



VAN VOORHEES NIEUWSBRIEF

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A Publication of the Van Voorhees Association, Organized in 1932
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RATIFIES MOVING ONWARD WITH VOLUME TWO OF THE NEW GENEALOGY

The Executive Committee, in its meeting of October 7, 2000, reviewed the finances and sales of Van Voorhees Family in America and ratified an earlier decision to commence work on "Volume II" of our new family genealogy. It was agreed that we should capitalize upon the momentum generated by the new genealogy and that the financial outlook is favorable for publication of the follow-on work. An important caveat, however, is that the first volume must continue to sell well so that the Association will be able to recycle its earlier investment into the second book. In this regard, Marilyn Brack, our Director of Publication Sales, reported at press time for this issue of the Nieuwsbrief that sales of Van Voorhees Family in America had reached 536 copies. We are very heartened by this sales progress — but our book distributor continues to hold a comfortable inventory to meet additional sales. The Executive Committee, meeting on April 28, 2001, again reviewed our book business and gave a hearty green light to continuing with "Volume II."

Florence Christoph is busy with "Volume II." While a considerable amount of the basic entry labor has been done, much work remains. The publication will embrace Generations Seven and Eight. No decision has been made with respect to the publication date. Florence distributed the first batch of pages for proofreading at the Executive Committee meeting of April 28th. The size of the publication could be at least 1,500 pages and perhaps more. Our printer advises that we should publish in two separate books connected with a common index and supplementary material. Thus, "Volume II" is probably a misnomer but it is useful for discussion purposes.

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WE RETURN TO SIX MILE RUN FOR THE OCTOBER 2001 REUNION

David Voorhees, our Programs Chairperson, has announced that the Van Voorhees Association will meet for its October 2001 Reunion at the Six Mile Run Reformed Church in Franklin Park NJ.

We will return to the location of a great Reunion in 1997 and the scene of considerable Family history. Six Mile Run is a special place for some of the Voorhees tribe who left Flatlands early in the 18th century because arable land was becoming scarce. One group of "immigrants" from Flatlands settled in the region of Hackensack and another went further south to New Brunswick and Six Mile Run. Our new genealogy mentions Six Mile Run many times commencing with the marriage of Margaret van Voorhees (#111) and David Nevius in Six Mile Run on 29 March 1728.

In today's world, Six Mile Run is known as Franklin Park. It is close to Princeton and near Middlebush and New Brunswick. This area was heavily Dutch some 200 to 300 years ago and remained so until contemporary times. Dutch family names are still seen on street signs: Suydam, Beckman, Viet, Cortelyous, Jacques (Voorhees?), Skillmans, Bennett and Van Cleef — to spot some on a map. The name Six Mile Run originally referred to the stream that was said to be six miles from the Raritan River. Well, it is not exactly that distance — somebody made a mistake way back when. The stream runs through Blackwells Mills, a locale with some Dutch history.

Mike Apgar will talk to us in the morning about the Voorhees Family and the Civil War. Mike is well versed in the Civil War and will present the Family from the unique perspective of a Voorhees — he is a Jan Line descendant from Steven Coerts and a member of our Association. His

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CALENDAR

Annual Reunion	October 6, 2001
Executive Committee Meeting	April 27, 2002
Annual Reunion	October 5, 2002

THIS NIEUWSBRIEF

We are a volunteer organization managed by a small group of actives. The Winter/Spring 2001 Nieuwsbrief could not be produced for delivery in February. Some news in this issue could not fit in the Summer/Fall 2000 issue. The Summer/Fall 2001 issue is planned for delivery around Labor Day. We apologize for this situation and hope that you will understand. Thank you.

VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION

The Van Voorhees Association was organized in 1932. Membership is open to any descendant of Steven Coerts van Voorhees and to those related by marriage or adoption to Van Voorhees descendants. There are at least 32 different spellings of the Family name today. In 1660, Steven Coerts and his family left the Province of Drenthe in the Netherlands for New Amersfoort (Flatlands) in New Netherland.

Scott Voorhees — Scott T. Voorhees was re-elected as Vice President and Financial Secretary of the Van Voorhees Association during the Reunion of October 7, 2000. The Family is very appreciative of Scott's continuing willingness to fulfill these important responsibilities. Thank you, Scott, very much. Scott volunteered to be Acting President for one year commencing on October 6, 2001 upon the expiration of Manning Voorhees' Presidency, assuming that a candidate for a full two year term is not identified. Again, thank you, Scott, for stepping into a void and ensuring that the Association will have able leadership while the Executive Committee searches for a permanent President. Your Family is very appreciative.

Patricia Zander-Carlo — Pat is our Secretary and has done a very good job in an important role. Unfortunately, Pat will not be able to stand for re-election at the October 2000 Reunion to another two year term. Thank you, Pat, for your dedication to the Family. The good news is that Pat has agreed to be a Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee. She was ratified for this position by the Executive Committee in its meeting of April 28, 2001. Thank you, once more.

Bogert Cox Holly — We are pleased to announce that Bo will stand for re-election at the October 2000 Reunion as our Treasurer for a new two year term. It is very comforting to know that our Treasury will continue to be managed "in Bo's able hands." The Association's finances are becoming complicated with our book business and excellent financial stewardship is most important. Thank you, Bo.

Marilyn Voshall — We are pleased to announce that Marilyn agreed to be a Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee and was ratified for this position by the Committee member at its meeting of April 28, 2000. Marilyn has written several articles for the Nieuwsbrief and is our occasional "roving reporter" in Europe. She was also appointed by the Executive Committee as Assistant Editor of the Nieuwsbrief for Dutch Culture. Marilyn's article "Dutch Traditions, Customs and Costumes" starts in this issue. She is looking for material — let's fill her mail box! Thank you, Marilyn.

Judith Van Voorhis — Judith, as we all know, is a strong help to Florence Christoph, our professional genealogist, and is our Associate Genealogist. Her contributions to Van Voorhees Family in America have been stated and praised many times. Judith is continuing to assist Florence with "Volume II." Well, if that is not enough — Judith has agreed to be Chairperson of our Nominating Committee. Volunteerism is not strong in American society and Judith faces a tough job. We say thank you, Judith. However, the warmest "thank you" for Judith will be "yeah, I'll do that" when she comes your way.

Eleanor Casagrand — Eleanor has been Assistant Edi-

tor of the Nieuwsbrief and contributed many excellent articles about the Family. She has been forced to resign because of sudden deaths in her family and the need for her to devote considerable time and emotional dedication to her immediate family. We are appreciative of Eleanor's contributions and thank her very much. Let us all hope and pray that happier times will bless Eleanor in the very near future.

Editor — Manning Voorhees will retire as Editor with the Summer/Fall 2001 Nieuwsbrief (September issue). Our membership is scattered across the United States. We have sometimes likened ourselves as the "Dutch diaspora." The Nieuwsbrief is essential in this environment for keeping all of us connected. A successor Editor must be identified. Perhaps you can be an Assistant Editor. Please contact Judith Van Voorhis if you can help. Her address is in Who's Who.

Dropping of Dues Delinquents — In the last issue of the Nieuwsbrief we set forth a policy of dropping members who are more than four years delinquent in their annual dues payments. This policy was adopted many years ago and the matter was revisited after receiving comments from members. The Executive Committee discussed the issue at its meeting of October 7, 2000 and the membership subsequently voted during the Reunion of 2000 to shorten the delinquent period to two years. Therefore, we will drop from active membership those members whose dues are delinquent for more than two years. We will review the delinquency list in May 2001 and delete from active membership those who are more than two years behind. The expense of printing and mailing newsletters to delinquent members is not inconsiderable. If you should become a "former cousin," you will not receive the Nieuwsbrief or any other communication from the Association. This issue of the Nieuwsbrief contains news about our new genealogy, the follow-on publication, the possibility of an exciting publication about the personal histories of our ancestors, Peter Christoph's presentation at the Reunion of October 2000 and articles about our heritage. Mike Apgar's talk about the Voorhees Family and the Civil War will be in the Winter/Spring 2002 issue. Former members will miss all of this and not be in touch with what is happening.

Year 2001 Dues — Dues for 2001 were payable as of January 1st. The dues payment form is in this Nieuwsbrief. Please use the enclosed pre-addressed dues payment envelope to send your check and completed form to Tom Van Voorhies, our Membership Chairperson. If you are delinquent, please bring your dues up to date. Don't become a "former cousin." If you disagree with the last payment date on your mailing label, please advise us. Please remember that your dues payment(s) is(are) deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Genealogical Inquiry Fee Policy — Further thought was given by the Executive Committee to the formulation of a genealogical fee schedule after the last Nieuwsbrief was published. This was discussed on page ten of the Summer/Fall 2000 issue. At the October 7, 2000 Executive Committee meeting, it was agreed that Judith Van Voorhis, Marie Avelsgaard and Florence Christoph were to study the situation and

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VAN VOORHEES FAMILY DIARIES AND LETTERS

by Peter R. Christoph

*Following is the text of Peter Christoph's presentation at the 2000 Reunion. Peter is an old friend of the Association. He was our speaker at the 1986 Reunion and is the author of two articles in *Through a Dutch Door*. Peter is the author of several works on New Netherland and the succeeding Colonial era, and is a recognized expert in this specialized field of history. Florence, his wife and our genealogist, is sometimes Peter's co-author. Peter collaborated with Florence on our new genealogy. He is a Fellow of The Holland Society of New York.*

Over the past seventy years, the Van Voorhees Association has collected, not only a great amount of genealogical data, but also many diaries, journals, letters, and other personal writings which can provide us with considerable insight into American history. While my wife was working her way through the Association's collection of genealogical records, I have been reading the collection of personal narratives. They give us some interesting insights into a family that has been in this country for a very long time, and they give us some interesting insights into the history of the country itself. And so, what I am going to do today is to read to you excerpts from some 19th century diaries and letters, with only a few comments of my own to help set the stage.

Selections from the Diary of John Voorhees Sealey

[On March 19, 1850, a company of 4 Michigan men joined the California gold rush. Among them was John Voorhees Seeley—his mother was a Voorhees. We pick up John Voorhees Seeley and his companions a month into their journey, outside of Hannibal, Mo.]

On April 25, the axle of our wagon broke and we were forced to stop and repair it. Found a piece of hickory and made another. That night we built a fire beside a log from which three rattlesnakes came out. They were quickly killed.

May 8: Crossed the Missouri by ferry. Found bad roads through six miles of undergrowth. Emigrants are crossing all day. Camped in bottom lands in the woods. It snowed in the night. The woods were full of people bound westward.

May 10: Broke camp at 7 A.M. The emigrant train of fifty wagons with two hundred men fell into the procession.

May 17: While traveling up the Blue [River], we saw four buffaloes, two of which we killed. That night we had a feast of potpie. (The crust was light and tender!) Indians began to be seen more and more. Ottawas or Pottawatamies.

May 18: The axle broke just before reaching camping place. Got a piece of elm from Grand Island. Made it the next day. It was so crooked [that] one wheel ... didn't [touch the ground].

