7-30-2001

The Charter Members of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy

There were fifty-six charter members of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy at the time of the Charter night Banquet on October 14th 1921. Kiwanis International records show fifty-one charter members as of the time the charter application was sent in on June 13, 1921. There were five who joined between the time the charter application was sent to International and the time of the Charter night banquet. The local club has recognized all fifty-six as charter members.

Charles Wade Andrew(s)

C. W. Andrew(s) was born circa 1885 in Siler City N. C. The records differ as to whether his last name was Andrew or Andrews. He was the manager of the Blue Ridge Inn, Mount Airy's premiere Hotel of the 1920s. It was in the Blue Ridge Inn that the Charter Night of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy was held and also where it met for regular meetings for over thirty-five years. Andrew(s) was well respected by the people of Mount Airy and was involved in the life of the community. He served as manager of the Blue Ridge Inn at least until 1934. At that time C. W. and his wife leased the Prather House at the corner of Main and Rawley streets and opened a dining room service and coffee shop.

C. W. was married to Mary Ethel Teal Andrew(s) and had two sons, Charles William Andrew Jr. and James Fletcher Andrews, both born in Surry County. Ruth Minick, retired Principal of Rockford Street School, remembers a daughter June Andrew(s) who was around ten in the mid 1930s.

It is not presently known what year the Andrew(s) family left Mount Airy or where they moved.

Sources: 1920 census; birth records; Mount Airy News, 6-30-1991; interview with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Arthur Lee Ashburn

A. L. Ashburn was born in 1885 and died in 1975. He was born in Shoals Township of Surry County and the son of James Madison and Dosha Ellen Hill Ashburn.

He was deputy Sheriff of Surry County and in October of 1921, when Sheriff Winston Albarty resigned from office, the County Commissioners for the remainder of the term appointed A. L. Sheriff. This appointment happened shortly before the charter night dinner of the Mount Airy Kiwanis Club on October 13th. It is very probable that some of A. L. Ashburn's republican friends in the Kiwanis Club told him about the new club that was being organized and urged him to join and attend the charter night dinner. Which Sheriff Ashburn did. In the 1922 election Caleb Hill "Cape" Haynes, the democratic candidate, defeated Sheriff Ashburn and Sheriff Haynes then became a Kiwanian.

A. L. worked for years in the tobacco industry, first with Brown Williams Tobacco Company and then with Reynolds Tobacco Company. He lived all of his life in the Shoals community except for several short periods when he lived elsewhere working with the Tobacco Company.

He was first married to Lucile Inez Nelson the daughter of Dreary Everett and Jetty Emma Forcer Nelson of Surry County. He then married Levied Davis, the daughter of Sanford P. and Louisa Shores Davis of Yadkin County. He did not have any children.

He was buried at Pilot View Methodist Church in the Shoals community. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co. NC; *Mount Airy News,* 10-6-1921; interview with Betty Denny and John W. Hunt both from the Shoals community in Surry County.

Dr. Edward Clayton Ashby

Dr. Ashby was born in 1890 and died in 1957 and was a native of Mount Airy. He was the son of John Lafayette and Lucretia Clayton Ashby. He was educated in the Mount Airy schools and received his AB degree from Trinity College, now Duke University, in 1910. He then attended the University of Virginia and in 1914 was first in his graduating class. He received a MD degree from the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Ashby returned to Mount Airy and was engaged in the general practice of medicine from 1915 until he left in 1917 to serve as an assistant surgeon to Dr. J. H. Williams in Greensboro. In late 1917 he entered the army as a soldier in the Great War. From 1917 until 1919 he served with the United States Medical Corps, serving overseas and attaining the rank of captain.

At the end of the war he returned to Mount Airy and began his long and respected career as a surgeon at Martin Memorial Hospital in Mount Airy where he was a partner with Dr. Moir S. Martin. He was active in local and national medical and surgical associations.

Dr. Ashby, in addition to being a charter member of the Kiwanis Club, served as the third president of the club in 1924. In 1946 he was recognized for his twenty-five years of membership in the club on the clubs twenty-fifth anniversary.

Additionally he was a leader in the civic, business, and church life of Mount Airy. He served four terms as Mount Airy commissioner and two terms as mayor from 1933 through 1937. He also served as one of the first commanders of the Jesse B. Jones Post of the American Legion in Mount Airy. He was a member of Central Methodist Church and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

Dr. Ashby was married to Sara Belle Cabiness, daughter of James M. and Catherine Clay Cabiness. They had three children: Edward Clayton Ashby II married Susan Ann Pendleton; William Clay Ashby married Helen Frances Hennis; and a daughter, Honey Ashby, who died in infancy.

He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery

Sources: Census records of 1900, 1910 and1920; birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; The Heritage of Surry County, NC, Vol. I; *Mount Airy News*, 3-12-1957 and 6-30-1991; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Ira Wilson Barber

I. W. Barber was born in 1874 and died in 1953. He was born in the Pinnacle area of eastern Surry County to Robert S. and Julia Spainhour Barber.

He graduated from State College in 1899 with a degree in engineering. According to a news article in the *Mount Airy News*, he was the first native of Surry County to graduate from the college. After graduating he was employed by various power companies in North and South Carolina. Then in 1904 he and his family moved to Mount Airy where he was employed as superintendent of the municipal power, light, sewer and waterworks. He served in this position until he resigned to open his own civil engineering office and continued his private engineering practice until retirement. He was Mount Airy's first civil engineer. He was a highly respected person and civil engineer.

In 1921 when the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy was organized, I. W. was engaged in the private practice of civil engineering. He and his brother, T.C Barber, were both charter members and I. W.' s son, Wilson, served as club president in 1936.

I. W. was an active member of First Baptist Church in Mount Airy and was a Mason for over 50 years. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery

I. W. was first married to Lucy Belle Wilson daughter of William A. and Paulene Cheatam Wilson. His second marriage in 1918 was to Margaret McLucus. There were two children by his first marriage: Ira Wilson Barber, Jr. a prominent Surry County attorney married Mary Virginia Pendergraph; and Pauline Barber married Charles F. Bahnson of Cooleemee, N. C.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Collections and Recollections; *Mount Airy News, 9-4-1953;* census of 1910 and 1920; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Tollie Chester Barber

T. C. Barber was born in 1890 and died in 1947. He was the son of Robert S. and Judia Spainhour Barber and was born and raised in the Pinnacle area of Eastern Surry County. He was a brother to I. W. Barber, also a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy.

He and his family moved to Mount Airy in 1918 from Rutherford County, N.C. In that year W. E. Merritt, Sr., W. W. Burke, W. G. Sydnor, John Banner and T. C. Barber, as stockholders, founded Renfro Hosiery Mill. Mr. Barber began as plant manager and later was treasurer and president of the Company.

For a period of time he served as a member and Vice Chairman of the Mount Airy School Board and was on the Board of Directors of the Workmen's Building and Loan Association. Tollie was a member of Central Methodist Church and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

He was married to Sarah Phillips of Rutherford Co. N.C. She was the daughter of Ira and Elizabeth Doggett Phillips. They were the parents of three children: Julia Barber married Carl Moritz; Tollie Chester Barber, Jr. married Juanita_____; and Jim Blair Barber married Williford Norman Stokes.

Sources: Birth, Death, and Marriage records of Surry County; Collections and Recollections; *Mt. Airy Times,* Rotogravure Edition (undated); 1920 census; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Edward Chatham Bivens

Chat Bivens was born in 1886 and died in 1958. He was a native of Union County N. C. and the son of Henry Franklin and Lula M. Porter Bivins.

He graduated from Trinity College, now Duke University in 1903. He then attended and graduated from the University of North Carolina Law School in 1910 and began practicing law in Mount Airy in that year. In addition to his legal profession he was also the owner of Banner Orchards.

Chat Bivens was active in the civic, political and church life of Mount Airy. He was Chairman of the Surry County Democratic Party in 1914-1915 and was Captain of Surry Rifles from 1913-1915. He served as Mayor of Mount Airy from 1915 until 1921 and still holds the claim of having been the youngest elected Mayor in the hundred plus years of the towns history. He served as the town's attorney from 1921 until 1924. He served as Judge of Mount Airy Recorders court and was appointed Superior Court Judge of the new 21st judicial district by Governor Clyde Hoey. He was a member of Central Methodist Church and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He was married to Alma L. Banner of Mount Airy, daughter of John L. and Emma Lou Banner Banner. They had one daughter: Beverly Banner Bivens married John W. Olive.

Sources: The Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol I; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; *Mount Airy News*, 6-30-1991; Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; 1920 census; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

James Saxton Bray

Jim Bray (not to be confused with his son who also went by Jim) was born in 1884 and died in 1963. He was a native of Surry County and the son of Lacy Jasper and Tassie Lou Chaney Bray. He came to Mount Airy in 1915 and was a third generation Miller. He bought the Granite City Mill, a flour and feed mill on Broad Street, and changed the name to Bray's Mill. In 1922 he added an ice plant to the operation.

Mr. Bray's son, Jim, later became a Kiwanian and served as president in 1985-1986. His son-in-law, Robert M. Smith was also a Kiwanian and served as president in 1944.

Jim Bray was an active member of First Baptist Church where he was a Sunday school teacher and a Deacon. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He married Mollie Russell the daughter of William C. and Adele Hathcock Russell. They had three children: James Russell "Jim" Bray married Loueva Burdette, Rachel Bray married Robert M. Smith; and Bessie Lou Bray married Lewis Benton Webb.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; The Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol. 1; *Mount Airy News, 12-24-1963; in*terviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher; census of 1920.

