



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

May 2020

Vol. 16, No. 3

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: June 13, 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.

Time: Jun 13, 2020 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95794112772?pwd=YKJFMtVWSUNNUTBNRnlQTXRxQU9JUT09>

Meeting ID: 957 9411 2772

Password: 603893

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,95794112772# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,95794112772# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acGzwmZz5Lju>

VOTING FOR NEW OFFICERS

Included in this newsletter (page 6) is a ballot for our new slate of officers that was approved at the May meeting. You may either mail it back in or vote via email with a "Yes" to approve the slate as written or "No" and write in your candidate.

Please vote before the June 13th meeting!

Announcements:

LRSH:

Closed for renovations until further notice. There will be a notification about helping with renovations in the near future. Thanks to Sam King and Freddie Cook for all the work so far!

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!

DUES:

Annual dues are now due for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. They are payable now through September 30, 2020. You will be placed on an inactive membership list after that date and will no longer receive the newsletter and you will be removed from the Facebook page.

ACHGS Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2020

We had 4 in attendance in person and 7 via Zoom meeting.

Meeting was called to order at 11:03 am by President Dawn Taylor.

Invocation by Greg Barron.

Motion to accept minutes as written by Greg Barron and second by Gay Blalock. Minutes approved.

President's Report: We are upset open house and heritage days was cancelled because that kept us from getting much needed funds. However, we are glad that Sam King and Freddie Cook are back healthy and back working on the LRSH.

Treasurer: See handout. Need to put balance on hand in the minutes. Balance on hand as of May 9, 2020 was \$15,924.12. Motion to accept report by Greg Barron. Second Marcia McLaurin. Report approved as written.

Secretary: We bought a new Epsom printer for \$427. It will be more cost effective than the old printer in the long run as it has ink tanks instead of cartridges. The newsletter is much easier to print. Motion to accept report by Greg Barron, second Gay Blalock. Report approved.

New Business: April 26, 2021 on a Monday at 11:00 will be a Confederate Memorial Day service at the Morgan – Gordon Cemetery for Captain Hiram Morgan. He had a civilian marker. A bronze memorial tablet was obtained by Mary Pallon and Greg Barron. The Stockdale Rangers, Franklin Rifles, The Third Brigade of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and ACHGS will be sponsoring the service. Details will be given on our Facebook page at a later date. Mary Pallon will be the speaker. We may also want to tour the other Gordon Cemetery which is near there.

Old Business: The election for new officers is coming up next month. We opened the floor open for nominations. Neil Randall made motion to continue the current slate of officers for next year. Greg Barron made motion to approve. Gay Blalock second. Motion carried. If you get the newsletter by mail you will get hard copy of ballot and will need to mail it back in. If you get the newsletter by email you will either receive a ballot to mark or you can respond by a simple yes or no in a reply email. We got a positive response regarding the virtual meeting. The people far away love the Zoom meeting so they are able to attend. If anyone has Bible records that they have scanned? If so, we need to get them to Gay Blalock ASAP via email at gayblalock@gmail.com or by snail mail. Annual dues are due in June. We will post a reminder on facebook. Dues will be due no later than September 30, 2020 for the fiscal year 2020-2021. Jacob Cook has been unable to revise our website due to health concerns. Therefore, we need someone who is willing to be the webmaster. Sonja Johnson has suggested that we put a checkbox on the membership form as to whether or not members are willing to share contact information with other members so that people can contact each other for genealogy information. Greg Price, Sue Severson, Neil Randall and Sonja Johnson are all excellent genealogists. We will also add a section to membership form so that people can list surnames of who they are related to in the county. We need to try to connect with neighboring counties and parishes to assist with genealogy via Facebook.

Motion to adjourn at 11:43 Greg Barron. Second Gay Blalock. Meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is our annual meeting on June 13, 2020 at 11:00.

Rice Production in Amite County

By Greg Barron

When discussing the subject of rice production, little thought is given to Amite County. However in 1840, the growing of rice was the norm because of the want of self sufficiency with 167,497 pounds (83.7485 tons) of rice produced. Rice was produced in the County until at least the 1930's. Pa Robert Barron experimented with rice cultivation for a number of years during the 20's and 30's. Cousin Howard Lee Barron and I discussed this several weeks back as both of us remembered being shown the area on The Hill (Barron property) where the rice field was placed.

A farmer had to know basic water hydraulics in two ways, the actual irrigation as well as that in the root of the rice plant. The field planted was in a low spot with a slip dug pond providing the water. The movement of this water was instrumental in the growing of the plant, therefore flooding of the field was necessary. No modern pumps were used as this was all done by hand. The harvest was also all done by hand. The knowledge of planting was obtained by trial and error.

Certain fields were used differently on a rotation basis with crimson clover being a soil preservative or cover crop. Corn was also a major part of the crop each year for man and beast. Cotton was a staple cash crop as were the fields of sugar cane which was made into syrup then sold and bartered for commercial products.

Rice was produced for consumption on The Hill. Pa Robert did not have a formal education. His education consisted of learning through the process of doing. From ginning, the milling of lumber, syrup making, raising dairy and beef cattle, surveying and well digging, and raising hogs and goats. As far as I know there were never any sheep raised. A time of self sufficiency which is certainly lacking today. My book learning, completely different than the vast knowledge of agriculture which Pa Robert, born the year of 1885, had... I can only wish for his knowledge. Much of his knowledge was passed to my father. Unfortunately, we lose some of that "learning" with each generation as it will never return...

