

VAN VOORHEES Vol. 38 Number 1

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TRIBUTE TO TOM MEMBERSHIP CHAIR CHANGES

By

Scott Voorhees, Acting President

Albert (Tom) Van Voorhies has decided to step down as Membership Chair, a position he has held since 1993. Tom processed membership payments, sent welcome letters to new cousins and updated the association database to reflect dues payments and change of addresses. Tom became a tenacious investigator when it came to ascertaining a member's current address when the *Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief* was returned as undeliverable. Tom was concise and detailed in his record keeping, a trait he shared with his sister, Marilyn Brack, our long-time secretary and publications sales coordinator.

On behalf of the entire Van Voorhees Association, thank you Tom, for a job well done.

I would also like to introduce and welcome our new Membership Chair, Don Coons. Don, we are grateful that you have agreed to help the VVA. Don's contact information is on the Who's Who page.

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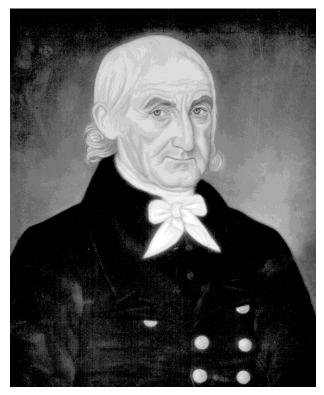
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From the Editor, Marie Voorhees Avelsgaard:



Abraham Voorhees, Revolutionary War, Drummer

My five times great grandfather, Abraham Voorhees, was born May 2, 1753, as was his twin brother, Lucas. They were baptized on June 8, 1753, at the Dutch Reform church, Six Mile Run, Somerset County, New Jersey. He died at the young age of 54 on February 18, 1808 at Lebanon, Clinton Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey and is buried at the Dutch Reform Church yard in Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. He was a carpenter and his twin was a blacksmith. I have visited his grave and the inscription is as follows:

Remember me as you pass by As you are now so once was I As I am now you all must be Prepare for death and follow me

Abraham married Willempje Wycoff on May 24, 1780. They were blessed with seven children. Her Bible records, written in Dutch, can be found in the Rutgers University library and the Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey, Vol 13, pg.46-47.

He served in the Revolutionary War as a Drummer, with the Captain Jacob Ten Eyck Company. His photo/portrait was found in the collection of the Van Voorhees Association. His twin was shot in the mouth at the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey. According to Family Search, starting in 1775 and during the six-year Revolutionary war, more of the fights took place in New Jersey than any other colony. Over 296 engagements between opposing forces were recorded. One of the largest conflicts of the entire war took place between Morristown and Middlebrook, referred to as the "Ten Crucial Days" and remembered by the famous phrase "the times that try men's souls". The revolution won some of their most desperately needed victories during this time.

What is the role of a Drummer during the Revolutionary War? I found an interesting article in our own "American Spirit", Nov/Dec 2017 issue, on page 10, entitled "Sounding the Revolution". The fife was used because of its high-pitched sound and the drum because of its low pitch. Both instruments could be heard over great distances and even through noise, clamor and confusion of battle.

The AS article goes on to say, the experienced drum and fife majors instructed the musicians, who helped keep order on the battlefield and made sure the soldiers functioned well as a unit. Certain drum beats told soldiers to turn right or left and to load and fire their muskets. A tune called "Cease Fire" signaled to soldiers to stop firing at the end of battle, while a tune called "parley" signaled to the enemy that a surrender or peace talk was desired. In camp, fifers and drummers were used to help regulate daily duties. Tunes were used to tell the soldiers to wake up, eat meals and perform camp chores.

According to Michael Aubrecht, author of History of Drummer Boys, throughout the history of warfare musicians have always played an important role on the battlefield. Military music has served many purposes including marching cadences, bugle calls and funeral dirges. Fifes, bagpipes and trumpets are just some of the instruments that were used to instruct friendlies and intimidate foes. But perhaps the most notable instrument was the drum. From as far back as the ancient days of Babylon, the beating of animal skins rallied the troops on the field, sent signals between the masses, and scared the enemy half to death. During the Revolutionary War, drummers in both the Continental and English ranks marched bravely into the fight with no more protection than their drums and sticks. Drummer boys during the American Civil War were younger than their predecessors from the Revolution.

THE DUTCH INFLUENCE

The Netherlands, in decline from its 17th-century heyday as a colonial world power; made major contributions to the American cause via arms merchants and banking houses.

By Jeff Walter

Dutch sympathy. Dutch weaponry. Dutch recognition. Dutch money. American independence. Without the support of our friends in the Netherlands, the outcome of the American Revolution might have been altogether different. While such contributions have been largely overlooked by historians on this side of the Atlantic, they were indispensable to the Patriots' efforts.

When the war was over, and for years after, the United States of America was deeply indebted – financially, and figuratively – to its Dutch allies. The Dutch Republic, on the other hand, paid a heavy price for its assistance.

A FADING POWER

During its peak as a major colonial trade influence in the 1600s, the Dutch Republic built a global colonial empire, fostered a vast network of maritime connections, and became an international center of finance and culture. But it had since degenerated into a decentralized state, with political control alternating between the province of Holland and a series of stadtholders, or provincial officers. At the time of the American Revolution, the stadtholder over all seven Dutch provinces was William V, Prince of Orange, who had family ties to the British royal house. But ordinary Dutch citizens, weary of the outmoded and out-of-touch oligarchy, yearned for change.

The writings of the French Enlightenment philosophers Voltaire, Montesquieu and Rousseau – a major influence on America's Founding Fathers – also found receptive ears in the Dutch Republic. The writers' views on liberty, separation of powers, the "general will" and related topics resonated with many progressive Dutch, who saw the American rebels as the embodiment of said social theories – and kindred spirits. The Dutch "Patriots", unfortunately, would fare much worse than their American counterparts.

About 100,000 people of Dutch origin resided in the Colonies, where the Dutch West India Company had carried out 17thcentury colonization. Roughly 85% of them remained in what was once New Netherland – compromising parts of modernday New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Early Dutch settlers suffered under the tyrannical governance of Peter Stuyvesant, who was appointed by the West India Company. After the British freed the settlers from Stuyvesant's control in August 1664, many of them assumed prominent business and social roles in the Colonies. However, immigration from their mother country all but came to a stop.

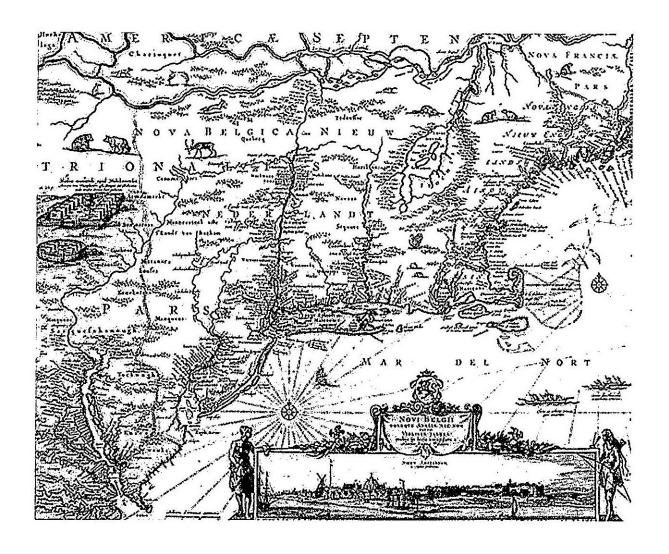
RELATIONSHIP WITH ENGLAND

England and the Netherlands, after engaging in three Anglo-Dutch wars (1652-1654, 1665-1667 and 1672-1674), had settled into a long and mutually beneficial friendship. When the Seven Years' War (known in the American Colonies as the French and Indian War) began in 1756, the Netherlands was content to sit on the sidelines.