William J. Byerly

W. J. Byerly was born in 1872 and died in 1943. He was born in Davidson County North Carolina, the son of John Francis and Elizabeth Jane Hartley Byerly. He came to Mount Airy around 1908 and formed The Bank of Mount Airy. He began as cashier and later served as president of the Bank until its liquidation following the bank holiday in 1933. W.J. also organized banks at Pilot Mountain, Winston-Salem, Walnut Cove and Elkin.

He was prominent in the realm of finance and had wide connections in business and civic circles. He was a well respected person in Mount Airy. He served as a member of the Board of Surry County Commissioners for several years and was a steward of Central Methodist Church.

For the last few years of his life W. J. Byerly conducted an insurance business in Winston-Salem. He is buried in Lexington, N. C.

W. J. first married May Roberts Leonard and then following her death he married her sister Nona Leonard. They were the daughters of W. C. B. and Mary Roberts Leonard. He did not have any children.

Sources: *Mount Airy Times* Rotogravure Edition (undated); interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher; *Mount Airy News*, 1-29-1943 and 6-30, 1991; 1920 census; Forsyth and Surry County death records.

John Edwin Carter

Edwin Carter was born in Mount Airy in 1893 and died at the age of twenty-nine in 1923. He was the son of Judge William Franklin Carter and Annie Hollingsworth Carter.

Edwin was a graduate of Davidson College and the University of North Carolina Law School. He was a veteran of the Great

War, later known as World War I. He served in France with the rank of Captain. After he returned to North Carolina, he served as a Major in Governor Cameron Morrison's Military Staff.

He had returned to Mount Airy and was an Attorney at Law practicing with his father. He was prosecuting attorney in the local recorders court. In 1921, he became a charter member of the Mount Airy Kiwanis Club along with his two brothers, Joseph Hollingsworth Carter and William Franklin Carter, Jr. Another brother, Archie B. Carter, though not a charter member served as president of the club in 1940.

The Mount Airy News article telling of his death described Edwin Carter as a young man of "fine character, a high sense of honor and of unquestioned integrity." He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy and also a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

Approximately six months before his death he had married Ann Corrinne Fulton of Walnut Cove, N. C. He died of acute diabetes mellitus after two weeks illness. Although Edwin Carter was one of the youngest of the charter members, he was the first of the fifty-six members to die. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Several months following his death a daughter Ann Hollingsworth Carter was born. She married Baxter Freese.

Edwin's widow, Ann Corrinne Fulton Carter remained in Mount Airy and was a teacher in the Mount Airy Schools for several years. She never re-married. For many years, it is remembered, she was dormitory supervisor for Cotton Dorm of Women's College at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro.

Sources: Death Certificate; *Mount Airy News*, 5-17-1923; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; interviews with his niece Carolyn Carter Johnson, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher; 1920 census.

Joseph Hollingsworth Carter

Joe Carter, was a native of Mount Airy and the son of Judge William Franklin and Annie Hollingsworth Carter. He was born in 1886 and died in 1972.

He graduated from Davidson College, the University of North Carolina Law School and Union Theological Seminary. He was postmaster in Mount Airy from 1916 until 1920. He established a law office in Mount Airy with his father and was on the Board of Directors of Workmen's Building and Loan. In 1921, he along with his brothers Edwin and Frank became charter members of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy. In 1940, another brother, Archie B. Carter served as president of the club.

Orange Presbytery ordained him a minister in 1923. He left Mount Airy to fulfill a fruitful career in ministry and Christian service. He served as pastor of churches for a number of years. He was President of the Edgar Tuft's Foundation, President of Lees McRae College, administrator of Cannon Memorial Hospital and Mountain Home for Children. He taught Bible classes at Lees McRae College and served as a Trustee of his alma mater Davidson College. He died in Statesville and was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Statesville. He was also a mason, a Rotarian and member of the Scottish Rites. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery

During his life he was a jurist, teacher, preacher, newspaper editor, administrator, author and educator.

He was married to Elizabeth Williams Bright. There were four children: Annie G. Carter married_____Latham; Joseph Hollingsworth Carter, Jr. married _____; Mary Elizabeth Carter married Agustus A. Setton; and Virginia Bright Carter married A. M. Covington.

Sources: Surry birth records; *Mount Airy Times* Rotogravure Edition (not dated); Alumni History of the University of North Carolina; interviews with his niece Carolyn Carter Johnson, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C Hatcher; *Mount Airy News*, 3-3-1972; 1910 and 1920 census.

William Franklin Carter Jr.

Frank Carter, Jr. was born in 1890 and died in 1969. He lived his life in Mount Airy. He was the son of Judge William Franklin and Annie Hollingsworth Carter.

Frank Carter was a leader in the civic, municipal, business and church life of Mount Airy. He was educated in Mount Airy High School and was a graduate of Davidson College.

He worked for Gwyn drugstore, then became manager of the Mount Airy Telephone Company. During The Great War, he was in government service in Texas. After returning to Mount Airy at the end of the war he and J. D. Martin bought a retail furniture business. Later his brother, W. H. Carter bought Martin's interest and the business became Carter's Furniture. Frank retained an interest in the company until 1939. In 1939 Frank Carter joined T. C. Barber in organizing Barber Hosiery Mills, Inc. for the manufacturing of children's hosiery. Then he started Carter Hosiery mill in 1946 and was president until 1957. He was a former director of Reeves YMCA, president of the Mount Airy Merchants' Association and trustee of the Hospital of Northern Surry from 1958 until 1966. He was a member of the Mount Airy Public Library Board of Directors and was chairman and member of the Board of Directors of the Surry County Red Cross Chapter.

Frank Carter is probably best remembered for his service to the town of Mount Airy as Town Commissioner for six years and Mayor for sixteen years from 1945 until 1961. During his service as Mayor he was a tireless worker for improving Mount Airy and much progress did take place during his years of Mayor.

He was also an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy, where he served as an Elder. He was also a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Frank Carter and his wife both were interested in local history and were responsible for the book, Footprints in the Hollows, a book on the history of Surry County.

Frank married Carrie Young of Greensboro, daughter of John A. and Emma Hines Young. They had two children: William Franklin Carter III, who died during World War II and was unmarried; Carolyn Young Carter married Vivian Best Johnson.

Sources: Simple Treasures; birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co.; Collections and Re-Collections; *Winston-Salem Journal*, 10-25-1959; *Mount Airy News*, 1-28-1969 and 6-30-1991; 1910 and 1920 Census; interviews with his daughter Carolyn Carter Johnson, Norris C. Hatcher, Fred Folger Jr. and Ruth Minick, historian.

Robert V. Deyerly

R. V. Deyerly was born in Roanoke Virginia in 1874 and was the son of Thomas J. and Susana A. Heslep. R. V. Dyerely, according to the Roanoke City directory for 1902 is listed as a bookkeeper with the Radford Steam Laundry. In 1904-1905 directory he is a bookkeeper with A & M Huff Co.

R. V. came to Mount Airy sometime after 1905 and before 1910. In 1910 he was a boarder in the home of William T. Haynes and was operating a laundry in the town, which he did

for some years thereafter. In the 1920 census, he was still a boarder at the home of William T. Haynes, with no occupation given. The Surry real estate records show he acquired several pieces of property in Mount Airy in the 1920s probably for the purpose of resale.

In 1926 he was appointed Tax Collector for the town. He was a boarder at the home of William T. Haynes for over ten years. He possibly lived at the Blue Ridge Inn for some time and it is remembered that he lived for many years at Jordan's Boarding House on Franklin Street, near Central Methodist Church and then at the New Willow Hotel. Both Ruth Minick and Norris Hatcher remember R. V. Deyerle. Their main memory is that he was a big man who sat and talked a lot. Norris is of the opinion that he was crippled, one leg being shorter than the other one. He remembers him walking with a crutch.

He was not married and died in Mount Airy in 1934. His funeral was held in Central Methodist Church and his body was returned to Roanoke for burial in the family plot in Fairview Cemetery.

Sources: Death records Surry Co. NC; Census records of 1910 and 1920; Surry Co. real estate records; 1900 Census records of Roanoke Virginia; city directories of Roanoke Va. for 1902 and 1904-1905; cemetery records of Fairview Cemetery in Roanoke; Obituary from the *Roanoke World News,* Oct. 3, 1934; research by James Cox, Jr. of Roanoke Virginia; interviews with Norris C. Hatcher and Ruth Minick, historian.

Joseph Milton Dix

Jack Dix was born in North Carolina in 1871 and died in Georgia in 1943. He was the son of James H. and Elizabeth Ann Flippin Dix. Jack was a wholesale grocery merchant in Mount Airy according to the 1920 census. He was an entrepreneur with various business interests. He, G. C. Lovill and James Walter Lovill, all charter members of the Kiwanis

Club of Mount Airy, formed the Lovill–Dix Company in 1918. Lovill-Dix Company was a wholesale produce company and had stores in Wilkesboro, Winston-Salem, and Mount Airy, as well as, Bluefield, West Virginia and Maxton South Carolina. Lovill-Dix Company bought an apple orchard on Wards Gap Road near Mount Airy. His son, Will, was involved in Lovill-Dix Company with his father and managed the Wilkesboro store for the company. After the company bought the apple orchard, Will became manager of the orchard.

