

2010 Cemetery Historical Report

Cemetery Report.

Although two projects were approved at the Ariail Family Reunion in 2009, we only accomplished one project for the 2010 year. That was the putting of coping, chipped stone and plastic on the graves of John Harvey and Chloe Climelia Ives Ariail in the Pickens Cemetery in Slabtown, South Carolina. The project of replacing the chipped stone for James Claude Ariail will be carried over into the coming year. We initially did not have the funds to complete this project, however, we realized that the bank had shown that we were \$200.00 over in our account and upon auditing the account we found that the Hendricks family in South Carolina had never cashed a check that was sent to assist in the upgrade of John Ariail and Parthenia Blassingame Ariail graves in the Ariail Cemetery in Easley, South Carolina. I contacted Phyllis Harrison and she informed me that she did not understand how that had happened but requested that we use the funds to upgrade John and Chloe's graves in Slabtown, South Carolina.

Her request has been honored and we will bring this to the attention of the Reunion and finish the work approved at last years' meeting and also determine if any other projects will be approved for grave plot upgrade or restoration. Pictures of the upgrade of John and Chloe's graves are now posted on the Ariail Family Web site.

The following is a statement of monies carried over, collected at reunion and returned by Phyllis Harrison.

Monies Carried Over	857.62
Collected at Reunion	379.00
Sub-total	1236.62
Returned by Phyllis	200.00
Total	1436.62
Expenditures for John and Chloe's grave	1000.00
Monies Remaining in Account	436.62

It is sad to report that we have lost some more of our family members during the last year. Although I have not had a chance to accumulate a list of all of them, I will only mention one in this report. That is Charles "Pete" Taylor, a nephew of Olen Ariail. He passed away from lung failure. We do, however, wish to pass our condolences to all families who have lost loved ones and encourage them to pass the information to the Family Historian so such data can be assimilated into the family data base.

We encourage all who can to come to the Family Reunion. We never know how much longer that God will permit us to remain with our friends and family here on earth, so it becomes so important for us to fellowship together. If you cannot come and wish to make a donation to our efforts, please send it to the Secretary stipulating what you want the money spent on. We have to pay for the web site, the hall where we hold the reunion and the efforts put forth in the cemeteries, so any help is always appreciated.

Anyone coming from far away are always welcome to stay at my house and visit with us. We have ample room for several people and would enjoy your visit and fellowship before or after the reunion. Do not feel you would be imposing, as this is what we love to do – meet new people and make new friends. As I always say: *come sup with us and we will sup with you and all our lives will be richer for the experience.*

Hope to see you at the reunion.

Regards

James Patterson, Chairman Cemetery Committee.

Historical Report.

Although we have found a lot of different material during the years that we have been making these reports, 2010 was probably one of the most exciting years for our research. I have been scanning all the Catholic Church records for a specific time period hoping to find the marriage record for Mathieu Ariail, the father of Charles Ariail to prove that he was the son of Francois Ariail and Mathurine Cornu. This was an enormous task as there are literally hundreds of parishes in the Loire Atlantique Valley Region of France.

We had already found the following records: 1) the marriage record of Jean Baptiste Mathias Ariail to Louise Allard and of his 2nd marriage record to Hannah Rich, which listed his father as Charles Ariail and mother as Marie Moreau, 2) his birth record in Le Douaud, France which listed his father as Charles Ariail and Marie Moreau, 3) we had found the marriage record of Charles Ariail to Marie Moreau listing his father as Mathieu Ariail and mother as Jeanne Rebion, 4) we had not been able to find the birth record of Mathieu Ariail, therefore we were using death records and the people listed in an attempt to prove who the parents of Mathieu Ariail were, 5) finally we found the marriage record of Mathieu Ariail and Jeanne Rebion listing his father as Francois Ariail and mother as Mathurine Cornu.

We had found earlier, back into the 1500's, records of the Ariail family in that region listing the family of a Martin Ariail and some of his children. It was noted that the Ariail family named members of their family after their ancestors, i.e., the name Hubert Ariail would appear in one line of the family but never

in another line of the family, this same pattern appeared to apply for names such as Claude Ariail and Herve Ariail.

