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Located about 150 miles northwest of Detroit and about 170 miles northeast of Chicago, Grand Rapids is a city of charming architecture, shaded by hardwood trees. In the downtown center fishermen lean from arched bridges and watch salmon and other fish leap up a fish ladder that forms part of the huge Grand River Sculpture.

Founded in 1826 by Louis Campau, a fur trader, Grand Rapids was named for the rapids in the Grand River. The Hopewell and Ottawa Indians lived there before missionaries came in the 1820's. With the river providing an excellent source for power and being located at the southern edge of Michigan's great pine forest, Grand Rapids became a lumber center and was incorporated as a city in 1850. Many Dutch and Polish craftworkers came to the area in the mid-1880's and helped develop the city's furniture industry. Lumber mills making highgrade lumber for the furniture mills flourished in the counties surrounding Grand Rapids. Joel A. Delano's brother, Dennis Delano, was one of these lumber mill operators. Because of its strategic location and abundant craftsmen Grand Rapids became the furniture capital of the United States by 1900. Both Joel and Dennis Delano lived in Grand Rapids late in their lives.

Although the furniture industry has left Grand Rapids, it remains a large manufacturing and distribution center with an urban population of about 200,00 and a suburban population of over 500,000.

Getting There: Three major highways, I-96 from Detroit and points east, I-196 from points southwest, and U.S. 131 from points south, serve Grand Rapids. The Grand Rapids International Airport is served by most major airlines. For train buffs, the Amtrak's Pere Marquette offers rail service to the city from Chicago. Greyhound Bus Lines also serves Grand Rapids.

Advance Reservations: As usual we require advance reservations. To adequately plan and support meals, tours and meetings we must know in advance the names of those planning to attend each event. We suggest you mail your reservations to George DeLano in time to be received by Tuesday 13 July 1999.

Accommodations: We have blocked 40 double rooms at the Downtown Days Inn at a rate \$82.88 per night (tax included). Reservations must be made by Thursday 15 July 1999. To assure this rate mention you are with the **DELANO KINDRED Reunion**. Phone: (616) 235-7611 or (800) 325-2525. Other accommodations include the major national chains of hotels and motels. Many are located on the southwest side of the city near the airport.

#### Schedule of Events

## Friday, 6 August 1999

- 2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. Registration in the Banquet Room, Downtown Days Inn.
- 6:00 p.m. 10:00 p. m. Welcome Light Buffet, Fellowship and Pleasantries in the Banquet Room.

#### Saturday, 7 August 1999

- 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Late Registration in the Banquet Room, Downtown Days Inn.
- 10:00 a.m. 12:00 noon 1999 Annual Meeting and Elections.
- 12:00 noon 1999 Reunion Group Photo.
- 12:15 p.m. 1:45 p.m. Lunch Individual Option
- 2:00 p.m. 3:45 p.m. Historic Tour of Grand Rapids and visit to Joel A. Delano's grave.
- 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. Group Tour of the Van Andel Museum.
- 6:00 p.m. 10:00 p. m. 1999 Annual Banquet with Speaker.

#### Sunday, 8 August 1999

Morning - Farewells and Departures.



## JOEL ANDREW DELANO WHY HE COMPILED THE GHAAHD

This year we celebrate the centennial of the publishing of the *Genealogy History and Alliances of the American House of Delano*–the GHAAHD. Those of you who have a copy of this publication know that it is divided into two books–the first book being THE HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL HISTORY OF THE MAISON de FRANCHIMONT & de LANNOY: From 476 to 1621 AD and the much larger, second book being THE DELANO GENEALOGY: From 1621-1899.

#### Book Two

About February 1889, Major Joel Andrew Delano (pg. 357) started to compile a genealogy of his line of descent. Little did he did he know what was before him. He writes, "In preparing a genealogical record of the Delano families of this country the compiler little dreamed of the magnitude of the work nor what was before him".<sup>1</sup>

A tradition suggests that he started work on his own particular family branch to give his daughters the knowledge from whence they came. This is based upon the fact that he dedicated it to hisAs daughters–Nora Maude, Josie Ada, and Berdie Evelyn. As he says, "The result of my labors for ten years in this field is lovingly dedicated to my daughters."<sup>2</sup>

