



BONNES NOUVELLES

Newsletter

March-April 2007

Number 54

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**

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.



Designed in a Spanish Mission style, the 245-room,



Doubletree Hotel's décor, appointed with rustic wood and warm red and gold hues of the countryside, offers a distinct Sonoma Wine Country feel. It has manicured grounds with gardens, palm trees, and expansive views of the adjoining golf courses and surrounding hills. Guests are welcomed with Doubletree signature warm chocolate-chip cookies.

Many DELANOs have settled in the Pacific Coast States; however at this Reunion we celebrate the DELANO/Fitch/Carrillo connection. The DELANO ancestor who was responsible for this connection was Henry Delano Fitch. He married Josefa Carrillo of a prominent San Diego family when California was under Spanish rule. Henry D. Fitch was the son of Capt. Beriah Fitch and Sally Delano⁵ (Thomas⁴, Thomas³, Lt Jonathan², Philippe¹). 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 landowner of Rancho Sotoyome. The Rancho's 48,800 acres included the entire Alexander Valley as well as land outside the 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 Alexander's homestead and part of his ranch are located on the land owned by the Alexander Valley Winery. This is the 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: The Doubletree hotel is located just off U.S. 101 and can be reached by taking the Golf Course Drive/Wilfred Avenue exit towards Commerce Blvd. on the south side of Rohnert Park. More detailed directions were provided in the October-November issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles*, which is also available on our members' website. You may also obtain these directions by request, when you send in your 2007 Reunion Reservation

Reunion Advance Registration and 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. At the time of this printing 5 rooms have already been reserved, so we strongly suggest you make your reservations soon 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 at (800) 780-5733. All guests should identify themselves as members of the **DELANO KINDRED Reunion Group**. 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. The buffet menu will include: Garden Salad with assorted dressings, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Chef's Choice of two pasta varieties, a choice of Alfredo and Bolognese Sauces, Grilled Vegetables, Apple Cobbler with Whipped Cream, Coffee, Tea and Decaf. 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, now owned by the Wetzel family, 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. Please see the article about the tour elsewhere in this newsletter.

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. The plated Banquet Dinner includes: an entrée choice of Tuscan Chicken with Proscuitto De Parma (Fresh Spinach, with Provolone in herb cream sauce) or Marinated Pork Loin with Balsamic Onions. Accompaniments include: Garden Salad, Assorted Rolls and Butter, Fresh Seasonable Vegetables, Whipped Garlic Potatoes, with Assorted Cakes and Cheesecakes for desert. Beverages will be the same as the Friday night buffet. A cash bar will again be available. For children (12 years and younger) a menu of Garden Salad, Chicken Strips, French Fries, Assorted Cakes and Cheesecakes, and Milk, is available.

The **Banquet Speaker** is Daniel Murley of the Historical Society in Healdsburg. His particular area of interest is early California and culture contact between California Native People and Europeans (Spanish/Mexicans and Russians) and the Rancho Period of early California, which is the time Henry Delano Fitch established his Rancho Sotoyome in what became the Alexander Valley. He plans to do more research on Fitch to fit him and his family into history of that time. Incidentally, we understand the Healdsburg Historical Museum is located at the foot of Fitch Mountain.

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!

The Fitch-Carrillos and the Alexanders of Sonoma County¹

Henry Delano Fitch, the first white man to lay claim to the land of the Alexander Valley, first arrived in lower California on the Mexican trading brig, *Maria Ester*, in 1825. He would soon become the first permanent American settler in San Diego. His connection to the Alexanders was due to his development and financing of the 48,800-acre grant, the Rancho Sotoyome. His marriage to **Maria Antonio Natalia Eljia Carrillo**, affectionately known as **Josefa**, enabled him to acquire land and significant wealth on what was once the Alta (northern) California frontier.

The Fitch-Carrillo marriage joined the Delano family, one of the early families of the Plymouth Colony, in the northeast corner of North America, with the well-connected Carrillo family of San Diego, in its southwest corner. Henry Delano Fitch was a son of Beriah and Sally (Delano) Fitch. Henry's mother was a descendant of Philippe de Lannoy (Philip Delano) b. in Leiden, Holland in 1601. Philippe arrived at the Plimoth Plantation in 1621 on the FORTUNE. Josefa was the first born of Joaquin Victor Carrillo, a native of Baja, and his wife, Maria Ygnacia de la Candelaria Lopez. Joaquin Carrillo, described as a well-connected soldier, arrived in San Diego, and had a fast growing family.

We extensively covered the story of the courtship, elopement, and marriage as well as the ensuing difficulties of Henry and Josefa in *Bonnes Nouvelles* #38 and #39 (Oct. 2001 and Mar. 2002). One of the significant features of this love match was his gaining Mexican citizenship and close connections to important landowning California families, which greatly aided in the attainment of wealth and influence in Mexican California. Thus, Henry Delano Fitch became a large owner in Baja California (including land in Valle de las Palmas—south of Tecate, Mexico) as well as Alta California (the Rancho Sotoyome acreage). This may be the reason two other early settlers in Sonoma County (Jacob Leese and John B.R. Cooper) married two of Josefa's sisters.