May 28: Passed a number of Indian villages inhabited by the Sioux. These are the noblest looking Indians of any we have seen. They are tall, well-proportioned, and active. They appear very friendly and some of them speak English but are averse to doing it. They are great beggars and love to trade.



If you swap ponies with them they will try to steal back their own.

June 8: Passed alkali stream and through an alkali marsh. Camped at 6 P. M. in a place with no grass. We had to lead the horses two miles or more away from the road to find pasture.

June 10. Moving down the western side of the Rockies.

June 16: we turned the horses out without guard. No one cared to risk freezing to death to watch them. It soon commenced snowing at a terrific rate. We rolled ourselves in our blankets and lay down either in the wagon or under it. In the morning built fires of sage brush after several trials. Melted snow to drink.

July 5: Several sick horses poisoned from eating crazy grass.

July 7: Reached Humboldt [River]. Forded a tributary and pitched camp at 6 P.M. No food for our horses. Swam across the river, cut grass, tied it in bundles then tied it on our backs and swam back. It was very essential that we keep our horses fed for we were so dependent upon them for carrying our blankets and supplies.

July 14: Had to leave one of our horses that was sick from poisoning.

July 24: Tired horses and downcast men. The desert of forty-five miles must be crossed in the night in order to save the horses from heat and thirst. The road was fine for thirty miles, after which it became very sandy [and] the horses and wagons mired. As for the men we all managed to keep walk-

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ing except [Ed] Hadsell who went to sleep. We shook him into consciousness but he begged to be allowed to lie down if only for a half hour. It could not be allowed. After all other methods failed to put determination into his exhausted spirits, we applied vigorous shaking with a big dose of whiskey and he was persuaded to go on. Hundreds—yes thousands—of wagons were abandoned on the desert.

[The remaining entries in the diary are not dated. Perhaps John Seeley lost his calendar.]

Saw several camps of Chinese miners on the east side of the Sierra Madre. Our horses were so poor that after lying down they could not get up alone. We would help them to stand and then they could walk slowly and draw the wagon. The next day after crossing the Carson [Pass] we had to abandon our wagon.

We arrived in Hangtown, Calif *[the modern name is Placerville]* one Saturday morning in early August. We could now look down on the first glimpse of the mines. These distant camps were tents, or rough log and bark structures.

Mark Sloat brought provisions and mail from Sacramento. He sold one horse for eighty dollars and brought back two loads of Miner's supplies and food. With this, we set up a trading post and sold these articles at a big profit.

This temporary trading post proved so profitable that we got a wagon and set up a regular shop. This business netted us about a hundred dollars a week.

In Sacramento. The houses were small and made of wood. Business was brisk. Saloons and gambling houses plentiful. Men playing three card monte could be seen often on the streets playing on dry goods boxes.

On Christmas day the first prospecting was done. We were hunting "injun diggings" that we know were up that way. Traveling down about a mile we came to large spring where there were a hundred or more Indians camped around their diggings. They were wary of us when they saw us coming. Everything seemed quiet enough until more Indians came down from another camp. Then there was a general murmuring which worked itself up to anger. Finally a young brave was delegated to speak to us. He asked us politely if we would not go away. We told him "No" that we wouldn't go away till we got ready. Then he turned and went back to his camp. We could see the effect of his report. Immediately, there was a commotion as though we had disturbed a hornet's nest. We proceeded to our business of prospecting until satisfied that their diggings were not very rich. Then we bade them goodbye and left.

The next day we started for Independence Flat eighteen miles up the river. We found a good mine and worked it for some time. Going up a stream we came to a place where the cliff rose sheer. The path was narrow and rough. The mare [lost] her footing, she rolled over and over, end over end, down, down and still further down. We thought surely she was killed. [Ed Phelps said,] "I got out my sheath knife to end her misery, but when we got her up she was as good as ever, except that she had broken her tail." We found she didn't even go lame. So we let her go ahead with the same heavy pack.

[After 13 months John Voorhees Seeley and his friends

returned home by way of the isthmus of Panama, with several thousand dollars in gold nuggets and gold dust. John Seeley used his share to buy a farm in Farmington, Michigan. He and his friends were not big dreamers, just farm boys who had had the adventure of a lifetime, and after a year were ready to settle down.]

The Diary of Alfred H. Voorhees

[A different adventure confronted Alfred H. Voorhees, who lived in New Jersey when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in the First New York Cavalry in 1861. Over the next three years, the regiment engaged in battle 142 times. In May 1864, he and about 280 other troopers were captured at New Market, Virginia.]

1864. May 25th Arrived at Andersonville [prison in Georgia] to day. See quite a number of My Regt. here, a hard place it is too, the boys ruff, all kinds of Huts and Shanties. 18,000 Men on 10 acres.

[May] 26th fixed a Shanty to keep the sun and Rain out. Feel very weak today.

[May] 28th Some of Shermans Men came to camp; a great many died from Exposure.

[May] 29th More Prisners arrived to day, the Prison is crowded full. don't know What they will do with any More. all we can see is filth and dirt.

[May] 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 enlrage the Prison. Cant feed us With proper food.

June 3rd cant Eat anything, am very unwell, am getting quite bony.

[June] 5th Was to prayer Meeting to night. A good many are sick, they die from 40 to 50 per day.

[June] 9th a few more Yanks came to day. Over 21,000 in this place. So thick [we] can scarcely move—

[June] 13th This has been one of the hardest days With a cold North East storm. oh, how hard it is to see so many men laying in the Storm Without the least thing to Shelter them.

[June] 14th I feel very Weak (cold I guess). the Weather is very hard for the Sick, 50 died last night, some days over 100 die.

[June] 15th Cloudy and Rainy this morning, only one day has passed this Month Without Rain. 1100 more prisners came in to day, none have Tents, a few [have] blankets, poor Fellows, they Will not stand it long Without Shelter.

[June] 20th Cloudy and rainy all day, this makes the 20th day it has Rained in succession.

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.

[July] 3rd No Rations to day, hope the Damed Rebs will all sink in Hell, this is no other than a place of Starvation—a disgrace to any Government.

[July] 4th I never spend such a day as this. The Sight is awful, had More Rations issued today. Some Mush and maggoty, glad to get even this.

[July] 13th another Tunnel was discovered and filled up to day.

[July] 25th Very chilly and cold, don't feel Well at all, have an attack of the Diarhea, but hope it will not prove Serious.

[July] 28th I don't feel well, have the Diarhea very bad. More Yanks came in to day, had quite a heavy Shower.

Aug. 3rd Hot and dry, am very stiff in My neck and arms, so I can scarcely get them to my head.

[That was the final entry in the diary of Alfred H. Voorhees. He died ten days later. At one time there were as many as 35,000 prisoners at Andersonville. 13,000 graves have been located. After the war, the camp commandant was convicted of war crimes and executed.]

The Diary of Col. K. S. Van Voorhies

[Koert Stephen Van Voorhees was born at Fishkill, NY. During the Civil War he served as Col. 137 New York Vol. Reg. Three months after the death of Alfred H. Voorhees at Andersonville, Col. K. S. Van Voorhees and the 137th New York participated in General Sherman's march across Georgia. As I'm sure everyone knows, it was Sherman's strategy to destroy Confederate factories, railroads, and farms, so that Rebel soldiers would be barefoot, unarmed, and starving.]

1864 Nov. 21st. Rained during the night and kept it up most of the day. Roads very muddy. Marched about 12 miles.

Nov. 23d. we were ordered to fall-in and marched to the Rail Road and commenced its destruction. This Regiment burned the Station house Water Tank and destroyed a good portion of the track.

Nov. 26th. struck the Macon and Savannah Rail-Road at 4 P.M. and commenced to destroy the track.

Nov. 28th. marched to the Rail-Road back to the place where we had left off destroying it, the day before and again commenced to tear up [track]. Fired upon by Rebel Cavalry who dashed down on the track – fired a few shots and retreated. Four men from the Regiment were supposed to have been captured. Marched in all about 15 miles.

Dec. 4th. During the forenoon heard heavy Artillery firing to our right and rear. went very slow on account of delay in crossing swamp and creeks. Marched about 5 miles.

Dec. 7th. Marched through swamp nearly all day.

Dec. 9th. Heard heavy cannonading during the day in the direction of Savannah. 1st Division had a slight skirmish and drove the enemy from two small forts. Marched about 6 miles.

Dec. 10th. Left camp at 9:40, 1st and 3d Divisions in advance, marched on an excellent turnpike road directly towards Savannah. Heavy Artillery firing in the direction of the city all day. Marched 9 miles and at 3:45 P.M. Brigade was formed in two lines of battle and encamped for the night.

Dec. 11th. This Regiment and the 102d New York were thrown out as skirmishers, came upon the enemies skirmishers and after a short time charged them and drove them into their works. Established our main line within 200 yards of their works.

Dec. 12th. Were shelled from the fort during the morning and at different times during the day. Very little skirmishing. Weather quite cold.

Dec. 13th. Skirmishing and Artillery firing from the enemy quite brisk all day. Remained in works all day. At night built rifle pits in front of works and strengthened our works.

Dec. 16th. Gun boat came up the River and threw several shells near the works. At night Fort was laid out on the bank of the river and a detail of 2d Brigade set to work on it.

Dec. 20th. As soon as dark in the evening our Regiment was detailed to work on Fort no. 3. Worked till 1:30 A.M. on –

Wed. Dec. 21st. When it being completed we returned to camp. Noticed signs of the enemy's evacuation of the City [of Savannah] and between 3 and 4 A.M. it was ascertained that the enemy had gone. the Brigade moved forward immediately and occupied his works, and from there direct to the city. Were the first Brigade in the city. At 7 A.M. arrived at the City Hall where the command was "halted" when [the general] and Col Barnum made speeches to the Troops.

[Sherman's Army had disappeared into the heart of the Confederacy 6 weeks earlier. President Lincoln had no idea whether they were alive or dead, free or captured. And then in late December he finally received word, a telegram from General Sherman, which read: "I beg to present you as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah, with 150 guns and plenty of ammunition, also about 25,000 bales of cotton." Four months later, the Confederate armies surrendered.]

The Journal and Letters of A. H. Voorhees

[In 1864, the same year that Alfred Voorhees was a prisoner in Andersonville, and Col. K. S. van Voorhees was marching through Georgia, A. H. Voorhees and four other Michigan men formed a partnership to go out west and prospect for gold. Unlike John Voorhees Seeley and his companions who set out from the same Michigan county 14 years earlier for the California Gold Fields, this group is able to travel the first leg of their trip by railroad, as far as Marshalltown, Iowa. During their trip west they encounter other signs of the rapid development of the country, such as telegraph lines and wagon roads. They did not even have to carry all their supplies with them. They bought flour in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and mining equipment in Omaha, Nebraska.]