MEMBERS WILLING TO SHARE THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Barron	Greg (William)	williamgbarron@msn.com	601-810-7843	Barron, Erwin, Anderson, Dean, Deer, Marsalis, Myers, Ward, Gayden, Morgan, Collins, Bickham, Richardson, Huckabee, Newsmith
Clark	Angela			Gallegly
Cook	Jacob	jacobcook82@gmail.com	803-443-3114	Shurley, Taylor, Jones, McMillan, Lundberg
Crowell	Millijon Mila	billnmila@sbcglobal.net		Harrington, Terrell, Godbold, Jones
Crump-Russell	Helen	hrussell9671@gmail.com	318-789-8396	Butler, Nunnery, Johns
Elliott	Robin	robinelliott@att.net	504-453-0831	McGehee
Fortenberry	Teresa	taf6768@aol.com	404-296-6768	Simmons, Goslin, Covington, Washburn
Jensen	Frode	skipjen@aol.com	435-200-9901	McLean, Bates, Weathersby
Johnson	Sonya	sonyacj@gmail.com	601-248-3347	Matthews, Kirkland, Bellue, Nettles, Allred, Bowlin, Pettis
Johnson	Sylvia	sylviajohnson3@bellsouth.net	601-876-5602	Turnipseed, Wells, Williams, Walker, Brent, Bridges, Gunnell, Alexander, Boyd, Thompson, Conerly, Norman, Spencer
Khayat	Susannah	susannahkhayat@gmail.com	404-556-7040	Walker, Benthall, Jackson, Jenkins
Lane	Maurice	mauricelane@att.net	205-988-3521	Lane, Garner, Cook, Addison, Sleppy
Lofton	Kathryn	kathrynlofton@yahoo.com	904-403-7158	
Lovgren	Wendy	mx287308@SBCGlobal.net		Anderson, Causey, Daniels, Jackson, Jenkins, Perkins, Smylie
McGehee	Debra	debby_higgins@yahoo.com	985-259-1322	McGehee, Dykes, Downs, Muse, DeJarnette, Varnado, Hutto, Strickland, Easterling, Higgins, Passman, Taylor, Thomas, O'Neil, Watson, McKenzie, Richardson, Talley, Warne, Butler, Morris
McLaurin	Marcia	geemarcia@gmail.com	601-988-4077	Gordon, Butler, Newman, Burris, Barron, Cau-
Parks	Tracy	tracyparks@comcast.net	901-409-7751	
Payne	Jennifer	jenpayne10@gmail.com	832-696-5973	Cain, Caston, Cunningham, Covington, Cockerham, Huff, Jones, Longmire, Moore, Payne

LAST	FIRST	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Price	Gregory	gaprice@comcast.net	601-856-0009	Price, Rollins, Bunch
Prospere	Katherine	prospere@cableone.net	601-597-0955	Middleton, Thornhill, Emfinger, Barksdale
Randall	Neil	Jrand57@msn.com	985-290-2325	Randall, roundtree, James, Lusk, Whiteside, Roberts, Coleman, Page, Tanner, Bowlin, Lindsey, Small, Cothorn, Pierce, Thigpen, Richardson, Prine, McKay, Ward, Harrell, Hopgood, Duncan, Conerly, Farmer, Dees, Jackson, Wilkinson
Sanders	Janet	txvsok@aol.com	903-293-2439	Randall, Harrell, Pierce, Thigpen, Lusk, Roundtree, James, Whiteside, Roberts, Duncan, Hopgood, Connelly, Ward, Gerald, Smith, Stewart, Wells, Terrell, Dougherty, Brian, Morgan, White, Capell, Brown, McCoy, Perkins, Scott
Severson	Sue	sue@severson.org	925-254-1679	
Turner	Martha	martha.turner58@yahoo.com	540-645-2013	Butler, Gordon, Robinson, Turn, Quin, McElveen, Brumfield, Campbell
Williams	Lynn	lwilliams226@gmail.com	601-730-3206	Williams, Vardell, Garner, Simmons, Ball
Williams	Darlene	williamsdart21@yahoo.com	601-248-3215	Corban/Corbin, Whittington, Causey, Butler, Bradley, Smith, Farr, Jackson, Bass, Temple
Young	Rob	ryoung51@gmail.com	228-265-1294	Young, McGehee, Nunnery, Thornton, Wilkinson

If you are willing to share your contact information with other members, please let us know by emailing us at amitecohistory@gmail.com or text Marcia @ 601-988-4077 with your family names.

ACHGS Officers

ACHGS President (vote for one)

Dawn Taylor

ACHGS Vice President (vote for one)

William G. Barron

ACHGS Secretary (vote for one)

Marcia Gordon McLaurin

ACHGS Treasurer (vote for one)

Gay Blalock

ACHGS Executive Board Member-at-Large (vote for one)

Neil Randall

End of Ballot

**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: _____

Amite County Families to whom I am related: _____

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):

YOU MAY SHARE MY CONTACT INFORMATION WITH OTHER MEMBERS: YES NO

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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