

# Historical Happenings

C R A W F O R D C O U N T Y H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

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## ELECTION RESULTS...

A big thanks goes out to all of you that voted in the election!

President—Elaine Westberry

Vice President—Martha Carter

Secretary—Nita Walker

Treasurer—Pat Roys

Board Member—Betty Harris

Board Member—Vera Cook

Thanks to the members listed above for agreeing to serve, you are greatly appreciated!

## THE NEW 2008 ORNAMENT OLD CRAWFORD COUNTY BANK

The new ornament has arrived! This year we decided to use the old Crawford County Bank, circa 1910. The price is the same as it has been, \$13.00 each. Get yours today at Southside Storage or the Extension Office.



## Who Am I?



This photo/portrait (11x14) accompanied another of same size, same frame, etc. of Julie Ann F. (Giles - daughter of William and Elizabeth Giles) Rowland whose husband was John Crum Rowland, to my parents' home from my grandmother's effects. Grandma Rowland's mother was Ann Eliza (Turner) Mathews who died abt. 1901 in Crawford County. She was married to William H. Mathews. [Ann Eliza's mother was Vashti (Whittington) Turner who died before 1900. My guess is that this mystery lady must surely be one of these ladies: Elizabeth (Hardison) Giles ( 1813 - 1880), mother of Julie Ann; Ann Eliza (Turner) Mathews (1857 - abt 1901), my Grandmother Rowland's mother; Vashti (Whittington) Turner (1824? - 1886?), mother of Ann Eliza. I have another family photo of Julie Ann and John's family made no later than 1900, it would seem that Julie Ann's very similar photo/portrait to my mystery lady was made circa 1880. Thanks for any help in putting a name to this distinguished-looking lady. Ellie Rowland Naylor

If you can identify this lady, please contact the Editor.

2009  
MEETING  
SCHEDULE

Meetings are at headquarters at 6:00 pm

January 22  
February 26  
March 26  
April 23  
May 28  
June 25  
July 23  
August 27  
September 24  
October 22

## DUES, DUES, DUES...

It's that time of year again! Dues are due!

Please send them in by January 1st for 2008 membership!

**Dues are:**

Individual Members - \$15.00

Student Members - \$5.00 (Up through High School)

Couple Members - \$25.00 (Husband & Wife)

Business/Institutional Members - \$50.00

Sustaining Members - \$75.00

Life Members - \$250.00 (In one payment)

Please send your payment to:

Crawford County Historical Society

PO Box 622, Roberta, GA 31078-0622



## CRAWFORD COUNTY WEBSITES

**Crawford County Historical Society**

<http://www.usgenet.org/usa/ga/county/crawford2/cchs/index.htm>

**Crawford County AHGP**

<http://www.usgenet.org/usa/ga/county/crawford/index.htm>

**Georgia JugFest**

<http://www.georgiajugfest.com>

**Crawford County GAGenWeb**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~gacrawf2/>

**Crawford County Saving Graves**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~gaccsg/>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**January**

03—Kim Gordon  
09—Deloris Roys  
13—Tony Sellier  
16—Brenda Carroll

**February**

01—Mona Lowe  
02—Bill Neace  
06—John Daniel

**March**

03—Betty Hammer  
18—Betty Harris  
22—Nita Walker

**April**

23—Brent Gordon

**May**

01—Gale Fordham  
05—Pat Keller  
17—BJ Bassett

**June**

02—Charlie Harris  
10—Elaine Westberry  
16—Patricia Bassett  
17—Clifford Byrd  
18—Kathleen Cook

**July**

02—Merlyn Whiting  
07—Martha Carter

**August**

27—Henry Woodard  
28—Joe Pickett  
30—Pat Roys

**September**

25—Judy Sellier  
28—Toni Hollman

**October**

18—Jane Hampton  
24—David Lowe

**November**

14—Gene Cook  
18—Faye Parker  
18—Doug Preston  
26—Robert Dickey III  
28—Fay Woodward

**December**

04—Ed Gordon  
10—Cynde Dickey  
12—Sherri Childres  
13—Charles Westberry  
24—Libby Scarborough

I need to know when your Birthday is!!!!