Sat. May 7th. In the afternoon three young men undertook to cross the stream on horseback: when nearly across their horses began to mire in the quicksand, threw off their riders and but for the help of some Indians that were near by, they might have drowned.

Mon. May 9. Before midnight, ice was ¼ of one inch thick in our wash dish.

Fri. the 13th. We passed a brewery today and the boys had to have some beer, had to pay 75¢ per gallon for it. The telegraph wire crosses the Platte River here, also the overland mail route.

Mon. May 16th. We get an early start, drove a couple of miles and came to the grave of a man who was murdered the day before. He and his wife and 4 comrades were traveling together with a pair of small mules and a pair of cows. They had some trouble, the cause we did not learn. The man and wife started back. They had not gone far when they saw the

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ADRIENNE HANEY

We are saddened to report the very sudden death of Adrienne Haney on February 21, 2001. Adrienne was 42 years of age and suffered from diabetes. Her death was attributed to her disease and related cardiac arrest.

Adrienne will be truly missed. She was a strong supporter of our Family and an ardent genealogist. Adrienne's success in starting and managing our New England Region is well known. She also contributed significantly to the work that went into our new genealogy. Adrienne was our speaker at the 1995 Reunion when she talked about the fun of genealogy. Her death was noted by many in the genealogical world and reported by Eastman's Genealogical Letter on the Internet.

We have lost a real friend.



Volume Two, New Genealogy -- Continued from page 1

Our Family bookshelf will be able to sport four relatively new orange covered history and genealogy books with at least 2,800 pages sometime in the reasonable future — Through a Dutch Door and three new genealogy books. Stay tuned!



Van Voorhees Association -- Continued from page 2

recommend a policy to the Committee for adoption. Their report is elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief.

Deadline for the Next Nieuwsbrief — The deadline for the Winter/Spring 2002 issue of the Nieuwsbrief is November 30, 2001. Please send genealogical and historical articles about the Family and your immediate family, and information about current events of your family, to Manning Voorhees who will forward them to the successor Editor. Your newsletter can only be as interesting as you make it. As required by law and accepted practice, we must cite any quotation or illustration by its source, which is the name of publication, author and date of publication.



THANK YOU

ELIZABETH McCANDLESS

Elizabeth McCandless, of Dubois WY, donated three of our heritage books to the Van Voorhees Collection: The Ancestry of William Roe Van Voorhis, published in 1881, The Van Voorhees Family, published in 1888 and The Condensed Genealogy of the Van Voorhees Family, published in 1932. Elizabeth, your Family is most appreciative. Florence Christoph put the books in our Collection and they will be used for our continuing research. Thank you very much.



Reunion -- Continued from page 1

article about the Civil War is elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief. After lunch, Florence Christoph will present a computerized slide show of maps and portraits selected from the Van Voorhees Collection. Our Genealogical Workshop will be available in the morning and afternoon.

Please mark your calendars for October Sixth in Six Mile Run. A block of rooms has been reserved in the Radisson Hotel near Franklin Park. Further details are elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief. The Fall Nieuwsbrief will contain more information and the reservation coupon. However, please reserve your room at the Radisson now if you plan to stay over on Friday night and perhaps Saturday night.

We will again distribute at the Reunion a compilation of Voorhees cemetery inscriptions in the several area cemeteries known for their Voorhees interest to those who did not receive one at the 1997 Reunion. Our tabulation of cemetery inscriptions in the Fishkill NY area taken from the Ancestry of William Roe Van Voorhis (published in 1881 by Elias W. Van Voorhis) will also be available. This was distributed at the 1999 Reunion in Fishkill.

Princeton University and Palmer Square are quite close to the Radisson and are excellent touring sites for Friday afternoon. There are several historical places in and around the town including the University. The Radisson staff will be pleased to guide you. Genealogists might wish to visit the Franklin Park and nearby Middlebush areas and the Somerset Library in Middlebush. The Alexander Library of Rutgers University and its Special Collections Department, which is acclaimed for its genealogical content, is on College Avenue in nearby New Brunswick. Please note, however, that any decision to walk in and on any cemetery is a personal decision and is not recommended by the Van Voorhees Association because of the danger from physical injury caused by uneven ground and the health hazards caused by deer tick bites. Deer ticks can inflict serious and long-lasting illnesses.



LODGING FOR THE REUNION

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Radisson Hotel for Friday night, October 5, 2001, with a smaller block for the following Saturday night, the day of our Reunion at Six Mile Run. The Radisson was known as the Holiday Inn until June 1st of this year. We enjoyed the Friday night before the 1997 Reunion at the Holiday Inn. It is located at the intersection of Route 1 and Ridge Road just outside of Princeton NJ and is only 7.4 miles over a very simple route to the Six Mile Run Reformed Church in Franklin Park. Our agreed upon rate is \$99.00 per night plus the NJ State 6% tax. The Radisson's telephone number is 609-452-2400. Please ask for the Van Voorhees Association reserved block of rooms. And — please be sure to reserve your room now. Princeton is a busy area.



four men coming after them. The man left his wagon and ran for his life. But the comrade unhitched one of the mules and overtook him. Before he got to him he shot him with a rifle. The man stopped threw down his revolver and begged for his life. But his comrade picked up the revolver and fired two shots through his body killing him before the crowd that followed could interfere. But all four were soon disarmed. A man was sent to Fort Kearney [and] came with a posse of soldiers, [who] took the four men back to the Fort. The wife sold her teams and wagon and went to the Fort with the soldiers. [Supplementing the diary, we have three letters that A. H. Voorhees wrote along the way and sent to a newspaper editor back home, describing his further adventures. I will read a few excerpts.]

On the Bank of the Big Horn River

July 17th 1864

To the Editor of the Constantine Mercury, Constantine Mich.

In passing over this route we went through a portion of the Pawnee and Sioux Territory. The Pawnees and Sioux are implacable enemies, always at war, and between them the Government has designated a strip of Territory as neutral ground, upon which neither has a right to hunt. The Sioux are yet a powerful nation very independent in their bearing and evidently entertaining no very friendly feeling toward the Whites.

[Fourteen years earlier, John Voorhees Seeley had found the Sioux friendly, but that was no longer the case. Prior to the gold rush, fewer than 50 deaths of emigrants were attributed to Indian attacks, but over the next ten years the total was close to 400.]

We had formed a train for greater protection and received additions to it almost every day. our Camp numbered as follows 418 men 10 women, 10 children, 124 wagons. Our train when in full movement stretches out in line from one and a half to two miles. The Train was under the direction of Capt. Hurlbert of Illinois assisted by A. H. Voorhees of Michigan as Marshall. It is composed of men from every section of the Country. The Captain claims to be a man of considerable experience as an explorer and prospector, having been over the mountains several times, and familiar with that portion of them known as the Gold Regions. He made preparations to take a new route and visit new mining grounds which promised rich diggings.

On the 16th day of June 1864 we left the Platte River. we passed over an arid country affording very little wood, water or grass. After reaching some of the tributaries of the Little and Big Horn Rivers we came to a somewhat better country.

For days at a time we have hardly been out of sight of buffalo. And so plentiful has been buffalo meat in camp that it was almost a drug.

I wish the good wives could see their husbands cooking washing mending and doing the other necessary duties of camp life.

August 3, 1864. From Among the Mountains on the Yellowstone River

To the Editor of the Constantine Mercury

Dear Sir:

At the time of writing to you from the Big Horn, we had out several prospecting parties. Their reports were not favorable, neither the country nor the Gold prospects proving to be what the Captain of the Train, Mr. Hurlburt had represented them to be. The Big Horn River had been prospected before as we found mining tools and other evidence of the ground having been visited by miners. If gold is to be found on the Big Horn it must be further up, and the country there is so rough and rocky and cut by such deep impassable canyons that our men could not traverse it.

A day or two after leaving the River the most of our company feeling dissatisfied with the conduct of Capt. Hurlburt and still desiring to further prospect the country formed a prospecting party of 18 men who were to go across the country in the direction of Virginia City and to meet our train there. While this was being done Capt. Hurlburt seeing the little attention paid to his authority pulled out of the train amid the jeers and cheers of the crowd. And immediately after, the crowd elected A. H. Voorhees as Captain of the train.

On the morning of the 20th about sunrise, the cry of Indians among our horses was heard, and it was soon apparent that the Indians, finding the guards had allowed the horses and mules to get farther from camp than they should, had ridden in among them and were attempting to drive them off. The Indians about 20 in number were riding furiously, shouting and shaking their blankets and our horses and mules wild with fright were running in every direction. Our men were soon out with their guns, shooting wildly and running toward them with all their might, but the Indians succeeded in picking twelve of our best horses and mules, and before we could get men in readiness to follow them on horse back they were out of sight. They were followed by 18 or 20 men on horse back for some miles but had no difficulty in evading their pursuers.

We have stopped at our present camping for the purpose of prospecting. If we find nothing better on the Yellowstone than we have yet found, we shall go to Virginia City.

August 10, 1864 Virginia City

To the Editor of the Constantine Mercury

Dear Sir:

I wrote to you from the Yellowstone River, since which time we have pursued our gold hunting course to this place, which is one of the principal points in the new territory of Montana and possesses probably the richest if not the most extensive gold prospects of any point in the region.

Virginia City contains a population of about 4000 though the transients would seem to indicate a greater number. The buildings are principally built of spruce poles or logs and with few exceptions are one story tenements and not very inviting in appearance. The town is well supplied with stores and mechanic shops and its saloons and gambling houses are numerous. The mines now being worked pay differently, some being very rich while others barely pay expenses.

The mining grounds are limited and the gulch will soon be dug over; other discoveries will then attract the attention

continued on page 8

of the miners who are ready to follow up any new lead. There being but little to keep a looker on here for any length of time, after visiting the mines and looking through town for a few days, myself with a few of my old companions will make a start for home by a different route from that we came, being satisfied that the expenses, toil and privations of a trip to these regions are not justified by the real condition of things here.

[Already, most of the gold fields of the West were running out, although a few major strikes remained to be made. But the gold-seekers had jump-started the opening of the West, and for every A. H. Voorhees who returned home, there were several others who would go West and stay there. The nation was expanding rapidly, railroads and telegraph lines were extending across the country, and by 1890 the Indian wars would be over and the frontier gone forever.]

Letters of C. V. Voorhies

[We return now to the East. We have several letters from Cornelius Voorn Voorhies to his mother, written in September 1878. He was a native Tennessean, had served with the Fourth Tennessee Volunteers during the Civil War. But 13 years later in his home town of Memphis he faced a foe more implacable than even General Grant.]

Sept. 9th 1878

2½ Miles [out] on Poplar St. Turnpike

Dear Ma,

You see from the above heading that we are still out of the city. Mont[e] and Jake were boarding at a Mr. Partee's the last I heard of them about 3 miles South of the city. I do not pretend to go into Memphis at all, and have not for weeks. Temple became alarmed some days ago and determined to move further out.

