



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

November 2020

Vol. 16, No. 6

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 VIA ZOOM MEETING**

VIRTUAL BUSINESS MEETING:

Date: November 14, 2020

Place: Virtual meeting for members via Zoom.

Time: Sat Nov 14, 2020

11am – 12pm Central Time

Zoom Meeting info:

<https://zoom.us/j/97790300285>

Meeting ID: 977 9030 0285

PHONE INSTRUCTIONS IF NOT USING INTERNET:

+13126266799,,97790300285# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,97790300285# US (New York)

DIAL BY YOUR TIME ZONE!

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 977 9030 0285

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

**WE WILL HAVE A TIME OF SHARING
FOLLOWING THE MEETING!**

Announcements:

INSTRUCTIONS HERE FOR ZOOM MEETING:

Please use the link sent to you in the newsletter email if possible. If not, then use the phone number provided that is in your local area code.

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!

CAPTAIN HIRAM MORGAN CEREMONY:

We are asking that family members of any of the members of Company B, Mississippi 33rd Infantry who don't currently have a biography written on the website www.angelfire.com/ms3/davidg33/rosters.htm please write one and submit it to us either by mail at P. O. Box 2 Liberty, MS 39645 or by email at amitecohistory@gmail.com by March 1, 2021 so that we may have these biographies for the ceremony.

ACHGS Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2020

Meeting via Zoom with eight in attendance. Meeting called to order at 10:53.

Invocation: Greg Barron

Minutes from 09/12/2020: Greg made a motion to accept. Jean Roberts Second. Minutes approved as written.

President's Report: Arcadia Publishing Company would like to do a pictorial history of Amite County for free but when Dawn attempted to go to their website it led her to a shopping site. So, we are not going to trust them. We could attempt this ourselves at a later date.

Vice President's Report: We will do rosters of the company B & K of the 33rd in April for the Captain Morgan memorial ceremony at the Morgan Gordon Cemetery. We have permission to copy and paste from the owner of the 33rd's website. How we use it is left up to us. The information will at least be on the program for that day. There will be some biographies included. The book on the 33rd is excellent. Website is www.angelfire.com/ms3/davidg33/rosters.htm to find the roster. Neil stated that you can also access this information on Family Search. We will put in the newsletter this month that we are planning this ceremony and request biographies from relatives if they are not already written. We will have the ceremony on an afternoon during April at 2pm if it is on a Sunday, earlier if on that Saturday. Greg would like to have some genealogy done on Captain Hiram Morgan for that day.

Treasurer's Report: We have a balance on hand of \$38,566.39. We received a donation in July of \$21,946.64 from SWMS Resource Conservation & Development. The bank will start charging to get paper statements. Greg Barron made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Neil Randall 2nd. Report approved as written.

New Business: Neil Randall purchased a new dehumidifier for the upstairs and will install it on the next trip up. Neil also refreshed the staircase at the LRSB by getting the rust off the welded joints and spray painting it black. Instead of open house it was suggested that we have a day where we sell our books outside under a big tent and hand out drinks and sealed snacks. This would allow people to see the progress on the project and possibly donate to the LRSB. As an alternative we could just have a small get together at Liberty Baptist Church for our Christmas party.

Old Business: We are still waiting on the contractors to start work on the LRSB. Neil is hoping to meet with them soon.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Gay Blalock and 2nd by Neil Randall. Meeting adjourned at 11:38.

AMITE COUNTY HISTORY WRITTEN IN 1907

[Source: Encyclopedia of Mississippi History Vo1 1. Pub 1907 by Dunbar Rowland LL.D.--Transcribed by Gene P.-
<http://genealogytrails.com/miss/amite/>]

