



BONNES NOUVELLES

News Letter

June - September 1999

Number 31

DELANO KINDRED

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, who arrived at Plymouth in 1621 on the FORTUNE.

PHILIP DELANO OF THE FORTUNE 1621 And His Descendants for Four Generations A Genealogical Milestone for the DELANO KINDRED!

We are delighted to announce that the General Society of Mayflower Descendants has published the first four generations of Philippe De La Noye compiled by our own DELANO KINDRED Genealogist, **Muriel C. Cushing**. As you know, Muriel, with the help of others, has been working on this book for many years. The publication of these four generations marks a significant milestone in one of your Society's purposes--to perfect the record of Philippe and his ancestors and descendants.

(continued on page 8)

THE 1999 REUNION A Centennial Celebration of the GHAHD

The 1999 Reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan celebrating the centennial of the publishing of the DELANO Genealogy compiled by Major Joel Andrew DELANO was attended by close to 60 cousins. The Days Inn in downtown Grand Rapids, located near the Grand River and next to the Gerald Ford Museum and the Van Andel Museum, is situated at the edge of a park that encompasses most of the Ford Museum adjacent to the river. Public walks meander along the edge of the river on both sides affording views of city and the river for those who take advantage of the pleasant surroundings.

Cousin **Warren DELANO**, again held the record for the descendant who (continued on page 4)

PHILIPPE DE LANNOY or PHILIP DELANO

OF THE

"FORTUNE" 1621

and His Descendants for Four Generations

French by ancestry, Dutch by birth, and English by association, Philippe de Lannoy earned for himself the respect of his English neighbors and the pride of his American descendants.

Jonathan DeLano

compiled by
Muriel Curtis Cushing

edited by
Margaret Harris Stover, CG

previewed by
Ann S. Lainhart

Published by
General Society of Mayflower Descendants
1999

1999 ANNUAL MEETING

The 1999 Annual Meeting was called to order by President George B. DeLano on Saturday, August 7, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. A quorum of 21 members was present. The **Secretary's Minutes** of the last Annual Meeting held in Fairhaven were read and approved.

The **Audit Committee** reported that the Treasurer's books had been audited and showed that, as of 31 May 1999, the total Net Income for Fiscal Year 1999 including \$2741.00 for the 1997 & 1998 Reunions and \$3,515.00 for Advance Dues was \$8279.41. Net Expenditures for the same period were \$5,921.00. The Net Balance Carried Forward was \$8,549.29. Most of this Balance was made up of Advance Dues (\$4397.00) and the Memorial Fund (\$2,803.00). The Memorial Fund increased \$448.00 from member contributions during the Fiscal Year. In reviewing the **Operating Account**, the Audit Committee noted that although income from dues was slightly higher than expected, costs for Office Administration and Membership, the Newsletter, and two unbudgeted approved contributions caused a \$227.93 over expenditure which reduced the funds held in reserve for outstanding bills.

Elections. The members present ratified the appointment of Linda-rae D. Grant as the new Treasurer and elected Margaret P. Glendinning for a three-year term on the Nominating Committee.

Committee Reports.

Genealogy: Genealogist Muriel C. Cushing announced that the Society of Mayflower Descendants had approved and published the first four generations of the descendants of Philippe De La Noye. The announcement of this milestone was great news to the membership. Muriel was congratulated and thanked for her efforts. See the article **Philip Delano of the Fortune 1621** elsewhere in this issue.

History Program. George DELANO announced that the planning for a Society History Program is underway. John H. Somers, who was Connecticut Historian for the Mayflower Society, chairs the planning group. John E. Osborne of California, who is a member of a California Historical Society, ably assists him. The President referred the members to

the Purpose of the Society as outlined in the second article of the bylaws and pointed out that family history and its preservation is a very prominent item. A report describing the scope of this program has been forwarded to the Board for its review.

Regional Contact Network. Ed DELANO discussed his ongoing study as to the reasons we lose members. He noted that we would have around 450 members if all the members who have not renewed their memberships were members in good standing. He encouraged all members to visit with other members in their area to encourage the feeling of "family". "After all we are all Cousins," he said.

