



# WALTON RELATIONS

Volume 5, Issue 4

Walton County Genealogy Society

February 2014

## History Fair, March 8

The Walton County Heritage Association will once again host the History Fair portion of Antiques Day at the Walton County Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 8, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. As in previous years, Antiques Day will be a three-prong event with the History Fair, the Wearing 'o the Green Antique Car Show sponsored by the Chautauqua Cruisers, and tractor pull competitions sponsored by the Walton County Fair Association. There will also be displays of antique farm equipment and tractors behind the fairgrounds building.

Walton County Genealogy Society President **Wayne Sconiers** is taking table reservations for the History Fair portion of the event. Write to [WayneSconiers@embarqmail.com](mailto:WayneSconiers@embarqmail.com) to reserve your six or eight foot table or complete the application. As always, there is no fee for a display at the History Fair unless you will be selling items. Call Wayne at 850-859-2207 for more information about selling during the event or to be a sponsor.

We invite everyone with Walton County connections to take a table at the History Fair to display family, business, church, or club photographs and memorabilia. Everyone has an important story to tell!

## WCGS Meeting

The Walton County Genealogy Society will meet at the Museum on Saturday, February 8, at 10:00 AM. You do not need to be a Heritage member to attend. There will not be a meeting in March because we will be at the History Fair!

## Reunion Information Wanted

According to past listings, there should be reunions for the Cawthon and Wright/McCall families in March. If you have more information about these or other upcoming reunions, please check our Reunions web page to make sure we have the correct information and let Wayne Sconiers know so we can keep our listings as current as possible. Here is the link to our Reunions web page:

[waltoncountyheritage.org/GenSoc/reunions.htm](http://waltoncountyheritage.org/GenSoc/reunions.htm)

### **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](http://www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org)

[HeritageMuseum@centurylink.net](mailto:HeritageMuseum@centurylink.net)

## The Story of Florida

*The Story of Florida* was written by W. T. Cash, the State Librarian, in 1938. The first two volumes relate the history of the state, and the third and fourth volumes provide mini-biographies of important Floridians, most of whom were Mr. Cash's contemporaries. Below are very brief summaries of those with Walton County connections (names in bold). The links will take you to more information on [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com). We welcome any additional information you may have about these Waltonians. Please see the January 2014 issue of *Walton Relations* for summaries of those listed in Volume III.

– Diane Merkel, [WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net](mailto:WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net)

### Volume IV

**Dr. Edmund Hershey Teeter**, who was a renowned surgeon in Jacksonville, was born in Illinois in 1881. His family moved to Florida when he was two years old. He attended the Florida State Normal School before attending Blue Ridge College in Maryland and medical school at the University of Maryland.

**Archie Neil Anderson** was born in Walton County on August 12, 1904, the son of **Daniel Roderick** (1877-1967) and **Mary Elizabeth Broxson Anderson** (1880-1964), and he died on September 20, 1986. Archie was an educator who served as Superintendent of Public Instruction for the county. He was active in a number of organizations, including the Masons and Odd Fellows. He married **Estelle DeShazo** (1913-1997), daughter of **Joseph H. DeShazo** (1884-1955) of Walton County. Estelle and Archie were married on October 2, 1932, and they are buried together in Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

