

## Bones, Anna Marie CALL and the Call/Dawson Family

Interviewed by Dean Bones in 1983

*Typed by Dean Bones*

Anna Marie CALL Bones was born in Rifle, Colorado, in 1902. Her dad, Oscar Watts Call, had tuberculosis and had moved his family to Rifle from Sedan, Kansas, because of the higher climate which was to have been beneficial in the fight against the disease. As it became apparent that he was going to die, the family moved back to Sedan, Kansas.

After his death 13 November 1904 Anna's mother, Mary Temperance WILLIAMS Call moved her family of 5 children back to Colorado. She was following a doctor's advice in order to try to prevent the children from coming down with TB.

In order to keep the children together and to provide for them, Mary Temperance picked dewberries during the day and took in washing to do at night to earn money.



*Mary Temperance Call is right below the X marked on the photo above. These people are all at a location in Colorado picking dewberries.*

Within several years, Mary remarried to Grant Ulysses Dawson on 21 September 1905. Grant's 1st wife, Catherine Mae WOODYARD Dawson had died 10 years earlier.

At some point after the marriage Grant and Mary decided to move west. In 1908 the family of 8 including an infant (Grant Dawson age 43, Mary WILLIAMS Call Dawson age 31, Erma Larue Call age 12, Robert Jephthia Call age 10, Mayme Harriett Call age 8, Anna Marie Call age 5, Arthur Burton Call age 3, and Melvin Elsworth Dawson born 18 July 1907), traveled in a covered wagon on the way to Oregon. Also, two of Grant Dawson's children from his first marriage traveled with the covered wagon, Louie Dawson who would have been about 21 years old and Anna Mae Catharine "Carrie" Dawson who would have been about 12 years old. The covered wagon had chicken wire all around the wagon so that the kids wouldn't fall out. They traveled alone always stopping on Sundays and Mondays. Sundays were days of rest, and Mondays were washing days.

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*Below is a photo of the 5 Call children in a photo earlier than 1908. Erma is holding baby Arthur, clockwise . . . Robert, Mayme, Anna.*



One of the experiences that Anna remembers from when she was 5 years old traveling in the covered wagon is that their dog, Rover, washed off of the wagon when they were fording the Snake River. They were sure their dog drowned. But several days later Rover caught up with them!

Another experience was that as they were traveling through the forest near Hood River the forest caught on fire perhaps from lightning. Anna's step-dad went on ahead with the wagon and horses while Anna's mom and children ran through the forest. The fire was on both sides of the road and was making loud crackling noises as trees caught on fire. The reason the wagon went on ahead was that they were afraid it would catch on fire easily. *(Note: It's amazing and frightening to stop and picture in our minds what each of those in the Dawson/Call family must have been emotionally feeling during the time of Mary and the kids running through the forest with fire around them. db)*

They made it through the fire. And later at Grand Ronde they happened upon a fight between 2 Indian men that was very frightening for the family. When they finally entered Tillamook County they stayed one night at the old Dolph Hotel. People by the name of Foster ran it. Then they went down the Little Nestucca River over the corduroy road. They finally landed at Oretown and the end of their journey after 3 months traveling. They camped in the Earl Porter field until they found a house across from the old Oretown Cheese Factory. At that time Erma, Robert and Mayme went to Oretown School for a while. After that home burned they moved to a ranch on Bridge Lane's place, and Erma, Robert and Mayme attended Central School. *(Would this have been Union School?db)*

Grant and Mary then purchased a place at Meda beside Grandpa Bower's' place that is now called the Sumbs place. And they had a daughter, Marguerite Dawson.

Anna remembers that these people lived in the Meda area when the Dawsons & Calls came to Meda: Penters, Dunns, Cravens, Beckwiths, Fosters, Hess, Wilsons, Fox and Goulds.

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Mary, Anna's mom, was the local midwife. She helped bring many children into the world including Cravens, Weiss, Hurlimans and Reddekopps. She was also the local undertaker taking care of the bodies until the burial and giving comfort to the families.

Anna began working out of the home at age 11 years old! She took care of children and helped with the cooking for families when the mother was ill or expecting a baby or worked out simply when some family needed help. She still gets embarrassed when she thinks of the flat cake she made for one family when she forgot to put in the sugar. And she remembers the time that she put a tablespoon of salt in cookies. She remembers that the men she cooked for always ate what she fixed and always bragged on her.

Also, as a young girl she made the bread for the family before going to school. And note that she walked one mile to school down their very steep hill and then 1 mile up their very steep hill after school.

In 1919 Anna Marie CALL married Walter Joe Bones from Dayton, Or. At that time Anna was working in Newberg at a mill along with her older sister, Mayme. Walter and Anna lived in Dayton, Timber, Tillamook and Meda before settling in Beaver.

Walter worked as a logger, employee of a lumber mill, and also he worked for 17 years on the Oregon State Highway crew.

Anna cleaned the cabins that are now gone at the 101 Camp and also cooked there. She also worked in a restaurant in Neskowin and was the janitor at Beaver School for awhile. She worked in the kitchen at the Hebo Inn for years washing the dishes and perhaps doing other jobs. After all of that she worked for her daughter and son-in-law Leta BONES and Elton Williams at *Leta and Elton's Grocery Store* in Beaver which later became *Fox Grocery*.

Anna says that she would still like to work but that she's worn out! She does still crochet and knit making many items including Afghans and pillows.

In 1986 in the year Anna was interviewed she has one brother living, Bob Call, who lives in Portland and one living sister, Marguerite DAWSON Smith who lives in Tillamook. Another of Anna's brothers, Art Call, was well known in South Tillamook County before passing away several years ago. Anna currently has 2 children, Leta BONES Williams Mentzer (husband Arnie Mentzer) and Raymond Elsworth Bones (wife Clarice JONES Bones, 8 grandchildren, Loretta Williams, Phyllis Williams, Dennis Williams, Steve Williams and Keith Bones, Dean Bones, Susan Bones and Sharon Bones, 12 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

*Note, that Grant and Mary Dawson and an infant son are buried in the Oretown Community Cemetery in Oretown, Oregon, as are others of the family. Grant died in 1940 at the age of 76, and Mary died in 1957 at the age of 80.*

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*Erma Call married Archibald Simon May and lived most of her adult life near Ryderwood, Cowlitz County, Washington. She had 3 sons and 3 daughters. She died in 1955 at the age of 59.*

*Robert "Bob" Call married Leola Irene Todd and lived most of his adult life in Portland, Oregon. He had 2 sons and a daughter. He died in 1987 at the age of 89.*

*Mayme Call married Harold Melvin Fogg and lived in the Tillamook, Oregon, area. Mayme and Harold had 1 son, Junior, who died at 4 years old and 1 daughter, Antoinette Emery. Mayme died in 1931 at the age of 31!*

*Anna Call married Walter Bones and lived in the Beaver, Oregon, area of South Tillamook County most of her life. She had 1 daughter, Leta and 1 son, Raymond. Anna died in 1989 at the age of 86.*

*Arthur "Art" Call married Ora Gist and after Ora's death married Mildred Gann. Art lived in the Hebo, Oregon, area most of his life. He had 4 daughters. Art died in 1975 at the age of 70.*

*Melvin Dawson married Rosalie "Rose" Phelps and lived in the Beaver, Oregon, area most of his life. He had 2 sons, 1 of whom died during birth and 2 daughters. Melvin contracted polio and later died in 1958 at the age of 51.*

*Marguerite Dawson married Lynn "Smitty" Smith and lived in Tillamook, Oregon, most of her life. She had 3 daughters. Marguerite died in in 2000 at the age of 90.*