As it so happened, Herve Ariail is from our line of the ancient Ariail family in France. This name, so far, has not showed up in any other line of the Ariail family in France and I have literally looked at millions of records. One day when I was looking at records in Chapelle-Heulin (La), Saint-Eutrope, I was surprised to find that Jean Ariail and Francoise Brunier had given birth to a child by the name of Herve Ariail on 22 Aug 1626. They also had given birth to a son by the name of Francois Ariail on 19 Nov 1619, but since that was such a common name, I had not been able to make a connection of this family to our line until the birth of Herve Ariail appeared. It all made sense then, because Jean Ariail named a son Herve Ariail, his son Francois Ariail named a son Herve Ariail, his son, Mathieu Ariail named a son Herve Ariail. Then there was a break in the carrying of the name as Charles Ariail and Marie Moreau did not name a son Herve Ariail, however, their son Jean Baptiste Mathias Ariail and Hannah Rich named their son John Harvey Ariail and the name continued to be used down through the generations. With all this evidence, I feel that we can safely say, with approximately 95 percent accuracy, that Jean Ariail and Francoise Brunier are the ancestors of our proven line back to Francois Ariail and Mathurine Cornu.

Perhaps someday we will be lucky enough to prove this by a marriage record, however, we must realize that some of the church records were lost or destroyed by war and various circumstances and we may be just lucky to have found what we have found. These documents are listed in various sections of the Ariail Family Web Site, so I hope all interested family researchers will enjoy their find when looking up their line of the family from the research we have posted. We have literally thousands of records that are not listed, but the main line back to the earliest members of the family is most important.

I have been fortunate enough to have visited the area where our ancestors were born on two different occasions and it is a beautiful area of France where the major farm endeavor is that of growing grapes and making wine. There is also a major city of Nantes close by and the seaport at St. Nazaire is close by. We have also visited to that area and went on dinner cruises on the river at Nantes and viewed the very expensive and beautiful Chateau's along the banks of the river. Our distant cousins, Karine Ariail and family, her parents, brother, aunt and cousins have been with us during our visits to the area.

Anyone would think that was enough for one year, however, I finally threw my hat on the peg at 74 years of age and I have more time to work on the project which I have enjoyed so much. We have upgraded the Ariail family web site with The Family Tree, all of the Cemetery Historical Reports, our research diary, many family pictures along with other data we thought might be of interest to the family members. If any family members have information they would like to donate to the Ariail Library, we would be most happy to receive and protect, to the best of our ability, such information. We have many books of documentation in addition to the material available on the web site.

My wife and I have just finished a 3 week vacation of the United States. Being a good researcher, I decided to visit some of the places that our family members lived during the past 200 years. Our trip took us through Indiana where many of the family members lived around Annapolis, Indiana. One of the girls married a Quaker and they moved to that area. A picture of her is contained in the web site.

We then went through Chicago where many of the Canadian line of the family moved and lived. Also, descendants of John Alvin Ariail, from South Carolina, moved to Chicago and made their home there as well as members from other branches of the family from both the south and northeast section of the country. We then proceeded to Dubuque, Iowa where the granddaughter of Lucy Ariail moved with her husband, SGT Enos Beecher Chatfield. Their pictures are contained in the web site and they were the parents of 12 children. They named one of their daughters Lucy Ariail Chatfield and the descendants of this family are now living from that area all the way to the west coast. We will be talking about descendants of this family in subsequent paragraphs of this report.

Dubuque lies on the banks of the Mississippi River and Lorraine and I spent a night in the town and dined in a restaurant on the bank of the Mississippi and watched the ducks swimming on the river and the boats going and coming as we relaxed from our driving and research of the family. They apparently lived about 4 miles outside of Dubuque and the cemetery is surrounded by beautiful corn fields and farmland. In a letter we have written by Lucy Ariail about 1860, she is complaining about her family being so far away, but after seeing the area, I can understand why a farmer would want to leave Massachusetts and Connecticut and go to a farming area such as Dubuque, Iowa.

