

# The Dedmon Connection

OCTOBER 2005 - Number 41

(Dedmon, Dedman, Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond, Dedmond, etc.)



Leroy Dedmon, descendent of David McCarter and Hanna Dedmon Dickson (both lines)

Dad were cousins, but I really was not sure exactly how until I began the project. According to Family Tree Maker they were actually half second cousins once removed, whatever that means. The way I see it they were fourth or fifth cousins. The bottom line is that I am my own fourth cousin. I believe that most of the folks who attended the Dickson Reunion were also kin to the Dedmons. There were about twenty-five of us at the reunion who represent Mom's descendents. Other family groups were the Gilberts (my aunt Edna's children), Templetons (my grandmother's family), Tate Dixon and Edwin Whaley (Mathis Dixon's descendents), The Dicksons (Alex Dickson's children) and the Wimpys (Alice Dickson's descendents). I have included some family photo groups in this issue of these families. There is talk of making this a yearly event. I don't disagree with this idea.

## THE DICKSON REUNION

October 16 was the day of the Dickson Reunion. What a great day it was!!!! We had over 50 of those Irish descendents show up at our home at 497 Dickson Road. We are the descendents of David McArthur (McCarter) Dickson. I have long ago conceded that McCarter was the real name, but McArthur is on the tombstone. He was named after his mother Sarah McCarter. There is still some disagreement of this. In fact the two families, McCarter and McArthur share the same heritage. I have found brothers who represented both spellings.

When I first began the Dedmon Family research project one of my sisters asked if I had traced any of the Dickson family. I replied, "I traced them all the way back to the Dedmons". Actually that is true in this case. The wife of David McCarter Dickson was Hannah Dedmon. She was my father's great aunt and my mother's great grandmother. I always knew Mom and



### The Dedmon Clan at the Dickson Reunion

(L-R) 1st row - Amanda and Jessica Dedmon (my niece Kym's daughters), Gwen Gower (my daughter), Natalie and Seth Smith (Steve's children), Tonya Smith (Steve's wife) 2nd row - Jane (my wife), Leroy (me), Ruby Dickson Dedmon (mother), Bill Dedmon (my brother), Connie Dedmon (Bill's wife) 3rd row - (inside the arch) Ruth Smith (my sister), Diane Dedmon (Tom's wife), Tom Dedmon (my brother) 4th row - Britany Dedmon (Craig's wife), Craig Dedmon (Bill's son), Kym Cochran (Bill's daughter), Steve Smith (Ruth's son), and Carolyn Price (my sister). Other Dedmons that were there but somehow evaded the picture were: Justin Smith (Steve's son), Claude Price (Carolyn's husband), Brian Dedmon (Bill's son), his wife Cindy and their two girls, Hana and Morgan.

*Down  
Memory Lane*



*Send me your old stories or articles relating to the  
Dedmon Family. Come on folks!!! Dig into that old  
shoe box in the closet and bring out the goodies!!!!*

When the talk of a Dickson Reunion first began it was to be a family get-to-gather with Aunt Edna's children. Then Wilma Dickson Scott called and suggested we have a family reunion. At first we were thinking of the three groups, "us, them and they". Then Jane Askew sent me some email. She had been talking with her mother, who had just visited us.

Jane is Carrie Jane Gilbert Askew, the daughter of Tommy Gilbert, my first cousin. It is interesting that her full name is Carrie Jane, the same as my granddaughter. She suggested we enlarge the gathering to include more family. I was already thinking that way, because I wanted to include the Templetons, Wimpys and Dixons. I also



GORDON BLACK

invited Gordon Black. He is not exactly a Dickson descendent, but he is related to them a number of ways. He is my mother's 3rd cousin once removed. He was my father's half 1st cousin twice removed. I never have exactly understood how the "removes" actually works. He also is related to the Templetons and Capeharts. In fact, it would be difficult to have a reunion in Catoosa County that would not in some way involve a relationship to Gordon. I was honored a few years ago when he called me to participate in preaching his wife's funeral. He called me the other day and asked me to come by his house. He had found some information he thought I might like to have. Among the info was a promisory note from my dad to his dad. It seems that Dad bought a wagon for eight dollars and signed a note for it. We both laughed when I noticed it said pay to C. H. Black or the bearer of the note. I said to Gordon, "Do you think the note was ever paid, if not, you are the bearer of the note and I owe you eight dollars".