Mr. Craig and his family left very suddenly a week ago yesterday, which was a perfect God send to us as it gave us a good house to live in, all to ourselves. I see from the papers that W C Drury is dead. Sewanee Drury, his son, returned here, and is now down with the fever, so we hear. The two druggists on Poplar Street near Willie's Drugstore, are both dead of the fever, as well as some other druggists. In the event the fever spreads to the country we may yet have to go to Mag's if she will allow us to quarter there. If she cant do it for want of room [or] fear of us I would like to know it at once, as we will, in that event, go on to Missouri, to Jennie's father. She recd. a letter from home urging us all to come up. It is a very long and expensive trip is the only objection I have to it.

Affectionately Yr. Son
C. V. Voorhies

P. S.: Holst is dead, also Dr. Hodges, Dr. J. C. Rogers, Dr. Watson, Menken, Hiram McCrosky. Dr. Nuttall is down, also Dr. Arent, Dr. Saunders, Dr. Freeps. Also several volunteer doctors have died. Herbert Landrum is down the second time. Dr. P. S. Jones and family are all out of danger. Dr. Maury and Dr. Hewett ran away. Maury is the worst scared man you ever saw. He came out here and liked to have scared Temple and

Lou out of their wits. Lee Pettus is very low in Brownsville, also Dr. Howell. Nearly all the stores have closed. Lowenstein and Brothers have gone to Louisville and opened their store there. About eleven hundred people have died here, and the fever is perfectly terrific. It is more than twice as fatal as it was in 1873. The town is almost depopulated of white citizens, by death and removal. The government is issuing rations, and the negroes refuse to leave the city and country negroes are flocking there to draw free rations, and there are fears that there will not be whites enough left to take care of the city. There have already been evidences of the negroes attempting riots. Several had to be shot and others, white and black were sent to Presidents Island. Presidents Island is the jail no[w]. The fever broke out in the [old] Jail and the prisoners were all sent to the Island.

Affectionately Yr. Son
C. V. Voorhies

At R. G. Craigs

Sept. 18th 1878

Dear Ma;

Over two thousand people have died up to this time and the fever is still raging fearfully. I have not heard from Mont[e] or Jake in about three weeks and dont know where they are or whether they have left at all or not. It will be a miracle if we all live through the scourge. The weather has turned so extremely warm again that the hope of frost seems to be as distant as if it was mid summer; and the fever has spread out so far on the railroads that our farther flight seems to have been cut off; and we have the feeling now that we will have to stand it, let come what will. If we could have foreseen all this we would have been in western Missouri long ago.

Rip Gates is dead; also Dr. John N. Erskine, and Dr. Arent. Dr. Arent live[d] on Vance Street, not far from Willie's old drug store. Also Herbert Landrum. Dr. Landrum and Mrs. Landrum are both down with the fever. Mr. Blew and his wife and three children are dead. Mr. Blew was editor of the Western Methodist. About forty people that I knew personally are dead. Dr. P. S. Jones and family are well.

Affectionately
C. V. Voorhies

[And then we have this entry made two weeks later in the family Bible:] On the 1st day of Oct. 1878 the ransomed spirit of C. V. Voorhies, fled away from earth and loved ones and went home to dwell with God.]

The Diary of Willis A. Voorhees

[Finally, on a very different note, I would like to read a few excerpts from the diary of a New Jersey teenager, Willis Voorhees, son of the Rev. William B. Voorhees of Blauwenburg. I find Willis an interesting young fellow. He enjoyed some of the ordinary adventures that most of us experience, but he describes them in an entertaining way. We begin in 1887, when he was 14.]

Fri. July 22, 1887. I purchased this book at Runyan's book store and paid fifty cts. for it. On Our way home I stole some apples which tasted very good. I have heard people say that

stolen fruit does not taste good but I don't know about that.

Mon. July 25. I went over to the Lecture Room to night to the Band meeting, it met for the purpose of deciding whether to have a harvest-home [concert] or not. We all went in and we sat, sat, sat, sat and sat, and at last Mr. Stillman asked one of the boys to ask the Pres. of the band to call the meeting to order, but he was afraid and he asked his father to act in his place as chairman, and almost the first question he asked whether the band was going to buy the biscuits or ask the ladies to make them.

Thurs. July 28. Went to Hopewell, Papa, Florence and Mamma. we went in the carriage; Mary went with Ed. Hawke. I heard two men speak, Rev. Mr. Wright and Judge Buchanan. [Mr. Wright] spoke about the present age being the best that we have ever had. Mr. Buchanan said that he was going to speak about ourselves, and then turned around and spoke about the same things which Mr. Wright spoke about.

Fri. Aug. 12. Went swimming this morning to Sam. Cray's. Hurvery's in afternoon. Heard the Band play; stole some peaches. Got the Belly ache.

[Willis puts aside his diary for four years; then in 1891 when he was 18, he went to Florida, where he stayed with his sister Mary and her husband James Menzies, and recorded his experiences. I pick just a couple of his entries. This may, or may not, sound like your trip to Florida.]

1891 Mar. 2. After much deliberation and forethought I succeeded in getting my trunk packed by Sunday evening.

We had an early breakfast and had ample time to catch the train but the roads were exceedingly rough and being the coldest morning of that season we thought we would take a short cut to the depot. As we passed through Mr. Van Zandts farm we encountered some large snow drifts and in order to avoid driving through those we passed through a field and ran against a wire fence so it was necessary to return (Papa said I told you so) and take the foot path which we did and arrived at the station in good time. We met Vory Van. We purchased my ticket and he then showed me his old store and took me to visit one of his old business acquaintances. He was very familiar with a lady book keeper and [they] stormed at each other all the while. He introduced me as his neighbor who was going to Fla and she said that she didn't blame me [for leaving] if I had to live next to him. After dinner he showed

me all over the boat and left me about an hour before the boat departed. The rooms were nicely furnished. Young ladies pursued the purser immediately. All the officers were fat. [After arriving in Florida, Willis looked around for things to do to amuse himself.]

Apr. 13 and 14. I met a diss[i]ipated lawyer to day and he gave me an account of his life. He has had grand opportunities but let them pass for sake of a nip.

Sun. Apr. 19. Went to Epis. [service] in the evening. Willie went with me and it was the 1st in about a year. He says the pews hurt him.

Mon. Apr. 20. Saw the lawyer. He said that if he did not drink too much whiskey he would have good success in this place. Court opens to day at 10 and I expect to be there.

Apr. 22 and 23. I attend nearly every case that is tried and find much that is amusing. the jury, all crackers, try to impress upon the audience that fact. They swagger about and smile at their friends like a little girl going to recite a piece of poetry.

Tom Taylor took me around to the Brashadys in the evening and we spooned with Chick and Tusie, played T. Winks. Until the Old Man asked Tom what [time] he went to work in the morning. Then we skipped.

[I must stop here because of time constraints. I will note that Willis survived several other nights of playing tiddly winks until all hours, and other adventures, and eventually returned home to New Jersey, married, and raised a family. His diary comes to us from his grandson, Manning Voorhees.

[It is from original documents such as these from which I have read today that we gain our understanding of history. It is fascinating that the Van Voorhees family has such an interesting collection of journals kept by family members who were in all parts of the country. Even those who did not go adventuring kept useful diaries of what life was like on a farm in Brooklyn, or here in New Jersey, or vacationing in Florida in 1891. I hope that hearing these accounts might turn your minds to the family diaries and letters you might have in your attic. Even if they are not as exciting as the ones I have read from today, they are useful history. So if you have a diary or family letters, please make a copy and send it to the Association, so it can be added to the collection. In reading the Van Voorhees family's diaries, we read the story of America.]



VISIT THE VAN VOORHEES ASSOCIATION INTERNET
SITE AT
<<http://www.vanvoorhees.org>>

REPORT ON THE PROPOSED VOLUME THROUGH AN AMERICAN DOOR

by Peter R. Christoph

Those who were at the last annual meeting and heard my selection of readings from several 19th century Van Voorhees diaries, journals, and letters are already somewhat acquainted with the material that I am proposing to include in this book. I have so far about 190 typed pages of such material, written by members of the Van Voorhees (various spellings) family. Much of the material will be of interest to the general reader, such as the diaries of Civil War soldiers, pioneers who went west in search of gold or good farmland, a soldier knocking about the French countryside after World War I while awaiting orders to be shipped home, and Manning's grandfather's amusing accounts of his adventures at home and in Florida. There are also a couple of items of the reminiscence type — a Somerset County businessman-politician and an account of a Somers, Westchester county, NY, family.

I already have 26 typed pages of the diary of Johanna Bergen, covering the year 1825, from Ruth DeHaan who is typing the rest, which I believe extends to 1829, the year of Johanna's marriage to Stephen J. Voorhies.

With what we already have, we could probably produce a book of octavo dimensions (the size of *Through a Dutch Door*) of perhaps 250 pages (my 190 pages are quarto size, like the genealogy). It would give us a nice assortment of types of life in various parts of the country through much of the 19th century and the early part of the 20th. We might include more materials from the Van Voorhees Association's letters collection: for instance, what some people wrote about their (or their sons') experiences in World War II.

At this point I would not rush to print. I think we should explore carefully what we already have in the Association's collections, and then see what else might be brought in through appeals to the membership for copies of interesting family diaries, journals, and letters.

Once we have our materials selected, the editing should not be time-consuming. As items turn up, I have been typing them into the computer, and writing footnotes where I think an explanation is needed. Eventually, I would like to introduce each entry with a paragraph or chart locating the diarist within the genealogical family, and another paragraph or two to provide a historical setting for what happens in the diary. The point will be that American history can be viewed from the perspective of a family experiencing events, great and small, that contribute to that history.

Items already Transcribed

- 26 pages from the diary of Johanna Bergen, Kings County farm girl, later Mrs. Stephen J. Voorhies, 1825.
- 3 page letter from Peter A. Voorhees of Franklin Park about a trip to Illinois and Kentucky in 1837.

- 27 pages of material compiled from the diary and reminiscences of John V. Seeley and Edwin Phelps concerning their trip in 1850 from Michigan to the California gold fields.
- 11 pages from the diary of Alfred H. Voorhees, prisoner-of-war at Andersonville, Ga., 1864.
- 6 pages from the diary of Col. Koert Stephen Van Voorhees, describing his role in Sherman's March to the Sea, 1864.
- 22 pages (a diary and 3 letters to a Michigan newspaper) from A. H. Voorhees concerning an expedition from Michigan to Idaho, 1864.
- 7 pages of letters by C. Voorn Voorhees on the yellow fever epidemic in Memphis, 1878.
- 4 pages of memoirs by Joseph H. Voorhees of his career as a Somerset County, NJ, businessman and politician, including service in the state legislature, 1830s - 1882.
- 39 pages from the diary of teenager Willis A. Voorhees concerning life in Blawenburg, NJ, and a trip to Florida, 1887-91.
- 7 pages by an unidentified soldier describing his activities in France in 1919.
- 17 pages of reminiscences by Hester A. Voris Teed about several generations of a farm family in Somers, Westchester Co., NY, ca. 1849-1930.
- There is also a curious, 8 page item called "The True Story of Evangeline," from *Acadian Reminiscences*, written in 1907 by Judge Felix Voorhies. Judge Felix, one of the Dutch Cajuns of Louisiana (7 generations removed from Steven Coert), heard this tale from his mother, Cidalese (Mouton) Voorhies, that the original for Longfellow's *Evangeline* was a girl adopted into the Mouton family named Emmeline Lebiche.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED FOR A CONTEMPLATED FAMILY HISTORY

Peter Christoph has asked for photocopies of diaries and similar material written by our ancestors for transcribing into an essay or book about the Voorhees Family and its life in earlier times. This work could be published by the Association as a companion to our genealogies if a sufficient number of diaries and related texts are received. Please do not send precious originals — Peter can work with photocopies if they are readable. If you would like reimbursement for the cost of copying, which can be significant, please contact Manning Voorhees. Please help with this imaginative project. Our old family diaries and whatever like them can be put together into a strong picture of the life that our ancestors lived. This will be fascinating for us today, for our descendants tomorrow and for historians. Peter's address is in *Who's Who*.

