

Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
**FAMILY
HISTORIAN**



Block Island's Southeast Lighthouse

Devoted to
the perpetuity of
our common heritage
an honorable
Name.

Letter from the Editor

There's good news and bad news. The good news is that our membership has reached an all-time high of 579. The bad news is that dues are due again, and that we have had to increase them for 1992.

Dues for next year will be \$18, rather than the \$15 we have charged for the past six years. Inflation has caught up with us, and it looks as though we will end the 1991 fiscal year with a very small surplus.

Part of our problem was the change in printers. The company we had dealt with for 10 years went out of business after printing our January 1991 issue. We then tried another firm, which proved most unsatisfactory. They used a heavier paper stock which cost us some \$240 in extra postage for the April and July issues. And they were so slow, our July issue was not mailed until early September.

We are now starting off with another, larger printing firm, which is charging us more, but promises better and faster service. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

Since the July issue was so late, this Historian will also be later than usual, and probably will not be mailed until late October. The deadline for dues, therefore, will also be a little later than usual—December 15.

As in past years, we will add a \$5 late fee for those who miss the deadline, so

it will cost you \$23 if you procrastinate. Send your check now, while you are thinking about it. We will be starting our twelfth year of publication, and if you have a complete set of past Historians, you now have 44 issues!!

My thanks to the 43 Association members who responded to my plea for contributions to help save Block Island's historic Southeast Lighthouse.

Aided by one \$110 donation, another of \$50, one of \$40 and several of \$25, we raised \$830. I added another \$70

may bring results, or it may bring another form letter from a White House aide. I'll keep you informed.

I noticed recently that a stamp has been issued in honor of the comedians Laurel and Hardy, and another to commemorate the old American tradition—the outdoor toilet, or "outhouse." It seems ironic that Captain Rathbun, who fought so bravely and effectively in the Revolutionary War, and who died in an English prison, is not deemed worthy of similar honor.

There was considerable talk at the July reunion about the site of the next reunion in 1993. Williamsburg, Virginia, was discussed, and the idea seemed to be received favorably. There would not be a direct family connection there, but it would give a wonderful look at early American life, and there are many historic attractions nearby—Yorktown, Jamestown and several Civil War battlefields. If you have any thoughts on this, or other locations, please let me know.

Hazel and I send our warm wishes to you all for the coming holiday season.

DUES ARE DUE!

A membership renewal form for 1992 is enclosed with this issue of the Historian. Dues are \$18, but we must charge an extra \$5, or \$23 total, if you do not renew by the deadline of December 15. It will save you \$5 if you renew on time, so send your check now. If you put it aside, you may forget.

from our Association funds and sent a \$900 check to the Lighthouse Foundation, along with the names of all 43 donors.

The overall fund-raising drive has been quite successful, and it looks as though the lighthouse will be saved. (See story on next page). If you missed the story in our last issue, or forgot to send a check, it is not too late to make a contribution.

Make your check out to the Rathbun Family Association, marked "Lighthouse Fund," and mail it to me. I will deposit all checks in the Association account, and write another check to the Lighthouse Foundation, with a list of all contributors. These names will be permanently recorded in the lighthouse.

Bud Parfitt is still plugging away on the effort to have a United States postage stamp issued in honor of Captain John Peck Rathbun. After receiving dozens of form letters rejecting our request, from assorted Washington bureaucrats, Bud has now written directly to President George Bush. That

Frank

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Frank H. Rathbun

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Fund Drive Is Successful! Block Island Lighthouse Saved

Aided by a \$900 contribution from our Rathbun Family Association, the drive to save Block Island's historic Southeast Lighthouse is coming to a successful end.

Although the goal of \$270,000 has not been quite reached, enough money has been raised and pledged to proceed with plans to move the lighthouse back from its precarious perch on the island's eroding cliffs.

Lisa Nolan, administrator of the Southeast Light Foundation, reported that the fund-raising project had netted more than \$190,000 by the September 15 deadline, with the balance pledged by several corporations and foundations. A major boost came from the Mellon Family Foundation, which contributed \$50,000.

The brick lighthouse, towering some 50 feet high, is located atop the 150-foot cliff known as Mohegan Bluff, at the island's southwest corner, on land originally owned by our ancestors, John and Margaret Rathbun.

It was built in 1874 at a cost of \$75,000, and first lighted on February 1, 1875. Its huge oil-lit lanterns, reflected by polished mirrors, were visible 35 miles out to sea.

Over the years, the pounding Atlantic waves gradually eroded away the base of Mohegan Bluff, and the cliff edge came closer and closer to the lighthouse. Engineers warned that the building would eventually topple into the sea as the erosion continued.

Eight years ago, a group of Block Islanders launched a campaign to save the lighthouse. Studies indicated that it could be moved several hundred feet back from the cliff, but the cost would be immense.

The Southeast Lighthouse Foundation was organized to find ways to raise the money. Two veteran island sea captains, John R. Lewis and Evan Dodge, were named honorary chairman. Three



Watercolor drawing of Block Island's Southeast Lighthouse, made by our member LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, when we visited the island during our 1989 National Reunion. A tour of the lighthouse was one of the highlights of the island trip.

members of our Association—Lydia (Rathbun) Littlefield, Josephine Dugan and Robert Willis are on the board of directors.

After several years of effort, they were able to obtain a promise of \$970,000 from the Federal Government, half the estimated \$1,940,000 cost of moving the building. Then they persuaded the state of Rhode Island to contribute another \$700,000.

Three years ago, they received a report which amounted to an ultimatum—when the cliff edge receded another 15 feet, it would be impossible to bring in heavy equipment to move the lighthouse.

The foundation launched an emergency fund drive to raise the final \$270,000. The first contribution came from Block Island's Daughters of the American Revolution, who donated their entire treasury of \$3,740.

Now, eight years later, the foundation has succeeded—the drive to save the "Southeast Light" has been won.

The Army Corps of Engineers expects to let a contract this winter for the moving operation, and the lighthouse will probably be moved to its new location by early next summer. Tentative plans call for its official "relighting" on July 4.

After the move, an estimated \$700,000 or more will be needed to renovate and refurbish the structure, so the fund-raising must be continued.

Members of our Association who missed the story in our July issue can still contribute and be listed among those who helped to save the lighthouse. Send your checks to us, at 11308 Popes Head Road, Fairfax, Virginia, 22030, made out to the Rathbun Family Association but marked

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Our Family's Early Homes Came in Many Varieties

Our ancestors and early cousins in 19th Century America lived in a variety of homes, ranging from simple farmhouses to imposing mansions.

In general, the more substantial homes were built by businessmen and professionals living in larger cities, although some prosperous farmers also had large and stately homes.

In the Midwest, some of the earliest immigrants lived at first in "soddies," houses built with prairie sod, cut into squares and used like brick or stones to make house walls. When their farms began producing a profit, they later built more liveable frame homes. Unfortunately, few pictures of the "soddies" are in existence.

There are, in fact, few pictures of the 19th Century homes of Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns.

In our April 1981 issue, we printed a drawing made from memory of an 1812 log cabin built for Captain Jonathan Coffin Rathbone in Clermont County, Ohio.

Our April 1982 issue showed a view of the Otsego County, N.Y., home of Levant W. Rathbun, taken from an 1878 county history. In the January 1985 Historian, we showed two early Rathbun homes in Exeter, R.I.—one built in the late 1700s by John⁵ Rathbun (John⁴⁻¹), and another, still standing, built in 1804 by his cousin Joshua Rathbun.

In the April 1990 Historian, we published a picture of Charles Rathbun's 1850 home in Kent County, Michigan, with an 1893 addition built by his son Hugo.

