

THE MONLEZUN FAMILY REUNION

Lake Arthur, Louisiana

Dear Cousin,

You are receiving this invitation because your relative provided me with your name and address. You are a direct descendent of Dominique Monlezun and Louisa Peterson-Monlezun. They settled in Lake Arthur, LA in 1873 after emigrating from southern France in 1866. You and your family are cordially invited to attend the *First Monlezun Family Reunion* in Lake Arthur, LA. It is 10 miles south of Jennings, LA, off of I-10.

It is our hope that you can attend this special day of food, visiting, sharing of mementos, memories, and music.

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2005

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Place: Arthur Ave. Lake Lee Arthur, LA, the home of Lee Joseph and Anna 'Gertrude' Hensgens- Monlezun.

Hosted by: Their children!

Cost: Donations to be collected at the reunion to cover a portion of the cost of the event.

What to bring: Special mementos of your Monlezun family tree for the "Memory Table" such as photos, old letters, special mementos you feel you would like to share (e.i. tools, garments, hats, religious articles, handmade items, favorite recipes, etc). Bring cameras!

Activities:

* Gather at 10:00 AM at the sign-in area to pick up your name tag and special ribbon identifying your branch of the Monlezun family (Pascal, Joachin, Josephine, Antoine, Emile, or Theodore)

* Sign in with name and address. Pick up "The Monlezun Family" booklet of all family names and addresses (one per family). Special gift of Grandpa Dominique will be given at this time.

* Visit under the large tent where food will be served and Memory Tables will be set up.

* 12:00 noon -Blessing of food and family; catered food and drink. Home open for use.

* 1:30 p.m. - Music provided by 'Then and Now' ... a band made up of relatives from

Lake *Arthur!*

* More visiting, singing, dancing!

* Maps available to visit the graves of ancestors (less than one mile away) if you so wish.

Please spread the word of this Reunion reminding family members of the date and time.

Another letter will be sent closer to the time of April 23, 2005. It is our hope that this day will be memorable for all who attend. Feel free to pass this invitation on to any family we may have missed. We are indeed a big family! Grandpa Dominique's decision to come to America has borne much good fruit. So gather around the fruit trees in Lake Arthur and meet your cousins!

Sincerely,

Constance Victoria Monlezun Darbonne and Siblings, Lee Joseph., Robert Joseph, Charles Joseph, Anna Bernadette, Malcolm Joseph, Ione Marie, and Dominique Joseph

***(Please send me full & complete names, birth date, wedding anniversary date, death date and updated addresses to be included in the "Monlezun Family Booklet")



The First Monlezun Family Reunion, 23 April 23 2005 in Lake Arthur, LA
Home place of the late Lee Joseph and Anna 'Gertrude' Hensgens-Monlezun
Descendants of Dominique and Louisa Thomasine Peterson-Monlezun and
Pascal Monlezun



Host family for the Dominique and Louisa Thomasine Peterson-Monlezun and
Pascal Monlezun Family Reunion 23 April 2005!

Children of Lee Joseph and Anna 'Gertrude' Hensgens-Monlezun,

Left to Right:

#10 Dominique Joseph Monlezun, #6 Malcolm Joseph Monlezun, #2 Robert Joseph
Monlezun, #1 Lee Joseph Monlezun Jr. & #3 Charles Joseph Monlezun

Bottom Row: left to right:

#8 Ione Marie Monlezun-Broussard, #5 Constance Victoria Monlezun Darbonne, and

#4 Anna 'Bernadette' Monlezun-Ponton

(#7 Alvin Joseph Monlezun 1954 – 1965 and #9 Veronica Gertrude Monlezun 1959 – 1965)

**Ten Questions for Recorded Family Interviews
in the 'Front Porch Room!'**

...Name, ancestor, family members, reside...

1. What has this day of this gathering of your family meant to you?
2. Do you recall a particular story or memory of visiting family in LA, this home in particular?
3. What particular characteristics or virtues that you admired in your ancestors would you like to emulate, exhibit, live by? What trait do you feel you have inherited from them?
4. What have you seen or experienced that you hadn't thought about doing for your children in rooting them with family afar?
5. How does your faith sustain you?
6. If your grandmother/father or parents were here today, what would they have to say about all of this?!!
7. What would you like to see at the next Monlezun Family Reunion?
8. Could-it-be you finish this statement 'if family members hear the stories of their ancestors or studied their ways, we could begin to understand...?!'
9. How would you like your children to remember you?
10. What would you like to say (in thanksgiving) in closing!?

