



WALTON

RELATIONS & HISTORY

Volume 8, Issue 9 **Walton County Heritage Association** September 2017

Pasco Mystery Unraveled

By Barbara McClellan Moore
Edited by Sam Carnley

The date was April, 2011 when the Walton Relations Newsletter came out. Inside was the story **The Mystery of Pasco**. I had been trying to research my father's family for 20 years; and especially collect information about my great uncle Pasco McClellan. He had disappeared during the depression, never heard from except a few letters at first.

The internet was not as active back then so I relied on family connections for most early information. In the previous story, I told about his suddenly showing up in Shreveport, Louisiana with the name, address and phone number of my grandfather, Ed McClellan, in his pocket.

Pasco died and the sheriff in Louisiana called the one in Crestview, Florida so they could contact the family. The date was September 8, 1967. After several trips to Shreveport, the family was finally able to remember enough scars for the identification to be made.

After seeing him at the funeral home, several townspeople said they had seen him about two weeks prior; he was asking where the Crowder Cemetery was.

(Cont'd on page 2)

Upcoming Reunions

Kirkland - Sat. Sept. 30, 2017, Gene and Betty Harvey's home, 2072 Pin High Drive, Pensacola. Contact 850-485-2633.

George - 50th annual, Sat., Oct. 14, 2017, Tillman's Compound, 808 SW Charles Terrace, Lake City, FL. Contact Tillman George, 386-288-8778, or 386-752-5196; Margean Bryan, 863-514-5530; Emilean Clemons, 863-528-2196. Related families - Busbee and Carnley.

Campbell/McLean - Reunions are held annually on the third Saturday of October at the Eucheeanna Schoolhouse.

Crowder - The last reported reunion was on 10 October 2010, the 2nd Sunday in October, at the Crowder Cemetery in Mossy Head.

Darlington - The last reported reunion was in October 2010, location unknown.

Day - The reunion is the last Sunday in October each year, beginning at noon, at the Eucheeanna Community Center. Contact Diane Day at 850-892-2343 for more information.

For other reunions see the WCHA Reunions page at the link below:

<http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/genealogy.htm>

Walton County Heritage Museum

Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
1140 Circle Drive, De Funiak Springs, FL 32435
Website: <http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org>.
(Newsletter Editor and Publisher, Sam Carnley,
wsamuelcarnley@gmail.com, or 850-209-3778)

Pasco Mystery Unraveled

By Barbara McClellan Moore

Edited by Sam Carnley

(Cont'd from page 1)

He wanted to visit his mother's grave. Crestview is a small town and finding a phone book in those days or asking about my grandfather would have been easy; he was well known. That had to have been how Pasco got his information. We also discovered that Pasco looked just like all the other men in our family. There was no denying that he belonged to us. Then my REAL search began.

Where had he been? I knew there had to be a trail and I set out to find him. I knew he was still at home, 12 years old, according to the 1920 census. The exact time he left home is not known, but I found him on the 1930 Texas Federal Census in the Ward County town of Peyote in west Texas. It seems they struck oil and Pasco had found a job as a baker. A couple of letters were received with artistic drawings of flowers that he used on cakes. He was head of household with a truck driver for the oil company living with him. The oil boom didn't last and Pasco was on the move. From Texas I followed him to Sacramento, California and he revealed the family he was living with. He had also sent one letter to a family member telling of living in Stockton, California (south of Sacramento) for 11 months previously. Two other letters told of his living in Williams, California.

I was not satisfied; there were too many years that I knew nothing about. As I told in the previous story, I had checked the U.S. Indian Census Schedule 1885-1940 because his grandmother Rachel Crowder was Cherokee. He had not enrolled. Since he was a wanderer, I checked the Merchant Seaman records and military records, but there was no Pasco McClellan. I even went to voting records for many states to no avail and he was not listed on any other census records. All I had were a few letters, a 1930 census record and a picture of him in the casket (the only one anyone had).