From there we proceeded to Rapid City, South Dakota and Wyoming. Many member of the family, descended from Lucy Ariail still live there. After spending a night in Blue Earth, Minnesota and Rapid City, South Dakota, we made the short trip over to Sundance, Wyoming. I specifically wanted to go that way because I wanted to see a ranch that was owned by one of the family members and attempt to meet some of the family members that lived in that area. The reason I wanted to meet them was because of the story I am about to tell you about members of this family.

Many, many years ago, a descendent of Lucy Ariail, by the name of Edward Beecher Chatfield, Sr., son of Enos Beecher Chatfield, married a lady by the name of Dora Bushchar. They had 5 children. Their youngest daughter died and then the mother died. The father was left with 3 daughters, a son and a major medical problem. He had TB. His sister lived in Rapid City, South Dakota, some 700 miles away and he needed help in caring for his family. Since she was already the mother of 8 children, it is my understanding that she initially did not feel she could help him with 4 more children, but eventually a meeting of the minds took place and she consented to his request.

The father put his three daughters on a train and sent them ahead of him to be with his sister. He then hooked his team to a wagon, and along with his young son made a 7 month trip to Rapid City, South Dakota. He died shortly after his arrival in Rapid City, South Dakota, but his children all lived and married in that area. To establish a timeline for the events which happened, their daughter Florence Chatfield died in 1900, the mother Dora Bushchar Chatfield died in 1902 and the father Edward Beecher Chatfield, Sr., died in 1906, therefore, the move to South Dakota took place between 1902 and 1906.

After the death of the father, his sister Anna Augusta Chatfield Woods raised the children, but as fate would have it, she also died in 1913, leaving her husband Preston Cleveland "Noskie" Woods to continue raising the children. He was a rancher and therefore the love for that profession was instilled in the life of his nephew Edward Beecher Chatfield, Jr. Preston Woods also died in 1924 in Sundance, Wyoming, so

you can readily see that there were a bunch of young adults that had to find their way in the world of the 'wild west', as we would have at that time called it.

At the age of approximately 28, Edward Beecher Chatfield, Jr., married Inez Berenice Belshe and fathered three children, Elvira, Edward and Charles Chatfield. They became the owner of a ranch of approximately 3,600 acres which is about 4 miles outside Sundance, Wyoming. Their son Edward Bernard "Fritz" Chatfield and his brother Charles continued working the ranch after the death of their parents and Edward became a sheep rancher raising some of the foremost breeding stock and wool of any rancher in this part of the world. He married Ethel Jessie Anderson and he died at the age of 74 from a very long time health problem. He was the father of one child, Cheryl Ann Chatfield who we were privileged to meet during our visit to the area along with her husband Terry Wales and their children. Her mother, Ethel is still living and resides in an assisted living facility there in Sundance, Wyoming.

After arriving in Sundance, Wyoming, we found accommodations for the night in the Bear Lodge Motel which is nestled beneath the mountains of Sundance, Wyoming. At the desk we asked for a phone book and looked up the number for Cheryl Chatfield Wales. She was very gracious to us over the phone and told us the location of her mother and asked us to attend Church with them the next day and to come to their home for dinner. We accepted her invitation and asked her for directions to the ranch so we could take a look at it on Saturday afternoon.

We traveled over the main highway from Sundance to the ranch and saw the ranch houses and outbuilding where both Edward Chatfield and his brother Charles lived. The ranch no longer has sheep since the death of Edward; however, Charles is still a cowboy. At the age of 88, he was riding his horse caring for his cattle approximately a month ago. His horse made a sudden move and Charles fell from his saddle with his foot becoming caught in the stirrup with his horse dragging him along the ground. Charles got the horse to stop and at that point he passed out. After regaining conscious, Charles found that his foot had come out of the stirrup and the horse had left. This incident had left Charles very sore and recovering so we did not get to meet this 'cowboy', which we shall forever regret.