Membership. Nancy DELANO reported that there were close to 344 members who had renewed their membership for this calendar year. She reported that thanks to Verna and Harvey Finwick the Membership Database was working well. This data base can now be displayed in many different ways. We now have a capability to more closely track changes in our membership.

Philippe De La Noye Memorial. The President reported that after studying possible two sites for the memorial, it became evident that the cost of the memorial would be much more than anticipated and will require additional planning.

1999 Annual Report. President George DeLano gave thanks to Muriel Cushing for outstanding genealogical work on behalf of the DELANO KINDRED and noted the significance of the Mayflower Society's publishing a four generation genealogy of a Pilgrim who came on the FORTUNE instead of the MAYFLOWER. He thanked Robert C. DELANO, the Society's outgoing Treasurer, who has held that post for six years and converted financial data to a computerized program. He noted the fine efforts of Secretary Dorthea Harris and her daughter Ann Harris in updating the bylaws that are now on a computer disk allowing for easier and more rapid changes when they are approved by the membership. He thanked the efforts of Brookins DELANO, the off going Chairman of the Nominating Committee. He told of the efforts of Helen Pratt and Anne Noyes in their collection of information about Duxbury houses and properties built or owned by DELANOs. It is planned to develop a "DELANO Annex" to the recent publication *Duxbury, A Guide* that will provide the

scene contact and planner for the 1999 Reunion. He pointed out that, with the exception of the Annual Meeting costs, the Reunions are self-supporting and therefore require significant planning to keep the costs in line. He noted that the June *Bonnes Nouvelles* had been significantly delayed due to the editor's eye problems and subsequent surgery.

The President told of Dr. Jeremy Bangs' efforts to save the historic **Vrouwekerk** and asked members to use the information sheet provided in their handouts to write letters to Judge Westenberg urging the ruins be saved. See the article about this effort in this issue.

The President stated that tax-exempt status is getting closer to a reality. Hopefully the Society plans to submit a request for tax-exempt status within the next year. We are starting to investigate the feasibility of establishing a DELANO KINDRED home page on the Internet. Exactly what will be required and how interactive the page will be depends on our members and financial resources.

Operating Budget. He thanked the Finance Committee, Chaired by Ernie Towers, for developing the FY 2000 Operating Budget. He noted that our membership remains fairly static and that costs have been rising slowly causing a fiscal pinch. Administration and Membership costs exceeded budgeted amounts by eleven percent and *Bonnes Nouvelles* publishing costs were nearly seventeen percent over budget. With no significant increase in membership income expected and with gradual cost increases the Board decided not to increase membership dues, but to reduce the number of *Bonnes Nouvelles* to three issues per year. This reduction will reduce the wear and tear on the publishing personnel. The membership approved the recommended operating budget as shown below.

APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2000 OPERATING BUDGET

INCOME (Based on a membership of 360).....		\$3240.00
EXPENDITURES		
Administration (Secretary, Treasurer, Membership).....	\$660.00	
Annual & Board Meetings.....	255.00	
Genealogy Program.....	100.00	
<i>Bonnes Nouvelles</i> Publishing.....	<u>2195.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	\$3210.00	<u>\$3210.00</u>
FUNDS REMAINING.....		\$ 30.00

2000 Annual Meeting. The 2000 Annual Meeting will be held in Duxbury, MA on Friday and Saturday August 11 & 12, 2000. A site planning committee will provide more details in future issues. The 2001 Annual Meeting is planned to be held in Maine. The venue is under study by the 2001 site planning committee.

