

Nicolls Family Doings – 1933

FALL 2023

BY CAROL KAUFFMAN

(I found this in one of my mom's – Aunt Mary's diaries. Apparently, she was paraphrasing Grandma's journal from 1933. I found this fascinating as I imagined our relatives – great grandparents, great aunts and uncles, aunts, uncles, mothers, fathers - all going about their daily activities and then coming home to 26 Delaware. Does someone have the original diary?)



1933 Uncle Don,
Uncle Dave, Bill Hart



1933 Aunt Ruth,
Howard M, Uncle Gene



1933 Grandpa &
Grandma on the left.

January: *Grandma got to town several times. She cashed ½ GEM book to get a lamp, a puzzle, dress, jumper material for Betty, shoes and coats for Gene and Dave, and two small rugs. She helped out with a Community Supper. Betty got chicken pox, and the “sign” went up on the 24th. Grandpa hunted coons.*

Feb?

March: *The family went to a car museum, Grandma visited Ruth and Howard and saw “She Done Him Wrong”. She worked on the puzzle she bought. Grandma and Ruth went window shopping at Gimbel’s and Kaufman’s where they enjoyed lunch and then hopped on a bus to Youngstown. Grandma finally bought a new hat, gloves, and house dresses. Grandma suffered from a toothache, which kept her up all night – and she couldn’t eat much! She finally got to the dentist on the 22nd and 24th. Apparently, it was fixed, as there was no more mention of the dreaded toothache. At the end of the month, Gene was home sick with “cough and stomach” – and Betty, Bob, Don, Ruth, and Ann went to “Kiddie’s Club”.*

April: *It rained a lot, even on Easter! Someone named “Walkie” figures prominently at this point – Grandma mentions him/her? 5 times. Grandma and Ann were in charge of class program. The boys got clothes, and Betty, Bob, and Don got shoes, and after Sunday School on the 23, “went to Akron and saw Macon (?) come down.” They picked violets on the 29th and 30th. “Beebe’s came out, too.”*

May: *Grandma worked in the flower garden on May 1st. Tennis was played for the first time on the 21st. “Walkie” appears on the 16th, 17th, and 22nd “til 1:15 a.m. But on the 31st, “Walkie ended on midnight”.*



1933? Aunt Betty,
Grandma Minnie,
Aunt Ruth



1933? Uncle Bob,
Uncle Art, Uncle
Dave, Uncle Don
kneeling.

June: There was a program for Children's Day on the 17th. There were bake sales and Lawn Fetes, then on the 18th, all the folks came out for a picnic dinner and when they went back, they exchanged Don and Bob for Erma and Shirley. A picnic at Mill Creek and an evening trip to Idora rounded out the month.

July: Fifty people attended the annual Reunion at Jones Park in Clarksville, PA on the 2nd. IT RAINED!!! Gene went to Grandma Nic's. On the 4th, Grandpa played golf and Grandma "loafed all day". On the 16th, they went to C. Lake for a picnic with the McCrone's and Folks. Jen and Art came back with them. The following Sunday, Clara and Lee Earl came out, and took Art and Dave back with them. It was very hot. On the 26th, Ruth Ann, Ann, and Grandma went out to see Marge. Betty and Grandpa skated at Idora on Friday the 28th, on Saturday, Jennie and Gene were sick in bed, and Sunday, "went out home. Got Dave. Hot!!!"

August: Shopping - got 2 dresses - one a yellow eyelet and material to make another - for 1.98. Betty got 2 dresses, 2 pairs of shoes, etc. Grandpa played a lot of golf and everyone played tennis. More picnics. Ruth and Howard came out about 6PM on the 12th. Went to Lawn Fete, then to Idora. Went on the Wild Cat - oh!!! On the 23rd, Betty, Ruth, Don, and Grandma went to C-ville. More picnics and dances. Grandma bought another new dress and hat.

September: Grandma went to a party at Peterson's on the 1st and "ruined new dress". On the 2nd went to Lake Erie, where they waded, swam, and generally had a lot of fun. The "kids" had wiener roast with 25 people. Uncle Red's (?) funeral was the 14th. He was killed on Sun. the 10th. Grandma and Grandpa went to ?? on the 17th with Ann and Bowse. Took airplane ride. The next week, Grandma canned jelly and relish, ordered Christmas cards from Mabel K, and Grandpa was back at the dog races - 4 times. A new bed for the boys' room at "storage sale". The next day they "changed bedrooms."

LIFE IN 1933



1933 or 1934 -
Betty, Bob, Dave,
seated: Don, Gene,
Ruth

October: *World Series - Grandma listened while she cleaned, washed windows, etc. Then, "Covers and us to races". Children practiced at church for Rally Day. Still playing tennis. Grandma finally got the whole house cleaned. There was a fish fry supper at church. Grandma helped decorate the church for the Pumpkin Pie Social, which made \$9. 21st, Grandma went to town and got Betty a new coat for 7.95 and hat and dress. Then children went to great grandma's for the afternoon and supper. Ruth, Howard, and Marian came to go to the dog races. They didn't get to bed til 2:30. Grandma cleaned the attic and took porch furniture in just in time for the first snow on the 25th. Ruth got sick. Friday - "to Keith to see Ace of Aces tonite". 28th - Betty, Bob, and Dave to town all day.*

November: ??

December: *Piano got tuned, Grandpa went coon hunting, there was choir practice, lots of baking for bake sale, which made about \$9. Trip to C-ville. It snowed, went down to "zero and below". Had car trouble. On the 18th, Grandma went to town and had her hair set, bought a black dress for 5.95, then went to a show with Myrt and Marge. Grandma washed, ironed, cleaned, made candy, went to school entertainment. Grandma and Grandpa up all day on the 25th. "Nice day. Nice Christ." Then, on the 31st, "everyone staid up till 1934!!"*



1935 Christmas. I
didn't find a 1933
Christmas pic.

My Q's: Who or what is "Walkie?" And who is Uncle Red? Barb?
Anyone?