

THE DENBOW DIASPORA



1996

"An International newsletter for Denbows"

Vol. 3, No. 3

Is Martha Sharp Denbow's father buried in Vinton County, Ohio?

ANOTHER MYSTERY WAITING TO BE SOLVED!

By Susan Sharp, Hillsboro, Ohio

It all started out innocently enough - just a Sunday afternoon drive to Prattsville in Vinton, County, Ohio. Thomas Sharp, my husband's great grandfather, was supposed to be buried in a cemetery there. We thought it might be fun to try to locate the cemetery in Prattsville and then stop at the restaurant in Lake Hope State Park nearby for a relaxing lunch. Other Sharp relatives are buried in the Keeton Graveyard in Lake Hope State Park - so we thought we could check out that cemetery, too.

Prattsville isn't exactly a bustling metropolis, so it wasn't difficult to locate the cemetery. It is just off U. S. Route 50 behind a small, dirty white country church which is now being used a clothing distribution point for some charitable organization. Lurking menacingly directly behind the cemetery is a huge strip mine which threatens to engulf the cemetery. These are the stones and inscriptions we found:

(1) James Sharp died February 2, 1857 aged 86 years, 2 months, 22 days.

(2) Thomas Sharp, January 30, 1875, age 72 years, 9 months

and 28 days.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." Clapsed hands are carved at the top of the stone.

(3) Margaret, wife of Thos Sharp, Died Jan. 31, 1864, aged 53 years, 7 months, and 2 days. "Where this silent marble keeps, a friend, a wife, and a mother sleeps." A weeping willow tree is carved at the top of the stone.

(4) Benjamin Sharp has two tombstones. One stone has a flag with 16 stars carved at the top. It says Benjamin, son of T & M Sharp, died July 29, 1864, aged 23 years, 9 months, and 2 days. Member of Co. H. The other stone is one placed by the government. It says Benjamin Sharp, Co. H, 36th Ohio Inf.

(5) Elizabeth, Dau of T & M Sharp, died June 25, 1861 aged

19 yrs., 5 ? months, and 19 days.

(6) Margarett , Dau of T & M, Sharp, Died, June... stone bro-



Tombstone of James Sharp (1771-1857) in Prattsville Cemetery. He may have been the father of Martha Sharp Denbow, the matriarch of most of the Ohio Denbow clan.



Prattsville Church, Vinton County, Ohio

(Continued from page 1)

en here, Aged, 10 years, 5 months, 10 days. (The 1860 U.S. Census records her age as 12 years. The stone is hard to read, but I have been there twice to look at it and this appears to be what it says.)

Great, you say! All very nice. We've all had a similar experience. What's this have to do with us? We're Denbows! Well, to be honest, I'm not really sure. It's just a hunch I have, and maybe one of you can shed some light on the mystery which has been plaguing me for over four years. Who is James Sharp?

This is what I think. I believe that James Sharp may be the father of Martha Sharp Denbow. Martha was the wife of John Denbow, of Monroe County, Ohio, from whom, I believe, a lot of you are descended.

Let me begin by introducing you to my hypothetical family. James Sharp b. circa 1770 is the husband. The wife is unknown (she was alive in 1840). The children are as follows: Susannah,

Benjamin b. between 1794 and 1800, Hannah b. circa 1796, Martha b. circa 1798, Thomas b. 2 April 1802, Sally or Sarah, Rebecca, James Jr. b. between 1815 and 1820, and Keziah b. 22 August 1818.

But, as they say on Dragnet, "Just the facts, ma'am."

Martha Sharp and John Denbow requested or obtained a marriage license on March 9, 1819 in Harford County, Maryland.

James Sharp appears in the 1820 U.S. Census in Harford County, Maryland, 4th District. Page 409, 1 December 1820, James Sharp; Free white males: 1 (under 10), 1 (16-18), 1 (16-26), 1 (45 & over); Free white females: 1 (under 10), 1 (10-16), 1 (16-26), 1 (45 & over); 2 agriculture. Also found in the fourth district, Thomas Denbo; Thomas W. Ayres; John Denbo; John Denbo, Junior.