Adjournment. The 1999 Annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Centennial GHAHD (continued from page 1) traveled the farthest – all the way from Santa Monica, CA. **Ed and Lee DELANO** from Dallas, TX made up the rest of the “west of the Mississippi” contingent. Cousins **Joe McNally** and his sister **Ann Luebke** came Janesville, WI. Descendants who traveled from the Northeast included Cousins **John and Faith Marsland** from Maine, **Robert and Nancy DELANO**, Duxbury, MA, and **Bob and Dorothea Harris** from Marion, MA, and **A. Brookins and Laura DELANO** from VT. From the south came Cousins **Muriel and Ren Cushing**, from Punta Gorda, FL, **Verna and Harvey Finwick** from Sevierville, TN, **Pat Gray** from Williamsburg, VA and **George and Diana DELANO** from Virginia Beach, VA. The Michigan Cousins included: from Clawson, **Bill Tite** and his son; from Chesterfield, **Diane L. Tite**; from Grand Haven, **Elizabeth and Paul Eich**; from the Grand Rapids area, **Bernard and Shirley Campbell, Joan Dannecker, Ward and Lois DELANO**, and **Karen and Ian Macartney**; from Gowen, **Bridgette DELANO**; from Holland, **Susan Campbell and Diane and Chad Heidema**; from Kalamazoo, **Brad and Jean Ailes, Beverly Brundage, Joan Colgren, George and Shirley Gerpheide**, and **Mary and Larry Skinner**; from Lansing, **Charlene and Joe DuMont**; from Okemos, **Steve and Rose DuMont**; from Paw Paw, **Teresa Moss**; from Richland, **Peggy Anne Iler**; from Rockford, **Brian Campbell**; from Schoolcraft, **Cynthia and Ron Prosser**; from Shelby, **Herman and Charlene DELANO**; and from Springport, **Kathleen and Gilbert Lloyd**.

During registration attendees were provided with a “Welcome Envelope” containing the Schedule of Events, a short biography of Joel A. DELANO, a roster of registered attendees including their family branch, a buffet and banquet dinner menu, and a photograph of Joel A. DELANO’s gravestone.

The “Welcome Light Buffet” on Friday night exceeded expectations, being more “sumptuous” than “light”. Friday evening afforded time for Cousins to meet and renew acquaintances. Seven historic and genealogical exhibits were on display. They included biographies of Joel A. DELANO, his father and brothers with information about the GHAHD including an order form; the exhibit of

Gerard C. DELANO, painter of the Navajos (also seen at the 1998 Reunion); several photo exhibits of past reunions; and an exhibit of Duxbury, A Guide complete with order form. Cousins also had time to talk with our Genealogist, Muriel C. Cushing, concerning their genealogical questions.

On Saturday after Late Registration, the 1999 Annual Meeting was held, followed by the Group Photo. The intended photo location was changed from the imposing fountain near the Ford Museum to a side entrance of the Days Inn. Fortunately, the rain briefly subsided affording a drier “Photo opportunity”.

Since not enough members signed up for the bus tour, the historic tour was shortened to a visit to the grave of Joel A. DELANO. A convoy of automobiles set out in the rain to the gravesite – about five miles away from the Days Inn. Thanks to Cousin **Herman DELANO**’s clear directions all the Cousins arrived at the site complete with umbrellas and raincoats and New England foul weather gear. Herman led the group to the grave location – marked by a modest military grave stone. Cousin **George DELANO** expressed a few words of thanks to Joel for his monumental effort in compiling the DELANO Genealogy that links all of us in the Americas, from Chile to Canada.

Returning to the Days Inn, the Group Tour to the Van Andel Museum followed. Its extraordinary furniture exhibit is one of its main features. Those who perused this exhibit were well prepared for the evening’s speaker – Dr. Richard Harms of Calvin College. In his introductory remarks Cousin **George DELANO** thanked **Herman W. DELANO** for his efforts in arranging this Reunion. He recognized all those attending the Centennial Banquet citing them by name and Branch of the Family. There were four descendants from the Dr. Thomas DELANO Branch, at least twenty-five from the Lt. Jonathan DELANO Branch and one from the Samuel DELANO Branch. He mentioned that when the speaker’s topic was selected – that of Michigan Lumber and Furniture Manufacturing – we knew that Joel’s brother Dennis was in the lumber business and probably supplied wood to be used in the manufacture of lumber. After preliminary talks with Dr. Harms it was discovered that most of the wood in the Michigan woods was building material

quality. Furniture quality wood was mostly imported from other states. Therefore it was thought that Dennis supplied wood to build the factories that manufactured the furniture that created the fame of Grand Rapids. But, COUSIN DON DELANO, who has extensively researched Dennis' and Joel's family line, said that Dennis' sawmill was a shingle mill. Therefore, we can say that Dennis DELANO's claim-to-fame was that he provided shingles for the roofs the furniture factories and those of the workers' homes. However, some of our DELANO ancestors did financially support the establishment of at least one Michigan furniture company – Baker Furniture of Holland and Grand Rapids, MI.