On this and the following pages, we are publishing pictures of other early family homes, from various sources. If you have a good clear picture of your family's early residence, built prior to 1900, please send us a copy for possible use in a future story.



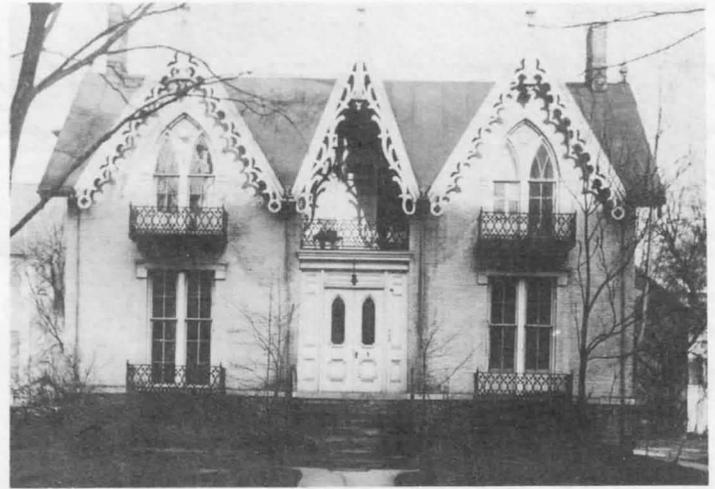
This 1912 photograph shows the home of Justus Hull Rathbone (1794-1861), at Deerfield, near Utica, N.Y. It was the birthplace of his son, Justus Henry Rathbone (1839-1889), founder of the Knights of Pythias. The picture was taken for the Knights. The house, probably built in the very early 1800s, no longer exists. Justus Rathbone Sr. was the son of David⁵ Rathbone (John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). (Library of Congress).



Remains of a farmhouse built in the 1850s at Melvina, Wisconsin, by Thomas Rathbun (1798-1878). He moved to Wisconsin from New York about 1843 and was the first settler in Melvina about 1852. Thomas was the son of Thomas⁵ Rathbun (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). (Rosma Limbeck).



The home of Alfred Day Rathbone (1806-1856) in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Built in the late 1840s of locally produced limestone blocks, it was torn down early in the 1900s. Alfred was a son of Amos⁵ Rathbun (Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). (Frank H. Rathbun).



The home of Amos Rathbone (1808-1882), a brother of Alfred Day Rathbone. It was built in the early 1850s, near that of his brother and like it was torn down years ago. Amos was the son of Amos⁵ Rathbun (Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). (Frank H. Rathbun).



This "Romanesque Villa" in Tecumseh, Michigan, built about 1899, was the home of George H. Rathbun (1843-1931), a merchant and city official, and was later occupied by his son George Arthur Rathbun (1884-1958), an attorney and county judge. The senior Rathbun was the son of James⁶ Rathbun (Joshua⁵ Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). (Newspaper clipping).



The home of James H. Rathbun (1819-ca1899) in Corry, Pennsylvania. Rathbun was a grocer and postmaster in Eden, N.Y., and moved to Corry in the 1860s. He was a son of James⁶ Rathbun (James⁵⁻³ Samuel² John¹). (R.L. Rathbun).



This striking 1887 picture shows the prairie farmhouse of Nelson Colburn and his wife Nancy⁷ Rathbone (Amos⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). Colburn is seated in the carriage and Nancy (in black dress) is standing in the foreground with some of their children. (Robert Rathbone).



The central part of this house on the Susquehanna River near Otego, N.Y., was built or occupied about 1801 by Robert⁵ Rathbun (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). It was built of thick flagstone which is common in that area. (Larry Trask).



The three-story home of James Rathbun (1846-1929) in West Greenwich, R.I. The picture was taken some years ago, shortly before it was torn down, and was obviously a substantial home in its day. James was the son of Robert⁶ Rathbun (John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). (Frank E. Rathbun).



See Corrections 12-1 p 10

The farmhouse of Byron Rathbun (1845-1924) in Spring Valley, Minn. It was built in the late 1800s on the site of the family's former log cabin home. **Byron and his family** can be seen on the porch of this 1907 photo. He was the son of Gamaliel⁶ Rathbun (Walter⁵ Thomas⁴⁻² John¹). (Nola Rathbun).



The impressive home of James B. Rathbun (1853-1931) near Schuyler, N.Y., now the residence of his granddaughter, Beverly Gillette, and her husband Lowell. The 14-room structure was built about 1899 and purchased by Rathbun in 1914. A farmer and cheese-maker, he was the son of John⁷ Rathbun (John⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). (Beverly Gillette).



The home of John Sawyer Rathbun (1803-1885) in Noank, Conn. There are several other Rathbun homes still standing in Noank, a charming, seaside fishing village. He was the son of Samuel⁵ Rathbun (Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹). (Photo by Frank H. Rathbun).



The home of Rev. John Rathbone (or Rathbun) (1729-1826) in Stonington, Conn. A plaque on the building dates it to 1775. Although still standing, it has undergone considerable renovation over the years. He was the son of Joshua³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹). (Newspaper clipping).



The imposing "Rock Spring" farmhouse built in 1850 near Springfield, N.Y., by Jacob Rathbun (1828-1874). The home, erected on the site of an earlier Rathbun home which burned in the 1840s, has remained in the family ever since. Jacob was the son of Williams⁶ Rathbun (Williams⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹).

Rathbun Grandson Flying Ace in Famed Lafayette Escadrille

ARathbun grandson was one of the little-known heroes of World War I. Andrew Courtney Campbell, Jr., a dapper Chicago playboy, joined the elite Lafayette Escadrille and compiled an amazing record as a flying ace until he was killed in an air battle over German lines in 1917.

Andrew Courtney Campbell Jr. was born Nov. 19, 1891, in Chicago, the son of Andrew Courtney Campbell Sr. and Cornelia Alice Morton, and grandson of George C. Morton and Charity Jane⁷ Rathbun (Charles⁶ Amos⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). The senior Campbell was a prosperous businessman and young Andrew was the only one of his three children who survived childhood.

Young Campbell, who went by the name of Courtney but was called Coty by his family and friends, grew up as the only child in a wealthy family. He was outrageously spoiled by his doting parents, who were rich enough to fill almost his every wish.

He graduated from high school in Kenilworth, a fashionable Chicago suburb where his parents moved in 1905. He then attended Mercersburg Academy, a prestigious prep school, from 1909 to 1911. He enrolled in 1912 at the University of Virginia, where he was noted for outlandish pranks and practical jokes.

Coty spent his vacations with his parents at their 16-room Kenilworth mansion, spending much of his time on the tennis courts or cruising through Chicago in his expensive Stutz Bearcat automobile. He smoked a pipe, wore the latest fashions in clothing, and was usually accompanied by beautiful and adoring young women.

His life was changed with the outbreak of World War I. At the University of Virginia, the students were caught up in a spirit of military patriotism, which was traditional at the college, where Robert E. Lee was one of the most honored graduates.



Courtney Campbell age four years and 7 months in June 1896.

In 1916, a group of American pilots organized the "Escadrille Americaine" in France to join that nation's fight against Germany. The unit soon gained an international reputation, and the German government protested to the United States, which then was still neutral.

To get around the German protests, the squadron's name was changed—first to the "Volunteer Esquadrielle," and then to the "Lafayette Escadrille," in honor of the French patriot Lafayette, who had come to America to help in the Revolutionary War. To qualify for enlistment, American applicants were first required to join the French Foreign Legion, and then seek transfer to the escadrille.



Courtney Campbell about the time he joined the Lafayette Escadrille.

Courtney Campbell heard stories of the escadrille's exploits, and decided he would go to France to enlist. His parents were horrified, and tried to dissuade him, but his mind was made up. He made the preliminary arrangements, and in June 1916 packed a suitcase and set off—by train to New York and then by ocean liner to France.