Dale Brown	Sybil Spillers
Kathleen Jacobs	
Lavonia Hogg	Jean-Louis Jacobs
Jesse Rogers	Martha Scheri



## CCHS will soon get new web address & updated site...

The Crawford County Historical Society will soon get a new web address and updated site. It was voted on at the December 4th meeting that we will get our own web space and domain name. Ed and I are working on the new site and hope to have it up and running in the next month or so. In addition to having the newsletters

online, we will also have the meeting minutes from each meeting. Since the Historic Crawford Foundation, Inc. has been dissolved, the two sites will be combined. It's a time consuming process so please bear with us during the transition period. If you have any questions or comments, please email me at [kimeye1@bellsouth.net](mailto:kimeye1@bellsouth.net). Thanks!

## Volunteers Needed For News Articles...

Would you like to write an article or two for the newsletter every quarter? Do you have a little time? I need your help! I need some of you (especially Committee Chairs) to write and email me an article for each newsletter. It doesn't have to be complicated, just let me know what is going on with the committee you head up or if you don't head up a committee, just send me things you think apply to us or are interesting. Anything in relation to Crawford County history too! Please contact me ASAP if you are willing to give me a little of your time to improve our newsletter!

## A Note From the Pottery Auction Committee Chair...

The pottery auction will be here again before we know it! I am currently working on revising seller & buyer rules for 2009. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact me at [kimeye1@bellsouth.net](mailto:kimeye1@bellsouth.net) or give me a call at 836-3121. I hope to have this done very soon so I can start working on the catalog for this year's auction.



## NEWS FROM 1911 &amp; 1912

The Butler Herald  
Tuesday, February 7, 1911  
Page Four

## Knoxville Residence Burns

The dwelling house owned and occupied by Mr. W.A. Walker at Knoxville, burned down at 3 o'clock this morning. A piano and a small amount of furniture were saved. The larger part of the furniture together with silverware, clothing, kitchen utensils, etc., and some money were destroyed. The fire probably originated from a flue over the dining room. The loss is partially covered by an insurance policy of \$500 on the house and \$500 on the furniture. – Crawford County News

The Butler Herald  
Tuesday, May 9, 1911  
Page Three  
Neighboring County Items  
Crawford County News

The barn which has been used as a convict camp is being torn down by Mr. John W. Dent and it is understood that he will erect a fertilizer factory. It is proposed to form a stock company with a capital of \$10,000 composed entirely of home capital. This is the third enterprise started by Mr. Dent. The first was a water works system, the next an electric light system. Roberta can now take her place with the leading municipalities of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Saylor left Monday for Reynolds where they will in the future reside. The people of Roberta regret to lose Mr. and Mrs. Saylor, they have lived here a number of years and were among our best citizens.

The Roberta school is practicing for the commencement to be held next month. It will probably last four days and nights and will be one of the best in the history of the school.

This community was greatly shocked to learn of the sudden death of Mrs. T.J. Pierce which occurred at family residence in Roberta Thursday morning at 11:45 o'clock. While apparently in good health, Mrs. Pierce was stricken with paralysis early yesterday and rapidly became weaker until the end.

The Butler Herald  
Tuesday, May 16, 1911  
Page Three  
Neighboring County Items  
Crawford County News

Mr. O.C. Paris, of Reynolds spent Saturday in Roberta.

Prof. and Mrs. J.W. Bloodworth, of Reynolds, spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives in Roberta.

Mr. Jeff D. McGee, demonstrating agent for this county, reports that some insect is destroying the spring oat crop throughout the county. The insect is said to be of a green color, and a new variety for this section. The fall oats, on account of their advanced age, are not being seriously hurt by the pest, but the spring oats will be almost a complete failure.

Mr. James Walker, an old Crawford boy and son of Mr. D.K. Walker, of Roberta, has installed a wireless telegraph outfit at his telegraph school at Milledgeville, and reports it working successfully. He is now able to catch messages from ships on the Atlantic and the Gulf and from wireless stations as far away as Massachusetts. This is the first wireless school station established in the South.

Roberta will shortly have a handsome two-story brick school building costing \$5,000.00 to replace the former building which was burned March 9, 1909.

The Butler Herald  
Tuesday, May 23, 1911  
Page Three  
Neighboring County Items  
Crawford County News

The Robert High School commencement begins Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> and lasts through Wednesday night. The

commencement sermon will be preached Sunday morning by Rev. W.T. Irvine.