Dix and his wife had moved to Winston-Salem in the mid to late nineteen twenties to manage the company's store. The depression of the early thirties brought about a decline of the Lovill-Dix Company. During the depression Jack Dix bought four hundred acres of land in south Georgia. He and his wife moved to Nashville, Georgia. Later his son, Walter, and his family also moved there. In Georgia Jack Dix raised tobacco and plants for shipping up north by railway.

Jack Dix was married to Ida Martha Matilda Norman the daughter of Preston and Emma Robertson Norman. They had four children: Walter Howard Dix married Nann L. Allred; Willie Joseph Dix married Mary Shockley Nichols; Ethel Dix married Tallie Stacy Barnes; and Ida Elizabeth Dix married Amos Ryder.

Jack Dix was a member of First Baptist Church and served as treasurer for many years. He and his wife are buried at Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy.

Sources: 1900,1910 and 1920 census; birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Collections and Recollections; *Mount Airy News* 3-5-1943; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and his grandson, Joe Dix of Greensboro, NC, and Jim Dix of Raleigh, NC.

Edward H. Dixon

Edward Dixon in the 1920 census is listed as a tobacco buyer. He was born circa 1894 in Virginia. He is not listed as living

at an address in Mount Airy in the town directory of 1912-1913 as found in the book, Collection and Recollections. Thus, we do not know when he arrived in Mount Airy or how long he was here. We know he was here in 1920 and joined the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy in 1921. He was also a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

On the 1920 census his wife, Jessie J. Dixon, is listed. She was born in South Carolina. A son, Edward H. Dixon Jr. is also listed in the 1920 census as having been born in North Carolina and as being two years old. Norris Hatcher also recalls an older child Clyde Dixon who would have been born around 1906. He remembers they were in high school together.

Beyond this nothing else is presently known of Edward H. Dixon.

Sources: 1920 census; Collections and Recollections; interview with Norris C. Hatcher.

Julius Eldridge

Julius Eldridge was born in 1873 and died in 1957. He was born in Johnson County, North Carolina and was the son of William Spencer and Nancy Wood Eldridge.

Julius was a student of pharmacy at the University of North Carolina in 1899 and 1900. After college, he went to Winston-Salem and became associated with Shaffner's Drug Store and later Owen's Drug Store. He was a druggist in Winston-Salem from 1901 until 1920. He then moved to Mount Airy and was a pharmacist and owned Eldridge Drug Store on Main Street in Mount Airy for some years. He then moved to Greenville and owned and operated a drugstore there. At some point he returned to Winston-Salem. He died in Winston-Salem where he lived at the time of his death and where he is buried.

He was married to Julia Stockton Eldridge in 1906. His obituary states that a daughter, Mrs. Charles I. Bedford of Mass, survived him.

Julius was a veteran of the Spanish American War

Sources: Forsyth County death certificate; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; *Winston-Salem Journal, 9-23-1957.*

Thomas Garnett Fawcett

Bud, as he was called, was born in 1883 in London, Ontorio, Canada. He came to Mount Airy with his parents in the early 1890s. His father established the First National Bank of Mount Airy and Bud worked in the bank. Following his father and older brother's deaths, he became President of the bank and served in that capacity for twenty-six years until his death in 1945.

Bud was educated in the Mount Airy Schools and graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1902. He was active in the business and civic life of Mount Airy and was a warden of Trinity Episcopal Church. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He was married to Katie Lee Mills of Statesville N. C., the daughter of Noble B. and Elmina Poston Mills. There were six children; Mary Mills Fawcett married Fred Folger; Kathryn Louise Fawcett married Henry Folger; Evelyn Fawcett married Robert Jerry Randolph, Jr.; Elizabeth Fawcett married first, Cecil F. Hennis, Jr. and then Marion Burke; and twin sons George D'Espard Fawcett married first Shirley Hobson and then Shirley Payseur and Thomas Garnett Fawcett, Jr. married first Doris Thore and then Roberta Caldwell.

Sources: Simple Treasures; Collections and Re-collections; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; birth, death and

marriage records of Surry County; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, his son Thomas Garnett Fawcett, Jr., his grandson Fred Folger Jr., and Norris Hatcher; *Mount Airy News* 2-15-1946 and 6-30-1991; census of 1900, 1910 and 1920.

John Hamlin Folger

John Folger was born in 1880 in the quiet village of Rockford in the southeast corner of Surry County on the Yadkin River. He was one of eight children of attorney Thomas Wilson and Ada Dillard Folger. In his youth, the family moved to Dobson, the county seat of Surry County from 1851.

He attended school at Dobson, then Guilford College and the University of North Carolina law school where he completed his studies in 1901. He returned to Dobson and began to practice law there. In 1906 he moved to Mount Airy and began to practice law here. He died in 1963.

John Folger, to his credit and hard work, had a long and excellent record in his profession as an attorney and also a record of capable and devoted performance in public office.

He was elected mayor of Mount Airy and served from 1909 until 1911. In 1926 he was elected to the N C. General Assembly. In 1930 he was elected to the North Carolina Senate. He was appointed to the U. S. Congress to fill the unexpired term of his brother, Alonzo "Lon" Folger, who died in an automobile accident, while in office. He was then elected for three terms. He served in Congress from 1941 until 1948. Throughout his life and in his positions of public service, he championed good schools and public education. As a congressman he was cited as a "Southern Statesman" by a national publication. He was a good, public minded citizen who was widely and highly respected.

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He was an able attorney, a distinguished orator, and a leader of the Democratic Party in the region and in the state. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons, a Shriner, an honorary member of the Mount Airy Fire Department, a member of Central Methodist church, and a long time teacher of the men's Sunday school class. Norris Hatcher was a member of John Folger's Sunday school class and remembers his eloquence as a Sunday school teacher and of his ability to move men to tears as he taught Sunday school lessons. Norris remembers Folger on one occasion telling him that he was called to both the practice of law and the ministry.

He served as the seventh president of the Kiwanis Club in 1930

In 1899 he married Maude Douglas of Yadkinville, daughter of Henry and Lula Cornelia Wilson Douglas. They had four children: Fred Folger married Mary Mills Fawcett; Nell Folger married Samuel Bailey Glenn; Henry Folger married Kathryn Louise Fawcett and Frances Folger did not marry.

John Folger is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: The Heritage of Surry Co. NC Vol. 1; Collections and Recollections; History of North Carolina, by Hugh T. Lefler; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Fred Folger Jr., his grandson, and Norris C. Hatcher; the census of 1900, 1910 and 1920; *Mount Airy News* 7-23-1963 and 6-30-1991.

Herbert Miles Foy

Herbert Foy was born in 1884 in Grayson County, Virginia and died in1961. He was the son of Edward C. Foy Sr. and Sena Reavis Foy. The family moved to Mount Airy when Herbert was six years old.

Herbert Foy attended a private school, three years at State College and then A and M College.

He began working for the W. E. Merritt Hardware Co. in a temporary position, became a member of the firm and in 1917 became general manager. He worked there in that capacity until his retirement in 1945 after forty years with the company. After retiring from the hardware store he served for some years as a magistrate for Surry County.

Herbert Miles Foy was a past president of the Mount Airy Merchants' Association and was on the initial committee that established the Mount Airy Country Club and Golf Course. He was also on the committee to build the Masonic Temple for Mount Airy. He is well remembered for the many positions he held as a leader of the Masonic organization. He was a Mason for over fifty years.

He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons in Mount Airy and was master of the lodge in 1908, 1921 and 1922. He served as master of the 31st district from 1929 until 1935. He served as Grand Master of the North Carolina Grand Lodge in 1951 and was Grand Treasurer of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons at the time of his death in 1961. Additionally, he served as past high priest of Mount Airy Chapter 68 and past worthy patron of the Order of the Eastern Star. He was a Shriner and was made a member of the Royal Order of Scotland in 1933 and reportedly took his 33rd degree in Washington with Harry S. Truman.

He was a member of Central Methodist Church and was Sunday school Superintendent of the church for many years. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Herbert married Myrtle Hines Foy, the daughter of Robert and Louella Ward Hines. They had three children: Robert Edward Foy married Virginia Keating; Myrtle Hines Foy married Samuel Andrew Hennis, Jr.; and Herbert Miles Foy, Jr. married Perci Lazenby.

Sources; birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; *Mount Airy News*, 12-1-1961 and 6-30-1991; the 1910 and 1920 census; interviews with his daughter Myrtle H. Foy Hennis, Norris C. Hatcher and Ruth Minick, historian.

Winston Fulton

Winse Fulton, as his friends knew him, was born in 1887 in Surry County near Mount Airy. In his youth the family moved to town. He lived his life here and died in 1959. He was the son of Joseph H. and Elizabeth Pitzer Fulton.

In the 1910 census he is listed as a bookkeeper. In the 1920 census he is listed as an insurance agent. He became a prominent insurance executive with Fulton Insurance Agency.

He was a member of Central Methodist Church and the Granite Masonic Lodge of Mount Airy. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Winston Fulton married Mildred Mae Rector of Maryland the daughter of Barnard Wellington and Annie McGuire Rector. They had one daughter, Nancy Rector Fulton who married Reginald Harkness Schwab.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Mount Airy News, *7-17-1959 and 6-3-1991; 1910 and 1920 census; interviews with Norris C. Hatcher, Ruth Minick, historian and Virginia Porter.*

Rosco Allen George

Rossie George was born in 1877 in Forsyth County, the son of Peter Andrew and Martha E. Bowman George. He died in 1943.

