaluate him. The factors which would place him in a coma are probably the results of longer term deficits, not symptoms of a coma. If it is true that he is not, then when did he come out of the coma? On a long shot guess, he may have emerged from the coma three weeks after the shooting when he first began to open his eyes. However, his deficits were so pervasive that they effectively masked what we saw and thought to be coma, but instead may have been the result of his deficits. If this is the case, the resulting sequence of events means that, while we were waiting for him to 'wake up' and talk to us, he was instead, progressing slowly, gaining an inch at a time repairing the brain stem damage affecting: level of consciousness (sleep v coma v 'day-dreaming'), vision, hearing, paralysis of all limbs (legs more than arms), and speech. With this concept in mind, we can stop waiting for him to 'wake up', but continue to encourage him to get back to the point where he is normal, but expecting no quantum leaps by waking up, rather step by step, inch by inch achievement.

"2. Elder Voorheis can move his arms and legs purposefully when he wants to. This includes grasping (or releasing) and picking things up with his hands, helping with his own dressing in the mornings by raising his arms and feet when appropriate to put through sleeves etc., doing tasks by command (early in the day when not too tired) such as: hitting a balloon used as a ball by therapists, kicking a large ball rolled to him, tracking a mirror moved from side-to-side (including moving his head from side-to-side to track it), and stretching his legs out straight, and signaling with his index finger stretched out straight for "Yes" and balling his fist for "No", and pushing his wheel chair backwards with his feet.

"Also I have observed him doing things on his own such as: scratching the back of his neck when it itches, rubbing his eye with his knuckles (rt hand only), pointing to places where he hurts. He participates in hugs with his arms, raises his hand for a handshake (occasionally), and waves by holding his hand up with his hand open and fingers extended.

"When I dress him in the morning, I have him sit on the edge of the bed to put on his garment top and shirt. It gets him vertical for a short time before the therapists come to get him 'all the way up', and gives a little more circulation and involvement. He can almost maintain his own balance for a couple minutes while sitting there. He puts his hands down on the mattress to steady himself a little while I put his clothes on.

"3. Elder Voorheis still does not speak. If I understand correctly, the bullet passed into and yet remains in the area of the brain where the ability to speak resides. Apparently, he will need to learn to make sounds, that is, experiment with his own ability like an infant, until he re-learns to talk over again. He makes sounds at certain times, such as when we would cry, scream, or sigh, but he moans or cries out, or a combination of a sigh and a moan. We are encouraged by the regular, steady progress he continues to make. Continuing at this rate he will take many months yet to return to normal, maybe years. (Remember, this is me, not a doctor, making a guess). The hope is that his rate of improvement will accelerate, the further along he progresses.

"I hope this is helpful. Thanks, Wayne Voorheis"

Our prayers will continue for Orin's complete recovery.

VOORHIES COLONNADE IN DENVER

Glendon Voorhees, of Cincinnati OH, sent us this photograph of the Voorhies Colonnade in Denver. Erected in 1920, it memorializes Georgia Hammond Voorhies, the deceased wife of John H. P. Voorhies. Mr. Voorhies bequeathed funds to the City of Denver for a gateway in connection with a new civic center in which Mrs. Voorhies and he were very interested. The full story can be found on pages 109 through 111 of the Van Voorhees Historical Handbook. Glendon visited Denver this past summer and sent us his photograph to show that all is well with the Voorhies Colonnade. He was in town for a reunion of his World War II regiment — the 314th of the 79th Division. Thank you, Glendon.

*Glendon W. Voorhees, 7117 Memory Lane, Cincinnati OH
45239-5322.*



GENEALOGICAL FUND RAISER

As of December 12, 1997, when the computer disk with the text for this Nieuwsbrief was sent to Bob Van Voorhis for pagination, \$11,057.45 was received as supplemental funding for Van Voorhees Family in America. Of this total, \$3,537.00 was pledged for remittance in 1998 and 1999. The brokerage account with Paine Webber was in the process of being established on December 12th. Donated common stock in the approximate market value of \$1,670.00 on that date was on hand for sale when the account became operative. This amount, less commission, is not included in the total receipts of the first sentence.

