

2012 Cemetery/Historical Report

Cemetery Report.

The President of the Ariail Family Reunion association continues to desire that the Cemetery Committee remain active because of all the work that has been accomplished in the past. There are still gravesites that have no stones and upgrades that need to be accomplished; however, the funds for such work are slow in accumulating because of the small attendance at the reunions during the past few years. This may be in part due to the condition of the economy or the lack of a person historical letter to family members as we had done in the past.

The officers of the reunion, however, felt that it would be more beneficial to all members of the family, if this report not be mailed but included in the family web site each year because it would then be available to every descendent of John Ariail even though we might not know their address. Apparently this is the case, because the statistical data for usage of the web site is amazing. It will be recapped in the historical section of this report.

Because of the limited amount of funds available in the Cemetery Fund, it was decided not to attempt to accomplish any work on the cemeteries this past year. The number of people at the reunion and no funds being received from those not attending, we only collected \$125.00. The carry-over of \$589.62 brings the total in the fund to \$714.62. It is hoped that this year will be better in this area and we wish to thank so much those who have contributed to this most worthy part of the family reunion goals.

I will reiterate here the locations of some of the grave sites of early members of the family so that you may visit these graves if you are descended from the person or just happen to be in the area and want to see the graves, as I have done so often in the past few years.

John (Jean-Baptiste Mathias) Ariail and his wife Hannah Rich Ariail – South End Cemetery, Southington, Connecticut. Although we never located the grave because of no stone, it was determined, after several years of research, that they are indeed buried in this cemetery. The people presently in charge of the cemetery also believe they are interred in the cemetery because of the proximity of the home of John Ariail to the cemetery. Additionally, the records of other cemeteries do not list them as being buried elsewhere. A memorial stone for John and Hannah Ariail was placed at the entrance of the cemetery and a pink dogwood tree planted at the head of the stone in their memory. This is one place I will surely find the time to visit again on my next trip to the northeast.

Luke Ariail, son of John Ariail, Bellamy Cemetery, Bethlehem, Connecticut. Although no stone was on the grave, the grave of a family member was identified as being buried in the Bellamy Cemetery. Luke Ariail's death record was listed in the church there in Bethlehem, Conn., and there is no doubt that he is interred next to family members in this ancient cemetery. A stone was placed in the family plot for Luke by the Ariail Family Reunion association. Luke's wife, Abigail, is buried in the Village Cemetery in Stockbridge, Massachusetts where several members of the family are interred. A stone was on the grave of Abigail.

Manna Rich Ariail and wife Elizabeth, buried in St. Michael's Cemetery, St. Martinsville, Louisiana. Manna Rich Ariail left no descendants and his grave was listed as abandoned when located several years ago. The Ariail Family Reunion association entered into an agreement with the proprietors of this cemetery to purchase these grave sites so they could no longer be destroyed and reused by others. These two stones (grave slabs) should be replaced should there ever be enough money available to cover the cost, which would be considerable.

Lucy Ariail, First United Church of Christ Cemetery, Oxford, Connecticut. She is buried in the family plot with her son. Her husband and other members of the family are buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Southington, Connecticut. The descendants of Lucy Ariail are literally spread across this vast land and probably the descendants of Lucy constitute the largest portion of our extended family born here in the United States. A couple of John Ariail's children from Canada are probably larger and thousands of them are now living across our vast land.

John Ariail and wife Chloe Climelia Ives Ariail, Pickens Chapel Cemetery, Slabtown, South Carolina. Their graves were located through some ancient cemetery records in the Anderson County, South Carolina library. They were listed on the 'westfield marker' in the center of the cemetery and their actual graves were located on field stones containing their initials. Their daughter Elizabeth is no doubt buried next to them in an unused gravesite. An appropriate stone has been placed upon this location by the Ariail Family Reunion association.

This work, plus many other projects could not have been accomplished without the donations from many family members. We wish to thank all who have so generously gave, even family members descended from John Ariail and his wife Marie Louise Allard, from Canada. The 'hat is passed' at each Reunion meeting and those wishing to give have been extremely instrumental in allowing this work to continue. Again, thank you all and special mention must be made to Peggy Marie Ariail Bridges and Mr. David Ariail from North Carolina who contributed literally thousands of dollars to assist us in past years.

There will be no formal recommendation at the Reunion this year, however, anyone knowing of a grave site which needs attention, especially those with no one left to attend to the care of the site, should contact the Ariail Family Reunion Association officers and let us know the circumstances in order that it would considered in future 'work to be done'.

