

## 2002 Cemetery historical report

During the 2001 Ariail Family Reunion, an overwhelming amount of support was again received for the Family's efforts to upgrade and restore some of the Ariail graves. We wish to thank those from the bottom of our hearts for what they were willing to donate. Whether it was from a few dollars that some could give up to two thousand dollars that another gave, it only proves what a wonderful family that we have. We have celebrated this closeness at the Reunion for the past 65 years and I would venture to say that our family retains the right to boast as being the closest and proudest family in the nation.

We had a leftover project from the previous year that had not been completed because of some technical difficulties with the cemetery staff. Although we are still in the negotiating stage for perpetual care for this plot, most of the obstacles have been cleared and the name and vitals of Manna Rich Ariail have been carved on his tomb in the Fireman's Cyprus Grove Cemetery in New Orleans, La. Additionally, the tomb was notated that he was a member of the Constitutional Convention that met in New Orleans in the 1860s. Because of the great historical significance of this member of our family and his descendents, and their contributions to the development of their districts in Louisiana, we are attempting to have his grave placed on the National Historic Register. Our initial attempt was denied, however, it is felt that his grave falls within the guidelines for such a determination and further attempts will be made to have such a designation bestowed, if at all possible. The cost, so far, for this project is \$206.25.

The obligations for this year were as follows: (1) placing a marker on the graves of Luke Ariail, Charles Prentice Ariail and Eliza Alice Ariail in the Bellamy Cemetery in Bethlehem, Conn. The cost for these projects totaled \$573.00.

Because of adequate funding, the Cemetery Committee was able to accomplish an additional task from future proposals: that of placing a marker on the grave of Katherine Ariail, who is resting in a paupers grave in New Jersey. Total cost for this placement \$790.00.

Note: The cost of constructing the base for these markers are an estimate as of writing this report. If it is different from estimate, a correction will be issued in next years report.

At the Reunion in 2001, a collection was taken and \$869.25 was received to accomplish the projects mentioned above. A carry over of \$100.00 from last year was returned to the person making the donation because, at the time, it was felt that the money could not be utilized for the specific purpose for which it was donated.

There will be \$2,165.00 left in the account going into the next year and will be utilized for future stone improvements/placements or grave retention costs. Again it is hoped everyone will come prepared to give generously so we can continue to accomplish work in the cemeteries and complete our work within the next few years while I am still able to get around and do this work. None of these donations are utilized for transportation or incidental expenses; it all goes for grave improvements. We still have several projects to accomplish and we are finding more untended grave plots as we locate where family members are buried. We wish to thank those who participated so very much as the work being accomplished means so very much to many members of our family.

Because of adequate funds available, we were able to accomplish all the work proposed to the Family Reunion Association. In addition to the major projects we proposed at the Reunion, the following project was undertaken by consent of private donation.

1. Cleaning Patterson family cemetery, no cost. Checking on condition of family cemetery lots in Au Sable Forks, Keeseville New York, and other locations in New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut and New York: No cost.

A total of \$1,579.25 was spent to accomplish grave work last year. From all sources, Reunion collection and private donations, a total of \$3,744.25 was donated by different family members. Total money owed: None. Total money on hand: \$2,165.00. Note: As with previous years, some family members donated money for a partial or complete project. This exemplary action on their part must be commended and it is hoped that others will assist in a like manner.

Again, I have an accounting for all monies received and expended, with names of contributors, but do not feel it would be appropriate to publish the list here. Any individual wanting to see this list of contributors should contact Doyce Ariail, President of the Reunion Association, and we will be happy to arrange for you to see the list of donors.

As a project for this coming year, there are three suggestions to be placed upon the table for consideration.

- (1) Purchase perpetual care for the grave of Manna Rich Ariail in New Orleans, Louisiana. Cost approximately \$1,500.00. This will ensure that his remains are not removed from the tomb and the grave plot resold to other people. It is hoped that several of his

descendants from Massachusetts, North Carolina and elsewhere will assist in this undertaking. This Ariail was connected with both Massachusetts and Louisiana Ariail families and led a very colorful and productive life.