In February 1889, he and his brother, Dennis, decided to correspond with other DELANOs with the goal of finding the source from whence they came. He writes, "A most absurd tradition repeated by our grand father and father which seemed very plausible was often told causing belief in the story. After a time it faded away and light began to dawn. The correspondence accumulated and my brother suggested that I had better continue and compile a record of the name in this country. Rather than abandon this work at this time, when many others had become interested, I came to the conclusion that I would try it and so pursued my investigations. With this in view I caused a circular to be printed and sent out."<sup>3</sup>

The wording in the circular Joel sent out is in the last two paragraphs on page 96 and the first two paragraphs on page 97 of the GHAAHD. So, by mid-1889, most of our DELANO ancestors throughout the United States started receiving this circular. Besides the standard dates and names that are in most genealogies, professions, places of residence, biographical sketches, and "notices of the more prominent members of the family" were requested. Consequently we have brief glimpses of our family history sprinkled throughout this book.

The response was surprising and caused great interest. Many of our ancestors worked diligently for many years to help Joel with his monumental effort. He lists many of the ones who worked zealously on the project. Among them were: Prof. Edward Chandler Delano (pg. 236), Miss Nancy Perry Delano (pg. 459), Lewis Loring Delano (pg. 376), Rufus J. Delano (pg. 138), Mrs. Mehetable Delano Knapp (pg. 112), the Honorable Columbus Delano (pg. 311), his daughter Mrs. Elizabeth Delano Ames (pg. 323), Dr. Frank T. Delano (pg. 305), Ellery L. DeLano (pg. 341), Mrs. Irene Delano Walbaum (pg. 475), and of course his brother Dennis Delphi Delano (pg. 360).

As the years passed, the information from your DELANO ancestors was sifted and fitted and arranged by branches – Philip Delano Jr. being first and so on. Short histories and biographies provided by the contributors were added.

#### **Book One**

The interest in our ancestors' European roots was evident for many years before Joel A. Delano decided to start his work. Our traditional history is full of tales of various DELANOs traveling to The Netherlands and France in the attempt to discover from whence they came. Although it is likely that many of our early ancestors made inquiries in Europe, the first date of known visit was 1852. In that year, while visiting Amsterdam, Prof. Edward C. Delano (pg. 236) was introduced to a Monsieur de Lannoy who gave him an impression of his Coat of Arms.<sup>4</sup> In 1870 while visiting Paris, Dr. Barna Ladd Delano (pg. 366) applied for a Coat of Arms from the French College of Heraldry.<sup>5</sup> In September 1879 contact was made with the Mr. Rammelman Elsevier (or Elserier) of the Leiden Municipal Archives. The data from those Archives "...was obtained in its raw and meagre state..."<sup>6</sup> It was evident from this information that de Lannoy was spelled many different ways by the record clerks in that city and there were several families with derivations of the name living in the area. Also in this data was information that linked Gysbert de Lannoy with Tourcoing (old Flanders,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> GHAAHD pg. 96

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid. pg. 95

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid. pg. 96

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> GHAAHD, pg. 51. <sup>5</sup> Ibid, pg. 47

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid, pg 51

but now in France) and suggested that he was born there about 1545.

The Tourcoing Communal Archives were contacted and it was found that the earliest records started in 1594. To solve the problem Mortimer Delano (pg. 166), who had some experience in heraldry and genealogy, attempted to trace our line through the study of coats of arms. Through his research he concludes that our line is linked to the House of de Lannoy. His "proof" is exhibited on page 48 of the GHAAHD.

#### Publishing

By late 1898, a syndicate was formed to publish the GHAAHD. Thomas E. Delano acted as the Treasurer and Mortimer Delano, Maj. Joel A. Delano and Prof. Edward Chandler Delano as the Publishing Committee. The circular announced that the printing of the GHAAHD would be limited to 400 copies at a cost of \$5.00 each. It is believed there may have been a second printing without the lithographed colored de Lannoy Coat of Arms at a later date. The number of copies of this "second" printing is unknown.

