



Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Dawn Taylor, President

William G. Barron, Vice President

Marcia Gordon McLaurin, Secretary & Newsletter Editor

N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

Neil Randall, Council-at-Large

April 2020

Vol. 16, No. 2

WITHOUT A PAST, THERE IS NO FUTURE

**ALL IN-PERSON SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS POSTPONED
UNTIL COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED IN FULL
*MEETINGS WILL BE VIRTUAL***

VIRTUAL BUSINESS MEETING:

Date: May 9, 2020

Time: 11:00 AM

Executive Committee (Officers) Meet at 10:30 AM at Marcia's backyard or front porch

Place: Virtual meeting for members via Zoom meeting. You may call or use link for video.

INSTRUCTIONS HERE:

Email link will be sent to those with email addresses.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/4606637067?](https://zoom.us/j/4606637067?pwd=bkZNCU9vdDlxS9SVUZLTWNwNDAXdz09)

[pwd=bkZNCU9vdDlxS9SVUZLTWNwNDAXdz09](https://zoom.us/j/4606637067?pwd=bkZNCU9vdDlxS9SVUZLTWNwNDAXdz09)

Meeting ID: 460 663 7067

Password: 542378920 or LIBERTY20

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/4606637067?pwd=bkZNCU9vdDlxS9SVUZLTWNwNDAXdz09>

2020 Annual Meeting

We will be voting on new officers June 13th.

Email/phone nominations for officers will end on

May 9, 2020. Please contact Neil Randall at

(985) 290-2325 cell or email him at

Jrand57@msn.com with nominations.

Announcements:

LRSH:

Closed for renovations until further notice. There will be a notification about helping with renovations in the near future.

MEMBER AUTOBIOGRAPHIES:

We are asking all members who are willing to please submit a mini-autobiography to help other members get to know you! Please include where you live, your connection to Amite County, your hobbies, family information, etc. You get the drift! Include anything that would help others get to know you better! One member will be published in each newsletter! How exciting! Thanks to Sonya Johnson for including hers this month! See pages 3-4.

NEWSLETTER:

If anyone has experience with writing newsletters, owns Microsoft Publisher, and is willing to help with or write the newsletter, please email us at amitecohistory@gmail.com or call Marcia McLaurin at (601) 988-4077 so we can discuss this possibility with you.

ACHGS Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2020

Meeting was held at the Liberty Baptist Church Family Life Center. 5 were in attendance. Everyone who missed the meeting missed some custom ACHGS cookies made by Dawn Taylor's cousin and fresh Louisiana strawberries with whipped cream and pound cake with coffee courtesy of Greg Barron! Neil Randall brought a strawberry cake from Louisiana! Yummy!

Invocation by Greg Barron, VP.

Meeting called to order at 11:05 by Dawn Taylor, Pres.

President's Report: No report

Vice President's Report: No report

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer absent

Secretary: Minutes read and motion by Virginia Zeigler to accept minutes and 2nd by Mary Ann Gerhardt. Minutes approved. Annual dues are due in June. If you haven't paid by the September meeting, then you will be considered an inactive member until the following June. If you pay at any other time during the year, then you will still owe dues in June. We are having too many people pay late and still receiving the benefits of membership. In the future we will no longer issue membership cards as it is an unnecessary expense. We will mail out letters stating you have paid to the people who receive the newsletter by mail and will email the people who receive the newsletter by email. Motion by Greg Barron to accept these changes. 2nd Neil Randall. Motion passed.

New Business: Moving April meeting until the 25th due to the next regular meeting date falling on Easter weekend to plan for Heritage Days. We will set up outside if the weather permits. We will discuss Heritage Days at the April meeting. Stockdale Rangers and Franklin Rifles have been invited to come to Heritage Days and set up on the lawn. Need to have slate of officers ready for the April meeting. We need to replace some blinds in the LRSB again. Greg Barron suggested that we put 1850's window shades in the windows instead. Marcia McLaurin will check into getting the shades made. The window near the stairs will have to be replaced. We need a new printer to print the newsletter that uses less ink and will print two-sided because the old printer that was donated is no longer working correctly and cannot be repaired. Motion to buy a new printer made by Virginia Zeigler and 2nd by Greg Barron. Motion carried to buy a new printer for less than \$400.

Old Business: The Bible records will not be scanned as a group session. Please submit your bible records to Gay Blalock at gayblalock@gmail.com or contact Marcia McLaurin and she can scan them for you.

Motion to adjourn the meeting Greg Barron and 2nd Virginia Zeigler. Motion passed.

200+ Years in Amite County, Mississippi

By Sonya Chisolm Johnson

In 1810 William Burt, born in Jan. 1762 in Prince George, Virginia, and his wife, Martha Bates, born 1765 in Orangeburgh, Barnwell, South Carolina, applied and received a Georgia Passport that allowed them and their three children, Isabella, Elizabeth, and William Burt, III to travel to Amite County, Mississippi Territory through the Creek Indian Nation. William had purchased this land in Amite County in 1807 in Wilkinson County, Mississippi. He is shown on both the 1810 and 1816 Mississippi Territorial Census as a resident of Amite County, Mississippi.

