

THE DEDMON DEDMOND DEADMAN DEADMON DEDMONDT CONNECTION

January 2016 Volume 100



LEROY DEDMON

When I began this endeavor, I never thought I would publish 100 of these newsletters. It began in March 1998 with Volume 1. There have been times when I published them once a month, other times "as the spirit moved me". I think it was the year 2000, when I only published one. At some point I quit dating them as it really makes no difference as to the time they are published. However, I dated this one as a point of reference. I actually began my research project prior to the newsletter. My inspiration for the newsletter came from Jackie Dedman (Wife of Charles Owen "Chuck" Dedman). Chuck passed away Sept. 18, 2008. Jackie had previously published the predecessor, **THE DEDMAN CONNECTION**. Of course, she did it the hard way, back in BC (before computers), when you had to type and paste then have it printed and mailed. I am not sure if I have all the issues of that publication, but I know I have several and Jackie may have them all. It is my intention to republish them in digital form in order to share them. However, I have had that project on the "back burner" for a long time. Somehow I have been able to master the art of procrastination. Just be patient.



JACKIE DEDMAN



To the left is page 1 of the first volume of the newsletter, It only consisted of two pages. I never thought I would have enough information to fill more than two pages. It is difficult to remember before face book. As you can



DANNY MCBEE

see our main social media back then was Instant Messengers, with AOL being the most popular. Danny McBee submitted the first article, published under the "Down Memory Lane" column on page 2. I republished that article in Volume 90 which was dedicated to Danny, who passed away April 19, 2015. Danny unselfishly shared information and was a tremendous help and encourager to me when I began this publication.

I debated with myself as to whether I would continue beyond this issue or call it quits. However, my opponent convinced me to continue at least for a while. There is a part of me that has grown weary in the process. I suppose that can be attributed to age and health issues. On the other hand it does give



JOHN HENSON

me something to do as I am not able to do much else. So we will see. When I get to feeling this way, along comes an encouraging note such as the one I received from my good friend and cousin, John Henson. "Dear cousin Leroy: I have now turned 85 years old and am feeling rather well. I take no medicine, God be praised. I appreciate all the work you have been engaged upon in behalf of our Dedmon Family. How is your brother Bill? Is he still preaching? God bless your work for the church and the Lord's Kingdom." --JW



In reflecting over the past 99 issues, I was thinking of some of the events that led me to some key people in the research project. I was searching the internet, for news and information on the name Dedmon and found an article about Mary Dedmon carrying the Olympic Torch in the Relay across the Nation prior to the Olympics in Atlanta. The only thing I could find about Mary was she was a nurse and teacher in some school out west. It think it was in Utah or Idaho or maybe Colorado or Wyoming. At this point I can't remember which. However, I located the school where she taught and sent them an email asking to contact Mary Dedmon. Several weeks passed and no response, so I figured it was a lost cause.

Then one morning there was an email from Marye Dedmon in Florida. She asked, *"Who are you, are you trying to sell some of those genealogy books or something?"* I replied that I was only trying to locate information on the Dedmon Family and saw the article where she had carried the Olympic Torch. She replied, *"What Torch?"* As it turned out, she was not the one who carried the torch. To this day we have not figured out how that email sent to that school in the west ended up on her computer in Florida. She did work for the school system in Florida, which had to be the connection.

However, she put me in touch with Harrison Dedmond, her brother in law, in California. He then gave me Jim Dedmon's email and phone number in Fresno, California. When I contacted Jim, I was overwhelmed at the wealth of information he provided me. Jim was one of the true "Pioneers" of our family research. He had traced us back to about as far as we still know today. He did it without the aid of the computer for his research. I was amazed to discover my family was so much larger than I ever dreamed.



Jim and Harrison Dedmond traveled from California to Georgia for our first reunion and he met my parents. It was amazing to sit and listen to him, Harrison and my parents talk about names he had found and of course mom and dad had known some of them personally. The stories just seemed to "come to life" as they talked. Jim's great grandfather and my grandfather were half

brothers. Their father was William D. Dedmon. He had 10 children by his first wife, Ellender Nellie McEntire. After her death he married, Mary A. E. Wells, when he was 54 years old and had 4 children, one of them being my grandfather, Thomas Judson Dedmon. Thomas Married Alice Walker and they had six children, James William, Paul Thomas, Ernest, Woodrow Wilson, Edna Mae and Gordon Lee (my father). Dad's mother died, when he was an infant and my grandfather remarried.