Elias Sharp obtained a land patent from the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management dated February 20,

1827 for the West 1/2 of Southeast 1/4 of Section 24, Range 5, Township 12; a total of 83.89 acres. Other information given includes: Date of Entry: November 3, 1826 Land Office Where Entered: Steubenville. Residence at Time of Entry: Harrison County, located now in Carroll County, Perry Township, Ohio, Ohio River Survey, Page 39.

Now wait you say - I thought we were talking about James Sharp? Who the devil is Elias? Please bear with me a moment. I'm trying to keep the facts in chronological order.

On 9 August 1828 Benjamin Sharp, Thomas Sharp, Martha Denbo, Sally Sharp, Rebecca Sharp, James Sharp, Junior, and Kissiah Sharp of Harrison County, Ohio sold to James Sharp for \$104.86 and 1/4 cents the West Half, South East 2nd of Section 24, Township 12, Range 5 containing 83 acres and 89/100 at the rate of \$1.25 per acre. Note that this is the same piece of land granted to Elias in 1827. What happened to Elias? He is not mentioned in the deed. Usually when family members inherit property from a deceased family member he or she is identified as such in the deed.

The entry for James Sharp in the 1830 U.S. Census in Harrison County, Ohio, Rumley Township, Page 177, is as follows: James Sharp, Males: 1 (15-20); 1 (60-70), Females: 1 (10-15); 1 (15-20); 1 (20-30); 1 (50-60). Thomas Sharp's household is listed close to James' household.

An 1833 tax record in Carroll County, Ohio lists Elias Sharp as having paid property tax that year. James Sharp and Thomas Sharp are also men-

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

tioned, but they paid no property tax. I have not seen this record. The information was given to me over the phone by a member of the Carroll County, Ohio Genealogical Society.

In 1837 both Benjamin Sharp and James Sharp, Jr., who I believe to be brothers of Martha Denbo, died in Carroll County. James died intestate, Benjamin had a will. Estate packets for both men are in the Carroll County, Ohio Courthouse. An entry in the application for letters

"This statement would lead you to believe that Elias Sharp is the father of Thomas Sharp and the others."

of administration states James Sharp Senior was appointed administrator of the estate of James Sharp Jr. his brothers having filed their declinations. This statement would lead you to believe that James Sharp, Sr. is the father of James Sharp, Jr. Estate papers include signatures and mention of Thomas Sharp, James Sharp, Sr., Benjamin Sharp, Kissiah Sharp, and James Larkins.

James Sharp appears in the 1840 U.S. Census in Carroll County, Ohio, Perry Township, Page 278. The entry reads: James Sharp, Males: 1 (60-70), Females: 1 (15-20); 1 (60-70). Again, Thomas Sharp is on the same page of the census records as James. Note that these two men are living in the same location as they were in 1830, but the

land has now become part of Carroll County.

In the May 1847 term of the Court of Common Pleas of Carroll County, Ohio James Sharp filed a lawsuit against Thomas Ayres and Susannah Ayres his wife of Hartford (sic) County and State of Maryland, Perry James and Sarah James his wife of the State of Iowa, James Larkins and Rebecca Larkins his wife of Perry County and State of Ohio, John Denbow and Martha his wife of Monroe County Ohio, Solomon Allbaugh and Keziah his wife and Thomas Sharp and Margaret his wife of Athens County Ohio, Hannah Hoge, John Sharp, Thomas Tolan and Susannah Tolan his wife of Carroll County Ohio, George Walker and Sarah Jane Walker his wife, John Everhart and Mary Ann his wife and Abram Sharp, William Sharp, Elizabeth Sharp of Tuscarwaras County Ohio heirs at law and legal representatives of Benjamin Sharp.

