



The Chenault Clarion Cord

*“A Call to All Descendants of Estienne Cheneau
to Bond Together to Preserve Their Kinship”*

Volume 21, Number 1 Annual Publication of The Chenault Family National Association Spring, 2016

Honors to Barbara/2015 Reunion Highlights

Austin, TX- While the number of attendees may have been less than had been hoped for, the spirit of those who came to honor Barbara as she retired as the association's secretary/treasure was over the top. When we gathered at the Austin Marriott South in Austin, TX, July 17 through July 19, 2015, it was apparent that everyone was there to honor Barbara for her years of exceptional service to the association's members. Unfortunately Barbara's spouse, Jay, was unable to attend due to his poor health. Barbara's dedication to the tasks of serving us likely required sacrifice on his part, too, on many occasions. So, in grateful appreciation, we celebrate you, Barbara!

Friday Night Old-Fashioned Fun

President Susan J. Thurman called us to order and introduced Charles Polk Chenault, III, and his wife, Mary Gail, our local host and hostess, who welcomed attendees to Austin. Jean Chenault Logue followed with the annual introduction and photographing of family groups. President Susan introduced the evening's entertainment...bingo, Chenault-style, with Landon Chenault as our young "caller." What followed was an hour or so of laughter and excitement as winners chose their "prizes" from a basket of trinkets and gadgets. And, the evening was "topped off" by a build-your-own sundae from a delightful assortment of goodies. My, oh my, did someone have more than one?

Business Meeting News

While routine business such as approval of minutes and financials and hearing committee reports took up some of the meeting time, most of the discussion arose regarding the subject of social media exposure for the

association and how it could be used to attract new members and attendees. Following the election of a new slate of officers for the coming year, the business meeting was adjourned.

Playtime

When the Saturday morning session reconvened, a new game, "Truth or Fiction" was hosted by Carolyn Sue Chenault. The game was a fun way to get to know each other better...at least some little-known facts about each other. Following the game time, Carolyn Sue presented a brief explanation of how to use the Red Book numbers to determine relationships of the cousins, and President Susan adjourned the session.

Celebrating Barbara

Attendees gathered at noon for a luncheon where Barbara was the honoree. During the program, special presentations were made to her recognizing her service and value to the association. New officers were installed and other recognitions made before the reunion came to an end. Delightful!

July, 2016

The reunion road in 2016 will lead to Charlotte, NC. Please plan to join us. See details enclosed.

Note: A complete set of the official minutes of the proceedings appears on the website www.chenault.org and will be included in reunion registration packets for review by attendees prior to the business meeting in Charlotte.

**CHENAULT FAMILY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
2015-2016 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Margaret Stockton, President
Judge Jean Chenault Logue, First Vice President
Carolyn Sue Chenault, Secretary/Historian
Donna Chenault Mellick, Treasurer

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Ann "Libby" Chenault, Chair
Barbara Chenault MacManus

MEMORIAL SERVICE SUBCOMMITTEE

Rev. Nan Chenault Marshall Cushing

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Judge Jean Chenault Logue, Chair
Judge James Stouffer Chenault
Nathan Harsh

2016 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Luisa Chenault, Co-Chair
Peggy Shinault Miller, Co-Chair

GENEALOGY COMMITTEE

Carolyn Sue Chenault, Chair
Mary Barton Bailey
Peggy Shinault Miller
June Hall Walters

REUNION SITE SELECTION/ARRANGEMENTS

Jerry Chenault, Chair

DIRECTORY & NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Carolyn Sue Chenault

**A MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT**

Hi, Cousins,

I eagerly wait to welcome you to Charlotte, North Carolina and the 67th annual Chenault Family National reunion.

If you were unable to attend last year in Austin, Texas, and enjoy all the fun, you were greatly missed.

Guess what! The opportunity is not lost, for the upcoming reunion in Charlotte, will be filled with fun and an excellent chance to catch up with family news. It will be great to get together with those we have met in the past years and meet those we have not met before.