Thomas Judson then married, Essie Orr, the widow of, Charles Daniel McCalla. Charles and Essie had several children, some of them died in infancy. The names I have are: Georgia, Howard, Nell and Walter. They, of course, were dad's step brothers and sisters. The only one I ever knew was Georgia. I remember dad introducing me to a step brother he called Bud, but I don't know if that was Howard or Walter. Granddaddy and Essie had three children, Pauline, Ruth and Bobby (he died at about a year old). I knew Pauline, but not very well. Aunt Ruth is still living at the time of this writing. She was good to visit mom when she was sick and the only aunt on my father's side of the family still living.

Of all the Dedmon cousins from dad's siblings, I am the oldest living. Uncle Woodrow's son Marvin is a couple of months younger than me and I have two younger brothers. As far as I know we are the only four Dedmon boys living, from our granddaddy's family, in our generation. Some of his sister's boys are still living, but their surname is not Dedmon. There are a number of boys in the next generation, which would be my grandsons, nephews and second cousins. I also have some male third cousins and two great grandsons. So it looks as if the Dedmon name will continue from Thomas Judson Dedmon's family.

There is not a shortage of male Dedmon's from the descendents of Mark Richard Dedmon, the first known to spell our surname DEDMON. Of course, there are numerous males to continue the extended family with the various spellings of the surname. Even though we may never find a common ancestor to all the varied spellings and we are not all connected with a bloodline, we are still family. There will always be "brick walls", "missing links" and "unanswered questions", the blood line is broken by adoptions, foster children, indiscretions and extra matarial relationships. No doubt that will always be as our family did not invent such things, they have been and always will be until time is no more. I feel this website and the past 99 issues of the DEDMON CONNECTION, has brought an awareness and closeness to the family. As I often say, *"We are on the same tree, just different nuts."*

FROM TIM DEDMON

Congratulations Leroy, One hundred newsletters is something you can be proud of, and the Dedmon family and variant spellings of our last name will enjoy your newsletters for generations to come, long after we have passed over to the other side. I would like to give to the future generations a little glimpse of the



person that has spent many hundreds of hours composing these newsletters with no financial compensation for his time or the cost of keeping up his website. He has never asked for anything from his readers, except for a little information from time to time.

I had always wondered about where I came from, and after finding Leroy's newsletter online almost twenty years ago, and contacting him several times, I credit him for getting me started on my journey to find out as much as I can about where I came from. I first met Leroy when his father was in the hospital in Chattanooga, it must have been around 2000. He treated me like I had been a part of his family for years, and after meeting the family that was there, he asked if I wanted to see his Dad, but I declined because I was a perfect stranger and didn't want feel like I was intruding. Upon leaving, Leroy gave me a Charles Dedmon Family print out that was about three inches thick that he had printed out for me. Everything wasn't online back then, and I used that print out to get me started on my journey and I still have it today.

In few years later Leroy invited me to one of the Dedmon Family Reunions in Ringgold, Georgia and I had the pleasure to see Leroy as Preacher Alfalfa Hayseed, it was worth the price of admission, he was a hoot. After the reunion Leroy and his brother Tom Dedmon took several of us in the back of a pick-up truck to see the Dedmon Cemetery on Taylor's Ridge. Tom started driving and we drove for quite a while with no luck finding the Cemetery, then Leroy got behind the wheel, and I can honestly say it was an experience I will never forget, the Preacher can drive. The people you see on television driving those monster trucks don't have anything on Leroy, at one point we all had to get out of the truck

and dig our way out of a rut in the road, we did find the Cemetery and someone had been keeping the grass cut. A few years later I went with Leroy and his brother, Tommy with the Henson's and we tried to find the Cemetery on foot with no luck.

Around 2009 Leroy was working at a Christian television station in East Ridge, Tennessee, and I promised him I would come and see him. I showed up one morning and Leroy took me to every office at the station introducing me as his cousin to everyone at the station, I mean everyone. Then taking a group of us to lunch and picking up the tab. That was just Leroy. I am proud to call Leroy a friend and cousin of mine, what he has did for the family is nothing short of amazing.