John Chisholm, born possibly in 1790-1795 in Orangeburgh, Barnwell County, South Carolina appears on court records of Amite County twice in March, 1816. Once when he married Elizabeth Burt, daughter of William and Martha Bates Burt and second when he purchased land on the west side of the East Amite River near the Thompson Community of today. John and Elizabeth had six children, Mary Ann, Calvin, Daniel, Henry, William, and Martha Jane Chisholm. John died about 1834 and there are 20 years of probate records on his estate in Amite County since he did not have a will. After Widow Elizabeth Chisholm married Micajah Andrews in 1837, the court appointed Burton Bates as guardian of the minor children. Calvin, Daniel, William, and Martha Jane.

Henry had died by then and Mary Ann married Ezekiel Allred in 1835. Ezekiel and Mary Ann had seven children, Alice Elizabeth, John Ezra, William H., Harriet A. "Addie", Ezekiel E., and Sarah Adaline Allred. Mary Ann died about 1853 and Ezekiel married second, Louretta Wainwright. They had ten children. Calvin married his step-sister, Harriet Watson Andrews in 1844. They had ten children.

In 1849, Daniel (Washington) Chisholm married Elizabeth Frances Nettles, daughter of Elisha and Elizabeth Christine Crider Nettles. They had 8 children, William Franklin "Bruntz", Mary, David "Dave", John Leroy, Calvin, Steve, Daniel Washington, Jr, and unnamed.

John H. Bowlin, the son of Arthur Sylvester and Mary Jane "Polly" Wactor Bowlin, married the oldest daughter of Ezekiel and Mary Ann Chisholm Allred, Alice Elizabeth Allred, in 1853 in Amite County, MS. They had four children, Mary Ann, Geneva, Odom, and Jesse.

In 1883, Calvin Chisholm, son of Daniel (Washington) and Elizabeth Frances Nettles Chisholm, married Mary Ann Bowlin, daughter of John H, and Alice Elizabeth Allred Bowlin. They had five children, Ezekiel "Zeke", Daniel Victor (died at 9 years old), Martha Elizabeth "Bessie", Jesse H., and Walter.

Ezekiel "Zeke" married Lydia Elizabeth "Ledie" Ratcliff in 1910 in Franklin County, MS. They had 9 children, Robert Leroy "Roy", Calvin Ezekiel "Zeakey", Myrtis Lee "Myrtie", David Decatur that lived to be adults, and Troy, Betty and Lily that died under 5 years old, and two unnamed girls that died

before they were a week old. Zeke was a tenant farmer in Amite and Franklin Counties, MS.

Robert Leroy "Roy", my father, married my mother, Hallie Elizabeth Matthews, in October, 1943 while on furlough from the U. S. Army. He was sent to Europe in 1944 and came home in December 1945 to meet his daughter, Sonya, for the first time. Mother was a homemaker and Daddy started out as a tenant farmer in Franklin and Amite Counties before he purchased his own farm north of Tangipahoa Community in Amite County, MS. Eventually he sold the farm and followed his cousins in oil field pipeline construction. Later he became a house painter in partnership with Grover Smith. They painted quite a number of the houses in Amite County during their partnership. He bought a few acres of land in Pike County near where I live and did truck farming until his death in 1994.

I grew up in Amite County and attended Mars Hill School through the tenth grade when the school was consolidated with Liberty Attendance Center. I graduated there in 1963. I got an Associate of Arts Degree at Southwest Junior College and went to work in Pike County. I have been a shoe sales clerk, a bank bookkeeper, a secretary/bookkeeper at three different auto dealerships and a secretary at a sawmill. I married James Johnson in 1976. We live in Pike County, Mississippi, east of Magnolia, MS. I quit work to be at home with my son. When I enrolled him in pre-school at South McComb Baptist Church, I became an Avon Independent Sales Representative. That was 36 years ago and still counting.

I got interested in genealogy in the second grade. While practicing writing names, numbers, and dates, Mother would tell me my family's names and birth and/or death dates. I still have a couple Blue Horse tablet pages with those names on it. I seriously got interested when I got a computer and learned I could research online.

I am a member of Judith Robinson Chapter of DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution, as their Chaplain, Brent Rifles Chapter #2137 of the UDC, United Daughters of the Confederacy, as their Registrar, First Families of Mississippi and genealogy groups in both Amite and Pike Counties.

I have fallen in love with genealogy research and work on one line or another daily. I did an Ancestry DNA Test two years ago and have found new relatives and distant ancestors. I am always willing to help anybody with their genealogy.

Please feel free to contact me at sonyacj@gmail.com.

Annual Membership Contribution
Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

PO Box 2

Liberty, MS 39645

amitecohistory@gmail.com

Check or circle choice

- \$15.00 – Individual \$25.00 – Family \$10.00 – Senior (over 65)
 \$200.00 – Lifetime \$150 -- Lifetime, couple 70+ age \$100 - Lifetime, 70+ individual
 \$10.00 – Student (under 18) \$50.00 – Sponsor or Ancestor Memorial

All contributions are tax-deductible.

Please make checks or money orders payable to: **Amite Co. Historical and Genealogical Society.**

Please send PayPal payments to: **amitecohistory@gmail.com**

(Please print)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Zip+4: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Thank you for joining the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society. Your contribution helps us continue to collect and preserve historic treasures from Amite County's past, as well as to promote family history. Membership also provides an opportunity to attend programs and participate in special events.

I am interested in helping with:

- Archives Membership Programs Newsletter Other (specify):

Prefer newsletter to be mailed () Prefer newsletter to be emailed ()

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email instead of snail mail. This would allow us to save money on postage which would in turn allow money to be spent more prudently.

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