As the conflict spread to five continents and embroiled the British, French, Spanish, Prussian, Austrian, Russian and Swedes, the Dutch found neutrality a boon for international trade while doing nothing to jeopardize relations with the English. All that would change with the Revolutionary War.

As early as 1774, Dutch merchants were sending large quantities of war material to the Colonial rebels. Two Dutch-owned Caribbean colonies, St. Eustatius in the Leeward Island and Curacao off the Venezuelan coast, served as conduits for keeping the Patriots supplied with gunpowder, cannonballs, firearms and naval stores in exchange for American goods

such as tobacco and indigo. St. Eustatius, in particular, began provoking British complaints about "subversive" transactions. But governor Johannes de Graaff, called to explain himself, denied any wrongdoing by his people in connection with the American rebels. Amsterdam merchants and bankers saw financial opportunity in these Colonies and intended to capitalize on it, regardless of the consequences of acting counter to the official positions of The Hague, the Dutch seat of government.



A 17th century map of the East Coast of North America, including the area of New Netherlands.

Reprinted from *Food, Drink, and Celebrations of the Hudson Valley Dutch* by Peter G. Rose courtesy of the collection of Joep de Koning and Foundation for Historic New Amsterdam (pg. 20, the History Press, 2009).

The severely divided Netherlands was suffering from not only a declining economy and a paralyzed and inefficient political system, but also from a lack of widespread understanding of what exactly was transpiring across the Atlantic, suggests Jan Wilhelm Schulte Nordholt in his book *The Dutch Republic and American Independence* (University of North Carolina Press, 1982; translated from Dutch by Herbert H. Rowen).

At the war's onset, England repeatedly requested the Dutch Republic to lend military support, citing multiple treaties between the two nations, but their requests were refused. A handful of events, combined with the ongoing trade with American rebels, incrementally goaded the British toward action.

On November 16, 1776, Dutch in St. Eustatius' Orange Bay saluted the starless "Grand Union" American flag when the brigantine *Andrew Doria* arrived. That salute, considered the first recognition of the first American flag, was viewed in England as an acknowledgement of the Colonies' independence. The following summer, in retaliation, Great Britain seized 54 ships in transit between the Netherland and St. Eustatius.

Subsequently, U.S. naval officer John Paul Jones, after orchestrating an American victory over British ships off England's eastern coast in September 1779, took shelter in the Netherlands and was embraced as a hero. The Dutch refused England's demands that Jones be turned over.

English ire over Dutch behavior came to a head in August 1780 when a British ship captured diplomat Henry Laurens, a former president of the Continental Congress, who was on his way to Amsterdam to negotiate a \$10 million loan for the American war effort. Among Laurens' papers his captors discovered a draft of a proposed American-Dutch Treaty. On December 20, 1780, Britain declared war on the Netherlands.

THE FOURTH ANGLO-DUTCH WAR

The Fourth Anglo-Dutch War, overlapping the Revolutionary War, was an entirely naval conflict that continued until 1784. It was a debilitating military, political and economic loss for the Netherlands.

In the one sea battle, the British managed to disable the Dutch naval fleet for the rest of the war. They targeted Dutch colonial interests, paralyzing the republic's overseas commerce. They seized control of Dutch ports and colonies in India, Ceylon, Guiana and West Africa. Especially harsh punishment was reserved for St. Eustatius, hub of the military transactions with the American Colonies. In February 1781, a British naval force led by Admiral George Rodney devastated the island, thus ending trade with the rebels, and confiscated ships, cash and property.

As Rodney's force was wreaking havoc on St. Eustatius, a French fleet led by Francois Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse, set sail from the Caribbean for Virginia. In September 1781, it routed a British fleet in the Battle of the Chesapeake. That triumph led directly to the decisive American victory at the Battle of Yorktown, the last major land battle of the war in North America.

MONEY AND RECOGNITION

As Revolutionary War military clashed rage on land and sea, diplomatic battles were waged in The Hague. John Adams, the future second president of the United States, was dispatched to the Netherlands (with young sons John Quicy and Charles in tow), after already having been involved in ongoing Paris negotiations to end the war. The Dutch diplomacy paid off on three major fronts in 1782:

On April 19, the Netherlands formally recognized the independence of the United States of America, becoming the second nation to do so, after France. This action included accepting Adams' credentials as first minister to the Netherlands.

On May 17, Adams secured a loan totaling 5 million guilders, or \$2 million, from three Amsterdam banking houses. This investment was the first of many: Dutch bankers alone financed the American national debt well into the 1790s, and by 1794 the U.S. had borrowed the equivalent of 30 million guilders, or \$12 million.

On October 8, the United States and the Netherlands signed a Treaty of Amity and commerce.

"American historians have never given the Dutch role in the American Revolution the attention that it deserves," wrote James H. Hutson, in his article "John Adams and the Birth of Dutch-American Friendship, 1780-82" (Low countries Historical Review, 1982). The Amsterdam loans from 1782-1788 "prevented a national bankruptcy."

The American Revolution drew to a close in 1783, but the fourth Anglo-Dutch War continued for another year. The peace treaty between England and the Netherlands forced the Dutch to surrender Nagapattinam off the coast of India, yet another casualty stemming from their aiding and abetting the rebel cause. The political instability that had roiled the Netherlands since around 1780 continued to fester, with the progressive Dutch Patriots opposing stadholder William V and his "Orangist" supporters. Fueled by the support of the middle class, the unrest grew, with armed civilians taking over several cities and regions in an attempt to force new elections. But the revolt was ultimately quashed in 1787 with the intervention of troops from neighboring Prussia.

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"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

- Thomas Paine -

"Historical Handbook of the Van Voorhees Family in the Netherlands and America"

This is the fourth time at reproducing The Van Voorhees Association's published handbook, 1935, entitled, "Historical Handbook of the Van Voorhees Family in the Netherlands and America", With Illustrations by Stephen J. Voorhies. We hope you were lucky enough to have purchased one when it was still in print, as it has been out of print for quite some time. Once again, we extend a thank you to one of our longtime members, John Van Voorhis, for transcribing the book into Word format. We are sharing this with our membership in the next several issues of our newsletter. The contents page will not be included as the page numbers will be irrelevant. There are some interesting stories in this book, so keep watching for them in future issues of the "Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief"!

VII

LETTERS FROM THE HOME LAND

The Dutch families in New Jersey and New York made little effort to preserve the letters received from their friends and relatives who remained in the Netherlands. Tunis G. Bergen states that three letters preserved in the Van Voorhees family were the only ones he had discovered in his examination of old papers and documents in the possession of descendants of Dutch settler in King's County. (Editors Note: Copies of other letters were later found in the records of the State of New York.)

Three letters were stated by Elias van Voorhees to be among his papers, two written by Hilbert Coerten of Drente to his nephew Coert Stevenson, Van Voorhees, dated April 13, 1684, and February 9, 1687, respectively, and a third, also directed to Coert Van Voorhees, and written about thirteen years later by Rev. Casparus Van Zuuren or Zueren who had been minister of the Reformed churches of the section, including Flatlands, and hence knew the family well.

In the Van Voorhees Genealogy a synopsis of the contents of the first letter is given, and translations of the third, "literally ... preserving the Dutch idiom. Quaint in form, these are scarcely understandable. A free rendering is here given.

Hilbert Coerten was a younger brother of Steven Coerten, our ancestor. He wrote the first letter on April 13, 1684, six months after receiving a letter assuring him that his brother Steven, his wife, and the other members of the family were in good health, including many items of interest respecting members of the family in the home land, who were for the most part doing well. This will be noted for six months later Steven Coerten had died - a fact of which his brother was ignorant when he wrote.

