



# WALTON RELATIONS

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Walton County Genealogy Society

July 2016

## Upcoming Reunions

Below is the most current information we have about family reunions that usually occur in July and August. Any updates received will be posted on the [Reunions](#) page of our website. As you will note, several families have stopped having reunions, principally because the younger generations are not supporting them. It is an unfortunate fact that most people do not get interested in family stories or genealogy until they are older.

The “graying” of organizations is a reality all sorts of groups face. Many people do not have the time and/or the means to volunteer until their families are grown. If you have ideas for getting younger people involved or know of reunions not listed here, please let us know.

### July

**Adkison/Adkinson** – The last reunion was in July 2010 in DeFuniak Springs. They have discontinued reunions but another branch of the family that spells their name Adkinson apparently has reunions.

**Butts** - The last known reunion was in July 2009.

**Danley** - The last reunion was in July 2010 at the New Harmony Community Center. They have been discontinued.

**Gaskin** - The last reunion was on 16 July 2016 in DeFuniak Springs. For more information, contact Cheryl Sims Alberson at 850-834-3206.

**Manning** - There was a Benjamin Manning Reunion in July 2015 in Atlanta. The next reunion will be during the summer of 2017 in Orlando. See <http://manningfamilyhistory.wix.com/manningfamilyhistory> or [manningfamilyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:manningfamilyhistory@gmail.com).

**Slay** - The 11th Biennial Slay Family Reunion was in July 2015 at the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood in DeFuniak Springs.

**Wilkerson** - The Wilkerson Family Reunion was in July 2015 at the Shriner's Lodge on Highway 90 West in DeFuniak Springs. Contact Don Wilkerson for more information.

### August

**Hobbs** - The last known reunion was in August 2009 at the Civic Center in DeFuniak Springs.

**Thomason** - They last met in August 2010 in Andalusia, Alabama.

### **Walton County Heritage Museum**

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

850-951-2127

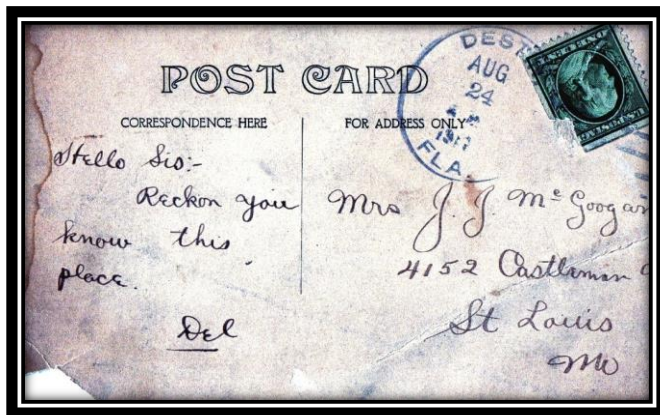
[www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org](http://www.WaltonCountyHeritage.org)

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

## What Is the Story of This Real Photo Post Card Sent from Walton County?

By H. C. "Hank" Klein

In the May 2016 issue of *Walton Relations*, on page 3, there was made mention of the POST CARD CRAZE in the early 1900s. Here is another example of a Real Photo Post Card (RPPC) from Walton County during that era.



On August 24, 1911, the postcard above was mailed to St. Louis, Missouri, from the Destin, Florida, Post Office. The person who mailed this postcard was George Delbert (Del) Knapp who lived in Shoals (just across the Walton County line from Destin). Del Knapp became the first postmaster of Shoals, Florida (known as Miramar Beach today) when Shoals established their own post office on March 9, 1915. The picture on the right is of Del Knapp's homestead in Shoals. It was made into a postcard and mailed to Del's sister Grace (Mrs. J. J. Googan) in St. Louis, Missouri. Notice what he said: "Hello Sis, Reckon you know this place, Del."

What the picture shows is a very simple cabin with no glass in the window that is visible. A person is standing on the front porch, and a horse and cattle are in the fenced front yard. A second person (probably Del) is standing with the cattle in the front yard. Choctawhatchee Bay is in the background, beyond the pine trees.

Sending and collecting picture postcards "was all the rage" in the early years of the 20th century. In fact, the period from 1907 to 1915 is now known as the **Golden Age of Postcards**. During the peak of the craze, the U.S. Postal Service estimated that a billion penny postcards were mailed each year and many more were sent in letters or purchased to be added to collectors' albums.

The first known post card was mailed in 1899. But in 1902, Kodak made thick photo stock with postal markings on the back so folks could make their own postcards. Then in 1903, Kodak invented its No. 3A, Folding Pocket camera, which used film specifically designed for postcard-size prints. The camera sold for \$3.50. Amateur photographers were now able to have their own images printed by Kodak directly onto postcard paper and send them through the mail to friends and family. The postage was one cent.



(Kodak No. 3 Folding Pocket Camera)

These were called "Real Photo Post Cards" or RPPCs. During this era, common man made their own personal postcards, usually using themselves or their property as the subject. It wasn't like sending a letter because you could only send your picture and a small message, sort of like sending a text, Tweet, or using Instagram today. Boy, times have sure changed . . . or have they?



**Note: If anyone has a Real Photo Post Card mailed from the Destin Post Office (or any post office from this area) between 1902 and 1930, Hank Klein would sure like to see it. Just contact him at the e-mail address below.**

*H. C. "Hank" Klein is a Destin historian who visits often and lives in North Little Rock, Arkansas, with his wife (the former Muriel Marler of Destin). Klein recently published a historic book about Destin's pioneer settlers. **DESTIN Pioneer Settlers . . . A Land History of Destin, Florida from 1819-1940** can be obtained from Amazon.com, Tony Mennillo of Arturo Studios at 850/585-2909, Dewey Destin's Restaurants in Destin, the Magnolia Grill in Fort Walton Beach, or Bayou Books in Niceville. Klein can be contacted at [klein@aristotle.net](mailto:klein@aristotle.net).*

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Diane Merkel, at [WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net](mailto:WaltonCountyHeritage@cox.net) or call 850-897-4505.