In the suit James Sharp of Carroll County, Ohio represents that he has a legal right to and is "seized in fee simple" of a portion of the real estate previously patented to Elias Sharp. It seems that Thomas Sharp and his sisters, who were preparing to leave the county, sold what they said was their share of the property to Hannah Hogue. James cried foul when he found out about it. In Hannah Hogue's response to James' suit brought against her, she states she bought the property from Thomas Sharp who stated that he was the heir at law of Elias Sharp, Carroll County, Ohio. This statement would lead you to believe that Elias Sharp is the father of Thomas Sharp and the others. A judgment was rendered by the

Court in favor of James Sharp, granting him five equal eighth parts of the land. Attorneys fees were to be divided proportionately among the parties. Hannah Hogue, once again, purchased the property for its appraised value from James Sharp instead of Thomas Sharp.

To further complicate matters, a Carroll County, Ohio booklet, The Story of Kilgore, Goose Run and Mingo, by Iona Allbaugh Burrier lists Hannah Hogue as a sister of Martha Sharp Denbo. I ordered Hannah's death certificate, but the names of her parents were not given. However, the certificate indicated that she was born in about 1796 in Turance, Ireland. If she is indeed a sister of Martha Sharp Denbo and Martha was born in Maryland in 1798, this would be an indication of the time the family emigrated to this country.

James Sharp died in 1857. Therefore he should appear in the 1850 U.S. Census. I have not been able to locate him. He is not with Thomas Sharp in Vinton County, or Kissiah Sharp Albaugh or Martha Sharp Denbow. I have not been able to locate Perry and Sarah James in Iowa in 1850 or James and Rebecca Larkins in Perry County, Ohio in 1850. Thomas and Susan Ayres in Harford County, Maryland may provide a lead.

Martha Sharp Denbow died in Monroe County in 1855 so she would not have a recorded death certificate which could possibly provide the names of her parents. Kiziah Sharp Albaugh is reported to have married a Tom Luckey and died in Athens County, Ohio in 1873. I have not yet been able to locate her death record.

I have been to most of

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

the cemeteries in Perry and Loudon Townships in Carroll County, Ohio to try to locate any Sharp graves. I have found none. Many of the stones are piled up in the corners of some of the

or in Harrison and Carroll Counties in Ohio.

One final note: Sherry Hunter Strickland, who is also working on the same family line, says that her grandfather, Samuel Madison Sharp, always

searcher has not been able to unravel the mystery. Can you help?

References:

Book: *Harford County Marriage Licenses 1777-1865* by Jon Harlan Livezey & Helene Maynard Davis. Published by Family Line Publications, Rear 63 East Main Street, Westminster, Md. 21157. (410) 876-6101. Page 15: Martha Sharp to John Denbow, 09 March 1819.

Harrison County, Ohio, Deed Book D, Page 372. Deed Benjamin Sharp and others to James Sharp.

Carroll County, Ohio Will Book Index, Probate Record A (1833-1843), p. 165. Will Packet No. 896 Benjamin Sharp

Carroll County, Ohio Probate Record Book A (1833-1843), p. 164. Estate Packet No. 877 James Sharp, Jr.

Carroll County, Ohio Common Pleas Law Record 1845-1848 Book D, p. 709-711

Sherry Hunter Strickland, 809 Annawood Drive, Tallahassee, Florida 32311-7503, phone 904-656-5557, granddaughter of Samuel Madison Sharp, telephone conversation 6 September 1994.



Tombstones (left to right): James Sharp, Margaret Sharp (wife of Thomas), Benjamin Sharp, Benjamin Sharp [Editor's Note: It seems unclear whether or not there were two Benjamins, or whether one man had two tombstones. It was common for families to "recycle" names, especially if one of the children had been stillborn or died at a very young age.]

cemeteries, I suppose to facilitate mowing. Other stones, which are standing, have the lettering completely worn off. The Carroll County Genealogical Society is currently recording the cemeteries in this area, but I fear it may be too late. Perhaps the Carroll County graves of this family will never be located.

