WRITTEN IN STONE

The 1918 Flu Epidemic as Experienced in a Western North Carolina Community
Jerry Pinkerton MD

- Diplomat
- American Board of Internal Medicine
- American Board of Pediatrics

APRIL 8, 2014
Spanish Flu
The Influenza Pandemic of 1918

• 1/3 of the world was infected
• 40-100 million died
• Estimated 675,000 Americans died
• Ten times more than World war I
• Twenty five times more deadly than ordinary flu (2.5 % fatal rather than .1%)
• The life expectancy dropped 12 years (1917 51, 1918 39, 1919 50)
Alfred Crosby

• “Whatever the exact number felled by the 1918 flu, one thing is indisputable: the virus killed more humans than any other disease in a period of similar duration in the history of the world.”
“W” fatality Curve
Waves
Stalin

• When one man dies it’s a tragedy, when a million die it’s a statistic.
“Observe, record, tabulate, communicate. Use your five senses. Learn to see, learn to hear, learn to feel, learn to smell, and know that by practice alone you can become expert.”

William Osler
OSLER

• “Archie you lunatic: I’ve been watching this case for two months and I’m sorry I shall not see the post mortem”

• Osler to Archie Malloch his friend, student and personal physician after Malloch tried to encourage him after a thoracentesis (which showed Hemophilus influenzae)
Thomas Wolfe

- While a student at the University of North Carolina in 1918 he received a telegram from home in Asheville, his brother Benjamin Harrison Wolfe was ill with the flu.

- He tells the story in *Look Homeward Angel*
Wilkes County
The Great State of Wilkes
CLEVELAND
TORY OAK
NEW TORY OAK
26th Carolina
THE ANGLE
PETTIGREW UNC Class of 1947
WILKES COUNTY
Wilkes County
Wilkes County
WILKES COUNTY
Wilkes County
Tom Dula
THOMAS C. DULA
( TOM DOOLEY )
BORN WILKES CO. 1845
DIED IREDELL CO. 1868
SERVED SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY BRAVELY
1862-1865 FORTY SECOND N. C. REGIMENT
Cheng and Eng Bunker
PEARSON
Wilkes Sasquatch?
Wilkes County
Wilkes County
WILKES COUNTY
Wilkes County
WILKES COUNTY
1907 Hospital
Journal Patriot February 14, 1919

• “Notice to parents: All parents are advised not to send children to school who are in anyway suffering from colds, coughs, sore throat, or any form of eruption on the face, or where there has been influenza in the home within the last two weeks without seeing the family physician and getting a health certificate.

• Drs WP HORTON  EM Hutchens CS Sink
Brame Drug
PRESCRIPTION OVERDOSAGES
Wilkes County
OUR RESPONSE

2012 Clandestine Lab Responses
Total: 460

North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation
MORAVIAN FALLS
Rock Creek (not so good old days)
Rock Creek
DAD

ELIHU
1860 — 1934
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maggie</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>New York</td>
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</table>
Miss Hessie
North Wilkesboro
Laurel Springs

- Ruby Mae Segraves 11 years old, dtr of Mr C.A. Segraves of Laurel Springs, NC accidently killed when caught in spindle of water wheel on October 22, 1924 — Wilkes Patriot
Moravian Falls
Moravian Falls
Mt Carmel Church
Cemetery
Windy Gap Community
Sparks Family

GRACE
Dec 18, 1905 Born
Jan 27, 1906 Died
Apr 1, 1919
13 yrs 32 days
Walter
Trudy

TRUDY LAWSPARKS
AUG. 11, 1883
JAN. 14, 1919

LUTHER LEE SPARKS
OCT. 15, 1908
DEC. 26, 1921
Pearsons

- Joseph and Nancy six children
- Dillard Stokes b 1/12/1893
- Stella Mae b 5/3/1895
- Chap Proffiiit b 4/28/1898
- Ernest Sparks b 5/31/1900
- Martha Naomi b 8/8/1903
- Ary Dianne b 6/13/1905
Stella Mae

Stella May Pearson
May 3, 1895
Jan. 14, 1919
Joseph Lindsay Pearson
Oct. 11, 1874
Jan. 18, 1919
Chap Proffit Pearson
Apr. 28, 1898
Feb. 11, 1919
Stokes Pearson  Jul 18, 1918
Howard Pearson of Moravian Falls dies at his home

Posted: Friday, September 6, 2013 2:03 pm

Howard Pearson, 70, of Moravian Falls, went to live with his Heavenly Father after passing peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. He fought a long and courageous battle with cancer.

He was born Nov. 25, 1942 in Wilkes County to Jeter and Flossie Smith Pearson. He was a member of Sharon Walker Baptist Church. Howard was a kind, caring, and loving man, who strived in life for his family and friends. Howard enjoyed woodworking and telling people about the Lord.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by one sister, Linda Pearson.

Survivors include his wife, Deeda Anglin Pearson of the home; two daughters, Marlene Kilby and husband, Roy, of Moravian Falls, and Jennifer Hiatt and husband, Eric, of Boomer; one son, Wayne Pearson and wife, Joanicke, of Knoxville, Tenn.; his mother, of Moravian Falls; three sisters, Martha Parlier of Lenoir, Rachel Pearson and husband (J.C.), and Loretta Land and husband, Richard, all of Boomer; two brothers, Leonard Pearson and wife, Wilhamenia, of Moravian Falls, and Sam Pearson and wife, Bobbie Sue, of Hiddenite; five grandchildren, Christopher Ellis, Alexandria Kilby, Samantha Pearson, Alasan Pearson and Wesley Pearson; and four great-grandchildren, Victor Horton, Aiden Ellis, Nickolas Paterson and Jack Kilby.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Saturday at Sharon Walker Baptist Church with the Rev. Fred Staley, the Rev. Paul Laws and Dr. Jerry Pinkerton officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery with the Rev. Richard Blevins officiating.

The body will be placed in the home on Friday, and the family will receive after 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. The family will receive friends at Sharon Walker Baptist Church from 1 until 2 p.m. Saturday prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Wilkes Pregnancy Care Center, 1224 School Street, Wilkesboro, N.C. 28697; or to Sharon Walker Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 8780 West N.C. Highway 268, Boomer, N.C. 28606.

Notes of sympathy may be emailed to the Pearson Family at www.adamsfunerals.com.

Adams Funeral Home of Wilkes is serving the Pearson Family.

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Mrs. Joines

- Born 1/26/1851 in Tennessee
- Married Wes Joines from Wilkes County at 16
- Moved to Pore’s Knob
- Raised 11 children
- Set up hospital at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
- Cared for sick with a single pot bellied stove
- Left food wood at door
- And a wagon to ride home on!
Pores Knob
Sadie May
Daughter of
J.D. & Leora Hester
Born Mar. 17, 1818
Died Oct. 27, 1918
Gone so soon...
Sadie Mae Hester
John Hester
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*JOHN*
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2013-14

- Yellow: A(Subtyping not performed)
- Orange: 2009 H1N1
- Red: A(H3)
- Purple: H3N2v
- Green: B
- Black: Percent Positive

Week
Number of Positive Specimens
Percent Positive
Last things

• 99348