## THE BRICK WALL



*I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.*

The Dickson/Dedmon connection is first of all due to the marriage of David McArthur (McCarter) Dickson and Mary Hannah Dedmon. There is some disagreement as to who the parents of Hannah were.

Jim Dedmon, whom I greatly appreciate and have much confidence says that his research points to Thomas and Polly Linkhorn Dedmon. He certainly has some convincing points to support his conclusion. It has been a while since we discussed it, but his main argument is that Hannah and three of her "Dedmon" boys came to Catoosa County with Thomas and Polly. He thinks that they were the grandparents of the boys. That makes sense.

My conclusion is based entirely on my mother's statement that Hannah was a sister to William D. Dedmon. Her accuracy on other matters makes it impossible for me to question it. I have found her in both families, which is not surprising since some of those lists were based on either Jim's or my information. It really would not change much regardless of which position you take. Either way we still have a Dickson/Dedmon connection. Some of Hannah's granddaughters claimed their grandfather was Jesse Dedman from Germany. There has never been supporting evidence of this.

The fourth "Dedmon" child born to Hannah was Calvin Dedmon, born in 1846. Although, David and Hannah did not marry until 1850, David claimed Calvin as his. After David and Hannah married, Calvin began living with them and was called Calvin Dedmon Dickson. Family tradition says that Calvin enlisted in the Confederate Army in his father's place. Danny McBee of Gastonia, NC sent the following: "*The last time he was seen, he was carrying his unit's flag into the battle of Gettysburg. He was never heard from again. Calvin supposedly deserted his own enlistment to serve his father's enlistment*". In my research, I discovered a Dixon Dedman in Kentucky. I never was able to get more information as he is deceased.

# THOSE WERE THE DAYS



**David McArthur  
(McCarter) Dickson**

Our research of the Dickson branch of the family is rather "shaky" beyond David Mac Dickson. Well, I feel good about his parents, Thomas and Sarah McCarter Dickson, but beyond that I have several conflicts. I am sure that the research done by Harold Dixon would have some clarification. He is buried along with his wife Hannah Dedmon in the Dedmon Cemetery on Taylor's Ridge.



**Rosa Elisa Gentry Dickson with her brother-in-law, Jip Ward and Mollie Cummins the second wife of David McArthur Dickson.**



John Marion Dickson was the son of David McArthur (McCarter) Dickson., born June 10, 1854. He married Rosa Elisa Gentry the daughter of Rosannah Jane Dickson and Perry Gentry. Rosannah was the sister of David Mac. It seems that marrying cousins was not that uncommon in those days (or at least in the Dedmon/Dickson family)!!! Rosa's sister, Rachel, married Abram Oliver Dedmon and moved to Arkansas. George Hickman Dickson, the fifth child of John and Rosa was born July 16, 1885. He married Pearl Victoria Templeton on March 11, 1911. To that union was born two girls, Ruby Viola on January 8, 1912 and Edna Frances on December 19, 1913. Ruby married Gordon Lee Dedmon on July 21, 1938. I was born June 27, 1939 to Ruby and Gordon. Edna married Mahlon Gilbert.



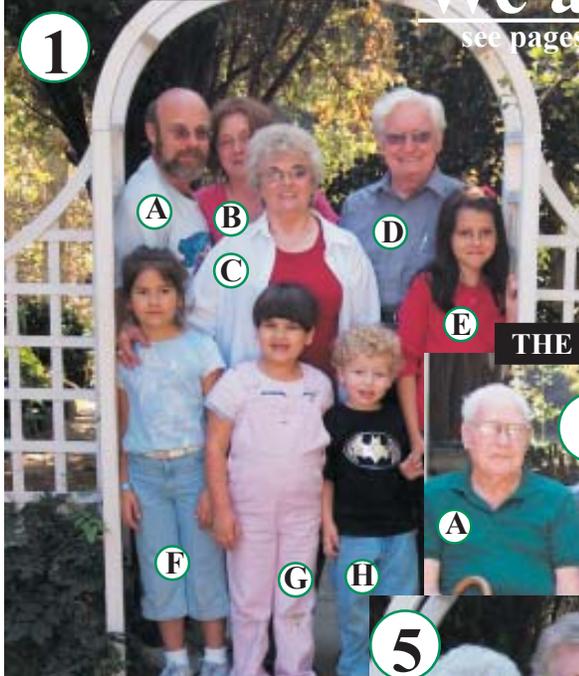
**George H. Dickson died October 21, 1918 during the flu epidemic that claimed the lives of many, including my grandmother Alice Walker Dedmon. on Sept 14, 1918**



