



# BONNES NOUVELLES

Newsletter

October-November 2006

Number 53

## *Learning about DELANO history and genealogy* **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.

### **CALIFORNIA, HERE WE COME!**

#### **THE 2007 REUNION AND ANNUAL MEETING**

As we announced at the 2006 Annual Meeting, the 2007 Annual Meeting and Reunion will be held on Friday, 29 June, and Saturday, 30 June 2007, at the Doubletree Hotel Sonoma Wine Country, at One Doubletree Drive, in Rohnert Park, California. Rohnert Park is located about 10 miles south of Santa Rosa and about 50 miles north of San Francisco. This will be the first DELANO KINDRED Reunion to be held in the West and provides our western members the opportunity to attend a reunion midway between San Diego and Seattle instead of traveling to New England or other eastern states.

Many DELANOs have settled in the Pacific Coast States. We have written several articles in the *Bonnes Nouvelles* about author Alonzo Delano (GHAARD pg. 408) who traveled west in 1849 for reasons of improving his health. Several articles have also appeared in newsletters about De Lano Beach on the southern shores of Puget Sound in Washington and of the exploits of Capt. George Eugene De Lano (GHAARD pg. 119). He was master of the ill-fated "Austria" (see the June 2003 *Bonnes Nouvelles* # 43, pg 9). Another sea captain was Henry Delano Fitch, who married Josefa Carillo of a prominent San Diego family when California was under Spanish rule. Henry D. Fitch was the son of Capt. Beriah Fitch and Sally Delano<sup>5</sup> (Thomas<sup>4</sup>, Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Lt Jonathan<sup>2</sup>, Philippe<sup>1</sup>). Sally (sometimes called Sarah) has the DFIP descent number 640. Henry was born on 7 May 1798 and went to sea at the age of 17. Through marriage, Capt. Fitch became the land owner of Rancho Sotoyome. The Rancho's 48,800 acres covered much of what is now the Alexander Valley. Fitch hired Cyrus Alexander to manage the ranch. Later Alexander left Fitch's employ to start his own ranch. Fitch hired the brother of Kit Carson to carry on the management of Rancho Sotoyome. The valley later became known by Alexander's name. Today the site of the Alexander's homestead and part of his ranch are located on the land owned by the Alexander Valley Winery. This is the planned destination of our Saturday afternoon tour.



### Getting There:

**By Air:** The closest major airports are San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and Oakland International Airport (OAK). Both airports are about the same distance from Rohnert Park and both airports have scheduled shuttle service by Sonoma County Airport Express (800-327-2024) to and from Santa Rosa with scheduled stops at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park. The price of a one-way trip from both airports is \$28.00 (\$26.00 for seniors).

**By car:**

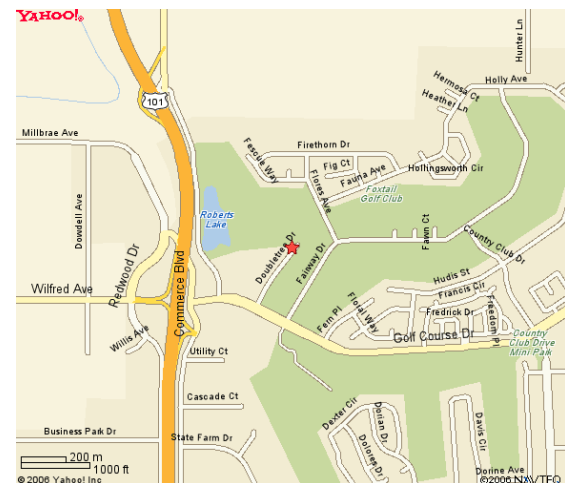
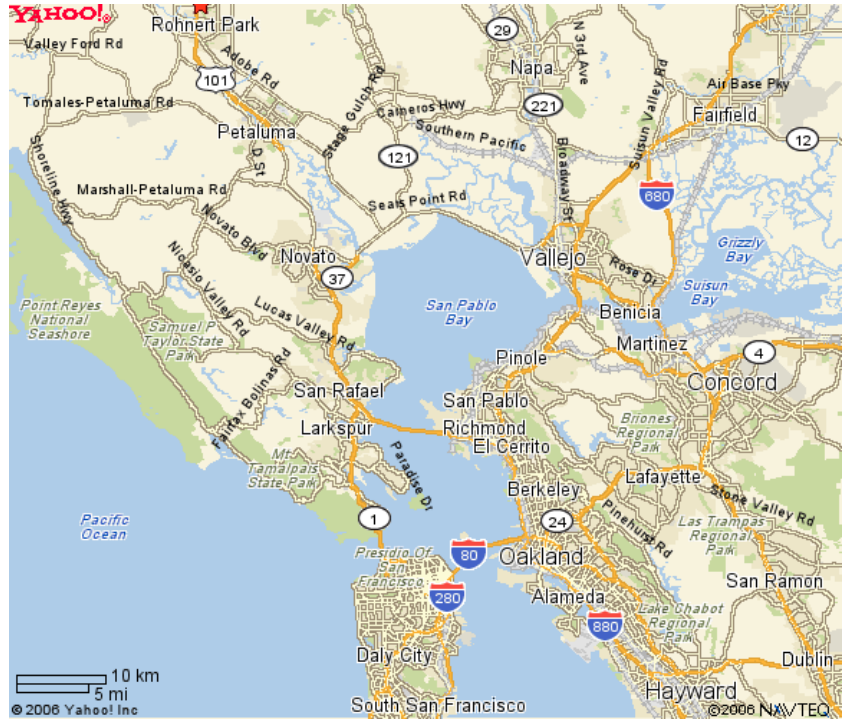
**From the North:** Take Interstate 5 south to California Exit 553 on to Interstate 505 South. Take Interstate Exit 56 on to Interstate 80 Southwest towards Vacaville and San Francisco. Take Exit 33 on to California Route 37 West towards Novato, CA (about 21 miles). Take U.S.101 Exit 460 North. Travel North about 20 miles to Rohnert Park. Take the Golf Course Drive/Wilfred Avenue Exit towards Commerce Blvd and go 0.2 mile. Turn left on Commerce Blvd. and go 0.1 of a mile. Turn right on Golf Course Drive and go 0.2 of a mile. Turn left and go 0.2 mile to the Doubletree Hotel.