Following is Peter's report on our contemplated publication that he delivered to the Executive Committee on April 28, 2001.

USS VAN VOORHIS DE 1028

Marilyn Brack, our Director of Publication Sales, found in the Bergen Record for July 6, 2000 the Internet address of a naval veterans group that maintained a site about Lt. Cmdr. Bruce Avery Van Voorhis and the destroyer named for him. The site address is <<http://www.ov2000.com/de1028>>. Thank you, Marilyn. Our thanks also to retired Chief Petty Officer Ernie Pina, who is the site webmaster. Articles about Cmdr. Van Voorhis are in the Summer/Fall 1999 Nieuwsbrief and the Winter 1994 Newsletter. The following is reproduced from the Internet site as is the accompanying photograph of the USS Van Voorhis. Before the text, however, is a short description of Bruce Van Voorhis' heroism taken from a web site, <<http://www.findagrave.com/state/26html>> courtesy of Glee Van Osdoll-Krapf, our Coert and Lucas Lines Representative. Thank you, Glee. To the best of our knowledge, Bruce Avery Van Voorhis is the only member of the Family to have received the Congressional Medal of Honor — see <<http://www.cmohs.org>>.



Van Voorhis, Bruce Avery d. July 6, 1943.

- Lieutenant commander, U.S. Navy, Congressional Medal of Honor 7/6/1943.

Van Voorhis “displayed conspicuous gallantry & intrepidity at the risk of his life above & beyond the call of duty” as Plane Commander of a PB4Y-1 patrol bomber operating against the enemy on Japanese-held Greenwich Island during the battle of the Solomon Islands, July 6, 1943.

Abandoning all chance of a safe return, he executed six bold, ground-level attacks to demolish the enemy's vital radio station, antiaircraft guns & crews with bombs & machine-gun fire, & to destroy one fighter plane in the air & three on the water. Caught in his own bomb blast, Van Voorhis crashed into the lagoon off the beach, sacrificing himself in a single-handed fight against insuperable odds. Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, Saint Louis, Missouri, USA.

Now, the destroyer named after Lt. Cmdr. Van Voorhis:

Van Voorhis (DE-1028) was laid down on 29 August 1955 at Camden N.J., by the New York Shipbuilding Co.; launched on 28 July 1956, sponsored by Mrs. Kathryn Van Voorhis, the widow of Lt. Comdr. Van Voorhis; and commissioned at Philadelphia, Pa., on 22 April 1957, Lt. Comdr. Joseph J. Doak, Jr., in command.

Following shakedown training near Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during the summer, Van Voorhis reported at Newport R.I., for duty with Escort Squadron (CortRon) 14. The destroyer escort conducted operations along the east coast of North America until May 1958 when she sailed across the Atlantic for a cruise with the 6th Fleet. While operating with other ships of the 6th Fleet near Crete, she was ordered to the eastern end of the Mediterranean in mid-July to patrol off the Levantine coast. She supported the marines who landed in Lebanon in response to President Chamoun's request for help during a crisis precipitated by Arab nationalist factions in reaction to his administration's pro-Western policies and its adherence to the “Eisenhower Doctrine.” President Eisenhower's personal representative Robert Murphy helped the factions to negotiate a settlement which resulted in the election of General Chahib to the presidency on 31 July. President Chamoun's refusal to yield office before the expiration of his term kept the country in turmoil until late September. However, political conditions in Lebanon remained highly volatile, so American forces remained there until after General Chahib took office in September. During this period, Van Voorhis alternated normal 6th Fleet operations with patrols off Lebanon. Late in September, the warship departed the Mediterranean and returned to Newport early in October.

Upon her return, the warship operated along the east coast until February of 1959 when she joined the other ships

continued on page 12

of her squadron in a three-month cruise to South America. She reentered Newport late in April and resumed local operations once more. She continued that employment through June 1960. The following month, she departed the United States for duty in the eastern Atlantic. During that six-week cruise, Van Voorhis joined other Navy ships and units of Allied navies in a NATO exercise. She also visited Greenwich, England, and Greenock, Scotland, before returning to Newport where, after upkeep, she resumed antisubmarine warfare operations. She remained so occupied through the remainder of 1960. Over the following two years, the destroyer escort continued the routine of summer operations out of Newport and winter training in the West Indies. In the autumn of 1962, when the United States subjected Cuba to a quarantine in order to keep offensive missiles from the strategically situated island, Van Voorhis moved to Mayport FL to support the blockade-type operation. After spending the last week of the quarantine in Mayport, she returned north without having actually participated in the operation.

In December, the warship began preparations for another oversea deployment. On 15 February 1963 she cleared port for a three-month goodwill cruise to Africa — "Solant Amity IV." During the first half of the cruise, she moved south, along the eastern coast of Africa, and called at Monrovia, Liberia; Lagos, Nigeria; Pointe Noiro in the Congo; and Capetown, South Africa. After rounding the Cape of Good Hope, she moved north, up the eastern coast of Africa, and visited Lourenco Marques, Mozambique; Diego Suarez in the Malagasy Republic; and Mombasa, Kenya. She continued north to Aden, transited the Red Sea and the Suez Canal and entered the Mediterranean on 1 May. During the first two weeks of May, Van Voorhis crossed the Mediterranean making liberty calls at Athens, Naples, and Barcelona along the way. She rounded out the voyage with one-day stops at Gibraltar and the Azores and reentered Newport on 24 May.

Following upkeep, she conducted ASW exercises in July and made a midshipman cruise to Bermuda. Additional ASW training off the Florida coast ensued before the ship returned to Newport in October. For the remainder of 1963 and throughout 1964, the destroyer escort operated along the eastern seaboard. On 8 August 1964, she was reassigned to CortRon 8 as the squadron flagship. She continued ASW training exercises through 1964 and during the first part of January 1965.

During the latter part of the month, the ship entered the Boston Naval Shipyard for a six-week availability during which she received control equipment associated with the Drone Antisubmarine Helicopter (DASH) system. The installation was completed early in March and Van Voorhis departed Boston on the 9th to participate in the annual "Springboard" exercises conducted in the Caribbean. Upon completion of that assignment, Van Voorhis returned north to receive her DASH helicopters. She arrived in Norfolk on 29 March and began three weeks of tests and qualifications with the DASH system. The first destroyer escort to receive DASH, Van Voorhis completed her qualification trials in April and returned to her home port on the 21st.

The ship continued to work out of Newport through the following four and one-half years, primarily conducting operations in the western Atlantic. She sharpened her anti-submarine warfare skills constantly as she participated in numerous exercises along the entire North American coastline and in the Caribbean. In 1966 and 1967, she made cruises around South America in which she visited a number of South American ports and participated in bilateral and multi-lateral exercises with warships of various South American countries. During the first five months of 1969, her sphere of operations was centered around Florida and the West Indies. In June, she returned to Newport for a short time before resuming operations in the Caribbean in July. Through the fall and winter of 1969, she alternated between Newport and the Fleet Sonar School at Key West FL.

In January 1970, Van Voorhis began preparations for conversion to a research and development platform to test the Interim Towed Array Surveillance System (ITASS). Late that month, her DASH equipment was removed to make room for the ITASS submarine detection gear. On 9 February, she entered the Bethlehem Steel Shipyards in East Boston to begin the actual conversion. Over the next month, her new equipment was installed, and her DASH hangar was modified to provide a berthing area for the additional crew members necessitated by the ITASS. Van Voorhis completed the conversion early in March and, for the next four months, she conducted a series of tests on the experimental equipment in the vicinity of Bermuda.

From late June to late August, she prepared to deploy to the Mediterranean. She departed Newport on 26 August 1970, passed through the Straits of Gibraltar on 6 September, and arrived at Naples on the 9th. The destroyer escort operated with the 6th Fleet, conducting surveillance patrols with her new ITASS gear until near the end of November. During the intervening two months, she also called at such places as Barcelona, Mallorca, Crete, and Naples. On 17 November, she turned the 6th Fleet ITASS responsibility over to her relief, Lester (DE-1022). After a liberty call at Palma de Mallorca and change of operational control at Rota, Spain, Van Voorhis set out to recross the Atlantic on 26 November and arrived in Newport on 6 December.

Van Voorhis began 1971 in port at Newport and operated from that base during the first eight months of the year. In September, the warship underwent an inspection and survey which found her to be unfit for further naval service. She remained moored at Newport until the following summer. Van Voorhis was decommissioned on 1 July 1972, and her name was struck from the Navy list simultaneously. On 15 June 1973, she was sold to the Union Minerals and Alloys Corp., of New York City, and was subsequently scrapped.

NOW AVAILABLE

VAN VOORHEES FAMILY IN AMERICA

THE FIRST SIX GENERATIONS

A LIMITED EDITION

CONSOLIDATES FAMILY GENEALOGICAL DATA STARTING WITH THE PIONEERING ACHIEVEMENT OF ELIAS W. VAN VOORHIS IN 1888. REPRESENTS THE WORK OF SEVERAL ASSOCIATION GENEALOGISTS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SCORES OF RESEARCHERS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DECADES. THIS IS THE EPOCHAL GENEALOGY OF THE VAN VOORHEES FAMILY THAT BELONGS ON EVERY "VOORHEES" BOOK SHELF

COMPILED AND EDITED BY FLORENCE A. CHRISTOPH
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**PURCHASE DETAILS AND COUPON ELSEWHERE
IN THIS NIEUWSBRIEF**

WILLIAM P. VOORHIES AND VOORHIES, ILLINOIS

David H. Voorhees, of Woodstock IL, sent us photocopies of excerpts from *The Squire of Voorhies* (by Dorothea Russell, Illinois Pioneer Heritage Center, 1967) that discusses Dr. William P. Voorhies. The book is the story of Nels Larson, an emigrant from Sweden in 1867. Mr. Larson became a farm employee of Dr. Voorhies and ultimately a very successful and wealthy farmer. Thank you, David. He obtained the book from Ginnie and Bryan Reynolds, who own and operate Cisco Farms in Cisco IL. We also thank them. Marie Avelsgaard, who manages our genealogical inquiry activity, supplied us with the genealogical record for Dr. Voorhies — thank you, Marie.