I have enjoyed each family reunion since 2001 in

Williamsburg, Virginia. This was my first. John Blackwell Chenault, III, made Richard and me feel so much a part of the family. We did not know a single soul, but what a great time we had. On the way home, Richard wanted to know if I was going the next year. I said that I did not know, and his answer was, "well I am."

Please plan to join us in Charlotte for lots of fun.

Margaret Stockton

President

✍ IN BETWEEN ✍

Carrollton, TX - Because there is no way I can fill the shoes of my predecessor and mentor, Barbara, I decided that this space will be a new feature and have retired "Yours Truly" much the same way we retire our star players' jerseys in sports. Beginning with this issue, I shall share with you some of the things I have been handling for the association between reunions.



Since I now maintain the member directory, after the reunion I completed updates and printed enough to fill current orders with a couple to spare. I have taken receipt of all souvenirs from Barbara and established a space for them in my home office. I searched for potential sites for our 2016 reunion based on feedback I received from members and oversaw the requests for proposals from various hotels. A finalized contract with the site hotel is now in place. So, the secretary is also an event planner for the arrangements. I am finding Barbara wore many hats.

In early March I attended a state Huguenot meeting/luncheon in Dallas with Barbara. I am working to complete my application for membership in the National Huguenot Society. As historian, I processed a sizeable number of requests for family tree information for Estienne's descendants. I also have worked with an author writing a book about his dad's Korean War service when he was a crew member of Captain James M. Chenault on a flight that was shot down on a mission over North Korea. Capt. Chenault managed to keep the plane flying long enough for crew members to safely exit the plane and survive, although three of them were taken as POW's for a time. Capt. Chenault finally left the plane shortly before it crashed in South Korea. The story will make a great book.

While I recognize that few of us can fill Barbara's shoes, I do commit to you that I will give the tasks of the position my very best effort. I pledge to take all criticism in stride and truly work to meet your expectations. I shall strive to see your point of view (and maybe even see it better than ever before after my upcoming cataract and eye surgery).

I look forward to seeing you (really seeing you) in Charlotte!

Sincerely,
Carolyn Sue Chenault
secretary/treasurer

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**ASSOCIATION RECEIPTS AND
DISBURSEMENTS AND BALANCE SHEET**

Financial reports are not published in the newsletter, but are shared with members in two ways. A copy of the complete report is provided in the reunion registration packet for attendees to review prior to the business meeting. During the meeting, the report will be covered and questions addressed. Anyone who does not attend the reunion is welcome to request a copy of the report be mailed to them by contacting me.

Donna Chenault Mellick
Treasurer.

2016 Reunion in Charlotte, NC

DATE - Friday, July 15--- Sunday July 17, 2016
HEADQUARTERS HOTEL - Hyatt Place
Charlotte Airport Lake Pointe
LOCATION - 4119 South Stream Blvd., Charlotte,
NC 28217

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Hotel reservation information is covered below and is the responsibility of the individual attendees. Registration for the reunion is to be handled separately and can be done by email or by completing a registration form and forwarding it to Carolyn Sue Chenault (address included on form). Registration fee for attendees 12 years old and up will be \$65, and for children 5-11 years old will be \$20. There is no fee for children 4 years old and under. The registration fee covers the dinner Saturday evening, meeting space, refreshments served during meetings, and other reunion-related expenses. Menu choices for the dinner are shown on the registration form. Registration must be received by Carolyn Sue Chenault no later than Saturday, July 9, 2016. Any late registrations by phone or email must be received by Ms. Chenault no later than Monday, July 11, 2016. These late registrations

must be paid at the registration table at the reunion. Late registration "no shows" will be billed.

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Chenault Family National Reunion special rate will be \$119 plus state and local tax for a room with two double beds or one king bed. The room rate includes a complimentary hot breakfast for room guests and free WiFi. Free shuttle service to and from the airport or to locations within a 3-mile radius of the hotel is also available.