**From the East:** Take Interstate 80 West to California Exit 33 and follow California Route 37 West towards Novato, CA and the directions above.

**From the South:** Take Interstate 5 North to Exit 446. Follow Interstate 580 through Oakland and Richmond, California and cross the Richmond-San Rafael Toll Bridge to U.S.

101 Exit 451 North. Follow U.S. 101 North about 30 miles to the Golf Course Drive/Wilfred Avenue Exit at Rohnert Park and follow the remaining direction above to the Doubletree Hotel.

**From Oakland Airport:** Take 98<sup>th</sup> Avenue from the airport and go 1 mile and bear right on to Interstate 880 toward Downtown Oakland. Go about 7.1 miles and Fork to the right onto Interstate 980 East towards Walnut Creek. Go 1.5 miles and take the Interstate 580 Exit towards San Francisco and continue on Interstate 580 about 19 miles, crossing the Richmond-San Rafael Toll Bridge, to U.S. 101 North Exit, Follow the directions above to the Doubletree Hotel at Rohnert Park.



**From San Francisco Airport:** Take U.S. 101 North toward San Francisco and go 1.1 miles. To avoid downtown San Francisco, take Interstate 380 West towards San Bruno and go 1.2 miles. Take the Interstate 280 North Exit toward San Francisco and go 5.9 miles. Take the left Fork on California Route 1 towards 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Golden Gate Bridge. In about a half mile the route becomes Junipero Serra Blvd. Continue another half mile and bear left on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue (CA Route 1) and continue about 3.4 miles where 19 Avenue ends and CA Route 1 North continues across Golden State Park to U.S. 101. Take U. S. 101 North across the Golden Gate Bridge and about 44 miles north to the Rohnert Park Golf Course Drive/Wilfred Avenue Exit and follow the directions above.

### Reunion Advance Registration & Reservations:

To adequately plan and support the meals and other reunion events, we must have advance notice of those who plan to participate in each event. Registration and Reservations should be made by **5 June 2007**.

### Accommodations:

We have blocked 15 rooms for Friday night, 29 June, and Saturday night, 30 June 2007 at a rate of \$135.00 plus taxes of 14.06% (in 2006) or about \$154.00 per night for single or double occupancy. This rate is considerably below the standard rate and compares favorably with the rate we obtained at the 2006 Reunion in Burlington, VT. These quoted rates will also be offered, based on availability, three days before and after the Reunion should you wish to see more of the beautiful Sonoma

Valley. There will be an extra charge for additional adults in these rooms. Individual reservations must be made **prior to Tuesday, 29 May, 2007** to secure these rates. We strongly suggest you call at your earliest convenience to assure obtaining a room at the blocked rate. Please call the Doubletree Sonoma Wine Country at (707) 584-5466 or the Doubletree Central Reservations (800) 780-5733. All guests should identify themselves as members **DELANO KINDRED Reunion Group**. Our Group Code is **Reunions 2007 – RLSCDT**. Group rate reservations must be made prior to **29 May 2007**.

#### **Reunion Registration:**

Registration will be held near the Cotati/Bodega Room from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Registrants will receive a “Welcome Envelope” containing Reunion information and nametags. Late registration will be held from 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM Saturday in the Cotati Room prior to the Annual Meeting.

#### **Events:**

The Friday night **Welcome Light Buffet Dinner**, held in Cotati/Bodega Room at 6:00 PM, will be a night of fellowship and pleasantries where one can meet and greet new members as well as visit with old acquaintances. Genealogical consultations will also be available. Other events may also be scheduled that evening.

On Saturday at 9:00 AM, the **2007 Annual Membership Meeting** will be held in the Cotati Room. We plan to have the minutes and the committee reports available in advance at registration to reduce the overall time of the Annual Meeting as we did last year. We plan to have the group photograph after this meeting.

**Lunch and Tour** will be at each individual’s option to increase everyone’s flexibility. We are planning a tour of the Alexander Valley Winery and will also include a visit to the adobe home of Cyrus Alexander, manager of Rancho Sotoyome. This Winery is on the original land owned by Cyrus Alexander after he left the employ of Henry D. Fitch. The graves of Cyrus Alexander and his family are also on the winery property. More details will be forthcoming in the issue of the 2006 Membership Directory and the March 2007 *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

The **2007 Banquet Dinner, Friday, 30 June**, will be served at 7:00 PM in order to give those on tour time to freshen up after returning to their guestroom. A cash bar will again be available.