**Rosa and John M. Dickson are buried in the Dogwood Cemetery in Whitfield County, Georgia. My father George Hickman Dickson is also buried there. Grandmother had DIXON put on his tombstone. I am not exactly sure why she did that as he went by Dickson.**

TATE DIXON FAMILY

1



# We are family

see pages 5- 6 for description

GILBERT FAMILY

2



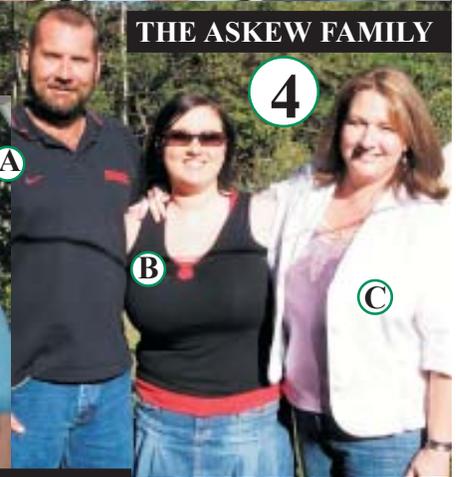
THE TEMPLETONS

3



THE ASKEW FAMILY

4



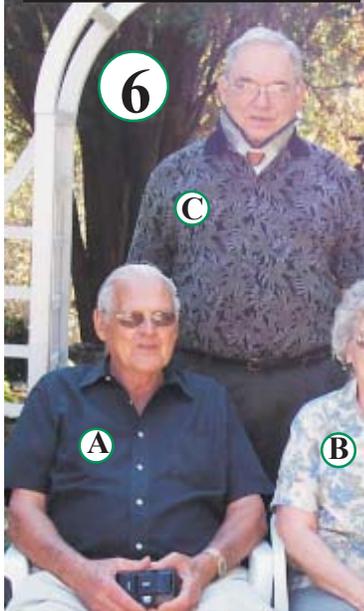
COUSINS

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THE WIMPY FAMILY

6



THE DICKSON GIRLS

7



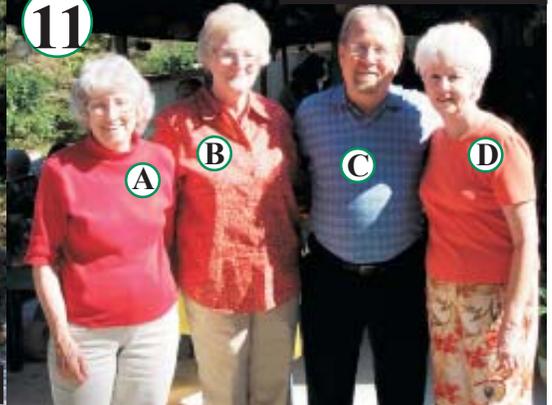
LOOK, UP IN THE SKY

8



EDWIN WHALEY

11



10



THEN THERE WERE FIVE

9



GOING MY WAY???

# WE ARE FAMILY

RE: pictures on page 4 (the next two pages)

I believe we have all of the family groups listed and if I have gotten the wrong name on some of them, just remember I am an old man... please let me know.....

