



# July 4<sup>th</sup> Greetings, 2007



Dear

7 July 2007

Greetings again from New Mexico. Unlike last year, the state has had greater rainfall. A follow-on to the heavy snow we had last winter.



Derry's first real snow.

## DERRY GROWS UP

In our Christmas newsletter we told about getting a new family member. We brought Derry, a toy poodle, home in September. This month, July, Derry will be one year old. He is now full grown - about 7 pounds. In the winter, he went to 8 weeks of puppy training. We were probably learning as much as he was. We are now just completing another eight weeks of intermediate training. He has learned a lot and has also brought a lot of life to our house. Derry has his own page on our website at [www.robert.malseed.com/robert/about\\_us/derry/derry.htm](http://www.robert.malseed.com/robert/about_us/derry/derry.htm). In the spring, he took his first motor home trip.

## A JOURNEY TO FLORIDA

For a couple years, we have wanted to make a trip to Florida. Except for a brief visit to the panhandle of western Florida in 1993, we had not spent much time in the state since Robert was stationed there in 1985-86. Springtime is a good time to go to the South so we planned our trip for March & April. We headed east on 17 March. After staying at Amarillo and Lewisville Lake, Texas, we arrived at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on 19 March. In Vicksburg we had lunch with Susan Barnes who had moved from Albuquerque several years ago. Then we began to follow the trail of Robert's great-great-granduncle, Henry Shubert. Henry was a soldier in General Sherman's army during the American Civil War. Robert has two original letters that Henry wrote to his sister, Eliza Shubert Malseed, Robert's g-g-grandmother. He also has copies of six other letters that Henry wrote. The oldest letter was written after Sherman's army failed in its attempt to attack Vicksburg via the Chickasaw Bluffs. Henry's letter describes the attempt. Henry said, "...it aint very pleasant for to have booms shells & Bullets flying around & whizing about a persons head I dont mind the cannon Balls for a person can dodge them." Robert had also found a copy of an old map that showed where Henry's regiment, the 29th Missouri Infantry, was camped near Chickasaw Bayou. We drove out to the site and took pictures of what is now drained farmland as well as of the Yazoo River that the Union Army used as a passageway to the Bayou.



Henry's campground at Chickasaw Bayou.

The Union army returned to Vicksburg months later and eventually captured the town on 4 July 1863 after a siege. We toured the National Military Park and left copies of Henry's documents with the park service office there.



Scene on Vicksburg battlefield.

Our next stop was Auburn, Alabama. The US Air Force had sent Robert to college at the university there. Robert got his bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering in March, 1977.



Samford Hall - icon of Auburn University.

We toured the university campus and met with two of Robert's AE professors who are still teaching.



John Cochran, now the AE Department head, shows us the wind tunnel control room.



Reminiscing with Prof. John Burkhalter.

We look more alike now!

After Auburn, we headed north stopping briefly to visit Steve Dunn, our former music minister, who is now living near Birmingham, Alabama.



Linda with Steve Dunn and children.

Then we crossed the Tennessee River and arrived in Huntsville, Alabama. Another of Henry's letters was written just before he crossed the Tennessee further downstream at old Chickasaw, Alabama. (Now the site of Riverton, Alabama.) Huntsville is the home of the US Space and Rocket Center since it is adjacent to Redstone Arsenal and the Marshall Spaceflight Center.



New Saturn V exhibit.

We stayed in the campground at the center and spent a full day touring the exhibits.

The Center's 360-foot-tall Saturn V rocket is visible for miles. We also toured around the historic Twickenham district of Huntsville.

In the South in March the Dogwood trees are in bloom and we enjoyed seeing them on our drive through several States. Other trees that we enjoyed seeing in bloom were Redbuds and Tulip. Wisteria plants were also quite prolific.





Full-size space shuttle exhibit.



Home in Huntsville's historic Twickenham District.



Dogwood blossoms.

The next stop after Huntsville was Chattanooga, Tennessee. On the way, we drove through Woodville, Alabama, where Henry camped in the winter of early 1864. We have a copy of a letter he wrote from there. Henry's unit fought in the battles at Chickamauga and Chattanooga's Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, as well as at the nearby town of Ringgold, Georgia. We have a copy of a letter he wrote after Ringgold and before going to winter quarters in Woodville. In Chattanooga, we visited AMG International. The AMG publishing department has published John Malseed's two books (*An Overview of The Old Testament* and *An Overview of The New Testament*.) Rick Steele, who had edited John's Old Testament study book, gave us a tour of the facility.