The menus for the Friday Light Buffet and the Saturday Banquet will be available in the issue of the 2006 Membership Directory and the March 2007 *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

Arrangements are being made for a **2007 Banquet Speaker** and details will be available in the March 2007 *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

Cousin **Carolyn Marcinkowski** who lives in Cloverdale, CA, is our on-the-scene Reunion contact. She has been very helpful with the planning of this Reunion. Thanks Carolyn!

## **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE DELANO KINDRED REUNION DOUBLETREE SONOMA WINE COUNTRY HOTEL 29 JUNE TO 1 JULY 2007**

#### **Friday, 29 June 2007**

1:00—4:00 PM	Board Meeting in the Cotati Room
4:00—6:00 PM	Registration in the Cotati Room Entrance
6:00—11:00 PM	Welcome Light Buffet and Program in the Cotati/Bodega Room Buffet served at 7:00 P M

#### **Friday, 30 June 2007**

8:30—9:00 AM	Late Registration in the Cotati Room
9:00—11:00 AM	Annual Membership Meeting in the Cotati Room
11:00—11:15 AM	Group Picture
11:30 AM—5:00 PM	Lunch and Tour (individual option)
6:00 PM—11:00 PM	Annual Banquet with Speaker. Dinner served at 7:00 PM in the Cotati/Bodega

#### **Saturday, 1 July 2007**

9:00—11:00 AM	Board Meeting in the Cotati Room
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## DNA: SOME QUESTIONS AND SOME ANSWERS

by Maria A. Dering and Floyd Smith Sanford, III

### WHAT IS DNA?

The acronym “DNA” is short for the molecule DeoxyriboNucleicAcid, which carries the genetic information that determines how we look and how our bodies function. DNA can also determine a person’s susceptibility to certain diseases, allergies, and other medical conditions – but the Y-DNA test does not analyze these types of factors. Since DNA carries critical genetic information, it is now possible through advanced technology to compare the DNA of groups of related individuals. Varying degrees of matching (up to 99%) indicate the probability of connection of family members tested to each other and to a common ancestor.

### *A Common Misconception*

Perhaps a common misunderstanding is that DNA can tell you exactly who your ancestors are. This is not true – that is, unless you have a verifiable sample of their DNA, which might be centuries-old. But DNA testing **can** tell you to whom you are related if those persons take the appropriate test.

### WHAT MAKES THE Y-DNA TEST SO IMPORTANT TO THE DELANO KINDRED?

The Y-Chromosome has certain unique features:

- The presence of a Y-Chromosome causes maleness. This little chromosome, about 2% of a father's genetic contribution to his sons, programs the early embryo to develop as a male.
- It is transmitted from fathers only to their sons.
- Most of the Y-Chromosome is inherited as an integral unit passed without alteration from father to sons, and to their sons, and so on, unaffected by exchange or any other influence of the X-chromosome that came from the mother. It is the only nuclear chromosome that escapes the continual reshuffling of parental genes during the process of sex cell production.

It is these unique features that make the Y-Chromosome useful to genealogists.

### WHAT KINDS OF TESTS ARE AVAILABLE?

Companies such as Family Tree DNA (Houston, Texas), the company the Kindred uses, offer a variety of testing services (including Y-DNA) to their clients. Our tests, the 25-marker Y-DNA studies, cost \$148.00 each, the discounted family group rate.

Examples of other DNA tests are:

- mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), traces the genetic traits that come down through the maternal line

ONLY to all children, both sons and daughters

- a combined mtDNA and Y-Chromosome test
- expanded Comprehensive DNA tests.

Family Tree DNA is a well-regarded company with many satisfied clients. To learn more about the company, visit [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com).

### What Can the Y-DNA Test Reveal?

In brief, this test proves the blood connections (or lack of them) among male descendants of a common male ancestor. There are percentages of matching among different lines – the higher the match percentage, the greater the proof of a blood connection. A match of 99% is definitive.

### How Are the Test Results Presented?

Results are presented in the form of a chart which displays and compares the set of numeric values given to the 25 markers tested for each of the participants (who are identified only by their test kit numbers, not their names). A link to our Delano test results and an expanded version of this article has been posted on the public site, [www.delanoye.org](http://www.delanoye.org). Click on the Family Tree DNA link about half-way down the page.

### Can You Participate? Yes – and no.

**Yes! If you are a male with the surname**

**DELANO**, you are most welcome (and encouraged) to participate in the Family Tree Y-DNA study.

**Yes! If you are a direct male descendant from Philippe de Lannoy with a non-DELANO surname that changed from DELANO over the years** you are most welcome (and encouraged) to participate in the Family Tree Y-DNA study.

Please go to [http://www.familytreedna.com/surname\\_join.asp?code=Y81149&special=true](http://www.familytreedna.com/surname_join.asp?code=Y81149&special=true) for more information on testing and costs. Please request the Y-DNA25 (marker) test for the discounted group price of \$148.00. You will need to pay for the test yourself, as the Kindred Board voted only to underwrite \$600.00, which covered the cost of the first four tests (descendants of four different sons of Philippe). Please deal directly with Family Tree DNA, the testing company, to make your test kit purchase. When your kit arrives, please follow the instructions included to properly collect your sample, and then return it to Family Tree DNA, as directed. Your results will automatically be included on the comparison display chart with all the other Delano test results.

**No! If you are a male descendant who is descended through an ancestor’s daughter**, you should not participate because the Y-DNA results will not match.

