
COLBY CLAN COMMUNICATIONS



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June 2003

Are your dues paid?

If you see an asterisk on your address label, your 2003 dues have not been paid. If you see two asterisks, your 2002 and 2003 dues are owed (as of June 1, 2003). Dues are \$2 per year and help to affray the costs of printing the newsletter.

This is the only time you will be reminded about your dues! It is also most helpful if your dues are sent prior to the reunion since Adeline gets very busy on that day. If you suspect that our records are in error, please contact Adeline. We appreciate your dues!

From the Editor

As requested by several members, I have been putting together a new Colby Clan directory, complete with email addresses and Colby lines. If you wish to have an updated copy, I can email it to you at no charge. I use MS Word 97. If you don't have email and would like a hard copy, I can send them for \$2.00 (to cover printing and postal costs) each. Adeline is also able to send back issues of the newsletter for \$1 per issue. I appreciate those who have contacted me to correct mailing and contact information. I hope to meet many of you at the reunion!

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50th Annual Colby Clan Reunion

Saturday, August 16, 2003

This year's Clan Reunion will be held at the East Orange Church, located in a small village quite reminiscent of the rural life experienced by our New England ancestors.

Numerous Colbys have lived in East Orange and the adjacent towns of Corinth, Topsham, and Washington. Indeed, there are many of Anthony's descendants who now live there! The early settlers of Corinth included Ezekiel and Sarah/Sally (Fowler) Colby. Also, Benaiah and Abigail (Emerson) Colby, including two of their sons, Jonathan and Joseph. Ezekiel, Jonathan, and Joseph had large families. Ezekiel, Jr. and his wife, Ruth Davis, including many children, relocated to the Holland

Purchase near Buffalo. Many children of Jonathan and his wives, Betsey Berry and Sally Ring, lived in the local area but others "went West" to Humboldt, IA, as well as San Francisco, CA, and Elgin, MN. All but one child of Joseph and Rhoda Barrett lived in the local area.

Please attend our reunion in this very rustic area which was so loved by our ancestors for its natural beauty in the Green Mountains. There will be the traditional "Evening

Before the Reunion" on Friday, August, 15 for those already in the area. The gathering will be at the Comfort Inn at Maplewood off exit 7 from I-89, 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Come for refreshments, to socialize, and to learn more about your ancestry. Your hosts will be James

Colby of Falls Church, VA and Maurice Vercoe of Burlington, VT.

On the day of the reunion, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Registration and refreshments will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. Luncheon tickets that have been reserved will also be handed out. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Please make your reservations as soon as possible by sending in the form on page 6.

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News from the Colby Members

Sam Colby of Bow, NH is able to get copies of the book "100 Acres More or Less," the history of Bow (mentioned in the March 2003 newsletter) for anyone who wishes to have one. The cost is \$20 plus mailing costs (at book rate). His email is HColby36@aol.com.

Alice Volkert of Costa Mesa, CA also has a very helpful Colby web site. That address is: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~anthonycolby/house.html>. Alice has a page where other Colby links can be listed. If anyone knows of a Colby web site that we haven't listed, please let us know. It would be nice to have all the Colby links we can find.

Neal and Beverly Slocum of Burlington, VT wrote in to say that there were over 200 attendees at the reception in Littleton honoring **Bea Blasenak's** 100th birthday. Neal and Bev just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

Anglers looking to recapture the brass ring

2003 CITGO BASS Federation Championship

(The RonColby in this article is the son of Ron Colby in Utah who maintains the rootsweb website.)

BASS Communications — May 16, 2003

Imagine cashing in on a 10,000-to-one chance ... twice. The dream of nearly every angler competing in BASS Federation tournaments is to advance to the CITGO Bassmaster Classic presented by Busch Beer. In order to achieve that difficult dream, an angler must qualify through the CITGO BASS Federation Championship. Each year, 54 anglers from around the world qualify for the prestigious event out of approximately 50,000 federation anglers. Realizing that the numbers work out to roughly 10,000 to one, it is quite a task for an angler to qualify for one Championship in his career. That makes the accomplishments of Idaho's Tom Schachten, Illinois' Ken Christ, Utah's **Ron Colby** and Maine's Tom Bayley even more remarkable. Each of those anglers has competed in multiple Federation Championships and, in the case of Bayley, Christ and Colby, they have achieved the feat in back-to-back years.