I asked family to please keep their eyes open for any letter or anything about our mysterious Pasco. Someone found a 5 X 7 card showing someone had put his name and there was something else written on it. Water had at one time gotten onto the card and all we could make out was a definite capital "C". The next letter started like an "h" or "l". We made a list of cities that started with those letters, but were not able to read anything else on the card. So, I put my file away and told the others we would just "tie a knot in the end of our rope and hang on!" Something would come up in the future.

In 2012 the 1940 Federal Census was released. In spring of 2013 I was sitting in a free class about the new Family Search Program. During our search time I pulled up the 1940 census and put Pasco's name in. Up came a document with a long list of names on it. I wasn't finding him and wondered what I had opened. It was different from any document I had ever seen. As I went back to the top and read carefully; I discovered I had opened a census done in Harris County Jail, Texas. Carefully scrolling down, I found Pasco! As I silently cried, several people asked me if I was okay. I shared with them what I had found and told them how many years I had been searching.

The record shows he was in Cook County, Chicago, Illinois in 1935. All the family information matched. This was my long, lost great uncle. His occupation was listed as a machinist, working with tool die, and education was 2nd year of high school (verified by other family members). The letters he had written were proof he had learned how to read, write and spell and he had evidently found the opportunity to get some training along the way. I was excited and opened my search again, but found nothing. We all know how things are always being discovered and put on the internet. This information came 2 years after I wrote his story. It was to be a while before anything else surfaced.

I have been very grateful for my Ancestry membership. October of 2016, the door of opportunity opened again. I had received an update from Ancestry titled "Rounding Up Your Family's Black Sheep." It explained that some folks had 'crooked branches' in their family tree and that these alternative search methods might help. I knew Pasco had been in California and Texas so I clicked on the most recent activity in Texas, 1940. I sat here with dropped jaw as the link to 5 different records popped up. They were all prison records. I opened the first one and just cried as I clicked on the page of convict records that came up. The location was San Quentin Prison, Marin, California. There were pictures! Each prisoner had a full face and a side profile picture, Pasco was one of them. He was clean shaven, hair neatly combed, white shirt, long tie, dark jacket of some sort. His physical description was fair complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, 5 feet 11 inches tall and 149 pounds. He was arrested in Colusa County, California and committed his crime of 2nd degree burglary in San Jose, California. His sentence was for 1-15 years; he entered 4 June 1933 and was discharged 6 August 1935. His record also listed 2 prior arrests. In 1931 he spent 9 days in jail for vagrancy in San Jose, and 180 days in 1932 for something labeled PT. His occupation was still listed as a baker. Well, this fills in three more years after he was in Peyote, Texas.

The next record in this update was for 22 October 1937. Pasco was headed back in the direction of Florida, his home, but made a stop in Huntsville Jail, Walker, Texas. He was discharged 7 April 1939. There is a notation in red ink that Pasco later returned and gives his new ID number with the dates 18 July 1938 and 30 Dec. 1938. Eight years are now accounted for, 29 more to go. The next record was also for Harris County Jail in Huntsville, Walker County, Texas. The date was 21 September 1951. He had been assigned yet another convict number.

As I was closing the prison information, I made copies of a couple documents for my file. It was then I noticed a document that had been added to the records. Opening it, I found it was a Texas, Convict and Conduct Register, 1875-1945. At the bottom of the page was Pasco. He was guilty of burglary and sentenced to 10 years at Huntsville, Texas. He entered 2 Sept. 1951 and left 30 Aug. 1961. The information was much like a census sheet. His occupation at this time was carpenter. Well, this covered another 10 years of his life. The last remark on the log book stated: "see 145613/25 Oct. 1956. I returned to my timeline and added these bits of information.

When he died, Pasco had information in his wallet that gave the name and address of a man and his mother in Texas. Pasco had lived with them and did brick laying with a crew there for a while. This fellow had gotten to know Pasco a good while back and said they always traveled together. Our family asked about how they traveled; the fellow said both he and Pasco had always "rode the rails" because it was free transportation. In other words they were hobos. That explains why a friend of mine could never find a record of Pasco's driver's license. He never owned a car or property.