On his last night home, he visited each of the mansion's 16 rooms, standing in each for a few moments as though to fix them in his memory. In his own room, he put his extra clothing in the closet, stored his tennis racquets, put his spare pipes in the ash tray on his desk, and placed a paperweight over a

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pile of letters and papers—"things to be done when I come back," he told his parents.

He then went downstairs and embraced his weeping mother. "Don't fret, mother," he said, "Everything will be all right. I am merely going to do in my own small way what Lafayette did for us." Then he picked up his flute, and played several of the lilting Scottish tunes that his parents loved.

He then hugged and kissed his mother, and sped off with his father to the railway station. They would never see him again.

Two weeks later he was in France, joined the French Foreign Legion, and was assigned to driving an ambulance. He soon entered a French aviation school, and spent nine months studying and training. The competition was fierce, but in April 1917 he was graduated, and on April 15 he proudly joined the Lafayette Escadrille, with the rank of sergeant-pilot.

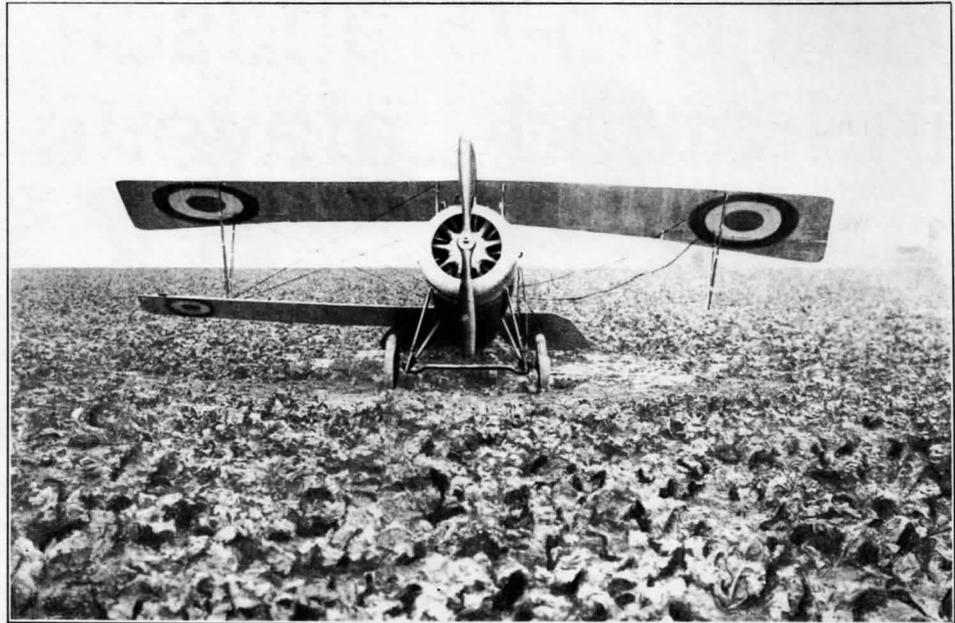
The unit was flying French-made Nieuports, a 250-horsepower, single-seat biplane called the Spad, with a top speed of 125 miles an hour—then considered "meteoric." The Spad had double wings on each side, and was extremely maneuverable in skilled hands.

Campbell quickly emerged as the squadron's "character." He sported a walking stick and wore a long-skirted British officer's tunic, with billowing pockets and a Sam Browne belt. He quickly reverted to his collegiate-day pranks and jokes.

According to a historian of the escadrille, he was a "daredevil who saw the war as a stage where he could roam at will, demonstrating his love for low-level aerobatics."

He carried his mania for pranks into the air, handling his Spad the way he had once driven his Stutz-Bearcat in Chicago traffic, dodging, weaving and roaring at full speed when he could.

One companion wrote, "Campbell delighted in seeing how close he could come to other pilots before their nerve gave way. The others pleaded, cajoled and threatened him... but Campbell flew merrily on to a near-disaster which



Courtney Campbell's Nieuport Spad photographed shortly after his amazing landing in a French farmer's beetfield with the lower left wing of his plane missing.

came to be known as the Miracle of Chaudun.

"While aloft one morning, waiting for the others to form up for patrol, Campbell began a series of violent acrobatics, diving at the hangers, then zooming up steeply in a sudden half-roll."

On one of his dives, as he zoomed down from 4,000 feet, and banked sharply into a sudden climb, his lower left wing snapped off with a crack that echoed on the field below.

Those on the ground saw what had happened, and were sure the plane would plunge to the ground. An ambulance was called, and ground crews prepared for action. No one had ever survived such a mishap.

But Campbell did the impossible. Throwing his weight toward the left side, he piloted the crippled plane into a series of widening circles, descending at a slower and slower speed. Minutes later, he made a perfect landing in a farmer's beetfield six miles from the airbase. When the ambulance arrived, expecting to find the plane crashed and Campbell dead, they saw him light a cigarette and climb down nonchalantly from the cockpit.

Campbell was driven back to the base, where he spent an hour in the bar describing his exploit, then borrowed

another pilot's Spad and went out on patrol.

Aviation experts from several countries came to inspect the plane and question Campbell about his landing strategy.

The near disaster had not squelched Campbell's daredevil sense of humor. On his next patrol, he harassed another pilot, Ted Parsons, hovering over Parsons' Spad, with his whirling propellor only a few feet from Parson's tail.

Describing it later, Parsons said: "I spent more time trying to stay out of that damned fool's way than I did looking for Huns. I shook my fist at him and cursed him, but he only grinned, waved back and threw kisses. It was maddening."

Every pilot's goal at that time was to achieve the rank of "ace," meaning one who had shot down at least five German planes with at least one witness to each battle. Any planes shot down without the presence of other pilots or ground observers, could not be counted.

The "Ace of Aces" in the Lafayette Escadrille was Raoul Lufberry, with 17 official "kills" and several dozen others which were not confirmed.

Campbell, of course, aspired to become an ace, and within four months he had shot down 11 German planes. Seven were unconfirmed, however, and

he needed one more to reach ace status. As was common in that war, Campbell had both respect and compassion for his victims. After shooting down one plane, he wrote in his diary: "Boche went down in flames. Poor devil."

After the United States entered the war that year, Americans in the Lafayette Escadrille were invited to join the fledgling American Army Air Corps as commissioned officers. Most of them refused, including Campbell, who was only a sergeant at the time and could probably have been a major or lieutenant-colonel in the American service. His pay would have jumped from \$30 a month to \$300.

Explaining his decision, he wrote his parents: "France has faith in me and I must justify that faith." He also noted that France had spent \$5,000 to train him as a pilot, and he felt he had a moral obligation to stay with the escadrille.

Campbell's final patrol came on Oct. 1, 1917, less than six months after he joined the squadron. Patrolling over the German side of the front lines near Pargny, north of Soissons, he saw one of his fellow pilots, Henri Jones, under attack by three larger German two-seaters. The Germans riddled Jones' plane with bullets, wounding him. Jones turned to fly back to the French side, with the Germans in pursuit.

Campbell raced his Spad at the Germans, his guns roaring, hoping to cover Jones' retreat. The battle was furious, but short. Campbell's months of air acrobatics came in handy, as he looped, zoomed and banked among the three German planes. Seconds later, he collided with one of them, and both planes plunged to the ground.

Jones watched in horror as Campbell went down, and then piloted his damaged plane back to their base. He emerged, shaken and bloody from his cockpit, broke into tears, and told the others "They got Campbell."

The Germans respected and admired a brave enemy. They recovered Campbell's body and buried him alongside the two Germans who had also died. A cross was placed over each grave.

In death, Campbell had become an ace, by achieving his fifth official "kill"—witnessed by Jones.