"The time these guys invest in competitive fishing is amazing," said BASS Federation Director Al Smith. "They may not call themselves full-time anglers, but when you look at the amount of time, they probably are full-time, only they have other jobs and careers as well. For someone to qualify for a second Championship is an amazing feat."



Ron Colby finished at the top of his division at last year's Federation Championship and earned a trip to the Classic; he hopes to repeat that success again this year.

For Colby, the road started shortly after last year's Championship event.

"Our Divisional Championship took place about three weeks after I was in Shreveport," said Colby. "I think I was running on adrenaline and everything was going really smoothly. It was a great feeling to re-qualify, because once you've been a part of one and seen the brass ring it makes your drive even harder to get back."

Christ earned his way back to the Championship this year by virtue of being the champion of last year's event. "When Al called and told me, it nearly caused a wreck," said Christ, who is competing in his third Championship, having also qualified in 1993. "This tournament really has the cream of the crop and is a tough tournament wherever it is held because the caliber of the competitors is so high. I was honored to have the opportunity to come back." Both Christ and Colby competed in last year's CITGO Bassmaster Classic and agree that it is a tremendous experience.

"Making the Classic is a dream come true," explained Christ. "It's what every amateur dreams about and shoots for. It is the highlight of your career."

Colby also attempted to qualify as a professional angler through the CITGO Bassmaster Central Open division in the fall, and believes the caliber of anglers in the Federation is close to that of the professionals. "It's very hard to make the Classic as a Federation angler because of the time aspect," explained Colby. "There are also a lot of very good anglers competing that I think could compete on the pro side. They have the same drive and talent as the guys fishing the Opens."

"The performance of these four guys shows the caliber of Federation anglers," said Smith. "It also proves that the Federation is a good place to prepare for and propel an

Continued from Page 1

Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. followed by two talks, "Outhouse Architecture" and "Life on the Family Farm in the 1940s" given by Maurice Vercoe and James Colby respectively. Neal Slocum, our president, will conduct a short business meeting and will present awards to the youngest, the eldest, and the person who traveled the greatest distance to attend. Tours to the Colby family homesteads will then be given by James Colby to those who are interested. Those in attendance are encouraged to visit nearby villages, which have been featured on calendars and picture puzzles, including Waits Rivers, East Corinth, and East Topsham. They should also view the former properties of the "East Orange Millionaires," Mr. and Mrs. A.K. Miller, who collected gold, silver, antiques, and old autos though he never paid taxes.

Don't come for just a day! There is plenty to see and experience in Vermont. Consider visiting the Granite Quarries in Graniteville, the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, VT, the Teddy Bear factory also in Shelburne, the Cabot Creamery in Cabot, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream and the Cold Hollow Cider Mill in Waterbury Center, the Vermont Historical Society and the Vermont State Library in Barre, and the Vermont General Service Center (Vital Records) in Middlesex.

There are no overnight accommodations near East Orange. A block of rooms is reserved at the Comfort Inn at Maplewood (213 Paine Turnpike North) in Montpelier, VT. Take exit 7 off I-89 and turn right at the first traffic light (There is no motel sign facing the exit ramp!). Their phone number is 802-229-2222. The rate is \$75 plus tax for a single or a double and includes a complimentary continental breakfast. Please cite the Colby Clan reunion when making your reservations to get the reduced rate.

Other motels are:

The Hollow Inn & Motel, Barre City, 800-998-9444
LaGue Inns, Exit 7 from I-89 802-229-5766

See you there!

2004 Colby Reunion

The 51st Annual Colby Reunion, August 21, 2004, will be held in Amesbury. Many thanks to **Marjorie McCabe** of Amesbury for volunteering to be our host, along with **Kathy and Luther Colby**. She has booked the Amesbury Playhouse for the event.