I tried to get a death certificate from Shreveport, Louisiana, but they said I was not immediate family. They didn't understand all his family members had passed on and my generation is what is left. Death records go into the online free archives after 50 years. Sept. will be the time, but I will wait until later to make sure they are downloaded. We know Pasco went to Crestview, Florida and asked directions to his mother's cemetery. He wanted to see her grave. He also had grandpa's correct address and phone number. He was gathering information important to him. These things occurred the end of August. Pasco died 8 Sept. 1961 in Shreveport, Louisiana, just weeks after his Florida visit. We wonder why he didn't contact his brother. Was he sick, perhaps felt he wouldn't live much longer? At least we know the kind of life he lived and have a picture of him. We know the questions our ancestors and parents had; now we have the answers.

Editor's Note: In the June 2017 issue of the WCHA newsletter we announced plans to feature from time to time stories selected from the book, "The Heritage of Walton County, Florida," as future newsletter articles. In keeping with those plans, the June newsletter presented the book's "Sheriffs of Walton County, Florida," as the first such article. The below genealogy of "William Cawthon Jr.," is the second in the series of articles with the book as its source.

William Cawthon, Jr.

By Linda L. Clark, of Tallahassee, Florida

Edited by Sam Carnley

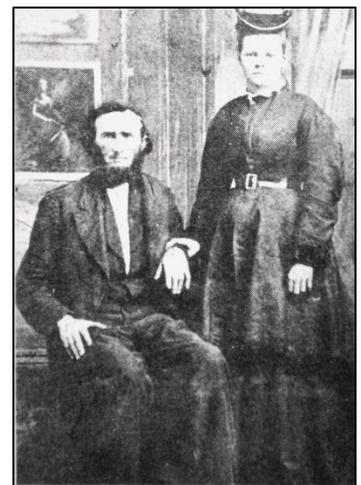
William Cawthon, Jr. moved with his large family to Walton County about 1837. Born in Georgia about 1785, he was the 7th child of William Thomas and Judah Thomas Cawthon.

The Cawthon's were from Virginia, with earliest known records showing William, Richard and John Cawthon or Cawthorne all living in the same general area during the 1600's. William Dabney Cawthon (1723-1785) is the earliest known ancestor of the Walton County Cawthon's. He was probably born in Hanover County, Virginia. Though his parents are unknown, it is believed that his mother may have been a Dabney. The Cawthon's and Dabney's appear in the same vicinity in some of the early records of Virginia. William Dabney Cawthon's first wife was Ursula Sharpe. After her death he married Sarah Dabney, his cousin. It is unclear if Ursula or Sarah is the mother of his three known children, William (Sr.), Josiah, and Sarah. About 1759 the family migrated to Orangeburg District, South Carolina along the Savannah River. William, Sr. married Judah Thomas there about 1774. They moved to Washington County, Georgia, in the mid 1780's, settling on land received for the Revolutionary War service of his father.

It was here that William Cawthon, Jr. was born about 1785. While he is commonly referred to as William Thomas Cawthon, no records have been found indicating that he ever had or used a middle name. His first wife was Sarah Smith, daughter of Simon Smith, by whom he had seven children. About 1820 the Cawthon's, the Smith's and their extended families migrated to Henry County, AL, purchasing land from the federal government where Columbia, Alabama is today.

William and Sarah had the following children: Susan S. (Sukie) who married John Koonce; Thomas Jefferson (died young-thrown from horse); Sarah B. (Sallie) who married Daniel McCaskill; Elizabeth T. who married Allen Hart; Mary G. (Big Mary) who married John Ghent; Martha Ann who married Isaac Welch; and Nancy Charity who married Elias B. Arms, a prominent Universalist minister.

After Sarah's death, William married Elizabeth O'Neal (1806-1886), daughter of John O'Neal, in Henry County, Alabama in 1826. There were six children born of this marriage before they were granted a divorce by an Act of the State of Alabama in 1845. Their children were: Achsah Jane who married William Ball; William Josiah Dabney (Bullie) who married (1) Louisa Hutchison and (2) Mary Bell; Martha (Pattie) who married Dr. J. B. Troutman; Stephen Ashley who married (1) Melissa Hutchison, (2) Sallie Cheshire, and (3) Celie Meeks; Murray who married Mary Jane Williams; and Eliza Ann Eugenia who married Augustus Hutchison. Louisa, Melissa and Augustus Hutchison were the children of Josiah and Melissa Mills Hutchison, pioneers of Coffee County, Alabama.



**William Josiah Dabney
Cawthon and Mary
Cawthon Ghent**

Mrs. Nancy Langston Fountain became William's common law wife about 1837. It was about this time that the family migrated to the south of McDade's Pond (now Lake Jackson) south of Florala. There were eight children born to William and Nancy. Sarah Elizabeth (Bettie) who married Lewis Miller; William Jefferson who married Charlotte McSwain; Lafayette (Fate) who married Nancy McSwain; Nancy Ann Matilda (Babe) who married Alexander McSwain; Susan (Sudie) who married Morris Walden; Judith Henrietta (or Judah) who married Joe Walden; Mary Ballou (Little Mary) who married (1) Francis Gordon and (2) Alexander McSwain, widower of her sister Nancy; and Hosea Ballou who married Clara Brown. William also helped raise Nancy's two sons, John and Seth Fountain, from her first marriage.

Nancy died about 1845 and shortly thereafter William married for the last time to Mary McSwain. One son, John W. S. was born to them. He married Mariah Brown, twin sister of Clara Brown who had married his half-brother, Hosea. It is interesting to note that the Cawthon's were extremely fond of using nicknames and middle names. In fact, it was a necessity. After all, there were two daughters named Susan, two Sarah's, two Mary's, two Marthas, two Nancys, and two Elizabeths. There were two sons named William. Several children and grandchildren bore the names of prominent Universalist ministers. The Cawthons were staunch Universalists and William Cawthon, Jr., was sometimes referred to as "The Father of Universalism in the South."

The Cawthon's had long been regarded as prominent stock dealers in Georgia and Alabama with large herds of cattle and sheep. Poplar Head Spring, once known as "Cawthon's Cowpens," is located in what is now downtown Dothan, Alabama and was one of the major watering holes for the livestock. The large number of sons and daughters and their spouses allowed for the herds to range from the Chattahoochee River on the east to the Yellow River on the west. Early land records of Walton County show numerous patents held by the Cawthon sons and sons-in-law. William himself is known only to have lived south of the lake at Florala. But, his children and their families were scattered all over the county.

Four sons saw action during the Civil War. Stephen Ashley was a Captain in the 6th Florida Infantry. William Jefferson died at Elmira, NY as a Union prisoner of war. Lafayette, also captured and sent to Elmira, NY, was paroled at the end of the war. Hosea served in the 8th Florida Infantry. William himself was captured and imprisoned by Union General Asboth on his march from Pensacola to Marianna in 1864. Asboth had targeted the Cawthon herds as a source of meat for his troops. William was sent to Fort Barrancas but was soon released as a result of his advanced age.

William Cawthon died in 1870 and is buried in South Walton County near Portland on what is now Eglin Reservation property. Family legend is that he might have been on his way to visit his son Hosea and died enroute. After 127 years a marker was finally placed at his grave by the late Mrs. Estelle Cawthon Starling, a great, great, grand- daughter. It reads: William Cawthon 1785-1870. A Pioneer of the Territory of Florida.

Submitted by: Linda L. Clark, 4142 Kensington Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Bay County Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

Registration Form

BCGS Fall Seminar
October 14, 2017
Bay County Library
898 W 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32401

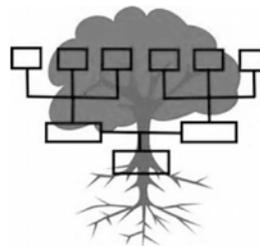
Name _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____
Email Address _____

Pre-register by October 1st. Seating is limited.

