

THE RESOURCE NEWS

Issue 2

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Current Committee Members

Steering Committee:

Sharon Anderson
Jenneif Gordon
Andrea Knight

Reunion Planning:

Sharon Anderson
Lisa Ascolese
Marlene & Bunny Edwards
Jenneif Gordon
Andrea Knight
Michelle Parker

Newsletter:

Carol Trought

KidsKorner:

Tiara Gordon

Genealogy:

Sharon Anderson
Tiara Gordon

Note: Please keep us informed of any mailing address or email changes in addition to sending us the names and addresses of family members who may not be on our distribution list. This newsletter is the voice of the family, so submit anything you would like to see in our future issues, such as wedding/birth announcements, job promotions, school graduations, articles of interest, etc., to: Carol Trought, 89-01 178th Street, Hollis, NY 11432 or by email: ctrought@nyc.rr.com.

Welcome to the second edition of the Miller Family Reunion Newsletter!

2003 REUNION IN NEW JERSEY

The next Miller Family Reunion will be held at the home of Lisa and Gerry Ascolese, 25 Desai Court, Freehold, New Jersey 07728 on Saturday, July 26, 2003 ("Pool Party"). Lunch (approx. \$15) will be served – complete details to follow. We plan to overnight at a hotel in the area, possibly the Freehold Gardens Hotel (\$100 non-group rate) and have brunch (\$20) on Sunday, July 27, 2003.

We are ordering reunion golf shirts (\$16-\$19 adults, \$13 youths), see enclosed order form. Please indicate quantity in each size and total number at bottom. Checks payable to "Miller Family Reunion" (post-dated checks accepted).

In order for us to be able to negotiate the hotel room rates, please immediately return the Questionnaire to Sharon Anderson, 1072 Rainbow Drive, Spring Branch, TX 78070 or RSVP by phone (830-980-3607) or email sharon011955@yahoo.com. Deadline April 30, 2003.

Note: The above quoted amounts are estimates only. When we receive your responses to get a count of who will be attending the reunion, we will be able to advise you of the exact costs at a later mailing.

2005 REUNION IN PORTLAND, JAMAICA

We are planning a family reunion in Jamaica for 2005, possibly July 1-3. This timeframe coincides with the "Portland Home Coming" and "Jerk Fest" in Portland. The "Jerk Fest" is usually on the Sunday, and the "Portland Homecoming" lasts all week, ending on the Sunday. So clear off all those credit cards, or start that special Jamaica Savings account in the bank! No excuses because we are giving you plenty of advance notice to plan and save.

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

7 Sharon Anderson
8 Andrea Knight
9 Pauline Williams
11 Marc Trought
20 Carol Wilson
27 Nicolette Gordon

FEBRUARY

5 Harriette McGann
6 Lil McGann
10 Sandra Dwyer
15 Marlene (Gem) Gray
16 Steve Rieber
16 Maggie Gray
17 Giana Ascolese
22 Emma Myers

MARCH

7 Eddie Dillard
16 Winsome Stern
16 Brittany Ascolese
20 Ariel Brown

APRIL

2 Freddy Sherwood
5 Gerry Ascolese
13 Jordan Knight
15 Cherisa Haynes
19 Leslie Gray
24 Cal Powell
28 McGann (Ken & Lil) Anniversary

MAY

16 Mark Myers
17 Stephanye Knight
18 Shirley Dwyer
20 Haynes (Cherisa & Justin) Anniversary
23 Michelle Parker
31 Gray (Stanley & Gem) Anniversary

JUNE

1 Asha Anderson
4 Rob Anderson
6 Safiya Robinson
7 Ascolese (Lisa & Gerry) Anniversary
14 Gary Trought
20 Kenneth McGann
20 Natasha Poyer
22 Shaheed Poyer
26 Dawn Frazier
29 Rieber (Jennifer & Russell) Anniversary
30 Kimberly West

Birthday Celebrations

On January 9, 2003, **Pauline Williams** celebrated her 70th Birthday!!! At a surprise party given by her family and friends, Pauline (as tears streamed down her face) expressed her joy of the occasion with: "It was one of the happiest days of my life. To see my daughter Andrea (who lives in San Antonio) along with my grandson Jordan, nearly brought me to my knees. I feel so blessed to have my family and friends travel from near and far to share this special occasion. Life doesn't get better than that. To me, there is no greater gift, than the gift of family!"



On February 6, 2003, **Leleith McGann** celebrated her 70th Birthday!!! She was also honored on February 8th, 2003 when her children gave her a surprise party. As she entered the room and saw her guests, she stomped her feet and said: "What are you all doing here". The tears began to flow, followed by lots of hugs and kisses from everyone. This intimate gathering was truly a joyous celebration with family and friends.



