

Brabham, Kearse, Kirkland  
McMillan and Moye  
84<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Reunion



*and*

Tenth Mizpah United Methodist Church Homecoming  
at  
Buford's Bridge, South Carolina

October 9, 2005



Photo by Clyde Kearsse

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## MIZPAH

*Go thou thy way, and I go mine,  
Apart, yet not afar;  
Only a thin veil hangs between  
The pathways where we are.  
And "God keep watch 'tween thee and me";  
This is my prayer;  
He looks thy way, He looketh mine,  
And keeps us near.*

*I know not where thy road may lie,  
Or which way mine will be;  
If mine will lead thro' parching sands  
And thine beside the sea;  
Yet God keeps watch 'tween thee and me,  
So never fear;  
He holds thy hands, He claspeth mine,  
And keeps us near.*

*Should wealth and fame perchance be thine,  
And my lot lowly be,  
Or you be sad and sorrowful,  
And glory be for me,  
Yet God keep watch 'tween thee and me;  
Both be His care;  
One arm round thee and one round me  
Will keep us near.*

*I sigh sometimes to see thy face,  
But since this may not be,  
I'll leave thee to the care of Him  
Who cares for thee and me.  
"I'll keep you both beneath my wings,"  
This comforts, dear;  
One wing o'er thee and one o'er me,  
Will keep us near.*

*And though our paths be separate,  
And thy way is not mine,  
Yet coming to the Mercy seat,  
My soul will meet with thine.  
And "God keep watch 'tween thee and me,"  
I'll whisper there.  
He blessed thee, He blesseth me,  
And we are near.*

JULIA A. BAKER

**2005 MIZPAH REUNION AND HOMECOMING**  
***84th Anniversary***

*of the*

***Brabham, Kearse, Kirkland, McMillan and Moye Reunion***  
***and***

**Tenth Mizpah United Methodist Church Homecoming**

**October 9, 2005**

**11:30 am**

Prelude ..... Mary Carolyn Watson

Meeting Call To Order ..... Louis Odom

Invocation ..... Rev. Edward Stiltz, (Olar Charge)

Welcome To Mizpah ..... Betty Jane Miller

Approval of 2004 Minutes & Treasurer’s Report ..... (Printed in book)

Election of Officers ..... Report of Nomination Committee

Recognition of Family Members Present

Offertory Introduction of Speaker ..... Richard Kearse

Special Music: ..... Robert Mallory & Lynn Mallory Unnold

Speaker ..... “3 Great Needs As We Grow Older” ..... Rev. Harold Kirkland

Hymn ..... “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Benediction and Blessing ..... Rev. Edward Stiltz

# 2004 Minutes

## Mizpah Reunion and Homecoming

The five reunion families and church members gathered at historic Mizpah United Methodist Church on October 12, 2004, for the 83rd Mizpah Reunion and the Ninth Mizpah Church homecoming. The service began at 11:30 with Reunion President Richard Kearses presiding.

Pianist Mary Carolyn Watson offered the prelude, "Sweet Hour of Prayer." Richard Kearses called the meeting to order. He noted that this reunion was important in his life and in the life of his family. Rev. Edward Stiltz, pastor of the Olar Charge which includes Mizpah Church, offered the invocation. Betty Jane Miller offered a welcome from the church, and also read T. Benton Young's poem, "Buford's Bridge."

The 2003 Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved as presented in the program book. Members were asked to update their family information by next summer, for a reprinting of the Mizpah Family Book. Richard Kearses thanked Donnie Ayer for seeing that the grounds were clean and ready for today's family reunion.

Ched Kearses reported for the nominating committee, offering the following slate of officers: 2005 Reunion President - Lou Odom (Kirkland family); 2006 Reunion President - Steve Kemmerlin (Kearses family); Secretary - Carol B. Varn; and, Treasurer - Laurence Wells. The officers were elected by acclamation on motion of Bill Craven.

The five families were recognized with the following attendance: Brabham (31); Kearses (57); Kirkland (78); McMillan (11); and Moye (13). The oldest person attending was Clarice Brabham O'Neal (91). The youngest was Emma Ridenhour (three months), daughter of Melanie and Jason Ridenhour of Mt. Pleasant, SC, and granddaughter of Carol and Billy Varn. Mary Carlton Lull, of Berkeley, California, traveled the longest distance to attend.

Richard Kearses introduced the speaker, Rev. Harold Kirkland. Rev. Kirkland gave a humorous yet thoughtful message, and received a rousing round of applause following his speech. For many years, Rev. Kirkland was minister of First Baptist Church of Sumter (SC).

The traditional congregational singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" was followed by the benediction and blessing given by Rev. Edward Stiltz. The group then moved to the church grounds for a covered dish dinner with lemonade provided by Robbie Kearses and family. The group enjoyed a day of visiting, remembering and meeting new friends. The 2005 Mizpah Reunion will be October 9.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol B. Varn  
Reunion Secretary

*Mizpah Church Families Association*  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
*August 31, 2004 - August 31, 2005*

**Bank Balance as of August 31, 2004** ..... \$7,578.97

**Receipts:**

Interest ..... \$ 6.54

Reunion Collection - October 11, 2003 ..... 882.00

**Total Receipts** ..... 888.54

**Total in Bank & Receipts** ..... \$8467.41

**Expenditures:**

Mel Rizer - Paper Goods ..... \$ 96.62

Helen's Florist - Flowers for Church ..... 53.00

Sun Incorporated - Printing Program Books, etc. .... 915.84

**Total Expenditures** ..... \$ 1,065.46

**Total in Bank August 31, 2004** ..... \$ 7,402.95

Laurence R. Wells  
Treasurer

# *Mizpah United Methodist Church*

## **MIZPAH FAMILY BOOK COMMITTEE**

*August 31, 2004 - August 31, 2005*

Bank Balance as of August 31, 2005 ..... \$8,842.22

**No Receipts**

**No Expenditures**

### **Special Notice**

Make sure you sign up for how many Family Books you will want. These books will be available at the next reunion as long as everyone gets in their family updates. Very little updated information was given in this year and we felt we needed to postpone this book for one more year. Please help us by updating your family portion of the Family Book. When you sign up for books, please give us as much information as possible so we can get in touch with you.

Please fill out the form in the back of this book and deposit it into the offering when it is passed. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any of the names listed below. If you are willing to gather information for your family, please see Philip Morris before you leave today.

Amanda P. Morris    2 Southwoode Circle  
                            Chapin, SC 29036-8653  
                            803-945-9652

Joyce T. Kears        PO Box 805  
                            Olar, SC 29843  
                            803-368-8863

Clyde Kears            JCKJ@mindspring.com

Philip L. Morris      philip.morris@sun-inc.com  
                            204 Dutchman Shores Circle  
                            Chapin, SC 29036

# *Memorial Flowers*

*by Mizpah Church Reunion Association*

**Julia Brabham Felder Sanders**

Died July 27, 2005

**Douglass Brabham**

Died May 2005

**Matthew Moye Brabham**

Died January 27, 2004

**Ruth Ona Diamond Kirkland**

Died August 19, 2005

**Joyce Boswell Brabham**

Died May 20, 2005

**Minna Clyde O'Neal McMillan**

Died May 15, 2005

*As well as to the memory of all the deceased in our families*



*Flowers on the Piano in honor of*

**Sarah Elizabeth Seabrook**

*Placed by Amanda P. Morris and Philip & Debra Morris*

**September 18, 1920 - February 18, 2005**



Sarah Seabrook

Sarah was a life time member of Mizpah and served as Treasurer for 30 years. She was also a Trustee and worked hard to make Mizpah what it is today. She is survived by two daughters, Kathy and Milissa and a grandson, Will. She always looked forward to the reunion each year and will truly be missed.

# YOUNGEST & OLDEST 2004



Oldest - Mrs. Clarice O'Neal - 91



Youngest - Reese Caroline Covington - 7-14-04  
Parents - Josh & Lauren Covington; Grandparent - Laura (Weze) Dodds;  
Great-grandparent - Laura K. Kirby (Kearse)



# BRABHAM FAMILY NEWS

## BIRTHS:

Nathaniel Westmoreland Brabham was born March 30, 2005. He is the son of Angus M. (Gus) Brabham IV, and Heather Brabham and the grandson of Dr. A.M. (Mickey) and Gene Brabham of Columbia. Margaret Reid Brabham was born 6/9/05. She is the daughter of Heyward C. and Carole R. Brabham and is the granddaughter of Mickey and Gene.

• • • •

## MARRIAGES:

1st Lt. Richard Gordon Cliff, Jr., and Stacy Gambill Wagoner of Crumpler, NC, were married on August 31, 2003. He is the son of Julie Sanders and Richard Gordon Cliff, Sr., of Mount Pleasant and the grandson of the late Julia Brabham Felder Sanders.

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William and Katherine N. Desportes were married Aug 23, 2003, in Vail, Colorado, where they make their home. William is the son of Perrin and Susan (Brabham) Desportes and the grandson of the late Dr. and Mrs. V. Wells Brabham, Jr. Perrin and Susan's older son, Perrin T. Desportes, Jr., lives in Richmond, VA, where he is a branch manager of Patterson Dental Supply Company.

• • • •

Thomas Tatum Traywick III, son of Thomas T. (Tom ) and Tanne (Brabham) Traywick, Jr., grandson of Clarence M. Brabham and Virginia Nettles Brabham, married Kimberly Ann Spivey of Camden, SC, on May 28, 2005. They are making their home in Camden. Tom and Tanne have moved to Cedar Mountain, NC. Tanne has retired from teaching and Tom is running his business from their new home.

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## DEATHS:

Julia Brabham Felder Sanders passed away on July 27, 2005. She was 90 years old. Her husband, S. Brown Sanders (92), is in skilled nursing at Grace Hall in Mount Pleasant. Julia was the daughter of Inez Brabham and Jacob Felder of Cope, SC.

• • • •

Matthew Moye Brabham, Sr., son of the late Robert F. and Daisy Ida Brabham of Dalzell, died on January 27, 2004. He had served as a deputy sheriff in Sumter County for 20 years and was 91 at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Frances, and three children: Moye, Jr., of Orange Park, FL; Mary Frances Riley of Savannah, GA; and Polly Hoffman of Fairbanks, Alaska. He is also survived by four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one sister (Phronsie) and three brothers (Bobby, Wilsie, and James).

• • • •

Joyce Boswell Brabham, wife of Woodrow Wilson (Wilsie) Brabham, died on May 20, 2005, at the age of 80. She was a graduate of the 1947 class of the Tuomey Hospital School of Nursing in Sumter and had lived in Dalzell for many years. In addition to her husband, the son of the late Robert F. and Daisy Ida Brabham, she is survived by her son, Woody, of Easley, her daughter, Sylvia Spiegel, of Sumter, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Woody is completing a one-year tour of duty as a military policeman with a National Guard unit in Iraq.

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# BRABHAM FAMILY NEWS

Douglass Brabham, son of Ollie Brabham, Jr., died in May 2005.

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Jackie Felder Bridges of York, SC, is now in skilled care at Westminster Rehab Center, 831 McDow St., Rock Hill, SC 29732. Jackie, who grew up in Cope, SC, is the daughter of Inez Brabham and Jacob Felder of Cope, SC.

• • • •

1st Lt. Richard Gordon Cliff, Jr., recently returned from a one-year deployment in Iraq with the 2nd Infantry Division. He and his wife, Stacy are currently stationed at Ft. Lewis in Tacoma, WA. He is the grandson of the late Julia Brabham Felder Sanders.

• • • •

Dr. V. Wells Brabham, IV, is a resident in general surgery at the University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill. His younger brother, Ralph, is an attorney who is presently a law clerk for a judge in Greensboro, NC.

• • • •

Dr. William (Bill) and Cantey (Brabham) Carpenter have moved from Sumter, SC (where they lived for 32 years) to Fearrington Village, south of Chapel Hill, NC. They love being near their daughter, Ginger Espino's family and close to cousins, Gerry and Harry Guess, in Chapel Hill.

• • • •

Dr. Harry Guess, grandson of Clarence Robert Brabham and Buena Vista Daniel Brabham, was honored by the International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology with the first Sustained Scientific Excellence Award presented at the Society's annual meeting in August 2005 in Nashville, TN.

• • • •

Robert F. (Bobby) Brabham, son of the late Robert F. and Daisy Ida Brabham, recently celebrated his 89th birthday. He has moved from his home in Sumter to the Prince George Healthcare Center, 901 Maple St., Georgetown, SC 29440. He has three children—Robert Jr. (Robin) of Charlotte, NC, Gail Miles of Valley, AL, and Gene of Georgetown. He also has six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

• • • •

Sally Inabinet writes that her son Lee returned four months ago safe and sound from Iraq and lives in San Antonio with his wife, Letty, and their two daughters, Audrey (11) and Alyssa (16), where Lee is an Air Traffic Controller. George Inabinet III (Tiger) served in Afghanistan and returned safely three weeks ago. His wife, Holly, is a stocks analyst and they have one child, Christian. Sally's mother, Gene Gilchrist Bradley, is 93 and is in Life Care Center of Columbia (nursing home). George and Sally are both retired although Sally works part-time at USC as a Supervisor of Interns.

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# BRABHAM FAMILY

The Honorable Carrie H. Sojourner Simmons was elected Mayor of Denmark in April 2005 and was honored by Voorhees College in November 2004. Her portrait was placed in the Voorhees College National Alumni Hall of Fame in recognition of her many contributions to the Bamberg/Denmark community.

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The Rev. Consee Brabham, youngest son of Ollie Brabham, was appointed Assistant Pastor of the Honey Ford Baptist Church in Denmark in 2005.

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Three descendants of Ollie Brabham were awarded master's degrees in 2005 and a fourth one is presently studying for a master's degree in engineering. They are the children of Ervin and Grace Brabham of Olar, SC. Congratulations are in order to them: Glenn Brabham, Duane Brabham, Melanie Tyler and Sheila Platts.

• • • •

Khayre Tyler, great-great-granddaughter of Ollie Brabham and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Craig Tyler, Sr. of Westhampton, NJ, appeared in the film "The Manchurian Candidate." Khayre and her brother, Craig, Jr., are members of a flying club, the Young Eagles.

• • • •

Heyward C. Brabham is a fence contractor (residential and commercial) in Columbia at Brabham Fence Company. Mickey and Gene Brabham's youngest son, William Walter Brabham, MD, graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina May 20, 2005, as First Honor Graduate. He is training at Duke University Hospital in internal medicine.

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*If you know of Brabham family members who are not receiving notice of the Mizpah reunion, please send names and addresses to Nan O'Neal Campbell, 1262 Steele St., Denver, CO 80206.*



Brabham Family

# KEARSE FAMILY NEWS

## BIRTHS:

Lucas Andrew Youra was born on October 15, 2004. His parents are Kimberly and Andrew Youra. He is the grandson of Brenda and Garrett Youra of Twin Lakes, Wisconsin, and the great-grandson of Laura K. Williams Kirby and the late Col. Albert Williams.

• • • •

Joshua Allan Morris was born May 5, 2005, weighing 8 pounds 3 ounces. His parents are Allan and Beth Morris of Georgia. He is the grandson of Philip & Debra Morris and the great-grandson of Amanda P. Morris and the late R.L. Morris, Jr. of Chapin.

• • • •

## MARRIAGES:

Gregory Larsen Youra married Katherine Elaine Goetz on May 14th, 2005. The wedding was held in Chicago, Illinois. Gregory is the son of Brenda and Garrett Youra and grandson of Laura K. Williams Kirby and the late Col. Albert Williams.

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Courtney Ownes, daughter of Louise W. Dodd and granddaughter of Laura W. Kirby and the late Col. Albert Williams, has recently joined the Peace Corps and is currently serving in South Africa. She is living with a host family in Messaca. Their language is Portuguese and Courtney is taking classes to learn their language for better communication. She said that the conditions there are extremely primitive, but the people are friendly and very grateful. They are hardworking, diligent, admirable people. She writes that "the days do get long and tiresome, but the reward is far greater than anything she could ever envision." Courtney will be serving in South Africa for two years.

• • • •

Steve, Terri and Cassie Kemmerlin vacationed this past summer in Hawaii. They visited Pearl Harbor and several other islands. This was Cassie's first flight and it made the trip even more exciting. Hal Kemmerlin joined a tour group from Orangeburg in August and traveled to Texas, visiting many interesting places.

• • • •

Chester M. Kearse, Jr., 'Ched', was the recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Service to Forestry Award from the Appalachian Society of American Foresters at its annual meeting this past January in Columbia. The Appalachian Section of the Society of American Foresters encompasses the states of South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia and represents over 1700 professional foresters that reside in these states. The award recognizes one forester each year from the Appalachian region that has displayed outstanding professionalism and contributed significant volunteer service for the betterment of the forestry profession during his or her career. It is the highest award presented at the regional level

# KEARSE FAMILY NEWS

by the Society of American Foresters. Ched is the son of Chester M. Kearse, Sr., and the late Ethel Loadholt Kearse of Fairfax, SC. He is currently president and general manager of Kearse Mfg. Company of Olar.

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Jonathon Hastings, son of Van and Dot Hastings, grandson of Fred and the late Lorraine Clark, was accepted to the Savannah College of Arts and Design in June of this year. Jonathon is majoring in Industrial Design.

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The Clarks in Richmond, VA, (Rick, Amy, Carrie, Will) celebrated Carrie's graduation from Randolph Macon Women's College with a trip to Paris, France. She received a degree in Communications and Political Science cum laude. Carrie was excited that Grandpa Fred Clark and Aunt Judy and Uncle Chuck Rushing were able to attend the graduation ceremony in Lynchburg, VA. She is working and planning for graduate school next fall. Will is working in Richmond and continues to pursue a history degree with the goal of becoming a history teacher. Amy, who began a new job in 2004, is working in Raleigh and coming home on the weekends. Rick completed his stint as elder in the Presbyterian Church in July and has taken on other church responsibility.

• • • •

Amanda J. (Mandy) Morris, daughter of Philip and Debra Morris, graduated May 6, 2005, with honors from the University of SC. She is now attending Law School at the University of South Carolina. She is the granddaughter of Amanda P. Morris of Chapin.

• • • •

Debbie Kearse Waltz has been promoted to manager of the Marion District by Scana. She has moved from Columbia to Marion with her husband, Michael Waltz. She is the daughter of Joyce & Clyde Kearse, Jr., of Olar, SC and the granddaughter of the late Clara and Clyde Kearse of Olar, SC.

• • • •

Chatham Harris attended the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Maryland this summer. He obtained rank of "Life Scout." He is working hard to get his "Eagle Scout" by next year. He is the son of Lynn and T-Bo Harris of Columbia and proud grandson of Joyce and Clyde Kearse of Olar, SC.

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# KEARSE FAMILY



Betty Kears Wells, June Kears and Chester Kears (seated on right)



Grady Kears, Gwen & Joe Bullington



Lois & Bill Craven (Kears)



Middle - Jennie Morris  
Laura K. Kirby - right

# KEARSE FAMILY



The Kearsse Family Lemonade Crew  
Robbie, Ricky and Mackay



Richard "Dickie" & Beth Kearsse  
Cindy & Tim Segars



Mike Kearsse - 90  
George Kearsse



L to R - Debbie & Michael Waltz, Lynn & T-Bo Chatham  
Harris, Joyce & Clyde Kearsse

# *KEARSE FAMILY*



L to R - Rick Clark, Dot & Van Hastings, Fred Clark,  
Chuck & Judy Rushing, Tricia & Robbie Hastings



Sandy Sanders, Johnnie Sanders, John Sanders (son), Jennings Owens



# KIRKLAND FAMILY NEWS

## BIRTHS:

Robert and Kathleen Brunson announce the birth of a son, Dana Patrick. Kathleen is the granddaughter of the late John Eldon and Annie Lou Dickinson Kirkland and the daughter of the Rev. Harold N. Kirkland of Sumter. The Brunsons also have an older daughter, Kathleen Clarke. The Brunsons live on Sullivan's Island and Robert is a senior partner with Nelson, Pruett, Riley and Scarborough.

• • • •

Avery Bren Peek, daughter of Jason and Stacy Peek, was born on March 29, 2004. She was welcomed home by her brother, Colyn Jason Peek. They are the grandchildren of Shirley McMillan Kirkland and the late Marshall Kirkland.

• • • •

Austin Brock Kelsey was born on January 11, 2005, to Niki Olliff and Brad Kelsey. Niki is the daughter of Frances and Kirk Olliff. Austin is the great-grandson of Betty C. and Earl Boyd and great-great-grandson of D.S. and Bessie Kirkland Clayton.

• • • •

Jaxin Kirk Olliff was born on March 31, 2005. He is the son of Kristopher and Elizabeth Olliff, the grandson of Frances and Kirk Olliff, the great-grandson of Betty C. and Earl Boyd and great-great-grandson of D. S. and Bessie Kirkland Clayton.

• • • •

Sarah Ann Stonseller was born March 18, 2005. She is the daughter of Lauren Lesesne and Thomas Stonseller II. She is the granddaughter of Ellen Norton and Bill Lesesne, the great-great-great-granddaughter of Hanson Kirkland and Patrick H. Lesesne and great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Benjamin Brown Kirkland.

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Kirkland Family

# KIRKLAND FAMILY NEWS

Caroline Bruner was born. on June 21, 2005. She is the great-granddaughter of Wilbur Kirkland Hayes and great-great-granddaughter of B.B. Kirkland, Sr., of Columbia.

• • • •

Ryan Jacob Green, son of Justin and Julie Green was born on August 1, 2005. He was welcomed home by his older brother and sister. He is the great-grandson of Kitty Kirkland Bradley and great-great-grandson of the late W.C. (Will) Kirkland of Charlotte, NC.

• • • •

Peyton Alyssa Jarrell, daughter of Steve and Jennifer Jarrell, was born August 8, 2005, in Raleigh, NC. Welcoming her home was her brother, Dylan Hall Jarrell. Steve and Dylan are grandsons of Gene and Judy Jarrell and great-grandsons of Gladys Janie Kirkland.

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## DEATHS:

Ruth Ona Diamond Kirkland of Barnwell, SC, died August 19, 2005. She was the widow of Needham Franklin Kirkland and was the daughter-in-law of Dr. Reuben Cornelius Kirkland. She is survived by two daughters, Lucy Kirkland Hudson of Barnwell, and Willye Ona Kirkland Hunt of Greenville.

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Robert Wesley Hayes, III, graduated from Clemson University in May 2005. He is the grandson of Wilbur Kirkland Hayes of Rock Hill. Wilbur's new address is Westminster Towers #319, 1330 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, SC 29732.

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Jayson Kirkland Perdue of Summerville, son of Jane Kirkland Perdue and the late Jay Perdue, is now attending Carolina Springs Academy in Donalds, SC. Jayson is the grandson of the late Frank and Janey Beth Kirkland of Charlotte, NC.

• • • •

Samuel Louis Battalio, grandson of Louis and Jan Odom, attended the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Boston, MA. Sam, a rising 6th grader who lives in Pacifica, CA, was recommended by his teachers from among all students at his grade level. Participants are from elementary through high school nationwide and this conference is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council. Sam is the great-grandson of Luther and Ione Kirkland Odom and the great-great-grandson of James Hamilton and Ione Toney Kirkland.

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Ruth Clayton Frye of Bamberg went on a mission trip to Bangladesh with the WMU of the Southern Baptist Convention from August 20 - September 3. Their project was a Prayer Walk in Dhaka, the

# KIRKLAND FAMILY NEWS

capital, where they made contact with some of the native people. Ruth is the daughter of Bessie Kirkland Clayton and D. S. Clayton, Sr.

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Beth Busby of Aiken, daughter of Dan and Zelda Clayton of Aiken, participated in a mission trip to Nicaragua in September. Beth is the granddaughter of Bessie Kirkland Clayton and D. S. Clayton, Sr.

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John Tatum Watson and his wife, Donna are now living in Geneva, Switzerland, where he has accepted a job as Medical Officer with the World Health Organization. His job focuses on disease control in humanitarian emergencies. John is the son of Mike and Mary Carolyn Watson and grandson of the late John and Bess Kirkland Tatum.

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Curt Illies, husband of Ruthie Snelling, took an early retirement from Delta airlines on June 1 with over 24 years of service as a pilot. He retired as a Boeing 767 Captain. He is now employed as a pilot by NetJets Aviation of Columbus, Ohio. Ruthie is still at Delta, with over 25 years as a Flight Attendant. Ruthie is the daughter of Dorothy Brown and Jack Snelling and is the granddaughter of Cornelia Black and J.J. Snelling and the great-granddaughter of Pauline Kirkland and Paul D. Black.

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Sarah Clingman attended an Elder Law seminar in San Francisco the last of May and a few days later she was joined by her husband, Jay, and daughters Hannah (11) and Rebecca (8). They enjoyed visits in Los Angeles and San Diego and even participated in a Tennis Tournament in Oakland, coming home with a trophy each! Both of the girls take ballet and have danced in the Carolina Ballet production of the Nutcracker for the last three years. Sarah is the daughter of Ruth Snelling and Barney Linley, the granddaughter of Cornelia Black and J.J. Snelling, and the great-granddaughter of Pauline Kirkland and Paul D. Black.

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Rev. M.M.Brabham wrote in his book, "Mizpah: A Family Book," that three Kirkland brothers, Richard, George and Reuben moved to the old Barnwell District. Gene Jarrell, who has been studying our ancestors for over 15 years, has found information that offered additional information. Seems that George and Reuben were brothers who were sons of Joshua Kirkland. Richard, however, was a brother to Joshua, making Richard an uncle to George and Reuben. Joshua's father was Edward and Edward's father was Richard Kirkland.

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# *KIRKLAND FAMILY NEWS*



L to R - Bill & Ellen Gilmore, Jan & Louis Odom,  
and Garry & Robbie Mallory



3 Generations  
Kirkland Lee Rizer,  
Frank Rizer, and Earl Rizer



Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kirkland, Mell & Earl Rizer,  
and Kirkland Lee Rizer

# *McMILLAN FAMILY NEWS*

## **DEATHS:**

Margie McMillan Myrick, 78, died June 30, 2005, at her home. She was the wife of the late Billy Cove Myrick. She was the daughter of the late George Anthony McMillan and Annie Mae Kears McMillan. She was a graduate nurse from Orangeburg School of Nursing. She worked for many years at the Allendale Health Department. She was a member of The Great Salkehatchie Church and served in various appointments for over 50 years. She is survived by her son, Roger and daughter-in-law, Donna Myrick of Goose Creek and daughter, Roseanne and son-in-law, Art McPherson of Ulmco. There were three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. One sister, Miona Fonveille of Tabor City, NC and numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of over 50 years, three brothers, two sisters, and one grandson.

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Minna Clyde O'Neal McMillan, 90 years of age, died May 15, 2005, wife of the late Henry Vallentine McMillan. She and her husband lived in the Colston Community of Bamberg County. She was a reporter of news to the Advertiser Herald for 40 years and a reporter of McMillan and Moye news for the Mizpah Family Reunion. She served in several positions in Colston Baptist Church. She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Henry and Susan McMillan of Irmo; a daughter, Ann McMillan Purcell of Greenville; a brother, James O'Neal of Columbia; several grand and great-grandchildren; several nephews and once niece. She was predeceased by her sister, Reba O'Neal Kears and husband, Vallentine McMillan.

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## **MARRIAGE:**

Rebecca McMillan Myrick and Henry Brabham Smith were married April 9, 2005, at Great Salkehatchie Baptist Church in Ulmer, SC. Rebecca is the daughter of Roger and Donna Myrick of Goose Creek and granddaughter of the late Billy Cave Myrick and Margie McMillan Myrick. Henry Brabham is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Edward Smith, Jr. of Barnwell.

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## **ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

Captain Brian Ellis (U.S. Air Force) has been stationed in Tikrit, Iraq, since May 2005 with the 42nd Engineering Division. Brian should be returning to his home base in Minot, ND, in November 2005. Brian is the son of Bruce and Beth (McMillan) Ellis and the grandson of Ruth P. McMillan & the late Maxwell McMillan.

• • • •

Carlisle D. Whitlock hosted a family barbeque dinner at the late George A. McMillan family home April 2005. This home is in the Colston Community of Bamberg County, and presently owned by Carlisle. He is the son of Charles Whitlock and the late Sarah McMillan Whitlock.

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# *McMILLAN FAMILY NEWS*

Brantley Anne Ellis graduated from Presbyterian College in May 2005. She is presently at University of SC furthering her education in Environmental Engineering. She is the daughter of Bruce G. Ellis and Beth McMillan Ellis.

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**Frank Hiers, Margaret Hiers & son, Frankie Hiers, and Betty Jane Miller**

# MOYE FAMILY NEWS

## BIRTHS:

On December 5, 2004, Chandler and Martha Moyer Dickinson Peel's number of grandchildren went from two to five.

Julie and Wesley Peel became parents of twin boys, Luke and John, in the morning and by late afternoon, Emily and Jonathan Peel welcomed Turner to the family. Martha Moyer and Chandler have had ample opportunity to perfect their baby-sitting skills.

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## MARRIAGES:

In a beautiful garden wedding on August 19, 2005, Betsey Clark became the bride of Russell Ruff. Betsey is the daughter of Doug and Karel Keel. She is a principal dancer with the Columbia City Ballet and recently appeared in "Off the Wall and Onto the Stage: Dancing the Art of Jonathan Green."

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Marion Moyer Smoak and 21 of her entire large family enjoyed their regular beach reunion in June. The group enjoys being together every year at Garden City Beach. They also gather together for all of the holidays. Marion and the late Laurie Smoak have 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren, all of which "light up her life."

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Karel Keel retired from her teaching career in the spring, but the shortage of Latin teachers is so severe that she agreed to return part-time to that position at Walhalla High School.

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Becky Keel Swindell has accepted the position of music director at Trinity United Methodist Church in Bamberg.

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Sarah Moyer Young's oldest granddaughter, Lendall Young Penado, with her husband, Stephen, and their three children have moved from Maine back to Mystic Seaport, CT. Kendall's dad, Thomas Young, and her brother, Ben Young, and his family live in Mystic and are delighted for their family circle to be complete together.

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Marion Moyer Smoak and her sister, Sarah Moyer Young of Raleigh, NC, share the same birthday on November 30th. Marian will be 76 years old and Sarah will be 86 years old.

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# *MOYE FAMILY NEWS*



Marion Moyer Smoak



Marion Moyer Houck Smoak  
Lynn Houck - daughter



Lynn Houck, Clint Smoak, and  
Buddy Sandifer



Robin Kemmerlin (Kearse) and  
Clint Smoak (Moye)  
October 1968



# *NOTES*

## Special Request

In order to help us with future family news please use the following format for reporting your news items to your family representative:

Births

Deaths

Marriages

Items of Interest

It is also very important if you're providing pictures to be included in the book to write names of the people on the back of the photograph as you would like them to appear. If you want any items returned be sure to include a request as well as the address to which they should be returned. Special news items should be summarized and edited.



5

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# MIZPAH CHURCH

Methodist Church  
established by 1832.  
Present 1856 house of  
worship is all that  
remains of pre-Civil  
War settlement of  
Buford's Bridge.

ERECTED BY  
MIZPAH METHODIST CHURCH  
1962