The ranch is composed of grasslands, valleys and hills and is in a beautiful region of Sundance. If I remember correctly, they have approximately 300 head of cattle on the ranch at this time. We took some pictures of the area from the road and they are now contained in the archives of the Ariail library.

On Sunday morning we checked out of the Motel and proceeded to the assisted living facility to visit with Ethel Chatfield. She is such a beautiful and gracious lady, much as her daughter. We spent a couple of hours visiting with her until her son-in-law arrived to escort her to church. We followed them and attended worship services at a church just outside town near the ranch area. After church, Cheryl asked us again to come to their home and have lunch with them. At that time we met all the rest of the family and after a short visit, sadly left and headed for Montana.

We proceeded through Montana, Utah and made our destination Spokane and Puyallup, Washington. Many descendants of Lucy Ariail lived in that area and we did a little research but mostly sightseeing. We left Spokane and proceeded to the Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River in Washington. From there we proceeded down the Columbia River Gorge, which is absolutely breathtaking. We saw all the

vast wheat fields where harvest was in progress in Washington. We also drove through the Mount Rainier National Park and saw the beautiful snow-capped peak of this majestic mountain. It is located just 54 miles from Seattle and can be seen from many parts of the state. We also attempted to view Mount St. Helens but we were unable to see the mountain because of the thick fog that had overcast the entire area. We did, however, get to do a little research in both Spokane and Puyallup, which was the end of our research efforts as the rest of the trip was strictly sightseeing.

I will briefly tell you about the rest of our trip. We left Washington State and proceeded down the coast of Oregon. It was slow going because of the narrow roads and many villages, however, well worth the time. The vistas were amazing and eventually we found ourselves on the coast of California and entered the Redwood Forest. We spent the night in the Redwoods National Park at one of their lodges and dined that evening in a beautifully decorated restaurant located on the Lodge's grounds. The next day we drove through the Redwoods many forests, viewing each one of them and eventually headed through the Napa Valley for Stockton, California where some of the earliest members of the Ariail family descendants lived.

After that we headed for Yosemite National Park and went in one entrance and out the other side and from there we visited Zion National Park. After these two experiences, Lorraine was a nervous wreck, and she decided that Brice Canyon was off the schedule, so we headed for the Hoover Dam, crossing the canyon well north and viewing another large dam on our way. We arrived at the Hoover Dam just after they had closed for the day, but managed to cross the dam and get some good pictures of the lake and area. That evening we dined at a casino near the area and stayed at their hotel. I can assure you they got none of my money except for the suite which we rented for about 55 dollars. They rent their fabulous rooms cheap hoping you will gamble at their facilities, but nothing doing here. I got the best deal on this occasion. After leaving there, we visited the Grand Canyon and spent the night near Flagstaff, Arizona. The next two or three days we traveled through Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

I think Lorraine enjoyed New Mexico the best, mainly because of its more level roads and beautiful landscape. We visited the Petrified Forest and Painted Desert and then went into Oklahoma. We did visit the cemetery where some of Climelia Abigail Ariail's descendants are buried in Foyal, Oklahoma. After that we headed for Texas as a via point on our way home.

The reason for visiting Texas was not connected with the Ariail family. You see, when I was a child my grandfather William Jasper Patterson told me a story about he and his brother, Samuel Patterson who were in Louisiana working their way to Texas. He said he got homesick and stuck his ax, with which he was cutting wood, as deep into a stump as he could, and walked all the way back to Georgia. Samuel apparently kept going to Texas and I had never heard of him again from any member of the family until the research I was doing located him in Pittsburg, Texas. On this trip, I found him buried in the Methodist Church Cemetery just outside Pittsburg in Camp County, Texas. What a wonderful end to a year of research. The next day, being homesick I guess, I drove all the way from Pittsburg, Texas to Toccoa, Georgia.

That is our report for this year. May God bless you all richly during this coming year and we hope to see many of you at the reunion this year.

James Wayne Patterson, Historian

439 Wesley Circle

Toccoa, Georgia 30577

colonel2@windstream.net.