***RESERVATION CUTOFF DATE FOR THE
GUARANTEED CHENAULT REUNION RATE IS
JUNE 25, 2016.***

IMPORTANT NOTE: The hotel is under no obligation to honor the special reunion rate for reservations requested after the cutoff date. Reservations beyond the cutoff date will be accepted only if rooms are available. The special rate is available for extended stays two days prior to and two days following the reunion dates.

Reservations may be arranged by telephone at 1-888-492-8847. Tell the attendant you are calling about the Chenault Family Reunion, group number G-CHFR. Reservations may also be made by going online to the Hyatt link shown below :

http://charlotteairportlakepointe.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-CHFR

GETTING THERE

Since most of the routes into Charlotte bring attendees into the city on I-85, directions included here are from I-85. From either the north or south, merge onto Billy Graham Parkway via Exit 33 toward the airport/coliseum area. Keep to the right at the fork in the ramp. Merge onto W. Tyvola Road and then turn right on South Steam Blvd. Take the first left, and the hotel is on the corner.

PROGRAM

Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m., Friday, July 15 in the hospitality room, which will be open after 1:00 p.m. for visiting and display of silent auction items and memorabilia. It will remain open until 11:00 p.m. Friday except during the Friday night activities.

Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., our customary get-acquainted gathering will include introductions of attending family groups, refreshments, and an informal program.

Saturday morning the hospitality room will open at 8:00 a.m. for late registrations, visiting, silent auction bidding, etc. It will be closed during the business meeting and other program activities.

Saturday after the meeting session is adjourned, attendees will be on their own to explore the area as they choose during the afternoon hours.

Saturday evening, at 7:00 p.m., attendees shall gather at a local restaurant where dinner will be served followed by a program that will include entertainment, results of the silent auction, the reading of the annual memorial list, and the installation of new officers.

SILENT AUCTION

Items donated by family members will be auctioned to help defray association expenses. Handmade crafts are especially welcome, as are artifacts, books, copies of photos, news articles, etc., especially those having historical and/or Chenault connections. Donated items are displayed in the hospitality room. The auction will close at the time announced at the reunion, with the winning bids to be announced at the dinner.

MEMORABILIA

Attendees are invited to bring photos, books, and other family mementos to share with others. The items are not for sale. Place a descriptive label and owner's name on the items before leaving them on display. Also, mementos from previous reunions and several collections of correspondence, news clippings, and other items from the Association's historical files will be displayed.

THINGS TO SEE ON YOUR REUNION VISIT

Refer to the inside back cover of this newsletter for some of the popular sites to experience in and around Charlotte during your visit.

RED BOOK NEWS

The 2008 edition of "The Red Book" is available. If you would like to purchase the book, ordering instructions are available online at www.chenault.org. Or, you may notify Carolyn Sue Chenault by simply



completing an "Activity Request" form (copy included at the back of this newsletter), marking it "RED BOOK ORDER," attaching your check for \$95 per book, and mailing it to Ms. Chenault. Please allow 2-4

weeks after our receipt of these paid orders for shipping of the books.

If you have already purchased a 2008 edition and would like to have a copy of the changes/additions that have come to light since the book was published, the 2010 supplement is now available. The publication includes an index formatted the same as the one included in the Red Book. Copies will be available for purchase at the annual reunions or copies may be purchased directly from Carolyn Sue Chenault, email schenault@tx.rr.com. The cost is \$13 per copy, which covers the shipping and handling fees.

NOW ON FACEBOOK

Check out the Chenault Family National Association page on facebook.com. It is intended to point visitors to our web site for more information about us.

LOOKING AHEAD →→→→→

Where do we go from here?

As Chairperson of the Site Selection Committee, Jerry Chenault reviews suggestions for sites of future reunions. During the business meeting in Charlotte in July, he will make his recommendation for the 2017 site for the approval of members. Factors considered in determining sites are accommodations, costs, and surrounding entertainment availability. Jerry welcomes site suggestions, as well as volunteers willing to help scope out hotels in the areas suggested.