Amite County was organized February 24, 1809, while Mississippi was still a Territory during the administration of Gov. Robert Williams. The county has a land surface of 704 square miles. The original act recites that the county of Wilkinson shall be divided as follows: "Beginning at the thirty-mile post, east of the Mississippi river, on the line of demarcation, and running with the township line due north until it intersects the line of Adams county, thence with the said line east to the line of Washington county; thence along said line to the aforesaid line of demarcation, thence west along the said line to the place of beginning." From its eastern area were subsequently formed the counties of Pike, Marion, Perry, Greene and Lamar. Its present eastern boundary is a line drawn due north from the sixty-mile post, east of the Mississippi, on the 31st parallel of latitude, to the southern limits of Lincoln county. The old boundary line, as established by the treaty of Fort Adams, in 1801, with the Choctaws, runs a few miles west of this eastern boundary line. It contained a population of about 1,500 at the time of its establishment. Its name is derived from the Amite river, whose two branches water its soil, the name Amite having been given the river by the French in commemoration of their friendly treatment by the Indians. It is located in the southwestern part of the State next to the Louisiana border in what is known as the Long Leaf Pine Region, and is now bounded on the north by Franklin and Lincoln counties, on the east by Pike county, on the south by Louisiana and on the west by Wilkinson county. The first county court, composed of five Justices of the Quorum, and having jurisdiction over general county business, roads, and the trial of slaves, held its first session in the autumn of 1809. Micajah Davis was the Chief Justice, Thomas Batchelor was the first clerk, and David Lea, the first sheriff. The first Circuit Court of the county was held in the county the same year (1809) by Hon. Francis Xavier Martin, afterwards Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. The county was represented in the Constitutional Convention of 1817 by Henry Hanna, Thomas Batchelor, John Burton, Thomas Torrance, Angus Wilkinson and William Lattimore. Among the earliest divines in the county were Ezra Courtney, James Smylie, Zachariah Reeves and Charles Felder. In 1812, Ludwick Hall published the *Republican at Liberty*; subsequently, the *Liberty Advocate* and *Piney Woods Planter*, both weeklies, were published here. The county seat is Liberty, which was incorporated in 1828 and now contains about 600 people; it is located almost at the center of the county. The first Confederate monument in the South was erected at Liberty in 1871. Gloster, a new town of 1,661 people, founded in 1883, located on the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley railway in the western part of the county, is the metropolis of the county and a prosperous growing town. Other towns are Travis, Little Springs and Gillsburg. The county is as yet poorly supplied with railroads and consequently there are no large towns or cities within its borders; it is essentially a farming community, though there are several gins, grist and saw mills within its borders. The Yazoo & Mississippi Valley railway runs along its extreme western border, and one short branch known as the Liberty-White R. R. extends from South McComb to Liberty. Extensions of these lines will naturally follow in the near future, and the interior of the county will then have the transportation facilities it has so long lacked.

It is well watered by the east and west branches of the Amite river, by Big Beaver creek in the west and Tickfaw creek in the east together with their numerous branches. The general surface of the county is undulating with some very level and some very hilly sections. The soil is that common to most of the western Long Leaf Pine Region, being a light, easily worked sandy loam with a strong subsoil which makes it quite retentive. Good crops of cotton, corn, oats, hay, sweet and Irish potatoes, jute, field peas, pumpkins, rice, sorghum and sugar cane are grown, and all kinds of vegetables, melons, large and small fruits, are raised in abundance. The timber is valuable and consists of oak, pine, poplar, beech, ash, hickory, sweet gum, black gum, holly, magnolia, sassafras, locust, china, mulberry, walnut and cypress. Good pasturage for stock and abundant springs exist throughout the county. While agriculture forms the chief source of its wealth, yet manufactures flourish to some extent and the following statistics, derived from the last census returns for 1900 will be found of interest. The total number of manufacturing establishments is given at 69, total capital invested \$142,919, wages to the amount of \$29,096 were paid, total amount of materials used was \$60,966 and the total value of products was \$145,762. Agricultural statistics derived from the same source are as follows: Number of farms in the county 3,280, acres in farms 325,269, acres improved 122,868, value of land without buildings \$1,327,780, value of buildings \$597,500, value of live stock \$580,110 and value of products \$1,405,225. The white population for 1900 was 8,400, colored 12,308, total of 20,708, an increase over 1890 of 2,510. The total assessed valuation of real and personal property in the county in 1905 was \$3,478,046, and in 1906, it was \$4,647,305, which shows an increase of \$1,169,259 during the year. The agricultural interests of the county have increased at least 25 per cent, in the last five years, while the population is estimated now at fully 25,000.