## ① TATE DIXON FAMILY

Tate is the grandson of Mathis Dixon. His family is the first to choose the D-I-X-O-N spelling. There are several theories as to why the change. But the bottom line is that "we are family".... In fact, my grandmother put "Dixon" on my grandfather, George Dickson's tombstone. Mathis was a brother to John Marion Dickson, my mother's grandfather. Mathis married Esther Templeton, who was a sister to my grandmother, Pearl Templeton. Mathis and Esther had two children: Christine and Harold Dixon. Harold married Norma Burnett and to that union was born Tate and Laura. Christine married Carl Whaley and were the parents of Edwin and Truman Whaley. Christine and Carl are presently living, but in bad health in local nursing homes. Harold did a lot of research on the Dixon (Dickson) family and Tate said he had it in boxes. He plans to photocopy and share with me. To that I look forward... Photos: **A-B**-Tate and Lynn Yvonne Dixon **C**-Norma (Tate's mother, she remarried after Harold's death). However, "*once a Dixon always a Dixon*". She is still family. **D**- Doug Jackson (Norma's present husband) **E**- Esther Lovingood (Tate's sister Larura's daughter) Laura was unable to attend. **F-G-H**-Tate's Children: Sammie, Bretney and Tad

## ② GILBERT FAMILY

The Gilberts were without a doubt the closest of all cousins on either side of the family. For some reason we did not visit the Dedmon cousins as much as the Dicksons. That can be explained by the fact the Mom's mother was the only grandmother we had. Dad's Mom died in the flu epidemic of 1918 the same time that Mom's Dad died. So the visits to grandmother was always also a visit to the Gilberts.

The flu epidemic of 1918 ranks with the Black Death of the Middle Ages as one of the deadliest contagions of all times. The virus swept across the Earth, killing an estimated 20 million people in little over a year. In the United States, more than half a million people died from the illness between September 1918 and June 1919. To this day, no one knows why the virus was so deadly. Some refer to it as the current day "Bird Flu"..

I spent most of my summers with the Gilberts until I was 15-16 years old. After Aunt Edna married Roy Murry and moved to California, Tommy and Frances lived with us. When JE returned from the Air Force, he also lived with us for a while. In many ways Tommy was like a brother to me. His wedding my first "knot to tie". **A**-Jane Askew (Tom's daughter) **B-C**-Bob and Rita Gilbert **D**-Todd Gilbert (Bob's Son) **E**-Susan Barbee (Todd's girlfriend) **F-G**-Tom and Sue Gilbert **H**- Frances Gilbert

## ③ THE TEMPLETONS

I have fond memories of visits to the Templeton household. Uncle Elgin was a brother to my grandmother, therefore making him my great uncle and the kids were my second cousins. However their mother was Rosa Maybell Black She was the daughter of Joseph Henderson Black and Sarah Rachael Dickson, the daughter of John M. Dickson. She was my mother's aunt. The story is told that Elgin and Maybell were hesitant to marry thinking they were related. They were in fact related to all the same people, but not to each other. Of course, marrying cousins was an oft repeated event in the Dedmon/Dickson family.

Wayne Templeton was the one closest to my age. We spent a lot of time together. It is sad that time and years separated us. The one who seemed to visit us the most was Darrell and his wife Louise. While we were living in Springfield, TN they passed through there. One of them asked, "Isn't this where "Roy" (my childhood name) lives?". "I believe it is", the other replied, "Let's find him". There was an older lady walking and they inquired of her, "Do you know Leroy Dedmon?" Sure she said, "He is my preacher, but they are out of town." As they were about to thank her she said, "His brother, Bill, lives here". She got into the car and directed them to Bill's place of employment. Photo: **A**-Darrell **B**- Gene

# WE ARE FAMILY

RE: pictures on page 4 (continued from page 5)

## 4 THE ASKEW FAMILY

Jane, the daughter of Tommy Gilbert, is married to Mark Askew and has three children. Although, William and Lloyd were present, they somehow evaded the picture taking.

A- Mark Askew

B- Haley Askew

C- Jane Gilbert Askew

## 5 COUSINS

My sisters, Carolyn and Ruth, pose with Frances Gilbert our first cousin. They became close friends during the time Frances lived with us during their teenage years.

A- Carolyn Price

B- Frances Gilbert

C- Ruth Smith

## 6 THE WIMPY FAMILY

I was not acquainted with this group of cousins until I began the family research project a few years ago. They are actually my mom's first cousins. Their mother was Alice Dickson, sister to my grandfather, George Dickson. She died in 1942 when I was only three years old. Uncle Joe then remarried and moved to Michigan. I only met Wib at my Aunt Edna's (Dad's sister's funeral) a couple of years ago. Since then he and his sister Edna, along with her husband, Bill Castleman, have visited several times. Edna and Bill still live in Michigan. Wib lives on Three Notch Road in the Ringgold - Ft. Oglethorpe area.