We hope again to see many of the family members at the reunion this year. We are losing so many each year and we really need the younger generation to 'take up the torch' that is being passed to them as each year goes by. As I say each year "*come sup with us and we will sup with you,*" I will assure you, the friends you make and the family members you meet will make a lasting impression in your life. As a matter of fact, you may meet someone you really like and it could make a difference for the rest of your life in friends and family.

If anyone in the family is coming from a distant state or town, give us a call. We have extra bedrooms and would be happy to have you stay with us for a couple of days. My phone number is 706-886-5669. May God bless you all richly during the coming year.

Cemetery Committee Chairman: James Patterson, Secretary: Lorraine Patterson, Members: Keith Ariail and Mary Anne Wright.

Historical Report.

This year the historical report several things that may be of interest to several members of the family. It will include stories of what members of the family did during their life and what they did in the area where they lived or what they did for their country. First, let us start off with a recap of what the Ariail Family Web Site is doing for the family or researchers of the family.

First, let us apologize to anyone who was offended by what some people around the world, specifically from foreign countries, by hacking into the Bulletin Board and posting some less than desirable videos and comments. When this was discovered by Mary Anne Ariail Wright, she informed the appropriate Reunion Officers and actions was taken to disable the bulletin board which was a part of the Web Site that allowed members of the family to communicate with each other. When originally activated, the Web Site had a bulletin board and it was taken down for similar reasons. With the reactivation, it was thought that the problem had been solved; however, we rapidly learned that it was not secured from such actions by really savvy computer students. Should we ever find a method of reactivation that allows only those authorized and permitted to make comments on the Bulletin Board, it will again be activated for the use of the family. In the meantime, it will remain inactive so we can maintain the high standards for the site that we know our family demands.

Apparently the family we site is becoming a tool that the family, or researchers of the family, finds useful. I will now breakdown the usage of the web site for the period Feb 2011 through the 1st week of Jan 2012. Feb 2011 – 3121 hits; Mar 2011 – 4550 hits; Apr 2011 – 3393 hits; May 2011 – 3668 hits; Jun 2011 – 3516 hits; Jul 2011 – 3006 hits; Aug 2011 – 3008 hits; Sep 2011 – 3475 hits; Oct 2011 – 4013 hits; Nov 2011 – 3901 hits; Dec 2011 – 12826 hits; Jan 2012 – 1180 hits(first week). Total hits for period 49,747.

Apparently this Web Site is considered very useful by many people and lets the world know the accomplishments of family members and their contributions to our nation. It is recommended that items which reflect the lives of our family members, especially of those deceased, be forwarded to the family historian in order that they may be documented for the rest of the family to read and enjoy. You will find below such an article pertaining to one of our military members, who, by the way is still alive. Would we really enjoy having such a person attend one of our reunions.

One such item goes right to the history of our country. Take a look at what one of the descendants of Lucy Ariail did for part of his livelihood.

Preston Cleveland “Noskie” Woods, b. 12 Nov 1849, West Liberty, Iowa, d. 7 Feb 1924, Sundance, Crook, Wyoming. Preston is husband of great granddaughter of Lucy Ariail, Anna Augusta Chatfield.

“Rounded up wild horses, broke them, and sold them to U.S. Army at Fort Robinson, for use as Cavalry mounts. Fort Robinson is the site of the Woods Picnic Reunion 1993, and is infamous for the murder there of Chief Crazy Horse after his surrender.”

Another bit of information that came to our knowledge was an article written by Jacqueline Lee. She gave us permission to utilize this article in our historical report per the e-mail received from her below and followed by the article which appeared in the News-Democrat. I find it simply amazing, being a past member of the military myself, that some members of our family find themselves in a situation that allows us to reflect and enjoy the review of their heroic deeds. On behalf of our family, I am sure that they will all agree with me in thanking Col. Chatfield for his service to our country. Col. Chatfield is the 3rd great grandson of Lucy Ariail.

Dear Mr. Patterson,

You're welcome to display the article on the website as long as you attribute the article to me and the Belleville News-Democrat. Are you already in contact with William E. Chatfield's family about the connection you've made? I was thinking of calling and letting them know.

Best,
Jacqueline

Military: USAF -- Retired colonel; WWII, Korea, Vietnam.

I'm a believer: Korean War veteran says divine intervention helped him survive

BY JACQUELINE LEE - News-Democrat

Col. William E. Chatfield says a divine hand dealt him a successful 34 years with the Air Force, and kept him safe through three wars.

"I'm a believer in guardian angels, I really am," said Chatfield.

Chatfield said that's probably how he survived 55 combat missions during the Korean War.

In a pocket-sized book, Chatfield wrote the details of each successful night strike and close call. He and his crew were tasked with going from the Pusan Perimeter into enemy territory to block enemy supply routes.