MEMBERS WILLING TO SHARE THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Anderson	Thad Dudley	thad@seniorsbluebook.com	228-396-4602	Anderson, Swearingen, Gillis
Barron	Greg (William)	williamgbarron@msn.com	601-810-7843	Barron, Erwin, Anderson, Dean, Deer, Marsalis, Myers, Ward, Gayden, Morgan, Collins, Bickham, Richardson, Huckabee, Newsmith
Blalock	Gay	gayblalock@gmail.com	601-657-8807	Spillman, Shuckrow, Weathersby, Jackson
Boyd	Susan	Susan.boyd1@icloud.com	601-660-2550	DAR specialist
Cate	David	davidjcate@comcast.net	832-266-9545	Kennedy, Gillespie, Cotton, Ellis, Erwin/Ervin, Marsh, Blocker, Patterson, Brasfield, Bassfield, Bechtel
Clark	Angela			Gallegly
Cook	Jacob	jacobcook82@gmail.com	803-443-3114	Shurley, Taylor, Jones, McMillan, Lundberg
Cratty	Chery	Chery3@me.com		Dunn, Phares
Crowell	Millijon Mila	billnmila@sbcglobal.net	512-788-7644	Harrington, Terrell, Godbold, Jones (professional genealogist)
Crump-Russell	Helen	hrussell9671@gmail.com	318-789-8396	Butler, Nunnery, Johns
Daniels	David A.	davidadaniels@comcast.net	615-517-5225	Daniels, Causey, Jackson, Buford, Nesmith
Elliott	Robin	robinelliott@att.net	504-453-0831	McGehee
Fortenberry	Teresa	taf6768@aol.com	404-296-6768	Simmons, Goslin, Covington, Washburn
Freeman	J. Ralph	freeman333@bellsouth.net	601-730-2816	
Griffith	Diane	ldgros@aol.com	630-248-0084	Pray, Wilson, Prescott
Jeffers	Joan T.	Joan.jeffers@gmail.com	775-846-4691	Bates
Jensen	Frode	skipjen@aol.com	435-200-9901	McLean, Bates, Weathersby
Johnson	Sonya	sonyacj@gmail.com	601-248-3347	Matthews, Kirkland, Belue, Nettles, Allred, Bowlin, Pettis, Chisolm
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, Warrne, Butler, Morris
McGraw	Marie K.	marie410@att.net	601-924-5788	McGraw
McLaurin	Marcia	geemarcia@gmail.com	601-988-4077	Gordon, Butler, Newman, Burris, Barron, Causey
Parker	Marti	lipseylibrary@yahoo.com	601-320-4474	James M. Miller descendant
Parks	Tracy	tracycparks@comcast.net	901-409-7751	

LAST	FIRST	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Payne	Jennifer	jenpayne10@gmail.com	832-696-5973	Cain, Caston, Cunningham, Covington, Cockerham, Huff, Jones, Longmire, Moore, Payne
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,
Roberts	Jean	jeanlroberts@comcast.net	303-431-9191	Bankston, Hall, McElveen, Carter, Coates, Prescott, Jones, Conerly, Ward, Scott, Guy, Magee, Herring, Miller, Roberts, Wall, Varner/ Vernon, Gordon, Hope, Smit, Simmons (Bogue)
House	Ary "Robbie"	robbiehouse47@gmail.com	662-654-1773	Barney, Robinson
Sargent	Patricia	trishsar1@yahoo.com	803-665-8332	McGehee, Brumfield, Cotton, Muse
Turner	Martha	martha.turner58@yahoo.com	540-645-2013	Butler, Gordon, Robinson, Turn, Quin, McElveen, Brumfield, Campbell
Victor	Patricia	Pkvictor.hou@gmail.com	281-384-2757	Richard Curtis, Phoebe Courtney, Talkbert, Johns, Lea, Perkins, Slade, Reeves/Rees
Walker	Carole	cawalker@scarletmail.rutgers.edu	404-963-1231	Walker, Jackson
Williams	Darlene	williamsdart21@yahoo.com	601-248-3215	Corban/Corbin, Whittington, Causey, Butler, Bradley, Smith, Farr, Jackson, Bass, Temple
Williams	Lynn	lwilliams226@gmail.com	601-730-3206	Williams, Vardell, Garner, Simmons, Ball
Wilson	Debra	kpmagindw@aol.com	970-234-2718	Littleton, Capell, Fielding, Baron, McCoy, Covert
Young	Rob	ryoung51@gmail.com	228-265-1294	Young, McGehee, Nunnery, Thornton, Wilkinson
Zeigler	Virginia H.	ginyaz@bellsouth.net	601-249-5467	Edwards, Turner, Zeigler, Bates, Rawlinson

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.

**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: _____

YOU MAY SHARE MY CONTACT INFORMATION WITH OTHER MEMBERS for FAMILY RESEARCH PURPOSES:

YES NO

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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