A- Wilborn (Wib)

B- Edna

C- Bill Castleman

## 7 THE DICKSON GIRLS

I have written more about the Alex Dickson family on page 7, but will add some here. Also, in the June 2005 issue, Volume 36, I told the story that involved Carl Dickson. Alex was the only son of David and Ivalee Shook. David was the brother of my grandfather, George Dickson. As I mentioned, we called him Uncle Alex when we were kids. He was actually my mom's first cousin.

"Uncle Alex" married Clara Lucille King the daughter of Robin King and Laura Henson. They had nine children. To have been an only child, "Uncle Alex" did his part to "populate the earth"... There were three boys and six girls. Troy, Carl, Bobbie, Paul, Wilma, Doris, Audrey, Linda and Martha. Troy is the only boy living. Carl died a couple of years ago and Paul died in Korea in 1950. All the girls are living but Linda is in a Nursing Home. Her health has been bad a long time.

Back in the late '60s or early '70s Audrey and her husband Bill Collison moved to McMinnville, TN. They were within ten miles of us and we never got together. I look back on that with almost disbelief. Those were the busiest times of our life, but still we ought to take time for family. Doris had just gotten out of the hospital and was unable to attend the reunion. Her son Hank owns Hank's Carpets at Tunnel Hill.

A-B - Willma and Bud Scott

C-D - Martha and Jack Baggett

E-F - Audrey and Bill Collison

G - Bobbie Dickson

## 8 LOOK, UP IN THE SKY

Is it Superman, noooo can't be!!! Maybe a Dedmon or a Dickson? Actually Frances Gilbert is shading her eyes while looking at the demonstration our cousin is giving in the next picture.

## 9 GOING MY WAY???

It appears that Gene Templeton is giving a demonstration of the art of thumbing a ride. Or maybe how an umpire should make his call when a runner slides into home. Come on Cuz, tell us, which one is it? Inquiring minds want to know.

## 10 THEN THERE WERE FIVE

Mother and Aunt Edna each had three boys and two girls. So as kids growing up we all had a cousin who was close to our age. Tommy Gilbert was mine. We were saddened to lose JE six years ago. A- Tommy Gilbert B- Robert (Bob) Gilbert C- Leroy Dedmon D- Bill Dedmon E- Tommy Dedmon.

## 11 EDWIN WHALEY

It has been at least 50 years since I had seen Edwin. I remember as a child going to his house on the south side of Dalton. His mother and father were Christine Dixon and Carl Whaley. She was a sister to Harold Dixon. Carl and Christine are both in Nursing Homes. Their parents were Mathis Dixon and Esther Templeton. Posing with him (C) are A-Bobbie Dickson B-Frances Gilbert and D-Carolyn Dedmon Price.

## “UNCLE ALEX”



“Uncle Alex” was the only child born to the union of Ivalee Shook and David Dickson. He was ten years old when Mom was born. My guess is that he was around six or seven when this picture was taken. David was a brother to my grandfather.

### PAUL DICKSON

I still remember when the tragic news came that Paul was missing in action in Korea. He was so young... around 18 years old. The family lived with hope of his return for a while, but finally accepted the fact of his death, listed as July 25, 1950. When I visited Washington a few years ago I found his name in the Korean War Veteran’s Memorial. I had to brush the tears back as I thought of my kin giving his life in defense of our country. My last recollection of being with Paul was around 1946-47.

We moved from Graysville to the house on East Garden Farm Road near Rossville. Paul walked the 10-15 miles, leading our cow. That is a scene that will forever be imbedded in my memory. We moved from the status of renters to home owners and the Dedmon children “grew up” in that house.

I really don’t know why we called him “Uncle Alex”, but we did. It was probably because his children were my cousins. I never knew about second and third cousins, they were just cousins. Actually “Uncle Alex” was Mom’s first cousin, making him my second cousin and his kids were third cousins. We looked at “Uncle Alex” as a “cool” kind of guy . He was usually involved in some kind of Law Enforcement, therefore he was often in uniform. I remember him as a security guard at Lake Winnepesauka. He also ran the bumper cars. and would let them run a little longer when me and my friends were riding.