"It was a cat and mouse game for a long time," said Chatfield, 85, of Belleville.

Chatfield's most memorable "guardian angel" moment involved a run-in with a cable the North Koreans had stretched across a canyon to bring down American planes.

U.S. intelligence mapped out the deathtraps, which were not visible at night. The enemy learned to take them down during the day and replace them at night before they moved their supplies.

Chatfield, a bombardier and navigator, was guiding the crew through "Green Nine," a narrow, twisty path. They dropped to a low altitude, closed in on some trucks and Chatfield let the bombs fly.

"We weren't shot at, at all. Then all of a sudden, everything opened up in front of us."

There were dozens of tracers on their plane, and the pilot was ready to get the plane up and out.

"For some reason, I yelled at my pilot, 'Jim! Down!' It was acting funny on the way back, but it flew."

It wasn't until they landed safely at home base that they saw a part of the vertical stabilizer was sheared off.

"It must have been a cable," Chatfield said.

Another time, Chatfield knew he lucked out: The Koreans fired back.

The intelligence unit noticed that trucks were only going so far on a particular path. After that, Chatfield kept his eye out for traffic on the route. Sure enough, five trucks pulled off the side of the road that night and Chatfield lost sight of them.

"We couldn't see anything," Chatfield said. "Then we started getting shot at. Now, they don't fire at us unless they're protecting something."

Chatfield dropped a couple of bombs and got results.

Secondary explosions meant the crew had gotten an ammunition dump, located about 30 kilometers from the front lines.

"The area burned and exploded for two days," Chatfield said. "We lucked out. A bomb went where it shouldn't go."

His 45th mission, as an experienced navigator, was to vet a novice crew.

Training during wartime was limited, but everyone was required to first fly with a veteran.

The takeoff was fine, but as the plane cruised higher and higher the right engine stopped.

Within seconds, the left one gave out, too.

"8,000 feet and that thing quits flying," Chatfield said. "Instant silence. Nothing quieter."

He wasn't prepared for such a scenario.

The engine could have stopped for multiple reasons, known and unknown.

Somehow, in those crucial few seconds of silence, Chatfield thought to use his flashlight.

And, he shined his flashlight on the problem: The fuel selector.

One of the young airmen had used the wrong tank for takeoff.

"The guy had taken off on one of those little, itty bitty tanks!"

He hit the toggle switch and the engines fired up.

It was the crew's first strike, but there were no room for mistakes.

"I was told if they showed they don't know what they're doing, bring 'em home," Chatfield said.

That crew was grounded for two more weeks of training.

The only North Korean train Chatfield ever saw was during his 51st mission.

It was a star-lit, snow-covered night, and the crew was on the "Purple" route. They were over the town of Yonghung -- a big, open plain of frozen rice patties -- and spotted a tangle of railroad tracks.

When the train came out of a tunnel, the crew did the usual.

They got behind the train, dropped three bombs. When the train got into town, they dropped three more.

"We had him boxed," Chatfield said. "The town got caught on fire. Turned out it was an evacuated town; no one was living there."

The only person Chatfield spotted was the train engineer, who high-tailed it out of there.

"We wrecked the train."

By the next night, the wreckage remained, but the North Koreans had removed the engine.

Chatfield was lucky in other aspects of his military career.

He avoided combat in World War II at the start of his career and was chosen for an advisory job with the Pentagon right before Vietnam.

In 1942, Chatfield was a freshman in college. World War II started and his best buddy said, "You know, Bill, we should enlist. We should get in this war."

His friend got in the Navy. Chatfield was rejected because of his flat feet. A semester later, Chatfield was assigned to the Army infantry.

"I said, 'Sergeant, there has to be a mistake.' He said, 'Son, we don't care if you got flat feet. We just care if you got two of them.'"

His math studies got him on the fast track to navigation and aerial gunnery training. Chatfield was waiting for separation when the atomic bombs dropped.

"So there we were, 330 guys sitting in Topeka, Kansas, with nothing to do," he said.

Chatfield stayed in the reserves when he went back to school to be an insurance actuary. No one was hiring when he was done in 1949, so he got a teaching certificate that proved useful time and again.

He taught a year of high school math, then was an Air Force instructor in Texas and Iowa before he was recalled in 1951 for Korea.

His math and teaching background, combined with his combat experience, qualified him for a secret experiment at the Pentagon. He helped develop a computer program that would simulate an all-out nuclear war in the United States and Russia. They tested to see what would happen if America was attacked first, and vice versa.

Chatfield was then sent to Vietnam to continue operations evaluation and research. He spent a third of his time in a combat role in Thailand, and the rest working to evaluate the Air Force's conduct and role in Vietnam.