Our goal for Van Voorhees Family in America is \$45,000 over the three years 1997 through 1999. We had received approximately 28% of that goal on December 12th. Included in this Nieuwsbrief is a form for contributions. If you have not contributed so far, please clip out the form or photocopy it and send your gift to Manning Voorhees. Donations are deductible for Federal tax purposes and you will receive a tax confirmation letter. An easy way to help is to donate low basis stock. You will receive a Federal tax deduction at the current market value and the Association will receive the cash value. We need your help! Best of all, however, you will have the satisfaction of helping to publish our long-awaited genealogy. Thank you very much.

MILESTONES

Charles Owen Tullis, of Rensselaer IN, passed on June 16, 1997 in his 94th year ... he was a resident of Rensselaer for eighty years and a retired school teacher ... he is survived by his son, Charles R. Tullis, of Remington IN, daughter Jane Lord, of Palmdale CA, daughter Suellen Barnett, of Calastoga CA, and one step-son, two step-daughters, five grandchildren and nine gr grandchildren.

Harold Leroy Steward, of Lebanon OH, was called on July 11, 1997 ... he is survived by his wife, Lorraine ... Harold was proud of his genealogical and family research — he compiled several folders of data for his family tree.

OCTOBER REUNION

Our next Reunion will be on October 10, 1998 at the Reformed Church in Highland Park NJ, across the Raritan River from New Brunswick. Dr. David William Voorhees will be our speaker. David is Professor of History at New York University and a member of the Association. He is an expert on Jacob Leisler and the 1688 insurrection in New York that is known as Leisler's Rebellion. Coert Stevens Van Voorhees played a part in the Leisler scenario. In this regard, please see the lead article in the Nieuwsbrief for January 1996. David will talk about the role of the Family in Leisler's Rebellion. It should be noted that this aspect of the Van Voorhees Family is now unfolding. David's article, "Women in Leisler's Rebellion", appeared in the Summer 1997 issue of *de Halve Maen*, published by The Holland Society of New York (122 East 58th Street, New York NY 10022).

The Program Committee will attempt to identify an historical site to visit during the afternoon. Inquiries could not proceed until at least the middle of January 1998. The Spring Nieuwsbrief will report upon these efforts. In the interim, be sure to mark your calendar for the 66th Annual Reunion of the Van Voorhees Association.

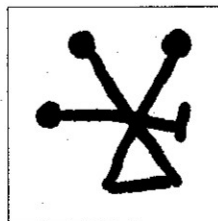
HANDMARKS OF STEVEN AND ALBERT COERTS

Peter Newcombe (see the lead article on page one) may have found the so-called handmarks of Steven and Albert Coerts. Peter sent the marks to us by Email and they are reproduced with this article. The marks were found in Handmerken in Drenthe by B. Jonker (Drentse Historische Vereniging, Krips Repro Meppel, 1986; ISBN 90.6497.014.9). Peter suggests that Mr. Jonker's work be examined carefully to establish with certainty that the mark identified as Steven's is in fact that of Steven Coerts.

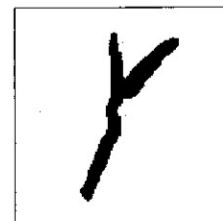
Albert's mark is probably a pitch fork. The citation is: OSA (Oud Stats Archief) 1778, folio 15r., May 10, 1628; "Albert Coers, convent tenant at Voorhees"; Code II, 11. Steven's mark is more complicated and the citation is: OSA 1778, folio 64v., circa 1633; "Steven Koers voor backhuys"; Code VIII, 61. Peter describes Steven's mark "as a saltire cross, the bottoms of the two saltires joined by an horizontal member with the uppermost ends of the saltire appended with a ball, at the intersection of the saltire, i.e. its midpoint, is an horizontal member overall the same length as the diagonals with the left end appended with a ball and the right appended with a vertical line." What does Steven's mark represent? Peter speculates that "it represents the timbers above a well, with the horizontal member being the balance to draw up the rope and bucket of water; these wells can still be seen in some villages in Drenthe."