Dr. Harms' talk was extremely interesting and focused on the history of the lumber business and the furniture business in and around Grand Rapids. It reached its height shortly after 1900, flourishing with the advent of the railroads and Lake Steamships. He pointed out that most of the logging occurred in the winter when the ground was frozen so that they could be easily moved by narrow gauge lumber trains to the nearest river. In the spring when the river ice thawed all the logs with each lumber company's individual lumber brand or mark cascaded downstream to the mills. Logjams frequently formed and occasionally had to be dynamited to reduce mounting congestion that could destroy low lying, wooden bridges. He pointed out that it was Michigan lumber that rebuilt Chicago after its famous fire in 1871. Wood was barged down the rivers from the lumber mills and placed on Lake Steamers and sailing boats.

He pointed out that Grand Rapids became known for its furniture following the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876 and the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago. Up to those times Grand Rapids furniture was known for its utilitarian style. After these expositions the city became famous for ornate furniture of high quality and craftsmanship. Dr. Harms explained that Grand Rapids was the third largest furniture city in the United States, but through adroit advertising it was the most famous. Today, Grand Rapids and the surrounding area is a center for fabricated office furniture. After his presentation, Dr. Harms answered many questions about the area's lumber and furniture industries.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased that four DELANO descendants have joined the DELANO KINDRED. These new members, joining before 8 August 1999 are:

Alvera D. Becker of Decatur, Illinois

June Davis of Cheyenne, Wyoming

Diane L. Tite of Chesterfield, Michigan

Fran Williams of Colorado Springs, Colorado

WELCOME COUSINS!!

JORGE DELANO TO PRESENT PAPER

Cousin **Jorge DELANO** has been invited by the Naval Historic Center to present a paper on Paul DELANO Tripp, our famed DELANO who went to Chile and fought for Chilean Independence. Jorge will journey to the Navy Yard in Washington, D. C. to give his presentation on the 22 and 23 of September. You may recall we told the story of Don Pablo DELANO Tripp in the September 1997 *Bonnes Nouvelles*. It would be interesting to learn what new information Cousin **Jorge** has uncovered in his research.

Like Paul's son, Paul Hinckley DELANO Fergusson, **Jorge** entered the Chilean Navy at age 13 in 1949. You may recall that Paul Hinckley is credited with insuring the DELANO line would continue in Chile. He had 26 children and there are now many DELANOs Chile and other South American countries. **Congratulations Jorge!!**

REUNION 2000 AND 2001

The **2000 Reunion** is to be held in Duxbury, Massachusetts on 11 and 12 August. Your 2000 Reunion Committee, which includes Cousins Nancy and Bob Delano, Dorothea and Bob Harris, Marjorie and Ernie Towers and Muriel and Ren Cushing, are investigating three possible venues at this time. More information will be in the next *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

Your Board has approved southern Maine as the general site for the **2001 Reunion**. The theme will be DELANO Lighthouse Keepers of Maine. The 2001 Reunion Committee now being formed will investigate cities like Portland, Brunswick, and Bath as possible venues.



1999 Reunion Picture

Front Row (kneeling): Ann Luebke, Diana DeLano, Herman DeLano, Bob Delano, Elizabeth Eich, and Joe McNally.

Second Row (from center to right): Pat Gray, Nancy Delano, Cynthia Prosser, Bernard Campbell, Lee Delano, and Faith Marsland.

Back Row (left to right): Harvey Finwick, Verna Finwick, Muriel Cushing, Shirley Gerpheide, George Gerpheide, Charlene DeLano, Bob Harris, Dorothea Harris, Ren Cushing, Ron Prosser, Paul Eich, Ed Delano, Laura Delano, Brookins Delano, and John Marsland.