The census information recorded for James Sharp seems to fit very closely with the individuals I believe are the brothers and sisters of Martha Sharp Denbow. This again would support the theory that James is the patriarch. I found no census records for Elias Sharp as head of household in Harford County, Maryland

told her that the first Sharp in her family tree in America was a James Sharp who came to this country from Scotland as an indentured servant.

One simple visit to a cemetery four years ago presented one simple question, and one simple minded re-

1997 Denbow Reunion to Return to Dover, Ohio — July 25-27

Mark your calendar **now** for this great annual gathering of the Denbow clan. Details will be made available in the next newsletter.

Letter From Florence Waters Denbow Chuck Full of Interesting Family History Nuggets!

265 Lamplite Lane SE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403
23 April 1996

2614 Chowan Cove
Round Rock, TX 78681

Dear Jim,

Thanks to you and Carl for a great newsletter; each time I receive a copy, I marvel over the fine job you are doing. In the past issue I received (Vol. 3 / 4), I especially appreciated all the work that went into producing the "Tentative Genealogy..." chart that appeared on page 8, as well as the very nice article on the New Hampshire Denbows, as prepared by Gene Bauer. I meant to respond earlier with a few related comments, and have been sidetracked too many times, so hope I am not too late for the next issue.

While the descendency chart I mentioned puts a picture to all the Denbow names floating around out there for the Colonial and early States periods, I noticed that one of the Denbow names that figured prominently during that period was not included: Robert Denbow. This is a Robert Denbow earlier than that considered in the chart. You know I have been attempting to fit all these Denbows into slots for many years; one exercise I used in this endeavor was to put together a "Denbow Timeline" from research I had completed to that point. From that research and timeline, we must consider the following:

1773 3 Sept., Robert Denbow sells land in Westmoreland Co. PA; deed recorded 1775 (from this you can see this is an older Robert Denbow than the one who died in Harrison County, Indiana in 1819)

Note: I have been privy to discussion with other researchers who have record of a John Denbo(w) in this period who married Nancy Woodfield in Washington Co., PA.

1775 5 Sept., Robert Denbow witnesses land transaction, Augustana Co. VA/Monongahela PA. area (ownership of this particular area was contested by Virginia and Pennsylvania).

1775 8 October, Robert Denbow land recorded Westmoreland Co., PA

1776/83 Revolutionary period; Robert Denbow and Solomon Denbow of Washington Co., PA, Bethlehem area listed as in PA militia

1782 Solomon Denbo(w) and Robert Denbo(w) petitioners regarding land in Penn/VA disputed area.

1786 19 October, Robert Dunbar (included here for research purposes) received land, Washington, Co., PA.

1789 21 July, Tax List includes

Solomon Denbo(w) in Jefferson Co., KY

You know
I have been at-
tempting to fit
all these Den-
bows into slots
for many years;
one exercise I
used in this en-
deavor was to
put together a
"Denbow Time-
line" . . .

1789 4 Aug., Tax List includes Ann Denbo, Fayette Co., KY

1789 23 Oct. Petition to Virginia Legislature, Solomon Denbar (sic), Nelson Co., KY

1790 20 April Tax List, Ann Denbow, Woodford Co., KY.

1792 10 Nov. Tax List, Solomon Dembo (sic), Shelby Co., KY: 1 male above 21, 1 horse, 7 cattle

1792-5 Tax List - Thomas Denbo, Shelby Co., KY

1792 3 Dec. Solomon Denbow, daughter Polly (or Sally) md.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

John Crawford, Shelby Co., KY, bond John Riley

1792-5 Tax Lists - Dooley, James and Samuel; and Thomas Denbo, Shelby County, KY

1795 1 Aug., Mary Denbow md. William Duley, Woodford Co., KY

1796 1 Mar., Solomon Denbow, daughter Betsey md. James Duley, John Crawford, bond, Shelby Co., KY