After the war, several attempts were made to find the grave site, but without success. It was not until 1919 that a French farmer's children found a cross. Searchers went to the site, and soon found all three graves beneath 15 feet of barbed wire and debris.

Tied to the cross on Campbell's grave was his identification tag and a leather case containing his commission, photos of his parents, and a Christmas card they had sent him in 1916.

Campbell's remains were buried at Belleau Wood. His parents said he had expressed a wish to be buried in France should he die. France awarded Campbell, posthumously, the Croix de Guerre



Courtney Campbell shortly after he went to France in 1916.

and the Medaille Militaire—the French equivalent of America's Congressional Medal of Honor.

His name was inscribed on a plaque at Les Invalides in Paris, where Napoleon and other French heroes are entombed. His name also appears on the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial near Paris.

In 1922, France's wartime premier, George Clemenceau, visited Chicago, and asked to see Campbell's parents. Mrs. Campbell described the meeting:

"Mr. Clemenceau looked at us in silence for a moment, then said, 'I feel the honor of meeting the father and

mother of a brave boy who came to help my country in her great need and who gave his life for her.'

"He took Mr. Campbell's hand and mine, and after another short silence, asked, 'When did your son come to France?'

"I said, 'He went 11 months before our country entered the war.' Then his tears came (ours were already streaming) and he raised our hands to his head and said, 'Ah, Ah, those are the ones. How France appreciates and honors the memory of such as he.'

"Then Mr. Clemenceau asked. 'And where does he now lie?'

"Mr. Campbell said, 'In France. He wished to be left there in case he fell.'

Mr. Clemenceau said. 'I am glad you did not bring him back to America. France is proud to have him and France will always treasure his precious body.'"

(A total of 38 Americans served in the Lafayette Escadrille, which never had more than 19 pilots at a given time. Eleven of them died in combat, and many of the others were wounded and sent home. Members of the unit shot down an estimated 400 German planes (100 of them "officially") and were largely responsible for the Allies' success in maintaining air superiority over the front lines. Courtney Campbell's mother was a first cousin of your editor's father.)

JOHN RATHBUN, a teacher at Indian Lake Central School in Herkimer County, N.Y., has been named Teacher of the Year by the Technology Education Association. He is the son of Mary and Thomas¹⁰ Rathbun (John⁹⁻⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

JOHN RATHBUN was selected to receive the 1991 Weatherhead School of Management Alumni Association's Student Leadership Award. John was awarded a master-of-business-administration degree by the Cleveland school (a unit of Case Western Reserve University) in May. John is the son of our members Janet and Grove¹¹ Rathbun (Grove¹⁰⁻⁹ Heman⁸ Nathaniel⁷ Gideon⁶ Paris⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

Genealogy: The Sixth Generation in America

348. HENRY HAMILTON⁶ RATHBUN (Samuel⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Sept. 13, 1817, in Richland, N.Y. He was married about 1844 to his cousin Hannah Morgianna Rathbun, born April 13, 1825, daughter of Epaphroditus⁵ Rathbun (Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). They lived for many years in Springfield, N.Y., then in 1878 moved to Harrison County, Iowa, possibly with his brother Simeon. They bought a farm near Woodbine, where Henry died on August 9, 1896. Hannah was still living there in 1900. Her death date is not known.

CHILD

GEORGE HENRY, born April 13, 1845; married Celia White.

349. CORNELIUS MORTIMER⁶ RATHBUN (Epaphroditus⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Feb. 8, 1808, in Otsego County, N.Y., and married Dec. 8, 1833, at Springfield, N.Y., Jane DeLamater, born May 5, 1806, parentage unknown. They moved about 1839 to Ohio, first settling in Muskingum County, and then at Akron. Jane died there April 16, 1875, and Cornelius on March 5, 1883.

CHILDREN

ANN, born Sept. 22, 1834; married Adam Spraul on Feb. 13, 1856.

EVERETT B., born Nov. 3, 1836; died unmarried sometime after 1900.

DAVID C., born Sept. 21, 1839; married Amanda Lane.

WILLIAM EUGENE, born June 2, 1841; married Martha Jane Lumpries.

MARY, born Sept. 16, 1843; married Nelson P. Rice on Sept. 27, 1865.

EMMA, born March 21, 1847; married Oscar N. Howe on Nov. 2, 1871.

CORNELIUS M., born March 2, 1849; married (1) Elizabeth West, and (2) Mary Crosier.

ELLEN J., born July 16, 1851; married Francis R. King on Oct. 4, 1870.

350. JOHN⁶RATHBUN (Epaphroditus⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born about 1816 in Otsego County, N.Y., and married about 1839 Sally _____, born about 1823. They lived at Warren, Herkimer County, N.Y., where John was an innkeeper. He died about 1868. Sally's death date is not known.

CHILDREN

HENRY MENZO, born about 1841; he was alive in 1855; no further information.

WILLIAM PHILANDER, born Dec. 16, 1848; died March 13, 1850.

PROBABLY OTHERS, names unknown.

351. WILLIAM⁶ RATHBUN (Epaphroditus⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born May 15, 1822, in Otsego County, N.Y., and married on Oct. 23, 1851, Sarah Ann Grime, born August 21, 1824, parentage unknown. They were living in 1860 at Little Falls, N.Y., where he was a carpenter. They apparently had no children, and nothing more is known of them.

352. ALFRED OSBORN⁶ RATHBUN (Epaphroditus⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Sept. 27, 1823, possibly in Springfield, N.Y. He was married about 1849 to Agnes Bogie, born in 1829, daughter of William and Agnes P. Bogie. They lived for some years in Springfield, later in Oneonta, and finally in Franklin, N.Y. Agnes died in 1899 and Alfred died in 1913.

CHILDREN

SCOTT BOGIE, born June 1, 1853; married Julia C. Clayton.

GRENVILLE ALFRED, born Dec. 9, 1855; married Carrie A. Slade.

MARCIA, born Nov. 26, 1859; married Dr. George W. Crosby.

353. ROYAL ANSON⁶ RATHBUN (Rodney⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Aug. 30, 1825, in Vernon, Conn. He was married on July 1, 1848, at Hartford, Conn., to Pamela Nettleton, born May 8, 1829, parentage unknown. They lived for a time at New Haven, Conn., where he was listed as a blacksmith in 1853 and a locksmith in 1855. They moved about 1858 to Illinois, where in 1861 he enlisted in the Second Illinois Cavalry and fought in the Civil War. They may have returned after the war to Connecticut, where Pamela died Feb. 26, 1867, at Vernon. Royal returned West, and was married on Aug. 19, 1872, in Buffalo County, Wisconsin, to Elizabeth Rafenburg, born Aug. 12, 1852, daughter of Jonah and Mary (Warner) Rafenburg. They remained in Buffalo County, where Royal died May 7, 1903. Elizabeth was married again on June 8, 1905, to Hans Amundson. Nothing more is known of her.

CHILDREN

By Mary

HATTIE M., born April 10, 1849; married Harvey A. Harwood on Jan. 11, 1873.

JOHN L., born Jan. 25, 1852; died unmarried July 13, 1882 in Chicago.

JAMES HORACE, born July 16, 1859; married (1) Adelaide Knapp, and (2) Flora Milne.

INEZ AMANDA, born Dec. 8, 1861; married Charles Ward on Jan. 29, 1882.

By Elizabeth

JESSIE BELL, born Sept. 6, 1874; married Orrin Delos Knowles (or Knutzel?).

WILLIAM FRANKLIN, born Nov. 15, 1876; living in Montana in 1900; no known marriage.

ROYAL EDWARD, born Jan. 15, 1878; married Nora Cook.

ANNA MAY, born Aug. 5, 1881; no further information.