- (2) Replace unreadable/very old markers for grandchildren of Climelia Abigail Ariail at Mt. Carmel Presbyterian Church. Also upgrade entire cemetery plot.
- (3) Should the Reunion approve during the business meeting of 2002 and the curator of the south End Cemetery in Southington, Connecticut approve our proposal, placement of a memorial marker for John Ariail and Hannah Rich in that Cemetery. We know for certain they are not interred in the Oak Hill Cemetery, because there are documented records for everyone in that cemetery. The very beautiful South End Cemetery is close to where they lived and it is felt they are most likely buried there. Estimated cost would be less than \$1,000.00. (John Ariail is the common ancestor for all US and Canadian Ariails.)

There are also other needs to be met should additional money be available, or should family members make specific donations. These are as follows:

- (1) Manna Goodwin Ariail, d. Jun 21, 1856, unmarked grave, Town Cemetery, Stockbridge, Mass. Grave not yet identified. He is son of Manna Rich Ariail from Louisiana. It is believed he was either taken to Massachusetts for medical assistance or died while visiting relatives there. Recovered newspaper article from the mid 1800s confirms death in Stockbridge.
- (2) Marker for Robert Francis (Bobby) Kinard, b. Sep 29, 1919, d. Apr 17, 1921. Buried in family plot of The Rev. William Hamilton Ariail at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Florence, S.C.
- (3) Marker for Ralph Styron, son of Lillie Beatrice Ariail, at Piedmont, S.C. Need birth/death data from bible held by Styron family.
- (4) Upgrade grave of children of Claude Ariail, Nails Creek Cemetery.

Note: I realize some of these names do not mean much to many who attend the Ariail Reunion, however, they mean a great deal to a large portion of the Ariail Family. The Cemetery Committee is attempting to do this work for the entire Ariail family across the entire United States.

We are again amazed at the response to our efforts and sincerely thank those who so very generously gave. If you desire to help this year, please come prepared to give during the Reunion Meeting so that we can continue to accomplish the goals that we have set. If you cannot give at the Reunion and wish to make a commitment, give us your name, address, and phone number so we can keep in touch with you at a later date. It should be remembered that the collection taken at the reunion for the cost of conducting the Reunion is completely separate from the Cemetery donations. All contributions for the cemetery fund should be deposited in the appropriate collection vehicle. Again, the entire Cemetery Committee as well as all Family members, desire to thank you so very much. We continue to meet and make lasting friends for the family from the efforts that have been made.

Committee: Lorraine Patterson, Secretary. James Patterson, Chairman, Trenton Patterson & Keith Ariail, members.

## HISTORICAL REPORT.

Last year, at the Reunion, we were honored to have present with us a descendant of Theodore Ariail, from Chicago. Lollie and her husband and grandchild were in attendance. They are descended from the eldest son, who survived, of John Ariail and Louise Allard from Canada. They have also given us several pictures of members of their family dating back into the 1800s.

Since the Reunion last year, Lorraine and I have coupled our annual vacation with some family visiting. We went to Austria, Switzerland, Germany and France. What a wonderful way to spend some money and see some beautiful sights.

After the completion of our tour of the Alps and surrounding areas, we took a train and went to Nantes, France. While there, we visited with Annie Ariail, Fabrice Ariail, Karine Ariail, Aurelie Ariail, and Cedric Edmondes. They were the ones that came to the Reunion a couple of years ago.

Additionally, Doyce Ariail and three of his sons made a trip to Nantes France in Aug of 2001. They visited all the cousins who attended the Reunion and also went to Les Railleries where they met and visited with 2 Ariail brothers and one of their wives. His name

is Julien Ariail. His father and grandfather are buried in the cemetery at Vallet and we have visited their grave plots. While there they also went to the town of Riaille, which is most likely named after the Ariail family.

The Rev. Dan Ariail and his family have also made a trip to Nantes France and visited with our cousins there.

