



WALTON RELATIONS

Volume 3, Issue 5

Walton County Genealogy Society

March 2012

Heritage Books

The Walton County Genealogy Society recently purchased some very valuable books to those researching the Panhandle and neighboring counties in Alabama. The following books are available in "The Heritage of" series:

Alabama Counties: Coffee, Houston, and Pike.

Florida Counties: Bay, Escambia (2 vols.), Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa (2 vols.), Santa Rosa, and Walton.



The books may be used at the Walton County Heritage Museum and cannot be borrowed. We are hoping to locate copies of Washington County, Florida, and Dale County, Alabama, which are out of print.

We also purchased all of the remaining copies of *The Heritage of Walton County, Florida* from the publisher, which are on sale at the Walton County Heritage Museum for \$75. Walton County Heritage Association members get a 10% discount.

WCGS Meeting

The Walton County Genealogy Society will not meet in March because we will be at the History Fair! The History Fair will be on Saturday, March 10, from 8:30 AM until 2:00 PM at the Walton County Fairgrounds on Hwy. 83 North in DeFuniak Springs. Bring your family and friends!

The next meeting of the Genealogy Society will be Saturday, April 14, at 10:00 AM at the Walton County Heritage Museum.

Walton County Heritage Museum

Open Tuesday - Saturday: 1:00 - 4:00 PM
1140 Circle Drive, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435
850-951-2127

www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org
WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net

Obituary of James Deese

Space Pioneer

Graduate of Palmer College

Melbourne, Aug. 11, 2001: **James H. Deese; Panhandle Space Pioneer.** The Panhandle, the state, and the country lost a pioneer with the death today of James H. Deese. From a family with deep roots in northwest Florida, Deese helped launch the country into space. Deese was born in Graceville, Jackson County, on Sep. 23, 1914. His childhood home stood on the site of the grade school there. William Lawrence Deese, James' father, was the Graceville Train Master. Many of the Deese family are buried in the Damascus Cemetery on the road to Chipley, Washington County.

James Deese went to Palmer College in Defuniak Springs from 1920 [*sic*] to 1930. He was an Eagle Scout. According to his son, Thomas Deese, his father always enjoyed visiting Defuniak Springs and, in 1980, he hosted his entire class from Palmer College to a 50-year reunion at Kennedy Space Center.

Deese went on to attend Georgia Institute of Technology and the US Naval Academy from 1931-1935. He became an engineer and land surveyor.

In 1936 he went to work for Carrier Corporation and installed the first air conditioning in the US Capitol and National Reserve Building. He helped write Carrier's first handbook on air conditioning, heating and ventilation.

In 1941, he was assigned to Mobile, AL, as a construction quartermaster at Brooklyn Field. With the beginning of World War II, he executed the overall design of Warner Robbins Air Force Base in Macon, GA. At the end of the war he was transferred to Engine Research and Development Laboratories in Virginia where he was chief of the internal combustion engine lab.

He began a long relationship with NASA when he accepted an assignment with the Joint Long Range Proving Ground at Patrick AFB in 1950. Here he co-authored the master plan for Cape Canaveral. He directed the design for missile assembly and launch facilities. Deese was involved in Redstone, Atlas, Centaur, Jupiter, Mercury, Apollo, Saturn, Pershing, Viking and Polaris missiles.

The Handbook of Astronautical Engineering edited by Dr. Werner von Braun in 1961, contains information on ground operations, launching sites and space ports which was written by Deese.

He retired from NASA in 1975 and started his own land survey and engineering firm in Melbourne, Brevard County, FL. He left there in 1990. In later years he returned frequently to the family's cottage in Cottdale, Jackson County, and would visit friends in Defuniak Springs. James Deese and his wife of 62 years, Mary Catherine, had ten children. Mary and the surviving nine children held a private Mass and burial at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Palm Bay, Brevard County, FL.

Florida Today

If you have information about other distinguished people
who lived in Walton County, please send it to us!

Names Listed on the Confederate Memorial on the Courthouse Grounds at DeFuniak Springs, Florida

Compiled by **Mark Curenton** of Apalachicola

This is the third part of the series. See the January and February issues of *Walton Relations* for the other parts.