LUCY CALISTA, born April 25, 1883; no further information.

BEDWELL, born Sept. 18, 1885; married Lena Wight.

AVA LEONA, born Sept. 6, 1890; no further information.

354. CHAUNCEY WHITTLESELY⁶ RATHBUN (Rodney⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born July 1, 1832, at Vernon, Conn., and married about 1853 Mary Evans, born about 1833 in Wales, parentage unknown. He worked as a mill operator as a young man, moved to New Haven, Conn., by 1854, and by 1860 to Gilmartin, Wisc. They moved about 1886 to Odessa, Ector County, Texas, where Mary died in 1894. He was married on Nov. 28, 1898, to Mrs. Mollie Danport, a widow, born in May 1855, parentage unknown. He died there in Sept. 1911. Her death date is not known.

CHILDREN

All by Mary

JOHN CHAUNCEY, born Dec. 19, 1854; married Elizabeth Goldenberger.

WEALTHY, born about 1856; married Alfred Miner Feb. 27, 1876.

MINNIE E., born about 1863; married Harvey A. Rathfon on May 30, 1887.

INEZ N., born about 1865; married I.H. Calloway on March 18, 1891.

355. MORGAN STRICKLIN⁶ RATHBUN (Stricklin⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born May 6, 1814, in Oneida County, N.Y. He was married April 10, 1851, to Electra Sophronia Rathbun, born Nov. 2, 1823, daughter of Russell⁵ Rathbun (Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). They were living at Richland, N.Y., in 1860, but moved soon thereafter to Pulaski, Oswego County, where he died Oct. 10, 1866. Electa was living by 1888 at Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1900 was in Hopewell County, Mo. Her death date is not known.

CHILDREN

FLORENCE ISABEL, born March 17, 1853; married (1) Albert W. Randall Nov. 30, 1876, and (2) Charles F. Mount on Sept. 14, 1893.

EDGAR RUSSELL, born Nov. 4, 1858; no further data, but he may have lived in Bridgeport, Conn.

EDWARD HAMILTON (twin), born Nov. 4, 1858; married Hattie M. Camp.

356. SALAH ALWIN⁶ RATHBUN (Stricklin⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born in October 1819 in Richland, N.Y. He moved to Cleveland as a young man and was married there Oct. 12, 1848, to Caroline (or Catherine) Champlin, born about 1828, parentage unknown. They later moved to Holland, Wisc., and he probably died there sometime after 1863. A Katherine Rathbun, possibly his widow, died Jan. 15, 1902, at Port Washington, Wisc.

CHILDREN

SARAH ANN, born Oct. 6, 1849; died Oct. 28, 1850.

GEORGE HENRY, born April 3, 1851; married Mary Craft.

357. EBENEZER H.⁶ RATHBUN (Stricklin⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born March 15, 1837, at Richland, N.Y. He was always known as Eben. He was married April 7, 1863, to Florence Amelia Dingley, born June 22, 1843, daughter of Amasa and Lorana (Jackson) Dingley. They lived for many years at Hartford, Conn., then moved in 1887 to Mexico, Chenango County, N.Y. He served in the New York Cavalry during the Civil War, and died at Mexico on Jan. 10, 1915, Florence died there Dec. 30, 1927.

CHILDREN

WINNIE, born April 18, 1864; no further data.

CORA B., born Dec. 28, 1873; no further data.

ADA M., born July 28, 1877; married Carl Taylor.

358. EDWARD⁶ RATHBUN (Salah⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Sept. 17, 1822, at Hartford, Conn., and was married April 11, 1846, to Hannah Stanton Miner, born in 1828, possibly the daughter of James Miner.

They moved to Brooklyn, N.Y., where he was a prosperous tea merchant. He died there on May 14, 1854, leaving Hannah with two young sons. She moved to Springfield, Illinois, about 1856, and was married there on June 12, 1858, to Dr. John H. Shearer. They later moved to Wellsboro, Penn., where she died Oct. 20, 1879. (See our Historian of April 1991 for her close friendship with Mary Lincoln, wife of President Abraham Lincoln).

CHILDREN

EDWARD, born about 1848; died in 1864.

JAMES MINER, born about 1851; married Ida White.

359. FREDERICK HAMILTON⁶ RATHBUN (Salah⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born July 21, 1843, at Glastonbury, Conn. He was married May 4, 1865, to Mary E. Smith, born July 18, 1842, daughter of Captain Jehu Smith. They were living as late as 1900 at Hartford, Conn. Nothing more is known of them. She may be the Mary Rathbun who died April 4, 1901, at the Conn. Hospital for the Insane at Middletown.

CHILDREN

LORETTA M., born Sept. 11, 1866; married Albert E. House Oct. 26, 1898.

BURTON HAMILTON, born July 3, 1869; married Nellie Post Thompson.

EDWARD A., born Jan. 20, 1871; died August 6, 1871.

FANNIE A., born May 29, 1873; died August 2, 1873.

LOTTIE S., born May 11, 1875; married Edward Walter House on Aug. 29, 1892.

360. WILLIAM ALBON⁶ RATHBUN (Charles⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born Oct. 14, 1820, at Williamstown, N.Y. He was married March 4, 1845, at Sandy Creek, Oswego County, N.Y., to Eliza Bradley Stevens, born Sept. 17, 1825, parentage unknown. William died July 1, 1876,

(continued to page 60)

(continued from page 59)

at Oswego, N.Y., and Eliza died Feb. 15, 1891, at the home of her son Julian at Kane, Pa. Both are buried at Riverside Cemetery, Oswego.

CHILDREN

HARRIET ANTOINETTE, born Dec. 14, 1846; married George H. Hess on Sept. 4, 1864.

JULIAN HUMPHREY, born May 17, 1852; married Katherine Forbes.

361. RANDOLPH L.⁶ RATHBUN (Charles⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), born August 6, 1838, at Williamstown, N.Y. He was married there on June 1, 1862, to Mary E. Ballard, born in January 1844, daughter of William H. Ballard. She died the following year on June 26, 1863, and he was married August 21, 1864, to Ellen M. Potts, born March 12, 1836, parentage unknown. He served in the New York Volunteers during the Civil War. She died May 28, 1902, at Williamstown, and he died there July 16, 1922. Both are buried at Fairview Cemetery.

CHILDREN

MATTIE STEVENS, born in April 1863; possibly the Mattie Rathbun who married Philip Smith Dec. 26, 1885, in Bay County, Michigan.

IDA BELLE, born Sept. 10, 1866; married George Hicks.

AHAVA, born Dec. 29, 1867; died unmarried in 1961, age 94.

CLARA B., born Dec. 26, 1871; married _____ Marshall.

362. AMIZIAH RILEY⁶ RATHBUN (Joshua⁵ William⁴ Job³ Joseph² John¹), born March 3, 1801, probably at Howard, N.Y. He was married twice, but the names of his wives are not known. He lived for many years at Howard, and was postmaster at what was known as Rathbun's Settlement from 1832 to 1842. He later lived at Avoca, where he died August 23, 1879, and was buried at Howard. Nothing is known of his wives. He is listed in the census of 1865 as married, but no wife

appears. He was called a widower in 1875.

CHILDREN (Probably)

WILLIAM HARRIS, born Sept. 12, 1823; married Mareda McDowell.

CORNELIUS, born about 1825; married Mary Ferguson.

PROBABLY OTHERS, names unknown.