There will be no exercises on Monday morning or Tuesday morning. Monday night will be devoted to drills, plays, etc., the exercises starting promptly at 7:45 o'clock. Tuesday night's exercises will also consists of plays, etc. Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock the graduating exercises will take place. There will be 17 pupils to graduate and receive diplomas. The delivery of diplomas will be made by R.C. LeSueur. The literary address will be delivered on the same morning by Col. H.A. Mathews.

The school trustees for Roberta district have elected the same corps of teachers for another term. Another grade, the 10<sup>th</sup>, will be added to the high school department. An elocution teacher will be added to the faculty.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, May 30, 1911

Page Two

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

Mrs. Budoxie Bond, wife of Mr. J.C. Bond of Roberta, died last night at 8 o'clock, after an illness extending through several years.

The Roberta school commencement was a complete success from the beginning to end. In spite of rainy weather all during the week, the spacious auditorium was completely filled upon each occasion.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, June 6, 1911

Page Four

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

Mrs. Mary E. Grant, wife of Elder I.D. Grant, died at her home in Roberta Saturday morning at 5 o'clock after a lingering illness of several months. She was 69 years of age at the time of her death. She was a member of the Salem Primitive Baptist church. A large concourse of friends and relatives attended the funeral which was held at Salem Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, Elder S.T. Bentley conducting the service. The interment was at Salem cemetery.

The cotton buyers are offering from 12 to 13 cents for cotton for next fall delivery. Some of the farmers are selling.

Large shipments of plums are leaving Roberta each day, and a number of crates of peaches are also being shipped. They are bringing good prices.

Misses Minnie Alice and Lillie Maude Andrews went to Bueler and Fort Valley on a visit Tuesday.

A mass meeting of the citizens is called to be held at Knoxville courthouse Monday morning June 12<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of perfecting the Crawford County Fair Association for this year.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, June 13, 1911

Page Four

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

Dr. G.W. Fickling, of Butler, has been having a large dental practice here this week. His wife and son came over Thursday for a visit with Mrs. F.H. Wright.

A call has been issued by the Crawford County Fair Association for a mass meeting to be held at the Knoxville courthouse next Monday of the purpose of making arrangements for the holding of the fair next fall and electing officers for this year.

While cutting oats with a mowing machine last Friday, Mr. Dick Dorrough had the misfortune to have part of forefinger on his right hand cut off, making a painful wound.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, June 20, 1911

Page Four

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County Items

Quite a lot of cotton in this county is infected with black root. It is said, however, that Houston and other counties in this section are in a great deal worse condition than Crawford.

It is a matter of pride and gratification to the enterprising citizens of Crawford that the Crawford County fair has made a good start, and everyone should lend his assistance towards making it a big success. Of course, the biggest part of the hard work will fall on a few, but here is room for all to give a helping hand and encourage this important enterprise. The farmers will reap the largest benefits and they should push the good work from now until fall.



The Butler Herald

Tuesday, July 4, 1911

Page Three

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

Hon. Dudley Hughes received a few days ago a turnip from J.T. Wiggins at Americus, which weighed 8 ½ pounds. It was shown to Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, who stated that it was the largest he had ever seen.

The remains of Mrs. Andrew McHogue were brought down on the train Sunday night from her home at Topeka Junction, where she died that morning. Her husband and other relatives accompanied the corpse. The funeral and interment was at Crowell Church in Taylor County where the deceased who was Miss Windham formerly lived.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, July 11, 1911

Page Three

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

An election will be held in Webb's school district on July 15<sup>th</sup>, to decide whether the McMichael school tax shall be put into operation in that district or not.

Roberts Bros., of Fort Valley, have been packing peaches at Roberta this week. They made heavy purchases in the spring from the farmers, investing several thousand dollars; the peaches were bought for about 80 cents a bushel for canning purposes, but it was decided that on account of the high prices, to pack and ship them.

What has become of Roberta's annual July singing? Somebody forgot it this time evidently.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, July 18, 1911

Page Three

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Spillers accompanied the former's mother, who has been visiting them, to Taylor County Wednesday.

One indication of the thriving condition of Roberta, is the fact that every business house in the bank block has a telephone.