Uncle Hilbert was particular to mention many relatives and friends, ten as having died, eight couples as being married, and several children as having come to the various households.

The second letter, written three and a half years later, is reproduced in modern English for the light it throws on conditions in the home land. When this letter was received the family had been in America nearly twenty-seven years. Coert Stevensen was the head of the family, a man of nearly fifty, with nine children of his own, the youngest of about four years of age.

The letter, dated February 9, 1687, was directed to "Coert Stevense Van Voorhees(1) and wife -with God's blessing - at the new land on Long Island, under the jurisdiction of New York." (1) this is the first documentary reference to Van Voorhees as the name of the family, and confirms the spelling, *Coert*.

THE LETTER OF UNCLE HILBERT

"Honored Nephew: I write again to tell you how much we are interested in your welfare, and to let you know that I have received the letter you sent by Pegleg Prefect, and understand what you have written respecting your welfare and that of your family. I understand that your son is married, though hardly twenty years of age, and that you have sought for my nephew and niece, Jan Kiers and his wife, Hendrickjen Stevense, a dwelling for which they are to pay six hundred guilders, and land where there is room to pasture three cows. I wonder how Jan Kiers has already gained so much. It must be very good land to make it possible for him to earn two thousand guilders since he arrived. I shall be pleased to have you tell us about the land and its fertility.

"I am pleased to say that we are in good health, including my brothers, Jan, Coert, Wesvel Coert, and Albert Coert; and Alten Maelen is also fairly well. My uncle, Hendrick Alberts of Tweel is also very well, and also Uncle Luytgen Alberts who resides at Haecxwolt, and Aunt Mergin at the Hague, Aunt Gertien at Oshaer and all her household.

"Your sister Mergin Stevense who has left me, wished me to tell of her station. She still resides at Dwingelo, and is younger for all her years. She expects soon to go to live at Buywsk on the Scheldt to become Sheriff.

"You have written to know about Jan Kiers' house at Steenwyck. I have sold the house to Hendrick Bonjaus, and have arranged that Jan Coersen should write you how matters stand and what were the incidental costs of the sale. Jan Kiers will receive about three hundred carolus guilders. He will write also to inquire of Jan Kiers what to do with the money.

"Hendrick Rorken of Ruinen would like to have a letter from you as he has not heard from his brother's wife nor their children, and he is anxious to know if they are alive and prosper.

"I must tell you of a very mournful event. A great judgment has come on the land of Groningen and Eunderland and Ostveerf. A great gale from the northwest swept over and flooded the land so that people and cattle of all the towns have scarcely been saved alive. At Groningen the water stood upon the streets and and the land is at present in a very sorrowful state. It is said that four thousand people were drowned and so many cattle that it seems a great pity. God the Lord has chastised the land, but it is the people's fault as they would not concern themselves about the state of the fatherland. This is the worst about which we have to complain. Otherwise things are about as they were when you resided here.

"My beloved nephew, we hope you will write again, and direct to Amsterdam, instead of to Swal, in care of Hildebrandt Van Dykes, for he lets us know by post when letters are at his house. The widow Wesvel Alberts of Voorhees wishes us to write that she is doing well. Write again concerning your sisters and brothers who are living in your great land, and I will reply as to our welfare. I have four children by my last wife, and our Jan has married a daughter of Nagle and they have four children, and our nephew has five children, and Albert at the Hague has two children.

"With God's blessing, your affectionate uncle, HILBERT COERTE OF VOORHEES

The letter of Pastor Van Zueren was written thirteen years later, when Coert Van Voorhees, beyond sixty with a goodly family of grandchildren, is a man of parts in his adopted country, for had he not been sent to represent his town to the conference with Governor Colve at Albany in 1674 that was to be the capital of the state? And was he not highly esteemed as a member of the Reformed Church of Amersfort, now renamed Flatlands? This letter was directed:

"To Coert Stevense Van Voorhees and Wife, residing at New Amersfoort, on the Island of Nassau."

THE LETTER OF PASTOR VAN ZUEREN

"My esteemed friends: Your letter of the 26th of August of last year was received four months ago. Thank you for your terms of endearment and I wish to respond with similar affection. You speak truly when you encourage us to be patient when we realize the source of our misfortune. It requires no less courage to bear the yoke of the Lord, when he chastises us for our sins, and it is no cause for gladness but for sorrow that our housekeeping is neglected. It is the will of the Lord that our adversity should result in our sanctification.

"You have evidently prospered in your home and your children, since they are healthy, doing well and well married. With respect to our own children, Johanna is now twenty years of age, they are fast becoming men and bring much difficulty as one is in the other's way, but we pray that God and His Son and Heavenly Spirit will give us bread sufficient - more we do not require. The years bring no improvement to my wife, who is sickly. I have again been able to preach for about half a year, but with difficulty, owing to my indisposition and my passing years. I hope the Lord will continue my strength so that I may perform my duties without sorrow. We are now enjoying peace. The famine of 1698 has been followed by a fruitful year, 1699, but the country is burdened with taxes and trade remains impeded.

"In your old neighborhood, many difficulties have arisen, which set friend against friend. It now seems that the Earl of Bellomont will be brought to court. It causes much animosity that those who were inferior should come to places of authority. A new governor may change all this. i believe it is best for one to be neutral so as not to be involved in difficulty. I give this advice to you, as to others who have written me. I keep myself outside of all factions and regret sincerely that in such a favored land growing churches should be shaken and restless.

"I hear that in New York there is a serious epidemic, and I trust that you and all the good people will escape; and I pray that God Almighty will so move your hearts that peace will be restored through the Gospel of Peace and the Messenger who proclaims this peace. To all your loving children to the end of time, peace. Greet all the friends in New Amersfoort for us."

While these letters are few, we are indeed grateful for them, and for the view they give of conditions in the ancient province of Drente, where many relatives were still living

After this look backward our eyes turn forward that we may follow further the fortunes of the family in America.

VIII

THE VAN VOORHIES FAMILY AT GRAVESEND

Coerte Stevensen, the eldest son of our common ancestor, Steven Coerten, lived at first on land which he had purchased at Amersfoort, on the easterly bank of the tide-water creek known as Stromme Kill. Then on March 8, 1691, when over fifty years of age, he purchased for L295 from John Tilton, Jr, all his estate in Gravesend Neck, consisting of four fifteen acre lots and the house thereon. He later added another lot adjoining, and so had a farm of nearly seventy-five acres.

John Tilton's father had come to Gravesend in the retinue of Lady Deborah Moody, and the son, about to move to Monmouth County, New Jersey, reserved the right of possession for a year unless he should sooner move to his new home. Coert Stevensen did not move to the newly purchased farm, but remained in his early home the rest of his days.

In 1664 he had married Marretje Van Couwenhoven, and nine children were born between 1665 and 1683 - five sons and four daughters. Their oldest son, Stephen Coerten, when less than twenty years of age, married Agatha Janse, and in 1693 purchased of Weserel :Pietersson forty acres adjoining his father's land on the west, and lived thereon, thus founding the

Voorhees line in Gravesend. Several of his sons spelled their names Voorhies, as do many of their descendants to this day. One family later shortened the name to Voris.

In 1699 Coert Stevensen Van Voorhees, then past sixty, conveyed part of his farm to his oldest son, Steven C. Voorhees, and the remainder to his second son, Albert, who had married first, Sarah Cornel of Flatlands and twice thereafter. In all he had a family of fifteen children. Four sons and six daughters grew to maturity, and for the most part moved to New York or New Jersey.

Stephen C. Van Voorhees, after the death of his wife, Agatha Janse, married a much younger woman, Eve, who by his will was to have the use of his estate during her lifetime, after which it was to be equally divided between his two sons, Koert and Jan. As the former left the section, Jan secured possession of all the land his father had owned, and also that of his uncle Albert. Thus he came to possess most of the land in the Sheepshead Bay section of what is now the borough of Brooklyn, lying between Avenue U, Sheepshead Bay, and east to Ocean Avenue. Until recently some of his descendants have owned portions of this tract, and several families still live in the vicinity. Voorhies Avenue in Sheepshead Bay bears the family name.

About 1730 Jan Stevense built an unpretentious house near the northwest corner of the property, on the north side of the present Neck Road, facing south, as was then the custom. This house with later additions remained until a few years ago when it was razed in connection with street openings. Its site was on Neck Road near the intersection with Avenue V and East 21st Street. The main doorway of the original house is depicted in one of the murals that now adorn the Bruckelen Room in the Towers Hotel - a room in which a Van Voorhees Rally was held on May 20, 1933.

In this house Jan Coerten Van Voorhies and Sytie his wife raised their family of three sons, Stephen J., John and Jacobus. Stephen J. and John Voorhies married sisters, Phebe and Jane Ryder, daughters of Bernardus Ryder, whose land was just north of the Voorhies farm. After the death of their father, Stephen J. occupied the family homestead, and four children were born during the years preceding the Revolution. By a curious circumstance the house became known as

THE HESSIAN HOUSE

After the battle of Long Island in August 1776, the British were in full possession of Long Island, and the towns that comprise the present Borough of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, Flatbush, Flatlands, New Utrecht, and Gravesend - were all within the enemy's lines. Homes and barns were frequently robbed, and British officers and men, and at times their prisoners, were quartered upon the people whether they would or not. All the farmers could raise was in demand. Though many of the inhabitants were patriots at heart, for the sake of their homes, they were under the necessity of being neutral. Many of the younger men, however, stole away and joined the continental army or militia.

Stephen J. Voorhies had been a member of the King's County militia before the outbreak of the war, and never swerved from his allegiance to the colonies during their long struggle for independence. Hence he had great satisfaction in being present when the British evacuated New York in November 1783. He may not have been at home when his little daughter, Yonette, died. The only record is of her baptism on May 9th of that year.

Prior to the battle of Long Island, as a measure of protection and safety, General Washington ordered the harvested grain of the King's County farmers to be stacked in the fields ready to be burned and their cattle to be driven beyond the expected lines of battle.

When the soldiers apprised Phebe Voorhees of the general's order, to insure a supply of milk for the baby, they allowed her to retain one cow provided she was kept hidden, either in the cellar or in a bedroom. After the battle, Stephen J. Voorhies found himself near his home and was given leave to see what had happened to his family. A Hessian soldier had discovered the cow and was about to drive her off when Stephen J. appeared on the scene. In the altercation that followed the Hessian was killed, and his body was buried that night under the back bedroom. Stephen J. then hurried back to his company.

It was because of this story, which has come to be a tradition, that the Voorhies home became known as The Hessian House.

After the war two other sons were born to Stephen J. and Phebe Ryder Voorhies - John S. in 1780, and Stephen S. in 1787. In the course of the years the three daughters, Seytie, Jane and Eva, married and made homes elsewhere. Stephen J. built a house on his property for his eldest son, Jacobus, and some years later another for his son Stephen. The latter, near the homestead to the east, and still facing Neck Road, still stands in a fine state of preservation, and is known as "Glen Iris" by its Scottish owners.

Stephen J. Voorhies continued in possession of all his real estate until his death in 1816. His will probated shortly thereafter shows bequests of equal sums of money to each of his daughters, a devise of ten acres of land including the house he had built for his son Jacobus, then deceased, to each of the latter's sons; the remainder. to be divided between his two living sons, John S. and Stephen S. Voorhies. The writer has a copy of this will, and also an indenture signed by John S. Voorhies and Adrianne Voorhees (note the spellings), which gives to Stephen S. Voorhies as his share of the estate six parcels of land - one including the house in which he lived, adjoining other parcels he had left to his other male heirs - the whole comprising about forty acres. Stephen J. Voorhies' holdings approximated one hundred acres.

John S. Voorhies, the second son of Stephen and Phebe Ryder Voorhies, remained on the homestead with her parents. He married Adrianne, a sister of Peter J. Voorhies of Rocky Hill, Somerset County, New Jersey, who had married his oldest sister, Eva. Thus the two families of cousins were doubly related.

Stephen S., the youngest son of Stephen and Phebe Ryder Voorhies, became the custodian of family letters that his great-great grandfather Coert Stevense, had received in 1684 and 1687 from his Uncle Hilbert, who was then living at the ancient manor of Voorhees in Drente, Netherlands. They were loaned to Mr. Teunis G. Bergen when he was accumulating material for his great work, "The Bergen Family," but were never returned. Fortunately they were described in the Van Voorhees family genealogy, and are reproduced in another chapter. Their loss was sincerely regretted by their rightful custodian, and by his descendants who are deprived of the privilege of seeing them.

While Gravesend was settled about 1643 by the English under Lady Deborah L. Moody, much of the land was soon purchased by Dutch families. As the early settlers did not plan to organize a church, and as the Dutch could not worship in English, they began Reformed Church services in 1656, but nearly a century passed before a regular minister was secured. Several churches were under the necessity of of sharing the ministrations of one pastor. These occasional services were held in the Session House, erected by the town after 1666 within the Village Square, several religious organizations sharing its use. Many of the families continued their membership in the Flatlands Church until 1762, when under the leadership of Rev. Martinus Schoonmaker, a Reformed church was erected, also within the square. Soon thereafter John S Voorhies and Seytie his wife transferred their membership to Gravesend. In 1768 he was chosen a Deacon, and four years later was ordained an Elder. From that time forward many members of the family throughout the generations have been loyal supporters of the church, a goodly number serving as members of its Consistory.

In 1840 a Sunday School was begun in a chapter maintained by the church in Gravesend Neck, and during ninety-one of its ninety-four years the superintendents have been members of the Voorhees family. They were in order, John S. Voorhies in the sixth generation, Peter Dumont Voorhies and Jaques Van Brunt Voris in the seventh, Jacobus Voorhies in the eighth, and Stephen Robin Voris in the ninth. Edward Bennett, who served thirty-four years following Jacobus Voorhies, had a Voorhees ancestry, though he did not bear the name. This is indeed a remarkable record.

A Van Voorhees Rally was very appropriately held on October 19, 1934, at the home of Miss Maude E. Voris on Neck Road at which the main portions of this chapter were read by the hostess of the day.

This takes us through page 46 of the original handbook, which contains 122 pages. We will continue to submit material over the next several issues.

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BRIEF COMMENTS ON THE LIFE OF THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN

By John Van Voorhis

You may have read in another edition of the Nieuwsbrief, about the life of Minne Van Voorhees of New Brunswick, NJ and his association with his Pastor Theodore Frelinghuysen. For our readers who may not be aware of the prominence of the Rev Frelinghuysen in the early 1700s Dutch Reformed Church, the following may be of interest.

Frelinghuysen is considered to have been one of the forerunners of the Great Awakening, an extensive religious revival which occurred in the area extending from New England to the Middle colonies in the period roughly extending from 1730-1745. Probably the most notable figure in that revival was George Whitefield, a fiery English minister who crossed the Atlantic thirteen times to preach an estimated 18,000 sermons in the British Isles and America. Jonathan Edwards of Northampton, MA, was considered the greatest theologian of the revival in America, and he and Whitefield developed a close friendship. In the Middle Colonies Gilbert Tennent preached widely there and in New England. It has been estimated that there were some 300,000 individual conversions in that spiritual awakening. Whitefield at one time said that Frelinghuysen was the "beginner of that great movement."