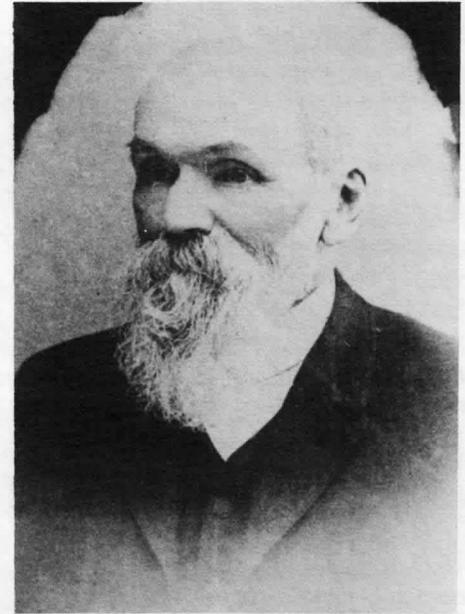
363. WILLIAM MASON BROWN⁶ RATHBUN (Job⁵ William⁴ Job³ Joseph² John¹), born Dec. 14, 1824, at Howard, N.Y. He was married March 27, 1849, at Cohocton, N.Y., to Sarah Arabella Potter, born in March 1828, daughter of Gideon Fay Potter and Zerviah (Patchin) Potter. They lived for a few years in Howard, then moved to Fremont, where he was justice of the peace in 1859 and supervisor in 1867. He died at Fremont on Oct. 8, 1888. Cooley reported that Sarah was married a second time to French Buck, but she was listed as Sarah Rathbun in the 1900 census. Her death date is not known.

CHILDREN

FAY POTTER, born August 31, 1851; married Sarah Stearns.

MARY, born April 17, 1856; died in 1864.

364. JOB BEEBE⁶ RATHBUN (Job⁵ William⁴ Job³ Joseph² John¹), born June 18, 1829, at Howard, N.Y. He moved as a young man to Rochelle, Ogle County, Illinois, and was married there on Sept. 25, 1854, to Olive Marie Buck, born May 21, 1832, parentage unknown. They moved in 1871 by covered wagon to Crab Orchard, Johnson County, Neb., where he had a farm of 3,000 acres. Olive died Nov. 13, 1881, and he was married again on Nov. 12, 1891, to Frances (Bailey) Beatty, a widow. He lived for some years at Grant, Gage County, and Dewitt, Saline County, but returned to Crab Orchard and died there on March 24, 1908, after a stroke. His second wife survived him, but her death date is not known.



Job Beebe Rathbun
1829-1908

See Corrections 12-1 p 10

CHILDREN

FANNY REBECCA, born June 16, 1855; married Charles J. Ojers on Aug. 20, 1871.

CLARENCE LLEWELLEN, born April 25, 1857; married Mary Nailand.

EDWARD GRANT, born Dec. 26, 1859; married Nellie Whipple.

IDA JANE, born April 20, 1860; died June 3, 1860.

CHARLES ELWORTH, born June 28, 1861; married Ida May Hill.

CELESTIA ISABELLA, born June 16, 1863; married John H. Craig on Sept. 16, 1880.

ELLA MAY, born July 12, 1869; died Nov. 28, 1880.

Longevity Record

In our first issue (January 1981), we reported that the longest-lived member of our family was Frank Rathbun, then aged 104, living in a California nursing home. We have just learned from Social Security records that this Frank Rathbun died in November 1981 at the age of 105—surely a record for our family. Frank (real name Francis) was a son of William⁷ Rathbun (Alexander⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). He apparently never married (bachelors take note!).

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"Lighthouse Fund." The contributions are tax-deductible.

We will then write an Association check for the total amount contributed, and send it to Block Island with the list of donors.

Our first check for \$900 represented \$830 from 43 members, and a \$70 contribution from our Association funds. A list of the donors appears in this issue, although we are not revealing the amounts of individual donations.

Our contributions were led by one donation of \$110, from a member who wrote, "This represents \$10 for me, and \$10 for each of my Rathbun ancestors back to the first John."

There was also a donation of \$50, one of \$40, several of \$30 and \$25, a few of \$20 and the rest of \$10—the amount we had suggested as a contribution.

One donation with an interesting letter came from Captain Ben and Rosalie Rathbun of Noank, Conn. Mrs. Rathbun wrote, "Being so close to Block Island, we feel the need to save the lighthouse more than most others. My father-in-law, my husband and now our son have used the light as a guide many times on fishing trips and charter trips. It's been part of our lives for a long time."

If you want to contribute, please do it soon. We would like to send our second check to Block Island by Nov. 20.

Following is a list of members who have already made contributions to the Block Island lighthouse fund, listed alphabetically: Evelyn Anderson, Charles Boardman, John and Mary Ann Bowen, Arthur Burris, Christopher Davenport, Betty Drake, Clarice Fleharty, Virginia Fraser, Beverly (Rathbun) Gillette, Cheryl Jensen, Kathleen Kopke, Rachel Laurgaard, Rhonda (Rathbun) Leonard, Edith Leppia, Rosma (Rathbun) Limbeck, Lydia (Rathbun) Littlefield, Bernice (Rathbun) Mann, William and Louise Marsh, Loren Marvin, Muriel (Rathbun) Mercer, Elsie Phillips, Benjamin and Rosalie Rathbun, Bruce Rathbun, Earl and Marjorie Rathbun, Frank and Dorothy Rathbun, Frank and Hazel Rathbun, Fred and

Shirley Rathbun, Gaal and Mildred Rathburn, Helen M. Rathbun, Helene Rathbun, Laverne and Marge Rathbun, Lawrence and Helen Rathbun, Robert L. Rathbun, Robert and Harriet Rathbone, Roland Rathbun, Russell

and Norma Rathbun, Vera Rathbun, Warren and Millicent Rathbun, James Stites, Beatrice (Rathbun) St. Onge, Fern (Rathbun) Thompson, Robert and LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, Hazel Wood.

Corrections

Jane, wife of James V.⁶ Rathbun (Amiziah⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), died May 30, 1898, not 1989! Isabella Palmer Rathbun, daughter of Guy Wheeler Rathbun, brother of James, married David M. Sarvis, not Saris, widower of her sister Alice. (July 1991 issue, page 41-42). Our thanks to Dorothy Mueller.

In our April 1991 issue (Page 26), we incorrectly stated that Joel Rathbun's wife, Sarah, was still living in 1870. His wife's name was Frances, not Sarah. Our thanks to Dr. Earl Antes for noting this error.

In our October 1981 *Historian*, page 62, we reported that Mary Rathbun, daughter of Ebenezer³ Rathbun (William² John¹) had married Christopher Kenyon on Dec. 12, 1759. This information came from Cooley's *Rathbone Genealogy*. It now seems more likely that the Mary who married Kenyon was Mary (Foster) Rathbun, widow of Daniel⁴ Rathbun (John³⁻²⁻¹), (see July 1981 issue, page 44). The marriage took place in Exeter, R.I., where Daniel Rathbun died late in 1758. Mary Foster was possibly the daughter of Caleb and Elizabeth Foster. Christopher Kenyon, born in 1738, was the illegitimate son of Abigail Kenyon, daughter of John and Abigail (Richmond) Kenyon, who died unmarried in 1746.

Elizabeth, the widow of David⁶ Rathbun (Amos⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), is probably the Elizabeth Rathbun who married Archibald Fisher on May 1, 1856, in Auglaize County, Ohio. If so, she was not the Betsey Rathbun living with David's brother Abiather in 1880. (*Historian* of July 1989, page 44).

In our April 1991 issue, page 47, we incorrectly listed the lineage of Charles A. Rathbun, who died June 12, 1991, at the age of 29. He was the son of the late Charles¹⁰ Rathbun (George⁹⁻⁸ James⁷ Joseph⁶⁻⁵ George⁴ —not Jeremiah— Joseph³⁻² John¹). We have also learned that Rathbun was beaten to death, reportedly after he tried to break up a fight. His accused killer, Matthew Sprague, 18, was convicted of second-degree murder in late September, and sentenced to 26 years in prison. Our thanks to Rob Rathbun and Fred C. Rathbun.