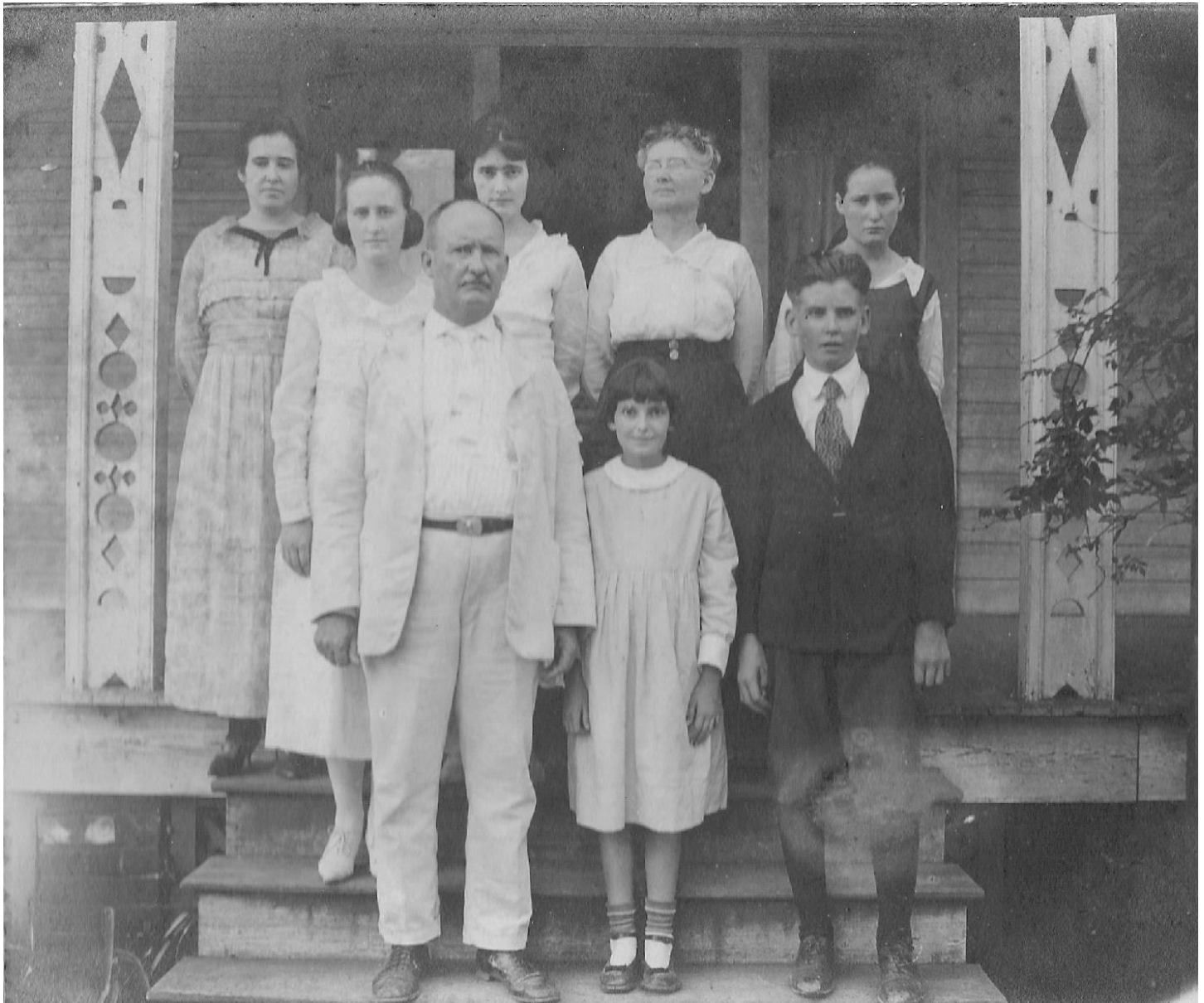
**Lewis H. Brannon** (1906-1963), the son of **Rozier A.** (1866-1906) and **Mary Jane Mitchem Brannon** (1871-1950) was born in Walton County. He served as judge of the Walton County Court, city attorney for DeFuniak Springs, and in the state legislature, and he was active in the DeFuniak Springs chapters of the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Masons, Odd Fellows, and Elks. He married **Augusta "Gussie" Lee Johnston** (1899-1980) of Birmingham, and they had two daughters: **Bebe Carolyn Brannon** (1933-2000) and **Elizabeth Gayle Brannon**.

**Ralph B. Spires, M.D.** (1903-1966) was born in South Carolina but moved to Walton County in time to graduate from Walton High School. He had a successful general medical practice in DeFuniak Springs for many years, and he also served four terms as the county physician and was the physician for two convict camps. Dr. Spires founded the Lakeside Clinic on Circle Drive in 1939, which later became Lakeside Hospital. He married Mary Hamilton Clement of South Carolina with whom he had two daughters. His older brother, **Dr. William Gregory Spires** (1855-1940), retired from private practice in Walton County about 1934.

**Judge Angus Graham Campbell** (1874-1939) was born in Eucheeanna and was the son of **Daniel** (1844-1925) and **Emma Bowers Campbell** (1849-1914). Judge Campbell served the Walton County Circuit Court. He was also a former mayor of DeFuniak Springs and a former county solicitor of the Criminal Court of Record in Walton County. He married **Catharine McKinnon** of Freeport, the daughter of **John L. McKinnon**. According to the Judge's obituary in the June 22, 1939 *DeFuniak Herald*, he "dropped dead on the stage of the Pensacola High School auditorium while delivering the graduating address."

**William Thomas Ray** (1890-1947), who served as the tax collector of Walton County, was the son of **William C.** (1852-1907) and **Virginia Collinsworth Ray** (1862-1934). He married **Ruth Buchanan** (1895-1983) of DeFuniak Springs, and they had two daughters, **Barbara Ruth Ray** and **Mary Frances Ray Ferris** (1926-2000).