___ \$20.00 BCGS member
___ \$25.00 Non-member
___ \$30.00 Seminar & BCGS Membership
Price includes: Seminar, Handouts, Drinks & Snacks

Please make checks payable to:
Bay County Genealogical Society (BCGS)
and mail with this form to:
Bay County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 662; Panama City, FL 32402-0662

Finding Your Roots: Getting Started With Genealogy



**2017 Fall Seminar
Presented by the
Bay County Genealogical Society
Saturday, October 14th
8:30am – 3:30pm**

<http://www.northwestfloridagenealogy.com/bcgs/index>

Location: Bay County Library
898 W. 11th St.
Panama City, FL 32401

For questions, please contact Fred at 850-271-2674
or fred2128@comcast.net

Finding Your Roots: Getting Started With Genealogy

October 14th, 2017

Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 Registration & Check In
9:00 - 9:15 Welcome & Opening Remarks
9:15 - 10:15 **Beginning Genealogy: How Do I START?**
10:15 - 10:30 15 Minute Break
10:30 - 11:30 **Online Resources**
11:30 - 12:45 1 hr & 15 min, Lunch on your own.
12:45 - 1:45 **DNA - Genetic Genealogy**
1:45 - 2:00 15 Minute Break
2:00 - 3:00 **Boots-On-The-Ground Research**
3:00 - 3:30 Closing Remarks, Questions, Evaluations

FALL SEMINAR TOPICS

Beginning Genealogy: How Do I START?

Presenter: Judy Bennett

Treating each ancestor as a real person, who lived, experienced different events and had hopes, dreams, fears, sadness and concerns, is an excellent mindset. Best way to get to know your ancestor is to ask questions, seek answers and record those answers. The basics every beginner genealogist needs to know will also be presented.

Online Resources for Genealogy Research

Presenter: Laura Moree

This class will provide a broad overview of free and subscription websites useful to beginning genealogists.

DNA - Genetic Genealogy

Presenter: Caroline Windham

Genetic genealogy: where the past meets the future. Learn how the newest tool in genealogy, DNA, can help you break through your brick walls. This new tool will introduce you to living cousins and help you put more branches on your family tree.

Boots-On-The-Ground Research

Presenter: Frederick Borg

Believe it or not, many records have not yet been digitized and made available on the Internet. Sometimes you'll need to get out and root around in courthouses, churches, cemeteries, libraries and museums that may be far away. We will learn what types of information can be found by a personal visit.



Walton County Heritage Association

Membership in the Walton County Heritage Association includes
Membership in the Museum and Genealogy Society

2017

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM as we are updating our records

Membership Benefits:

The Museum Research Center:

Members get free copies of documents and use of the Genealogy Society computer when Museum is open to the public.

The Museum Gift Shop:

Members receive 10% discounts on books, special publications, postcards, photographs, CDs, DVD's Videos and Gift items.

Membership is on a calendar year basis. Those paying in November or December will be members during those months as well as the next calendar year. SPECIAL THIS YEAR, ALL MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED BY DEC 31 WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING FOR TWO TICKETS TO THE 2017 GRIT AND GRACE PERFORMANCE.

Walton County Heritage Association annual dues: Single - \$25.00 Family - \$40

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____

Zip: _____ **Phone** _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to the Walton County Heritage Association:

		Individual, Family	
_____ \$ _____	Dues	\$25.00 \$40.00	
_____ \$ _____	Other Cash Donations		Total Enclosed \$ _____

- I would like to volunteer at the Walton County Heritage Museum
- I have genealogy information I would like to share with the Genealogy Society
- I would like to talk with someone about how to get started researching my family tree
- I have artifacts or photographs I wish to donate or loan to the Museum

Please mail your check and this form to
Walton County Heritage Association
1140 Circle Drive
De Funiak Springs, FL 32435
 Thank You!
 All membership dues are tax deductible.

The Walton County Heritage Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts may be tax deductible as defined by the Federal Income Tax Regulations. To request a receipt for your tax deductible membership in the WCHA please contact us.