Frelinghuysen, who labored for years in his New Brunswick Reformed Dutch congregation, actually

preceded Tennent, who led a Presbyterian church in the same city. Frelinghuysen came to America at age 27. He labored in four small congregations in the Raritan Valley area. His preaching was controversial, as he preached strongly for repentance and alienated a part of his denomination which was not comfortable with his intense application of God's law to his hearers.

When Gilbert Tennent moved to New Brunswick, he and Frelinghuysen developed a strong friendship, and Tennent gave credit to Frelinghuysen for showing him how to preach more forcefully. They sometimes exchanged pulpits. Frelinghuysen, who had known much of God's blessing upon his labors, counseled Tennent that he needed not only to apply the Bible in general terms, but that he needed to focus upon different categories of hearers, e.g., encouragement for the weak, admonition for the slothful, censure and warning for the rebellious. etc.

We do not know what the nature of our cousin Minne's preaching was, but it seems certain that, with Frelinghuysen's guidance, it must have been warm hearted but strong in following his pastor's example. Minne was not an ordained minister, but the fact that a man of Frelinghuysen's stature could depend upon him surely speaks well of his devotion to teaching the Gospel.



Ancestral Findings Podcast

Have you ever wondered who invented pumpkin pie?

It wasn't just one person. The story of pumpkin pie is much more interesting than that. Here's the tale.

No food is as closely associated with autumn in the United States as the pumpkin. This is the time of year when we get the opportunity to eat pumpkin-flavored everything. There's the now practically mandatory fall drink... the pumpkin spice latte. There's also pumpkin bread, pumpkin muffins, pumpkin cookies, pumpkin soup, pumpkin cake, pumpkin pasta, and more. But, the most famous of the pumpkin foods by far is also the oldest and most traditional... the pumpkin pie.

It is the quintessential holiday dessert for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Topped with a dollop of whipped cream, pumpkin pie is often considered as an important part of the meal as the turkey. And, as it turns out, pumpkin is absolutely American.

The pumpkin is native to Central America, where it was first farmed by humans for hundreds of years. The ancient Americans loved it, and apparently with good reason. It is so delicious that the first European explorers to the region brought pumpkins back to Europe with them on the very earliest expeditions. The first mention of a pumpkin in European writing appears in 1536, and Europeans embraced the pumpkin as if it had always been their own. They began to be a (Continued on page 15)

PRIMER ON PEDIGREE CHARTS

By Don Coons

If you have been investigating details about your own family, you probably have some form of family tree. If your tree is on Ancestry or some other similar system, the details are probably difficult to share with others. If you are thinking of writing something for your family on a specific line in your ancestry, you might find it difficult to put the details you have on your ancestors into a format that can be shared with others.

There are many different methods and styles for displaying genealogical information. Many texts on specific families start with the earliest known ancestor or possibly an immigrant ancestor and then identify individuals in subsequent generations. That structure might be best described as a descendant tree: that format shows the descendants of a particular ancestor.

If displaying a family tree in the reverse direction from a descendant tree, one would try to show ancestors instead of descendants. There are two typical methods for showing ancestors: an Ahnentafel and Pedigree Charts. A chart form similar to a Pedigree Chart is a Fan Chart which some researchers use although that format is difficult to use to display generations prior to great grandparents.

When using an Ahnentafel (ancestor table in German) in its purest form, there is a specific structure with defined identifying numbers typically used (1 for the person, 2 for the father, 3 for the mother, 4 for the paternal grandfather, 5 for the paternal grandmother, 6 for the maternal grandfather, 7 for the maternal grandmother, and so on). Historically, this structure might be used to validate a regal or noble birth line. There is a good

article entitled "Ahnentafel Explained" by Richard W. Eastman on the Van Voorhees Association website for those interested in more information. Our own Van Voorhees Family uses an Ahnentafel to validate our lineage to the original Van Voorhees immigrant ancestor, Steven Coerts (Coerte) (Coerten) Van Voorhees.

Pedigree Charts are another standard method for showing ancestors. The National Genealogical Society (www.ngsgenealogy.org) provides an editable form for personal use which gives space for four generations. Printed forms exist which allow Pedigree Charts to be extended to even earlier generations and I decided to create an editable form so that we can take our family back as far as we wish in terms of early generations. I believe that Pedigree Charts are one of the easiest to use and understand methods to document multiple generations in a family. Some, such as Ancestry, use the term "Ancestral Charts" to denote what are commonly known as Pedigree Charts.

Below is a sample, blank Pedigree Chart. You start with the individual in the middle left and move back three generations per page. If your information goes beyond the three generations, you note that the individual Pedigree Chart continues on another chart (by number). If you are beginning with yourself in position 1, your father would be 2, your mother would be 3 and so on through the form. On this single page, you can show yourself and all of your ancestors back to your great grandparents. Tying this to additional charts, where any or all of the people in spaces 8 through 15 on this first chart can become person number 1 on added charts, those added charts are identified by Chart Number.

If using a Pedigree Chart is of interest, an editable file is included on the Van Voorhees Association website under Research Links and then under Tools. It was built in Excel and you can add your own details to build your own Pedigree Charts. Other useful forms such as those mentioned earlier from the National Genealogical Society, Ancestry, and others are also on our Association website under Tools.

Pedigree Chart

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There are some generally accepted standards for filling in the details on a Pedigree Chart. This listing might be helpful:

- Names Typically shown in upper and lower case except for the paternal surname which is in all caps. Some place the surname first but many published Pedigree Charts that you will find show names in their normal order: such as Frank Burton COONS instead of COONS, Frank Burton. With name changes (Heinrich becomes Henry for example) and surname spelling changes over generations, it might be best to use the name as the person was known at birth. Although the National Genealogical Society recommends showing the paternal surname first, I prefer showing the name in its normal order. Having Spanish people in my own family, this works better for names such as Gloria María de los Angeles ORTEGA y Garcés de Marcilla where her father's surname is Ortega and mother's surname is Garcés de Marcilla.
- Born, Married, and Died Date is typically shown as 1 Jun 1900 or 1 June 1900.
- Place In the US, this is typically shown as Town/City, County, State, Country such as Milton, Saratoga, New York, USA. For foreign born ancestors, I typically show places outside the US as Town/City, Provence/State, Country.

If you are interested in showing all of your known ancestors through interconnected individual pages, you might want to use Pedigree Charts. In my own tree of ancestors of thousands of people over more than 10 generations for multiple families, it took more than 50 Pedigree Charts to document the entire family of ancestors. This has allowed me to share details on all of my known ancestors with others in a clear and understandable format.



(History of Pumpkin Pie, Contintued from page 12)

common and regularly grown crop in England and France in the mid-1500s and were called pumpions (England) and pompons (France). The name was derived in both languages from the French word for the round part of a tassel. When they were eventually exported back to the Americas with the English colonists who went to New England in the early 1600s, the name changed to pumpkin in a few generations, to fit the new American vernacular.

While they were still in Europe, before being brought back to America, the English became the first nation that was recorded as using pumpkins in pies. England had a highly developed and specialized pie-making industry that had been going on for centuries, even in the 1500s. Medieval pies were pastries that were stuffed with both sweet and savory fillings. When pumpkins became popular in England, they were quickly included as pie fillings.

While many European countries used pumpkins in their cooking after they were brought back from the New World, none were quite as enthusiastic about all things pumpkin as the English. Therefore, when the Pilgrims sailed to New England in 1620, it is highly likely they were as familiar with pumpkins as the Native Americans they met on Plymouth's shores. In fact, those Natives, who were part of the Wampanoag tribe, were instrumental in helping the new colonists survive their first harsh New England winter, and pumpkins, which are an easily preserved food, were probably among the foods the natives shared with the colonists during this time.