Between 1841 and 1844 Fitch petitioned and was granted the 48,800 acres that made up Rancho Sotoyome. With his growing family situated in San Diego and his land holdings elsewhere, he continued with his trade as a sea-going merchant-trader. It was clear he needed someone to manage his Ranchos.

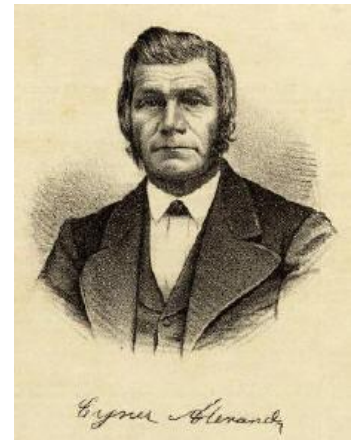
In 1833, 28-year-old **Cyrus Alexander** arrived in the Mexican port of San Diego, penniless and with only the shirt on his back. For three years since he left his home in Illinois he had been a fur trapper, but had run into an extraordinary string of bad luck and had lost all his furs each year. He hired himself out for wages at \$12 a month to buy clothes. It is said his first job was to tear up the hull of a shipwreck. It is believed he became acquainted with Henry Fitch through a job he had hunting sea lions and seals.

In 1840, almost a decade after he left his Illinois farm to seek his fortune, Cyrus Alexander found himself on the northern frontier of Mexican California as the manager of Captain Fitch's new venture, the 48,800 acre Rancho.



It was agreed Alexander, making use mainly of the local Indian population, would supply the labor. Captain Fitch would supply the capital, sheep and cattle, tools, and other necessary materials. Alexander would receive one half of the increase of the livestock herds, and half of the crops grown. After four years he would also receive a two-league portion of the rancho as payment for his services. This roughly 8,800-acre parcel was probably the first part of the rancho that Alexander saw upon his arrival. It was the place that he said was the "brightest and best spot in the world," the place that would become known as Alexander Valley.

On several occasions Henry Fitch came north from San Diego to visit the rancho. Probably the first visit was to oversee a survey of the land he was granted and to fulfill certain legal obligations to qualify for such grants of land. Cyrus Alexander saw to most of these obligations including the construction of a dwelling and the planting of orchards. Cyrus would soon exceed any governmental requirement by establishing a gristmill (said by one to be the first in northern California), a tannery at the base of Fitch Mountain (said by another to be the first in California), and a profitable cigarette-rolling industry, with the tobacco supplied by Captain Fitch.



Although Alexander could speak Spanish, having learned it in San Diego, he did seek out the English-speaking settlers in the area. He became acquainted with a former trapper, William Gordon of Cache Creek, about 100 miles east of the rancho. In 1840 Gordon's ranch in Yolo County was a general rendezvous for settlers and trappers in that part of northern California. During his visits a certain 13-year-old girl named **Rufina Lucero** caught his eye.

¹ Our thanks to Hannah Clayborn's History of Healdsburg, found on the Healdsburg Museum, Healdsburg, CA website, where much of this information and images are available.

Rufina was the sister of William Gordon's Mexican wife, Maria. She was born in Mora, New Mexico, to Pedro Lucero and Maria de la Luz Pinos in May of 1830 and she had come with the Gordons to California in 1841.

Since each trip from the Sotoyome Rancho to the Gordons' was about 200 miles round trip, Alexander had to streamline his courtship. He married Rufina, then just 14 years old, in December 1844. Captain Sutter of Sacramento officiated and Gordon hosted a traditional dance and feast. A three-day ride finally brought the bride to her new home on the Russian River. They probably lived in the cabin Cyrus built when he first settled on the Rancho Sotoyome in 1840. It was a small cabin built with redwood. Although lacking tools and nails, he managed to set the rough timbers into grooves cut into sills and plates, and tied what needed fastening with rawhide. It is said that the only milled lumber used in the cabin was for the door.

In the early 1840s Cyrus also began to work on a larger house for Captain Fitch, now located in Healdsburg, CA. Under his supervision the local Indians cut and fashioned large oblong adobe bricks and dried them in the sun. When stacked, these became the walls. When Alexander left Fitch's employ in 1845 the



extensive structure was still incomplete. Fitch hired Mr. Moses Carson (brother of the famous Kit Carson) to take charge of the Rancho.

After the transfer of cattle and equipment, Alexander left Fitch's employ in October 1845. He and his bride, now with a new baby, loaded an ox cart with their possessions and moved to the lovely valley that he considered the "brightest and best." He received official title to his Alexander Valley ranch in September 1847, when he was 42 years old. There they prospered and Cyrus built a larger adobe house on which he later built a wooden second story.