**No! If you are a woman** who is descended from one of Philippe Delano's sons, you yourself will **not** be able to participate in the current Y-DNA test, since it analyzes and shows results relating only to the Y (male) chromosome. **However**, we suggest that you ask a brother, cousin, or another male relative with the surname Delano to take the Y-DNA test. You and your family will then have a valuable, interesting source of information about how you fit into the Delano family.

If you have any questions about this article or the Delano Kindred DNA project in general, please email project co-administrator Floyd (Sandy) Sanford at [sandysanford@earthlink.net](mailto:sandysanford@earthlink.net)

**For your reference:**

Your Delano Kindred DNA project co-administrators are:

Muriel Curtis Cushing: [flash1620@comcast.net](mailto:flash1620@comcast.net)  
(Kindred Vice President and Kindred Genealogist)

Floyd Smith (Sandy) Sanford:  
[sandysanford@earthlink.net](mailto:sandysanford@earthlink.net) (Kindred Board Member and Kindred Historian)

The more Y-DNA male study participants we have, the more interesting and comprehensive the results will be. Please do let us know if you have any questions about the test itself or the results. We look forward to hearing from you.

### NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome our new members who have joined our Family Society since August 2006. We are pleased that three of these new members are spouses of descendants.

Indiana

**Cynthia Beth F. Delano** of Evansville

Maine

**Donald J. Platt** of Minot

Michigan

**Rodney Jewett** of East Lansing

New York

**Carol S. Wolf**

Virginia

**Betty Delano** of Warsaw

**WELCOME ABOARD, COUSINS!!**

### 2006 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

In this issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles* we have included the 2006 Annual Questionnaire. Each year in the fall we distribute a questionnaire in order to receive the views of the membership. Your Board will try to act on your suggestions whenever feasible. While almost every questionnaire seeks your views about the location of Annual Meetings and Reunions, at times other subjects are also covered.

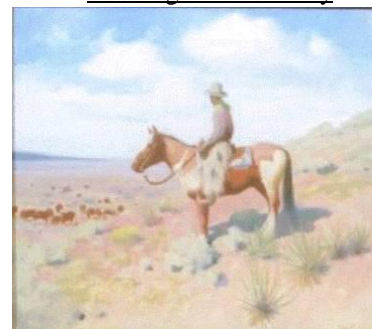
Please take time to complete your questionnaire and please mail it to reach us by 31 January 2007. This is **YOUR** Society and we would like to hear **YOUR** thoughts and ideas. The results of the questionnaire responses will be presented in the March 2006 issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

This questionnaire and results will be posted on the members' website: [www.delanokindred.org](http://www.delanokindred.org). Thank you for your help!

### NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

#### Gerard C. Delano Painting Auctioned on eBay

Cousin **Carolyn Clarke** reported that Gerard C. Delano's oil painting "The Cowboy" was auctioned on eBay on 13 August 2006. We could not find an image of this painting in Richard Bowman's book Walking With Beauty that chronicles the artist's life and shows most of his paintings. The starting eBay price was \$7,700.00 with an estimated value of between \$15,000 and \$25,000.00. We do not know what the painting sold for. We would appreciate knowing the final price.



Readers may recall we covered Gerard C. Delano's life and history in June 1998 *Bonnes Nouvelles* #27. We thank Cousin Carolyn for bringing the auction of this painting to our attention.

#### Delano Park, Maine House for Sale

Cousin **Ernie Towers** sent in a copy of 2004 Maine Real Estate Section of the November 2004 *Maine Sunday Telegram* which featured a home at 310 Delano Park, in Cape Elizabeth, ME as the "Home of the Week." Built in 1902 with ten rooms and five bathrooms, an updated kitchen and bathrooms with windows that "provide dazzling views of Casco

Bay,” it was offered at the price of \$1,150,000.00.

Interestingly the real estate article tells the following bit of history and romance about Delano Park. “Delano Park, an association formed in 1885, was once the Delano Farm, owned by blacksmith Thomas Delano who was a great-grandson of John



A little brook, just out of shot at left, winds around the home and down to the sea.

## Home of the Week

**310 Delano Park, Cape Elizabeth**

Delano Park, an association formed in 1885, was once Delano Farm, owned by blacksmith Thomas Delano, who was a great-grandson of John and Priscilla Alden and may have been the model for Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith." The first house was built here in 1866. Today, residents enjoy the same privacy, preserved association land and expanse of rocky shorefront.

Price: \$1,150,000  
Built: 1902  
Rooms/bedrooms: 10/5  
Bathrooms: Three full, one half  
Square footage: 2,850  
Lot size: .59 acre  
Garage: Two-car, under

Homes are selected by the Marketing Department based on reader interest. Suggestions for listings for Home of the Week may be e-mailed to: [cstewart@pressherald.com](mailto:cstewart@pressherald.com)

and Priscilla Alden and may have been the model for Longfellow's 'Village Blacksmith.' The first house was built here in 1866. Today, residents enjoy the same privacy, preserved association land and expanse of rocky shorefront.”