--Tim Dedmon

I still can't understand how Tim Dedmon and I grew up in the same town and had never heard of one another. Once we met, it just seemed we had always known each other. Tim has been lots of help in our project. He has spent hours researching our close relatives. He confirmed our relative Mark Dedmon, who was murdered by the Revenue Officer. (See Volume 54). Mark was the son of William D. Dedmon and half brother to my grandfather. Tim descends from his family. Tim connects with me and Jim Dedmon at William Dedmon, father of William D. and Mark Dedmon. We are definately blood kin via DNA testing. We are direct descendents of Mark Dedmon, a Revoulutionary War Veteran and the father of William. Mark was the first known ancestor to spell our name Dedmon.

Notes from Tim Dedmon: Mark enlisted in the Revolutionary War on August 5 1779 under Capt. Lyons and Col. Locke and was in the taking of several Indian towns. He enlisted again in the fall of 1780 under Col. Knighter and Capt. William Wilson, and Maj. McDowell in the NC troops and was in the battle of Cowpens and the skirmish at Sherrill's Ford on the Catawba River. In 1781, Mark re-enlisted and served in Rowen County, NC under Capt. Knighter, Maj. Smith and Gen. Rutherford. He was allowed pension on application executed September 12, 1842 and his widow was allowed pension on her application January 27, 1842.

FROM JIM DEDMON



My family came to California from Heavener, Ok. in 1935. My dad, Carl Dedmon, drove a 1929 Chevrolet lumber truck all the way to Chowchilla, Ca. He was 21 years old. He drove because the people involved on the trip said he could fix the transmission with baling wire and a pair of pliers. On the

trip to California was 14 people. Nine Dedmon's, four Konkels, and Buddy Burns. From Oklahoma there were 12 travelers. They went to San Simeon, Arizona to pick up Aurthur Dedmon and Buddy Burns who were working for the CCC making terraces in Arizona. In Chowchilla they knew of another Oklahoman who was sharecropping cotton. The Dedmon's and Konkels lived in a provided (unpainted) farm camp. Ultimately they all went in different directions and almost all became successful at where they went. My dad, Carl Dedmon, became a welder and mechanic on a large farm in San Joaquin, Ca. --Jim Dedmon

As I mentioned in the article on page 2, Jim Dedmon was the "cornerstone" of my research project. I can't even begin to guess at the number of years he saved me by so generously sharing with me the results of his hard work. Jim married Arby Lee Engles and she passed away in 2006 in Fresno, California, where they had lived for many years. They have two children, Jim Carl, Jr. and Jennifer Christine Dedmon. He has five grand children, Jesse Carl Dedmon, Avery Lynn Dedmon, Greysen Dillon Dedmon, Eli Lee Lewis and Isiaha Dillon Lewis.

Notes from Jim Dedmon:

Mark was a Revolutionary War vet. (Source: Rev. War pension files--abstracts). He fought in the battle of Cowpens and Kings Mountain as well as a number of Indian scrimmages. There were approximately 750 Patriots at the two major battles Mark took part in. One of those Patriots was Daniel Boone's father. Prior to Mark, our ancestors spelled their name Deadman. Mark was the first recorded to spell his name Dedmon.

MARIANNE DEADMON



Actually, I have never met LeRoy Dedmon in person. The first time I knew of him was when he lived in Morrison, Tennessee, and we lived in McMinnville, just a few miles north. People would ask if we were related and I would reply, "No, the names are spelled differently". Little did I know that did not make a lot of difference.

At the same time we would deny that we were related to LeRoy, he was acquainted with Fred and Frank Deadman of Manchester, Tennessee. Frank & Fred were actually our relatives, even though they spelled their names differently. LeRoy denied he was related to the Deadman's as he was not into genealogy at that time either.

Interesting that we became friends later thru our new-found interests in genealogy. Still we had a difficult time proving to our satisfaction that we were related. Thru Charles' (my husband) DNA we found that he was not related to ANY Deadmon (or Deadman, Dedman, Dedmon, etc) family. We have pretty much decided we have no relation as nothing has ever shown that we were. Just speculation of maybe a prior marriage along the line, or that our ancestor was a foster son. After this discovery, I asked LeRoy if that meant we could not be cousins any longer and he graciously said we would still be included. So however we came to be connected with this family, we feel we are a part of them.