Thus, publication that binds us all as cousins was completed. We gratefully celebrate Joel A. Delano and our many ancestors who helped him compile and publish this extraordinary work that traces our heritage. A fan chart of Joel's descendancy line with his picture is on page 6.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

At their second meeting after the 1998 Reunion at Fairhaven, your Board voted to contribute \$100.00 to the Riverside Cemetery Capital Improvement Fund. Space limitations in the December *Bonnes Nouvelles* prevented us from announcing that your Society received a note of thanks and acknowledgement from the Riverside Cemetery Board of Directors. The money contributed will go towards the improvement of Riverside and Naskatucket Cemeteries. **DELANO KINDRED BOARD HAPPENINGS** Over the weekend of the 1998 Reunion weekend your Board held two meetings. The items covered at these meetings included:

- Hearing the Treasurer's Report of our financial status for the period from June 1997 through July of 1998
- Hearing and Recommending approval of the Proposed FY 1999 [through May 1999]
  Operating Budget.
- Discussing the lack of progress towards taxexempt status.
- Hearing a report of the progress in improvements to the Membership Database Management System and the forms to be used.
- Hearing the report of the "Ad Hoc' Membership Committee and tabling the committee's recommendation for further study.
- Reviewing the Annual Meeting Agenda.
- Establishing a Site Committee to review and recommend the venues and dates for the 1999, 2000, and 2001 Reunions.
- Hearing the status of the Society's Program to update and perfect the GHAAHD.
- Hearing plans for the "Membership Turnover" Study.
- Discussed plans for the Philippe De La Noye Memorial and made plans to visit the site on the Duxbury High School grounds on Sunday afternoon.
- Approving the withdrawal of up to \$500.00 of the Memorial Fund for development of plans and an artistic/architectural rendering of the proposed memorial.
- Approving the donation of \$100.00 to the Fairhaven Riverside Memorial Cemetery Capital Improvement Fund.

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## JABEZ DELANO OF LIVERMORE, MAINE By James William Cummings

In 1760 Jabez was born to Sara Northey and husband Zebedee Into the Family Delano in this land He would help free He was in his teens when He joined Colonel Wesson Along with his Father and brother He helped defend Fryeberg

until the British learned their lesson Then he went to Livermore and met that Woman who made

him want to get ahead

She was Grace, Daniel Daley's daughter and soon the two were wed

They were a religious lot from Easton with Kin of some renown Jabez not always sure in his devotions sometimes giving ground

Tales have been told of their life in early Livermore

That Jabez bashed a half grown bear against a tree, unpleasant to be sure

Then the Land was wild and nothing like today

He might have let it live if there had been another way.

Once he found a body - that of Major Fish

He ran Deacon Livermore's Mill and his Family possibly had all the bread for which They could wish

Ten children had He by Grace, four daughters and six sons. A lot of mouths to feed when all was said and done

They muddled through, strengthened by Faith and Love

But 'ere Jabez did go, Grace was called above

He wed one Polly Campbell before He met his fate

Dying at the age of eighty-eight in eighteen-forty-eight

We are always pleased to include poems by Cousin James William Cummings of Dixmont, ME. Jabez Delano of Livermore, as you may have guessed, is an ancestor of his. You will find Jabez at the bottom of page 192 of the GHAAHD. Although the "tangle" with the bear is not mentioned in the GHAAHD, Jabez is described as a "man of great endurance. When 72 he walked from Livermore to Augusta a distance of 40 miles in one day." William says that Jabez's father Zebedee Sr. (pg. 188), married Sara Northey (not Worthy as stated in the GHAAHD). Besides the episode with Colonel Wesson at Fryeburg, Jabez served extensively in the Revolutionary War. As suggested in the poem the Daley's were strong and well-known Baptists from Easton, Massachusetts. Jabez's brothers, James and Zebedee Jr., were in the organizing congregation of the First Baptist Church of Livermore in 1793. Brother Zebedee Jr. was ordained and served as pastor in the Baptist Churches of Lebanon and Berwick, ME. We thank Cousin James for sending us this poem.



#### **1998 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

Every year your Board seeks your views through the medium of an annual questionnaire. Of course, your Board is happy to receive your considered suggestions at any time of the year, but feels that it is advantageous to seek your comments at least once a year at the time of the Annual Meeting and in the September *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

The 1998 Questionnaire dealt with a wide range of topics. Here is a summary of the results.

1. In order to facilitate the planning of these events it is very helpful to have a member who lives nearby assist by being an "on-the-scene-contact." Would you be willing to assist us in this capacity should a Reunion be scheduled at a location near your home?

Five members said that they would be willing to be a contact for a Reunion near their home. We are very thankful for their willingness. It is of great help as it does much to ensure the success of the Reunion.

#### Services

#### 2. Genealogical

In past questionnaires members have indicated that they would like assistance with problems they have experienced in their genealogical research as well as assistance in locating genealogical sources. We have endeavored to provide this support through your contact with our group of genealogists. Although it is up to you to accomplish the research, do you have any comments as to how we can be of further assistance?