Below left: Bearded G. Gerpheide & J. Marsland
They look like one of Danny Delano's ancestors.



Below right: At the Welcome Buffet.





Upper left: Looking for Joel A. DELANO's Gravestone.

Lower left: Dr. Harms tells of the lumber & furniture industries.

Lower right: The Banquet Dinner and some of the Exhibits in the background.



BANGS ATTEMPTING TO SAVE THE VROUWEKERK IN LEIDEN

As we know the Vrouwekerk (or Vrouwenkerk) is the name of the ruined church in Leiden, The NETHERLANDS, in which our ancestor Pilgrim Philippe De La Noye (later Philip Delano) was baptized in 1603. It is also the church in which Philippe's Uncle Francis and Aunt Hester Cooke were married. The Vrouwekerk (meaning The Church of Our Lady) was the church of the Walloon refugees. In those days the Walloon congregation had a congregation of about 6000 members. Our members who have the March 1997 *Bonnes Nouvelles* (Nr.10) might recall the article – "A Pilgrimage Through Leiden" with the walking tour map shown on page 5. Stop number 12 is the location of the Vrouwekerk ruins.

It is unfortunate that the Vrouwekerk ruins have drifted into an unsightly state due to neglect. The visible ruins include the walls of the choir and a fine, late-gothic doorway. It is located in a square opposite the National Museum of the History of Science. The museum, housed in a medieval hospital complex, already attracts many tourists. The contrast of upkeep between the church ruins and the museum are quite shocking. In fact, some of our members who traveled to Leiden and saw the Vrouwekerk were dismayed at its unkempt appearance.

Dr. Jeremy D. Bangs, Director of the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, was greatly concerned that the City of Leiden, which had not seen fit to preserve the ruins of this historic church, was now planning to proceed with the demolition of its ruins to make way for other city development. In June Dr. Bangs petitioned the Dutch Court in The Hague and has become a third party in an appeal to save the church ruins, improve the appearance of the surrounding area and place an appropriate historical plaque memorializing the site. As you know descendants of Philippe De La Noye and Francis Cooke include Presidents Grant, Roosevelt, and Bush.

He contacted Cousins **George DeLano** and **Muriel Cushing** for support in his effort. George, on behalf of the DELANO KINDRED sent a letter to the presiding judge in this case and contacted the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Foundation in New York City. This foundation is well known in The NETHERLANDS and the President, Ambassador William vanden Heuvel, wrote a letter of support. Muriel contacted the Florida Mayflower Colony. The Colony Director, Dorothy Hornus spread the word within the Mayflower Society and provided Dr. Bangs the address of the President of the National Huguenot Society. Members of the

DELANO KINDRED "Delist" email server were notified of where to send letters of concern about saving the church ruins. Cousin **Juan Pablo Delano Tellechea**, in Santiago Chile contacted our Chilean Cousins to provide support from the Southern Hemisphere. Those members sending letters included Cousins **Ernie** and **Marjorie Towers**

The court is to make a decision on the matter in mid-September. We wish to thank all our members who sent letters to Judge Westenberg in The Hague urging the Vrouwekerk ruins be saved.

Genealogical Milestone (continued from page 1) We are pleased that the Mayflower Society has allowed us to distribute this book. We have enclosed an order blank in this issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles*. Proceeds above costs will help your Society achieve its financial goals. It will make an excellent Christmas present to those on your gift list. It will also make an outstanding gift to your favorite library's genealogy section.

Because of the lengthy title, Muriel has coined the acronym DIFP meaning "DELANOs In First Place". The DIFP follows the standard genealogical format of the Mayflower Families In Progress (MFIP) series. The title page includes the description written by Cousin **Jonathan Delano** of Pittsburgh, PA, which nicely sums up the background of Philippe—"French by ancestry, Dutch by birth, and English by association, Philippe de Lannoy earned for himself the respect of his English neighbors and the pride of his American descendants."