LeRoy has done a wonderful job with the Newsletters and we are thankful for all his research and printing of this publication. It lets us know about people we have not heard of and perhaps we find a new relative in that process. His 100th Newsletter will be a masterpiece, I am sure. --Marianne Deadmon

Marianne was married to Charles Edwin Deadmon, the son of William James and Janie Elizabeth Burden Deadmon. He passed away in 2009. (See Vol. 84) Charles was a descendent of John and Susanna Hunt Dedmon/Dedman. John remains one of our unresolved "Brick Wall" cases. The latest theory based on DNA research is that



CHARLES DEADMON

he was a foster or adopted child or Mark Richard Dedmon. That prompted Marianne's question, "Are we still cousins?" If Mark thought enough of John to give him the Dedmon surname, maybe rear him as his son, he is family.

WELCOME TO THE DEDMON FAMILY WEBSITE

Hezekiah and Roxanna Dedmon

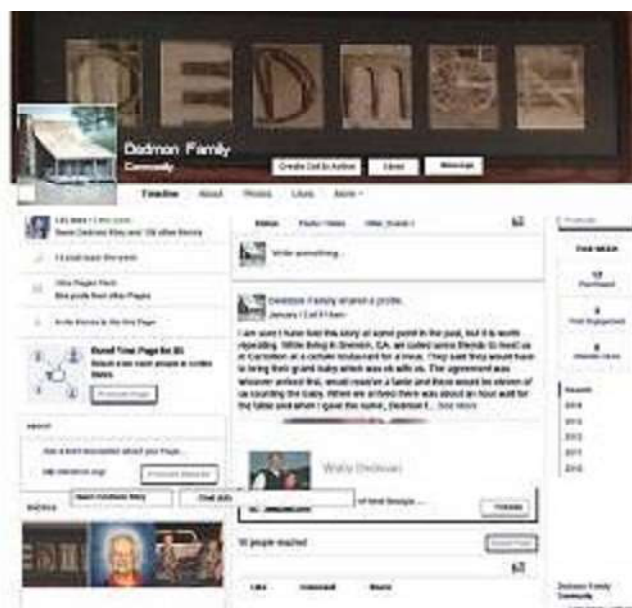


ENJOY ALL THE FAMILY PHOTOS
and ALL YOURS COUSINS

"HERITAGE" IS THE STORY OF WHO WE ARE,
WHERE WE COME FROM, AND THE PEOPLE FROM
WHICH WE DESCEND.

There is a Dedmon specific website maintained by Brenda Lee Putnam Bridges. She is the daughter of Arthur Lee and Edith Corrine Dedmon Putnam and the granddaughter of Evans Van Buren and Jakie Ada Hoyle Dedmon. You may join the website at <http://familylobby.com/dedmon/default.asp>. It requires a password, which will be sent you when you enter your email. She has a lot of information to share. Brenda is also one of the volunteer proof readers for this newsletter, which is an invaluable service to the publishing of it. It makes my job much easier.

When I created the Dedmon.org website about twenty years ago, as far as I know it was the only Dedmon family website on the internet. Today, there are a number research sites such as Ancestry.com, Geni.com, Genealogy.com, Myheritage.com, etc., etc. Of course, most of these require membership fees. It is as cousin Tim Dedmon said, "They take our research for free and charge us to look at it." Back then, there were several genealogical search engines and web rings, which were free, but most required joining. Of course some of them still exist, such as Familysearch.org, which is free, but requires a membership. This is the website of the Mormon Church. Before the advent of computers you could go to a Mormon Church building and most of them had genealogy research assistance. However, I have found some of their information to be incorrect. Of course, that can also be said of Ancestry.com and most other sources, including mine.



<https://www.facebook.com/DedmonFamily/?fref=ts>

If you have not already done so, go to the Dedmon Family Facebook Page and click like. Also, check for messages as well as leaving information concerning your family activities. I am not sure you can share to the page, but fairly certain you can post to the page and then share it to your home page. While I get information from your page it is difficult to sell all of them all of the time. This way we can put family info all in one place.