The responses were varied from: "We have several active genealogical societies in our community, so do not seek outside help of this sort." To: "Identification of genealogists and /or reference (record) centers in key states where Delanos lived in the 1600s, 1700s and 1800s would be most useful." One suggested a primer for new members on how to start your research with an explanation of the various forms involved. Another comment said, "I think we need to balance serving everyone's questions with adequate research. We can either do the research with them (this takes time) or point members in the right direction (quicker). I do not advocate either one, but I think it is difficult to provide ideal service without a research staff."

#### Information on

#### 3. DELANOs

Past questionnaires indicate that members would like more information on DELANO ancestors. We have done this by placing many articles (some including ancestral fan charts) in the *Bonnes Nouvelles*. Do you have any comments on this effort?

Most of the responses showed a great interest in the information on DELANO ancestors with Ancestral Fan Charts. It was suggested that footnotes and/or annotations could be added to identify the source of the information. At least one member was not familiar with the genealogical terminology used in the information. The possibility exists of printing family lines with members' permission which may lead to other lines of information – thus finding new cousins whose lines we did not know existed.

4. Queries and Problem Ancestors

Several members have asked that we include a query page in the *Bonnes Nouvelles* as well as articles about "problem ancestors". We have done this in the past when a reader submits them to the editor. We will endeavor to print the response to any query we receive. Were you aware of this service?

Thirty-five percent of the respondents indicated they were aware of this service while twenty-eight percent were not aware. It appears that this question was of interest to sixty-two percent of the respondents.

5. Internet

Several members suggested the DELANO KINDRED develop a Homepage on the Internet. At the present time we have a DELANO e-mail list server. That e-mail address is on the membership form. Were you aware of this service?

Fifty-seven percent were aware of our e-mail list server while twenty- eight percent said they were not – mainly because they did not have a computer.

Only one respondent was willing to help with the establishment of a homepage.

6. Finances

One of the goals is to become recognized, by the IRS, as a Commonwealth of Massachusetts's tax-exempt organization. We understand that we are appropriately organized for tax-exempt status, however we wish to be sure that our financial information is appropriately organized for this step. Do you have the necessary accounting background and are you familiar with these procedures. Would you be willing to assist us in this effort? Would you be willing to serve on the DELANO KINDRED Finance Committee, which oversees our financial future?

No respondent believed he or she had both the background and familiarity with the procedures. Only one was willing to assist us in this effort. Six were willing to serve, with some limitation, on the Finance Committee.

7. Orientation and Tenor of the Society

As you know, the DELANO KINDRED is a Society, incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes to perpetuate the memory and genealogy of the ancestors and descendants of Philippe De La Noye, the progenitor of most DELANOs in the Americas.

We have tried to emphasize "family association" and "friendly inclusiveness" while at the same time encouraging and recognizing individual genealogical effort, which is so important in our effort to update and perfect the DELANO Genealogy compiled by Joel Andrew Delano. Do you feel that the Society has struck the right "balance" with respect to family orientation and genealogical orientation? 8

If your answer is No, do you wish the Society to place more emphasis on Family Association or more emphasis on Genealogy?

Sixty-five percent of the respondents thought we had struck the right balance while fourteen percent said we had not. Those fourteen percent indicated that there should be more emphasis on "family association." Twenty-one percent were undecided.

#### 8. Other Comments.

>One member indicated that her interest was mainly with Reunions near her home state.

>Another member suggested that not only should our emphasis be on the past, but also to focus attention on the "living families" of the present by profiling them in the *Bonnes Nouvelles*. Because the link between the past and the future is the present which all too quickly becomes the past and part of our collective genealogy.

>Include addresses and telephone numbers on the list of Reunion attendees.

>Consider "family branch tables" at the next Reunion in the Duxbury area.

>Many said they enjoyed the Fairhaven Reunion.

#### **1999 NEW MEMBERS**

We are pleased to announce the names of our new 1999 members who have joined before 15 March 1999.

Arizona – Barbara Delano Argana

Delaware – James E. Elliott, Sr. and Ronald L. Elliott

Illinois – Megan Kelly Delano, Steven Joseph Delano, and Nicholas Brian Delano

Massachusetts - Dorothea R. Paul

Michigan - William Robert Tite, Jr.