All went well except for one thing. The Catholic Church would not recognize the marriages performed by Captain Sutter. They and other couples married by Captain Sutter traveled to the mission at Santa Clara about 120 miles away. This second wedding cost Alexander \$300 - all the cash he had managed to save in the last seven years. He never forgave the priests for forcing the expensive wedding or himself for heeding them. As he explained later, "...what could I do; here I was alone under the Priest's rule, with Indians, and I thought it not safe to rebel."²

Alexander would have ignored the Church's demand for a Catholic marriage had he known of the change in governments that was about to be a result of the short war between Mexico and the United States. Though they were only a day's ride from the military outpost of Sonoma, Cyrus and his family seemed sufficiently isolated from the conflicts. The closest the conflict between the United States and Mexico came to the Russian River Valley was in June 1846 during the incident known as the "Bear Flag Revolt" in the town of Sonoma. In that month two "Bear Flaggers" were sent to see Moses Carson at Fitch's rancho. They had orders to get a keg of gunpowder stored there. A party of Californios (Mexican Californians) captured and killed the pair en route near Santa Rosa. One of the Californios was Jose Ramon Carrillo, Fitch's brother-in-law. Other Bear Flaggers got the powder from Rancho Sotoyome later, but the news of the murders became a "cause celebre" that was

retold and embellished ever since. Later that year the American forces commandeered 29 horses from Captain Fitch's rancho. Because of the lack of horses, ranch manager Moses Carson, was unable to round up and count the cattle that season.

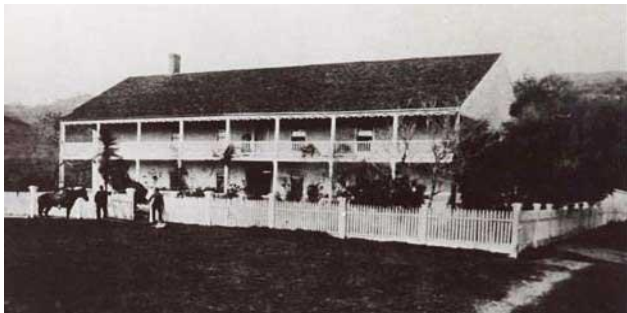
Alexander's main problem during this period was with the Indians who had once been his labor force. The Indians hoped that the battle between the two groups of white men might bring the return of some of their ancestral lands. According to Cyrus, the Indians now ran off his cattle and stole his grain. At night the Indians would prowl around the settler's houses, just out of rifle shot. The settlers fortified their houses with the addition of wooden shutters made of live oak, through which arrows could not penetrate. This dangerous situation worsened and in 1848, Cyrus took his wife, daughter and niece to the safety of the fort at Sonoma. There he and his family stayed for several months before returning to their home. Upon their return work resumed on the large adobe house, the Indians making more of the large rectangular adobe bricks that made up the two-foot thick walls. The finished structure was 80 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 12 feet high.

During the entire period from 1842 to 1849, Captain Fitch was continually voyaging up and down the coast, trading on vessels owned by other merchants. He occasionally went on horseback between San Diego and Los

² Alexander, Charles, *The Life and Times of Cyrus Alexander*, (Los Angeles: Dawson's Bookshop, 1967), pgs.

63, 68, 70-74. quotes: pg. 71 and 72. Article by J.M. Alexander in *Enterprise*, 22 Dec. 1906, 3:3.

Angeles, and in every year except 1845, he sailed to San Francisco, contacting ranchers and retailers at ports along the way. Several times over the years Fitch mentioned that he intended to move his family north to the Rancho Sotoyome. His plans to move became more serious after the discovery of gold near Sacramento. He hoped he could arrange for the move by March of 1849. But those plans ended when Captain Henry Delano Fitch died in San Diego on January 13, 1849. He apparently came down with typhoid fever sometime between Christmas and New Year's Day, and the illness became further complicated by pneumonia.



Josefa Carrillo Fitch and her children moved to the Sotoyome Rancho the next year. Josefa was near older children who had married and were living in Santa Rosa and Sonoma. Sadly, her mother's death followed Fitch's by six weeks.

Cyrus Alexander continued to prosper. Now a wealthy and respected citizen, in 1865 at the age of 60 years, he had a severe stroke, the first in a series that would incapacitate and eventually kill him. For several years he had become mainly an overseer on his ranch, and after recovering from his first strokes he still managed to carry out most of his duties. One of his daughters became his driver and she took him in the buggy on his appointed rounds. He was partially paralyzed, however, and spoke now only in monosyllables.

Cyrus died on his ranch December 27, 1872. Rufina, lived on for many years, dying there March 18, 1908. Of the 12 children she bore, two were stillborn, five died before her, and five survived her.

In later years two of those surviving sons, George and Thomas, stayed on at the original homestead. Badly damaged in the 1906 earthquake, the original Alexander adobe was eventually replaced with another structure. The walls of one of the original adobe outbuildings still remain on the site. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wetzel restored and remodeled it after they purchased the homestead from Cyrus' descendants in the 1960s. Their son and daughter, Hank Wetzel and Kate Murphy, now run Alexander Valley Vineyards and Winery.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY JOHN MARSLAND

We were very pleased to receive an invitation to the celebration of Cousin **John Ely Marsland's** centennial birthday celebration, held at his home near Easton, Maryland on 19 January 2007. John and his lovely wife, Faith, live at the edge of Deep Cove on an inlet from Chesapeake Bay. There for many years John sailed one of his boats, if he was not working on it in his workshop. His well-equipped workshop is long enough to easily house a ship mast of over 30 ft. In the summer he and Faith used to travel north to their summer home in East Boothbay, ME. There, John built other boats. Sailing boats were always part of John's life; in fact his first wife wrote a book entitled, [I Married a Boat](#).