St. Anthony Cemetery, Lake Arthur, LA

...those who have gone before...

*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of
God, rest in peace. Amen*

First row, north to south:

Blanche B. Monlezun	Sept. 21, 1879	Dec. 15, 1977
Theodore Monlezun	Nov. 29, 1879	Aug. 14, 1966
Milton A. Monlezun	Sept. 14, 1911	Nov. 22, 1952
Alvin J. Monlezun	Aug. 7, 1954	May 25, 1965
Veronica G. Monlezun	Feb. 7, 1959	May 25, 1965
Antoine Monlezun	Mar. 31, 1882	Mar. 29, 1971
1 st Lt. Alvin J. Monlezun	Feb. 1, 1920	Oct. 10, 1944
Victoria B. Monlezun	Feb. 10, 1884	June 12, 1989
Adeline Monlezun	June 12, 1871	Mar. 11, 1950
Emile Monlezun	Nov. 3, 1877	Apr. 27, 1965
Louise M. Bertrand	Nov. 20, 1903	May 21, 2005
Freeman R. Bertrand	Aug. 28, 1903	Feb. 5, 1963
Rita M. Broussard	Feb. 21, 1906	May 5, 2001
Eldess J. Broussard	Jan. 25, 1904	Nov. 3, 1973
Adelle B. Monlezun	July 12, 1877	May 21, 1968
Joachim E. Monlezun	Jan. 28, 1876	Nov. 4, 1960
William Monlezun	July 22, 1910	Dec. 14, 1944
D. (Dominique) Monlezun	Born 1845	Died June 29, 1928

Second Row, north to south:

J.T. (Junior) Monlezun	June 29, 1919	Jan. 30, 2004
Margaret G. Monlezun	Aug. 18, 1920	
Lee J. Monlezun, Sr.	April 24, 1917	July 31, 1985
Gertrude Hensgens-Monlezun	Dec. 27, 1921	Nov. 28, 2000

Claude I. Monlezun	Mar. 3, 1902 July 6, 1964
Geraldine M. Gaithe	June 18, 1950 Nov. 14, 1974
Louis Marcel Gaithe	May 10, 1906 Apr. 26, 1979
Alice M. Gaithe	Dec. 1, 1904 Nov. 8, 1980

TRANSLATION (French < > English) PASSPORT OF DOMINIQUE MONLEZUN

I love these words...original passport is framed and has a place of honor in the
"Living Room" in our home of origin in Lake Arthur, LA...
translation generously transcribed by Danielle Miller

General Administration	(Seal of the General Police)	French Empire
Passport to go Abroad	Valid for one year	
PROVINCE	of High Pyrenees	
Registration No. 231		

Passport to go Abroad Valid for one year IN THE NAME OF THE EMPEROR
The Prefect of the High Pyrenees Request the military and Civilian authorities of
the French Empire and ask the Civilian and Military authorities of countries who
are friends or allies of France allow free movement of the name Monlezun
born in Lalanne residing in Lalanne going to New Orleans and to give him help
and protection in case of need This passport is valid for three months to leave
France. Made in Tarbes, the first of October 1866 for the prefect for the
Lieutenant General The advisor Prefecture M Baily

Description	Age 21	Height 5 feet 4 inches	Hair Chestnut
Forehead	Forward	Eyebrows Chestnut	Eyes Grey
Nose		Mouth Medium	Beard None
Chin	Round	Face ?	Complexion ?
Particular Signs	that are Noteworthy Scar on Right Cheek		

Signature of the bearer Monlezun Dominique

Price of the passport: 10 Francs

...sailed from Marsaille, France arriving in New Orleans, LA 1 October 1866...

GRATEFUL HEARTS

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad!

**In gratitude,
I have seen and experienced Your love ignited to
connect us all...You from whence we come.**

**Created in His image and likeness and down
through the ages, we were begotten.**

**It is now our turn to
be most grateful and celebrate in the footsteps of
those who have gone before.**

**Our steps intertwine with our ancestors
whom we can now call by name,
centering back to the palm of His hand Who,
counted every hair on our head before
we were formed in our mother's womb!**

They have prayed us forward since 1300!

We now become the pray-ers for our own yet to be born.

**Family is a gift to be
nurtured by work, good example and unceasing prayer,
becoming good and wise stewards of that which has been entrusted to us;
by communicating and protecting,
by study of the steps taken by the 'grands'
to insure our freedom, education and faith foundation
and lived in the daily, day by day, in trust, love and toil.**

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

**LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT!
Anna 'Bernadette' Monlezun-Pontón**