Missouri - Charles E. Healy

South Carolina - William W. Elliott

Virginia - Mary A. Matson

Wisconsin - Joseph B. McNally

WELCOME COUSINS !!

## DR. JEREMY D. BANGS TO STAY IN LEIDEN TO CONTINUE HIS WORK

As we went to press with the December 1998 Bonnes Nouvelles we wrote in long hand on the master as it was about to be printed that the Dutch Government will let Dr. Bangs stay. As you may know, the Dutch Government including ambassadors, the Prime Minister and Queen Beatrix were swamped with protests because of the bureaucratic "catch twenty-two" in which Dr. Bangs was entangled.

As a result of this deluge of protests from the Mayflower Society, the New England Historic and Genealogical Society and other groups, the Dutch Government had a "change of heart" in Dr. Bangs's case. **Cousin Ernie Towers** and others quoted various articles from the press concerning the matter. The Associated Press headline Ernie sent pretty well sums it up. "BESEIGED BY THOUSANDS OF PROTESTS THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT BACKED DOWN, AND SAID IT WOULD ALLOW THE RENOWNED HISTORIAN TO STAY".

We are pleased with this news and as Ernie said "Mark that up as a victory for the Mayflower Society, NEHGS, and other groups."

Next month we plan to feature a review of a recent article by Dr. Bangs published in the NEHGS Register about paintings of the SPEEDWELL, the ship that carried our ancestor Philippe De La Noye from Delfshaven to England.

## **DEPARTED COUSIN**

We sadly report the passing of Cousin Gene Delano Lazowska of Cocoa Beach Florida. She was 75 years old when she passed away on 16 January 1999.

Born and raised in Baltimore, MD, she graduated from Wellesley College in 1944. Upon graduation she joined the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration for persons displaced by the ravages of World War II. She was among the first group of civilians sent to Europe after VE Day and to enter occupied Germany, where she worked for two years in refugee camps within the British Occupation Zone.

When Cousin Gene returned to the United States, she lobbied Congress for the Displaced Persons Commission and became the commission's second employee. It was while working with the DPC that she met and married her husband.

She and her husband raised a family of one daughter, Patricia Niehans of Menlo Park, CA, and a son, Edward Lazowska of Seattle, WA. Later, Cousin Gene worked as a children's librarian in Washington, D.C. where she was a founding member of the River Road Unitarian Church in that city.

After she retired to Cocoa Beach in 1975, she became an accomplished sailor and enjoyed racing as well as cruising around the Bahaman Islands in her 27foot ketch GENIE. She was also a long time member and officer of the Indian River Amateur Radio Club and the Cocoa Beach Boating Club. In addition she was a volunteer for the King Center at Brevard Community College.

Cousin Gene was an avid genealogist. At the time

of her death she was immersed in the attempt to find her DELANO connection through her great grandfather Carl DeLano who was born in France and came to the United States in 1850. Carl DeLano's father was Major George DeLano of the French Army. He served as a Lieutenant in his father's regiment during Napoleon's War against the Turks and Egyptians for 8 years up to 1814. As a career soldier, he probably would have been at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. See GHAAHD page 528 and 529 -Unknown Branches.

## VITAL RECORDS AND CEMETERY RECORDSDONATED

Cousin Muriel Cushing, our genealogist, reports that Cousin Mary Skinner has donated to the DELANO KINDRED a copy of her of her recently published research: Vital Records of Cooper Township, Kalamazoo County, Michigan and a copy of Cooper Township Kalamazoo County, Michigan, Cemetery Records, West Cooper (Evergreen) Cemetery. This research is in two spiral bound books and Mary has made them very "user-friendly" by including an alphabetical listing as well as a listing by year or cemetery section.

If you are researching ancestors in that area you <u>must</u> have a copy of these books. They document Michigan connections of Jonathan and Lydia (Briggs) DELANO's (GHAAHD pg. 443) descendants with many allied families.

Mary has done an enormous amount of research for the DELANO KINDRED on Michigan DELANOs and their allied families. Muriel says that Cousin **Elizabeth DeLano Howard** has helped Cousin **Mary** with some of her research.

Thank you ladies! Muriel and all of us are very pleased with the donation of these books and the superfine research that both of you have done on the Family's behalf!

#### **Cooper Vital Records**

Cousin Mary reports says that anyone who wishes to have their own copy of the *Vital records* of *Cooper Township* should send a note along with \$5.00 to Mary Skinner, 404 Windsor Lane, Portage, MI 49002. Mary will be happy to make them a copy.