He was a prominent tobacco and warehouse man. He was widely known throughout the tobacco-growing belt for his knowledge of the tobacco industry. He was for years, a tobacco

buyer for Liggett and Myers Tobacco Company, on a number of markets including Darlington, S.C. and Douglas, Ga.

After entering the auction warehouse business he was connected with several warehouses in the tobacco growing states. In later life he operated warehouses in Douglas, Georgia and then after the close of the Georgia markets he would operate Liberty Warehouse in Winston-Salem. He had also been associated with the George-Davis Warehouse and the N. H. Wright Tobacco Company as a partner.

He was for many years an active member of Central Methodist Church in Mount Airy. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

In 1915 Rossie married Mattie Yokley, the daughter of John A. and Flora Elizabeth Siceloff Yokley. They had three sons; Rosco Bowman George married first Gertrude Moore and then Betty Chilton Brown; Dr. Robert Allen George married Jean Partridge; and John Phillip George did not marry.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co. NC; 1910 and 1920 census; *Mount Airy Times*, 3-19-1943, *Mount Airy News*, 3-19-1943; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Stephen Porter Graves

S. Porter Graves was born in 1865, the son of Judge Jesse Franklin and Mary Elizabeth Porter Graves. He died in 1937. He was named for his maternal grandfather Stephen Porter of Wythe County, Virginia. He was a native of Mount Airy and was from an old and prominent family.

He was educated in the schools of Mount Airy and at Bingham School. He was a student at the University of North Carolina in 1884-1885 and in the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1886-1887.

He was an outstanding attorney and was Solicitor of Superior Court of the 11th judicial district for twenty-eight years from

1902 until his retirement in 1930. The 11th judicial district included a number of counties in the northwestern foothills of the state. The *Mount Airy News,* following his death noted that "his passing marked the close of the career of the most remarkable and outstanding man of this northwest section of the state."

He was widely known and highly respected as an orator, a citizen, a solicitor, an attorney and friend. He was on the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina from 1897 until 1905. He was a member of the Central Methodist Church of Mount Airy and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He was married to Susan Katherine "Kate" Hollingsworth, daughter of Dr. William R. and Susan Davis Hollingsworth. He was the father of five children: William Graves who married Lena Davis Austin; Mary Franklin Graves unmarried; Jesse Franklin Graves not married; Katherine Graves who died as a child and Stephen Porter Graves, Jr. married Dorothy Butler.

Sources: birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1775-1924; 1900, and 1920 census; *Mount Airy News,* 6-6-1901, 4-23-1937,and 6-30-1991; interviews with Norris C. Hatcher and Ruth Minick, historian and Jane Graves Johnson, his granddaughter.

William Graves

William Graves was the oldest son of Stephen Porter and Susan Katherine "Kate" Hollingsworth Graves. He was born in 1892 in Mount Airy and died some months after his father in 1937.

He was educated in the schools of Mount Airy, received his AB degree from the University of North Carolina in 1912 and graduated from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1916. He was sworn in as an attorney before entering the army as a soldier in The Great War. He served in France and

following the war remained in France to study at the University of Sorbonne in Paris. He returned to Mount Airy and opened a law office in 1920. In 1923 he moved to Winston-Salem and entered the law firm with his father and Judge Walter Brock and later engaged in private practice.

William was one of the outstanding criminal and civil lawyers in North Carolina. He gained National recognition from the litigation over the estate of Z. Smith Reynolds (son of R. J. Reynolds) who was shot to death in July of 1932. Graves was one of the attorneys for Libby Holman who was indicted for Reynolds murder. Graves then represented Reynolds son Christopher Smith Reynolds in the civil action that followed.

He married Lena Davis Austin in 1921. She was the daughter of William M. Davis and Alma Crowell Little Davis of Charlotte, North Carolina. There were three children: William Graves, Jr. married Winnifred Smith; Jane Crowell Graves married Richard M. Johnson; and Jesse Franklin Graves married Ann Brooks Yokley

William Graves was a member of The Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; *Mount Airy News, 12-30-1937;* interviews with Norris C. Hatcher and Ruth Minick, historian and his daughter, Jane Graves Johnson.

Steven Mason Hale

Steve Hale was born in 1862 in Grayson County Virginia and died in Mount Airy in 1942. He was the son of Rev. Wiley Dickenson and Martha Gwyn Mitchell Hale.

He was probably the oldest of the charter members of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy, being fifty-nine at the time of the club's charter.

Steve Hale was a prominent Mount Airy merchant for forty years. He operated S. M. Hale Store, a large dry goods store on Main Street. The name of the store was later changed to Hale Department Store. His name was a leading one in the city's business circles. Following his retirement in 1939 at the age of seventy-seven he devoted his attention to his large cattle and peach farm ten miles west of Mount Airy.

In addition to his business prominence, he was also active in Central Methodist Church and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He married Emma Waugh Cooper of Oldtown Virginia in 1883. She was the daughter of Dr. Brutus Fleming and Sarah Frances Nuchols Cooper. They had nine children: James Dobyns Hale not married; Ellis Scott Hale married _____; William Bruce Hale married Minnie Lee Burke; Charles Cleve Hale married Marie Griffin; Lilla Hale married Harry Nelms; Forest Hale married Quincy K. Nimocks, Jr.; Sarah Alice Hale married Percy Raymond Mastin, Jr.; Clara May Hale married Oscar H. Yokley; Stella Blanche Hale married Edwin Clyde Banner and then William Roller.

Sources: Death and marriage records of Surry County; Pioneer Settlers of Grayson Co. Va.; 1900, 1910 and 1920 census; *Mount Airy News*, 5-22-1942; *Winston Salem Journal*, "Personalities of the Northwest," (not dated circa 1940); interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher, and his grandson Scott Banner.

James Graham Harrison

Graham Harrison was born in 1895 and was a lifelong resident of Mount Airy dying in 1954. He was the son of James L. and Susan Virginia Marion Harrison.

Graham Harrison's parents founded Harrison's Ladies Ready To Wear Store on Main Street in the late 1800s. James Graham Harrison later assumed management and ownership of the store. He was a prominent and successful businessman.

He also operated stores in Reidsville and Leaksville. Harrison took a prominent part in the organization of the Mount Airy Country Club and Golf Course. He was president of the Mount Airy Merchants, Association and also served as President of the North Carolina Merchants' Association. He was a director of First National Bank of Mount Airy.

He was also a Mason and a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Airy. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Graham married Katherine Kendrick, the daughter of Zebulon and Edra Blankenship Kendrick. She was also involved in the operation of the store. They had two children: Sarah Elizabeth Harrison married Francis H. Evatt; and Dr. James Graham Harrison, Jr. married Dorothy Dair Snyler.

Sources: Birth, death, marriage records of Surry County; Moody Funeral Home records; 1900, 1910 1920 census; *Mount Airy News*, 1-25-1954; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Dr. Harvey R. Hege

Dr. Hege was born in 1885 and died in 1936. He was a native of Winston-Salem and began his practice of Denistry in Mount Airy in 1913 and continued his practice for nearly twenty-five years.

In addition to being a charter Kiwanian, he was also a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and a Shriner. Dr. Hege gave the land to Grace Moravian Church in Mount Airy for the Moravian cemetery and was the first person buried there.

He was married to Alice Williams of Baltimore Maryland. They had no children.

Sources: *Mount Airy News*, 10-15-1936; *Mount Airy Times*, 10-16-1936; Will and Estate Records of Surry County; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Benjamin Ezra Herman

B. E. Herman was born in Catwaba County, North Carolina in 1875; He was the son of Fredrick Lee and Rhoda Barger Herman. He came to Mount Airy in 1904 and lived here until his death in 1960.

B. E. founded the Mount Airy Bottling Works in 1904 and bottled and sold *Herman's Gingerale* and *Herman's Sasperalla Cola.* In 1907, he secured the franchise for *Coca-Cola.* Following World War I, he was co-owner of Coca-Cola Bottling Co. along with W. A. Jackson.

B. E. married Emma Echard the daughter of Marcus E. and Corneala Huffman Echard. They had three children: Dr. Marvin Earle Herman married Huldah Branch; Kathleen Mabel Herman married Hugh Edwin Peoples; and Dr. Ralph Echard Herman married Dorothy Warren.

B. E.'s grandson, Hugh Herman Peoples, served as president of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy in 1984.

B. E. was an active member of Central Methodist Church. He is buried in Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; *Mount Airy News*, 10-18-1960 and 6-30-1991; 1910 census; interviews with his grandson, Hugh H. Peoples, Ruth Minick, historian, and Norris C. Hatcher.

Daniel Engle Hoffman

D. E. Hoffman was a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in 1879, the son of Samuel and Mary Engle Hoffman. He died in 1944. D. E. arrived in Mount Airy early in the century and became head of North State Granite Company, one of the Companies that eventually became part of the North Carolina

Granite Corporation. Later he became a statistician and bookkeeper.

In addition to being a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy, he also served as the sixth president of the club in 1929. He was a highly respected citizen of Mount Airy, an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. He is buried in Oakdale Cemetery.

D. E. married Rebecca Glenn of Winston-Salem, the daughter of North Carolina Governor Robert B. Glenn and Nina Deaderick Glenn. They had two daughters: Mary Engle Hoffman married Charles Whitlock Banner, Jr.; Nina Hoffman married Hale Yokley.