<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/Debenham/>

The Debenham Surname DNA Project began in January of 2010. All Debenhams and variant surnames are welcome to take part in this exciting new project. Large groups of people with these surnames live in England, Wales, Australia, and the United States. Over time spelling of the name Debenham has created many different variant surnames. Supposedly each of the variant family surnames are descendants of families that lived in the little Hamlet in Deben, England. Thru Y-DNA testing we can now find our true family lineages, no matter how our last names are spelled. Y-DNA is passed from Father to Son only from generation to generation without change, except for mutations. This technique allows us to identify which family lineages we are not related to as well as which ones we are. **Tim Dedmon** is the project administrator.

Ringgold's Cade Gilbert commits to play baseball for ETSU



Ringgold High School's Cade Gilbert has committed to play baseball at East Tennessee State University, Tigers head coach Brent Tucker said Wednesday.

Gilbert, a 6-foot, 170-pound class of 2016 shortstop, was a key contributor to Ringgold's run to this year's Region 6-AAA championship in his first season as a starter.

"Cade has tremendous athletic ability on the field," Tucker said. "He has a feel for the game that you don't coach. Cade is one of these guys that his uniform is always dirty after a game, and as a coach you know he will always give his best effort. As he continues to mature and get stronger, his game will continue to rise."

ETSU baseball head coach Tony Skolehad this to say, "Gilbert is a 6'0", 185 pound middle infielder. Gilbert is the 20th ranked shortstop by PerfectGame in the talent-rich state of Georgia. He is an excellent defender, a very good runner, and profiles a top of the order bat. Gilbert fits the mold of an ETSU infielder, as he plays with great energy, passion and tempo. It is easy to see that he loves to play the game. Gilbert played for one of the best summer teams in the country with eXposure Baseball. He comes from a great family and is an excellent student"

Cade is the grandson of my first cousin, Robert Gilbert, and is my third cousin. He is also a descendent of Hannah Dedmon and David McArthur Dickson. Like many good high school athletes, Cade also played football. By the time they go to college they usually settle in on one sport.

DEDMON ATHELETES

There is some athletic ability in the Dedmon family. Many, who, like myself played High School sports. If I remember correctly **Cade's** father, **Scott Gilbert** and uncle, **Todd Gilbert** were star baseball players at Ringgold High School. I had a cousin, **Gene Dedmon**, who was a great fast pitch softball player. **Tim Dedmon** was a "Golden Glove" champion, and high school wrestler. I think both his boys, **Ty** and **Wil** were great high school athletes, **Ty** played baseball for Baylor High School in Chattanooga and Samford University in Birmingham, AL. While at Samford, he received a number of Trans American Athletic Conference awards as a four-year baseball letterman. He was named "Pitcher of the Week" in May, 2001.



Both my brothers, **Tom** and **Bill** were above average baseball and softball players. My last season, when I was beyond 65 years of age, I was the pitcher and my brother, **Tommy** was the catcher. I found **Tyrese Dedmon**, who plays **YOURS TRULY** Football and Track & Field at Antelope Valley High School in Lancaster, CA. **Hunter Dedmon**, plays football for Logan-Rogersville Varsity Football, Rogersville, MO **Garith Dedmon** played baseball and basketball for the Hartville High School in Hartville, MO. He also played basketball at College of the Ozarks.

Reid Dedman, son of Wally and April Dedman, currently plays football for Carrollton High School in Carrollton, GA. He was recently honored as Outstanding Linebacker. He is in the ninth Grade. **Devonte Dedmon** played bas-



DEVONTE DEDMON

ketball and football for Warhill High School, in Williamsburg, VA and currently plays football for The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA.

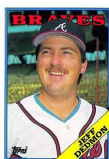


REID DEDMAN

Athletic ability is not limited to the male Dedmons. **Kristen Dedmon**, daughter of Jeff and Wanda Dedmon, was a super star for the UCLA softball team. She played in 129 games during her four-year career. She hit .225 with seven home runs and 41 runs batted in.



LEE DEDMON



JEFF DEDMON

Lee Dedmon, well known for his basketball skills with the North Carolina Tarheels, played for a short time with the Utah Stars. **Jeff Dedmon**, played for the Atlanta Braves and Cleveland Indians. **Dewayne Dedmon** played for UCLA and currently plays with Orland Magic.



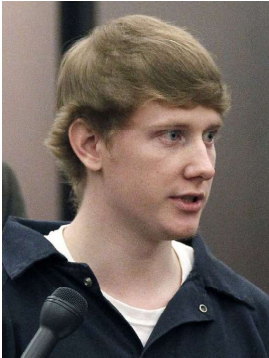
KRISTEN DEDMON



DEWAYNE DEDMON

DERYL DEDMON, TWO OTHERS SENTENCED FROM 7-50 YEARS IN HATE CRIME

Although this story has been available for some time, I have refrained from publishing it in the family newsletter. However, news is news and even the bible records the sins of some of the most revered. This was a terrible thing to happen and I ignored it for the most part as it certainly did not enhance the family name. From what I can determine, I am certain his family does not condone the actions and no doubt has suffered much from it. I am not exactly sure where Deryl's family connects to the family tree as we have several "Mississippi Dedmon/Dedman" family members from the Magnolia State.



Deryl Dedmon, who drove the truck that killed James Craig Anderson, will serve 50 years in prison. Deryl Paul Dedmon, John Aaron Rice, and Dylan Wade Butler pleaded guilty in March 2012 to one count of conspiracy and one count of committing a hate crime. U.S. District Judge Carlton Reeves sentenced Dedmon

to 50 years and five years to be served concurrently; John Aaron Rice to 18 ½ years and five years to be served concurrently; and Dylan Wade Butler to seven years and five years to be served concurrently. None of them are eligible for probation. The trio were sentenced to federal prison on Tuesday as a result of Anderson's 2011 death, a hate crime in which he was beaten and run over by a truck because of the color of his skin. The judge said Dedmon's federal sentence will run concurrent with his state sentence.

The three are part of a group of 10 young white people who have not all pleaded guilty to coming to Jackson, which they called "Jafrica," to harass and assault African-Americans. Anderson's sister, Barbara Anderson Young, gave an emotional statement in which she frequently looked straight at the defendants. "Surely the violence you committed will fall upon your own head," she said, adding that her brother "lives on in me, and in our family. He also lives in you, the last to see him alive on this earth."

Butler wrote a letter to the family, part of which he read in court. He told the court about how he came from a mixed race family, with a black stepfather and stepsister and mixed cousins. "I wish every day I could take everything back, not for me, but for the man who lost his life..." he said. "I never had a hatred for African Americans." Butler ended by saying that he takes full responsibility for what he had done. His attorney Abby Brumley told the judge that in her time as an attorney, she'd never seen a defendant who so completely owned and so deeply regretted what he had done.

"While he may not have gotten out of the car or laid a hand on Mr. Anderson, he has continually wondered what he should have or could have done," she said. "The person standing here today would have stopped that heinous act." Rice addressed the court as well, simply saying, "I'd like the family to know, from the bottom of my heart, that I wasn't raised racist. I'm very sorry, from the bottom of my heart." Dedmon turned to look at the family as he said, "I just want to say to the Anderson family, again, how truly sorry I am. That's all."

Reeves told the defendants to sit down as he read a speech he had prepared before their sentencing. He talked about Mississippi's embattled past, and how hate crimes through the years have included lynchings, among them, hunts for African-Americans. That's what the group was doing during their spree of hate crimes, and that's what they did to Anderson, he said. Mississippi soil has been stained with the blood of black people who were killed as a result of hate.

"On June 26, 2011, four days short of his birthday, the blood of James Craig Anderson was added to Mississippi's soil," he said. He talked about the terrifying idea that the hunts for African-Americans that marred the state's history "were perpetrated in this case by our children." "Mississippi is a place and a state of mind," he said. "Those who think they know her people and her past need to understand that our story is not completely written." Reeves went on to point out the sadness and the irony of the day. "Each defendant was escorted in by African-American U.S. Marshals, prosecuted by an African-American Assistant U.S. Attorney, from an office headed by an African-American U.S. Attorney, under an African-American Attorney General, and my final act will be to turn them over to the Bureau of Prisons, which is also led by an African American," he said. Seven others are awaiting sentencing.