# Cooper Township Cemetery Records

Cousin Mary also reports that the *Cooper Township Cemetery Records* which include both the West and the East Cooper Cemeteries should be available from the Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society sometime this year. Mary said she would keep us posted as to when they are available.

## QUERIES WHO WERE BERTHA EUDORA DELANO'S PARENTS?

Bertha Eudora Delano was born on 26 February 1851 in N.Y. She died in Prescott, Arkansas on 18 December 1912. She married James Wesley Frith who was born in Cobb County, Georgia on 5 July 1850 and he died in Little Rock, Arizona on 1 Feb. 1930. He was the son of James Frith and Sarah S. Steele. Bertha and James were married in the home of Joseph Frith in Dallas Co., Alabama.

Bertha Delano's parents are only known as Grandpa Delano and Grandma McKinney and supposedly both were born in Canada.

Bertha Delano's line is not listed in the GHAAHD and my closest SUSPECT is the unknown line of Dr.? Delano m. Zada Beach on p.529.

**Cousin Muriel C. Cushing**, our Genealogist needs help with Bertha's line. If you have any information please contact her. Her address is in the September *Bonnes Nouvelles* on page 14

# WHO IS JACK J. DELANO Sr.?

Jack J. Delano was born in Adrian, Michigan in 1927. He died in Tamaqua, PA on 7 September 1998. He married Kathryn Schlosser. They had three daughters, Vinnie Delano who married Thomas Urban, Cindy Delano who married Robert Shirley, and Greta Delano who married Kevin Weiss. They also had a son Jack J. Delano Jr.

Jack J. Delano Sr.'s parents were Merwyn C. and Charlotte (Armstead) Delano. No Merwyn Delanos are listed in the GHAAHD so the line is unknown at this time.

Since he was born in Adrian, Michigan his line could be part of the Ira Delano – Thomas Nelson Delano line (GHAAHD pg. 400). Many children settled around Adrian and Fairfield, Michigan.

Can any of you Genealogy Sleuths find Jack J. Delano's line?

### ALAN BARTLETT SHEPARD Jr.

In the December 1998 *Bonnes Nouvelles* we mentioned the death of astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. At that time we understood that he was descendant of Philippe De La Noye, but the connection was not clear to us. Cousin Muriel C. Cushing has come to our rescue with his DELANO line as follows:

Philippe De La Noye Lt. Jonathan Delano Jonathan Delano Jr. Sylvanus Delano Anna Delano Abner Johnson (Jr.?) Rosina E. Johnson Frederick J. Shepard Alan B. Shepard Jr.

- m. Hester Dewsbury
- m. Mercy Warren
- m. Amy Hatch

m. Elizabeth (Abbott) Peck

- m. Abner Johnson
- m. Mary Quimby
- m. William H. Shepard
- m. Annie E. Bartlett
- m. Pauline R. Emerson
  - m. Louise Brewer

Thanks Muriel for the help!

# WHERE DO I FIND OUT WHERE TO WRITE TO GET INFORMATION AND COPIES OF RECORDS OF MY ANCESTORS IN VARIOUS STATES?

Whenever you start tracing your descendancy line you eventually get to the place where you need to write to a County Clerk or some other official to obtain copies of various certificates. Sometimes you may not know where the County Seat Offices are located or what type of information is available. How do you resolve this dilemma when you don't have the help and advice of a local genealogical society or a library with a good genealogical section?

If you have a computer and INTERNET service you can find out some of this information on the USGENWEB for the state that you are interested in. If you are not computerized, you need a data source that will help you find the addresses you are seeking. Probably one of the best known books that contains this type of information is *Ancestry's Red Book-American State, County & Town Sources*, edited by Alice Eichholz, Ph.D., C.G. This book is published by Ancestry Publishing Company, P.O. Box 476, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

Even if you have INTERNET access this book is a valuable tool. It is organized by states and each state section is written by a Certified Genealogist (C.G.), many of which are also Fellows of the American Society of Genealogists (F.A.S.G.). Each state section is organized in a similar manner.

First there is a **short history** of the state emphasizing dates significant to the genealogist i.e. dates of major land grants, major migrations, changes in boundaries and in government control.

Second comes a discussion of Vital Records with a history of their development and various costs for copies of different types of records.

Third comes the listing of dates of various census records, where they are located and appropriate addresses for obtaining copies.

