



# WALTON RELATIONS

Volume 2, Issue 3

Walton County Genealogy Society

February 2011

## Walton County History Fair

The Walton County History Fair is traditionally held every other year, but we are breaking that tradition this year. The History Fair will be held at the Walton County Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 12, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM, in conjunction with a Tractor Pull. This combination event worked out very well last year and brought a new audience to the History Fair exhibitors.

Individuals and groups with a story to share are invited to have a table at the History Fair. There is no charge for a table unless you want to sell items, in which case there is a \$20 fee, payable to the Walton County Fair Association.

**Wayne Sconiers** will once again have his computer set up and ready to explore his database of over 50,000 Walton County names, so bring along your family tree!

For more information about the Walton County History Fair and/or to get an application for a table, visit the Walton County Heritage website, [www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org](http://www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org).

## Next WCGS Meeting

The Walton County Genealogy Society will meet at the Walton County Heritage Museum on **Saturday, February 12, at 10:00 AM**. Please join us!

## Upcoming Reunions

**Wright/McCall** (Alexander Wright line) – Saturday, March 12, 2011, 11:00 AM, at the DeFuniak Springs Community Center. Contact **Howard Rinker** at 892-5334.

**Cawthon** - Saturday, March 19, 2011, from 10:30 AM until 2:30 PM, at McLain's Family Steakhouse, Interstate 10 and Hwy. 331 South, DeFuniak Springs. All Cawthon descendants are welcome. Feel free to bring old photos. There will be a scanner and laptop at the reunion. The restaurant serves a buffet lunch but also has a menu. Attendees will pay for their own meals. Questions may be sent to either **Sarah McSwain** or **Linda Clark**.

### **Walton County Heritage Museum**

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 1:00- 4:00 PM  
1140 Circle Drive, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

850-951-2127

[www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org](http://www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org)

[WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net](mailto:WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net)

## SOME WALTON COUNTY FAMILIES: GODWIN

By **Joan Ray Godwin**, wife of William C. Godwin, of Hastings (St. Johns) Florida

My husband's father and mother were William Lee "Will" Godwin and Indiana McBroom Godwin. Indiana was the daughter of Joseph Cypher and "Sytha" Louisa Lawrence McBroom, but my focus today is the family of Will Godwin. Will was the son of Joseph G. and Sarah Ann Nichols Godwin.

Joseph G. Godwin was born May 09, 1869, in Alabama, to Jonathan "John" and Mary Wilson Godwin. He died November 21, 1947, in Walton County, Florida. He is buried in the Crowder Chapel Cemetery in Mossy Head.

Joe married (1) Sarah Ann Nichols in Walton County, daughter of George Washington and Mary Jane Hulion Nichols. She was born January 27, 1873, in Crestview and died January 12, 1938. She is buried in the Crowder Chapel Cemetery. He married (2) Katie Pippins. She was born July 16, 1880, in Alabama and died December 24, 1934, in Walton County. She is also buried in the Crowder Chapel Cemetery.

Children of Joseph Godwin and Sarah Nichols are:

- i. John Avery "Av" Godwin, b. 14 Feb 1889, DeFuniak Springs; d. 25 Jan 1967, Baker County, Florida; m. Bernice Inez Taylor, Baker County; b. 3 Feb 1913, Taylor, Florida; d. 18 Oct 1994.
- ii. Allen Joseph Godwin, b. 6 Jun 1890, Walton County; d. 6 Jun 06, Fort Walton Beach, Florida; m. (1) Bessie; m. (2) Viola Mae Hall, abt. 1924, Dothan, Alabama; b. 13 Feb 1907, DeFuniak Springs.
- iii. William Lee "Will" Godwin
- iv. Lula Godwin, b. abt. Jun 1897, Walton County; d. 1955, Walton County; m. Robert Collum; b. abt. 1890; d. 1935.
- v. Mary Lena Godwin, b. 30 Mar 1901, Walton County; d. 23 Nov 1993, Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida; m. (1) Grover Cleveland (Cleve) Hinote; b. 7 Mar 1889; d. 6 Apr 1945, Montgomery, Alabama; m. (2) Robert Lee Turner, after 1945; b. 5 Feb 1892, Walton County; d. 7 Aug 1968, Crestview.
- vi. Annabelle Godwin, b. 19 Apr 1904, Mossy Head; d. 13 Apr 1991, Crestview; bur. Live Oak Park Memorial Cemetery; m. Howard Douglas Hawkins, Sr.; b. 5 Nov 1905.
- vii. I. D. Godwin, b. 15 May 1911, Dorcas, Okaloosa County, Florida; d. 9 Mar 1975, Walton County; bur. Crowder Chapel Cemetery; m. (1) Eola Courtney, 1926; b. 26 May 1911, New Harmony, Walton County, Florida; m. (2) Sarah Ann (Annie) Hulion; b. 10 Jan 1914, Mossy Head; d. 4 Mar 1978, Walton County; bur. Crowder Chapel Cemetery.