BIRTHS

Marc and Joan Colby of Glen Head, NY are the proud parents of a new baby girl, born April 29, 2003. **Fiona Catherine Colby** weighed 8lbs 1oz. at birth. Mairead, (see March 2003 issue) is the big sister now. Both of their grandparents, **George and Marion** Colby of Glen Head, NY, are overjoyed and are busy enjoying both the girls. Mairead's birthday was incorrectly listed in the March issue. She was born March 9, 2001. George's Colby line is: Anthony(1), Samuel(2,3,4), Moses(5), Archelaus(6), Moses(7), Johnson N.(8), Andrew Glass(9), Paul Keating(10), George William(11), Marc William(12), George(13).

Thelma Goin of West Warwick, RI is the proud great grandmother of twins. Gabriel and Alexander Friedberg were born to Jason and Sarah Friedberg on April 28, 2003 in Springfield, MA.

Betty and John Scott of Milford, PA have a new granddaughter. Payton Erika McCarthy was born on March 12, 2003. She was 8 lbs, 3oz, and 21 inches long.



IN MEMORIAM

Amos Blaine Colby of Panama City Beach, FL died on April 1, 2003. He was 84 years old. Amos' wife Dorothy preceded him in death. They were long time residents of Middleton, WI where he established Colby's Drug Store. Amos was an active member of the Madison Elks Club, Middleton VFW, and was co-founder of the Middleton Good Neighbor Festival. He is survived by three sons, Daniel, Richard, and Dale.

angler into a career as a professional angler."

William Hughes of Stratford, NJ sent this flyer. His book is based on a family collection of letters and pictures during the Civil War period. William's Colby line is: Anthony(1), Thomas(2), Jacob(3), Zaccheus(4), Rev. Ephraim(5), Dr. Zaccheus(6), Merrill(7), Newton(8), Jeanette(9), Minnie Tomlinson(10), William E. Hughes(11, 12).

**The Civil War Papers of
Lt. Colonel Newton T. Colby,
New York Infantry**

Newton T. Colby
Edited by William E. Hughes

360 pages \$49.95 library binding
Photographs and illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index
ISBN 0-7864-1505-3 2003

"When I woke the battle had begun ... the shells of the enemy flew over us here tearing great limbs off the trees and screaming horribly ... then a shell struck into the ranks near where I was, killing and wounding five or six—I saw them fall and heard their screams. But on we went and I know not who they were or what became of them"—Lt. Col. Newton T. Colby, September 21, 1862.

Lt. Col. Colby served with the 23rd New York, the 107th New York at Antietam, Chancellorsville and Harper's Ferry, and later in the Veteran Reserve Corps as superintendent of Old Capital Prison. This is a compilation of Colby's letters to family, friends and other military personnel, newspaper articles that detail the fighting in which Colby and his fellow soldiers were involved, and accounts of the fighting and daily life from other soldiers. Colby was not a well known name, but he crossed paths with many prominent figures of the Civil War, witnessed history being made, and was recognized as an excellent soldier by his peers and commanding officers.

William E. Hughes is the great-great grandson of Lt. Col. Newton T. Colby. He is a retired educator of 38 years, and a member of Old Baldy Civil War Round Table. He lives in Stratford, New Jersey.

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Interesting Colby facts

In addition to **Ron Colby's** website, you may also find very helpful links and information at **Alice Volkert's** website. Alice updates the information regularly. She provided some insight to the question submitted by Kenneth Scholten in the March 2003 issue. Joseph Kent was married to Dolly, not Polly, Colby. They were contemporaries of Nathan and Eunice Blood, so they could not be grandparents of Gilmeath Horne. With so many Pollys and Dollys, Sarahs and Sallys, and Marys and Marthas, it can get pretty confusing. Thank you Alice!

Gary Vaillancourt of Foley, AL wrote that his daughter lives only blocks from **Roy A. Heutmaker** in Cottage Grove, MN. It's a small world!

John B. Threlfall of Madison, WI responded with comments about the origins of the Colby name. He states, "Kohle is the German word for coal. Kohl is indeed the

word for cabbage, but in England, Cole would mean charcoal." John enclosed a copy of his manuscript from his book, "Fifty Great Migration Colonists to New England," which was published in 1990. John provided me with a copy that I will be happy to send out to those who wish to have one. John says, "Many Colby descendants still believe the claim that our Anthony came from Beccles. He came from Horbling in Lincolnshire, along with his lifelong friend, Simon Bradstreet. I found four Anthony Colbys in old England in the early 1600s. All but the Horbling man can be eliminated for one reason or another." The following is an excerpt from his book: "Colby is a place name deriving, in this case, from the parish of Coleby, which lies seventeen miles northwest of Sempringham and six miles south of Lincoln. There is also a parish of Colby in Norfolk, next to Beccles and it too seems to have been the source of a quite unrelated Colby clan. There are also villages called Colby in Westmoreland, in Yorkshire and one in Denmark.