Pumpkins were almost assuredly part of the "first Thanksgiving." This celebration was held after that first harsh winter ended and the colonists brought in their first harvest on American shores. Because the natives helped the colonists learn to plant and grow crops in American soil, the surviving colonists from the Mayflower invited 90 of the local Wampanoag to their harvest celebration, which was a testament to their ability to live and make it in this new land. Pumpkin was easily grown in the area, and the Wampanoag already grew it themselves, so the likelihood of some pumpkin dish being part of the first Thanksgiving is high.

As New England flourished, the colonists turned more toward familiar foods from England that were imported on an increasingly regular schedule of incoming ships and began growing pears, apples, quince, and more. There was a time when New England was in its infancy, but already self-sustaining, that the colonists turned away from the pumpkin, and more toward other foods from home. They never forgot the pumpkin entirely, though.

Early versions of pumpkin pie in both Europe and North America varied considerably, and few resembled anything we would recognize as a "traditional" pumpkin pie. Sixteenth and 17th-century cookbooks often recommended boiling the (Continued on Page 21)

UPDATE ON VOORHEES ARCHAEARIUM

By Don Coons

A Voorhees cousin recently made us aware of the Voorhees Nature Preserve in Virginia and thought it might be a good adventure to investigate this for the Association. The results are some interesting details on the preserve and on the Voorhees individual who made this preserve available to the public.

The Voorhees Nature Preserve in Virginia is another example of a Voorhees descendant making an impact on our country. The preserve is located on the northeast bank of Rappahannock River (about 45 minutes east of Fredericksburg, Virginia) and was established in 1994. The 729 acre preserve with four miles of trails and scenic views of the river was a gift to The Nature Conservancy by the late Alan Manners Voorhees and Nathalie (Potter) Voorhees.



Alan Manners Voorhees

Alan Manners Voorhees (b. 17 Dec 1922 in Highland Park, NJ and d. 18 Dec 2005 in Richmond, VA) is a son of Ralph Whitaker Voorhees (b. 25 Oct 1894-27 Apr 1929) and Jane Drake Manners (1892-1982). He is a grandson of Rev. Oscar McMurtrie Voorhees (29 Dec 1864-27 Aug 1947) and Alice R. McNair (1865-1899). He is a great grandson of Samuel Scott Voorhees (19 Jun 1831-12 Dec 1906) and Elizabeth McMurtrie (1834-1919) and a great-great grandson of Garrett Voorhees III (5 Nov 1784-24 Feb 1870) and Sarah Whitaker (1792-1863).

Looking at our published Voorhees books and associated CDs, Alan Manners Voorhees is number 21293 in our VVA numbering system. As shown in the 9th Generation details, Alan Manners Voorhees is listed with his Voorhees ancestors: Ralph Whitaker Voorhees (VVA# 16127), Oscar McMurtie Voorhees (VVA# 9819), Samuel Scott Voorhees (VVA# 4735), Garret Voorhees (VVA# 1930), Garret Voorhees (VVA# 639), Neeltje Nevius (VVA# 179), Catryntje Lucasse VanVoorhees (VVA# 34), Lucas Stevense VanVoorhees (VVA# 6), and our common ancestor Steven Coerte VanVoorhees (VVA# 1).

Our Van Voorhees Association cousin Alan Manners Voorhees, who gave the gift of the preserve along with his wife (Nathalie Potter), was a successful farmer, professional, and educator. He was a renowned urban planner, engineer, and entrepreneur. He studied at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) until leaving RPI to join the US Navy during World War II where he served as a Navy Frogman (what today would be called a Navy Seal) and was decorated with the Silver Star and Bronze Star. After his military service, he resumed his academic studies and earned his undergraduate degree from RPI and a Master's degree in city planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). His pioneering mathematical models made the interstate system feasible, his consulting firm (Alan M. Voorhees and Associates) had numerous offices in the US and other countries, and the firm planned roads and subways for four capitals including Washington, DC. After selling his consulting firm, Alan became Dean of the College of Architecture, Art and Urban Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle. He was a founder of Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA) which is now part of Delta Airlines. Voorhees and his family helped start the successful and family-oriented Westmoreland Berry Farm near the Voorhees Nature Preserve. Alan was honored with the establishment of the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University in 1998 and helped found the Voorhees Computing Center at RPI.

The Voorhees ancestral line for Alan Manners Voorhees overlaps since Catryntje Lucasse VanVoorhees [# 34] and Minnie Lucasse VanVoorhees [#39] who are sister and brother are two of the four grandparents of Garret Voorhees [# 639]. Their children respectively are Neeltje Nevius [# 179] and her cousin, Garret Voorhees [# 361], who married and had eight children including Garret Voorhees [# 639]. Therefore, the second Voorhees ancestral line for Alan Manners Voorhees would be: Ralph Whitaker Voorhees (VVA# 16127), Oscar McMurtie Voorhees (VVA# 9819), Samuel Scott Voorhees (VVA# 4735), Garret Voorhees (VVA# 1930), Garret Voorhees (VVA# 639), Garret Voorhees (VVA# 361), Minnie Lucasse VanVoorhees (VVA# 39), Lucas Stevense VanVoorhees (VVA# 6), and our common ancestor Steven Coerte VanVoorhees (VVA# 1).

It was also interesting to uncover that Rev. Oscar McMurtie Voorhees (VVA # 9819), grandfather of Alan Manners Voorhees, was not only a minister who served in New Jersey and in the Bronx, New York but that he was a founder of the Van Voorhees Association. He began the work of the Association to publish a new edition of the 1888 Van Voorhees genealogy.



Oscar McMurtie Voorhees

We are indebted to Alan Manners Voorhees for his gift of the Voorhees Nature Preserve, for his military service, and for his other accomplishments that have impacted our country. We are indebted to his grandfather, Oscar McMurtie Voorhees, for his contributions to the Van Voorhees Association.

You probably noticed that every Van Voorhees ancestor of Alan Manners Voorhees and Alan himself each has a unique Van Voorhees Association number assigned to them. This numbering of our Van Voorhees family follows the NGSQ (National Genealogical Society Quarterly) numbering system and is a descending genealogy format. The numbering system is described in more detail on our Association website at:

http://www.vanvoorhees.org/docs/number_system.php

It is possible that you recognize the names of Alan and Nathalie Voorhees. Their names appeared in a Nieuwsbrief article in the Spring/Summer 2019 issue and a thank you from their daughter, Nancy Voorhees, appeared in the following Fall/Winter 2019 issue. The couple was highlighted for the Natalie P. and Alan M. Vorhees Archaearium in Jamestown, Virginia which bears their names due to their significant donation to the establishment of the museum. Nathalie and Alan Voorhees were active philanthropists involved with public lands, museums, universities, libraries (including the Library of Congress), historical societies, and other areas for the common good. They help to make the Voorhees name one to be proud of.

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IN MEMORIAM



May 3, 1930 ~ May 21, 2021

Jerry Robert Voorhees was born on May 3, 1930, in Benson, Minnesota the son of Henry and Ethel (Huston) Voorhees. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Faith in Benson, Minnesota. He attended school through the 8th grade and then worked on the family

farm until he was enlisted in the United States Army.

Jerry was first enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard in 1948 stationed in Fort Rucker, AL from January of 1951 – August 1952.

Jerry was united in marriage to Janet Jossart on January 13, 1951. To this union six children were born. He spent his entire career serving his country in the United States Army National Guard and Army Reserve. He was stationed in Willmar and Marshall, Minnesota. When the family first moved to Willmar he was the Produce Manager of Super Valu for a number of years. Jerry was Honorably Discharged in 1993.

Jerry died on Friday, May 21, 2021. He is survived by his five children: Alan (Michele) Voorhees, Colleen (James) Anathan, Julleen (Leo) Roush, Terry (Kristin) Voorhees, Jennifer (Jeff) Karrow; several grandchildren and great grandchildren, brothers: Delmar Voorhees, Ward (Carol) Voorhees; daughter-in-law, Mary Voorhees.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Janet; son, Robert; brothers: William, Richard, Max, Donald, Norman, Leonard; sister, Pauline.