It is interesting to discover the particular origin of our Family name that is used for geographical locations in the United States. Our focus now is on Voorhies IL. This is about half way between Decatur and Tuscola in Piatt County, “as the crow flies.” Access wise, it is approximately four miles south of Bement, which is just north of the westerly turn in IL Route 105 as it heads toward Cerro Gordo. This is where Dr. Voorhies settled as a new farmer in 1870. Cisco is north of Cerro Gordo.

According to our genealogical data, Dr. Voorhies was born on 29 June 1841 in Woodford County KY. He attended Georgetown College and Center College, Danville KY. In 1861, Dr. Voorhies graduated from Center College and went to Heidelberg, Germany, for post graduate work. Author Russell states that he studied medicine in Heidelberg. She also says that Dr. Voorhies returned to America in 1868 and settled in Lexington KY to practice medicine. At this point, our genealogical data and Ms. Russell’s dates do not conform. She indicates that Dr. Voorhies married Ellen Duncan of Duncanon, Lexington KY “when he returned to America in 1868.” According to our information, Dr. Voorhies married Miss Duncan on 22 June 1865 in Lexington KY. If Dr. Voorhies obtained his

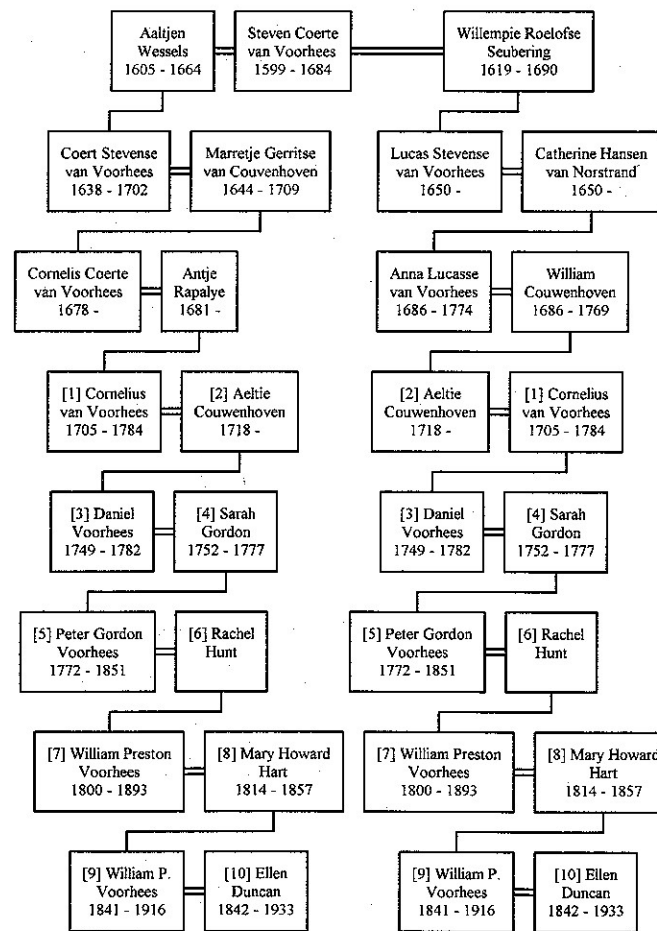
doctorate in medicine after four years of study and then returned to America, that would have been in 1865. It does not appear that the underlying events are in conflict.

Ms. Russell then relates, “Two years later he elected to give up medicine and to leave the comforts and refinements of life in Lexington for the rugged existence of primitive Illinois farmlands. They purchased, according to a habit common at the time, three sections of unbroken prairie, complete with mortgages, in Piatt County. The land was flat, treeless, and marshy.” (p. 9) This was productive land. The Voorhies’ built a new home, called Breezeland. It was a two story structure with verandas around three sides that extended upward for the full two story height. Ms. Russell says that this southern-influenced construction was designed to induce some protection to the interior of the house from the completely open exposure and the summer prairie sun.

The management and financial burdens of relatively large scale farming proved not to Dr. Voorhies liking and he commenced reducing his land holdings in 1885. He sold a parcel of land to Nels Larson, his former employee of many years. Over a period of years, Mr. Larson acquired all of the Voorhies land and in 1904 completed an elaborate and very expensive home, with many innovative plumbing and heating initiatives, called The Castle. This structure was still standing in 1967.

Ms. Russell goes on, “Meanwhile, William Voorhies and his wife became both well established and prosperous so there was an opportunity for other pursuits. An active Democrat, he was once elected to Congress and served for some time as a member of the state board of agriculture. ... At the turn of the [20th] century, Ellen Voorhies and her daughters operated a summer camp at Breezeland.” (p. 11) Ms. Russell states that Dr. and Mrs. Voorhies retired in 1913 “and sold the farm at an unheard of figure of \$200 per acre.” (p. 11) Our data show that they wintered in Louisiana and presumably returned north for the summers. The data

STEVEN COERTS TO WILLIAM P. VOORHIES



Our data do not indicate which ancestor changed the family name to Voorhies. Hence, we have used "Voorhees" throughout.

also show that Dr. Voorhies died in a New Orleans railroad station on 23 March 1916 at the age of 74. He was interred in Lexington. Mrs. Voorhees, according to Ms. Russell, "lived in Decatur, Illinois, and died in 1933 at the age of ninety." (p. 11)

An interesting descendant chart for Dr. Voorhies is part of this article. He descended from Steven Coerts through the Coert and Lucas Lines. In the third generation after Steven, Cornelius van Voorhees married Aeltie Couwenhoven, circa 1744. Genealogically, they were second cousins and this introduced the two Lines of descendant for Dr. Voorhies. He was the seventh generation after Steven Coerts. Children for Dr. and Mrs. Voorhies were daughters Mary Howard, Elizabeth Duncan, Lily D., Ellen, and Ida Compton, and son Henry D.

Dr. Voorhies had several brothers. Ms. Russell wonders if his brother "Jack" was the Civil War general "whose name was linked with the town which began to develop." (p. 10) Our data show that a brother of Dr. Voorhies was John H.

Preston Voorhies who had a career in Chicago and then in Silverton CO where he engaged in silver mining. President Cleveland appointed John as collector of the port and he remained thereafter in Denver. John's will provided for the erection of the Voorhies Colonnade in Denver which cost \$115,000 and was completed in 1920. The Voorhies Colonnade is discussed in our Historical Handbook, published in 1935, on pages 109-11. A photograph in the Winter 1998 Nieuwsbrief by Glendon W. Voorhees, of Cincinnati OH, shows the Voorhies Colonnade as it is today. Another brother of Dr. Voorhies was Charles Howard Voorhies, who graduated from West Point. We have no information about his army career as to whether he was the Civil War general. Gordon P. Voorhies, a brother, died on 13 November 1864 at the age of 20 in the battle of Bull's Gap during the Civil War. He served in the Confederate Army. Brothers George F. and Alfred Shelby rounded out Dr. Voorhies' siblings.

THE VAN VOORHEES FAMILY IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

by Michael A. Apgar

Mike Apgar is a member of the Association and will be our speaker at the October 6, 2001 Reunion. He is very well versed in the Civil War and will discuss our Family and that conflict. This article is an introduction to his presentation. Thank you, Mike, very much.

By the mid-nineteenth century, the descendants of Steven Coerts Van Voorhees had spread across the entire North American continent. More than 450 members in the Van Voorhees Family (including 33 spelling variants among those carrying the family surname!) served in the Union Army during the Civil War (1861-1865). Seven members of the family are known to have enlisted with the Confederacy. The Van Voorhees who fought for the Union served as in both the Regular Army and in units raised in 18 different states (CA, CT, IA, IN, IL, KY, KS, MA, MD, MI, MO, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT and WI).

The family was represented in all branches of the service (infantry, cavalry, artillery), including some specialized units (engineers and sharpshooters). Most served in the ranks as enlisted men, many earning promotions during their terms of service. Thirty were awarded commissions as officers, one eventually being a breveted major general.

These soldiers came from all walks of life, although most were farmers (as were the majority of Americans during that time). Their ages at enlistment ranged from 16 to 47 years, although most were in their early 20s. (This is typical of most wars, which are started by older men and fought by younger ones.)

Van Voorhees struggled through every major campaign and participated in virtually all of the major battles of the war. The resulting toll on their lives and health was staggering. At least 29 men were killed or mortally wounded in battles. Another 34 died during military service, including 21 of disease (6 of these while POWs), 3 from accidents (drowning

or fall from horse), and 10 for unspecified reasons (probably disease).

At least 44 Van Voorhees were discharged because they were no longer able to "soldier": 31 for disability (generally meaning chronic illness), 8 disabled on account of wounds, and 5 for unspecified reasons. Seven others accepted transfers to the Veteran Reserve Corps (aka the "Invalid Corps"), in which they performed duties less rigorous than service in the field.

The Civil War service of members of the Van Voorhees family should be a source of family pride today. These men were instrumental in preserving the Union and in ridding the United States of the cruel and unjust institution of human slavery, although the latter was likely not the primary motivation of many, if not most—at least initially. To this, there were certainly exceptions, including 3 African-American Van Voorhees, who enlisted in all black regiments.

The war widened the experiences, travel and awareness of those who participated in the military. Many of the survivors undoubtedly counted their war-time exploits as the most notable period of their lives. However, the lives lost or curtailed by injury and disease, the emotional distance and distress among the veterans and their families, and the economic deprivation suffered generally should also be acknowledged. These traumatic results should be a sobering reminder of the costs of failure to find peaceful political solutions to the problems confronting a democratic society.

May we always remember these tremendous sacrifices by our family to advance the unity and justice of our nation...and gain from this remembrance the resolve to commit ourselves to continued progress and fairness during our own lives.

[Ed. The "brevetted major general" that Mike refers to above was Maj. General Alvin Coe Voris — see the Winter/Spring 1999 Nieuwsbrief.]

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR DUTCH HERITAGE

by Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall

We are pleased to report on page two of this Nieuwsbrief that Marilyn Voshall, of Erie PA, was appointed Assistant Editor for Dutch Culture by the Executive Committee on April 28, 2001. Again, thank you, Marilyn. She has been a frequent contributor to the Nieuwsbrief and we look forward to many interesting articles about our ancestral culture. Please help Marilyn with your ideas and material. Her postal and email addresses are in Who's Who.

If we look around, we will discover how precious our knowledge of our ancestors is. Very few Americans have the data that we have. Our information from The Netherlands is far greater than that of most people. Records before 1700 are hard to find. Ours go back to c. 1550.

Also, we have discovered relatives in the village and town of our origin — even though there is a 350-year gap! These distant kinfolk are eager to make our acquaintance and help us learn even more! How many of your friends have the same privilege and relationships?

