

# KATHAN TIMES

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## Inside this issue:

2008 Kathan Family Reunion & Picture	1
Deaths: Elaine Segale Daniel Kathan Rosie Kathan	2
Births: Freya & Birgitta Finn	2
Edson Kathan's Tombstone	2
2008 Kathan Family Reunion Cont.	3
Bairds/Harts/Kathans Capt. John & Martha	3
Board of Directors & Reunion pictures.	4

## 2008 Kathan Family Reunion

### 2008 KATHAN REUNION HELD AT LAKE GEORGE, NY

Descendants of Capt. John Kathan who fought at the Battle of Lake George in 1755, gathered for a reunion on August 8-10, 2008, at the Fort William Henry Resort and Conference Center in Lake George, NY. It was planned to coincide with the ongoing commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the French and Indian War. Taking part in the reunion were 57 people from the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire New York Pennsylvania, Texas and Utah.

When they registered, people received a program folder, a genealogical name tag, and a copy of a commemorative

booklet prepared by the reunion organizer, the Rev. Boardman Kathan, and published by Nancy Lee Kathan. Many also bought reunion T-shirts developed by Patty Neal Volker. A display of family tree notebooks was set up by Vickie Storlie, genealogist. The Friday evening program began with introductions and a song about the 1755 battle sung by Bob Staneslow, and featured a presentation on early Kathan reunions in Day, NY, and the story of Captain John's first wife, Martha Baird, by John Scherer, curator of decorative arts at the NY State Museum in Albany.

On Saturday there was a tour of the recreated Fort William Henry, museum and gift shop, and some took part Reunion cont. on page 3.



**Deaths:**

**Elaine Madora Kathan Segale** passed away November 14, 2008. She was the daughter of Jesse Henry. Jesse's father was Jesse Harvey Kathan, son of Hollis Kathan and half brother of Charles H. Kathan, mayor of Rock Island, P.Q.

Elaine's mother was Modesta Aurelia Castillo. She was Chilean.

I might mention her grandfather, Jesse Harvey, was 6ft. 3 in. tall and her grandmother was 5 ft. 3 in. (Barbara Kathan, San Andreas, CA)

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**Daniel B. Kathan**

Born: July 10, 1945

At Rest: August 5, 2008

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**Rosemary "Rosie" Kathan**

LA CRESCENT, Minn. Rosemary "Rosie" Kathan, 83, of La Crescent died Monday, June 8, 2009, at Caledonia Care and Rehab Centre in Caledonia, Minn.

She was born July 8, 1925, in Milan, Ind., the second of three children of Otto and Mary Elizabeth (Walker) Kinnett. She graduated from Milan High School and completed nurse's training in Cincinnati. Rosemary married Ralph

**Births:** Freya Kathan Finn and Birgitta Kathan Finn born: November 4, 2008 to Ann & Mike Finn. Grandparents: Bob & Lois



Pictures submitted by Lois Kathan

Kathon on March 28, 1948, in La Crosse. She worked as an inspector at the Allis Chalmers plant in la Crosse for a number of years. She was a member of La Crescent United Methodist Church and an active volunteer at the La Crescent Public Library.

Rosemary is survived by two sons, Richard (Debra) of Hudson, Wis., and Gerald (Carol) of La Crescent; five grandchildren, Scott of Hudson, Angela (Michael) Martini of River Falls, Wis., Andrew, serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq, Bailey

of Brookfield, Wis., and Levi of La Crescent; and two great-grandchildren, Anthony and Elizabeth Martini of River Falls.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph, in 2006; a grandson, Aaron Kathan; a brother, Forrest Kinnett; and a sister, Glenna Ferris.

Memorial Service will be held Friday, June 12, at La Crescent United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Prospect Hill Cemetery, La Crescent, Minn. LaCrosseTribune.com, June 10, 2009

**Edson Kathan Tombstone**

Edson H. Kathan, 1811-1878. Married to (1) Harriet Gill and (2) Caroline Grimes. Caroline is buried in the Bates Cemetery, Johnsbury, Warren Co., New York. Edson's death date is printed on her tombstone. Edson's tombstone is located on land owned by the family. The land is overgrown and it appears that where the tombstone is that the area was marked off

for a family cemetery. His is the only stone located there. There is an area where the house had stood that is now overgrown with brush and trees. Donald Kathan and Patty Volker are descendants of Edson Kathan.