Mr. M.O. Smith has a freak in the shape of a twin cucumber, which was grown in his garden and weighs two pounds.

Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Saylor, of Reynolds, spent Sunday in Roberta.

Up to date there have been about 15 cars of peaches shipped from Roberta, which netted the owners more than \$15,000.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, August 8, 1911

Page Two

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

The Crawford County Fair was given another boost at Knoxville Tuesday when the officers of the Fair Association together with more than fifty other citizens from every part of Crawford gathered in the Superior courtroom to set the date and to discuss other matters pertaining to our fair. The date for holding the Fair was set for Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Work is progressing nicely on Roberta's \$5,000 high school building. The foundation has been laid and the walls are going steadily up. Great care is made to select brick of one color for the outside work, which will result in making a structure pleasing to the eye. The wooden auditorium is being torn down, and the best part of the lumber being used in the construction of the new schoolhouse.

In another place appears a card from Mr. J.L. Dent, who has resigned as Cashier of the Crawford County Bank. There is much speculation as to who will fill the vacancy. While nothing definite is given out by the officers, the natural supposition is that Mr. Ben F. Walker will be promoted to the position.

The Butler Herald

Tuesday, August 15, 1911

Page Three

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

The first bale of new cotton to be picked and ginned in the county was brought in this morning by Mr. J.N. Lewis, one of our best and largest farmers. As a premium bale the cotton brought 16 cents a pound.

A number of Crawfordites attended the Farmer's Union meeting at Crowell's church in Taylor County Thursday, and report a big time with lots of good eatin's. Those who went from Roberta were Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Byrd, Misses Lucile Lucas and Clyde Lifsey and Dr. C.H. Walker.

According to the tax returns for this year, the taxable value property in Crawford County has increased \$28,301 over last year. In 1920 the property was given in at \$1,189,037 and for 1911 at \$1,217,311.



The Butler Herald

Tuesday, August 29, 1911

Page Four

Neighboring County Items

Crawford County News

The special Road Improvement train being operated by the Southern railway will be at Roberta Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. Full particulars will appear next week.

A large crowd attended the Farmers Institute at Reynolds Wednesday. Plenty of barbecue was on hand and a number of fine speeches were delivered. Those who went from Roberta were: Messrs. C.S. Fincher, H.K. Sealey, W.J. Watson, J.J. Gaultney, J.V. Walker and H.M. Wadsworth.

The Butler Herald

January 23, 1912

Page Four

Editor Bob Reynolds, over at Roberta, is beginning to realize the great importance of the duties attached to the office of mayor of a town like Roberta, to which exalted position he was recently elected. The duties are strenuous but Bob says he's getting "his'n", the salary being \$1,000 a year payable in cussin, and he says they are such an appreciative set that he was advanced pay for two years in one month.



## CRAWFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 622  
Roberta, GA 31078-0622

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**Editor: Kim Gordon**  
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History and Preservation from The Crawford County Historical Society in Crawford County, Georgia, USA

A major part of the Historical Society's mission is to promote an appreciation for historic structures, artifacts and records. Recognizing the relevance these treasures hold for today and the future, we want to encourage protection, use and responsible community development. We are working closely with the Regional Development Commission, the Georgia Historical Society, and the Georgia Trust for historic Preservation in identification and stewardship of these treasures. Join us today!

CCHS Meetings are the 4th Tuesday,

6:00 PM, Historical Society Headquarters

We still have ornaments for sale:

#1—Old Courthouse—2003

#2—Roberta Depot—2004

#3—Roberta Civic Center—2005

#4—Knoxville Journal—2006

#5—Old Crawford County Jail—2007

#6—Crawford County Bank—2008

Crawford County was created from Houston County in 1822. It was named for United States Secretary of War and Treasury **William Harris Crawford**. Before 1822, the area was inhabited by the Muskogee people, called Creeks by the Europeans.

## PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Dear Members,

I just want to say "THANKS" for your support over the last two years! I have learned a lot during my time as President and really appreciate the way all of you have been there for me. In 2009, I will turn the Presidency back over to Elaine, we all know what a great job she does! I hope 2009 is a wonderful year for each of you!

God Bless!

Thanks for all you do!

Kim Gordon



**Jefferson Franklin Long**



**Roberta c. 1900**



**Old Knoxville Journal  
Old Jail**