When we arrived at John and Faith's home we found a great number of well-wishers were already there. We were met by his older son, John Jr. who greeted us warmly, and then again, by his younger son, Stanton. We made our way through the crowd and presented John with a letter of congratulations and best wishes on behalf of the membership of the DELANO KINDRED. Besides the neighbors, there was a continuous stream of John's greater family moving through the house made up of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews from the Marsland, Ely and Delano clans.

Later we found that this, the "open house" phase, was the first of the four-part celebration. Next came the birthday cake cutting and later that evening, there was a fine dinner at a local restaurant in Easton. The dinner was punctuated by speakers who spoke about various episodes of John's life. Information supplied by Ann Delano reminded us that when John was born in 1907, Theodore Roosevelt was President, there were only three national Parks (Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Pelican Island), Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii were not states, the Spanish American War had been over for five years and it had only been 42 years since the end of the Civil War. It was a fine evening enjoyed by his relatives and by many of John's friends throughout the greater Easton area



Those of you who attended our Reunions between 1998 and 2003 will recall that John and Faith Marsland were usually present. John has been a steadfast member of DELANO KINDRED since 1993. He descends from Philippe de Lannoy through his son Lt. Jonathan Delano. We were asked what John's relationship was to FDR. We responded that John, like FDR, descended through the Lt.

Jonathan branch of the family, but the exact relationship was somewhat complicated to calculate at the time. We did consult Cousin Muriel Cushing later and she informed us that John is a 5th cousin twice removed from FDR. At the end of the night's celebration we learned a "Roast" had been scheduled the next morning at the restaurant.

DEPARTED COUSINS

Daldridge Davis Delano

We sadly report the death of **Daldridge Davis Delano** of Warsaw, VA who passed away on 3 December 2006. Daldridge, known as "Buddy," was an avid fisherman and hunter most of his 77 years. He was a retiree of the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative and had been an International Truck dealer for many years.

Born in 1929, Daldridge was the son of Arthur William Delano Sr. and a great³ grandson of Captain George Delano who settled in the Northern Neck of Virginia in 1823. Daldridge descended from Philippe de Lannoy through his son, Dr. Thomas Delano.

He married Dorothy Bell in 1952. Their family includes Joseph Daniel Delano and his wife Mary Beth, Mary Ann Gay and her husband Joey, and two grandchildren, Emily Delano Gay and Sam Delano. We send our belated condolences to Dorothy and her family.

Robert Fairchild Huber

We were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Cousin **Robert Fairchild Huber** of Lexington, Virginia on 25 November 2006. He was 83. Bob had been a steadfast member to the DELANO KINDRED since 1993 until his illness prevented him from continuing. He was a frequent contributor of articles to the *Bonnes Nouvelles* over the years. He was a member of the Virginia and District of Columbia Mayflower Societies and served as governor of the D.C. Society from 1991-1993. He wrote three books about his family and American history. His second book, *Ghosts and ...Family Skeletons*, was reviewed in our March 2003 newsletter. Bob is best known for his energetic activities in the Pilgrim John Howland Society. Besides being the Editor of the *Howland Quarterly* for 14 years, he organized six trips to England and Europe, and was an accomplished photographer.

Bob was born on 15 June 1923 in Passaic, NJ. In 1945 he was graduated from Maryville College in Tennessee with a degree in American History. Counting his status as Editor and then as Editor Emeritus of the *Howland Quarterly*, Bob's journalistic career has spanned over 60 years. He has been a reporter and editor for many papers, including the Patterson, NJ *Morning Call*, the *Birmingham Post-Herald*, the *Toledo Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and the *Pacific Stars and Stripes* in Tokyo.

Those who had the privilege of knowing Bob will remember his witty and interesting stories—and most of all

his sense of humor. It is said that if you visited Bob's home in Lexington you would end up in his library of over 6000 books. He leaves behind his wife of 59 years, Carolyn, four children, Paul, David, Roberta, and Richard, as well as five grandchildren. We sadly send our belated condolences to his wife Carolyn and the family.

NEWLY ARRIVED COUSINS

In January we received a note from Cousin **Lee Delano-Gordon** telling us of the birth of her second great-grandchild, **Lorelai Sophia Delano**, who was born 13 August 2006. She has a big brother named **Joshua Nathaniel Delano**, who was 6 years old on March 15th of this year. We send our congratulations to Lee's grandson Colin Delano, his wife, and to Lee. We welcome Joshua and Lorelai into the Dr. Thomas Delano branch of the family.