You may recall we told of Thomas's (the blacksmith) son Barzillai Delano in our article the

“Lighthouse Keepers of Maine” in the September 1998 *Bonnes Nouvelles* #28. Barzillai Delano was the third keeper of Portland Head Light near Delano Park. Barzillai, like his father, was a blacksmith prior to becoming a lighthouse keeper. Our visit to Portland Head Light and a brief visit to Delano Park are covered in the June 2003 *Bonnes Nouvelles* #43. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was a native of nearby Portland, Maine. It is said he frequently walked out to Portland Head Light, the subject in his poem “The Lighthouse.” We thank Cousin Ernie for sending in this real estate clipping.

### Samuel Huntington The First President

Cousin **Renee G. Delano** of Putnam, CT, said she tries to get down to Norwich, about 40 miles to the south, to attend the Norwich Genealogical Society's meetings, but she has trouble driving at night. She decided instead to contribute copies of the GHAAHD and DFIP to the genealogical section of the Norwich Library.

She also sent us an article about Samuel Huntington (1731-1796) of Norwich who, it could be argued, was really the “first” President. You see, Samuel Huntington was the president of the

Continental Congress and therefore, according to the Norwich Historical Society, the first president of the United States. Samuel was also the Governor of Connecticut from 1786 to 1796 and was one of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence.



On Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> the Norwich Historical Society gathered at his gravesite for the annual wreath laying ceremony in honor of his birthday. This year, in honor of his 275<sup>th</sup> birthday, local legislators, Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, the Connecticut State Historian, and members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company of the Governor's Foot Guard were there, along with about 80 residents. As Bill Stanley, president of the Norwich Historical Society said, “Samuel Huntington was overlooked simply because he was forgotten.” He said the Historical Society's push to recognize Huntington has brought attention to the long forgotten president.

And so it has. Some of you may have seen the coverage of Samuel Huntington on television during the last part of July.

We thank Cousin Renee for her contribution to the Norwich Library and for sending us the article about Samuel Huntington in the *Norwich Bulletin*.

### James Whitlow DELANO's

#### Empire Impressions from China Shown in Venice

You will recall that James Whitlow DELANO exhibited his photographs of China (*Empire: Impressions from China/Impero: Impressioni dalla Cina*) in Milan last fall (see *Bonnes Nouvelles* #51). Well, they were shown again in Venice this spring. The exhibition took place at the 18th Century Guild Hall of Artists which is housed in a palazzo adjacent to the baroque Sant' Eustachio Church, known as San Stae on the Grand Canal. James said access could not be easier. The vaporetto, public canal boats, stop directly in front of the venue at San Stae. The exposition was open to the public throughout May 2006. We hope Cousin James has continued success with his fine photographs.

### Past Newsletters Added To Members' Website

In an ongoing project we plan to eventually place all the *Bonnes Nouvelles* on our members' website at [www.delanokindred.org](http://www.delanokindred.org). So far we have assembled the newsletters back to March 2001 (NL #36). As we go back in time, more "reconstruction" of the newsletter will be necessary due to the reduced capabilities then of computers and in printing. While we can scan copies of old newsletters, the pictures (taken with color film) would all be in black and white. Consequently, we are resurrecting old newsletter printing masters that have been gathering dust and in some cases reconstructing portions of these newsletters so that the pictures will be in color. Eventually, we will arrive at the point where most of the photographs were taken with black and white, or in some cases sepia-tone film, to enhance the printing quality.

The December 1993 issue (NL #9) probably was the first issue with a photograph. It included a picture of 5½ year old George Douglas Gerpheide standing atop of DELANO Peak (elevation 12,137 feet) in Utah. Young George is shown holding a de Lannoy coat of arms that was fastened to two stakes to mark the peak, named after former Secretary of the Interior Columbus Delano. Earlier newsletters had no pictures. More and more sketches, diagrams and photographs were added to the following issues. The website also includes newsletter indexes.

### The Pilgrims and Thoughts on Thanksgivings

As Thanksgiving approaches there is always much attention paid to the Pilgrims and to Thanksgiving. This year was no exception. *Yankee Magazine* started it off with an article about the Pilgrims. Later the November 2006 issue of the *Smithsonian* included an article entitled "Pilgrims' Progress" written by Simon Worrall, who had written two previous articles for this magazine. While Worrall is an entertaining writer, it was discovered that he had limited knowledge about certain aspects of the Pilgrims' history. Dr. Jeremy D. Bangs became aware of this and ended up helping the *Smithsonian* editor accurately revise the article—although you will not see any reference to Dr. Bangs's significant contribution. The article is interestingly written and has many pictures. It is well worth reading.

On Saturday, 18 November the History Channel aired a three-hour television program about the history of the Pilgrims entitled "Desperate Crossing: The Untold Story of the MAYFLOWER." This has

been the subject of several reviews on the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society's website [www.sail1620.org](http://www.sail1620.org). The general feeling of the reviews is that the program did much to dispel many of the myths about the Pilgrims. These myths included:

- The Pilgrims left Holland to escape religious persecution; when the fact was that the Dutch were very liberal and accepting of all religions.
- Most of the Mayflower passengers were Pilgrims when in fact only 35 out of the 102 passengers were Pilgrims.
- The Mayflower Compact was a high and lofty expression of democratic principles. While it did establish democratic principles, it was much more involved and had more to do with establishing the principle of who could own land in the new colony. There was a question as to whether land could be passed to children borne outside England. Many of the Pilgrims' children were born in Holland and there were efforts in some circles in England to change the laws so that the Pilgrim Separatists could not pass their owned land to their children. Some of the reviewers including Dr. Bangs thought this aspect was not completely brought out in the television program.
- The Thanksgiving scene came in for some criticism. The large fat turkey shown was not believable, when one realizes that wild turkeys are thin and relatively scrawny. It is understood that wild turkeys were not in great abundance in the Plymouth area. Consequently, the majority of the meat consumed was venison, duck, pheasant and fish.