The last years of his career were spent at Scott Air Force Base and in Arkansas working with Air Force ROTC students.

Chatfield earned a Bronze Star and an Air Medal for meritorious service, among other recognition, for his work. He thanks his guardian angels for the rewarding career.

"It makes you feel good if you're doing the job you're supposed to be doing."

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Contact reporter Jacqueline Lee at jlee@bnd.com or 239-2655.

As a last person to be highlighted this year, we find another of Lucy Ariail descendants – her grandson by the name of Henry Cowles Dunham, born in Plainfield, Connecticut in 1827, live in Faribault, Minnesota and eventually moved to Spokane, Washington in his retirement and died there. Lorraine and I were through that area in 2010 and visited the area where they lived and the cemetery where they and their descendants are buried. Henry is the grandson of Lucy Ariail, so you can see how rapidly they moved around and what difficulty it was in attempting to find the area in which they lived in order to do the research on the family. These newspaper articles reflects what Henry did for a living.

Name Henry obtained from 1850 Census. 1860 Census Roll 79 Pg 100. Henry moved to Faribault, Rice, Minnesota and became a Brick Maker. 1900 Census lists 3 children, 2 still alive.

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER HEADLINE INDEX:

Henry Dunham

Makes 300,000 bricks in season.

Rep. 02/Apr/1884. County

assessor. Rep. 15/Apr/1885.

sells homestead. Makes home in

Washington State. Rep. 08/Mar/1905. Death. FDN.

30/Nov/1914.

Buried: section C-17 of Cemetery.

Rep. 03/Sep/1879. V.P.

Fairibault Christian

temperance union. Rep.

06/Jul/1881. City Assessor.

The Faribault Republican, Mar 8, 1905

Mr. Henry Dunham has sold his homestead and is about to remove to Washington to become a permanent resident. Mr. Dunham was one of the pioneer settlers of Faribault, having come here in 1855. Previously he had resided for some time in Wisconsin and sailed on the lake for two years. One of the vessels on which he made a voyage was then the largest on the lake and carried 20,000 bushels of wheat. Vessels are now built that will carry over 200,000. Mr. Dunham saw the first iron rail put down that was laid in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Dunham have not decided whether they will make their future home in Spokane or Chelan. Their many old friends will regret their departure.

The Faribault Republican, Jul 6, 1881

At the semi-annual meeting the Faribault Christian Temperance Union, held Tuesday, June 28, the following officers were elected. President, Roy E. Gale; Vice-President, Henry Dunham, P.S. Bateman; Secretary, G. Darling, Treasurer, Mrs. G. V. Stafford; Executive Committee, Mrs. Oliver Tripp, L. C. Ingram, C. L. Smith. Adjourned subject to call of the executive committee.

The Faribault Republican, Sep 3, 1879

There have been about 800,000 brick manufactured in this city during the past season. Of these number T. J. McCarthy has turned out 500,000 and Henry Dunham 300,000. The Faribault brick are said to be more durable and will stand fire and frost better than those shipped here from other points.

The Rice County Journal, Dec 02, 1914

Word was received in Faribault on Sunday of the death of Henry Dunham, at Spokane, Washington. Mr. Dunham was a former resident of Faribault, leaving here in 1906, to make his home in the west. Deceased was born in Connecticut 1825 and came to Faribault in the early fifties.

Dunham --- Henry Dunham, aged 89, died at 11 o'clock last night at his home, E1107 Fourth avenue. Mr. Dunham, who had been a resident of Spokane eight years, is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. C. D. Harmon of Spokane, and a son, H. E. Dunham of Chelan.

This is probably getting long and you are probably getting sore eyes from reading at this point, so I will close the historical report for the year. We have put a temporary hold on looking at the church records from France for a spell while we attempt to catch up on the family tree for the United States and Canada. We will again take up the search of the French records when we have completed the review of the U.S./Canadian records. We encourage all who would be willing to help us to forward the information via regular or e-mail to James Patterson, Historian, at colonel2@windstream.net or 439 Wesley Circle, Toccoa, Georgia 30577.

Our last trips, in which we did research, took us out west from Toccoa through Chicago, thence via Iowa, the Dakota's, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California and back through Oklahoma, Texas and back home. After that we went to the Northeast and visited Vermont and New Hampshire, where the descendants of Michel Ariail lived. I really enjoy that area and will be spending some more time there as we look for further records.

We hope to see all you at the reunion this year. The date and time are contained in the Family Web Site. May God bless you all.

Respectfully,
James Patterson
Ariail Family Historian.
Son of Lillie Blanche Ariail.