Sources: Birth, death, and marriage records of Surry County; Mount Airy News, 2-18-1944 and 6-30-1944; 1910 and 1920 census records; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

William Hugh Holcomb

Hugh Holcomb was born in 1898 in Yadkin County N. C. the son of Fletcher D. and Janey P. Hampton Holcomb. He died in 1960.

The family moved to Mount Airy when he was a child. After his mothers' death, his father married Ella Greenwood in 1907. She was the daughter of James and Lydia Reece Greenwood from near Mount Airy.

He was a graduate of the local-schools and a graduate of Trinity College, now Duke University. He also attended a business college in Quincy Illinois.

Hugh's father, Fletcher, founded Holcomb Hardware Company and Hugh worked there in his youth. After he completed his studies he worked for a while as an engineer with the N. C.

Highway Department. He returned to the hardware business and was a merchant with the hardware company for more than forty years. His son and grandson have continued the tradition and Holcomb Hardware is now being operated by the fourth generation of the Holcomb family. It has been a main street fixture and has served the people of Mount Airy and area for nearly a hundred years.

He was a member and past president of the Mount Airy Lion's Club, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Mount Airy, a charter member of the Mount Airy Country Club, member of the National Live Steam Model Engineers and a member of Central Methodist Church. He is buried at Oakdale cemetery.

Hugh married Rachel Luckenback of York, Pennsylvania and had two children: William Luckenback Holcomb married Marjorie Louise Benbow; and Francis Patti Luckenback Holcomb married William Edward Haynes.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County, N. C.; Census records of 1910 and 1920; *Mount Airy News,* 10-7-1960; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

James Walter Hylton

J. W. Hylton was a native of Patrick County, Virginia. He was the son of James and Lucinda Wood Hylton. He was born in 1890 and died in 1980.

Early in his life he was a retail druggist. Later he was a prominent insurance agent and owner of Hylton Insurance Company.

He first married Exonie Emaline Clark, the daughter of Henry Clay and Charlotte Scales Clark. They had three children: William Henry Hylton married Cassie Ilene Cantrell; Clarice Melba Hylton married Howard Archie Dobson; and Verna Clark Hylton married Harry Moir Gilbert. After the death of his

first wife James Walter Hylton married Ora Holden Britt the daughter of Joseph J. and Minnie Holden.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Airy. He died in Mount Airy and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; *Mount Airy News*, 6-30-1991; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher.

Joel Andrew Jackson

Andrew Jackson was born in 1878 in the Westfield section of Surry County and died in 1955. He was the son of Robert F. and Laura Tilley Jackson.

He came to Mount Airy around the turn of the century and first opened a mercantile store on Main Street. A few years later he and his brother, Robert Reid Jackson, opened and operated Jackson Brothers Store, which was a mercantile, clothing and dry goods store on Main Street. The store later became Jackson Brothers Department Store.

Additionally, Andrew was a progressive farmer and owned a large acreage of farmland in the area. He served on the old water and light commission, which took the lead in establishing an electric light and water system in Mount Airy. He served the county for four years as Clerk of Superior Court from 1915 through 1920. He was a member of the Republican Party.

He married Annie Laurie Davis, daughter of Sheriff Milton and Savannah Jessup Davis. They had four children: Dorothy Louise Jackson married first Charlie Cundiff and then Edward Jarm. Mary Jackson married Dr. Paul Boyd Moorefield; Kathleen Jackson married Donald Caldwell Rector; and Joel Andrew "Joe" Jackson, Jr. married first Annie Fawcett and then Virginia Burke Robertson.

Andrew was a member of First Baptist Church in Mount Airy. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and Marriage records of Surry County; Mount Airy News, 4-26-1955; 1900, 1910 and 1920 census; interviews with Vester Jackson, Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher, Virginia Porter and Sue Jackson Hardy, his niece.

Cleveland D. Jarvis

Cleve was born circa 1884 in Iredell County North Carolina. He was the son of L. A. and Delphia Isabella Dacons Jarvis.

In the 1910 and 1920 census, Cleve is listed as a wholesale merchant. He worked at Jarvis Wholesale Store, a dry goods store that his father had started in the late 1800s. He moved elsewhere in the late 1920s after having over extended himself financially. No record of his death has yet been found.

He married Lilla B. Prather of Mount Airy in 1912. She was the daughter of Joseph W. and Julia Frances DeVault Prather. They had four children: Cleve D. Jarvis, Jr., married a lady from England during World War II, her name is not available; Margaret Isabell Jarvis did not marry; Francis "Frank" Prather Jarvis did not marry; and Joseph Lee Jarvis did not marry either.

Lilla B. Prather Jarvis and children moved to Washington DC around 1927 and remained there. She had family already living there.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; census records of 1910 and 1920; interview with Julia Prather Bolick, his niece and Ruth Minick, historian.

William Monroe Johnson

Will Johnson was born in Yadkin County North Carolina to James Edgar and Rosa Jones Johnson in 1880. He died in Mount Airy in 1959.

His father bought the *Mount Airy News* in the late 1800's and Will grew up in the office, worked there and became Editor in 1934. He served in that capacity until 1956. He was associated with the *Mount Airy News* for fifty-five years. He was a leader in civic affairs in Mount Airy and sought constantly to improve the civic, school and church interest of the city.

Will Johnson was one of seven charter members honored by the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy for twenty-five years of membership on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Club in 1946.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Airy, was a member of the Granite Lodge of the Masons and a Shriner. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Will married Flora Mae Martin, the daughter of John and Louisa Alderman Martin. They had four children: Louesa Johnson (twin) married William M. Jordan, Jr.; and Loraine Johnson (twin) died in infancy; James Edgar Johnson married Evelyn Lawson; and William Henry Johnson married Ruby Dell Phipps.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; The Heritage of Surry County, N C, Vol. II; *Mount Airy News,* 9-18-1959; 1900, 1910 and 1920 census; interviews with his daughter, Louisa Johnson Jordan, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Edward Hugh Kochtitzky

Ed Kochtitzky was a native of Ohio and first generation American. He was born in 1886, the son of Oscar and Caroline Shidler Von Kochtitzky. He died in 1937.

Ed Kochtitzky came to Mount Airy from Missouri in the 1890s. He was an industrialist, civic and church leader, and a philanthropist.

Ed Kochtitzky along with C. R. Merritt and John A. Yokley founded Mount Airy Furniture Company, the oldest of the Mount Airy furniture manufacturers. He was on the Board of Directors of Workmen's Building and Loan Association. Ed Kochtitzky and the owners of Mount Airy Furniture made it possible for their employees to borrow money to build homes and have loan payments deducted from their paychecks. Thus, hundreds of employees were able to own their own homes, who otherwise would not have been able to, in the nineteen twenties and thirties.

He was an active member of Central Methodist Church and served for many years as the Superintendent of Sunday school. He was also a supporter of athletic programs for the youth of the area and served on the local Boy Scout Council.

Ed served on several occasions on the Mount Airy Board of Commissioners and was a long time member of the Mount Airy School Board. He was also a member of the cemetery commission of Oakdale Cemetery and was one of the ones who contributed to the beautification and improvement of the city cemetery. He is buried in Oakdale Cemetery.

He was additionally instrumental in the organization and building of the Mount Airy Country Club and Golf Course. He was elected to serve as first president of the Country Club. His niece, Elizabeth Merritt, recalled that in his acceptance speech he said; "he was the only man to have the honor of

being President of a Golf Club who had never had a golf stick in his hands, and that he also had the distinction of being president of every organization in town which did not pay a salary." This included the Kiwanis Club of which he served as the fifth President in 1928.

The *Mount Airy News,* upon his passing noted, "No man's life could be more occupied in service to mankind in every way than that of Mr. Kochtitzky. His spirit, his kindness and his Christian character pervaded every recess of our community and our people will ever honor and hold his memory sacred for the good he did among us."

In 1899, Ed married Alice Sparger, daughter of James Henderson and Louisa Diana Mitchell Sparger. They had two sons who died in infancy, Edward H. Kochtitzky, Jr. and James N. Sparger Kochtitzky. They also had a daughter Louisa Blanche Kochtitzky who married Robert Baker Crawford, Jr.

Sources: The Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol. II; Simple Treasures; *Mount Airy News*, 1-14-1937, 2-24-1976, and 6-30-1991; *Mount Airy Times* Rotogravure Edition, undated; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, and Norris C. Hatcher.

Edwin W. Lasley

At present not one thing has been found regarding this person.

Sources: none

Warren Meriwether Lewis

W. M. Lewis was born in 1866 in Halifax County, Virginia and died in Mount Airy in 1925. He was the son of Captain John Willis and Elizabeth Bakerville Lewis.

W. M. Lewis arrived in Mount Airy sometime before 1912 as a representative of the Export Tobacco Company. He and his family lived on Cherry Street.

The news article regarding his death stated: "During his residence here he has made friends easily, his genial, friendly disposition invited confidence and esteem and he was held in high regard among the farmers who bring tobacco to the market here, as well as among his town neighbors."

He was married to Mary Wilson Cosby. Mrs. Lewis had four children by a previous marriage. The names of those children are not given in the *Mount Airy News* article concerning his death. It only mentions that among the survivors were four stepchildren.

He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried in Danville, Virginia.

Sources: Death certificate, Surry County; Collections and Re-Collections; *Mount Airy News,* 12-31-1925.

