



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

THE SCOTTO FAMILY

OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS

Scotto • Harris • Dunston • Myrick • Wesley • Grant • Knight
Family Histories Collection | Contributed by Martha Washington George, Relative

WARREN HENRY SCOTTO & MARY HARRIS SCOTTO



Warren Henry Scotto worked as a log scaler at the Jacksonville Sawmill for several years. He was funeralized and buried in Green Cove Springs in 1921. Originally from South Carolina, he vowed never to return. No information about his parents is currently known. Census records identified his race inconsistently as White, Negro/Black, or Mulatto.



Mary Harris, his wife, was born in Live Oak, Florida. Her father, Thomas S. Harris, was enslaved at birth in Covington, Georgia, and later moved to Florida after emancipation. He was appointed to serve as U.S. Postmaster at the Live Oak Post Office from September 17, 1898, to March 2, 1905. His appointment overlapped with his service as a delegate to the Republican National Convention, representing the State of Florida.

THE NEXT GENERATION

During their marriage, Warren Henry and Mary Harris Scotto had four children: Warren Maceo, Cynthia, Emily, and Frenchie.

THE SCOTTO CHILDREN

Family, Service, Education & Community



CYNTHIA SCOTTO DUNSTON MYRICK

Cynthia Scotto Dunston Myrick had a passion for sewing and brought a joyful spirit to everything she did. She was the only one of her siblings who raised her family in Green Cove Springs. Her grandson, Rodney Dunston, was a track star at Clay County High School. He attended Georgia Tech for several years before serving in the military and later retiring from AT&T.



WARREN MACEO SCOTTO

Warren Maceo served in the military, married Adele Cole, and moved to New York City. After retiring in New York, he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, to care for his mother after she became legally blind. He later returned to work at the Robert Meyer Hotel, once known as a prominent downtown Jacksonville hotel, and remained active with New Bethel AME Church.



EMILY SCOTTO WASHINGTON WESLEY

Emily Scotto Washington Wesley was a cosmetology instructor at Edward Waters College, now Edward Waters University. She later retired from the banking industry. One of the family's relatives was Bishop Abraham Grant, an early bishop of the AME Church. Born into slavery in Lake City, Florida, he later became known as a Hebrew scholar, educator, counselor, and politician. Emily cared for Bishop Grant's widow, Maude, after Maude lost her sight to glaucoma, and raised six children who went on to successful careers in Jacksonville, Florida, and Atlanta, Georgia.



FRENCHIE SCOTTO KNIGHT

Frenchie Scotto Knight attended Bethune-Cookman College, now Bethune-Cookman University, and later retired as an elementary school teacher. She married radio and television personality Ken Knight, identified in the family history as the first African American to host a television show in Duval County. Frenchie was also a founder of the Jacksonville, Florida, graduate chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated.

ARCHIVAL NOTE

Martha Washington George, a relative, contributed this family history. Grammar, punctuation, and formatting have been edited for readability while preserving the substance of the contributor's account.