**Marvel O. Warren** was born in DeFuniak Springs on January 12, 1898, the son of **Miles A.** (1861-1924) and **Carolyn Jones Warren** (1864-1939). He served as mayor of the city and founded Service Drug Company on Baldwin Avenue. He married **Gertrude Simmons**, daughter of **Dr. Daniel H. Simmons** (1862-1927) of Freeport, and they had three children: **Mary Caroline Warren Murray** (1920-2009), **Marvel O. “Buddy” Warren, Jr.**, and **Daniel Simmons Warren** (1927-2009).



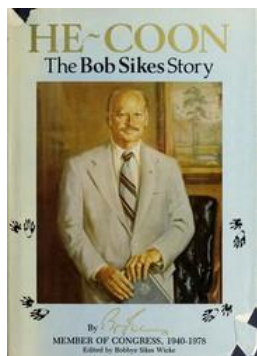
Simmons Family, circa 1917: (back row, left to right) Gertrude Simmons Warren, Edith Simmons Watkins, wife and mother Mary Ansley Simmons, Hilda Simmons Graham; (middle row) Ina Simmons Thompson; (front row) Dr. Daniel Hutchison Simmons, Louise Simmons Campbell, Curtis Simmons. Hilda Graham was the mother of former Governor and U.S. Senator Bob Graham. Ina Thompson became the first Supervisor of Instruction for Walton County and later was State Motor Vehicles Commissioner, the first woman to serve in the state cabinet. She was the mother of Gretchen McCall who graciously supplied this photograph.

**Henry Vincent McClellan** (1874-1957) was born in Walton County, the son of **Andrew Jackson** (1851-1924) and **Catherine Harriet Meigs McClellan** (1854-1934). Henry became a prominent attorney in Calhoun County. He married **Christian A. Garrett** (1878-1974) of Walton County, the daughter of **John Coleman** (1847-1917) and **Mary H. McClellan Garrett** (1949-1920), and they had seven children.

**John Lovell Moore** (1886-1943) was born in Holmes County but received his early education in DeFuniak Springs. He was a 1904 graduate of the Florida State Normal School. He attended law school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and, after being admitted to the Florida Bar, he opened his law practice in DeFuniak Springs. He married Birdie Welker (1891-1977) of Winchester, Tennessee, in 1917 and, in June 1925, they moved to West Palm Beach.

**Kenneth McCaskill Davis, M.D.**, was born in Eucheeanna on March 11, 1892, the son of **Henry Alexander** (1863-1943) and **Sarah Dee McCaskill Davis** (1867-1933). He attended school in Freeport before attending the University of Alabama and the Medical College at Emory University in Atlanta. He married Mary Leila Dezell of Greensboro, Florida, in 1918, and they had three children. By 1925, he was a prominent physician in Palm Beach County.

Elmer C. Nicholson of Pensacola was a descendant of the “forty families,” the Presbyterians who moved from North Carolina to establish a colony in the Eucheeanna Valley about 1832.



**Robert Lee Fulton Sikes** (1906-1994) was then (1938) the owner and editor of the *Okaloosa News-Journal* in Crestview and was married to Emma Keys of Rome, Georgia. He would later become the U.S. Congressman representing Walton County and would marry two more women, Mildred Inez Tyner Sikes (1918-2000) and Joan Thomas Sikes (1941-2002). Bob Sikes' autobiography, *He-Coon*, is available for purchase in the Museum's Gift Shop.

**Glenn Bludworth** (1900-1986) was born in Holmes County, the son of **W. T.** (1861-1935) and **Lucy Jackson Kennedy Bludworth** (d. 1935). Glenn was educated in Walton County prior to attending Cumberland University. At the time of this biography (1938), Glenn was living in DeFuniak Springs. At one time, he owned a lot of property in the Blue Mountain Beach area of Walton County. Marriage took him down to Miami where he maintained his law office.

**Miles Warren** (1891-1986) was born in DeFuniak Springs, the son of **Miles A.** (1861-1924) and **Caroline Thomas Warren** (1864-1939). He served as deputy clerk of Walton County and was elected as county treasurer. When Indian River County was formed in 1925, he moved to Vero Beach and became Clerk of the Circuit Court there.

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*Walton Relations* is a publication of the Walton County Genealogy Society. Wayne Sconiers, President.  
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Diane Merkel, at [WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net](mailto:WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net) or call 850-897-4505.