2015 MEMORIAL HONOR ROLL

11351.5974	Bertie Jean Chenault, d. 29 June 2015
11367.525b	Bonnie L. Chenault McNeil, d. 11 Apr 2014
11434.42x2	Charles Franklin Chenault, d. 4 Sep 2013
11434.42x2	Conceatia "Connie" Chenault, d. 2 Sep 2013
11436.6147	Helen Marie Chenault Ferguson, d. 23 Jul 2013
11436.68a	Rev. Rogers H. Chenault, d. 9 Sep 2012
11439.4523	Kenneth Wiley Holloway, d. 20 Dec 2014
11446.247	Henry Wade Chenault, d. 2 Sep 2013
11511.1122	Dorothy Jean Neff Chenault, d. 3 Nov 2014
11513.654	Billie Faulconer Chenault, d. 23 Feb 2015
11513.x71	Barry Lee Anderson, d. 29 May 2014
11514.6143	Carlisle Chenault Farmer, d. 3 Feb 2015
11514.6143	William Philip Farmer, d. 2 Jan 2015
13111.11343	Dr. Charles Brandon Chenault, d. 16 Sep 2014
13113.11741	Frank Vernon "Vern" Cremer, d. 16 Jan 2015
13115.37442	Lettie Louise Bayless, d. Jun 2015
13123.5612	Curtis Jewell Chenault, d. 16 Dec 2014

HONOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES

If you have a deceased relative who has not previously been included on the Honor Roll, and you want them to be included on the 2016 edition to be read at the reunion in Charlotte, their information should be sent to the Secretary/Historian by July 1, 2016 to be included in the printed program. Include their full name, dates of birth and death, place of residence, where they were buried, and the 2008 Chenault "Red Book" number, if known. Information may be sent by mail, phone, or email shown on various forms contained in this publication and the www.chenault.org

OBITUARIES

If you would like your relatives' obits included in future issues, please notify the editor, Sue Chenault, at schenault@tx.rr.com.

Margaret Burroughs Chenault, 96 years old, passed away 1 July 2015, in Virginia. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, H. Lewis Chenault. Survivors include her son, Lewis McCauley

Chenault and wife Victoria, her daughter Donna Lynn Chenault Tannoya and husband Ron, two brothers, John Donald Burroughs and William Woodberry Burroughs, and one sister, Dorothea B. Barber, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

David Hulen Chenault, 63, died July 1, 2015 in San Luis Obispo, CA. He was a talented flooring contractor who took pride in his work. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hulen and Winnie Chenault, brother, Jim Chenault. and sister, Barbara Chenault. He is survived by two daughters, Breanne Mendell and Tasha Hardy, two sons, Deric Chenault and Tyler Chenault, grandsons, Lane and C J Mendell, sister, Kathy Griffin, twin sister, Diane Zierman, and brother, Rick Chenault.

Nellie May Chenault, 76, of Boonville, passed away July 7, 2015, in Columbia, MO. Born in Pilot Grove, MO, she was the daughter of Alfred and Ada May Lindsey Newell. She married Lyle Chenault in 1960. She loved the outdoors, especially fishing, and playing with her dogs and cats. Most of all, she loved her family. Preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, and two sisters, she is survived by her husband, and their four children and spouses— Robert and Angela Chenault, Roy and Janet Chenault, Larry and Gail Chenault, and Donna and Stacy Walker— a sister, Mary Fornscheil, and two brothers, John Newel and Clarence Newell, eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Roy Norfleet Chenault, 86, of Point Blank, TX, passed away October 20, 2015. He was born in Lamesa, TX, to William Robert and Veru Chenault. He was a member of the Parkplace Lodge #1172 A.F. & A.M. in Houston for over 60 years and served as a past master there. He was also a member of 32 KCCH Scottish Rite Valley in Houston. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Clayton, brothers, Jim and W. R. Chenault, and sister Ginger Chenault. Survivors include his daughter, Martha Smith, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces nephews.