KUDOS

We would like to recognize the generosity and leadership of Cousin **Carolyn Clarke** and Cousin **Renee G. Delano** for recently giving copies of DELANO publications to genealogical or historical organizations in their locales. Cousin Carolyn gave a copy of PHILIP DELANO OF THE "FORTUNE" 1621 and His Descendants for Four Generations (DFIP) to the Genealogical Society of Utah. Cousin Renee gave a copy of Philip Delano of the "Fortune" 1621 (Fifth and Sixth Generations) Part I (DFIP 5/6-1) and a copy of the GHAARD to the Norwich, CT Historical Society.

By giving the DFIP and the DFIP5/6-1 to genealogical or historical societies such as these, researchers will know about our family and be aware there is a family society called the DELANO Kindred. As you know Cousin **Muriel Cushing** compiled the information in these books. The fact that they were edited and previewed by members of the Mayflower Descendants, and then published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, gives weight to their genealogical accuracy. In other words, by giving copies of the DFIP series to your local library, historical or genealogical society or similar state organizations, you make those who read them aware of the DELANO Kindred and some of our goals.

We make these books available to you through our Publication Sales program. We encourage you to give a DFIP and, if you like, a DFIP 5/6-1 to your local library, historical society or genealogical society. You can order a DFIP and the DFIP 5/6-1 by using the Publication and Decal Order Form inserted in this newsletter. You may also obtain a publication order form from our visitors' website at www.delano.org.

Tour to the Alexander Valley Winery

The Alexander Valley was mostly prune orchards and pastures when, in 1962, Maggie and Harry Wetzel purchased a large portion of a homestead built by Cyrus Alexander. Here, the Wetzel family settled. They raised livestock, cultivated bountiful gardens and restored Alexander's original home. The notable wine producing success in the Napa Valley, prompted the Wetzels to be among the first to plant premium grape varieties in the Alexander Valley. Then the family built a small winery which gradually expanded its capabilities over the years into a thriving family run business that produces



100,000 cases of wine a year using 11 different grape varieties, much of which is aged underground in 3000 French and American oak barrels.

Hank Wetzel, oldest son of Maggie and Harry, produced Alexander Valley Vineyard's first wine in 1975. His wife Linda set up the books and managed the winery office. The winery quickly established a

reputation for estate grown wines with distinctive character; especially the crisp Chardonnays, the flavorful Cabernet Sauvignons, and notable blends. The winery's signature blend is named Cyrus after the valley's namesake.

Those who sign up for this tour will meet at 12:50 PM near the entrance to the Doubletree Hotel. We will arrange rides for those without their own transportation for the 37 mile trip north to the winery. Although there is no charge for the tour of the winery and wine tasting, we ask that those who need a ride pay \$5.00 to cover the cost of gasoline (which is more costly in California).

We should arrive at the winery about 2:00 PM where we will be met by the owner, Hank Wetzel. Hank will personally take us on a tour of the restored Cyrus Alexander homestead and share with us some of its history. We will stop by the Alexander gravesites and then tour the winery, finishing with a wine tasting. There should be plenty of time



to visit the winery shop before we leave for the return trip about 4:00 PM. We should arrive back at the Doubletree Hotel about 5:00 PM and have time to freshen up before the Annual Banquet.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS DELANO KINDRED REUNION DOUBLETREE SONOMA WINE COUNTRY HOTEL 29 JUNE TO 1 JULY 2007

Friday, 29 June 2007

- 1:00—3:00 PM Board Meeting in the Redwood 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

Saturday, 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-12:50 PM Lunch (individual option)
12:50 PM—1:00 PM Rendezvous for the Tour (location to be announced)
1:00 PM—2:00 PM Proceed to Alexander Valley Winery
2:00 PM—4:00 PM Tour of Alexander Valley Winery and Alexander Homestead
4:00 PM—5:00 PM Return to Hotel
6:00 PM—11:00 PM Annual Banquet with Speaker. Dinner served at 7:00 PM in the Cotati/Bodega Room