The discovery of a mark or sign that was probably used by Steven Coerts is another good step forward in our knowledge about his life. Steven's written signature as "Stevenn Koers" appears on page 31 of *Through a Dutch Door*. A further signature specimen is in *A History of the Town of Flatlands*, by Anson DuBois, D.D., published in 1864. Is it possible that Steven could not write and another person wrote his name? Or, was the handmark used for purposes other than ascribing one's name to a document?

Thank you, Peter.



Steven's Handmark



Albert's Handmark

THE FLATBUSH CHURCH RECORDS

by Dr. Walton Van Winkle

Following is the text of Walton Van Winkle's talk at the October 11, 1997 Reunion at Six Mile Run. Walton's address is: 621 South 9th St., Philadelphia PA 19147 or <76676.2015@compuserve.com>.

Hello, as Dave [David R. Voorhees] has just informed you, I am chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee [of the Holland Society of New York] for the Publication of the Old Dutch Reformed Church Records. This committee was formed almost three years ago to translate and publish the records of the colonial Dutch churches. The records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the Town of Flatbush in Kings County is our first project, and is being translated and edited by your own Dr. David William Voorhees. We chose the Flatbush records as our first project because the Flatbush area is considered by many to be "the cradle of the colonial Dutch" since so many families got started there, many later moving on to New Jersey. Harry Macy of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society has told us they are of great interest to genealogists specializing in many different areas, not just in Dutch or New York genealogies.

These records should be of especial interest to this gathering since Stephen Courten was a member and Court Stephansz an elder of the New Amersfort, or Flatlands, church. Court Stephansz was also a member of the Consistory of the Four Villages, the four villages being Brooklyn, Midwood (Flatbush), New Amersfoort (Flatlands), and New Utrecht. A consistory is the governing body of a church and is made up of the dominie, or minister, elders and deacons. Normally, every Dutch Reformed church has a consistory. In this case, however, one consistory covered all four congregations because each congregation was too small to justify having a dominie of its own. So the dominie rode circuit between the four congregations, each congregation having its turn of his services. The Consistory of the Four Villages was made up of two elders from each congregation. The duties of an elder were "to exercise church discipline and conduct house visits together with the minister, assist him with distributing wine and bread during communion, and see to it that ministers and deacons remain(ed) true to their calling."

Court Stephansz' name shows up early in the consistory minutes that have survived, which cover the period from 1678 to 1685. He is a signer to a response by the consistory to the Rev. Dom. Casparus van Zuuren who had been contesting the exchange rate of sewant, or wampum, to guilders when it came to his salary. The consistory resolved the matter somewhat in his favor by agreeing to have the exchange rate increased "five for one from now on in place of four and one half." As I recall, he was asking for something more along the lines of seven to one.

As a member of the consistory, Court Stephansz had not only to deal with problems arising in his own congregation of New Amersfoort, but with problems arising in any of the other congregations as well. For instance, the congregation at Midwood seemed to have terrible luck with their schoolmasters. In 1680/1 they had a schoolmaster named Jan Gerritsz van Markken who had been "committing excesses in many ways,

as for example, in that he has paid more attention to the tavern than to the school and the instruction of the youth, and in that he has treated the minister in the presence of certain strangers and friends with the utmost lack of respect and scorn." Even after being officially ordered to leave by the consistory (and here Court Stephansz was involved), van Markken continued in his bad ways and "had not ceased slandering those who passed judgement upon him, in particular reviling the minister impudently and without respect by calling him a scoundrel, prince of scoundrels, gossiper, false witness, etc."

This matter was finally settled by having both parties — van Markken and the consistory — each appoint two arbitrators, both parties agreeing to abide by the arbitrators' decision. In the end, van Markken admitted he was wrong for slandering the minister and so apologized, stating he had been under strain because he felt he had been wronged. But he was still obliged to resign since the arbitrators had found sufficient cause for his initial discharge. Six months later, his name comes up again in the consistory minutes as having "resorted to his customary abuse."