Edward Moses Linville

Ed Linville was born in 1887 and died in 1932. He was born in Forsyth County, North Carolina, and son of W. S and Mary Vance Linville. He came to Mount Airy in 1914. He was a student of N. C. College of Agriculture and Engineering and from 1906 to 1908 a student at the University of North Carolina. From 1908 to 1909 he was an attorney in Winston-Salem and from 1909 until 1914 he was an attorney in Kernersville. He then came to Mount Airy and practiced Law. In 1920 he became Vice President, Chief Attorney and Trust Officer of The Bank of Mount Airy. He also became a developer of land and was a partner in Linville and Ball Realty and Auction Company.

He served as Chairman of the Board of Surry County Commissioners in 1919, was Surry County Attorney and served as Solicitor of the Mount Airy Recorders Court. He served as a member of the City school board, was instrumental in organizing the first fair association for this county and for more than 10 years served as secretary and general manager of the fair.

Ed was secretary of the cemetery commission and manager of the city owned cemetery. It was largely through his efforts that the city purchased Oakdale Cemetery and he was largely responsible for a program of improvement and beautification and the planting of shrubbery, trees and flowers at the cemetery.

In addition to being a charter member of the Kiwanis Club, he also served as the second president of the club in 1925 and 1926.

He married Sue Phillips Lindsay Holcomb, the widow of Virgil Eugene Holcomb and was stepfather to her children, Hugh Lindsay Holcomb and Ruth Lindsay Holcomb. Hugh Lindsay Holcomb married Helen Gayle Smith; Ruth Lindsay Holcomb married Wayne W. Christian.

Ed Linville was a member of Central Methodist Church and served as Sunday School superintendent. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Surry County Estate records; 1920 census; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; *Mount Airy News,* 4-14-1932; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Grover Cleveland Lovill

G. C. Lovill was born in 1884 in Stewarts Creek Township of Surry County. He was the son of Walter Wiley and Martha Jones Lovill. He died in Mount Airy in 1962.

His early education was obtained from the rural schools of the community and then he attended Woodlawn Academy in Virginia. At the age of sixteen he became a clerk in a general store in Mount Airy. In 1905, at the age of twenty-one, he engaged in the brokerage business for five years. He then expanded and became engaged in a wholesale grocery and feed company called the G. C. Lovill Company, in partnership with his brother James Walter Lovill. He also went into partnership with Joseph Milton "Jack" Dix and James Walter Lovill, his brother, and formed Lovill-Dix Produce Company. Both of these businesses became very successful. G.C. also owned a lot of property in Mount Airy, some of it jointly with his brother Jim, including at one time, the Blue Ridge Inn. G. C. also owned a number of farms and orchards in the area.

He was a good business man and one very interested in the civic life of the town and area. He served on the board of commissioners of the town, was a director of Workmen's Savings and Loan Association and during World War II he served as Chairman of the Selective Service (draft) Board.

He was a member of Granite Lodge of Masons of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and member of the Mount Airy Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the Oasis Temple of the Shrine. He was a member of First Baptist Church.

G. C., in addition to being a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy, also served as the fourth President of the club in 1927. He was one of seven charter members honored by the club in 1946 for twenty-five years of membership.

He married Anna E. Reece, the daughter of Dr. Robert Wilson and Cora Harris Reece. They did not have any children.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; History of North Carolina, by Hugh Lefler; *Mount Airy Times* Rotogravure Edition, (undated); *Mount Airy News*, 10-23-1962; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher and Robert J. Lovill III.

James Walter Lovill

Jim Lovill was born in 1880 in Stewarts Creek Township of Surry County. He was the son of Walter Wiley and Martha E. Jones Lovill. He lived his entire life in Surry County and died in 1963. In the 1920 census he was a partner in a tobacco warehouse. Jim was a tobacco grower and tobacco warehouseman.

He was also a partner with his brother, Grover Cleveland Lovill, in the G. C. Lovill Company, a wholesale grocery and feed store; in the Blue Ridge Inn Company; and a partner along with his brother Grover Cleveland Lovill and Jack Dix in Lovill-Dix Company, which was a produce company with stores in Mount Airy, Wilkesboro, Winston-Salem, and Maxton, North Carolina and also in Bluefield Virginia.

He married Gladys Virginia Warren, the daughter of John L. and LeDora Tucker Warren. They had four children; James Walter Lovill, Jr. married _____; Martha Tucker Lovill died in infancy; Edward Franklin Lovill married first Annabelle Taylor and second_____; and Margaret Elizabeth Lovill married Charles N. Martin.

Jim was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Mount Airy is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records; 1920 Census; Mount *Airy Times* Rotograuvre Edition (not dated), *Mount Airy News*, 9-17-1963, Interviews with Robert J. Lovill III, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Luther Isaac Martin

Luther Martin was born in 1882 in Carroll Co., Virginia not far from Mount Airy. He was the son of John and Louisa Alderman Martin. He died in 1961.

He was a longtime merchant and salesman, and for years he operated L. I. Martin Grocery across from North Main School.

He was an active member of Salem Methodist Church and is buried there.

He married Mamie Lucile Parker, the daughter of James M. and Susan Simpson Parker. Their children were: John Parker Martin married Vada Ballard; James Grey Martin married Ruby Irene Arrington; William Gaston Martin married Lucy Patterson Smith; Kathryn Lucile Martin married Graham Hartwell Parks; and Howard Luther Martin married Ruth Wheeling.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records; 1920 census; interviews with his son, J. Parker Martin, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Dr. Moir Sanders Martin

Moir Martin was born in 1883 in northwest Stokes County to Dr. Richard Sanders and Emma Moir Martin. He died in Mount Airy in 1960. His parents operated a hospital in Stuart Virginia. Moir attended school in Stuart, Virginia and the Danville Military Institute. He graduated from Hampton-Sidney College and Richmond Medical School.

Dr. Martin returned to Stuart, Virginia and practiced general medicine. However, after several years he went to dental school and came back to Stuart to practice dentistry. After a year he returned to Richmond Medical School and studied surgery.

Dr. Martin returned to Stuart, Virginia but soon thereafter the hospital burned. Dr. Martin, having a wife and three children had to have a place to work. In the fall of 1915, he came to Mount Airy and bought the Irvin Hospital. The name of the hospital was changed to Martin Memorial Hospital in honor of Dr. Martin's father.

In Mount Airy he had a long and distinguished career in medicine where he served as surgeon for over thirty-eight years. Following the ~~burning~~ of Martin Memorial Hospital and the building of the Hospital of Northern Surry, he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He was a person interested in many things and in the civic and economic life of the community.

Dr. Martin was chairman of the Mount Airy School Board. He was president of Workmen's Federal Savings and Loan Association and was on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank and of the Patrick County Bank of Stuart.

In addition to being charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy, Moir also served as the first president of the club. He was one of the seven charter members honored by the Kiwanis club for twenty-five years of membership on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the club in 1946.

Dr. Martin raised Tennessee walking horses, which were champion winners of horse shows throughout North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. He also was a baseball enthusiast and was instrumental in organizing a minor league baseball team in Mount Airy called the Graniteers, which played first in the Blue Ridge (circa 1932-193?) League and then in the Bi-State League (1938-1946).

He married Emma West of Virginia, the daughter of John T. and Mary Ann Jefferson West. They had four children. Richard "Dick" Martin was not married; Virginia Martin married Ralph Maultsby; John Forsyth "Jack" Martin married

Elizabeth Powell; and Elizabeth (Lib) Martin married Thomas Fawcett.

It is remembered that Dr. Martin wore a fresh rose in his coat lapel each day.

Moir was an active member of Central Methodist Church. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records; The Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol. I, Collections and Recollections; Simple Treasures; *Mount Airy News*, 1-5-1960 and 6-30-1991, *Mount Airy Times* Rotogravure Edition, (not dated); interviews with, Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher and Ronald Johnson.

Jesse Franklin Prather

Jesse Prather was born in Bristol, Tennessee in 1877 and died in Washington, D.C. in 1946. He was the son of Joseph W. and Julia Frances DeVault Prather.

Jesse's father, Joseph W. Prather, was the founder of Prather Clothing Company in the late 1800s. The men's clothing store was located on Main Street and was a successful enterprise. Jesse became owner and manager of the store and was a respected merchant. Around 1929 the Prather family moved to Washington, D. C. where Jesse continued his mercantile business as owner of a variety store.

The building of the Masonic temple on Franklin Street, now used by the Granite and the Renfro lodges, was largely due to his efforts. He was instrumental in promoting the project and in urging members of the lodge to build the temple.

He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and a Shriner. He was also an active member of Central Methodist Church.

He married Cora Norman Quincy, the daughter of George R. and Margaret Perkinson Quincy. They had three children: Marian Prather married Wink H. Palmer; Jessica Prather did not marry; and Julia Prather married John Marion Bolick.

Jesse Franklin Prather is buried in Washington D. C.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Simple Treasures, The Heritage of Surry Co. N.C. Vol. I, Collections and Recollections; 1900, 1910 and 1920 census; interviews with his daughter Juliet Prather Bolick, Ruth Minick, historian, and Norris C. Hatcher.

Dr. Henry Boyden Rowe

Dr. Henry Rowe was born in 1885 in Iredell County, North Carolina, the son of Reverend Dr. Joseph C. and Nannie Brown Rowe. Dr. Rowe died in Mount Airy in 1924.

Dr. Rowe attended Trinity College, the University of North Carolina, Jefferson College in Philadelphia and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Maryland.