1796 3 Mar., Mary Crawford md. William Bell in Augustana Co., VA (near disputed area associated with Robert Denbow)

1796 29 Apr. - Land to a James Dunbar, Jefferson Co., KY

1796 27 Sept., Nancy Denbow md William Crawford, Shelby Co., KY, James Duley, bond

1797 27 Feb., Robert Denbow md. Mary (Marion) Ann Crawford, daughter of Robert Crawford, Shelby Co., KY; bond, William Crawford. Later info: Deed "heirs of Robert Crawford", included Robert and Marion Denbow, William Crawford and wife (Nancy Denbow), John Crawford and wife (Polly, daughter of Solomon Denbow), and William and Peggy Highfield.

1798 Robert Dunbar sells land in Washington Co., PA (So I now doubt the deeds associated with Dunbar are Denbow, but one cannot yet be sure).

1800 25 August census report, Shelby Co., KY, Solomon Denbow.

1801 29 Jan., Solomon Denbow,

bond for marriage of Thomas Dougherty and Mrs. Elizabeth McGinnis, Shelby Co., KY.

1801 Robert Denbow gets land from James Forrester, Hardin Co., KY.

1801 Joseph Denbo and Elizabeth Tucker, daughter of Jacob Tucker, md. In

Hardin Co., KY; bond William Tucker.

1803 14 Jan., Rachel Denbo married Daniel Funk, bond by Robert Denbow, Hardin Co., KY.

1804 19 March., James Denbow/Dunbar listed on tax rolls, Henry Co. KY

1805 Denba/Denbo, Nancy md. Jeremiah McNeev, Shelby Co., KY

1805 Robert Denbo(w) sells land to Usher Fergeson, Hardin Co., KY

1807 14 Jan., John Smith and Mrs. Nancy Highfield (is this Nancy/Peggy Crawford?) are married; bond Robert Denbow, Hardin Co., KY

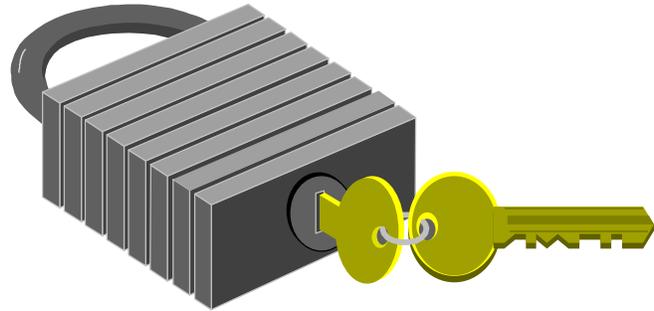
1807 2 Feb., James Denbow md. Mary Smith, bond John Smith, Hardin Co., KY

1810 Dembar, James Sr. , Henry Co., KY census

1810 Solomon Denbow, Nelson Co., KY census; over 45; males 2-0-2-0-1; females 0-0-1-1-0 (there is also a Wm. and a John

Dunbar nearby of the same age group).

1810 Harrison Co., Indiana census: Joseph Denbo, males 2-0-0-1-0, females 3-0-0-1-0; Robert



Denbo, males 3-0-0-2-0, females 2-2-0-1-0.

1812 Tax List, Henry Co. KY, James Dunbar (also listed 1813, 1814}

1813 11 Sept., Joseph Denbow md. Polly Summers, permission of Solomon Denbow, father, Hardin Co., KY; bond James Duley

1814 10 Nov., James Denbow, listed/appointed Kty militia; War of 1812; until 10 May 1815

1815 Tax List, James Denbo(w), owned no land, Hardin Co., KY

1816 21 Aug., James Denbow appointed Attorney to represent him regarding War of 1812 benefits, Hardin Co., KY.

1818 Polly Denbow (previously married), married John Weekley, bond Wm. Stader, Hardin Co., KY (she is probably the widow of the other Joseph Denbow md. In 1813).