So what? Does it make a difference? Yes, it definitely does! My grandchildren are not fond of history, mainly because it is just memorization of dates plus a simple sentence connecting a name to an action. So, I put together my own family-related historical notes with diagrams of home floor plans, pictures and simple details of daily life. Then, I suggested that they ask themselves the following questions. (Most answers are in the notebook given to each.) What were our ancestors doing on the date to be memorized? Did he have to join the army/navy? Did she have to feed and find beds for the soldiers? Where, if necessary, did they hide when an army marched by their house? What kind of clothes did they wear? What did they eat? What did their home look like? Inside? Outside? Furniture? How did they earn money? Etc. When history has a personal touch, it makes us more aware of today's events — political, religious and social. This helps us make the right decisions for our present and future. Personal history gives us role models, a moral standard, hope and courage. If they survived in 1660 (or before), surely we can do it now. All of this doesn't even touch the subject of medical history emphasized so much today.

Let's take pride in our heritage! Participate in your local Folk Festivals as a descendant of the Dutch. Why shouldn't there be a PBS broadcast about the Dutch in America?

It would be nice if members would enroll their children and/or grandchildren in the Van Voorhees Assn. If there is a financial question at present, perhaps it could be put in your Will.

Music & Dance

I'm working on a Dutch Music Book-CD combination. It will have easy piano arrangements with basic steps for the Dances and Dutch words plus a basic translation for the Folk-songs.

If anyone has old Dutch sheet-music (no need to trans-

late it), I would greatly appreciate receiving a readable copy of each piece. This includes music and songs with or without words, folk tunes, dance music, hymns, choir numbers, etc. Please give me copies at the October Reunion, or send them to me before the Reunion.

DUTCH TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS & COSTUMES

by Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall

This new column for the Nieuwsbrief will be in every issue henceforth, as long as I am able to write it. Each column will contain one or more items of interest from our heritage. If you have or know of any Dutch traditions/customs, would you please give them to me at the Annual Reunion in October or email them to me at my address in Who's Who.

Martinmas in the 1600's

Martinmas is celebrated on November 11th each year. St. Martin, a missionary to Gaul, was the Bishop of Tours c. 316-397 A.D. He refused to give communion to prelates who approved of the murder of the Priscillian heretics. The best known legend states that he, while still a novice monk, met a beggar on a cold winter day. Remembering Christ's command to clothe the naked, he cut his cloak in half and gave half to the beggar. In the 1600's the new Dutch Reformed Church tried to discourage all celebrations connected with Catholic holidays; but a few remained popular anyway. Even yet, Martinmas is considered to be the start of the Christmas season. In Amsterdam there were boat races on the IJ. The loser(s) had to buy the winner(s) a drink.

As on all holidays, the feast was an important part. Family and close friends got together to eat, drink, dance, and generally be merry. The table groaned under the load of food and alcoholic drinks flowed freely. By custom, in winter the men were placed closest to the fire and the women were farthest away with foot warmers and shawls. The host began with a speech of welcome followed by a toast to every guest. The amount of wine in the glass or drinking bowl varied with each toast. It was a grave breach of etiquette not to empty one's glass each time. In Amsterdam the wealthy merchants' group, the Guild of Saint Martin, extended the feast to 2 days (a common practice) and served menus like these.

1st day morning — calves' foot and tripe with green peas, a fatty hutspot (vegetable & meat stew), and roasted meat with butter & cheese

1st day evening — left-overs and Salt-meat (preserved by saturation in brine) with rice

2nd day — meat pies, rabbit, chicken and goose.

Undoubtedly bread was always present, the alcohol was wine and probably, for dessert, there were fruits in heavy syrup. In this case the banquet started in the morning and may have lasted until 11 p.m. with a continuous barrage of food in course after course, washed down by copious bowls of alcoholic beverages. As a whole, the Dutch loved a party and, by today's standards, overindulged at every holiday.

WHAT'S WITH THE COUSINS

Ann Tangeman was elected a Friend of The Holland Society of New York. Ann lives in Jasper IN and is a genealogist.

Janet Voorhis was also elected a Friend of The Holland Society. Janet is the wife of our cousin, Dr. John R. Voorhis. Janet and John hail from Tequesta FL and Port Jefferson NY.

Treasurer Bogert Cox Holly was pictured in the May 2000 issue of The Jersey Patriot, the newsletter of the New Jersey Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Bo looks quite resplendent in his Continental Army uniform. The picture was made in April 1987 when the Elizabethtown Chapter Color Guard was in the Union County Court House on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the ratification of the United States Constitution.

Darlene Vorhies, of Fairfield IA, informed us in June 2000 that the Iowa Vorhies — “and other spellings” — were to hold their reunion on July 2, 2000 in Lockridge IA, the scene of earlier reunions. The news was received too late for the Summer/Fall 2000 Nieuwsbrief. We assume that all went well.

Similarly, we received news of the Lackey-Schanck Connection reunion that was to be held on July 15, 2000 at the residence of Esther Jean and Allan Lackey, in Guysville OH. Earlier reunions were also held at their residence. This news was also received too late for the Summer/Fall 2000 Nieuwsbrief and we assume that all went well.

Carol Osborne Cole, of Bountiful UT, sent us a clipping from the October 1, 2000 Deseret News, Utah, picturing Bob Vorhees, of Cozydale Farms. Bob is a large scale grower and seller of flower plants. He took over a fruit orchard when he was thirteen years old and gradually converted it to nursery stock. Bob's goal is “to sell at least 2,000 plants per week and many more than that during peak planting times.”

Judith Eckerson, of Woodbridge VA, published *Son of My Sorrow* in the Fall of 2000. This is a book of historical fiction based on actual people in New Netherland. “The major character is Rachel Eckerson, born 1685 to a farming family. She becomes engaged to Petrus Stuyvesant, the grandson of the old governor of New Netherland.” The work is “not a history text. It is a meditation on female memory, and a persisting question about the power of culture versus the individual life.” The book is in large format paperback and sells for \$16.00. It is published by and is available from Xlibris on 888-7-Xlibris or <orders@Xlibris.com>. Judith can be contacted on 703-490-6723 or <eckerson1@juno.com>.

NEW MEMBERS

Tom Van Voorhis, our Membership Chairperson, reported the following 28 new members as of November 30, 2000. Congratulations to all and welcome aboard.

Thomas W. Smith, Middletown CT
Marjorie Evelyn Van Duzer Campbell, Tallahassee FL
Bonnie Gutknecht Miller, Mishawaka IN
Diane Jahnke, Spring TX
Leroy Van Voorhees, Bohemia NY **
Raymond Louis Voorhees, Hometown IN
Kristin Van Voorhees, Washington DC
Arthur F. Ebert, Galion OH
Patti Carole Ebert, Galion OH
Norman F. Bradford, Jr., Nags Head NC **
Royce “Dale” Lillard, Jr., Phoenix AZ
John R. Vooris, Indian Orchard MA
Robert Conover English, Redondo Beach CA
John Seymour Voorhees, Romeo MI ***
Phyllis C. Shields, Waynesfield OH
Glen D. Myers, Sr., Alexandria VA
Jeff Voorhees Sheard, Plainsboro NJ
Mark Van Voorhis, Dexter MI
George A. McKinney, Lockport NY
Adlyn “Paddy” Shannon Cook, Silver Spring MD **
Joan Lea Voorhees Keidong, Schoharie NY
Ruth A. Yos, Columbia MD
Michael W. Voris, Seattle WA
David W. Voorhees, Crestline OH **
Carol Joan Booton Sheeley, Punta Gorda FL
Margaret Harriot Voorhees Booton, Puma Gorda FL
William Delavan Baldwin, II, Jacksonville Beach FL
Harold Barnette Simon, Weehawken NJ **

KEY ** Sustaining Member
*** Contributing Member

We are very pleased to announce the following new Life Members of the Association. Life Members demonstrate a special dedication to the Family. Your “cousins” are very appreciative.

Robert E. Van Voorhis, Jr., Cedar Falls IA
Robert de Berardinis, Houston TX



OUR GENEALOGY IS A COPYRIGHT PUBLICATION

Our new genealogy, Van Voorhees Family in America, is a copyright publication and is registered with the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress. In producing the genealogy, Florence Christoph carefully culled through and compiled the work of many genealogists and volunteers since the founding the Association in 1932. She also added considerable original research of her own. The result was a work that fully complies with copyright standards and eligibility. The Van Voorhees Association owns the copyright to the publication.

We have noticed that data from Van Voorhees Family in America are appearing on various Internet genealogical sites, often with little or no attribution to their source. This commenced happening very shortly after the publication became available. We also have noticed that our members are responsible for many of these instances.

Please cite Van Voorhees Family in America, with page number, when you use our publication as your source. In addition, it will be very helpful if you would state that information about purchasing the book and an order form can be found on our website, <<http://www.vanvoorhees.org>>.

While we neither approve nor condone the foregoing use of data from our publication, limited usage appears to be permitted by the Doctrine of Fair Use as contemplated by our copyright laws. However, consideration given to the hard work of producing the book by stating the appropriate attribution will be appreciated. Thank you very much.

ANNUAL VOORIS REUNION

Ethelyn Vooris, of Nassau NY, sent us a report of the Annual Vooris Reunion held on July 30, 2000, which follows. Thank you, Ethelyn — we always enjoy hearing about your reunions. Accompanying this article is the logo that was placed on the souvenir shirts for the Reunion. It was designed by twelve year-old Philip Gildersleve, a junior member of the Association. The Annual Vooris Reunion features a different souvenir each year.

Our reunion was held at Cherry Plains State Park again. Beautiful spot! Because of illness in my family, our children got to the Park about 7:00 A.M. so they could get "our spot." They set up tarps to keep the rain off the tables and food and our families. One of our groups came from California this year so we could not cancel it or change the date.

When Ron and I got there about 11:00 A.M., we figured every one would be gone and there would be no party. There were over 100 people there having a great time!

It seemed like being packed under tarps kept them closer together and they could

not wander too far away. The children had a ball playing in mud, collecting weird insects and going swimming to get the mud off. It rained almost all day but it was a misty rain that you did not mind.

It was nice to have Judith Van Voorhis and Florence Christoph join us. Quite a surprise really because of the weather.

Our first great grandson was there that day, one month-old Kip A. Conrad. A great great niece, Laura Rose Batchelder, just missed joining us by a few hours. Her mother never told anyone that the lady was close to being born at the Park — what a surprise that would have been.