It is material like this that makes this time and place come alive. And you can just imagine Court Stephansz there as elder and consistor hearing this and trying to resolve it. The consistory minutes are full of such lively material. Just try to imagine what Court Stephansz was thinking when he heard this one. Again not in his church of Amersfoort but in Midwood.

Van Markken was replaced by a new schoolmaster named Jan Thibald, who proved no better, if not worse. On June 16th, 1682, the consistory met at Midwood "to ascertain the truth in regard to the rumors, which have been spread abroad for some time past, concerning the deportment of the schoolmaster, Mr. Jan Thibaud." It seems Mr. Thibaud had "behaved himself unseemly" with some of the women of the village. For instance, Lysbeth van Ravenstein testified that Thibaud had "used certain vile words and speeches toward her" and had "resorted to dishonorable feeling and touching of her." Gerritje Spiegelaars accused him of tormenting her with "obscene speeches" and "dishonorable touching of her person."

Later, Thibaud himself was summoned before the consistory; at which time, "in reference first to the accusation of Gerritje Spiegelaars, he testified and declared that when coming out of the garden he said to her, 'Out of the way ... or I'll step on your feet', with one hand giving her a slap on her behind, and he noticed that she was angry about it as she gave him a slap in the face."

In reference to another complainant, Jannetje Roemers, "she accused him to his face that he had touched her dishonorably", that he had also exposed himself "near or in the back door in very scandalous manner. This he denied at first in her presence, but, later, being heard alone, he said that he did not know that he had done such a thing since he was wholly intoxicated."

Finally, it was decided that Jan Thibaud "should be suspended for a time from service in order to see if in the meantime he could bring forward anything more in his defense; at the expiration of which time and nothing brought forward he

should thereupon be dismissed from his service." And so, eventually he was. (I quote extensively here so you may get a feel for the quality of the translation and the interesting material contained in these records.)

Now, elders generally served for two years. So after 1681, Court Stephansz' name no longer appears as a signature in the consistory minutes. He and other Voorhees' might be mentioned elsewhere in the consistory minutes, but we have yet to complete the index to the records. When completed, the index is what will make this publication special. It will locate every name in the church records, taking into account all variations and spellings of any given name. So for instance, Stephen Courten, spelled in the members list as S-t-e-p-h-e-n C-o-u-r-t-e-n, will also be indexed as S-t-e-v-e-n C-o-e-r-t-e-n. It will also be listed under Van Voorhees and Voorhees in all of its various spellings. It does help to have a Voorhees as editor.

But even without an index and just thumbing through the typeset pages of these records, I was able to locate a few Voorhees just to give you an idea of what can be found. I will give three examples from the marriage records, though not presented as it would appear graphically in the published records:

In the year 1711: "On [March 24th], had their bans proclaimed Coert Van Voorhees, young man, born in N. Utrecht and residing in N. Amersfoort, and Grietje Wykof, young lady, born and residing in N. Amersfoort."

In the year 1716: "On August 18th, the bans were proclaimed of Coert van Voorhees, young man, born in Jamaica and living in Gravesend, and Neeltje Hegeman, young lady, born and residing in the New Lots under jurisdiction of midwood: Married, September 19th, 1716, by me, V. Antonides."

In the year 1717: "On April 6th, the marriage bans were proclaimed of Hendrik Van Voorhees, young man, born in N. Utrecht, and residing in N. Amersfoort, and Jannetje Andriesz, young lady, born and residing in Midwood. Married, May 3rd, 1717, by me, V. Antonides."

The wonderful thing about these entries is that now you have, besides the names of spouses and date and location of marriage, you also have places of birth and current residence where you can pursue your research.