Following the title page is a preface page that includes a description of the Walloons written by Dr. Jeremy D. Bangs as a forward to the Francis Cooke genealogy. As you know, thanks to Dr. Bangs' research, we know quite a bit about Philippe's parents and grandparents as well as those of his Uncle Francis and Aunt Hester (Mahieu) Cooke.

The 200-paged DIFP gives a referenced, genealogical background for each progenitor and spouse in the four generations. While the GHAAHD is referenced, when appropriate, great care is taken to identify the primary source references such as the local Vital Records, Church Records etc., which are necessary in genealogically documenting descendant lines. A list of genealogical abbreviations, a key to abbreviated titles of references, and alphabetical surname index by family number are included at the end of the book.

The family numbering system is the standard genealogical numbering system used by the Mayflower Society and other major U.S. genealogical organizations. Once understood, this system is easier to follow than the GHAAHD. Each descendant of Philippe is assigned a

“family number” in order of his or her birth. Philippe, being the father, is assigned the number 1. His first born, Mary Delano, is therefore number 2. Philip (Jr.), the second born, is number 3; Hester, the third child is number 4 – and so on. This system allows one to keep descendants with the same name straight. For example: each of the fifteen Jabez DELANOs and each of the 21 Jonathan DELANOs in this book have their own family number. Using the assigned family number one can quickly, and without confusion, find the page on which the information for the correct Jabez or Jonathan exists.

Following the lines of descendency in the DIFP, using the family numbering system, is easier than attempting to follow the lines of descendency in the GHAAHD. We use the PHILIP Branch line of the first progenitor for an example. In the First Generation, PHILIP is the second child of Philippe and Hester Delano. He is assigned the family number 3 and is found on page 2. In the Second Generation, 3 PHILIP² DELANO (on page 3) married Elizabeth Sampson. EBENEZER (on page 4) is the first to marry and have children. He is assigned the family number 10. In the Third Generation, 10 EBENEZER³ DELANO (on page 11) married Martha Simmons. Their first child progenitor is JOSHUA (on page 12). He is assigned family number 47. In the Fourth Generation 47 JOSHUA⁴ DELANO (on page 43) married Hopestill Peterson. Their first child progenitor is LYDIA (on page 44). She is assigned the family number 198. LYDIA⁵ DELANO is an offspring of the Fourth Generation and with her husband (Thomas Prince) will form the Fifth Generation. Since the DIFP covers only the first four generations LYDIA⁵ DELANO's husband, marriage, and children are not included.

**Thank you Muriel
for your steadfast genealogical effort!!**

BONNES NOUVELLES ISSUES REDUCED TO THREE EACH YEAR

The June issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles* was delayed due to the editor's eye surgery. As a result the June issue was rolled into the September issue. Delays have continued due to disorganization caused by Hurricanes Dennis and Floyd.

Your Board of Directors, after looking at rather static membership patterns over the past few years and the slow, but gradual increasing cost associated with functions of our Society and recognizing the wear and tear that the newsletter publishing committee has endured, deemed it wise to reduce the number of *Bonnes Nouvelles* published year from four to three. At this time, the Board believed this cost-cutting measure

would be a more acceptable measure than raising dues.

If you have attended the Annual Meetings or have read the articles covering the Annual Meetings you will be aware that during the past several years we have lost about as many members as we have gained. You will also be aware that our income for operations is almost entirely made up of member's dues. Our Operating Budget, based on a total annual membership of 360 members in good standing has only been exceeded once.

To help keep your Family Society financially viable we need your help in encouraging DELANO descendants you know to join and to renew their memberships each year.

1999 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

In our September issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles* we include the Annual Questionnaire in order to hear from our members. Your Board will try to act on your suggestions whenever feasible. This year questionnaire seeks your thoughts on locations of future meetings, your thoughts about the format of the Annual Membership Directory, and holding smaller “Regional” Meetings at different times of the year. Other suggestions to improve the Society are always solicited. Please take the time to complete and mail your copy to reach us by December 1999. We would like to hear your thoughts and ideas.