Sunday, 1 July 2007

- 9:00—11:30 AM Board Meeting in the Redwood Room

NEW MEMBERS

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

Connecticut

Richard Lee West of Darien

Oregon

Douglas Edward Davee of Hood River

Arthur Thomas Delano of Roseburg

New Mexico

Mark Leigh Stockton of Coyote

New York

Maria Abigail Dering of New York City

Virginia

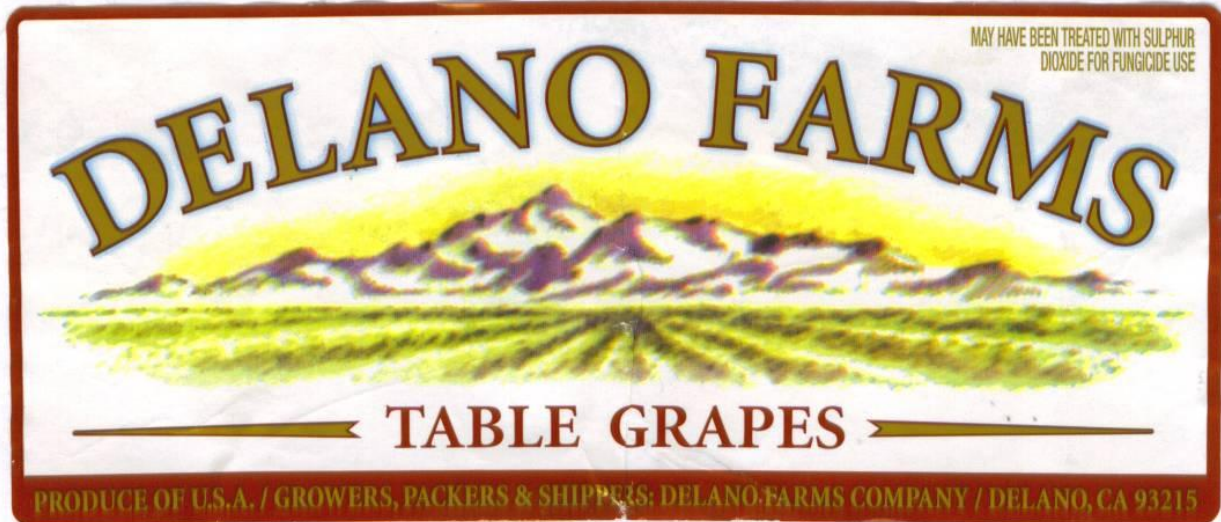
Rodney Paul Bailey of Richmond

Juanita Viola Shook Bailey of Richmond

WELCOME ABOARD COUSINS!!

DELANO FARMS COMPANY

We received this label from an alert reader, or should we say an alert shopper. DELANO Farms Company of Delano, CA grows, packs and ships table grapes grown in the southern portion of the San Joaquin Valley of sunny California. This is the label our alert shopper found on a crate of grapes in a Florida grocery store. We thank her for bringing this to our attention. Several articles about Delano, CA, named after a former Secretary of the Interior **Columbus Delano** (GHAAHD pg. 311), have appeared in previous *Bonnes Nouvelles*. We will add this label to our collection of lore about Delano, CA.



DELANO SURNAME DNA DATABASE TO BE UPGRADED TO 37 MARKERS

After receiving the results of the Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) 25 marker tests this fall, we received copies of the International Society of Genetic Genealogists (ISOGG) Protocol, which updated and standardized procedures involving DNA Genealogy to be used throughout the world. Although the 25 marker tests demonstrated that the candidates in the DELANO surname database show a “very tightly” or “tightly” distance of relatedness, the ISOGG Protocol sets a standard of a 37 marker test as the recommended minimum number of DNA markers for lineage submission using the FTDNA testing system.

While the number of markers tested is only one of several factors to be considered in comparing DNA tests of different candidates, your Board believes we need to meet the internationally accepted standards in all factors involving DNA testing. Therefore we plan to upgrade our four-candidate DELANO surname database to 37 markers. We were fortunate that one of our candidates “refunded” the cost of his 25 marker test. This refund will allow us to pay for the upgrade of the other three candidates and still be within the funding authorized by the members attending the 2006 Annual Meeting held in Burlington, VT in June 2006. Your Board recently approved this upgrading action.

This upgrading to 37 markers should be completed by, or before, the end of our fiscal year, which ends on 31 May 2007. We expect we will be ready to include other elements of the DNA Project next fiscal year, such as expanding the testing of European related surname candidates. At the present time we are investigating various procedures necessary to include European candidates.



DELANO Kindred Y-DNA Project

By “clicking” on this logo on our website you can see the information about our Y-DNA Project including a detailed explanation about DNA and testing procedures. One may also view a tutorial called “DNA 101” if you wish to learn more. Also available is a display of the current DELANO surname database, 25 marker test results. At the bottom of our Y-DNA Project page you may “click” and download the latest project update report which summarizes the results of all the participants’ tests. No names are mentioned to protect the participants’ privacy. This information does not yet reflect your Board’s recent decision to upgrade the surname database to 37 markers.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY OUR MYSTERY DELANO??

This young Russian girl was the daughter of Admiral Kuzmishchova, at one time governor-general of Archangelsk. As described in *Old Landing Days* by Olive Sanford (Hiller) Somers, “She was closely connected by birth and education



with the oldest aristocracy of Russia and received her girlhood training in the famous institute for young ladies of the nobility. She spoke English, French and Italian fluently and was familiar with the German language. Anton Rubenstein, who was

her piano teacher, praised her highly for her unusual originality and remarkable talent for music. She attended private concerts given in the salon of her ‘Uncle’ Prince Odoyevsky who had his own orchestra and was a composer in ‘Old Petersburg’ as well as a poet.”

Read her story in the next *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

Fiscal Year Contribution Status

Your Board thanks all those who have made contributions to the Memorial Fund or to designated projects within our Educational and Charitable Programs. As of the middle of March, contributions have totaled \$693.49.

Designated contributions to the Memorial Fund were \$100.00. As you know, in an effort to aid in balancing the funds for our Educational and Charitable Purposes your Board has approved the policy of using half of the Memorial Fund donations in programs supporting our Educational Purposes and half in programs supporting our Charitable Purposes.