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

1819 27 Nov., Jesse Denbow md. Nancy Vandegraff, Hardin Co., KY; bond Samuel Vandegraff

1819 17 Nov. Distribution of Robert Denbo(w) estate, Harrison Co., Ind.

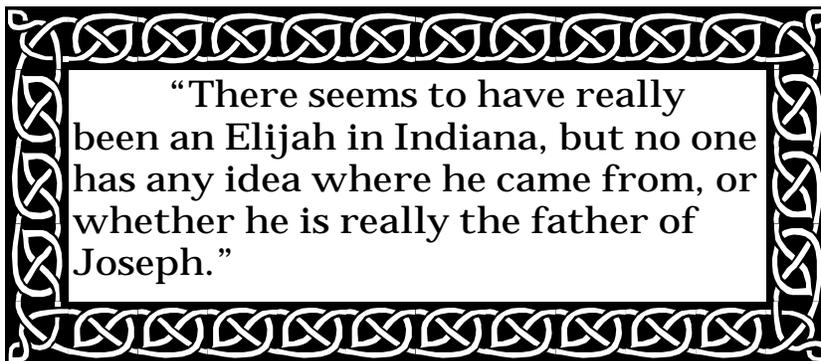
I have carried this exercise on to 1938, but I believe the above is adequate for these purposes. I have made several assumptions based on this exercise: That there were brothers in the Bethlehem area of Washington Co., PA in the period just before the Revolution; at least Robert and Solomon Denbow, and perhaps a John Denbow (although I personally have done no research that proves him); I believe Robert moved just further south to the disputed area of PA/VA, and Solomon moved on to Kentucky.

It is appropriate here to mention the formation of counties in Kentucky, for if you are not observant, it sounds like people were very mobile; however, often the people stayed put, but the county boundaries changed. The first counties in 1780 in Kentucky were Fayette, Jefferson, and Lincoln. In 1785 Jefferson divided and part became Nelson; in 1786-9, Fayette divided to include Woodford, Mason, and Bourbon; and Lincoln divided to include also Madison and Mercer counties. Thus someone who lived in today's Shelby Co. or Henry County were once residents of Jefferson Co. And someone in Woodford County could have been right next to what is today Henry and Shelby Co. The original Nelson Co. bordered the early Jefferson Co., and today's Hardin Co. was a northerly part of it. Examining

the map we see that all these areas are directly across the Ohio River from Harrison Co. (and later Crawford Co.) Indiana.

Now back to Denbows, After 1786, I find no more on a Robert Denbow of that generation born just prior to 1765, how-

Robert and Ann Denbow were the parents of Mary Denbow who married William Duley in 1795 in Woodford Co., KY. I believe Solomon & ?? Denbow were the parents of: Betsey (who married James Duley) -- proved; Nancy (who married William Crawford)



ever, in 1789 both Solomon Denbow and an Ann Denbow are on tax lists in Kentucky. Ann is shown in Fayette Co., but in a 1790 list is shown in Woodford Co., Since we know part of Fayette became Woodford, she probably did not move. Solomon in the 1789 tax list is in Jefferson Co., but another 1789 document says he lives in Nelson Co. Then in 1792 he is shown in Shelby Co. It is possible he did not move, particularly if the 1789 petition was simply filed in Nelson Co., and just included area residents all of whom were once in Jefferson Co. Then Shelby Co. was taken off Jefferson Co. in 1792, which fits with his being on a 1792 tax list and other documents in Shelby Co. I surmise that brothers, Solomon and Robert, moved to Kentucky, with Robert perhaps stopping in the southern disputed area of PA on his way to Kentucky. Since no further record is found of Robert, I suspect Ann Denbow is his widow.