Reunion cont.

in a Lake George Treasure Hunt, following clues about the historic sites and monuments. There was also a visit to the Town of Day Museum, with Lauren Roberts, historian, as the guide. A group photo was taken at 6 pm on the front lawn of the hotel overlooking the lake. This was followed by a buffet dinner in the conference center. Greetings were brought by Gary Moon, president of the Lake George Historical Society. Prizes were given to the winners of the Treasure Hunt, Abby Kathan and Sarah Morse, and to the oldest, Jean Barkewitz, the youngest, Conner Goldup, and those who came the farthest, David and Lenora Kaposy of California.

The group voted to incorporate

the Kathan Family Association under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and approved a set of By Laws. Officers were elected for the next five years: President, Donald Kathan; Vice President, John Scherer; Secretary, Vickie Storlie; and Treasurer, Boardman Kathan. Board members elected were: Andy Kathan, Cindy Cameron, James Kathan, Lenora Kaposy, Patty Volker.

There was also a discussion of future reunions with the possibility of regional gatherings and a return to Putney, Vermont.

On Sunday morning wreaths were laid in the Conklingville Cemetery at the tombstones of Luke, Daniel, Renslow and Alonzo Kathan, ancestors who settled in the Town of Day, NY, in the 1820s. This was

followed by a service at the Conklingville Community Church, where Boardman Kathan spoke on "A Wandering Scotsman was my Father." The reunion closed with a picnic at Lake George's Usher Park on the eastern side of the lake.



### Bairds/Kathans/Harts

Many thanks for your file on Kathan-Hart. It seems to parallel to what I have. The weak link seems to be where James Hart and Marcy/Mercy fit in. That early story in Samuel Hart's bio in NEHGS register where James was supposedly kidnapped by an aunt and taken to America seems fuzzy. I have never been able to find anything about James and Marcy - marriage, birth place of son James in 1726, or confirmation that they came with the Kathans. However, they are certainly linked with both John Kathan and Thomas Baird in the Arlington St. church and land purchase in Leicester. If you ever have other info, I would appreciate hearing of it, and am pleased you will include me in your newsletter.

Joan Lowry, Carmel, CA.  
(Joplowry@aol.com)

### "Capt. John Kathan and Martha (Baird Kathan)."

John Scherer presented a program on "Capt. John Kathan and Martha (Baird Kathan)." Working on proving where Capt. John came from along with proving the Martha's last name was Baird and not Moore.

Finding information that "Kathan" was possibly not the surname he immigrated with. That name possibly being **McKachan, MacKachan.** (SCOTCH IRISH PIONEERS IN ULSTER AND AMERICA. BY Charles Knowles Bolton, 1910) {If interested this book is available on-line through Google Books.} Listed also in this work are Thomas Baird and James Heart (Hart). Also cited was information from

The Genealogical Record of the STEWART FAMILY by Mrs. Elvira Stewart Bryant original manuscript dated 1852, using **McKathan.** {If interested I have a copy of this book that I will make copies of. Vickie}



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Kathan Family Association  
Board of Directors  
Usher Park, Lake George, NY  
August 10, 2008

L-R: Lenora Kaposy, Patty Volker, Andy  
Kathan, Vickie Storlie, John Scherer,  
Barney Kathan, Cindy Cameron & Donald  
Kathan →



**Picture page 1. Back Row L-R:** Robert Kathan, Joey Kathan, Toby Kathan, David Kathan, Darrell Storlie, Vickie Storlie, Lenora Kaposy, Beth Kathan, John Scherer, Andy Scherer, Ben Kathan, Paula Jacobus, Cindy Cameron, Marcella Kathan, Sarah Kathan, Andy Kathan, Brianna Bostrom, Anita Bostrom, Kelly Bergmann, Renee Leboeuf, Bob Volker. **Front Row L-R:** Barney Kathan, Maurie Kathan, Sarah Morse, Abby Kathan, Martha Scherer, Pauline Jacobus, Patty Volker, Steven Crump, Jean Barkewitz, Joyce Kathan. Picture taken by Nancy Kathan.

**Picture below. Back Row L-R:** John Scherer, Andy Scherer, Toby Kathan, Joey Kathan, David Kathan, Sarah Morse, Darrell Storlie, Vickie Storlie, Cindy Cameron, Andy Kathan, Donald Kathan, Patty Volker, Bob Volker, Renee Leboeuf. **Front Row L-R:** Martha Scherer, Paula Jacobus, Pauline Jacobus, Abby Kathan (sitting on the grass), Lenora Kaposy, Beth Kathan, Ben Kathan, Jean Barkewitz, Steven Crump, Susan Kathan, Damian, Barney Kathan, Joyce Kathan, Marcella Kathan. Picture taken by Nancy Kathan.