Showing Rick our work on John Malseed's books.

After Sherman's Army left winter quarters in Woodville, they headed toward Atlanta, Georgia. Our next stop was at Marietta, just northwest of

Atlanta. Near Marietta is Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Robert has an original letter that Henry wrote from Kingston, GA, just before he got to Kennesaw Mountain. We also left a copy of Henry's documents at the park headquarter, and they told us where Henry's unit was camped before the attack on Pigeon Hill. There is a housing development located at the site now. Since we were near Atlanta, we spent a day at the zoo and enjoyed seeing the baby Panda that was born there recently.



Baby Panda sleeps like a log on a log.

General Sherman's army left Atlanta and marched toward the sea, arriving at Savannah, Georgia, on 21 Dec 1864. We have a copy of a letter that Henry wrote after arriving in Savannah. We followed Henry's route and arrived in Savannah on 29 March. We camped on Tybee Island and enjoyed touring the city and Fort Pulaski.



Derry's first beach experience on Tybee Island.



When the Union Army destroyed this corner of Fort Pulaski with rifled cannon, it spelled the end of all such fortifications.



One of Savannah's many squares.



Another square.



One of many old homes.

We gave a copy of Henry's letter to the Savannah History Museum. From Savannah, Henry headed north, but we headed south. Transcriptions of Henry's letters are posted on <http://robert.malseed.com> under: [http://genealogy/robert/shubert\\_research/henry/henry\\_shubert.htm](http://genealogy/robert/shubert_research/henry/henry_shubert.htm).

We stopped in south Georgia so that we could spend a day at the Okefenokee Swamp Park.



Okefenokee Swamp Park greeter.



The swamp is the well-known home of Pogo.

It had been about 21 years since our last visit to central Florida so we next spent a couple nights in Winter Haven next to an orange grove. The smell of the orange blossoms each evening was overpowering.



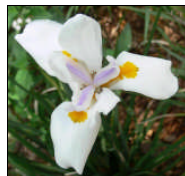
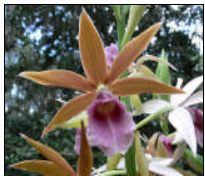
Orange blossoms.





**Bok Carillon Tower.**

While in Winter Haven, we spent a day at Historic Bok Sanctuary. It is a favorite place of ours in Florida. Robert has been there at least 5 times. It is at Mountain Lake, the highest point on the Florida peninsula. We enjoyed going through the gardens and seeing the profusion of flowers and listening to the carillon bells being played. Here are just a few of the many photos we took.



**Some flowers in Bok Sanctuary.**



**Pond by the tower.**

Our next stop was in Miami. Robert wanted to stop there to visit his fourth cousin, Melissa Wolin, a g-g-granddaughter of Henry's brother Garrett Shubert. Melissa and her mother, Dorothy, have many old Shubert family documents. We scanned several of the older ones that would be of greater interest to Robert's other Shubert cousins.



**Visiting Dorothy and Melissa Wolin.**

Miami was the farthest destination on our trip. From there we headed up the coast and camped at Patrick Air Force Base.



**Our Trek camped at Patrick AFB.**

Just south of there we visited one of Robert's more distant cousins, Dolly Lauricella, a descendant of a John Malseed, born in Ireland about 1805-07. (Robert's ancestor, John Malseed, was born in Ireland in 1790.)



**Robert with distant cousin Dolly Lauricella.**

Just north of Patrick AFB is Kennedy Space Center. We spent two days touring it.

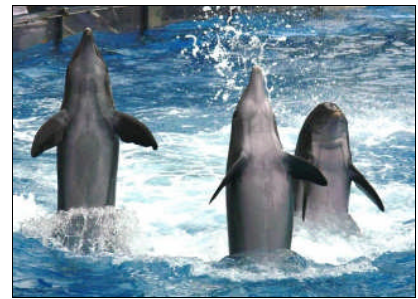


**Kennedy Space Center.**



**At the Vehicle Assembly Building.**

We next stayed in Winter Garden and visited Sea World and Robert's first cousin, Bill Malseed.



**Entertained by dolphins at Sea World.**



**With cousin Bill Malseed and wife, Jane.**

Heading west, we then spent a night at Manatee Springs State Park. We watched some manatees in the Suwannee River, and then we went swimming in the spring.