Reeves will sentence Joseph Paul Dominick, William Kirk Montgomery and Jonathan Kyle Gaskamp. U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate will sentence four people: Sarah Adelia Graves, Shelbie Brooke Richards, John Louis Blalack, and Robert Henry Rice.

AND MANY THANKS....

While I have already mentioned some who have been tremendous help to me in these 20 years and 100 newsletters, I have by no means included all of them. I will to the best of my ability give credit to those who have given me help, beyond what they might possibly imagine. In addition to: Jim Dedmon, Danny McBee, John Henson, Jackie Dedman and Tim Dedmon, there are numerous who have been of great assistance. I realize, I will probably miss some, but not intentionally.

Two that come to mind immediately are Gordon Black and Floyd Dedmon. Both are now deceased, but they spent hours in researching family history. Gordon published a book on the Black Family, which of course includes many Dedmons. He descended from William D. Dedmon and Ellender Nellie McEntire. I knew of Gordon as he was my father's cousin (3rd, I think), but I had never met him. He was willing to share information and since he also was related to me via the Dicksons, Capeharts and Templetons, he became a great source.



GORDON BLACK



FLOYD DEDMON

Floyd Dedmon and I met through the computer. I am not sure who made the first contact, but we became friends and exchanged our findings until he passed away. He had a lot of information from his family that connected to mine. He descended from Mark Dedmon (Revolutionary Soldier), through his son Thomas Charles, a brother to William, my great great grandfather. It was Floyd's side of the family that produced Jeff Dedmon, the Atlanta Braves baseball player.

I am not sure of the order or how I met the following. At this point things seemed to pick up speed and they introduced me to others as we went along. In this family group we have Janna Richard and Ruth Ann Dedmon Richard, May Belle Dedmon Armstrong and Glenda Whitcomb Tucker. They are descendents of Susanah Rebecca McEntire and James Thomas Dedmon. He was the great grandson of Mark Dedmon. Glenda is the daughter of Clarkie Geraldine Dedmon and Richard Glen Whitcomb. She is married to William Creighton "Bill" Tucker. She was very helpful in putting me in touch with several other family members.



GLENDIA TUCKER



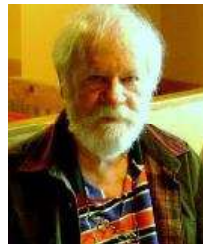
RUTH AND JANNA RICHARD

Of the first being Janna and Ruth Richard. They had a lot of information that I did not have and I had some they did not have and some of it contradicted. After several months we pretty much worked through most of it. Ruth passed away on July 01, 2014. She was the daughter of Melvina Tyler and Hermon August Dedmon. Her daughter, Janna was also very much help as she actually operated the computer. Ruth, then introduced me to her sister, Maye Belle Dedmon Armstrong. All three of these ladies was on that pick-up truck, Tim talked about earlier in this issue. She passed away 6/5/2014.



MAYE B. ARMSTRONG

Another invaluable asset to the research project is Eddie Hightower. He connects to the Dedmon/Deadman family through the Cavender family, of which he has been a wealth of information. Although, he was reared in my home county of Walker County, GA, he has spent much of his adult life in South Carolina. We almost met once, but missed each other by a matter of minutes. He has been a regular contributor to the newsletter.



EDDIE HIGHTOWER

Among the many exciting events was the phone call I received from Judy Dedmon late one afternoon, introducing herself as a Dedmon cousin. "I have all our family information and we have found the spot where it connects to you." She had four generations ready to be plugged in to Alfred Burton Dedmon, who was in fact my grandfathers half brother. Until then we had nothing on Alfred except he married Eufala Estelle Buchanan. I have since met her and her two sisters Liz and Susan, who came through Buchanan and visited over lunch. Susan has become a lot like Tim Dedmon, it just seems we have always been cousins. She lived in Murfreesboro, TN at the same time we were living thirty miles away in Manchester, TN



THE SISTERS THREE, LIZ, SUSAN, JUDY

There are so many more I need to mention, but space has run out... I plan to feature various family groups I have met in future issues. Send me information of your family activities. -Leroy