Dr. Bangs' description of the first Plymouth Thanksgiving follows:

"First Thanksgiving

What about Thanksgiving itself, perhaps the best-known event associated with the Pilgrims? Most treat it as a religious feast where the Pilgrims give thanks to God for surviving the past year — and of course to the Wampanoag, without whom they would have surely died. In fact, the day didn't start out as anything special. The Wampanoag simply showed up with 90 warriors and an unknown number of women and children for a three day visit which probably ate the Pilgrims out of house and home (just before the winter, to boot). For the Wampanoag, this sort of behavior

was natural for allies and they wouldn't have raised an eyebrow had the Pilgrims done the same. It's how kin treat one another. Thanksgiving, then, was the Pilgrims and Wampanoag coming together as allies and kin, strengthening a military and social alliance which both needed."<sup>1</sup>

### Other Thanksgivings:

An article by Professor Dan Roberts appearing in the *Virginian Pilot* newspaper, on 26 November 2006, lists several other "Thanksgivings."<sup>2</sup>

1619 at Berkeley Plantation in Virginia: "In 1619, 38 settlers sailed from England on the ship MARGARET to seek their fortunes in the new world.

They were from Berkeley Parish in Gloucestershire.

Upon arriving in Virginia on Dec. 4, 1619, they opened instructions from the Berkeley Co., their proprietor and sponsor, and followed the orders.

*'Wee ordaine that the Day of our ships arrival at the place assigned for the (plantation) in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God'*"<sup>3</sup>

Roberts points out dates of other "Thanksgivings" before 1621 Plymouth Thanksgiving and the 1619 Thanksgiving at Berkeley Plantation. Briefly they are:

May 1541—Francisco Vasquez de Coronado led his men in a service of thanksgiving for the safe discovery of water, food and forage in the Texas Panhandle.

June 1564—French Huguenot colonists give thanks in their settlement near the present day Jacksonville, FL.

1578—Records show celebrations of thanks in Newfoundland.

1598—Explorer Juan de Onate celebrated thanksgiving for the safe 350 mile journey overland from the Rio Grande to El Paso, Texas.

1607—Services of thanksgiving were conducted at the Popham Colony on the coast of Maine.

<sup>1</sup> J. D. Bangs. 12 Nov. 2006 email to Stacy Woods, "Re MFLR review of Desp. Crossing on Sampson site and Sail 1620"

<sup>2</sup> Dan Roberts, University of Richmond, VA, *Cornucopia of gratitude*, *Virginian Pilot*, Sunday, 26 Nov. 2006 p. B6. Note: Professor Roberts cites as his sources: Bryson, Bill, "Made in America", New York: William Morrow and Co. 1995. Grief, Martin, "The Holliday Book", New York Universe Books, 1978. & [www.berkeleyplantation.com](http://www.berkeleyplantation.com).

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

1607—The Jamestown settlers gave thanks for the safe passage to Virginia.

1610—Jamestown settlers held a thanksgiving service when a supply ship arrived after the bitter winter known as the "starving time."

There are probably more instances of thanksgiving being held in the New World before 1621, but we always think of the 1621 Thanksgiving at Plymouth Plantation.

We hope your Thanksgiving holiday was a pleasant one.

### Sara Delano Roosevelt Park Reopened Cousin Devin Delano was there

On a sunny day in November of 2005, students from NYC's Chinatown Intermediate School 131 gathered in the newly restored Sara Delano



Roosevelt Park on Canal Street, for a ribbon cutting event celebrating the \$2.1 million project, funded through a Lower Manhattan Development Corporation grant. The large, bright green field replaced the park's previous patched asphalt field.



Parks and Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation President Stefan Pryor, and the IS 131 Principal thanked Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Governor George Pataki for the park's



reconstruction, one of thirteen Lower Manhattan Parks which have been or will be improved through a \$25 million grant allocated to the city of NY in May of 2003.

Among the invited attendees was a relative of Sara Delano Roosevelt, **Devin Delano**, who told the crowd he "loves the neighborhood and the park," adding a brief background of Sara Delano Roosevelt and the Delano family.

The 7.85-acre park was built in 1934, on land acquired by the city in 1929 for widening the surrounding streets to make room for low-cost housing. It was later set aside for "playgrounds and resting places for mothers and children."

We thank Cousin Devin for sending us the story and the pictures.

### **Earl Howard DELANO Finds his Line of Descent and Visits his Canadian Cousins**

In early March, Cousin **George DELANO** in Virginia Beach received a call from **Howard DELANO** in San Gabriel, California, who was asking some questions about the 2006 Reunion in Burlington, Vermont. Cousin George reminded Howard to be sure to designate from which "branch" he descended, because the reunion name tags always indicated the branch of descent (from which daughter or son of Philip).

Howard said he was not sure what branch he was in. He had been researching his line, but he had come to a genealogical "dead end" after his grandfather Howard Michael Delano in New Brunswick, Canada. Howard said he thought his great grandfather might have been named James and he understood that he lived in northeastern New Brunswick. George remembered the research done by John Paterson in 1991 entitled "The Descendants and Ancestors of Charlie Delano" that was covered in several issues of the *Bonnes Nouvelles* in 1995 and 1996. These Canadians came from the Maine descendants of Dr. Thomas Delano. Charles Delano (1810-1886) had moved from Georgetown, Maine to Miramichi River, New Brunswick in the 1830s. There he started a family that spread throughout the New Brunswick area.