CHENAULT FAMILY MILITARY HONOR ROLL

First, we thank all descendants of Estienne Cheneau who have served or are currently serving in the military service of our country. We honor and celebrate you. Further, we have at least twelve individuals who are recipients of military awards and commendations. We honor them in this space. Of course, General Claire Chennault is the best known individual in the family for his military service honors, but we wish to also note the following for their valor and sacrifice.

Emmett Arthur Chenault, Navy Cross;
WWI; US Navy; rank, Water Tender.

On 21 Feb 1918, aboard the USS Barnegat, a catastrophic accident caused the fireroom to fill with escaping steam and fire. As a member of the engine-room force, he was in the fireroom three minutes after an accident working to save the vessel at great risk to his life.

Ernest Nelson Chennault, Silver Star;
WWII; US Marine Corp; rank, Captain;
received multiple wounds at Iwo Jima.

Theodore Gilliam, two Bronze Stars;
WWII (Phillippines campaign); US Army; rank,
Private.

Charles Joseph Chenault, Distinguished Flying
Cross, Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, and other
commendations;
WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam Conflict; USAF,
rank, Colonel.
During the Korean War, while flying a ground support
mission, he was shot down by ground fire and crash-
landed suffering a broken back.

Robert Lovell Graham (husband of Katherine Elinor
Early), Purple Heart and Silver Star;
WWII and Korean War; USAF; rank, MSgt.

Charles Lucien Shinault, Distinguished Flying Cross,
Purple Heart, WWII Victory Medal, and other
commendations;
WWII; US Army Air Forces; rank, Captain.

Henry Tyler Chennault, 2 Purple Hearts, Silver Star,
and Bronze Star;

WWII and Korean War; US Army (175th); rank,
Private.

Billie Harris Henderson, Bronze Star;
WWII; US Army (104th Inf. Div. in European
theater).

James Miller Chenault, Distinguished Flying Cross;
WWII and Korean War; US Air Corp/Air Force;
rank, Captain.

David Franklin Chenault, Jr., Purple Heart; WWII
Honor Roll;
WWII; US Army (393rd Inf., 99th Division); rank,
Private.

Buried Henri-Chapelle, Liege, Belgium

Pat William Chennault, Vietnamese Cross of
Gallantry, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Bronze
Star;
Viet Nam War; US Army; rank, Captain.

de Cheneau **SOUVENIRS**

A limited quantity of souvenirs are available at reunions, but they also may be ordered directly from Carolyn Sue Chenault by mail, phone, or e-mail, schenault@tx.rr.com. Each of the souvenir items is beautifully decorated in color with the family crest. They make great family gifts. With the exception of the Crest Note Cards, the following souvenir prices do not include shipping and handling:

Kelly Green Polo Shirts (Adult S-XXL)	\$27.50
Dark Green Polo Shirts (Child S-L)	\$20.00
Golf Caps	\$10.00
Christmas Ornaments	\$10.00
Embroidered Crest Patches	\$ 6.00
Crest Note Cards (8/pkg) Small	\$ 6.50
Crest Note Cards (8/pkg) Large	\$10.00
Crest X-Stitch Patterns	\$ 4.00
Huguenot Cross X-Stitch Patterns	\$ 4.00
Crest Prints (suitable for framing)	\$15.00

The Chenault Family National Association does not assess dues for membership and is dependent on donations, silent auctions and the sale of souvenir items to help offset the operating expenses such as printing, supplies, communication, and postage. We encourage you to support the Chenault Family National Association by participating in fund-raising activities including the sale of souvenirs.

VARIANT SPELLINGS OF FAMILY NAME

Variant surname spellings were provided by "Cousin" Lewis R. Breckenridge in 1996 and updated by "Cousin" Christopher Shinall in 1998. Others have been added since that time and will continue to be added as they are identified.