- Kemp, H.** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
1860 Walton County Census - Henry Kemp, Page 18, Family # 123, 21 years old, common laborer.
Biographical Rosters - Page 99, Kemp, Henry enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton and was present on the last roll.
Soldiers of Florida - Page 64, Kemp, Henry
- Kemp, Wm.** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
1860 Walton County Census - William H. Kemp, Page 18, Family # 123, 18 years old, serving.
Biographical Rosters - Page 99, Kemp, W. H. enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton but died 5/28/62 of measles. Father: Benjamin F.
Soldiers of Florida - Page 64, Kemp, William H. died May 29, 1862 of measles at Walton County, Fla.
- Kennington, Jno.** **6th Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. H**
1860 Walton County Census- John Kinnington, Page 56. Family # 379, 22 years old, farm laborer.
Biographical Rosters - Page 660, Kinnington, John (b. 1835) enlisted 4/2/62 at the Mt. Vernon Arsenal and was killed at Chickamauga 9/19/63.
Soldiers of Florida - Page 167, Kinnington, John enlisted April 2, 1862.
- Koonce, Abram** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
1860 Walton County Census - Abram Koonce, Page 10, Family # 66, 14 years old.
Biographical Rosters - Page 99, Koonce, A. V. enlisted 8/24/62 at Camp Walton. He was sent to a hospital 9/24/62 and believed to have died.
- Londery, Jack** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
1860 Walton County Census - Jackson Lundy, Page 9, Family #57, 28 years old, farmer.
Biographical Rosters - Page 99, Lundy, A. J. enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton. He was sent to a hospital 8/27/63.
- Marshal, Joel**
- Marshal, Ned.** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
Biographical Rosters - Page 100, Marshall, E. D, (b. GA) enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton but died 9/20/62 at Chattanooga. Father: Robert A.
Soldiers of Florida - Page 64, Marcheal, Edward D, died at Dunlop, Tenn., Sept. 19, 1862, of pneumonia.
- McCallum, A. L.** **1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D**
1860 Walton Co. Census - Archibald McCallum, Page 9, Family #58, 18 years old.
Biographical Rosters - Page 99. McCallum, Archibald L. enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton and died 10/21/62. Father: W.W. See R. W. McCallum.
Soldiers of Florida - Page 64, McCollum, Archibald L. died October 23, 1863 of fever.
- McClellan, James, Lieut.** **6th Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. H**
Biographical Rosters - Page 655, 2nd Lt. James J. P. McClelland (b. 1832 GA; m. Samantha Mixon 1844

[sic] enlisted 4/2/62 at the Mt. Vernon Arsenal and was elected 1st Lt 5/21/62. He died of disease in Knoxville 8/7/62 and was buried in local Bethel Cemetery.

Soldiers of Florida - Page 166. James J. P. McClellan, 2nd Lieutenant, enlisted April 2, 1862, died of brain fever at Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 20, 1862.

McCullough, Ed.

1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. E

Soldiers of Florida - Page 66, McCullough, Edward M. enlisted April 5, 1861, corporal; died in service.

McDonald, C. L.

1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. D

1860 Walton Co. Census - Chas. McDonald, Page 12, Family # 73, 17 years old, farm laborer.

Biographical Rosters - Page 99, McDonald, Charles L. (b. Walton Co.) enlisted 2/28/62 at Camp Walton. He was wounded in the knee at Chickamauga 9/20/63 and died in a hospital 12/18/63.

Soldiers of Florida - Page 64, McDonald, Charles L. Died December 18, in Georgia, from wounds.

McDonald, D.

6th Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. H

1860 Walton Co. Census - Daniel L. McDonald, Page 10, Family # 67, 20 years old, farm laborer.

Biographical Rosters - Page 661, McDonald, Daniel L. (b. 1839) enlisted 4/2/62 at the Mt. Vernon Arsenal.

He was left sick and captured 10/11/62 in Harrodsburg KY. He died of variola [smallpox] 2/1/63 at the Alton Military Prison and was buried in the prison cemetery.

Soldiers of Florida - Page 167, McDonald, Daniel L. enlisted April 2, 1862.

McDonald, D. K.

1860 Walton Co. Census - Daniel K. McDonald, Page 65, Family # 442, 44 years old, farmer.

McDonald, D. P.

6th Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. H

1860 Walton Co. Census - Daniel P. McDonald, Page 4, Family # 26, 33 years old, laborer.

Biographical Rosters - Page 661, McDonald, Daniel P. Sr. (b. 1829) enlisted 4/2/62 at Mt. Vernon and appears as 2nd Cpl in late 1862. He was captured in Atlanta 7/22/64 and sent to Camp Chase prison. He applied to take the oath in December 1864 stating that he was a conscript. He was paroled then exchanged and hospitalized in March 1865. He died of debility 3/13/65 at General Hospital #9, Richmond VA.

McDonald, John A.

1st Florida Infantry Regiment, Co. E

1860 Walton Co. Census -

Biographical Rosters - Page 103. 2nd Sgt John A. McDonald enlisted 3/1/62 at Camp Walton and died 6/11/62 at Camp Pringle.

Soldiers of Florida - Page 66, McDonald, John A. enlisted March, 1862, sergeant; died in Florida June 7, 1862.

Seventy-seven Years in Dixie - Page 13, talking about being at Bluff Springs after they left Camp Walton:

"We did not stop here long, but during the time, many of our men were sick and some of them died.

Amongst these I remember Calvin Lewis, Johnnie McDonald, Willie and Jessie Rooks, who were members of our company."

To be continued in the April newsletter.

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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 or call 850-897-4505.