AMASSA DELANO

Called ‘Stubborn’ And The Swizzle-Stick

Cousin **John E. Osborne** of Madera, CA found this anecdote about Captain Amasa Delano in the book entitled *Odyssey of an American Family* by Hale Roosevelt. (He indicates the author's name is in question.) The story is quoted from the Memoirs of a Mr. Atwell, then at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA.

As you may recall in *Bonnes Nouvelles* Nr. 22 (March – April 1997), we reviewed Eleanor Roosevelt Seagraves edition of Amasa's epic about his Voyages (GHAAHD pgs.213 through 223). At the end of her edition is a section entitled “Selections from a Biographical Sketch” written by an anonymous friend of Amasa. Piecing the information from Seagraves' edition with that of Roosevelt's *Odyssey*, we see an interesting chronology in Amasa's life prior to his famous Voyages.

In 1781, towards the end of the Revolutionary War, Amasa in the merchant ship RUSSELL made a voyage to Cape Francois (located in Martinique, we believe) in the West Indies. There lay the French Fleet under the

towing ships of the French Fleet out of Cape Francois when they sailed for the Virginia Capes.

Amasa missed the naval battle in which the French were victorious over the British Fleet under command of Rear Admiral Graves, because an embargo had been laid on all merchant ships then in Cape Francois for a six week period.¹

In 1782 Amasa, with his father, built the brig PEACOCK for E. Parsons Esq. of Boston.² Amasa sailed in this vessel to Martinique, Puerto Rico, and Panama and then to Virginia. The PEACOCK sailed up the Rappahannock River to Fredericksburg where our story about the swizzle stick takes place. Amasa spent several months there because the cold weather had frozen the river, making navigation of sailing ships impossible.

In March 1783, the PEACOCK, in company with the THOMAS and IRIS, left Fredericksburg and sailed down the Rappahannock to the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. There they were chased by the sixty-four gun British privateer EAGLE and a frigate into the shelter of Yorktown.³ With this background Mr. Atwell's story is quoted below.

Mr. Atwell was dining with Amasa in Fredericksburg as his story opens. "I mention this repast particularly because it occasioned Mr. Delano to refer to an experience of his upon a previous voyage, concluded the year before, and which provided me with a first hint as to the stubbornness of his character. When my mother and sisters had withdrawn from the table, Mr. Delano entertained us with an account of this experience. He had been, he told us, at Cap Francois when the French fleet under the command of Count De Grasse was at that port, previous to its departure for the Chesapeake. The season proved very sickly, and great members died of the prevailing fever during the six weeks when all merchant vessels then at the Cape were forbidden to leave. It was supposed that all tropical fruit was serious; and on this account, if eaten at all, was eaten with great caution and very sparingly. But Delano would not be guided by common advice and deterred from the constant use of the fruit of that climate. He asserted to us that he subsisted almost entirely upon it, and that he eat great quantities of it at all times, without any bad effects, whatsoever. This I call stubbornness

On the following day, Mr. Delano invited me to dine with him at the tavern in Fredericksburg where we had first met, and this invitation I gladly accepted. When I arrived there, I found that he had fetched ashore, from the brig, a jug of rum which he had purchased while the brig lay at the island of Martinico. The tavernkeeper had no such rum in

stock.

My valued friend then produced from the pocket of his jacket a curious instrument which he placed upon the table, and, with great pride, bade me to examine it closely. As I had never seen anything like it, I did so.

Addressing me in the most earnest manner, he inquired; 'Mr. Atwell, have you ever partaken of a rum swizzle?'

I confessed a total ignorance of this potation, whatever is might be.

'Sir,' he said, 'You are about to have one.'

He then took up the small object he had exhibited to me.

'This,' he said, 'is a swizzle-stick.'

It was a pencil-like bit of wood, some six or eight inches in length, terminating at one end in several claws.

'This is made from a young shoot of chestnut-wood,' said he, 'or *chataignier*, as the French call it, which is grown in the island of Dominica. The young shoot is pulled up from the ground, with the roots clinging to it, and the roots are trimmed into these claws, as you see. Watch me carefully.'