George found Charles had a son named James Delano and that James Delano had a son named Howard Michael Delano. George passed this to Howard in California, along with some additional information. Howard found this information matched the data he had. So thanks to the research

by John Paterson, Howard and his brother (Cousin **Franklin Roosevelt Delano** of Londonderry, New Hampshire) know their line of descent through the Dr. Thomas Delano branch back to Philippe de Lannoy.

We were happy to meet Cousin Howard and Cousin Franklin and their wives at the June 2006 Reunion in Burlington. After the festivities the Cousins, with their wives, drove north from Burlington into the Canadian Province of Quebec and then east to New Brunswick to Miramichi to look up relatives. While standing outside a store in Miramichi, a gentleman came up to Howard and asked him where he was from. Howard explained that he was visiting the city in order to look up his Delano relatives. The gentleman said "Oh, there are a lot of Delanos around here." And sure enough they made contact with some of them.

### **"REVISITED" SUBJECTS**

#### **Annie Hudson Taylor In U.S.A. Today**

You will recall Cousin **Muriel Cushsing's** article in the Oct.-Nov. *Bonnes Nouvelles* #50 about Annie Hudson Taylor—the Delano descendant who was the first person to go over Niagara Falls. On our way home from the 2006 Reunion we found an article about her in the travel section of the 30 June *USA Today*. A photograph of Annie and her barrel were featured in the newspaper as the center point of the article containing some facts about Niagara Falls. The newspaper dubbed her "the first of the barrel people," when she rode over the falls in 1901. Some of our alert readers also spotted it.

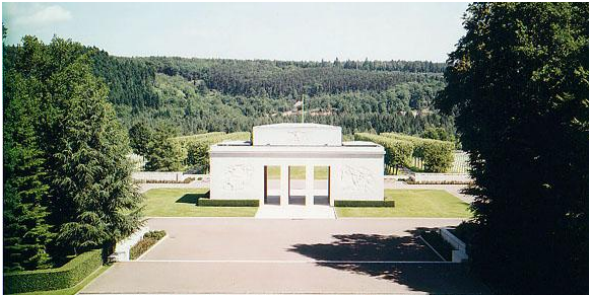
#### **William Adams Delano Revisited Again**

One of our alert readers in Richmond, VA spotted this article in an architectural magazine about the American-born British decorator Nancy Lancaster's home and garden. Nancy was born on an estate called "Mirador" located in a valley of



the Blue Ridge Mountains just to the west of Charlottesville, VA. Famed for her Yellow Library in London and her restored Haseley Court estate in Oxfordshire, Nancy, with help of architect **William Delano** of Delano & Aldrich of New York, created the gardens and redesigned portions of the estate to respect the “classical Georgian tradition of Virginia plantations.” Nancy is quoted by Robert Becker in this book *Nancy Lancaster: Her life, Her World, Her Art* as saying, “Billy’s [Delano] knowledge of classical architecture greatly influenced me ... it was he who taught me that the garden should relate to the house and that there was great value in long, framed vistas to distant points. They kept one’s eye from sliding sideways.” An example of this is shown in the view of the Blue Ridge Mountains from the rear of “Mirador.”

Nancy sold the plantation in 1950 and returned permanently to England. The present owners assured Nancy before she died that they would work to put the gardens and the house back to the original 1921 blueprints.



This is the second Virginia plantation we know of that was updated and refurbished by William A. Delano (see also *Bonne Nouvelles* #50 for the short article about Stanton Hill Plantation).

To many, William Delano was known as a socialite architect, but in addition to designing the public buildings, air terminal buildings and embassies listed in the March 2004 *Bonnes Nouvelles*, he designed the WWII American Memorial at Epinal, Vosges, France. Sgt. William E. DELANO, USAAF, who died 25 Feb. 1945, is buried there.

## FDR and a Little Boy

By John H. Somers

One does not forget meeting President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. I have not.

I was that little boy! He had a great presence. Not intimidating, but friendly and interested in me. It was a one on one meeting – or as close as it could get with a President of the country.

I was a little boy of eight or so – a kid. He was a big man! He was “The President,” but somehow that did not bother me at all. He was my friend at that moment. We got along fine! No details of the conversation are still with me.

My hometown was in Marion, Massachusetts. It was a town of 2,400 in the Cape Cod area. In the year of 1934 or so, the President came into Buzzards Bay on a Navy cruiser and was brought into Sippican Harbor by a launch from the ship. He was visiting Doctor McDonald. His home was along the harbor shore. The doctor was a friend of my father’s. We had walked a block to the doctor’s home.

The President sat at the entranceway to the property. A few men were standing there; perhaps five. I was not even aware of Roosevelt’s handicap. It was never an issue! I remember being right with the President. He had a large head. And he laughed easily. My Dad spoke casually with Roosevelt for a few minutes. He knew him from his college days. The President was friendly. He made me comfortable and important. Gave me a half-dollar! I did not keep it. The meeting was about fifteen minutes.

The same President Roosevelt would be my Commander-in-Chief when I was in the US Marine Corps in World War II. Now, as an adult, I can recall that presence. As an adult, I have learned that my family descended from the same DELANO lineage as the President. A small boy met the President of the United States – a long time ago.