This volume of The Flatbush Church Records will consist of the Consistory Minutes 1678-1686; Register of the Days of the Administration of the Lord's Supper 1677-1686; Election of Elders and Deacons 1677-1684; Marriages 1677-1694 and 1706-1720; Church Membership 1677-1690; Baptisms 1677-1690 and 1709-1754. All have been typeset except for the Baptisms which David is now in the process of typesetting.

Some of the features of this publication are (1) it will have the transliterated Dutch on one page and the English line-for-line translation on the facing page; (2) the typesetting will be faithful to the layout of the original manuscript; (3) it will have an informative introduction by Dr. David W. Voorhees.

The first volume of this projected two-volume edition will be out sometime before summer. The price for this first volume will be \$60.00, but we are now offering a prepublication discount of \$50.00. Anyone interested in ordering a copy now at the prepublication price can send a letter to me,

Walton Van Winkle, III, care of The Holland Society of New York, 122 East 58th Street, New York, New York 10022. I will then send you an order form.

Before closing, I would like to thank the past-president of The Holland Society, Peter Van Dyke, for initiating this project and for supporting it financially, and I would also like to thank Richard Post, member of the Society, for establishing the Richard G. Post Scholarship Fund, which finances this project, and to thank him also for his continuing contribution and support. And thank you all for giving me this opportunity to talk about The Flatbush Church Records and how it can be of use to the Voorhees family.

WHAT'S WITH THE COUSINS

Deanna Lackey was married to William J. Dillon on January 9, 1997. She is the daughter of Esther Jean and Allan Lackey, and is an administrative secretary with Ohio State University Extension. Both parents are Voorhees descendants and members of the Association. They live in Guysville OH. Source: The Wyckoff House and Association Bulletin, Vol. LX, 1997.

Karen Voorhees Wernicke, of Los Angeles CA, wrote that Lieut. Commander Roy "Butch" Voris appeared on a television program describing how he organized and ran the Navy Blue Angels precision flying group. A video can be purchased for \$29.95 by calling 800-423-1212. We wrote about Butch and his achievements in the June 1996 Nieuwsbrief.

A recent Public Radio Wireless catalog offered "Christmas Favorites for Harp" by Rachel Van Voorhees. She "skillfully perform[ed] 30 cherished carols." Elsa V. Hauschka, of Damariscotta ME, sent us the catalog page. Elsa asks, "Did you know we have this gorgeous cousin?" Rachel's picture is on the cover of the record album.

Steve Leavenworth has many old photographs of his Voorhees ancestors that he can digitize on a computer disk. Perhaps Steve can make photocopies on a color copier — which are of surprising quality. There are several photos of the same person at different ages. Some of his ancestors are Olive Voorhees Clayton, Steve's great grandmother, Albert Voorhees, his gr gr gr grandfather, and many others. If interested, write to Steve at 12 Fellows Street, Concord NH 03301-2627.

Paul Van Voorhees, of Honolulu HI, combined a vacation with the 1997 Reunion. Paul sailed to England on the QE II a couple of days after the Reunion and wrote that "the QE II experience was fabulous."

Charli and Mike Greenlees, of Montclair CA, celebrated their 25th anniversary on October 6, 1997. Mike also celebrated his 30th anniversary with Allied Signal. Charli is employed at O'Melveny & Myers, attorneys at law, in Los Angeles. Daughter Jennifer recently graduated Cum Laude with Honors from Washington State University in Pullman WA and is now in the Czech Republic for the Fall semester of the University of Economics in Prague. Jennifer also attended Irkutsk State University in 1995-96. Son Jason is a member of the U. S. Army and is scheduled for Korean assignment January 1998 after training at various sites in this country. Mom and Dad are active in their chapters of the Daughters of the Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution.

Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief

VAN VOORHEES WHO'S WHO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Manning W. Voorhees, 2415 Spring Hill Drive, Toms River NJ 08755-0987
(732)886-0426, <voorheeszoo@juno.com> or <littlelamb@compuserve.com>

Vice President: Scott T. Voorhees, 147 Grand Boulevard, Emerson NJ 07630, (201)967-1013,
<svoorhees@acord.com>

Secretary ProTem: Ms. Patricia J. Zander-Carlo, 215 Silver Hill Lane, Stamford CT 06905, (203)322-7056,
<pzc@aol.com>

Treasurer: Vacant

Financial Secretary: Scott T. Voorhees (see above)

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

LINE REPRESENTATIVES

Albert Line: Mrs. Frederick (Marilyn) Brack, 24 Mary St., No. Haledon, NJ 07508, (973)427-9246

Coert Line: Mrs. Glee Van Osdol-Krapf, 215 Washington St., Tamaqua PA 18252-1324, (717)668-1818

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

Lucas Line: Ms. Judith Voorhees, 30 San Salvador St., Toms River NJ 08757, (732)505-9232

Aeltje Line: Ms. Margaret A. Ramsey, 2 Andrews Lane, Princeton NJ 08540-7633, (609)252-9256

Hendrickje Lines: Ted L. Hogert, 5301-7 White Cliff Cr., Orlando, FL 32812, (407)273-7148

Jantje Line: Vacant

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Mrs. George L. (Alice) Adams, 24 Redcliffe Ave. #1A, Highland Park NJ 08904-1636
Donald A. Sinclair 108 North 2nd Ave., Highland Park NJ 08904-2421, (732)545-0568

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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

- o **Genealogist** Mrs. Peter (Florence) Christoph, CG, 181 Maple Ave., Selkirk NY 12158, (518)767-3004,
<xoph@acmenet.net>
- o **Member Research** Mrs. Joseph (Virginia) Ward, 64 Ta'agan Point Rd., Danbury CT 06811-3841 (203)792-2537,
<dbrc19b@prodigy.com>
- o **Inquiries/MIS** Ms. Judith K. Van Voorhis, 2880 Rosendale Rd., Niskayuna NY 12309, (518)393-5106,
<mevanv@albany.net>

o **Volume II Admin.** David R. Voorhees, 209 Lamb-Hopewell Rd., Hopewell NJ 08525, (609)466-1139
<jassbr@aol.com> or <voorhees@injersey.com>

- o **Transcriber** Mrs. James (Adrienne) Haney, 36B Fox Meadow Rd., Leominster MA 01453, (508)534-7283,
<AdrienneH@aol.com>

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

Programs: Scott T. Voorhees (see above)

Publications: Robert S. Voris (see above)

- o **Volume II Admin.** David R. Voorhees (see above)

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

Nominations: Ms. Cornelia V. Mason, 32 Elkan Rd., Larchmont NY 10538, (914)833-1276 <nilla2@aol.com>

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

Sales: Ms. Judith Voorhees (see above)

REGIONAL ORGANIZERS

New England: Mrs. James (Adrienne) Haney (see above)

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Manning W. Voorhees (see above)

Publisher: Robert E. Van Voorhis, Jr., 4503 Coronado Court, Cedar Falls IA 50613-6322 (319)268-1511,
<bobvv@telepro.com>

GENEALOGICAL CONTRIBUTION COUPON

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 \$ _____.
- Donate stock worth approximately \$ _____ at current market. I will initiate transfer of this stock into the name of the Van Voorhees Association.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail to: Manning Voorhees, 2415 Spring Hill Drive, Toms River, New Jersey 08755-2523. Please mail stock certificates to the same address.

ITEM SALES FORM

The Association continues to stock items of interest to members. All orders should be accompanied by a check payable to the Van Voorhees Association. Please do not send cash. All orders should be sent to:

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

Items for Sale Quantity	Members Non-Members		
Tote Bag	\$10.00	\$11.00	_____
Coat of Arms Tile	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Coat of Arms Patch	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00	_____
Historic Handbook	\$ 6.00	\$ 7.00	_____
Van Voorhees Letters	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	_____
Baseball Cap	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00	_____
Handpainted Coat of Arms	\$10.00	\$12.00	_____
Tietac\Pin	\$15.00	\$15.00	_____
Coat of Arms, (X Stitch Pattern)	\$ 1.50	\$ 2.00	_____

TOTAL \$ _____
 Purchases are sent postpaid with no additional shipping charges.