So far this year we have received \$128.49 for designated Charitable Programs. Totals for these projects were: \$68.49 for the Catherine Robbins Delano portrait restoration project and \$60.00 for the Plimoth Plantation project. You may recall that the membership authorized matching funds for the portrait restoration project not to exceed \$150.00. The total giving for this effort will be reviewed near the end of this fiscal year to determine the appropriate amount of matching funds.

Contributions for designated Educational Programs were much greater. They totaled \$465.00 and included

\$140.00 for the Y-DNA Project, \$115.00 for the European Research Project, and \$210.00 for support of our websites. These contributions will be taken into account by your Board prior to recommending allocations to the membership for their approval at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Once again your Board thanks those who contributed to support of these projects. If you wish to make a contribution, please send a check for any amount for the Memorial Fund or for any of the above projects to our membership address: DELANO KINDRED, INC. P.O. Box 773, Schoolcraft, MI 49087-0773

Committee Changes and Updates

Contact Committee

We were very pleased that Cousin **Sanford R. Delano** of Lincolnville, ME has agreed to chair the DELANO KINDRED Contact Committee. This committee responds to queries from visitors to our open “American House of Delano” website at www.delano.org. So far this Fiscal Year the committee has responded to over 90 queries.

DNA Project Advisor and

DNA Project Advisory Committee

As we move ahead in the new field of DNA Genealogy, Cousin **Maria A. Dering** has been appointed as DNA Advisor. She, with Cousin **Muriel Cushing**, will work as a team at the start of this new venture. A DNA Advisory Committee consisting of the Advisor, the Genealogist and the Chair of the Education Program will assist in the general management of this Project concerning genealogical and financial program issues.

Cornelius K. Delano

And the Battle of Hampton Roads

The March 2006 issue of *National Geographic* included an article entitled “Iron vs. Oak—The Day The Wooden Navy Died.” One hundred and forty-four years ago on 8 March 1862 the CSS *Virginia* (formerly the USS *Merrimack*) steamed across

Hampton Roads from Portsmouth, VA, to the vicinity of Newport News and attacked and sunk the USS *Cumberland* and the USS *Congress*. The *Virginia* was the oddest ship anyone had ever seen as it slowly moved across the water that peaceful day towards the U.S. Fleet blockading the mouth of the Roads near Fort



Monroe. It had no mast and no sail; just a smokestack and some pennants with the flag of the Confederacy. One sailor is quoted as saying it looked “like a roof of a barn.”

One could hear the thudding of its propeller as it approached the wooden men-of-war (the USS *Cumberland* and the USS *Congress*) which were nearby. Having watched the slow approach of the *Virginia*, the Union ships’ sails were rigged and their guns ready. Lt. Joseph Smith, the young captain of the *Congress*, confidently encouraged his crew for the coming battle: “My hearties, you see before you the great southern bugaboo, got up to fright us out of our wits. Stand by your guns, and let me assure you that one good broadside from our gallant frigate and she is ours!”³

When the *Virginia*, described by another sailor as looking “like a creature of a nightmare,” came within a few hundred yards, Lt. Smith ordered a 20 gun broadside that would have devastated most vessels afloat in those days. The cannon shot just bounced off the *Virginia* as if they were marbles. Then the *Virginia* opened its gun ports and rolled out four large, 9 inch (barrel diameter) cannons and fired. The shot from the four cannons turned the *Congress* into what was described as a slaughterhouse and the Battle of Hampton Roads had begun.

The *Virginia*, with Commodore Franklin Buchanan aboard, steamed onward towards the large vessel, the *Cumberland*. Buchanan, formerly in the Union Navy and the first superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy, had “gone South” to the Confederacy. The *Virginia* blasted the *Cumberland* for 15 minutes causing great carnage. Even shells from the new rifled pivot gun on the *Cumberland* ricocheted off the ironclad with no effect. The *Virginia* plowed ahead and, with a jolting crash, rammed a hole in the oaken ship large enough to drive a horse and cart through.

With the *Cumberland* afire and sinking and with 121 men dead (55 percent of its crew), the *Virginia* turned its attention to the *Congress*. Lt. Smith, hoping to escape the *Cumberland*’s fate, ordered a tug to ground his ship near the shore batteries of Newport News, but the *Congress* was not out of range of the *Virginia*’s guns. Within another fifteen minutes the *Congress* was splintered and aflame with a quarter of the crew dead or wounded.

The *Virginia* next damaged the USS *Minnesota* that was also grounded, but it was getting too dark to continue the fight. The *Virginia* returned to her berth to replenish for another day’s engagement of sinking the *Minnesota* and other Union ships. That night the Union ironclad, the USS *Monitor*, entered Hampton Roads and anchored near the *Minnesota*. The famous battle between the two ironclads began the next day.

Onboard the USS *Congress* was a marine named **Cornelius Knickerbocker Delano** from Dutchess

County, New York.⁴ Cornelius was lucky and apparently not seriously injured in the battle, but he was later taken prisoner for several months and then paroled. Later that year he reenlisted and, being recaptured, died at Andersonville prison in Georgia. So you see we had at least one DELANO in the Battle of Hampton Roads.