Forthcoming Birth Announcements

Congratulations to our "mothers-to-be":

- Safiya Robinson (nee Poyer) – Due: May 2003 (shhh... it's a girl!!!)
- Michelle Parker – Due October 2003

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Tribute to our Elders

ENA ICYLINE GRAY-ALLEYNE

Known to the majority of her family as Aunt Icy, Ena Icyline Gray-Alleyne was born in San Manuel, Oriente, Cuba, on September 15, 1920. Icy is the eldest of 5 children (3 boys and 2 girls) born to William Malcolm Gray and Annie Jane Miller-Gray, both natives of Jamaica, W.I.

In 1930, when Icy was just 10 years old, her father, William Gray died in a tragic accident in Cuba and her mother Annie returned to Jamaica in 1931 with her 5 children. Icy spent her childhood under the watchful eye of her grandparents, Hamilton and Rebecca Miller (Papa and Mimi), at Resource in Portland and received her primary education at Boston School in Portland, Jamaica. In 1944, Icy immigrated to New York, USA where she first lived with her Aunt Margaret and Uncle Dan Dore. Icy attended night school at George Washington High in Manhattan, where she received her high school diploma.

In 1948, Vernice Brooks (nee Trotter, Helen's eldest sister) met a young man named Henry Alleyne while visiting friends – the Comery's in New Jersey. Henry asked if she knew any other beautiful girls like herself that she could introduce him to. Of course, she had a beautiful friend named Icy, the introduction was arranged at the Comery's and – as they say – the rest is history. Henry and Icy were married on October 28, 1950. Although Henry and Icy had no children of their own, they regarded Sonia Gray and Freddie Sherwood, who lived with them while attending high school, as their own. They are quite proud of them today.

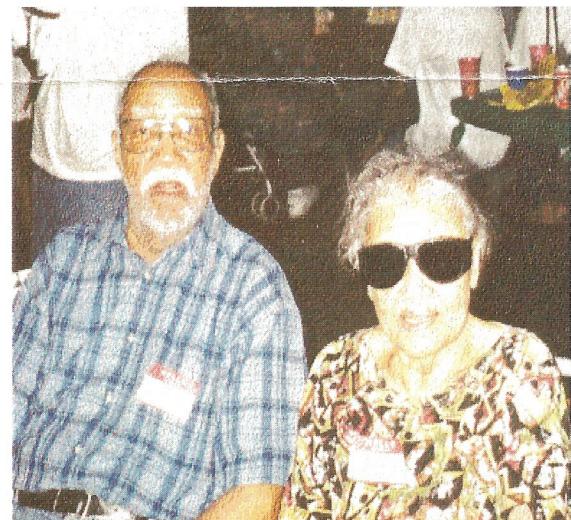
Icy worked in the garment industry in downtown Manhattan as a dress finisher for a designer house until she retired in 1977, at which time Henry and Icy moved to Orlando, Florida where they still reside.

All the cousins were always welcomed at their home where we all attended lots of parties. In addition, they were brother Leslie's mainstay while he attended medical school at Howard University. After our Aunts passed away (the older generation) Icy, being the oldest, is regarded as the matriarch of our family, and she made sure we all kept in touch with the family. Today, even though the cousins are all scattered in several states, we feel close to each other. Icy is now 83 years old and Henry is 85 years old.

Icy, with love, respect and gratitude for all that you have done for your family - we salute you.

Submitted by Leslie Gray

Icy & Henry Alleyne
Family Reunion 2001



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Announcements

Recognizing our Youth

LUKE EDWARDS

Congratulations to Luke Edwards who will be graduating from Metuchen High School, New Jersey, USA this June. Luke plans to go on to college, but as yet does not know which college he will be attending in the Fall; a decision will be made in April.

In addition to being quite a scholar, Luke has excelled in sporting activities, participating through his High School years in football, softball and track & field. This year, his accomplishments include being the first running back in 15 years to run over 1,000 yards in one season (for all you football fans!!). In addition, in track and field activities, he is the high jump champion in the State of New Jersey, Group I, and also a member of the relay team State of New Jersey, Group I champions.

Keep up the good work, Luke and we wish you much success in your college endeavors.

KidsKorner

Here now is a very appropriate poem for our newsletter submitted by Nicolette Gordon, 11 year old daughter of Gairy and Jenneif Gordon.

A Family Poem

Families make you happy
they also make you cry
even though it may not show
they love you all the time
when you are together or very
far apart always remember to
keep them in your heart.

By Nicolette Gordon

Zion Hill sold

The sale of the Zion Hill property in Portland, Jamaica was completed in January 2003. The purchaser, Sandals Resorts International Ltd., is the largest operator of all-inclusive resorts in the Caribbean.

Of interest is the following Press Release issued last year:

SANDALS ACQUIRES DRAGON BAY BEACH RESORT

Montego Bay (March 20, 2002) – Sandals Resorts International will assume ownership of the Dragon Bay Beach Resort in Port Antonio this Friday, March 22. This follows the successful completion of negotiations with the former owners Albert Abela Corporation and SSI Cayman Limited this week.