**The spring at Manatee Springs State Park.**

The next day we went to Ochlockonee River State Park. The park is the home of a rare white squirrel.



**White Squirrel at Ochlockonee River State Park.**



**Ochlockonee River State Park.**





Trolling for Alligators.

Our final stop in Florida was near where Robert was stationed in 1985-86. We camped at Rocky Bayou State Park, and went down to see the beach on the Gulf of Mexico. We also visited the U.S. Air Force Armament Museum near Eglin AFB. At the museum you can see many weapons that Robert used to work on.



Museum exhibit of a GAR-1D Falcon missile. Robert worked with Falcon missiles from 1960-69.

In 1993, we had camped on Dauphin Island at the mouth of Mobile Bay in Alabama. We wanted to pay a return visit so we stayed there two nights. On the west side of the campground we hiked the trails of the Audubon Bird Sanctuary and enjoyed the birds and other scenery.



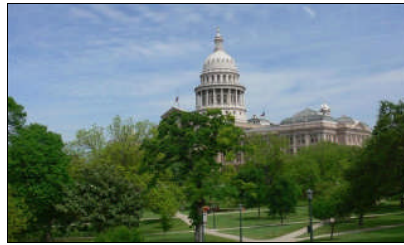
Derry on Dauphin Island Beach.

On the east side of the campground is a study center which includes the Estuarium, an aquarium dedicated to study of the Mobile Bay estuary. In 1993 the Estuarium was under construction so it was nice to see it completed. On the east side of the research center is Fort Gaines, one of the two old forts that guarded the entrance to Mobile Bay. We enjoyed touring it again.



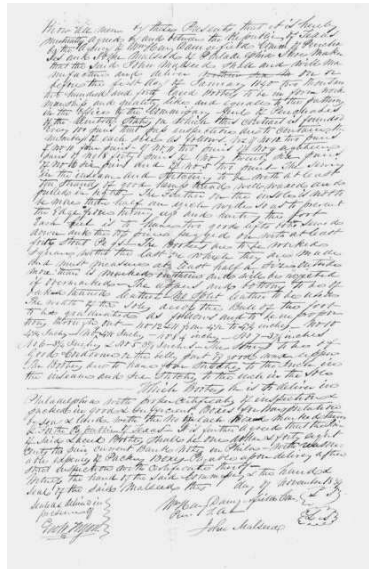
Pelican dives for his dinner.

Our next major stop on the trip was in Austin, Texas. We were there to go to the Texas State Archive.



Texas state capitol building.

Robert had discovered that his g-g-g-grandfather, John Malseed, who was a shoemaker in Philadelphia, had been awarded a contract by the Republic of Texas to supply 2,240 pairs of boots for the Texas Infantry. We wanted to see the contract and get a copy. It was a thrill to hold the actual contract that John Malseed signed in November 1839. He provided the boots and was paid \$3,347.99 for them on 28 January 1840. Robert had no idea that his ancestor manufactured boots in large quantities.



**The contract signed by John Malseed.** Fredericksburg, in beautiful Texas hill country was our next stop. There we toured the National Museum of the Pacific War. We also attended a reunion of the 525th FIS (Fighter Interceptor Squadron). Robert had been a member of the squadron in Germany from 1965-1968.



Reminiscing at the 525 FIS reunion.

After the 525 FIS reunion, we drove to Breckenridge, Texas, so that Derry could have a reunion with his parents, Beauty and Raggs. Pam, the breeder, was also happy to see Derry, and gave him a bath and haircut.



Derry meets Dad, Raggs.



Derry meets Mom, Beauty.

After another over night stop in Lubbock, Texas, we arrived home on a very windy 23 April. Derry seemed to enjoy the trip, and liked traveling in the motor home.

#### NEXT TRIP PLANS

After we arrived at home, we learned that an event we were scheduled to attend early in August had been cancelled. Therefore, we were able to arrange to go on a cruise to Alaska with several friends of ours from church. We are now looking forward to that trip which will begin on 26 July. Just prior to that, we will go camping at Navajo Lake for 2 days with Linda's brother and sister-in-law.

#### THE BOTTOM LINE

We continue to be thankful for the Lord's provision for us. We trust in Him, and pray that you will do likewise and enjoy a wonderful summer of 2007.

Love,

Robert + Linda  
and Derry



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