Although I cannot yet prove all the children, I believe

– preponderance of evidence including James Duley on bond and list of Robert Crawford heirs; Robert (who married Mary Ann Crawford) – preponderance of evidence including Solomon probably having a brother named Robert, William Crawford bond, and list of Robert Crawford heirs; Joseph (who married Polly Summers) – proved; Rachel (who married Daniel Funk) – preponderance of evidence including Robert Denbow as bond; James (who married Mary Smith) – preponderance of evidence, including their bond by John Smith who married Mrs. Nancy Highfield (probably nee Crawford) with bond by Robert Denbow.

There are other Denbows of the area, such as Jesse Denbow, who married Nancy Vandegraff – evidence of his relationship is only borne out by proximity to other Denbows in several areas; and also Rebecca Denbow, who married in 1829 in Crawford Co., Indiana, Hiram Earls, with the bond also given by John Smith. I cannot identify the

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Joseph Denbo (no W) of Indiana as being the same Joseph Denbow who was the son of Solomon and married Polly Summers. In fact, I find it impossible, for when Joseph Denbow (son of Solomon) married in 1813, it was necessary for his father to sign for his age. The Indiana Joseph Denbow was married in 1801. However, this latter Joseph could have been another child of the Revolutionary period Robert Denbow.

Regarding the Elijah Denbo conflicts, and an SAR application paper found later to be false (and a 1970s DAR application that was later negated based on this falsification), I can offer the following: The fraudulent SAR Application was made by the self-styled Dr. Francis Jesse D'enBeau (once simply Frank Denbo). He is the person who erected the stone for Elijah Denbo that is in the cemetery in Indiana; that stone cites Revolutionary service, and of course, we know that anyone can put anything they want on a tombstone -- the original stone had no such information. "Dr., D'enBeau" was a grandson of the Joseph Denbo who married as his second wife, Jane Lowry Martin. Later, DAR applications were based on his SAR membership and court records of Elijah's "estate" in Indiana. These were later to be considered "altered" at the courthouse. There seems to have really been an Elijah in Indiana, but no one has any idea where he came from, or whether

he is really the father of Joseph.

I corresponded for some time with a Dinsmore/Densmore researcher, Mrs. Marianne S. Dinsmore. She affirmed that the "real" Elijah Denbow of the Revolutionary records, after the Revolution moved to Conway, NH and changed his name to Densmore. She said there were NH state papers referring to him under both surnames. His sons were said to have used the name Denmore/Densmore, with grandsons and subsequent generations using Dinsmore. I quote from her here: "Elijah [of the Rev.] is buried in the Dinsmore Family Cem., Intervale, Town of Conway, Carroll Co., NH. . . [SAR application papers regarding him] are wrong. My husband made a long and careful record of all the early Denbow records in NH. Besides what he gleaned, there is a manuscript written in the early 1930s at NEHGS containing a great deal of information. The author made a few errors, but mostly she is correct in her research and facts.

"The dates in the [SAR] Denbow application are not correct; the names of wives are not correct. He says Elijah m. Sarah Emerson Willey. Well I suppose Emerson was a 'safe' name for him to use . . . but she was the widow Sarah (Glazier) Willey when she married Elijah . . . they moved to Conway, ca. 1780 with their 5 sons and 1 daughter and at least one of her children by Willey . . . he was not only in the Rev. But also

the French and Indian Wars, where he was captured and carried off to Canada and finally got back, barely escaping with his life. . . his eldest son, Elijah II, went at 15 as a fifer with his father to the Revolution. He was also in the War of 1812, as were his brothers Col. Stephen, Capt. Thomas, etc. In the DAR library in Washington DC is a copy of an old family Bible listing first the Willey children and then the children of Elijah and Sarah. The line of demarcation is rather vague -- faded between the two groups of children but it is there. There is no Joseph or Robert mentioned. Any Pennsylvania Denbo(w)s do not come from our NH Elijah . . . earlier generations of [NH] Denbows are rather merky (sic). Elijah is the fourth generation counting from Salathial, Richard, Salathial, Elijah."

I hope all the above will be of interest to readers, and especially Gene Bauer. I am afraid all it does is further muddy the waters, but perhaps if enough people pool information, the mystery really can be resolved. Continued good luck in the Diaspora - is it time to send more \$\$\$?

Sincerely,

Florence

Answer to her final question:
Yes!!!! — The Editors

Cousins Corner section will return in the next issue. If you have any information to communicate to your Denbow relatives, we would be most pleased to receive your letters or email.

1996 Denbow Reunion: Smaller But Still A Lot of Fun for All Attending

For the second straight year, the Denbow Reunion was held in Marrietta, Ohio. Although the turnout was somewhat smaller than in recent years, those who attended enjoyed themselves immensely. Some of the highlights of the three-day event included, a presentation about the earliest Ohio Denbow land holdings at the Friday evening *Denbow Diaspora* Dinner by Ron Denbow, of Medina, that detailed much of the work presented in the article in the last issue by Sandy Denbow Jameyson, Ron's sister; a Saturday afternoon lunch and fellowship time in the shelterhouse at the VFW grounds; a late Saturday afternoon "battle of the sexes" on the basketball court; an informal Saturday evening dinner in the outdoor garden at DaVinci's Italian Restaurant in nearby Williamstown, W.Va.; and, of course, the Sunday field

trip to Woodsfield and Monroe County, the "mecca" of Ohio Denbowism.

Ron's presentation included a video tape that contained shots of many of the land parcels that were owned by early Ohio Denbows, including John and his brother Basil (Bazalle). He gave each person present a personal copy of the various legal documents and maps he acquired in his research — a great gift that was appreciated by all. This is a true family heirloom that's sure to be passed down from one generation to the next.

The basketball game was won by the distaff side by a 10 to 3 score. The editors might point out that this could be a function of age, rather than gender. Regardless, we congratulate the young lady's on their fine performance!

Those in attendance,

who signed the log book, were: Carl & Jane Denbow, Athens, Ohio; Edna L. Denbow, Zanesville, Ohio; John, Brenda and Keli Jo Denbow, Grand Ledgi, Mich.; Mary Denbow Wymer, Eric, Shaun and Sarah Wymer, Zanesville; Sarah Gidlow, Zanesville; Ron and Linda

Photos of the Winners and Losers in Denbow "Battle of the Sexes" in Next Issue!! Can't Wait?!

Denbow, Medina, Ohio; Floyd Denbow, Woodsfield, Ohio; Floyd Jr. and Mabel Denbow, Woodsfield; Bonnie and Char Miller, Pana, Illinois; and Sandy Denbow Jameyson, Shannon Jameyson and Cassandra McClure (friend), Lodi, Ohio; Jim, Becky, James and Scott Denbow, Columbus, Ohio.

Disk Crash Causes Financial Woe, Publication Delay

If you have been wondering why it's been six months since you received your last issue of *The Denbow Diaspora*, there have been some major hardware problems experienced by Carl Denbow's computer system in Athens, Ohio. First, several months ago he experienced what's called a "hard disk crash." A bearing went bad and resulted in a totally unreadable drive. The drive had to be sent to a data recovery service that charged more than \$700 to extract the data from the drive. Shortly after that experience, another drive on the system (It has a total of three hard drives) developed numerous bad sectors and had to be replaced. Replacing this drive resulted in a total loss of the Windows 95 System Registry, which in practical terms meant that all the software had to be reinstalled, though no actual data was lost.

The bottom line is that *The Denbow Diaspora* — and particularly one of its editors — is now sadder but wiser. A new tape backup has been purchased and is regularly used. For the edification of our readers, it should probably be pointed out that both drives that had problems were manufactured by Western Digital and were replaced by drives manufactured by Maxtor.

It appears now that all systems are in operating condition and that regular publication should resume. The annual directory issue is scheduled to be mailed by the first week of April.

Some recent changes to the mail list may have been lost because of confusion surrounding the hard disk crash. If you have submitted a change of address or a new subscription that does not appear to be correctly entered, please send the information in again. Thanks for your patience!