The resort will be temporarily closed to facilitate an extensive refurbishing and modernization exercise and is expected to reopen for business this Fall. During its closure, Dragon Bay will be transformed into a sophisticated all-inclusive resort of the standard of Beaches Royal Plantation, which recently acquired a Five Star Diamond classification.

Chairman of the Sandals group Gordon 'Butch' Stewart, says the acquisition of Dragon Bay Beach Resort signals his chain's intention to play a major role in unlocking the untapped tourism potential of Portland. Noting that the redevelopment of Dragon Bay will be compatible with Portland's unique culture and natural environment, Mr. Stewart said Sandals intends to bring the same vibrancy and community spiritedness to Portland that exists with its other host communities. "We are excited about the prospects of integrating with and making a meaningful contribution to Portland's people and economy," he added.

The 90 room Dragon Bay Resort is nestled on fifty-five acres of lush tropical foliage in a secluded and tranquil area around Dragon Bay, on Jamaica's Northeast coast. The resort is surrounded by splendid waterfalls and has been the location for the filming of several movies including 'Lord of the Flies' and 'Cocktails'.

The acquisition of Dragon Bay Beach Resort brings to 19, the number of hotels in the Sandals chain.

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Announcements:

Family Enterprises

Gloria Frazier (nee Powell) became a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant in September 2001 and her daughters, Dawn Frazier and Cherisa Haynes, have since joined her in the business. Log into one of their web sites to enter the current online sweepstakes. First prize is a Saab convertible and secondary prizes of \$100 are being awarded daily. The contest is March 15, 2003 through June 15, 2003 and no purchase is required to enter. If you choose to order from any of their web sites, they will apply a 15% discount for family members and they'll pay all shipping and handling costs. Just enter "Family discount of 15%" in the comments section when placing an order. You can enter the sweepstakes or place an order at any one of the following web sites:

Gloria - <http://www.marykay.com/glofrazier>

Dawn - <http://www.marykay.com/dawnfrazier>

Cherisa - <http://www.marykay.com/chaynes9>

New Line of Products by Lisa Ascolese

Lisa Ascolese will soon be introducing a new product line of a reversible headband called "**FLIP IT**".

Details on how to order this remarkable invention will be announced in our next newsletter.

Get Well Soon Wishes

Our love and support to:

Stanley Gray recently had surgery for a hernia. Stanley is now home recuperating and is making steady progress.

Gem Gray had surgery on her wrist the end of March. Despite a slight setback in which she had to stay in hospital longer than expected, she is now home recovering. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Marlene Edwards, a brave breast cancer survivor for 3 years, is awaiting results from her annual oncologist test.

Sharon and Asha Anderson were involved in a car accident January 2. Asha, 3 years old, safe and secure in her car seat sustained only a bump on her lip from the cup she was drinking from. Sharon initially had cuts and bruises on both legs, knees and a rash on her face and chest from the air bag, but later developed a back strain that kept her home for a month. She is ok now and back at work.

Verna Powell has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. She is now on medication and her condition is stable.



OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO YOU ALL

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Genealogy

Genealogy Committee

It is with great pleasure to announce that the Genealogy Committee has been busy working on developing a family tree web site – The Miller Clan. It may only be in the beginning stages of development, but it promises to be a great tool to show how we are all connected in this great family. So, if you have access to the internet, aim your browser at the following link:

<http://www.tribalpages.com/tribes/sharon07>

The password is "papa".

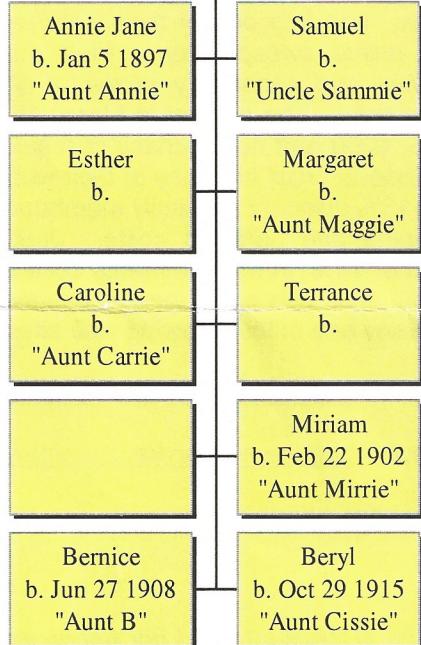
And don't forget to sign the Guest Book when you log in.

To the right are the first branches of the Miller Family.
*(As you can see there are some missing information, e.g. birth dates.
 If you have any information, help us fill those gaps.)*

Which branch of the tree do you belong?

Hamilton & Rebecca Miller

b. Sept 21 1875 and _____
 "Papa" & "Mimi"



Some of the cousins from the "branches" of:
 Annie Miller-Gray, Terrance Miller, Miriam Miller-Smith
 and Beryl Miller-Deans.