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

BOOK ORDER FORM

Through a Dutch Door, 17th Century Orgins of the Van Voorhees Family

_____ copies @ regular price, \$22.00 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to The Van Voorhees Association and mail to:

Mr. Robert S. Voris, 802 Berkeley Rd., Westover Hills, Wilmington, DE 19807

Please enclose this complete form or a photocopy with your order.

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

FIRST CLASS

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



THE VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION
2415 SPRING HILL DRIVE
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08755-0987
732-886-0426
103505.3502@COMPUSERVE.COM

August 22, 1997

S. O. S.

Save Our Ship ? What ship ? No, we are not referring to *de Bonte Koe* as it is probably beyond rescuing. Our money locker for *Van Voorhees Family in America*, however, will need replenishing in the predictable future in order for us to produce the long-awaited Family genealogy.

The Association received several bequests many years ago. Careful investment of the funds in bank certificates of deposit preserved the principal until we commenced using it to pay expenses for *Van Voorhees Family in America*. We have also met a small portion of the costs from our annual operating budget. These funding sources, unfortunately, will not be sufficient to bring the genealogy to publication.

We need \$45,000 to complete *Van Voorhees Family in America* and are asking our membership to contribute this amount over a three year period.

Projected Expenditures

1997	\$ 15,500
1998	17,500
1999	46,750
2000	<u>15,500</u>
Total	95,250
Less Paid from 3 Yearly Budgets	(12,000)
Less Paid from Invested Principal	<u>(40,000)</u>
Deficit	<u>\$ (43,250)</u>
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	\$ 45,000

OR \$ 15,000 FOR EACH OF 1997, 1998 AND 1999

Publication of *The Van Voorhees Family* in 1984 was supported by member donations made during a fund raising effort in the 1930's. Thus, there is an historical precedent for our funding request today.

a fund raising effort in the 1930's. Thus, there is an historical precedent for our funding request today.

I hope that every member will contribute to this goal in an amount commensurate with his or her resources. You can contribute in two basic ways:

1. Make a pledge payable in each of the three years 1997, 1998 and 1999. Please enclose your first contribution with the return coupon. We will send you reminders in 1998 and 1999.
2. Donate low cost stock to the Association. You will be eligible for a Federal tax deduction at the market value of the stock when it is donated. The Association will sell the stock.

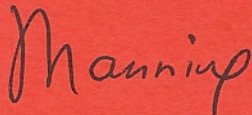
Donation of low cost stock is an easy way to help us meet our goal. The amount of stock can range from a few shares to many times this amount. You do not need to "own General Motors" to use this method of helping the Association. Basically, the procedure is to ask the transfer agent to register the stock in the name of the Van Voorhees Association and then send the certificate to us. Your tax preparer can handle the details on your Form 1040. It is that simple.

Cash contributions and donations of low basis stock are deductible for Federal income tax purposes. The Van Voorhees Association is an exempt organization under Sections 501(c)(3), 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code. I will be pleased to send your tax preparer a copy of the Internal Revenue Service confirmation of our exemption.

We will list contributors to *Van Voorhees Family in America* in the beginning of the book. Beyond this, of course, will be your satisfaction and comfort that will come from helping to publish an historic work. Please do not permit our new genealogy to sink. If the current momentum is cut short of fruition, I doubt that it will be renewed in our life time.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



Manning W. Voorhees
President

RETURN COUPON

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

I will: (check appropriate box or both boxes)

Make a pledge of \$ _____ payable in three installments for 1997, 1998 and 1999. Enclosed with this coupon is the 1997 installment of \$ _____.

Donate stock of _____

worth approximately \$ _____ at current market. I will initiate transfer of this stock into the name of the Van Voorhees Association.

(please print)

Name _____

Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail to Manning W. Voorhees
2415 Spring Hill Drive
Toms River, New Jersey 08755-0987

Please mail stock certificates to the same address.