

7716 Foxfire Drive
Huntsville, Al. 35802
Dec. 29, 1996

Rev. Robert E. H. Peeples
8 Moonshell Rd.
Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear Rev. Peeples,

My name is Mariel McRae Hearn. The summer before last when my husband and I were down at Hilton Head, I found your book, "Tales of Ante Bellum Hilton Head Island Families" and saw that we have ancestors in common. Right before we left, I found your phone number and then I called you from my home in Huntsville Al. after we returned. You may remember our conversation.

I am descended from the Chaplin and Ladson family through the Norton line, through William Norton and Mary Godfrey. Their son, Robert Godfrey Norton married Sarah Mosse - then their son Alexander Robert Norton married Julia Greene. Their daughter, Tallulah, was my great grandmother. She married John Calvin Todd. Their son, my granfather, was Robert Norton Todd who married Effie Hamilton. Their daughter, Carolyn Todd was my mother. My parents were Donald and Carolyn Todd McRae and I am Mariel McRae Hearn! Whew! My married name is Mrs. Henry C. Hearn III and we have a son, Brett Edwards Hearn. My address is 7716 Foxfire Dr., Huntsville, Al. 35802 and my phone number is area 205-880-0279.

I was hoping we would make it down there this past summer, but we had a trip planned to Switzerland, so we did not make it down to Hilton Head. I would very much like to come this summer. You told me that some of the other descendents always meet there in early June. Will they be coming this year? If so - when? Maybe we can come and stay down at Sea Pines during that time. I would really love to meet you and some of my other "cousins." I have been trying to find out as much as I can about the history of Beaufort, St. Helena and Hilton Head. I think it is all really fascinating.

This Thanksgiving, we were down at Statesboro and Claxton, Ga. visiting my husband's family. While we were there, I saw an article in the Savannah paper about Jack Ladson and his genealogical collection at the library in Vidalia. When I saw that name, I knew he must be kin - so I called and got his phone number and we had a nice conversation. He told me that he had been to one of your

"island family" gatherings. Have you seen some of his collection of books? That will have to be another place for me to visit soon!

I hope that you a Merry Christmas and look forward to hearing from you in the New Year.

Sincerely, Your Cousin,

Marion Hearn

Enclosed is a picture of me taken at the chapel ruins on St. Helena. I understand that the Norton family gave the land for this.

Also, when I spoke with you, you mentioned an organization of people descended from the original colonists of S.C. Could you tell me more about that? You also gave me Julia Green's parents' names - Capt. John & Aurelia Green - & said they ran a school in Savannah - can you tell me more about that?

7716 Foxfire Drive
Huntsville, Al. 35802
March 7, 1997

8 Moonshell Road
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Dear Robert,

Thank you for all of your help and information about The Society of First Families of South Carolina, 1670 - 1700 and about the Lawton & Allied Families Reunion this summer. I did send in my sponsorship card and have since had a reply from Mr. Craver, the current President. I have accepted their invitation to complete my genealogical application and will try to get everything together to complete this when it arrives. I did write to Hortense Seedlock and to George Mosse Norton. They both wrote me very nice letters and sent copies of their applications with their proofs, etc. Hortense sent a copy of the will of George Norton of Barbados in 1665. I found this quite interesting. I also wrote to Thomas Lawton and got my name on the list for the reunion this summer. We have made plans to stay at Hilton Head from June 7th through June 21st and do plan to attend the reunion. We certainly hope to see you while we are at Hilton Head. We would love to take you out somewhere nice or have you over for dinner while we are there. We will be staying at the Beachside Tennis Villas in Sea Pines Plantation. I would certainly enjoy it if you could take us on a guided tour of the interesting sites on Hilton Head.

I would love to have a copy of the picture of the miniature of Dr. George Mosse. I understand that he did some surveying work on Hilton Head to help map the island. Our son, Brett, has worked in the surveying business for about a year, so it will be interesting for him to have picture of this ancestor. Enclosed is a check for \$5.00 if you could send me a copy!

I look forward to hearing from you again,

Your cousin,



Mariel McRae Hearn