Some Recent Publications About DELANOs

Captain Paul Delano Founder of the Delano Family in Chile

Cousin **Jorge Andres Delano** has recently rewritten and updated this book of the same title. This new 28-page version contains more information and more pictures and is available on our public website, The American House of DELANO, at www.delanoye.org. You can view it by going to the Document Repository and clicking on Captain Paul Delano (1775-1842). We still have a few copies of the older first edition which is a smaller sized book with smaller print, smaller pictures and is printed in Spanish on one side and English on the other. Consequently, the reader will find this updated English language version easier to read. We think this new work is a great improvement over the older and smaller sized book. We thank Cousin Jorge for sharing it with us via our website.

History and Genealogy of the Delano Family in Chile

We understand former member **Marcela Moreno Sepulveda** finished her book about the DELANO family in Chile. It was a challenging work because it attempts to include all the many family branches of the DELANO family in Chile. We understand it was to be written only in the Spanish language. We have not seen it so we cannot comment on it at this time.

The History and Ancestry of the Family of Philip Delano (Philippe de Lannoy)

Cousin **George English** has written a four-chapter article with the above title. It will be published in the April issue of *Le Parchemin* (The Parchment), the bi-monthly journal of the Office Généalogique et Héraldique de Belgique (OGHB) in Belgium.

³ Joel K. Bourne, Jr, “Iron vs. Oak” National Geographic, March 2006, p.138.

⁴ GHAARD, p. 410.

DR. BANGS TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH PROJECT

After some deliberation and negotiation, your Board has agreed to a proposal by Dr. Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs to carry out research in parts of Europe. The project is designed to check the existing data in various records in Leiden and The Hague concerning the various de Lannoy(s) families in the area. Dr. Bangs plans to ascertain their relationships to each other as well as to the Mahieus, Cookes and other families who may have come from the Lille/Tourcoing area. An effort will be made to find the relationships to families in England as well and possibly a survey of the information existing in various languages in the Lille/Tourcoing area. At the present time this effort is underway. We hope we will have more information about this effort in the July-August 2007 issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles*.

CONTRIBUTION TO PLIMOTH PLANTATION

As authorized by the members present at the 2006 Annual Meeting, your Board has made a contribution of \$300.00, on behalf of the DELANO KINDRED, to the Plimoth Plantation near Plymouth, Massachusetts. Plimoth Plantation, a living history museum, includes a “to scale” reproduction of the 1627 Pilgrim Village that eventually became the city of Plymouth, MA. Our ancestor, Phillip Delanoy (as his name appears on the 1627 Division of Cattle records) lived there with his Uncle Francis and Aunt Hester Cooke. The Cooke house is recreated in the village. Actors play the parts of his uncle and aunt as well as some of his cousins. Some years an actor is found who fits the part of Phillip. Unfortunately, a young actor with a French accent is difficult to find. We hope they will be successful in the future.

Since the DELANO KINDRED is organized as a corporation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Board approved the funds as a Corporate Contribution. This allows the Society to be listed as a Corporate Donor and an Internet link from the Plimoth Plantation website to our American House of Delano website, www.delanoye.org, will be established. With the help of Cousin **Ren LeVally** and Cousin **Muriel Cushing**, we plan to have a link on our website back to the Plimoth Plantation website that highlights Phillip’s living at the Cooke residence.

2006 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

We wish to thank all of our members who took the time to send in their 2006 Annual Questionnaires. As you know, we include the Annual Questionnaire in the October-November issue of the *Bonnes Nouvelles*. We were pleased that there was increased participation over the 2005 Questionnaire. In 2006 the questions concentrated on the location where you would like the 2008 and 2009 Reunions to be held. Here are the results of your responses:

2008 Reunion Locations (in New England):

Portland, ME: 68%; Sturbridge, MA: 50%. Other locations suggested included Boston, MA, Manchester, NH and York, ME. Unfortunately, no one indicated they were willing to serve as an on-the-scenes contact for the Reunion.

2009 Reunion Locations (away from New England):

Williamsburg, VA: 58%; Mohonk Mountain House near New Paltz, NY: 37%. Other locations suggested included Nebraska, Salt Lake City, Chicago, Denver and the Kansas City, MO area. One member said he would help being an on-the-scenes contact for a reunion in the Kansas City area and was willing to contact other members nearby to see if they would also help. The possibility of having an on-the-scenes contact contributes greatly to the success of a Reunion—especially when it is being held in a new area.

Another very interesting suggestion was that we change our current policy of rotating venues (holding one in New England on even years and one away from New England on odd years), by adopting a three-year rotation policy of holding a reunion on the east coast one year, holding a reunion in the mid-west the next year and a reunion in the west the third year. This would give us better geographical coverage, offer members from these areas a better opportunity to attend a reunion, and, by doing so, offer more of an incentive to become a member of the DELANO KINDRED.

Your Board will carefully consider the answers and suggestions you provided.