When we lived at Graysville, so did the Dicksons. When I began school some of them were in school with me. I always blamed them for the news getting back to my parents when I got into trouble at school. Of course, they don’t remember which one it was!!!

When Dad was drafted, Mom was left at home with four small children (before Bill was born). She didn’t drive, so “Uncle Alex” was our “chauffeur”. I remember him taking us to Macon, GA to get Dad when news of my grandfather being at the point of death came to us. As kids we were close to the Dicksons. I don’t really know how we managed to drift apart through the years, but time and distance has a way of doing that.



**The Alexander Stephen Shook family. The young child is “Uncle Alex” with his mother Martha Ivalee Shook**

## The Mail Bag

**From:** Sharon Wimpy **Email:** SAW1128@aol.com  
**To:** gldedmon@alltel.net  
**Subject:** Re: Surname List  
Hi Leroy



If you mean Wilburn (Wib) yes that's my Dad. He too lives there in Ringgold. After I found your website I called my Aunt Edna (Castleman/Wimpy) and she said that we would actually be 2nd or 3rd cousins, not sure which. I live in Wyandotte, Michigan. My parents, Wilburn and Doris (Jones) moved here in the 40's and raised us kids, then took off back down there after Dad retired. Stuck us up here in this cold, snowy, Michigan weather! haha

There are a few corrections I would like you to fix but I will have to check on dates and things. I will get them all together and email you back. I loved reading some of your newsletters. So are you back in Houston Valley? My aunt said she thought that was where you were now.

Well, take care, I will keep in touch. I will email as soon as I get the list of corrections. I will let you know. Thanks so much.

--Sharon Wimpy

*Am awaiting some corrections and to receive more information. We are 3rd cousins. -Leroy*

**From:** Liz Blair [bamasunshine@otelco.net]  
**Subject:** dixon genealogy

Hello Mr. Dedmon,  
My name is Elizabeth Bennett Blair and I'm researching my family. I also have the Dixon surname in my family. I'm looking for information on John Dixon who had a son named Oscar Dixon. Oscar moved to Alabama and married Bertie Lee Crane. I'm willing to share all that I have. Let's see, my Dixons come from Georgia. Oscar states in the 1930 census he was born in Georgia and later moved to Perry County, Aabama where he listed his occupation as a timber cutter. I've found a good clue as to his father-- I found John Dixon living in Georgia in Walker County township of Chickamauga. He has a son Oscar age 15. This Oscar's death date is off by 5 years but that's possible. I appreciate all your help! Thank you so much. I also found last on usgenweb.com that John Dixon has an estate probate docket there in Walker County, Georgia. I'm going to get in touch with the courthouse there and find out how to obtain a copy of that docket. Have a great day in the Lord Jesus Christ, --Liz

*I have really procrastinated getting back in touch with Liz. Mom says this family is part of our family and Oscar is kin... -Leroy*



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY GWEN

Well, I didn't miss it entirely, but almost. I guess I was so involved in the Dickson Reunion information that I almost forgot a very important October birthday. It happened on October 7, 1962. Jane woke me up on Sunday morning. She announced, "I think the labor pains have begun". That always did wake me up... So we traveled the 20 miles to Huntsville Hospital and checked in. "It will be a couple of hours", the nurse announced. Remembering the 32 hours Jane was in labor with Gary, I decided to go ahead and preach rather than find a substitute. First of all I made the **Dedmon Gower** mistake of telling the congregation what was happening. Not a word I said was heard that morning. As I walked to the back after the sermon I noticed a friend, who was the husband of one of the members, but he never attended. "You have a daughter", he announced to all who were within earshot. "How do you know", I asked. "Jane called me", he replied, "I guess I am the only person she knew that would not be in church this morning". Somehow, I still think preaching is the best way to pass the time while awaiting on the anticipated "bundle of joy"..... Spare me from those breathing practices and the fathers in the delivery room concept. I did my part, that was enough..... It is hard for me to believe that Gwen is a grandmother. That makes me a great grandpaw. It never occurred to me until Masie was born four years ago that I could have more grandchildren. Now Curt is almost two years old and is walking and talking. If we could just figure out what he is saying.....



Gwendolyn Jane