The place name is of Viking origin and means *coal place*. There are a number of English place names containing the element *cole* (i.e. coal), such as Coleridge, Colclough, and Colebrook. The *-by* suffix is the Viking or Scandinavian word meaning *homestead farm*. Thus, Coleby was probably a farmstead where charcoal was made in ancient times by Viking settlers.

The first record of a Colby in Sempringham is a deed dated 3 February 1421/2 by which William Stanenstone of Pointon conveyed to John Boche and his wife Alice three selions of land in the fields west of Pointon, two of which parcels were bounded by William Colby. This William Colby was undoubtedly an ancestor of the Colbys who lived in the village of Pointon in the parish of Sempringham several generations later.

On 7 May 1505, Robert Rogerson of Pointon granted to John Huchyson of Billingborough and Robert Colby of Pointon, 'one message and 20 acres of land and meadow with all the appurtenances in the village and the fields of Pointon, which lately was inherited after the decease of William Rogerson his father and Alice his wife.' Five days later, on 12 May, John Huchynson and Robert Colby deeded the same property back to Robert Rogerson, his wife Margaret, Katherine (the sister of the late William Rogerson) and a niece, in a somewhat complex deed which was made for the purpose of getting around the laws of primogeniture. Robert Colby was acting as a straw man. This Robert Colby was probably the great grandson of the above William Colby."

More Colby Connections

If you didn't already know, Vice President **Dick Cheney** is a Colby descendant. His line was provided by Ron Colby in Utah: Anthony(1), John(2), Thomas(3), Elias(4), Esther(5), Hannah Eaton(6), Elias Eaton Cheney(7), Samuel Fletcher Cheney(8), Thomas Herbert Cheney(9), Robert Herbert Cheney(10), Richard Bruce Cheney(11).

Barbara Anderson of Portola Valley, CA, sent in some pictures that she has not been able to identify. She also states that the information Weis' book gives for her Colby line is incorrect. On page 190, he lists Mary Colby and Elizabeth Colby as children of Joseph Lunt and Sally Foot Colby. However, Sally died three years before they were born! On page 252, it states that Hannah Fowler married twice. The daughter Hannah that Weis said died the same year she was born, did live. She is the Hannah that married John Lee. Hannah and John Lee took their family to California in 1860-1862 and settled in Vallejo. Their daughter Ann Elizabeth Colby Lee was born in Amesbury (as was her sister Maria) and died in 1912. Their brother Alfred "Alf" Lee was also born in Amesbury. He fought in the Civil War, married a girl from Amesbury and, when he died, was buried by his uncle Ralph Colby in the Newburyport Cemetery.



1. Boston



2. Newburyport



3. Amesbury



4. Newburyport



5. Newburyport



6. Newburyport



7. Newburyport



8. Newburyport



9. Salem



10. Newburyport



11. Salisbury



12. Newburyport



13. Boston



14. Salisbury



15. Newburyport



16. Newburyport



17. Southbridge



18. Newburyport



19. Salisbury

E-Mail Addresses

Sam Colby of Bow, NH: Hcolby36@aol.com

Janis Helgesen of Bay Village, OH: jhelgesen@attbi.com

James Sayah of Meriden, CT: jbsayah@netzero.net

Gary Vaillancourt of Foley, AL: vailla@gulftel.com

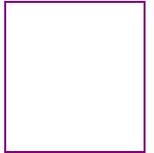
Reunion RSVP

If you are planning to attend the reunion in East Orange this August 15 and 16, please send this slip of paper to Adeline so that she can give an accurate account to the wonderful folks at the church. They will be making our lunch!

Yes! I plan to attend the reunion in East Orange, VT. There will be _____ (number of people) in our party.

_____ I can not attend but am enclosing my dues.

Barbara J. Zdravesky
123 Mulberry Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED