

THE DENBOW DIASPORA



June 2004

"An International newsletter for Denbows"

Vol. 11, No. 1

Tenth Anniversary Reprint

The Clan of Soloman: an unexpected reunion

By James Denbow

Editor's Note: In celebration of the 10th Anniversary of *The Denbow Diaspora*, we have decided to reprint a few articles from our very first year. Therefore, in the next two issues you will be treated to a few of these earlier articles. Unfortunately, many of the questions we raised in 1994 are still unanswered in 2004. Perhaps, in the next year when we begin the long-awaited Denbow DNA project, these mysteries will finally yield to modern research technology.

Growing up with a name like Denbow is difficult. First of all, no one seems to be able to pronounce it or spell it – you should see some of the odd at-tempts I get on my junk mail; second, it is too close to names like "Dumbo," "Dumbell," and other sobriquets that caused me great grief in my younger days.

Perhaps because of my unusual name, however, I often look in the telephone book whenever I visit a new city to see whether there might be anyone there who has shared my naming predicament. I found that New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington: all were deserts when it came to discovering new Denbows. Over the years even Paris, Rome, Athens, Frankfurt, Barcelona and a host of other European cities were searched through in vain! I began to wonder what kind of name Denbow was and why there appeared to be so few of us. Why was I so alone in a world over-populated with Smiths, Jones's and, yes, even Farqueharts?

After 40 years I had almost given up -- then we moved to Austin, Texas after many years in Africa. Not long after our arrival I picked up the phone book to find not one, but FOUR Denbows listed! Who were these people? Where did they come from? How did they get to Austin? Why didn't I know them? I was dying to find out, yet after so many years of fruitless searching, I was also afraid to pick up the phone and call them.

About six months ago a chance meeting brought us together and set me on the trail of my family and its origins. My wife and I had gone to a church meeting for new members in nearby Georgetown. Just before the orientation started someone came up, looked at our name tags, and said, "Oh, I just met your brother and his wife." I almost fell over.

Who were these new people, Rick and Susan Denbow? My interest was piqued when I found out that Rick's family was originally from near Sioux Falls, S.D., where Rick's father, George, had been born in 1920. I was born not far away in Iowa, as was my father, my grandfather, and every other Denbow that I knew. Since Sioux Falls is just across the river from Iowa, I thought we must be related -- but how? And why had we never heard about one another? After my experiences with telephone books

around the world, it seemed very unlikely indeed that we were not related at all.

The following day I went to see my father who lives nearby. Since George and my father are about the same age, I thought perhaps they might have heard of one another at some point in the past.

"No," my dad answered, "but Sioux

Falls is only about 30 miles from Parker, South Dakota where your great-grandfather Harvey Denbow farmed for almost 40 years! He moved there from the Marshalltown area about the turn of the century. Why don't you see if you can find mention of a George Denbow in the short genealogy your Aunt Lois (Gannon) put together years ago. I think there is a copy somewhere in the attic."

After some scrambling I found the small booklet tucked away at the bottom of a dusty box. It had been written 45 years earlier by my aunt as a school project. Anxiously, I looked inside for the solution to the mystery of the South Dakota Denbows. Although there was a lot to interest me in those few yellowing, crinkled pages, there was no mention of George or any other Denbow from South Dakota. The mystery remained unsolved!

There was, however, a list of relatives stretching all the way back to a Solomon Denbow, my great-great

grandfather, born in the early 1800s. I had never heard of him but, according to my aunt's account, he had "escaped from the oppressive apprentice system of Scotland as a stowaway on board a ship . . . [and] . . . After much hardship because of the act of securing his passage in this manner, he arrived and made a place for himself in the midst of American civilization." Wow! I was hooked and wanted to know more.

Since I still couldn't fit in George from South Dakota, I realized something must be missing from my Aunt's account. So I began my own search, first by looking for old census records for Iowa and South Dakota in the library at

the University of Texas, where I work. I found that the U.S. census records from 1850 onward are detailed county by county and we didn't have copies of any of them in our library.

The card catalog did list several volumes from the 1st census of the United States in 1790, however, so I decided to have a look just for fun. Imagine my surprise when I found the name Denbow not once, but several times! After looking in vain for contemporary Denbows in phone books all over the world, I couldn't believe that here were several mentions of this rare name from the very beginning of United States history. I was now onto a very early trail

for the family in America. But what about old Soloman? How could he have been the first Denbow to reach the new world if he had only been born in the early 1800s? The Census records indicated that by that time there were already two long-established branches of Denbows in New Hampshire and Maryland? I was obviously still missing something.

My first thought (I suppose this gives an unfavorable insight into my character) was that someone else must have already done the legwork, so why not just write to every Denbow I could find to ask them what they knew about Denbow history. Luckily, along with my Aunt's genealogy I also

THE

DENBOW DIASPORA



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This newsletter is published two or three times a year by the co-editors, who are proud to claim that it is the only newsletter in the world "For Denbows by Denbows."

found a copy of a book called "The Family Heritage Book" that my sister had given to my father 20 years earlier. In it were addresses for every known Denbow in the U.S. at that time (or so the book said; there were about 190 names, but I was listed twice, so was my brother, and doubtless many other people as well). I mailed out \$20 worth of pleading letters asking for information on family history. About \$18.50 worth of letters were returned as undeliverable after 20 years. The remaining \$1.50 was money well spent, however, because it put me in touch with many interesting people who kindly took the time to help explain what they knew about family history. I found that, as Ralph Denbow of Lubec, Maine, wrote to me, tracing our family history "is a rough trail to follow at times, but it is interesting."

Checking through early records from Maine to Maryland I very quickly learned that not only did Denbows fight in the Revolutionary War (including one who recruited troops for General Washington), but that by 1776 the family had already been living in America for over a hundred years. There were tales of capture by Indians in Canada, Revolutionary War heroes, and even a counterfeiter or two. The earliest records relate to a man named Salathiel Denbow who arrived in Oyster River, N.H., in about 1662, and John Denboe who was transported as an indentured servant to Maryland in 1663.

That wasn't all. To complicate matters, I found a whole genealogy for Denbows who had settled on the Caribbean island of Antigua around 1700 to deal in rum and other goods. They disappear from Island records about 1805. Did they also come to North America at that time, or did they die out, or return to England? Suddenly there were too many Denbows! From which was I descended? And what about Scotland, the apprentice system, and the stowaway story? Were these true family traditions, perhaps recording the experiences of John Denboe and then later transposed to Soloman? Or, was it simply a legend made up to explain something that had long since been forgotten? Or, did a later Denbow named Soloman make the same journey as John, but a century and a half later? While I had learned a great deal, I now had more questions than I had started with! I had to begin again.

I went back to my aunt's account and found that Soloman Denbow had married Elizabeth (Sarah) Cabbage in Crawford County, Indiana. They apparently had two children there (William and James, I believe) before moving to Knox County, Illinois in the early 1830s. Great! All I had to do was go to Indiana records to find out when Solomon had arrived, and maybe from where.

I should have known it wouldn't be that easy. Oh, I found Solomon Denbow all

right — but the wrong one! A man named Solomon Denbow did indeed arrive in the Ohio valley – but in the 1790s as a grown man with several daughters who married in Shelby County, Ky, between 1792 and 1796 (Sally Denbo in 1792, Nancy Denbo in 1796). This Solomon was clearly too old to have been my great-great grandfather – he was even too old to have been the father of “my” Soloman. So who was he? As things stand, it seems likely that he was the grandfather of “my”

Soloman; who, as my cousin Florence believes, was the offspring of the first Solomon's son, James, who married Mary Smith in Hardin Co., Ky. in 1807. Unfortunately, no one can prove this connection yet because birth records were seldom kept.

Between 1790 and 1812, the elder Solomon's name was spelled in many different ways (just like my junk mail) including: Denbeaux, Denbo, and Denbow. It is during this period that the variation Denbo is likely to have

arisen and is still in use in southern Indiana. ^{1.}

So who was this first Solomon? Could he have been the stowaway Denbow from Scotland remembered in



Family of Solomon's grandson, Harvey Denbow (c. 1899); Edith and Paul not yet born. From left to right: Harold, Viola, Theron, John, Carl, Mae, Harvey and Homer.

family tradition? Maybe, but he also appears in earlier records from Washington County, Pennsylvania, where he is listed as a Sergeant in the same Militia Company (1778-80) as a Robert Denbo, Pvt. 4th Class. These two appear to have moved together to Kentucky at the end of that decade. I have found no other records that could tell me who the father of this Solomon was. If he was not a stowaway, then perhaps he comes from an as yet unknown

branch of the family descended from John Denboe in Maryland. On the other hand, several New Hampshire records indicate that a Solomon of about the right age was born there to Elijah Denbow in about 1760. This Soloman had no brothers named Robert that I can find, however.

Just to confuse matters, there is some evidence that there were two Elijah Denbows in New Hampshire at this time, one born in 1738 and the son of Salathiel Denbow, III(?), and the other born in 1740, the son of Richard Denbow (grandson of the original Salathiel, birth date unknown). The first Elijah is thought to be the founder of the Denbo clan in southern Indiana. His son, Joseph, had 14 children! Unfortunately, there are some suspicions about the New Hampshire Elijah connection with southern Indiana and, as a result, there remains some doubt as to the relationship of the Denbow and Denbo families at the beginning of the 19th century. But that is another story! To complicate matters further, Soloman Denbow also had a son whom he named Joseph and who was about the same age as the Joseph Denbo of Indiana! I will leave the story of the Denbo/Denbow relationship to someone better qualified to answer it -- perhaps cousin Florence if she can be persuaded. *[Editor's Note: The tenuous, actually fraudulent, nature of the New Hampshire-Indiana Denbo(w) connection is well documented by Jim's cousin Florence,*

see her article in vol. 3, no. 3 (1996). However, there really does appear to have been an Elijah Denbow in Indiana, just not the one that was at the center of what best might be termed "genealogical fraud." The aim of this fraud was a successful -- but later rescinded -- membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. It's possible that the real Elijah Denbow did actually come from New Hampshire, but there's no actual evidence for that conjecture -- CJD]

As for the George Denbow from South Dakota that started off my story and my research, he only knew that his father's name was Wayne; he had no idea what his grandfather's name had been, perhaps because he had died at an early age. Anyway, it looked like a total dead end. After all the confusions about Elijahs, Solomans, and Josephs, I was frustrated to have searched through so many records only to find no solid answers. For George, however, a lucky happenstance saved the day. It turns out that both George and his father Wayne had the same middle name: Emory. George had no idea why this should have been but, through the help of my cousin Florence, it turns out that an Emory Denbow (1865-1904) was born after the Civil war to William, another son of Solomon. In addition to Emory, William's children included: Curtis, Sylvanus, and Lenora Ellen.

This still doesn't answer the question of how and why such a small family, poised on the edge of what was then

the frontier, had completely lost contact with one another – particularly at a time when families were supposed to stick together. What had happened? While there is still a lot to learn, part of the answer seems to lie in the aftereffects of the Civil War, which devastated the family of Solomon Denbow. Of the six sons of Solomon (William, Martin, Riley, John, Robert and James) one, Riley, died in infancy. The fates of all the rest were tied to the conditions they experienced as soldiers in that war -- not just battle conditions, but health and nutrition as well.

James (1832-1863) died of TB/pneumonia one day after arriving home from the war as an invalid in 1863, leaving a wife, Mary, and infant daughter, Viola. Martin V.B. (for Van Buren!) Denbow (1841-1873) was wounded at Shiloh but reenlisted, coming home for the second time in 1865 with consumption. He died in his early thirties in 1873, leaving behind his two small daughters, Rosa and Eliza, and wife Salinda. John (1837-1884), my great-great grandfather, returned at about the same time with TB so bad that he could never work again at a steady job. According to his step-mother, Roseannah, by January of 1878 John, "was so sick on account of his lung troubled (sic) that he was not able to come and see his father [Solomon] . . . on his death bed." A tall man of 6' 2 1/2", John weighed just 130 pounds when he died of con-

sumption in 1884 at the age of 46. His only children, Harvey and Silvester, were fathered before the war. Silvester's children were all girls: Myrtle, Flossie, Lura Mae, and Roxy; Harvey fathered eight children, then married Silvester's widow, Rilla, after the death of his first wife, Viola, in childbirth.

Robert C.H. (1843-1915) also arrived home from the war ill with pneumonia and other health problems. By the time his third brother, John, had died of war-induced illness Robert had become an expert in dealing with war pension claims. He became a full-time war pension attorney who included on his Albion, Iowa, stationery the motto: "Be Kind, Do good, Mind your own business." He died in 1915, preceded by two wives (Sarah E. Cubbage and Elizabeth Augusta Mendenhall) and several children, including his only son, William. He was survived by his third wife, Lillian, and two children – Lillian (Boulton), daughter of Sarah, and Flora (Lhamon).

I have no record that the last son of Solomon, William (dates unknown) fought in the Civil War. He seems to have been the first Denbow to move out of the Albion area after the war, settling in South Dakota. I also have no information on Solomon's daughters: Elizabeth (?-?) and Mary Denbow Crisp (1846-1930).

To return to my starting point, the only descendants of Soloman

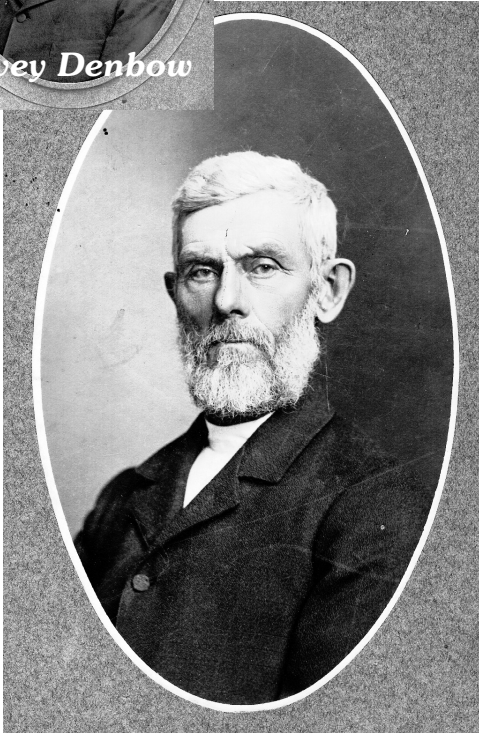
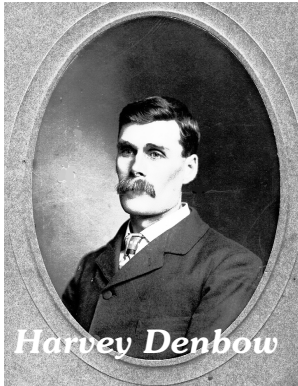
Denbow who carried on the name after the Civil War were those leading to my family through John Denbow, and those leading to George's family through William Denbow. How fortuitous that members of these two branches should meet again in Texas after 130 years of separation!

Afterthought

So far, no one has come up with a picture of Solomon Denbow (though one could exist since he lived until 1878), or his son John or grandson Emory. Some help with the pictures on the facing page would be welcome and perhaps someone reading this newsletter can lend a hand. The photo on the left side was labeled in the 1960s by my grandmother, Laura, as "Carl's grandfather, John Denbow." The same photo (and others?) occurs in the Arney family collections labeled as "John Arney." Florence thinks the latter is correct, but the facial features of this John seem to me to be very similar to Harvey's. Is this just coincidence? Yet the man appears to be too old to be John Denbow who died in ill-health at the age of 46 — could it be Solomon who died in 1878?

The other picture is from my grandfather's collection and shows someone we don't know. From the style of dress and photo, I would guess it was also taken in the 1890s. Any suggestions as to identity would be most welcome.

^{1.} *In England the first written versions of the name were — remember this is Norman or Frenchified English where words never sound like they are spelled — de Kenebout (1211); de Einebut (1211); Donebol (1212); de Enebaud (1212); Deneblod (1212); Deneboud (1212). By 1226 AD the spelling had stabilized around Denebaud/Denebaut/Deneboud (all pronounced "Denbow", vous savez). In the 14th century, Denebaud/Deneband were most common, changing to Denbowe in the 1500s and from there to Denbow/Denboe in the 1600s. According to English experts, the name is definitely Saxon in origin.*



Unknown Lady in
1994, still unknown in
2004. Help anyone?

**John Arney, John Denbow or Solo-
man Denbow of the Iowa Clan?**

Another 10th Anniversary Reprint

Early Devon

by Margaret Denbow

My father started it all! He was the Rev. Walter H. Denbow, born in Plymouth, Devon, in 1888, and trained as a minister of the Congregational church. After many years of working in London he moved, about 1954, to Loddiswell, a small village near Kingsbridge in Devon. It was here that he discovered, first in the Congregational church burial ground, and later in the Church of England cemetery, that the name Denbow appeared on several headstones. This led him to start asking questions of the older members of his family, particularly two elderly aunts who lived at Bath in Somerset. With their help he was able to discover the family connection with the graves at Loddiswell. The most important of these graves was the one of my father's great-grandfather – John Denbow, who was born nearby in the village of Kingston in 1793, and lived most of his life at Loddiswell, dying there in April 1880. I have a photograph of this John Denbow, probably given to my father by the two aunts.

We moved from Loddiswell to Exmouth, also in Devon, in 1957 when my father retired. It was then he and I started haunting the Exmouth and Exeter reference libraries in search of ancient Denbows. At the beginning of the history of the Denbow name that he eventually wrote he says, "It was on Wednesday, November 27th, 1957, while looking for a book in the Exmouth library, that I took off a shelf a copy of the Index to the many volumes of the Transactions of the Devonshire Association. I glanced through it and looked, almost automatically, to see if the name Denbow was in it – it was. I brought the book home, but found nothing further to interest me in it just then."

He discovered from that book that this Denbow was a place-name. It was Denbow farm at Farringdon near Exeter.¹ The farmhouse has, I think, now become derelict, and the signpost at the nearby crossroads which was marked "Denbow Cross" has vanished completely. [Editor's Note: Nick Denbow reported in his article in Vol. 5, No. 2 (1998) that a new sign has again been erected at this crossroads that once again bears the Denbow name. A photo of the sign is printed in this issue as well.]

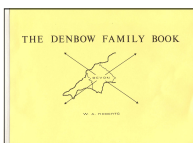
My father found that the name Denbow, in various spellings, goes way back to dim and distant times. A Sir John Denbaud was alive at Porsceurt (modern spelling – Portskewett) in south Wales in 1230. Maybe he was helping

(Continued on page 19)

Two popular publications still available from
The Denbow Diaspora Bookstore . . .



A limited number of the original reprint of The Regimental History of the 78th Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry in the late War of Rebellion can be purchased for \$40.00. New reprints, with an improved lay-flat binding, are available for \$45.00. True originals bring up to \$450 from rare book dealers.



The Denbow Family Book, by W. A. Roberts, also a reprint, sells for \$18.00. This book contains more information than is available in any other one source on the Denbow family in England.

A Monroe County, Ohio, Medical Receipt for Curing the Cold Plague

1. Take one pint of French Brandy
2. One tea cup full of loaf sugar
3. One teacup full of red pepper made fine
4. Boil it in the Brandy till the strength is out, then strain it
5. Bottle it for use.
6. One table spoon every hour till the sweat brakes out freely and then Not so often. Continue on til cured. Never fails.

Courtesy of Ellie Palmer
 (spelling as in original)

Further Information on Nalley Photo Supplied by Descendant, Ellie Palmer

Ellie Palmer emailed me about the possible identity of the “Mr. Nalley” being honored on his 100th birthday in a photo — published in Vol. 8, No. 1 (September 2001) — taken on the front lawn of James T. Denbow’s farmhouse outside Woodsfield, Ohio. It appears that the proper identity of this man is John Nalley, who died in 1917 at the age of 106. In more detail, here’s the information that Ellie sent me:



Levi’s son John lived to be over 100. He was born in 1810 and died in 1917. This was my g3grandfather. In case you are interested, his father Levi Nalley who lived to be 103 years old is buried in Barber Ridge Cemetery, Monroe County, Ohio. Notes for JOHN NALLEY: 1. JOHN2 NALLEY (LEVI1) was born 4 Jul 1810 in Belmont Co., Ohio, and died 15 Mar 1917. He married (1) SABINA MOOSE. He married (2) SARAH DEARTH. He married (3) HANNAH KEYSER.

He died at age 106 years, 9 months, 11 days. When he was a young man his parents moved to Monroe County, Ohio, where John spent the rest of his many years. He gave two reasons for his long life. He had always liked to walk, and after age 100 years he walked each day to town and back, a distance of six miles. His second reason for his many years: He had never used liquor or tobacco. He said to young people, “Don’t touch the stuff. It will kill you.”

John Nalley, “Uncle Johnny” to many, was a soldier in the Civil War for two years, seven months. He belonged to Co. C., 92nd Ohio Infantry. He is buried in Antioch Cemetery, Monroe County, Ohio.

Credit for this information:

Please give credit to the deceased person who did the research on this segment of my family. The person who did the amazing work of documenting Levi and John’s family was Hazel Nalley wife of John Russell Nalley. She has been deceased for many years. A nephew of hers, David Shiltz, who is not related to the Nalleys came in possession of her notes after her death and was kind enough to pass them on to me since he was not a Nalley researcher. I am very happy to hear from any Nalley/Nally researchers. — Ellie Palmer, Moro, Illinois palmeem@aol.com

Denbow Diaspora DNA Donation Document

I'm interested in the *Denbow Diaspora* DNA Fund (DDDF). With the understanding that these funds will be used exclusively for the DNA testing laboratory fees, I wish to donate the following:

_____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ Other

Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____



Denbow or Denbo Line: (Please check one)

_____ Maryland _____ Indiana _____ Maine _____ Ohio

_____ England _____ Kentucky _____ Caribbean

_____ Iowa _____ Other, please specify _____

Confirmed Male Volunteers for DNA Testing (as of 6/22/04):

Robert Bruce Denbo, Lindenhurst, Ill. — Indiana clan

Carl J. Denbow, Athens, Ohio — Ohio clan

James Denbow, Round Rock, Texas — Iowa clan

Needed — representative of Maryland clan

Gene Bauer — Maine clan

Bernard Denbow — Devon, England clan

Needed — representative of African-Caribbean Denbow clan

DONATE TO DDDF!

CORRECTIONS OF ERRORS IN LAST ISSUE

Two errors — both involving photographs — that crept into the last issue have been brought to our attention. In the weird logic of the editors of this newsletter, this is good news. It means the Denbow diaspora is actually reading this rag. Thanks very much for calling these to our attention; The errors — and corrections — are as follows:



1. The photo above, of John Denbow (1797-1862), was published in the last issue of the *Diaspora* along with several other photos believed to be of the same man. This photo was recently made available to this publication by Garren Snyder. When she allowed us to scan it, she gave me (CJD) the name of the man whose pen-written ID of the photo was written on the left side of this locket. I, then, promptly forgot the man's corrected name. Well, let me explain this in the words of the email I received from Garren informing me, oh so gently, of my error: "Hi Carl, Enjoyed reading this

issue of Denbow Diaspora especially the part about the photo. There is one major mistake, [my husband] Gail's great-grandpa Denbow, whom I knew personally, and lived to be in his nineties, was named H. S. Harold Sinclair Denbow not Hamilton. Harold Sinclair was born in 1873, son of Levi. Keep up the good work. I've met a couple of Gallipolis Denbows in my substitute teacher work. First I met a Fifth Grader with the last name of Denbow and when I told him we could be relatives, he told me probably not as his family was from Monroe Co. BINGO! Later I met his mother who is an elementary teacher at Washington Elementary in town. She asked me if I knew you and I told her I did, so I figured you knew of this family. Garren"

2. My eagle-eyed sister, Signe, caught the fact that I had misidentified one individual in the photo on the right. The person I listed as Cora Ann Denbow (littlest girl in the front row) is probably actually the adopted daughter of Solomon Egger (the man in coveralls at the right of the photo). Interestingly his wife, was Cora Ann Denbow, who is the younger Cora Ann's name-



Flora Rose's sister, Sarah Catherine, wife of James T. Denbow, is in the back right leaning against a porch post. Others pictured (back left): Edna Gigax (wife of Edward Denbow). Children of Edna and Edward (l to r): Willard, Carl H., Phyllis Egger (?) and Eleanor. Seated next to Eleanor is Solomon Egger, husband of the elder Cora Ann Denbow, sister of Edward, Clem, James Ira, George, Mary Viola, Isaac Stanton, Elmer F. (Bob) and Walter.

sake. This picture was taken in about 1917, and Cora Ann (I know her as Aunt Ann) wasn't born until 1927! Thanks, Signe, for helping me brush up on basic math — Dad would be proud!! I've corrected the caption accordingly.

DENBOW REUNION

July 31-Aug 2, 2004

In Parkersburg, W.Va.

Friday – Denbow Diaspora Dinner at the Historic Harnett House

Saturday – Family Potluck Blennerhassett Island 11:00 a.m.– 5:30 p.m.

Sunday – Field Trip to Campus Martius Museum, Marietta, Ohio

Denbow Diaspora Dinner Deadline Extended to July 15!

Please send a check with your reservation to:

Gilda Haddox

(304) 424-6916

803 Edgelawn St

Parkersburg, WV 26101-7353



I will attend the Diaspora Dinner and bring ____ guests, for a total of ____ attendees. Enclosed is my check for _____ (\$15 per person) made out to the Denbow Diaspora. Indicate below the meal that you would prefer. This is just to get a rough idea of interest. Meals are served buffet style, with delicious vegetables, breads and desserts.

- ☐ I'd prefer honey-glazed chicken breast entrée
- ☐ I'd prefer Italian meat balls entrée
- ☐ I have special dietary needs; please specify

LATE BREAKING DETAILS ON THE REUNION IN PARKERSBURG FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT ON THE SCENE . . . GILDA HADDOX . . .

Friday Dinner at the Historic Harnett House

1024 Juliana Street. You may park across the street at the American Baptist Center's parking lot.

Tour of the home at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner immediately after — approximately 6:15 p.m.

Buffet Dinner

- ⇒ Italian Meatballs
- ⇒ Baked Honey Glazed Chicken Tenderloins
- ⇒ Scalloped Potatoes
- ⇒ Green Beans Almandine
- ⇒ Assorted Muffins and Rolls
- ⇒ Garden Salad
- ⇒ Assorted Mini Bundt Cakes

catered by *Sweet Sensations Catering*

Saturday Picnic on Blennerhassett Island at the Shelter House

Boat Ride to island - \$7 Adult

\$6 for children 3-12

First boat leaves at 11 a.m. and then every hour on the hour

Last boat leaves the island at 5:30 p.m.

History Lesson: In case you are a little rusty on your American History, Blennerhassett Island is where Vice President Aaron Burr and Harman Blennerhassett conspired to take over the Western part of the U.S. and turn it into a personal Empire.

Parkersburg, West Virginia: Hotels and Motels

Selected list of lodging available in Parkersburg. A more complete listing was included with the last issue of the *Diaspora*. Note that the Harnett House B&B is the site of the Friday dinner.

The Blennerhassett

320 Market St (4th & Market Sts), Parkersburg, WV
304-422-3131, 800-262-2536
www.theblennerhassett.com

Days Inn of Parkersburg

I-77 & WV 14/31 (exit 185), Williamstown, WV
304-375-3730, 800-329-7466
www.daysinn.com

Hampton Inn of Parkersburg

I-77 & WV 14 (exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-2900, 800-426-7866
www.hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn of Parkersburg

225 Holiday Hills Dr (I-77 & US 50 - exit 176), Parkersburg, WV
304-485-6200, 877-985-6200

Historic Harnett House Bed & Breakfast

1024 Juliana St, Parkersburg WV
304-483-1029
www.harnethouse.com

North Bend State Park

Just off US 50 (exit 176), Cairo, WV
304-643-2931, 800-CALL WVA
www.northbendsp.com

Microtel Inn

104 Nicolette Rd, I-77 & WV 14 (exit 170), Mineral Wells, WV
304-489-3892, 888-771-7171
www.microtelinn.com

For further information point your browser to:
<http://www.parkersburgcvb.org/lodging.htm>

(Continued from page 10)

to keep the Welsh from raiding English property! One of his descendants, another Sir John Denbaud or Denband² lies entombed in the church at Hinton-St.-George in Somerset. There is a stone effigy of him in armour lying on top of the tomb. Unfortunately, this Sir John had only one daughter, so we cannot claim him as an ancestor.³

There were plenty of Denbows living in Devon from the 1300's onwards, probably more than there are today.

My father collected all the information into a "book" called "The Denbow Family and Name." He had no typewriter in those days, and his handwritten notes were sent to his brother Fernley for sorting and typing. Then copies of each "installment" were sent around to members of the family.

When my father died in 1966, I put all his notes and the history away safely, thinking that it might be interesting to look at occasionally. That is the way it stayed until, in December, 1984, I received a letter from Bob Roberts of Beeson, near Kingsbridge, asking if I had any information on Denbows. We met in early January, 1985, and the proper history of the Devonshire Denbows really took off from there with the eventual publication of *The Denbow Family Book*.

I now find that I have a lot of American "cousins." There are advantages in having an unusual surname!

Footnotes

1. A reference in the Place Names of Devon says that this farm: "... is Denbowe 1700. The name is probably to be traced to John Denbaude and his wife, who were granted a license for a private oratory at their manor in parochia de Farendone in 1386. The same family (Denebaut, -baud) held manors in East Budleigh Hundred in 1346." Nearby, in the Place-Names of Dorset, one finds Denbose wood which the author says, "... must take its name from a family called Denebaud, mentioned several times as landholders in Wood-yates in the 13th and 14th centuries." Mentions of this family in other early records include: Philip Denebaund (de Denebald', de Denebaud) 1233, 1234; Wm Denebaud, 1316, 1317. [Eds.]

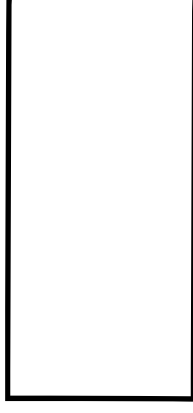
2. The coat of arms on the first page of this newsletter is our rendition of an early Denbaud/Denband coat of arms that may relate to this gentleman. In John Burke and John Bernard Burke's "Encyclopaedia of Heraldry or General Armory of England, Scotland, and Ireland", this description is given: "Denbaud, or Denband. Azure on a chief argent, a lion rampant, issuant gules." [Eds.]

3. In Collins's *Peerage of England* (1812), pages 1-2, it is noted that this daughter, Elizabeth, married Sir William Paulett and, quoting an earlier 16th or 17th century source, "... so was the Paulette's landes well augmented in Somersetshire. And Mr. Paulette's father that is now buildid stoutely at Henton in Somersetshire, the which longed in tyme past to the Denbaudes."

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