Visitation was held on Thursday, May 27, 2021, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Anderson Funeral Home, Alexandria, Minnesota, with the Funeral Service at 11:00 a.m. Burial was at Kinkead Cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM



Delmar "Del" Voorhees, age 93, of Appleton, passed away Friday, August 27, 2021, in Appleton Area Health-Care Center. Visitation was held from 10-11 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m., Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at Zion

Lutheran Church in Appleton, Minnesota. Vicar Sara Larson officiated. Burial will be in Appleton City Cemetery.

Delmar Ernest Voorhees was born on December 5, 1927, to Henry and Ethel (Huston) Voorhees on the family farm in Swenoda Township, Swift County, Minnesota. He grew up on the family farm and attended country school, District 34, through the 8th grade. During WWII, Del and his brother Jerry stayed home to take care of the farm. Del married Joan Struxness on March 9, 1950. This union was blessed with over 64 years together and 5 children: Mark, Cheryl, Ritchie, Mary Jo, and Bradley.

Del worked various jobs after the war: bagging potatoes at a plant in North Dakota, carpentry in Milan and working at a creamery, also in Milan. The Appleton Creamery offered him a job and that started his career as a butter maker. He entered his butter in the MN State Fair many times and won many awards. Del and the NFO parted company in 1975. He purchased the Dew Well Lanes Bowling Center in 1976. Del and Joan (the cook) operated the Bowling Center until 2001. After "retirement" he drove the paper van for Quinco Press in Lowry, delivering the weekly papers for 13 years to Dawson, Madison, and Appleton. Del was also a past Mayor of Appleton.

Del's hobbies included: gardening, reading by the wood stove, jigsaw puzzles, scrap booking, watching the Twins (if they were winning!) and camping with his brothers and sisters-in-law. He liked Sundrop and popcorn with lots of butter. He really enjoyed going on long drives with his special friend, Marlys Bartz. They drove many miles in the country taking pictures of old barns and farm sites.

Del passed away Friday, August 27, 2021. He attained 93 years, 8 months, and 22 days of age. Del is survived by his five children: Mark (Judy Kammer) Voorhees of Eden Prairie, Cheryl Voorhees of Appleton, Ritchie (Mary) Voorhees of Appleton, Mary Jo Hoffman of Roseville and Bradley (Mary) Voorhees of Appleton; his 14 grandchildren: Adrienne (Ian) Mendenhall, Jenna Schiller, Kaitlyn (Travis) Anderson, Nathaniel (Angie) Kettner, Janine (Bryan) Schaffer, Jared (Kara) Voorhees, Joel Voorhees, Michelle Mieka Jo (Nathan) Hoffman, Miranda (Ryan) Arnold, Maggie (Brad) Krzyzanowski, Chris Pesek, Jamey (Michelle) Pesek, Matthew (Jenny) Pesek, and Alison (Matt) Solma; his 28 greatgrandchildren: Ruby and James Mendenhall, Alayna Bjerke, Olivia Kettner, Kylie Forslin, Charlie Taintor, Matthew Rautio, Ariana Kettner, Cameron, Jaxton, McKenzie, and baby girl (due in September) Kettner, Lilly, Lucy, Lola and Liv Schaffer, Zeek, Nettie, Della, and Loddie Voorhees. Nico and Luca Arnold. Mateia and Chloe Pesek, Riley, Madison and Taylor Pesek, and Hayden and Hattie Solma; his first great-greatgranddaughter due in September; his brother, Ward (Carol) Voorhees; his sister-in-law, Margaret Voorhees; his special friend, Marlys Bartz; and his many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by parents, Henry and Ethel Voorhees; his wife, Joan in 2014; his son-in-law, Tom Hoffman in 2017; his grandson, Matthew Kettner, his siblings Bill (Irene) Voorhees, Richard (Harriet) Voorhees, Donald (Eunice) Voorhees, Max Voorhees, Norman (Catherine) Voorhees, Pauline Voorhees, Leonard Voorhees, and Jerry (Janet) Voorhees; and his sister-in-law, Donna (Elwood) Anderson. Blessed be the memory of Delmar "Del" Voorhees.

IN MEMORIAM

Paul Eugene Vorhies 1940 -2020

Paul was born in Indianapolis, IN, February 13, 1940, the only child of Ora and Mary Vorhies. Paul was married to Ruth Kathleen (Kathy) Schwieger on May 18, 1968. They raised two children, David and Karen in Hayward, WI, while living there 12 years. Then living in MI, MO, OK, VA and TX as Paul worked as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist; working mostly in freelance situations in 17 states and for 38 years until retirement in 2012.

Paul attended grade and high school in Marion, IN. There he helped his parents built two houses.

Honorable Discharge from the military came in September 1964. Service included U.S. Army, active Army Reserves one year and U.S. Air Force four years as an aircraft mechanic on B-52's at Bunker Hill AFB, IN; Chanute AFB, IL, and SAC Division, Roswell, NM.

Paul's interests included construction, having graduated from lob building school in Ely, MN. He and Kathy stripped logs and started the first rounds of their log home and did the interior finishing.

When a mechanic job closed, Paul's wife, an RN, encouraged him to try nursing as a permanent job. He graduated from Indiana University, Purdue University School of Nursing, Indianapolis, IN and graduated from Mercy Medical Center School of Anesthesia, Oshkosh, WI.

A special interest of Paul's was family history, so he participated in the Van Voorhees Association. He was also a member of the Son's of the American Revolution. His Voorhees ancestry was through Pvt. Coert Vorhies who served in Capt. Stout's company, 3rd Regiment, NJ Militia in the Revolutionary War.

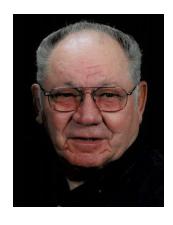
Paul was a loving husband to Kathy, encouraging her in her endeavors as mother, RN, business person and crafter. He was a loving father to his children and grandchildren. His fun teasing of family and co-worker, endeared him to them. He felt it important to live a Christian life before family and acquaintances and explain their Christian heritage. He loved reading history and the understanding of Biblical prophecy regarding the Israel of Jacob.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Ora T. Vorhies and mother Mary Ball and his stepmother, Gertrude Smith. Surviving are his wife, Ruth Kathleen Vorhies, stepbrother, Edward Smith and wife RoseAnn of Hartley, DE, his son, David C. Vorhies and his children, Carolyn Ashley Mcalister, Brett D. Vorhies, Brockton L. Vorhies; his daughter, Karen A. vorhies Eggleston and husband Steven and her son, Christian Crossley.

A memorial service was held in Spencer, OK, August 4, 2020, where Paul died at home. Burial was in Marion, IN, Grant Memorial Park, where Paul's mother and grandparents are buried.

IN MEMORIAM

Daniel Spader Voorhees



On Friday, December 18, 2020, Daniel Spader Voorhees, loving husband, father and grandfather passed away in Duluth, MN at the age of 85.