He came to Mount Airy in 1913 after practicing medicine in Charlotte, N. C. for several years. He established a general practice in Mount Airy and was a popular young doctor.

When the United States entered the Great War, Dr. Rowe volunteered and served as a captain. He was stationed for part of the war at an Army hospital in Maryland. While visiting the camps, he contracted the influenza that was killing

so many people. He survived, but his health was greatly affected.

After the war Henry returned to Mount Airy and resumed his general practice. Shortly thereafter, he decided to specialize in treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He had a physical collapse in 1922 and died in 1924.

Henry married Sallie M. Lovill the daughter of Walter Wiley and Martha Jones Lovill in 1917. They had one son, Henry Boyden Rowe, Jr. who married first, Mary Frances Webb and second Erika Marx Pilcher.

Henry was an active member of Central Methodist Church and was a Mason and Shriner.

He is buried at Oakdale cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records; census of 1920; *Mount Airy News*, 5-15-1924; Alumni History of the University of North Carolina 1795-1924; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

John Davis Sargent

Jack Sargent was born in 1871 in Vermont, the son of Davis and Cordelia Darche Sargent. He died in Mount Airy in 1945.

He was educated in the country schools of Vermont. When still a boy, he went to work at a Vermont granite quarry as a drill boy. He soon became a master of the granite trade, in the use of the chisel and the draftsman pen. From 1893 until 1900 he was superintendent of Fletcher Granite Company at Hardwick, Vermont. From there he went to Woodbury Granite Company also of Hardwich, Vermont where he served as general superintendent until 1908.

He came to Mount Airy in 1910 from Vermont to be the general superintendent of the N. C. Granite Corp. He also

formed the J. D. Sargent Granite Co., a separate firm from the granite company. Jack's success as Superintendent of the N. C. Granite Corp and his success with the J. D. Sargent Company caused the stockholders of the N. C. Granite Corporation to offer Jack the position of President of the Corporation. He became President in 1922 and is credited as being the genius of finance that made the North Carolina Granite Corporation one of the great corporations of the state and nation.

He was a business and civic leader in Mount Airy, generous in his support of churches and of things good for Mount Airy. The *Mount Airy News* article concerning his death stated: "The life and success of Mr. Sargent can be termed as among the most unique in the annals of American individualism."

He was a regular attendant of the First Baptist Church and a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Jack Sargent married Flora Elizabeth Kimball of Vermont in 1894. They had two children. Ruth Deline Sargent married James Drewery Martin, Jr.; John Raymond Sargent married Helen Inez Tatum.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol. I, Simple Treasures; *Mount Airy News*, 6-1-1945 and 6-30-1991; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Claude Augustus Shelton

Claude Shelton was born in Surry County in 1885, the son of William Bass and Julia Lemons Shelton.

In 1910, he was Railroad agent for the Southern Railway Company. In 1920 he was a coal dealer and later he became a building contractor.

In 1917, Claude was appointed Commissioner for the town of Mount Airy to fill the vacancy following the resignation of Dr. R. W. Reece from the town board. He was also chief of the Mount Airy Fire Department in the 1920s and a member of Central Methodist Church.

He married Lucy Estella Poore in 1908. She was a native of Mount Airy and the daughter of Floyd Monroe and Lucy Ann Hull Poore. They had four children: Frances Lee Shelton was not married; Margaret Forrest Shelton married William Vestal; Lucile Shelton married Roy A. Edwards; William Floyd "Bill" Shelton married Ann Freeman.

The Claude Shelton family moved to Asheboro in 1925 and then Siler City in 1927. Claude operated the Gulf Oil Distributorship in Siler City for years.

Claude was active in civic affairs in Siler City as well as a member of the Rotary Club and of the First United Methodist Church of Siler City. Claude was also a member of the Granite Masonic Lodge 322 of Mount Airy and of the Oasis Temple of Shrine in Charlotte.

He and his wife are buried in Siler City.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co.; 1900, 1910 and 1920 census; undated news article from a Siler City newspater in 1977; interviews with Virginia and Jack Leach, Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

James Raymond Smith

Raymond Smith was born in 1895 and died in 1987. He was a native of Mount Airy and the son of Alfred E. and Florence Eugenia Patterson Smith. He appears to have been the last of the charter members to die.

He was a graduate of Duke University, the long time President of National Furniture Corporation, a director of Northwestern

Bank and was a trustee of his Alma Malter, Duke University. In business, he also served as a member of the executive committee of Integon Life Insurance Co., a member of the board of Atlantic and Yadkin Railroad Co. and member of the board of Highland Container Company.

Raymond served in public life as a member of the Mount Airy Board of Commissioners, was a member of the North Carolina Senate, the State Highway Commission on two occasions and the North Carolina Prison Board.

In civic life he also provided service and leadership. He was a member of the board of the Methodist Children's Home in Winston-Salem, was chairman of the board of trustees of Martin Memorial Hospital of Mount Airy, also served as chairman of the Mount Airy Community Foundation and he was a leader of Central Methodist Church. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

In 1923, Raymond married Annie James Hadley the daughter of James A. and Swannanoa Brower Hadley. Annie James Hadley was also a native of Mount Airy. They had two sons: Raymond Alfred Smith married Love Banner Differ; and James Hadley Smith married Emily Elizabeth Blum.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Simple Treasures; *Mount Airy News*, 6-30-1971, 3-3-1987; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris Hatcher.

Thomas J. Smithwick

T. J. Smithwick was born circa 1874 in North Carolina and died in 1933. The names of his parents are not presently known. He was living in Mount Airy in 1901 and lived here until his death.

We get glimpses of his life from the *Mount Airy News* and census records. In 1901 he was an electrician at the granite

quarry and purchased his first automobile. In 1908 he registered to vote in Mount Airy. In 1910 he was employed at the granite quarry. In 1911 he was a machinist at the quarry and announced plans for going into business for himself making automobile and general repair work a specialty. In 1913 he was selling Buick automobiles to leading citizens of the town. In 1914 he bought a lot on the corner of South and Pine and built a 30 by 104 foot fireproof building and enlarged his business. He conducted a foundry in connection with his machine work and made a specialty of all kinds of quarry supplies and automobile repairing. In 1917 he announced he had received a carload of Buick automobiles from the factory and they were priced right at $675 plus freight. In the 1920 census his occupation was given as machinist/garage. He continued his business through the nineteen twenties.

Around 1907 he married Annie Martin of South Carolina. They did not have any children. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons.

Sources: 1910 and 1920 census; *Mount Airy News,* 7-29-1901, 3-23-1911, 5-8-1913, 2-26-1914, 3-29-1917; Surry County Voter Registration (grandfather clause); interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher and Robert E. Merritt.

George Key Snow

George Snow was born in 1891 in the Dobson area of Surry County. He was the son of Reverend Joseph Axom and Cora Elizabeth Key Snow. He died in 1971.

He was educated in the schools of Surry County and graduated from Trinity College (now Duke University) and attended Trinity Law School. He left law school in the spring of 1917 and joined the army. He attended officer's training school at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga. and was commissioned as second lieutenant. He later rose to the rank of Captain and spent a year and a half in France fighting in The Great War.

He was mustered out of the army in July of 1919 and returned to Mount Airy and a few months' later married.

The census of 1920 shows that George was a bookkeeper of a store. In July of that year, he was appointed postmaster of the Mount Airy Post office by President Woodrow Wilson and served in that capacity until 1924. Thus at the time the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy was organized George was post master of Mount Airy. In 1924, he took the State Bar exam and began practicing law that year and was a prominent and highly respected attorney in Mount Airy for over forty years. From 1926 until 1931, he served as solicitor for Mount Airy's Recorder Court and in 1966 was appointed Judge of Mount Airy's Recorder Court. During World War II he was an officer in the national civil defense program.

George was one of the founders of the Jesse B. Jones post of the American Legion. He served as commander of the Jesse B. Jones Post on two occasions, was district commander and was also commander of the North Carolina American Legion organization in 1945 and 1946. One of the things regarding his work with the Jesse B. Jones post that gave George a lot of satisfaction was his work as service officer. He devoted a lot of time in helping disabled Veterans with their disability applications. In 1947 and again in 1949, he was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives. In 1958 he was elected to a two-year term in the North Carolina Senate and in 1962 he was re-elected. While serving in the senate he played a decisive role in leading the effort to establish Surry Community College and the State's Community College system.

The Mount Airy News article regarding his death stated; "He was known during his years as a practicing attorney for often championing the causes of the downtrodden members of society, often without remuneration. George was an active member of Central Methodist Church. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

In 1919 he married Tulla Nina Waller of Granville County, North Carolina. She was the daughter of Bauldwin and Ann Roycroft Waller. They had one son, George K. Snow, Jr. who married Revaughn Taylor.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co. N. C.; Mount Airy News, 12-24-1971, 6-30-1991, Mount Airy Times, "Personalities of the Northwest", ?-?, 1940; 1900, 1910 and 1920 Census. Interviews with his son George Key Snow Jr., Ruth Minick, historian, Madalene T. Comer, Norris C. Hatcher and Carroll F. Gardner.

Joseph Bingman Sparger

Joe Sparger was born near Mount Airy in 1864 and died in Mount Airy in 1947. He was the son of William S. and Sarah Witcher Sparger.

He was educated at local schools and at Oak Ridge Institute. He taught school in the area for several years.