Two corrections to page five of our January 1991 issue. Joseph Clifford Hendrix was born in 1853, not 1835, and became president of the National Bank of Commerce (not Congress!).

The wife of Hiram⁶ Rathbun (Saxton⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), was Otse Chappell, not Blakely. She was the daughter of Ashael Chappell. This family appeared on page 10 of our January 1988 issue. Our thanks to Rob Rathbun.

The middle name of Millard Rathbun, son of William Riley⁶ Rathbun (Amiziah⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), was Taylor, not Fillmore. He was named for Presidents Millard Fillmore and Zachary Taylor. His sisters were Almira, who died young, and Almira, who married Joseph Creasey. (July 1991 issue, page 41). Our thanks to Gerald Reser.

Charity Valentine Rathbun, daughter of Alfred⁶ Rathbun (Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), married as her second husband a Mr. Norris. His first name was not Norris. (July 1991 issue, page 42).

Rathbun Woman Minister Runs R.I. Nudist Camp

A Rathbun widow is making headlines in Rhode Island as the minister of a small church which runs a nudist camp.

Beulah Rathbun, 72, has been the leader since 1987 of the Church of Pan, which operates the 25-acre Dyer Woods Nudist Camp near Foster, R.I.

Mrs Rathbun is the widow of Neil Rathbun (1919-1978), son of Joseph⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Joseph⁷ Charles⁶ Amos⁵ John⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹). According to newspaper accounts, she and her husband began camping at the Dyers Woods Nudist Camp in 1970. After Neil's death, she became active in the camp management, and in 1982 was named camp manager and assistant to Rev. Kenneth Walker, who founded the church and camp in the 1960's.

When Rev. Walker died in 1987, Mrs. Rathbun succeeded him as minister and camp director. She says the camp attracts people of all ages throughout Rhode Island and surrounding states. Last year, she presided over a camp wedding that was most unusual by nor-

mal standards—the minister, the bride and groom, and nearly 70 guests were all nude.

Members of the Church of Pan think society has distorted God's intentions by viewing the human body as obscene. They are also avid conservationists, and are working to preserve a 175-acre forest and wildlife preserve owned by the church next to the camp.

The church congregation consists of about 20 families, with another 20 families who use the camp and another 40 families who visit frequently.

Mrs. Rathbun says many of the campers are members of other churches, and leave the camp on Sunday mornings—fully clothed—to attend services at nearby conventional churches.

Post Office Goof Misdirects Mail

At least three letters sent to us by members in September were returned because of a post office "goof."

The letters, all properly addressed and stamped, were sorted incorrectly, and assigned to the wrong route. The carrier on that route, instead of sending them back to the post office for resorting, incorrectly marked them "Att"—(for attempted delivery) and stamped them "Return to Sender."

Fortunately, the three senders put the letters and the original envelopes in another envelope, and mailed them again. So we did receive them, although a week to 10 days late. We have notified our post office, and corrective steps are being taken.

If any other members have had letters addressed to us that were returned, please send them again, enclosing the first envelope so that we can let the post office know.

Son's Death Brings Rathbone Mother Chain of Tragedy

A Rathbone woman in Virginia has undergone a heart-wrenching experience which could hardly be equalled for pure tragedy.

According to newspaper accounts, Mrs. Bessie Rathbone of Dinwiddie, Virginia, suffered through the following chain of horrors.

In October, 1985, her 22-year-old son by a former marriage, William "Pete" Norwood, was shot by a holdup man while working in a service station near his home.

Several hours later, after doctors determined that he could not live, Mrs. Rathbone signed a release authorizing use of her son's body parts for transplants.

This action, meant to be a generous gesture to help save other lives, turned out instead to be a death sentence for others. Unknown to his mother or the doctors, young Norwood was infected with the AIDS virus.

A total of 56 transplants were made from Norwood's body—including his heart, kidneys, liver, corneas and 52 skin and bone grafts.

Three of the recipients have already died of AIDS and at least three others have tested HIV-positive.

His grief-stricken family has again gone through anguish and heartbreak. "It's like Pete died all over again," said one. We do not know the identity of Mrs. Rathbone, but she is possibly connected to the unidentified North Carolina Rathbones.

JAMES E. LAMOUREUX JR. and Debbie Goeschel were married August 31, 1991, in Rhode Island. James, a captain in the U.S. Air Force, is the son of our members, James E. and Ella May (Rathbun) Lamoureux, and grandson of our member Helen M.¹⁰ Rathbun (Ernest⁹ Charles⁸ Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹), and Helen's husband, the late Edward¹⁰ Rathbun (George⁹ Raymond⁸ Amy⁷ Olney⁶ Joshua⁵ Anthony⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

WE THANK the following members who have sent in family data, pictures, clippings and other materials; Adelaide Titus, Dorothy Mueller, Bruce Rathbun, Loren Marvin, Kathy Kopke, Betty Drake, Darleen Boyle, Susie Carter Baston, Muriel Mercer, Alvin Moore, Robert L. Rathbun, Fred C. Rathbun, Rachel Laugaard, Gerald Reser, Claire Bergeron, Gloria Kelly, Jackie Schryer, Vickie Kelly, Janet and Grove Rathbun, Jim Stites, Edith Leppla, David E. Rathbun, Helene Rathbun, Ruth Hatzenbuhler, Barbara Jordan, Mary Vincent, Rob Rathbun, Beverly Gillette, Helen Heyart, Russell Rathbun, Lauren Landis, R. Van Rathbun, George Ross, Bill Hosking, Lydia Littlefield, Virginia Snowden, Rosma Limbeck, Clarice Fleharty, Lola Phillips, Bruce Mark Rathbun.

Obituaries

DIED — August 17, 1991, William J. Rathbun, 78, of Chetek, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; his sister, Rosma (Rathbun) Limbeck, a member of our Association; a stepdaughter, Marijean Zahorski, and two step-grandchildren. He was the son of William⁸ Rathbun (Jonathan⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

DIED — July 31, 1991, Hazel Irene (Rathbun) Ritchie, 84, at Westerly, R.I. A charter member of our Association, she is survived by two sons, Chesley and Raymond Ritchie; four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. She was the daughter of Charles⁸ Rathbun (Amos⁷ Newman⁶ Jonathan⁵ John⁴⁻¹).

DIED — January 27, 1991, Gordon Perry Rathbun, 76, at Fort Pierce, Florida. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Glenna Rathbun; son Gary Gordon Rathbun; daughter Lee Ellen Hildreth; five grandchildren, and a brother Dean Rathbun. He was the son of Franklin⁹ Rathbun (Morris⁸ Franklin⁷ Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

See Corrections 12-1 p 10

DIED — Feb. 6, 1991, Charles Alden Rathbun, 76, of Montreat, N.C. He is survived by his wife, Juliet; a son, Alden Rathbun, and one grandchild. A native of Minden, Louisiana, he was **probably a great-grandson of Lysander⁶ Rathbun** (Joel⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹), who lived in Minden. We do not know the names of his parents or grandparents.