The Ariail family was gracious enough to take us around the entire area where they live and see all the sights. We went on a dinner cruise of one of the major rivers in Nantes and saw all the very expensive and beautiful Chateaus. Also, while we were there, they took us to visit Karines' parents, Yves Ariail and his wife Nicole Legal, Joseph Ariail and Jeanne Ariail. Joseph and Jeanne live on a typical French Farm with all the farm outbuildings. Yves Ariail has a very nice home with a wonderful place for a garden in the back of his house lot. He has a lot of birds, rabbits and chickens. His daughter, Karine Ariail has just built a new home next door to him.

All family members were so very gracious and made our visit most pleasant. Annie Ariail took us to Mouzillon Village, the place where Jean Baptiste Mathieu Ariail (John Ariail) was born. We were able to go into the cemetery, the church and the town office. We walked along the ancient streets of the village and wondered how much different it is now from the time that John Ariail was born in 1735. We also went back to Vallet, France and looked over some of their records. None of these records really reflect the ancient roots of our family.

After accomplishing all of the foregoing, we had time to visit the archives in Nantes for about 2 hours. During that time we really hit pay dirt, so to speak. We found some microfilm of ancient church records, but did not have time to do more than start researching the tapes. Here are a couple of things that we did find. (1) The earliest Ariail that we found was named Jan Ariail, born in the 1500's. This was found in the marriage records of his daughter. We do not know as yet who his sons were, but one of them was probably Michel Ariail. (2) We also documented just who the father and mother of Charles Ariail, the grandparents of John Ariail, were. They are Mathieu Ariail, born about 1655, died Jan 8, 1720 and Jeanne Rebion. They lived in Mouzillon Village, France. (3) We have also uncovered perhaps where the name Harvey originates in the Ariail family. John Ariail had a relative in France, most likely his uncle (yet to be confirmed) whose name was Herve Rene Ariail.

I have attempted to purchase a duplicate copy of these ancient records, but was denied by the French Archives. Should we again visit Europe, we will allow enough time to do the research in person.

Much progress has been accomplished in the research effort during the past year. One of John Ariails' sons, named Michel Ariail, came from Canada into New York State in the late 1700's or early 1800's. We have partially pieced his family together, however, much more work must be done to verify our suppositions in some cases. His descendents spread across New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and South Carolina ---- plus other places such as Florida and North Carolina. Some may have gone to California and perhaps Hawaii.

Since last year, we have uncovered why there was so much confusion about the spelling of the name Ariail/Ariel/Arel. There were two men who came to Canada in the early days from France. One was named Jean Louis Francois Arel dit Janrel. He landed in Canada some time before John Ariail came to Canada. We have reconstructed, in alphabetical form, many of the descendents of both of these men and will have them available on the poster boards at the Reunion for all to see. Refinement is still underway on this project and many changes and corrections will have to be made for late research.

Additionally, we will have several documents for those in attendance to view, the most notable being the family bible listing births back into the 1775 ear in Connecticut.

This entire project is so vast in scope that I run out of time to accomplish all that I attempt to do. Any help that anyone can give me in documenting members of their own family and descendents will be most greatly appreciated.

We encourage all, who possibly can, to attend the reunion this year. We never know when God will call us home, regardless of our health or age. As I stated last year "come sup with us and we will sup with you" our lives will be richer for the friendships and associations that we make.

My wife and I have an extra bedroom and will be happy to host someone coming from far away. You will have to let us know soon and if we still have the room, we will provide you shelter while you are here for the Reunion. Our phone number is 706 886 5669.

We continue to meet newly discovered cousins all the time, Throughout the United States and Canada, we are meeting our Arial/Ariel cousins, and we have just discovered we possibly have Arel cousins. What a privilege to meet and associate with family that we never knew before. You can have this same experience, we have laid the groundwork for you, come to the Reunion and fellowship with your family. The blessings you receive will well be worth the effort.

I am out of space for this years report again. I would like to send you so much more information. If anyone needs such information or help in any way in coordinating their coming to the Reunion, or any questions pertaining to the family, please give me a call. May God

bless you richly during this upcoming year.

James W. Patterson, Historian

Son of Lillie Blanche Ariail.