In the 1910 census, he is engaged in real estate and in the 1920 census, he is the manager of an orchard. He was a prominent businessman and civic leader. He developed large tracts of orchards of apples and peaches on the slopes of Slate Mountain. He was one of the original partners of the F. L. Smith Hardware Co. and was responsible for the construction of the large four story granite building at the corner of Main and East Oak Streets, owned later by John B. Midkiff Hardware.

Joe was appointed postmaster in 1924 and served for twelve years. The present post office was built while he was postmaster.

He served on the Mount Airy School Board, the City, Water and Light Commission, the Board of Surry County Commissioners, Chair of the Surry County Highway Commission, was an active champion for good roads and

bridges in Surry County and a leader of the Republican Party in Surry County.

He was an active member of Central Methodist Church and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He married Elizabeth Valeria "Bettie" Case of Guilford County. She was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Prather Case. There were four children and two adopted children making up the family. Margaret Case Sparger married Hobart W. Richardson; Randall Waugh Sparger married Margaret Ashby; William Eugene (King) Sparger married Mary V. Forbes; Collier Bryson Sparger married first, Hope S. Carlson and then Alta S. Jeralds; Mary Lillian (King) Sparger married James Jarvis; and Eloise Sparger married Conrad Siceloff.

Sources: The Heritage of Surry Co., NC Vol. I; *Mount Airy News*, 9-19-1947; 1910 and 1920 Census; Sparger family research by Lorna Barrett; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Abram E. Steel

Abe Steele was born in 1889 in North Carolina and died _____ in Virginia. He was the son of Joseph C. and Aley Ellen Haymore Steele.

He owned a shoe store on Main Street in Mount Airy in 1920. He was also a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons. It is not presently known when he left Surry County. He was living in Hunnington, West Virginia in 1938 when his father died.

He married Annie P. Bryant, the daughter of Sylvester Tip and Beuna Vista Minnish Bryant. In the 1920 census, there was a daughter, Katherine Steel, two years old.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records; 1900, 1910 and 1920 Census; *Mount Airy Times,* 1938 (father's obituary); Cemetery list of

Crossroads Baptist Church (Surry Co.); interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris B. Hatcher, Peggy Comer and Emily Southern..

Lindsay Harrison Swaim

Lindsay Swaim was born in North Carolina circa 1891. He was the son of John H. and Martha Swaim.

In the 1920 census he was manager of the Mount Airy Bottling works. When he left town or where he went is not presently known.

In 1922, he married Mary J. Hannah, daughter of E. A. and Ardinnie Ann Pearson Hannah. There was a daughter born in 1923. Her name was Mary Ethel Swaim.

Sources: Surry County birth, death and marriage records.

Wiley Wilford Thomas

W. W. Thomas was born in Wilkes County North Carolina in 1870 and he died in Mount Airy in 1946. He was the son of Joel and Patience Thomas. He came to Mount Airy in 1890 to learn the stone cutting trade. In 1900 he opened the W. W. Thomas Grocery Store. He was a successful grocery merchant on Main Street for over 45 years.

He was instrumental in the progress of the community, having served as City Engineer and also a Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners for several years.

W. W. Thomas was a member of Central Methodist Church and a Steward of the Church for some years. He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He was married in 1904 to Bernice Bryant of Dobson, North Carolina, the daughter of Sylvester Tip and Beuna Vista Minnish Bryant. They had five daughters two of whom died in infancy. Annie Wilford Thomas did not marry; Mary Bryant Thomas married Dennie Spry; and Frances Virginia Thomas married Buck White.

Sources: Census of 1900 and 1920; Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher; *Mount Airy News,* 2-15-1946.

John D. Thompson

John D. was born in neighboring Patrick County Virginia in 1871, the son of W. Taylor and Matilda Ann Inman Thompson. He came to Mount Airy as a young man and for over fifty years was a furniture merchant and prominent citizen of the city and county. He formed and owned Thompson Furniture Store on Main Street. He died in 1952.

He was a public-spirited man and was interested in and supported the community. He served as Sheriff of Surry County from 1930 until 1936 and was mayor of Mount Airy from 1937 until 1945. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons, a member of Central Methodist Church and he is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

He married Alice Fry, daughter of Joseph and Susan Witt Fry. He had two daughters: Irene Thompson who married J. H. Allred; and Mary Thompson who married Carl Simmons.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Simple Treasures, Heritage of Surry Co. NC, Vol. I, Collection and Recollections; 1910 and 1920 census; *Mount Airy News,* 11-5-1952; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Anderson Green Webb

A. G. Webb (Called Green by family members) was born in neighboring Carroll County, Virginia in 1883. He was the son of Anderson Alexander and Virginia Alice Webb Webb. He died in 1974.

He came to Mount Airy when he was eighteen years old and lived in the Granite City for over seventy-three years. He was a successful wholesale dry goods merchant for over fifty years. A. G. was a partner in Granite Mercantile Company. He served as secretary and treasurer of the company. He also was an appraiser for and member of the Board of Directors of Workmen's Federal Savings and Loan Association.

A. G. had a four hundred acre farm north of Mount Airy and owned a herd of Golden Guernsey cows. He owned Prudential Dairy, which used to deliver dairy products door to door in Mount Airy.

Additionally, he was a long time member of the Mount Airy Merchants Association and was Chief of the Mount Airy Fire Department when the first motorized fire vehicle was bought in Mount Airy. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons for seventy-five years and was a member of First Baptist Church in Mount and was Superintendent of Sunday School. His daughter Christine also reports that A. G. paid for thirty-three years of college education for his children. Wow!

A. G. married Lena Maude Cruise of Carroll Co. Virginia. She was the daughter of David and Martha Alice Goad Cruise. There were eight children: Maude Alma Webb married Jess Banner; Edgar Green Webb married Mabel Lee Woods; Claudia Velma Webb married James William Gray; Robert Webb died in infancy; David Locke Webb married Irene Bonnett; Lewis Benton Webb married Bessie Lou Bray; Howard Webb died in infancy; Jesse Alton Webb married _____; Mary Frances Webb married Henry Boyden Rowe, Jr. and Martha Christine Webb married William Maynard Beamer.

He is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County; Census records of 1910 and 1920; interviews with his daughter Christine Webb Beamer, Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher.

Addison Verona West

A. V. West was born in 1878 and was a native of Sampson County, North Carolina. He was the son of Samuel West and Emily Marie Layton. He died in Mount Airy in 1943.

He came to Mount Airy in1903 when he became an associate with J. M. Hill in the West-Hill Company, a wholesale grocery company. Later in life he was engaged in several business enterprises including, manager of Mount Airy Clothing Manufacturing Company and also with the North Carolina Department of Revenue.

A. V. was mayor of Mount Airy from 1921 until 1925. He was mayor at the time the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy was chartered. He was extremely active in the church and civic affairs of the city. It was largely through the efforts of him and his partner, J. M. Hill that the Granite Church of First Baptist Church was planned, started and completed. A. V. was always greatly involved in the work of the Baptist denomination in the area and for the last ten years of his life he headed the denominations work in Surry County. He had been a deacon in the church for many years.

In 1906 A. V. married Myrtle Allred the only daughter of Dr. Edward W. and Sarah E. Cox Allred. They had one daughter Verona Allred West who married John Smith.

A. V. West is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry County, NC; Census records on 1920; *Mount Airy Times*, Rotogravure Edition (not dated), *Mount Airy News,* 5-28-1943; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher.

Coleman Morrison Whitlock

Coley Whitlock was born in 1896, a native of Richmond Virginia. He was the son of Howard Lansing Whitlock and Helen Hill Whitlock. He died in 1964.

He was a Civil Engineer for many years with Southern Public Utilities Company in Mount Airy. It is believed that at least for part of that time he also served as the local manager of Southern Public Utilities Company. Southern Public Utilities was the predecessor of Duke Power Company.

He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Mount Airy and was for a number of years Senior Warden of the Church. He was a member of the Granite Lodge of Masons and he is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

Coley married Gertrude Bryant Turnbull daughter of Charles and Victoria Mallary Turnbull. They had three children: Dr. Coleman Morrison Whitlock, Jr. married Mary Louise Merritt; Evelyn Patricia Whitlock married John Knox Pownall; and Dr. Robert Turnbull Whitlock married _____.

Sources: Birth, death and marriage records of Surry Co.; *Mount Airy News,* 4-17-1961; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian, Norris C. Hatcher and Robert E. Merritt.

James Fletcher Yokley

Jim Yokley was born in 1888 the son of John Alexander and Flora Elizabeth Siceloff.

Following his service in The Great War, or World War I, Jim founded the Mount Airy Chair Company. He was a leading industrialist in Mount Airy.

In addition to being one of the charter members of the Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy, he served as the twelfth president of the club in 1935. He was also one of the seven charter members honored by the club in 1946 for twenty-five years of club membership.

Jim Yokley is remembered for his tireless efforts to gain support for bringing the Reeves YMCA to Mount Airy.

He was a member of the Granite Masonic Lodge and a member of the Committee to build the Masonic Temple in Mount Airy. He was also a member of Central Methodist Church and is buried at Oakdale Cemetery.

In 1922 Jim married Sallie Irene Hadley, the daughter of James Alfred and Swannanoa Brower Hadley. They had no children.

Sources: Birth, death and Marriage records of Surry Co.; 1910 and 1920 census. Simple Treasures; interviews with Ruth Minick, historian and Norris C. Hatcher, and Robert E. Merritt.