DIED — August 9, 1991, Irving E. Rathbun Jr. in Monticello, Miss. He is survived by his widow, Peggy; two daughters, Donna Blackburn and Pamela Martin; four grandchildren; a brother, Harold E. Rathbun, and two sisters, Esther Palethorpe and Barbara Sandri. He was the son of Irving E.⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Asher⁷ Christopher⁶ Jonathan⁵ Isaiah⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

DIED — January 3, 1991, Carl L. Phillips, 72, of Athens, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Lola; a son, daughter, and two stepdaughters; several grandchildren, and his mother, Nellie Phillips. Lola Phillips is the daughter of Arthur Lieuellen and Ora Jane⁸ Rathburn (David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

DIED — July 14, 1991, Clinton (Bud) Whitman, 79, of Zion, Illinois. He is survived by his wife, Mary Pearl; a son, James; two grandchildren, and a sister. Mary Pearl, a member of our Association, is descended from Nathan Walton and Sarah⁶ Rathbun (Joseph⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

DIED — June 19, 1991, Deloris Adele Rathbun, 63, of Topeka, Kansas. She is survived by her husband, William Harley Rathbun; a daughter, Linda Jo Woods, and a son, Dan Ray Rathbun; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, and two sisters. William Harley Rathbun is the son of William⁹ Rathbun (Daniel⁸ William⁷ Daniel⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

See Corrections 12-1 p 10

DIED — July 26, 1991, Carrol L. Rathbun, 64, of Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is survived by his widow, Jean; **two daughters, Kim and Joy**, and a sister, Mrs. Esther Cassell, a member of our Association. He was the son of Claude⁸ Rathbun (Edwin⁷ Ebenezer⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴ Jonathan³ William² John¹).

DIED — July 28, 1991, Jack Howard Rathbone, 76, at Wichita, Kansas. He is survived by his wife, Jerry; a son, Michael E. Rathbone; daughter Kay A. Johnson; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was the son of Clarence⁹ Rathbone (Howard⁸ Elijah⁷ Amasa⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

New Data

Sarah Williams, the wife of Thomas⁵ Rathbun (Thomas⁴ Jonathan³ William² John¹) was born March 8, 1768, in Colchester, Conn., the daughter of Abraham and Vesta (Hunt) Williams. Thanks to Rob Rathbun.

In our January 1989 issue, among the children of Charles⁶ Rathbun (Joshua⁵ Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹) and his second wife Margaret Stewart, we listed a daughter Ellie or Elizabeth born about 1851 and died at age 17. This daughter actually Etta or Ettie Rathbun, born June 21, 1858, died March 28, 1876, aged 17 years, nine months and five days. Our thanks to Helen Heyart.

In our April 1986 Historian (page 27), we listed two possible daughters, Melissa and Sarah, among the children of Stephen Calhoun⁶ Rathbun (Daniel⁵ John⁴⁻¹). Neither, it turns out, were daughters. Melissa was the wife of Stephen's son Abraham. They were married May 1, 1855, in Becket, Mass., when Abraham was about 25 and Melissa only 13. They were living in 1855 with Melissa's parents, William and Sarah Barden. We had assumed that Sarah and Melissa were sisters. Our thanks to Rob Rathbun, who found the marriage record of Abraham and Melissa in Massachusetts records. It also seems likely that Stephen C. Rathbun's wife was named Fannie. A Fannie Rathbun, aged 54, was living in 1860 at Monson, Mass, with George Morris and his wife, Sarah, aged 41. This Sarah may have been a daughter of Stephen.

In our issue of January 1991 (page 13), we reported that Mary Rathbun, daughter of Joel⁶ Rathbun (Joel⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹), possibly married Williams Coats. It seems more likely that she is the Mary Rathbun who married John Schneider on May 22, 1880, in New Orleans, La. Our thanks to Rob Rathbun.

People

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN RATHBUN of Noank, Conn., has been appointed to the New England Fisheries Council, a group which sets limits for commercial fishing on New England coasts. He had served for the past six years on the National Sea Grant Commission. Captain Ben is the son of Benjamin⁹ Rathbun (Benjamin⁸ William⁷ Benjamin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹).

GERALD AND DONIS RESER of Rossville, Kansas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 11, with a family party hosted by their children, Gerald, Donna Wamego and Cheryl Hatfield. Gerald is the son of Joseph H. Reser and Ruby Fern⁸ Rathbun (Millard⁷ William⁶ Amiziah⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹).

BEVERLY GILLETTE was among a group of members of the Colonial Dames of America who participated in the Herkimer County (NY) bicentennial parade on June 8. She wore a hand-made period costume. Beverly is corresponding secretary of the New York Colonial Dames group, which includes women who can trace their ancestry to persons living in one of the original 13 colonies before 1701. Beverly is the daughter of James⁹ Rathbun (James⁸ John⁷⁻⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Samuel² John¹).

PAUL AND ROSMA LIMBECK have become great-grandparents for the first time. Alexander Scott Noack was born on June 28, 1991, at Winfield, Ill., son of Scott Paul and Brenda Noack and grandson of the Limbecks' daughter, Jeannine. Rosma is the daughter of William Jonathan⁸ Rathbun (Jonathan⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

KATHRYN ALZINA HATZENBUHLER and Jody Lee McMahan were married July 20, 1991, at Bennington, Vt. Kathryn is the granddaughter of our member Ruth⁹ (Rathburn) Hatzenbuhler (Jesse⁸ Albert⁷ Allen⁶ Josiah⁵ Job⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

New Members

Mary Anne Cummins
Delaware, Ohio

Mary Lynn Hermansky
Apollo, Pa.

Helen Heyart
Russellville, Ark.

Bruce Mark Rathbun
Copperas Cove, Texas

Gail B. Rathbun
Woodside, Calif.

Louis Rathbun
Lansing, Mich.

Laura Rutkowski
Catskill, N.Y.

Carol G. Selario
Vienna, Va.

Susan Allyn Smith
Nicolaus, Calif.

LAPRELLE AND BOB WEATHERFORD of Phoenix, Arizona, had an eventful month of September. Bob celebrated his 80th birthday on September 2 and LaPrelle marked her 80th on September 10. On September 19, they celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary with a trip to Seattle, where they visited her cousins, Edison and Polly Rathbone and Veora (Rathbone) Rotter. "It was the best trip of our lives," LaPrelle wrote your editor. She is the daughter of Virgil⁸ Rathbone (Albert⁷ Amos⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). Bob, former mayor of Independence, Mo., recently donated 19 scrapbooks covering his mayoral terms to the Independence City Archives, inaugurating a "Mayors' Collection."

WILLIAM T. RATHBUN III and Christine Dixon Crego were married March 23, 1991, at Camp Hill, Pa. He is the son of William T.⁹ Rathbun (William⁸⁻⁷ John⁶⁻⁵ Daniel⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). His brother, John Rathbun, was best man.

FAY AND CORA RATHBONE of Havre, Mont., celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary on April 12, 1991. Fay, aged 94, is the son of Albert⁸ Rathbone (Philander⁷ Lyman⁶ Paris⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

RUSSELL AND NORMA RATHBUN will remember 1991 as "Reunion Year." On July 30, they attended a Denver-area Rathbun reunion attended by 75 people. In early August, they attended a Kansas reunion of about 95 Rathbuns, mostly descended from Russell's great-uncle Elon Rathbun. They had earlier attended our Association's National Reunion in Springfield, Ill. Russell is the son of Clark⁸ (John⁷⁻⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹).

MURIEL AND WILLIAM MERCER enjoyed a sunset cruise on the reconstructed sloop Providence on Lake Huron during the summer. They cruised around Thunder Bay for about two hours. The original Providence was the ship commanded by Captain John Peck Rathbun during the Revolutionary War. Muriel is the daughter of Winifred⁹ Rathbun (Dutee⁸ George⁷ Joshua⁶ Acors⁵ Joshua⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹).

CLIFFORD B. MUELLER, an American soldier serving in Germany, recently spent two weeks working on a farm, as he used to do in civilian days. He participated in a Farm Help Program, which assigns American soldiers for two-week stints on German farms. Clifford is the son of our members, Harold Mueller and Dorothy¹⁰ Rathbun (Curtis⁹ Henry⁸ William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Another son, Philip, is serving on Guam with the U.S. Navy.