Cheanault	Chenalt	Chenau	Chenault	Chenaur
Chenaut	Chenault	Chenaux	Chenea	Cheneau
Chenhall	Chenhalls	Chennalt	Chennault	Chennaux
Chennhall	Chennhalls	Chinal	Chinat	Chinauet
Chinaul	Chinaull	Chinaulle	Chinault	Chinault
Chinot	Schannault	Scheinau	Schinault	Schinott
Shenar	Shenard	Shenault	Shenaur	Shenaurt
Shenaut	Shinal	Shinall	Shinalt	Shinaul
Shinauld	Shinault	Shino	Shinoe	Shinoff
Shinol	Shinolt	Shinot		

Charlotte and Surrounding Area Sites

A few of the sites you might consider visiting during your trip to Charlotte appear below. There are many more that may be of interest to you and a number of websites that provide information about them. Also, brochures and assistance will be available at the hotel when you arrive.

The **NASCAR Hall of Fame** opened in May 2010 in Uptown Charlotte. It is said to be “an interactive, entertainment attraction honoring the history and heritage of NASCAR.” The official website describes it as a “high-tech venue, designed to educate and entertain race fans and non-fans alike, and includes artifacts, interactive exhibits, and a state-of-the-art theater.” According to the site, the goal of the facility is to honor NASCAR icons and create an enduring tribute to the drivers, crew members, team owners and others that have impacted the sport in the past, present and future. Open daily from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (schedule subject to change) and has an attached parking garage on Brevard Street. Also, on the property is a Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant and the NASCAR Hall of Fame Gear Shop.

Carowinds, has been an entertainment destination of the Carolinas for more than 40 years, where visitors are surrounded by Carolina hospitality, authentic regional cuisine and family-friendly fun. Attractions include thrill rides, Planet Snoopy with its collection of Peanuts-themed rides, Carolina Harbor Waterpark, Dinosaurs Alive! exhibition, authentic Carolina foods,

live entertainment, and special events. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., during July.

The **Billy Graham Library** is a public museum/library devoted to Billy Graham, his life and his ministry. Opened to the public June 4, 2007, it is located on the grounds of the international headquarters of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in Charlotte. It is only a few miles from where Graham was reared. The library, which looks like a dairy barn, features a mechanical "talking" cow that reflects Graham's farm-based childhood and depicts Graham's life from a humble farm boy to an international ambassador of God's love. Open Monday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Visitors of all ages will find **Discovery Place**, a state-of-the-art science and technology museum, intriguing. Located in the Uptown area of Charlotte, the museum features hands-on, interactive exhibits that bring science to life. A larger-than-life IMAX Dome Theatre is included in the museum featuring National Geographic's Pandas, The Journey Home, and Journey to Space. For more information about the center's current exhibitions and features, visit their website at Discovery Place Charlotte.

Built by George Vanderbilt II between 1889 and 1895, the main house at **Biltmore Estates** sits on 8,000 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens and grounds designed to look like a park that includes farms and forests, and a relaxing drive as an approach to the mansion. The site is on the US National Register of Historic Places and stands as one of the last remaining examples of the Gilded Age. The estate is a 2-hour drive from the reunion site hotel. Information about hours and admission is available on the official site for the Biltmore Estates.

CHENAULT FAMILY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Carolyn Sue Chenault, Editor/Publisher

2101 Rheims Drive

Carrollton, TX 75006-4329

Postmaster: Please Forward Address Service Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Hey! Do you know you descend from a Huguenot?

Estienne Cheneau, our ancestor, is recognized by the National Huguenot Society as a Huguenot whose family fled France to escape religious persecution. You are in good company...Alexander Hamilton, Davy Crockett, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Keith Richards, Warren Buffett, E. I. DuPont, Winston Churchill, and Sara Roosevelt (mother of FDR). The National Association invites you to apply for membership to a local chapter. To find out more about this prestigious group and how to become a member, check out their website, www.huguenot.netnation.com.