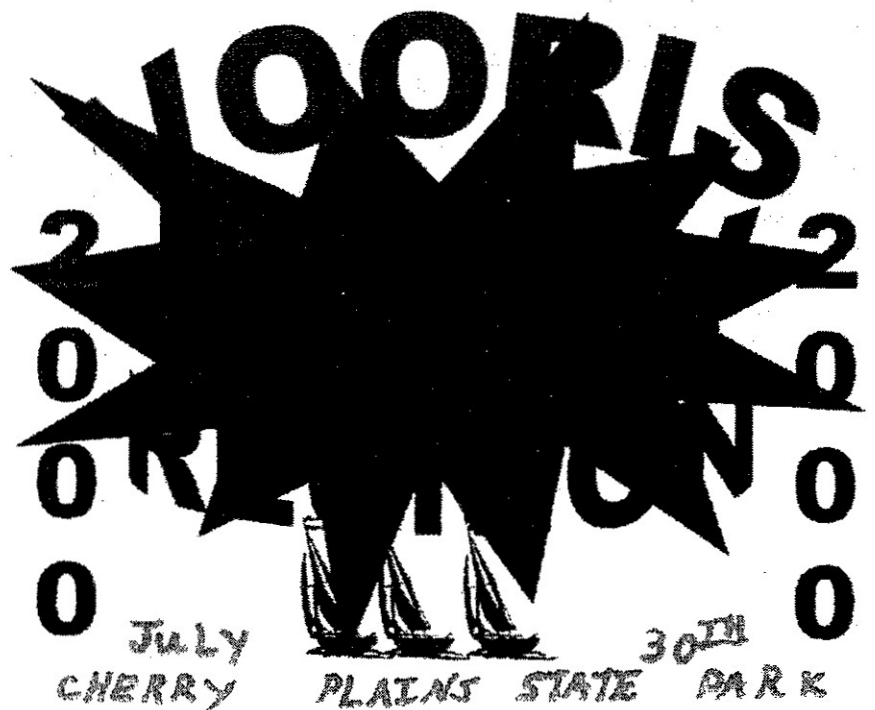
Everyone stayed until about 7:00 P.M. and no one had pneumonia afterward.

GENEALOGICAL INQUIRY PRICING POLICY

The Executive Committee approved on April 28, 2001 a new pricing policy for genealogical inquiries received from members of the Van Voorhees Association that will be effective on October 15, 2001. Non-members are not eligible for genealogical assistance because we a volunteer organization and it is unfair to tax further the valuable time of our volunteers for the benefit of non- members.

Our "genealogy ladies," Judith Van Voorhis, Marie Avelsgaard and Florence Christoph, collaborated on the new policy. Following are their recommendations that the Committee approved.

- New members will continue to receive a lineage chart as part of membership processing. This will continue at no charge.
- If we have limited information for a new member, they will receive a family group sheet indicating



what we have with the hope that this will lead them to a solution to their lineage.

- Members will be offered the opportunity to purchase an ancestry print out at a cost of \$25. This is offered since we do not expect to publish all of our material (14 generations) within the next decade. Where the member shows and corrects significant errors in his/her print out, a replacement will be sent at no cost. Minor typos are not considered "significant."
- There will be a charge for photocopies of material from the Van Voorhees Collection, i.e. Bible records, deeds, personal letters, etc. Although we are compiling an index to the material, it is still a time consuming job for Judith to locate this material. Cost — \$1.00 page, minimum of \$5.00.
- There will also be a charge for family group sheets if the person seeks more than two in a one year period.

SALES AND PRICING OF OUR PUBLICATIONS

Marilyn Brack, our Director of Publication Sales, reported on our book business during the Executive Committee meeting on April 28, 2001. Updating her report a bit as of this writing, Marilyn has processed 536 sales of Van Voorhees Family in America and 180 sales of Through a Dutch Door. Marilyn has done and is doing a terrific job! — everything is attended to promptly and all of the endless details are meticulously kept without error or confusion. Your Family thanks you, Marilyn.

Net proceeds from our book sales are being applied directly to the costs of producing "Volume II" of the new genealogy. This comports with our policy of recycling investments made earlier in these two publications into "Volume II." Thus, there are no retained monies since funds are and will be invested in the further publication.

Marilyn advised the Committee that United Parcel Service had increased its cost of shipping the genealogy roughly 3% earlier in 2001 and will probably raise its cost again sometime in the future. The United States Postal Service also increased its cost to mail Dutch Door. After discussion, the Committee voted to raise the cost of Van Voorhees Family in America by \$6.00 on October 8, 2001 to reflect the UPS shipping fees. Thus, the cost of the genealogy will become \$66.00 on that date. The cost will remain at the pre-publication incentive price of \$50.00 post paid until October 8th. The Committee also voted to increase the price of Dutch Door on October 8th by \$4.00 to reflect the cost of mailing the book to purchasers. Dutch Door will cost \$19.00 on October 8th if purchased with the genealogy and \$26.00 if bought separately. The cost of Dutch Door will remain at \$15.00 and \$22.00 post paid, respectively, until October 8th. We realize that all of this is complicated by the pre-publication pricing

period that will expire on October 8th and apologize for any confusion that it may cause.

Purchasers of Van Voorhees Family in America and Through a Dutch Door will avoid these shipping charges if they order their books before October 8, 2001. Don't wait!

MILESTONES

We received word of the passing of Mirielle Vorhies Martin, of New Orleans LA, by a note on the cover of her returned Nieuwsbrief ... we have no further information about her death ... Mirielle joined the Van Voorhees Association on January 20, 1934, about a year and a half after its founding, and was a Life Member ... born on December 15, 1915, Mirielle had three children by an earlier marriage to William Crawford.

Robert C. Lydecker, of Basking Ridge NJ, was called on March 7, 2000 ... Bob served as our Hendrickje Line Representative for several years .. He is survived by his wife and also his cousin, Fr. William J. F. Lydecker.

Frederick Vorhis passed away over the Labor Day weekend of 2000 ... He left his mother and also his sister, Virginia E. Vorhis, of Pittsford NY.

MISSING COUSINS

Newsletters for the following members were returned by the Post Office marked "undeliver able" because of an error in the address that postal authorities now say precludes delivery or the forwarding time has expired and we were not advised of the member's new address. If you have moved, please tell us of your new address otherwise you will become a "lost cousin" when the postal forwarding time has expired. Also, kindly look at your address on this issue and advise us if there is even the slightest discrepancy. Thank you.

Kym Voorhees Raque, Louisville KY
Danny M. Fluhart, Waldorf MD
Cora Jean Vanderploeg, Chula Vista CA
Kathleen P. Temay, Columbia PA
Margaret V. Barrett, Chicago IL
W. Keith Curl, Seven Devils NC
Johanna Beth Jorgensen, Brick NJ
Harry L. Voorhees, Sr., Andover MA
Richard J. Voorhies, Katy TX

2001 DUES PAYMENT FORM

Dues through December 31, 2001 were payable January 1, 2001. Please check membership desired, note any change of address and mail in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to Albert T. Van Voorhies, 9 Purdy Ave., East Northport, NY 11731-4501. 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 DUES

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

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

Check here, and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish to receive a 2001 membership card.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

PURCHASING THE NEW GENEALOGY

Van Voorhees Family in America can be purchased by mail with the Book Order Form elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief (please make a photocopy if you do not wish to cut up the Nieuwsbrief). We have to charge the State 6% sales tax for New Jersey addressees.

Regular Price per Copy	\$60.00 plus \$6.00 shipping, total \$66.00
Discounted Price to October 8, 2001	\$50.00 post paid
Buy Dutch Door with Genealogy	Dutch Door will cost \$15.00 per copy, a discount of \$7.00, or \$65.00 post paid for the two books together during the discount period to October 8, 2001. \$75.00 thereafter, plus \$10.00 shipping
Sales by Mail to N. J. Purchasers	Please add 6 % State sales tax to the total price (the Association has been designated a collector of the sales tax)
Shipping	UPS for the genealogy and USPS for Dutch Door

Please note the attractive combination offer of Van Voorhees Family in America and Through a Dutch Door. This is your chance to have the complete series of our Family history from Drenthe to early 19th century America on your favorite book shelf at an attractive pricing until October 8, 2001. "Volume II" of the genealogy will round out this impressive record. But — we must recycle our investment in "Volume I" to make this possible. We hope that you will participate in this effort.

The book order coupon is elsewhere in this Nieuwsbrief.

BOOK ORDER FORM

I. Van Voorhees Family in America

_____ copies @ prepublication price at \$50.00 each \$ _____

Price will be \$60.00 plus \$6.00 shipping after October 8, 2001

II. Through a Dutch Door, 17th Century Origins of the Van Voorhees Family

_____ copies bought with genealogy at \$15.00 each \$ _____

Add \$4.00 postage after October 8, 2001

III. Through a Dutch Door, 17th Century Origins of the Van Voorhees Family

_____ copies purchased alone at \$22.00 each \$ _____

Add \$4.00 postage after October 8, 2001

SUB TOTAL \$ _____

Residents of New Jersey please add 6 % sales tax on Sub Total \$

\$ _____

FINAL TOTAL \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to The Van Voorhees Association and mail to: Mrs. Frederick Brack, 24 Mary Street, North Haledon NJ 07508. Please enclose this complete form or a photocopy with your order. Please also ensure that "North Haledon" is clearly stated on your mailing envelope.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ (please add the plus-4 if you know it)

Telephone _____

VVA # _____

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 Barro, 30 San Salvador Street, Toms River, NJ 08757, Telephone (732)505-9232

Items for Sale	Members	Non-Members	Quantity
Handpainted Coat of Arms	\$13.00	\$15.00	_____
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	_____
Tietac\Pin	\$15.00	\$15.00	_____
Coat of Arms, X Stitch Pattern		\$ 1.50	\$ 2.00 _____
SUBTOTAL			_____
New Jersey Residents, add 6% sales tax			_____
TOTAL			\$ _____

Purchases are sent postpaid with no additional shipping charges.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ VVA # _____

VAN VOORHEES WHO'S WHO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Manning W. Voorhees, 2415 Spring Hill Drive, Toms River NJ 08755-2523
(732)886-0426, <voorheeszoo@adelphia.net>

Vice President: Scott T. Voorhees, 147 Grand Boulevard, Emerson NJ 07630-1744, (201)967-1013,
<svoorhees1@aol.com>

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

Treasurer: Bogert Cox Holly, 64 Swede Mine Road, Dover NJ 08701-3741 (973)366-1537

Financial Secretary: Scott T. Voorhees (see above)

Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. John (Laura) Thompson, 17 Royale Court, Lake Saint Louis MO 63367-1223
(636)561-8170, <jathom@juno.com>

Past President: Donald G. Vorhis, 1930 Camelia Circle, Midlothian VA 23112-4177, (804)744-8856

LINE REPRESENTATIVES

Albert Line: Mrs. Frederick (Marilyn) Brack, 24 Mary St., No. Haledon, NJ 07508-3040, (973)427-9246

Coert Line: Mrs. Glee Van Osdol-Krapf, 215 Washington St., Tamaqua PA 18252-1324, (717)668-1818
<gleek@f-tech.net

Jan Line: Mrs. Martin (Marie) Avelsgaard, 836 Larsmont Rd., Two Harbors MN 55616,
<mariefaye@yahoo.com>

Lucas Line: Mrs. Glee Van Osdol-Krapf (see above)

Aeltje Line: Vacant

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