Dan was born in 1935 in Chicago to Alfred and Elizabeth (Butterfield) Voorhees. He married

Faye (Jacobson) and they had two sons. He began his career as an Ironworker in 1953 and continued until he retired in 1994 from Ironworkers Local 512. He always went where the work was and it took him all over the country and even to Alaska and Greenland. He also left his mark on many local buildings, bridges and structures around the Duluth/Superior area. He was a member of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

He had many hobbies and talents through the years that kept him busy and he enjoyed learning new things. He was very handy doing woodworking and restoring old cars to even building their own log home. He enjoyed driving his Harley motorcycle, flying his plane and driving trucks. Dan was also grateful for his 41 years of sobriety.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents, sister Ramona and nephew Stanley. He is survived by his wife; sons Randy (Karrie) and Norm (Chris); grandchildren Corrie, Meghan, Daniel, and Ganz; and gr



eat-grandchildren Violet, Norah and Wroshyr; and beloved Marley.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Essentia Health Hospice Group and Solvay House for the wonderful care they provided. Due to the current pandemic, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

IN MEMORIAM



Charles F. Voorhees, of Milltown, passed away Saturday, November 02, 2019, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He was 82 years old and born and raised in New Brunswick. He lived in

Milltown for the past 53 years.

Charlie was a telephone installer with Verizon, for 30 years, before retiring in 1993.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and visiting the NJ shore and Hawaii. He attended the United Methodist Church in Milltown, Saturday services.

Charlie was very interested in genealogy, and belonged to the Van Voorhees Association. He wrote the book, "Bloodlines of a N.J. Man", which he donated to Rutgers University Library.

He's predeceased by his sisters Christine Sutton and Deva Lawrence.

Surviving is his wife of 63 years, Maxine (Hulick) Voorhees; his daughter and son-in-law Aleda and Steven Sadowski of South River; his son and daughter-in-law Captain USN Ret. Kenneth and Lovelyn Voorhees of Hawaii; his grandchildren Steven Charles and Michael Joseph Sadowski, and Asia Malia Voorhees; 2 great grandchildren; his brother Ronald Voorhees of PA; and his sisters Elizabeth McCaffery of Ohio and Terry Lyn Yahn of Toms River.

Funeral Service was held on Saturday, November 9th, 10:00 am, at The Crabiel Home for Funerals, 170 N Main St.-at Riva Avenue, Milltown. Burial followed at St. Peter's Cemetery in New Brunswick. Friends and relatives may call on Friday from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Wounded Warriors Foundation.

IN MEMORIAM



Gerald Edgar Voorhies, 69 of New Vernon Twp, Stoneboro, passed away on December 5, 2020, at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Youngstown. Gerald was born in Mercer on February 16, 1951 to the late Edgar B. and Mildred A. (Burrows) Voorhies, he was a 1969 graduate of Lakeview High School. Gerald worked on the farm his entire life and was a member of the FFA and 4-H in his earlier years. He also worked as a custodian at Polk Center for 35 years and worked for Richard Lyons of Cochranton. He was a member of the New Vernon Grange, Mercer County Pomona, the PA State Grange, and the Greenville Moose Lodge. He also enjoyed hunting and loved attending cattle shows, fairs, and auctions. Farming was Gerald's passion and loved teaching his grandchildren to farm. His grandchildren were his pride and joy and spent as much time with them as he could.

He was an avid sports fan, enjoying Lakeview football and basketball, Pittsburgh sports teams, Duke, North Carolina Tarheels, and the San Francisco 49ers. Gerald married his beloved wife Susan E. (Smith) Voorhies, on May 19, 1973, she survives at home. In addition to his wife, Gerald is survived by his children, Elizabeth A. Deery and husband Jon of Erie, Benjamin G. Voorhies and wife Amanda of Stoneboro, and Kimberly S. King and husband Andy of Stoneboro, grandchildren Kyle B. Voorhies, Stephanie Jenkins, and Raelynn King, as well as close family friend, Karen Strouss. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Black Funeral Home of Stoneboro, 99 Franklin Street, where family and friends were welcomed from 3-7 pm on Wednesday, December 9. All CDC Guidelines will be enforced. Memorials may be made in Gerald's name to the Mercer County 4-H, 463 North Perry Highway Mercer, PA 16137.

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(History of Pumpkin Pie, continued from page 15)

pumpkin in milk before putting it in a flour crust. Sometimes, the pumpkin was layered with apples in the pie. Other times, it was seasoned with savory herbs, such as rosemary, marjoram, and thyme. There wasn't even always a crust. Early New England settlers sometimes used a recipe that simply called for hollowing out a pumpkin, filling it with spiced and/or sweetened milk, and boiling it before drinking right from the pumpkin gourd. The mushy insides of the pumpkin gourd could be scooped out with a spoon if the colonist was lucky enough to own one.

However, by the early 1700s, the traditional pumpkin pie we know today was a part of American culture, beginning in New England. Thanksgiving was first celebrated as a regular holiday around this time, but it was only celebrated as a regional holiday in New England; the other colonies didn't adopt Thanksgiving until much later. The typical sweetened, spiced pumpkin puree baked in a flour crust was a regional New England favorite and was already closely associated with Thanksgiving by 1705. That was the year Colchester, Connecticut postponed its Thanksgiving celebration for a week because there was a temporary shortage of molasses to make the pumpkin pies for the feast. By 1796, an American cookbook was published containing a pumpkin pie recipe nearly identical to the pie we eat today.

In fact, pumpkin pie and Thanksgiving were so closely associated with New England culture that the southern states protested it when Abraham Lincoln made Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863. The southerners saw it as an attempt to push northern culture and values on the south. An editorial in a Richmond, Virginia newspaper specifically called out pumpkin pie in its protest of nationalizing Thanksgiving as a holiday, saying the event was just an excuse for New Englanders to gorge themselves on pumpkin pie and roast turkey.

Yet, after the Civil War, the entire nation could not deny the universal appeal of pumpkin pie. All of the states adopted Thanksgiving and its requisite pumpkin pie along with it. Recipes for pumpkin pie began appearing in national women's magazines, and the famous Libby canned pumpkin most of us use in our pies was introduced by the Libby meat canning company in Chicago in 1929. This was a blessing for housewives everywhere who were responsible for making the holiday feast, as the canned pumpkin eliminated the need to roast and strain a pumpkin before making the pie. The pie became basically a three-step process to assemble: the crust, the seasonings, and the pumpkin from a can, only baking required afterward. While it has gone through many iterations over the centuries, pumpkin pie has been a favorite of Europeans and the ones who colonized America from the time they first discovered the Native Americans cultivating it. The pumpkin pie on your plate has a long and storied history. Take a moment to appreciate that the next time you savor a bite.

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VAN VOORHEES MEMBERSHIP FORM

The purpose of the Van Voorhees Association is to provide genealogical research for members of the association which is comprised of descendants of the Van Voorhees Family. Membership is open to any descendant of the Van Voorhees Family whose patriarch was Steven Coerte. The Van Voorhees Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the genealogy of the Van Voorhees Family. The association retains a genealogist who continues to research the family history. The Van Voorhees Association also maintains a genealogical data base to aid members of the association in tracking their lineage. The Van Voorhees family is reported to be the largest Dutch family in America.

Members of the association receive a newsletter, *Van Voorhees Nieuwsbrief*, detailing reunions, historical information about the family, and the latest finds in genealogical research.

If you wish to join the Van Voorhees Association or renew your membership, please print the membership application form and send it, along with the appropriate amount in dues, **payable to the Van Voorhees Association** to:

Mr. Don Coons

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Please select one Regular [] \$10.00/year Junior [] \$2.00/year Sustaining [] \$15.00/year Contributing [] \$30.00/year Life [] \$200.00 One-time payment **TYPE:** Please select one [] New [] Renewal for Year _____ **MEMBER INFORMATION** Please print State: _____ Zip: _____ Name: _____ Street: VVA # _____ Phone: _____ **VAN VOORHEES FAMILY TREE** Please use additional sheets as needed to complete your Van Voorhees lineage, as far a known. Please be sure to include the names of your children. Also, if possible, please include date of death and place of birth and death, even if exact place of birth or death is unknown. We need to get a general idea where people lived. **PARENTS:** Father Birthdate Death Mother Birthdate Death Grandfather Grandmother Great Grandfather **Great Grandmother**



Don Coons

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