Children of Joseph Godwin and Katie Pippins are:

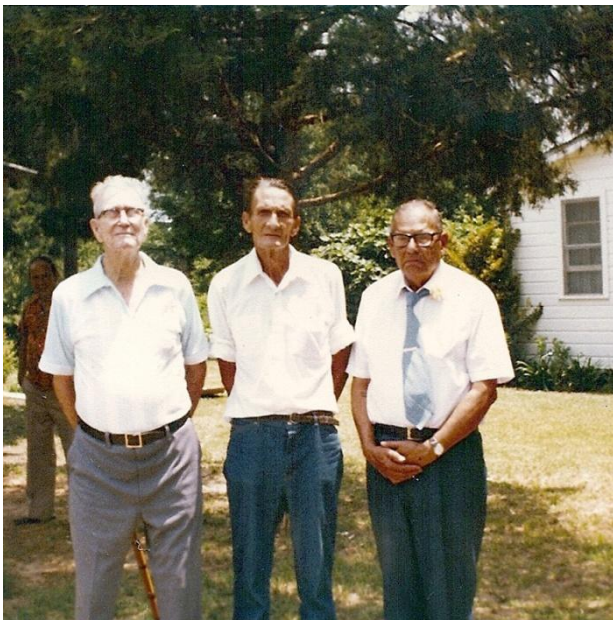
- viii. Homer L. Godwin, b. 13 Jun 1909, Walton County; d. 20 Dec 1978; m. Winney.
- ix. Eddie L. "Ed" Godwin, b. 16 Feb 1911, Walton County; d. 18 Jul 1998, Walton County; m. Dorothy Irene; b. 22 Feb 1913; d. 27 Jan 1986, Walton County.
- x. Woodrow Wilson Godwin, b. 29 Oct 1918, Walton County; d. 17 Sep 1997, DeFuniak Springs; bur. Crowder Chapel Cemetery; m. Hazel Rowland.



*Left: **Allen Godwin**, son of Joseph G. and Sarah Ann (Nichols) Godwin, with an ox drawn logging cart.*

Allen and Will had a logging business together. They were hauling logs for Britton Lumber Company, and one evening Will didn't come home from work. The next morning Allen found him injured. He had been hit in the stomach with the tongue of the logging cart and thrown over a hundred feet. Will lived about

six months, and then he passed away on March 25, 1935, about nine months after the birth of his youngest child, William C. Godwin (my husband).



*(from left:)* **Allen Joseph Godwin** (son of Joseph G. and Sarah Ann Nichols Godwin), **Woodrow Godwin**, **Ed Godwin** (sons of Joseph G. and Katie Pippins Godwin)



*(from left):* **Woodrow Godwin**, **Allen Godwin**, **Viola "Ola" Hall Godwin**, **M. R. Pippins** (son of Katie Pippins Godwin), **Dorothy Godwin**, **Ed Godwin**



**Leroy, M. R. Pippins, Clyde**

M. R. was the son of Katie Pippins when she married Joseph G. Godwin. Leroy and Clyde were the sons of William and Indiana McBroom Godwin.



**Woodrow Godwin, Ruthie Godwin Watson,  
Ed Godwin**

Woodrow and Ed were the sons of Joseph G. and Katie Pippins Godwin. Ruthie is the daughter of William and Indiana McBroom Godwin.



**Lula Godwin Collum and ?**

Lula was the daughter of Joseph G. and Sarah Nichols Godwin. (If anyone can tell me who the lady is beside Lula, I would really appreciate it.)

W. C. told me that one of the “dangdest” fights he had ever seen was over of Lula. She was working in a café owned by her brothers, Ed and Homer. A man came in and sat at the counter and, when Lula brought his coffee, she picked up his hat to move it over and there was a snake lying there under it. Lula screamed and hauled off and knocked the man off the stool. Ed came through the back door, and Homer came through the front door. After they got through beating up the man, the police came in and arrested him!



**Ed, Homer, Joseph G.,  
and Woodrow Godwin**

Ed, Homer, and Woodrow were the sons of Joseph G. and Katie Pippins Godwin.



The funeral of **Joseph G. Godwin**

*Front from left: Annabelle, Lena, Avery* (three children of Joseph G. and Sarah) and **Inez** (wife of Avery)

*Standing in back from left: M.R. Pippins, Ed Godwin, Woodrow Godwin*

*Left: Mary Jane Hulion Nichols and Sarah Nichols (Godwin)*



Mary Jane was the daughter of Elisha and Harriett Arrington Hulion and the wife of George Washington Nichols.