My curiosity was intense. Mr. Delano then bade the tavern taproom attendant to fetch him a pitcher of pure rainwater, together with some ice. Ice is not a commodity easily obtainable in Virginia, at ordinary seasons, but Providence had so ordered the weather that this January was intemperately cold. Rain, which had filled every barrel, had been succeeded by intense frost. His request was therefore easily complied with.

Mr. Delano poured into the pitcher equal parts of the West Indian rum and the pure rainwater. He then added a dash of Jamaican bitters. Finally, he placed the swizzle-stick upright in the mixture, holding it between his two palms, with the claws of the *chataignier* downward, and by rubbing his palms together caused the claws to revolve so rapidly that the liquid was soon whipped into a foam. Hastily he poured out two tankards of it.

'Mr. Atwell,' he said--I remember his language clearly--'take a hold on your bench, thank your Maker, and drink her while she foams.'

It was a matter of great regret to me that the calendar required my return to the College of William & Mary on the day following. Mr. Delano and I parted that evening with expressions of the warmest mutual esteem, sadly fearing that fortune might never again bring us together."⁴

¹ Seagraves, Eleanor R., Delano's Voyages of Commerce and Discovery, pg.402, Berkshire Pub. Stockbridge, MA 1994.

² Ibid. pg. 403.

³ Ibid., pg. 405

⁴ Roosevelt, Hale, Odyssey of an American Family, pgs. 154 & 155.

DELANO KINDED 1999-2000
Officers, Directors, Elected Committee Members and Appointees
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A Thanksgiving Tradition

As we approach November we are pleased to include excerpts from a story written by Cousin Jon Delano that appeared in the November 21, 1996 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Though a tradition is not necessarily fact, the tradition in Jon's story of why our common ancestor, Philippe de Lannoy came to Plymouth in the FORTUNE makes a wonderful tale to tell at Thanksgiving.

The American tradition of Thanksgiving is a wondrous mix of religion and historical commemoration, but in my family the holiday has special meaning. You see, my great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandfather was there. This is not exactly the story of the Pilgrims, the Mayflower, Plymouth Rock, and the first Thanksgiving, ... It is a tale of unrequited love.

Nearly 400 years ago, there lived in Leiden, Holland, a family named de Lannoy. Jean and Marie de Lannoy and their son Philippe were Huguenots who had left France in 1596 to practice their religion in Holland ... a well-known sanctuary for unconventional beliefs. So well known was this country's tolerance that a group of English Separatists arrived in Leiden in 1607. Marie de Lannoy befriended the Separatists and ... young Philippe grew up with many English friends. After 11 years in Holland, ... in 1620, the Separatists returned to England to provision two ships for a trek across the Atlantic, the MAYFLOWER and the SPEEDWELL. The smaller Speedwell proved unseaworthy, so two-thirds of its passengers were crammed on board the MAYFLOWER. Literally missing the first boat in the one-third left behind in Plymouth, England, was 18-year-old Philippe de Lannoy.

Why did this French-Dutch lad want to join a bunch of austere English dissidents on a dangerous voyage? Adventure might have something to do with it, but the family story goes that Philippe had fallen in love with Priscilla Mullens, ... the object of much rivalry between Capt. Miles Standish and John Alden. Well, not to be deterred by missing the Mayflower, Philippe jumped aboard the second ship to America, the FORTUNE, which landed in Plymouth in November of 1621. He ... arrived in time for the first Thanksgiving. But sadly, despite his best French charm, Philippe was spurned by Priscilla for another, the much-maligned "Speak for Yourself" John Alden.

No matter, on this Thanksgiving as in the past, we Delanos shall give thanks to the elusive Priscilla Mullens for luring our ancestor to the New World.



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It is planned to publish the next *Bonnes Nouvelles* # 32 (Dec. 1999); and the following three *Bonnes Nouvelles* as follows: #33 (Mar. 2000), #34 (June 2000) and #35 (Oct 2000).

Articles and information about descendants of the DELANO Family are always welcome and greatly appreciated by your editor. Every effort will be made to include them as soon as space permits.

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.