## ALONZO’S NOSE

by Muriel Curtis Cushing

ALONZO DELANO b. 2 July 1806 in Aurora, New York; d. Grass Valley, California 8 September 1874, son of Dr. Frederick and Joanna (Doty) Delano; descendant of Pilgrims Edward Doty and Richard Warren.

Alonzo Delano married 7 December 1830 MARY BURT, b. New York ca. 1809 and died between the 1870 census and his (2) marriage in



Truckee, California on 28 August 1872 to MARIA HARMON, b. Warren Ohio 2 June 1834, the daughter of Herman Rising and Maria (Parsons) Harmon.

Alonzo Delano joined the early days of the Gold Rush on the advice of his physician “to reinvigorate my health.” He suffered from a recurring fever and it was thought that the best remedy would be a warmer climate. “Go West,” his doctor said.

On Thursday May 3, 1849 the wagon train left just outside of St. Louis, Missouri. Westward ho! Of the men in the company Alonzo Delano stood out among those cracking their whips above the backs of their ox teams. Marguerite Wilbur, a collector of Delano’s writings, describes “his wiry figure of medium height, lean and erect, with its keen eyes and enormous hooked nose.” Within a year of his westward journey an artist would depict him as a rumped Ichabod Crane, a newspaper would call him “a noseworthy citizen,” and another “the Cyrano of California.”

Delano faithfully kept a diary and wrote the history of his travels as he crossed the Plains to California. His diary, later published, gave an insight to the readers of everyday lives and hardships of the overland pilgrimage. He describes in detail the events he witnessed or participated in with so much revelation about the feelings, opinions and beliefs of both himself and those of his companions.

Arriving in California and failing several times to set up a business as a merchant in various boomtowns, he moved to San Francisco where he established a business in 1850. There he prospered, and by 1855 he moved on to Grass Valley. In Grass Valley he set up additional shops and became a banker, and most importantly, became the local Wells Fargo agent.

In 1855 Grass Valley was a prosperous city of 3,500 people. While the town was not the rude, wild mining camp of earlier days, saloons were common and gambling was a favored pastime. Women were uncommon and according to one account in 1852, Grass Valley only had two women in town. By 1855, the numbers had increased, but still women were relatively scarce. In March 1855 the town organized as a city and Alonzo Delano was elected as their City Treasurer. By this time Alonzo was a prominent merchant and celebrated for his sketches of gold camp life which rivaled Bret Harte and Mark Twain in popularity. Under his pseudonym “Old Block,” Delano wrote for a number of California newspapers about Gold Rush characters and incidents. He was well known for his “Pen-Knife Sketches” which he semi-humorously and whimsically depicted with his articles. His humorous illustrations were later retouched by Charles Nahl, an artist in the early days of California. Alonzo’s infectious good nature about his appearance and his skill with the pen came to earn him many friends.

On the night of September 13, 1854 a fire broke out and quickly spread through the city destroying more than 300 buildings in an area covering 30 acres. Virtually

nothing was left except some charred wood planks and the Wells Fargo brick vault. As the townspeople gathered around the vault wondering if their money was still safe, they saw agent Delano dragging one of the few remaining shacks down the main street. He propped up his makeshift office next to the still smoldering vault and then began to unlock the vault door. Suspense lifted as *every cent was in there*. As the crowd cheered, Delano painted a burnt piece of wood declaring Wells Fargo open for business. Delano gave hope to the townspeople and they would never forget.

In a newspaper article *Memories of Old Block* Dr. Charles A. Meek of Berkeley, California recalls “Alonzo Delano, during the last few years of his life, was Grass Valley’s most colorful character.” Dr. Meek remembered that one of his happiest times as a child was Alonzo Delano’s last appearance as Santa Claus at the Methodist Church. Other of his remembrances was the Delano home at the crown of Main Street hill being a veritable museum of Indian relics. The Indian relics had been given to Delano, who would perform “sleight-of-hand tricks for Indian children to win the friendship of their parents.”

As a child, Dr. Meek was present in the death chamber of Alonzo Delano. “I stood beside my father and witnessed the taking of the death mask by Dr. Harriss – the mask that was to perpetuate the Delano nose. This peculiar feature was known from Panama on the south to Oregon and Washington on the north. The expression ‘as large as “Old Block’s” nose’ was very common. His friends intended to make a bronze cast from the death mask, but a fire in the building where Dr. Harriss had his dental office destroyed the plaster features and this life-like image was lost to the world.”

Alonzo was so admired that upon his death in 1874 all the businesses in Grass Valley suspended operations in tribute. He is buried in the Greenwood Cemetery.

We thank Cousin Muriel for contributing this entertaining article about Alonzo Delano.

References: Website: [theunion.com/apps/pbcs](http://theunion.com/apps/pbcs) .TODAYSFEATURE; [wellsfargo.com/about/stories/ch10](http://wellsfargo.com/about/stories/ch10); [calliope.org/gold/gold](http://calliope.org/gold/gold); [sierranevadavirtualmuseum.com/docs/bio\\_profile.htm](http://sierranevadavirtualmuseum.com/docs/bio_profile.htm); *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland, CA Sunday 21 July 1935; *ELDORADO: The California Gold Rush* by Dale L. Walker – History – 2003 pp.181,182; SNVM Biographies and Profiles.