William's mother was Sarah Ann Nichols Godwin. Sarah was the daughter of George Washington and Mary Jane Hulion Nichols. Sarah was born in Walton County as was her father. Her mother was born in Alabama.

George Washington Nichols' father was Coval "Cove" Nichols, and his mother was Sarah Ann "Sallie" Ward. Coval killed one of his wife's brothers. Another brother, Celestine Ward, killed him and his father in retaliation.

Celestine was serving with the Confederacy when he got the news that his brother-in-law "Cove" had murdered his brother. He went AWOL to seek vengeance for the death of his brother. When he got to Florida, he gathered a group of his Indian family and friends and, on March 08, 1865, they found Cove, his father Samuel, and another brother of Cove's, Austin Nichols, herding cattle by the Shoal River in Walton County. "Teen" and his band killed Cove and Samuel and badly wounded Austin. Austin pretended to be dead, but he was alive and told who had killed his father and brother.



### **Mary Jane Hulion Nichols**

Sometime after Sarah and Joe separated, she went to Watertown just out of Lake City and opened a café.



This photo is **Sarah Nichols Godwin** (left) in the café she owned in Watertown.

William Lee "Will" was born February 11, 1895, in Walton County, Florida, and died March 25, 1935, in Walton County. He is buried in Crowder Chapel Cemetery. He married Indiana McBroom, daughter of Joseph McBroom and "Sytha" Lawrence. She was born July 30, 1897, in DeFuniak Springs and died December 20, 1979, in Palatka, Putnam County, Florida. She is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Palatka, Florida.

Children of William Godwin and Indiana McBroom are:

- i. Leroy Godwin, b. 30 Sep 1914, Walton County; d. 21 Aug 2005, Palatka, Putnam County, Florida; bur. Oak Hill Cemetery, Palatka.
- ii. Jeanette Godwin, b. 22 Mar 1917, Walton County; d. 14 Dec 2008; bur. Oak Hill Cemetery, Palatka; m. Allen James Carnley, Sr., 2 Dec 1933, Walton County; b. 22 Jul 1914, Walton County; d. 28 May 1994.
- iii. Lela Mae Godwin, b. 9 Apr 1920, Walton County; d. 24 Feb 1999, Pensacola, Florida; m. A.C. Hartin; b. 15 May 1912, Chipley, FL; d. 8 Dec 1993, Pensacola.
- iv. Blondell Godwin, b. 20 Nov 1922, Walton County; d. 29 Mar 2004, Palatka, Putnam County, Florida; bur. Crowder Chapel Cemetery, Mossy Head.
- v. Clyde Godwin, b. 15 Nov 1926, Walton County; d. 28 May 2005, Palatka, Putnam County, Florida; m. Claire Ellis.
- vi. Ruthie Mae Godwin, b. 3 Apr 1930, Walton County.
- vii. William Ceborn Godwin, b. 17 Jun 1934, Mossy Head; m. (1) Mattie Martha Carnley, 11 Aug 1951, Florida; b. 23 Sep 1927, Walton County; d. 11 Oct 1986, Palatka, Putnam County, Florida; m. (2) Joan Ray, 23 Oct 1983, Palatka.



**William and Indiana McBroom Godwin**

Children: *(from left bottom)* Leroy, Jeanette, Lela Mae, Blondell, Clyde, Ruthie Mae, William Ceborn

**GODWIN BROTHERS and SISTERS**

Children of Will and Indiana McBroom Godwin



Blondell & Ruthie Mae



Ruthie Mae, Clyde, Jeanette



Blondell, Jeanette, Leroy, A.C. Hartin  
(Lela's husband), Lela, Clyde



W.C., ages 14 & age 64

## **Veterans Wall Nears 700**

In the November 2010 issue of *Walton Relations*, we told you about the Veterans Wall at the Walton County Courthouse. **Bill Vorwald** reports that they now have 698 photographs on the Wall. Let us put them over 700! For more information about the Vote in Honor of a Vet program and instructions about how you can submit your veterans' photographs and biographies for inclusion on the Veterans Wall, see <http://www.votewaltoncounty.com/HonorVets.aspx> or contact Bill Vorwald at 850-892-8112 or [vorbill@co.walton.fl.us](mailto:vorbill@co.walton.fl.us).

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*Walton Relations* is a publication of the Walton County Genealogy Society. Wayne Sconiers, President. Distribution is encouraged! For more information or to submit an article, please email its editor, Diane Merkel, at [WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net](mailto:WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net) or call 850-897-4505.