Then there are references for local histories and where

they are located.

In many state sections a discussion of various state genealogical guides is next given.

A discussion of the various **maps** in the state or locality usually follows. Taking a line from The Music Man, if you are going to do genealogical research – "You gotta know the territory."

Next comes a more detailed discussion of various records: Land Records, Probate Records, Court Records, Tax Records, Cemetery Records, Church Records, and Military Records.

Periodicals, Newspapers, and Manuscript Collections are next discussed in many of the state sections.

Addresses of State Archives, Libraries, and certain Genealogical Societies are next presented.

Many state sections also include "Special Focus Categories" such as details about Naturalization, Immigration, Black American, and Native American data.

In all state sections the last section is devoted to **County Resources**. This section gives the history of the county lines i.e. when the county was formed, what was the "parent" county from which it was formed, the address of various clerks you may write for information, a map showing the location of the county and county seat, and other information (e.g. the date the courthouse burned down and all the records were destroyed).

As you can see this is a powerful source book that will educate you as well as tell you where to write. If you are going to a particular state to do research, you should research the state and the locale before you plan your trip. This book will be of great assistance. If your library has a genealogical section it may have a copy of this or a similar publication.

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Many of you will recall the article about the DELANO Lighthouse Keepers of Maine in your September 1998 *Bonnes Nouvelles*. Well Cousin **Ernie Towers**, has with help from the National Archives, found at least two more. They are an Eben (probably Ebenezer) Delano who was appointed assistant keeper of the Cape Elizabeth, ME lighthouse in 1841 and a James Delano who was a keeper at the Bird Island lighthouse ending in 1853.

If you watched the TV broadcast about Maine Lighthouses in the series on Lighthouses in the United States, you will recall that the Cape Elizabeth Light is a system of twin lighthouses erected in 1829. They are located about 4 miles south of the Portland Head Light at the end of State Route 77 – see the map on page 5 of the September *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

We scanned the many islands off the coast of Maine several times and were unable to find Bird Island. We would be grateful if lighthouse sleuths in our midst can help us find this island.

We suspect the Eben Delano, the assistant keeper at Cape Elizabeth, is Barzillai Delano's son Ebenezer. He lived in Cape Elizabeth, dying there on 4 September 1842. If this is true then he had a very short "tour of duty". He was 62 years old when he died.

Ebenezer's son James might be the James Delano, keeper of Bird Island Light. He was born in 1812 and would have been 41 years old in 1853.

We thank Cousin Ernie for finding this information for us. He would appreciate any information about Eben or James Delano, keepers of lights along the coast of Maine.

#### **DELANNOY'S**

## IN THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

There are a number of DELANNOYs in the Curacao, Netherlands Antilles. According to J.H.B. Butot, President of the Rotary Club there, the DELANNOY progenitor there, after his divorce, married a local girl. Now there are a number of DELANNOYs in Curacao. One is President of the Netherlands Antilles Court of Justice, another (the Justice's brother) is a doctor. For several generations, and perhaps still today, they were in wholesale pharmaceuticals and were owners of a drugstore chain.

## **GHILLIBERT de LANNOY** (From the Guinness Book of Records)

"Most widely traveled pilgrim. Ghillebert (Gilbert) de Lannoy, soldier and diplomat serving Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy (1419-67), went on pilgrimage to Rome in 1450. On three occasions he completed the much more daunting journey to the Holy Land and twice traveled the long road to Santiago de Compostella in northwest Spain. He also visited what was looked upon in Europe as the last place on earth, St. Patrick's Purgatory, a cave in remotest Donegal, Ireland, where those who dared to enter and spend a day and night amidst its unknown horrors would be purged of sin and, at death, go straight to heaven." Source: Guinness Book of Records, Guinness Publishing ISBN 0-85112-959-5, pg. 165. You can find Ghillibert de Lannoy on page 40 of the GHAAHD. His parents were Ghillebert de Lannoy and Catherine de Molembais.





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## THE DELANO KINDRED BONNES NOUVELLES

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It has been our practice to mail one *BONNES NOUVELLES* to each member-household address. We would be happy to mail one copy of each issue of the *BONNES NOUVELLES* to each member at a household address if desired. It may be desirable, especially in the case of Family Memberships, that more than one copy is sent to an address. If you desire another member in your household to receive a copy, please send the name and membership number of the member to which the additional issue is to be sent to George B. DeLano, Editor, 521 Buffer Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4505.