Henry M. Amis
23rd Sheriff

1936

Henry M. Amis served as Sheriff from 1936 – 1943.

Henry M. Amis was born February 28, 1882 and is the adopted son of William W. Amis. The Amis family can trace their Henry County origins to William Amis (1811-1881) who died in Henry County and was buried near Greenwood with his wife.

Henry was married to Ella Daniel (born June 25, 1882, died February 14, 1974) they had six children.

Eck Brannan and Hiram Cook (later Sheriff) were his deputies.

One high priority was tracking down and destroying moonshine stills in the county. This was the time of the moonshine business, and Henry County had its share.

There is a tale of one such raid that Henry Amis and his deputies carried out: Sheriff Amis and his deputies surprised the operation of one of the largest stills ever raided in Henry County. Everyone scattered, trying to run through the broom sage and pine thicket. As the culprits were running, Deputy Eck Brannan ran after them. (The author interjected for those who never knew "Mr. Eck", he stood about seven feet tall.) When he caught them they stated that had Eck not been on a horse he never would have caught them. The fact was that Deputy Brannan was on foot.

Sheriff Amis died November 8, 1943 before finishing his term. He and his wife are buried in grid 19 of the McDonough Memorial Cemetery.

If you have photographs or additional information about past Sheriff's of Henry County that you would like to share for this display, please contact Lt. Jack Oakman at 770-288-7034.