This newspaper clipping from the Bluefield Daily Telegraph in 1938, states that the Arrington reunions started around 1935. This year’s (2003) gathering will mark the 68th year of consecutive reunions for the Arrington family.

Chapter 6. Arrington Reunions

MR. AND MRS. H. W. ARRINGTON

Numerous relatives as well as many friends of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Arrington, of Duhring, gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Mullin, near Freeman, Sunday, August 21, for the annual family reunion.

The morning hours were spent in greeting old friends and meeting new ones and a talk by the Rev. B. F. Sublett, of Matoaka, splendidly appropriate to the occasion.

Following a bountiful picnic lunch spread at 12:30, the Rev. J. S. Foley, of Matoaka, gave an interesting talk, songs were sung and everyone present entered heartily into the spirit and pleasure of the occasion.

This was the third annual gathering of the Arrington clan, and was proclaimed by all as the most enjoyable of any reunion yet held, and preparations and plans are already in the making for even a more elaborate gathering next year.

Mr. Arrington, who is now 78 years old, has been twice married, and is the father of 16 living children, has 65 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren. His first wife, who died many years ago, was Miss Betty Craft. To this union nine children were born, eight of whom are yet living, and were present at the reunion. They are: J. C. Arrington, of Ridgeley, W. Va.; Mrs. Victoria Ball, of Limestone, Tenn.; J. A. Arrington, of Arista, W. Va.; E. L. Arrington, Beardsfork, W. Va.; Mrs. Sallie Garrison, Goodwill, W. Va.; Mrs. Ora Whittaker, Duhring, W. Va.; Mrs. Kate Mullin, Freeman, W. Va., and W. H. Arrington, of Princeton.

Mr. Arrington’s second marriage was to Miss Alva Thomas, of Mechanicsburg, Va., and nine children were also born to this union, eight of whom are living, and all, with one exception, were present for Sunday’s reunion. They are: Mrs. Lila Shrameker, Duhring, W. Va.; Mrs. Mary Bailey, Goodwill, W. Va.; Mrs. Grace McCauley, Montcarm, W. Va.; H. W. Arrington, Jr., Rock, W. Va.; Lizzie Arrington, Bluefield, Va., and Joe Arrington, Ellen Arrington and Frances Arrington, all of Duhring.