



## 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

September 2020

Vol. 16, No. 4

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:** September 12, 2020

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**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: Sep 12, 2020 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/96012826278?](https://zoom.us/j/96012826278?pwd=OHE0OWI4M2MrZlZlNUkZ6V1Jl1L2V6UT09)

[pwd=OHE0OWI4M2MrZlZlNUkZ6V1Jl1L2V6UT09](https://zoom.us/j/96012826278?pwd=OHE0OWI4M2MrZlZlNUkZ6V1Jl1L2V6UT09)

Meeting ID: 960 1282 6278

Passcode: 268474

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,96012826278# US (Tacoma)

+13017158592,,96012826278# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 960 1282 6278

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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL MEET VIA ZOOM AT 10:00.  
A private link will be sent to the members via email.**

### **DUES are DUE!!!!!!**

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. You will also be removed from the Facebook page.

### **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!

#### **JUNE—AUGUST NEWSLETTERS/MISSED MEETINGS:**

I sincerely apologize for not sending out newsletters for the past 3 months. We always skip the July meeting. We canceled our August meeting due to the untimely death of Mr. Paul Taylor, our President, Dawn Taylor's father, the week prior.

# **ACHGS Meeting Minutes**

**June 13, 2020**

Executive committee meeting was held at the home of Marcia McLaurin at 10:30 AM. Three were in attendance with one person via phone.

Annual business meeting was called to order at 11:11 AM. Three were in physical attendance. 8 were in attendance via Zoom meeting. Invocation by Gay Blalock.

**President's Report:** none

**Vice President's Report:** none

**Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes as written by Gay Blalock. Second Carol Buchert. Minutes approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance on hand \$15,921.13. Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Marcia McLaurin. Second Carol Buchert. Report approved.

**New Business:** Billy Anders has donated proceeds from book sales, and we want to thank him for his generosity. New officers voted in: 25 out of 161 members voted yes for the proposed slate of officers. There were no "no" votes. Member contact information has been sent out via newsletter for research purposes. These contacts have all agreed to share their information with the group. The July meeting will be skipped as usual. We will pick back up in August. Everyone wants to continue the Zoom meetings.

**Old Business:** Still looking for old Amite County Bible records to incorporate in a new bible record book. Hopefully it will be ready by next year's Heritage Days or by open house in December (if we are able to have one). We are still trying to get the website redone and moved to a new hosting site. Marcia McLaurin and Dawn Taylor are signed up to take the WordPress virtual class at MSU, which is free. There are a lot of pictures on the old website that we need to move over. Our current website is [www.ACHGS.org](http://www.ACHGS.org). All old newsletters are archived there thanks to Wayne Anderson, our immediate past secretary.

Motion to adjourn by Gay Blalock. Second Marcia McLaurin. Meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM.

## GENEROUS DONATION RECEIVED!

Article by Dawn Taylor in the Southern Herald dated August 20, 2020

On July 11, 2020, the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society was presented a generous donation from the Resource Conservation and Development Program to be used toward the restoration project of the Little Red School House. Built in 1853, by the Reverend Richard Shirk as a part of the Amite Female Seminary, the building was originally a music room. During the War Between the States, Union forces marched into Liberty and burned all the buildings that made up the Seminary save one- the music room. The Little Red School House, as the music room is known today, has served as a classroom and library for students several times through the decades. Most anyone from Liberty over the age of 60 has a story about a school activity that took place in the Little Red School House.

The Amite County Board of Supervisors offered the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society the use of the building as its headquarters and research library prior to the county's Bicentennial Celebration in 2009. The Society has worked with the supervisors through the years to help maintain the building. In 2016, society members noticed that the paint was peeling from the bricks on the front of the building and began looking into the cause. It was determined that water was standing on the east side of the building and leaching into the bricks making the actual bricks peel and crumble. The society contacted the Department of Archives and History for advice on what could and could not be done to the building and a plan was developed for stabilizing and repairing the water damage. Other damage was discovered such as a rotted post supporting the front gallery, rotted wood on the window casements and bubbled paint on the inside walls to name a few.

Funds from memberships were committed to the repairs of the building along with the proceeds from book, holiday card sales and donations earmarked for the building fund. The society was able to raise approximately \$12,000 in this manner over the last two years. Limited funds meant projects had to be prioritized and work on Phase 1 did begin. The most pressing problem was to address the moisture that was seeping into the bricks and causing them to disintegrate. A French drain to divert the water has been installed and the building has begun to dry out. The donation from the Resource Conservation and Development Program will make it possible to complete the most pressing repairs that will stabilize the building and prevent further decay. Phase 2 and 3 which will restore the building and add climate control will require additional fundraising. We are very grateful to the RCDP for their assistance in helping us begin to preserve this beloved Amite County landmark.

In photo from left to right: Sam King, Gay Blalock, William (Greg) Barron, Neil Randall, James Copeland, Linda Tiller, Ronnie Volentine, Dawn Taylor, Freddie Cook, and Linda Randall.



**MEMBERS WILLING TO SHARE THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Barron	Greg (William)	<a href="mailto:williamgbarron@msn.com">williamgbarron@msn.com</a>	601-810-7843	Barron, Erwin, Anderson, Dean, Deer, Marsalis, Myers, Ward, Gayden, Morgan, Collins, Bickham, Richardson, Huckabee, Newsmith
Blalock	Gay	<a href="mailto:gayblalock@gmail.com">gayblalock@gmail.com</a>	601-657-8807	Spillman, Shuckrow, Weathersby, Jackson
Clark	Angela			Gallegly
Cook	Jacob	<a href="mailto:jacobcook82@gmail.com">jacobcook82@gmail.com</a>	803-443-3114	Shurley, Taylor, Jones, McMillan, Lundberg
Crowell	Millijon Mila	<a href="mailto:billnmila@sbcglobal.net">billnmila@sbcglobal.net</a>		Harrington, Terrell, Godbold, Jones
Crump-Russell	Helen	<a href="mailto:hrussell9671@gmail.com">hrussell9671@gmail.com</a>	318-789-8396	Butler, Nunnery, Johns
Daniels	David A.	<a href="mailto:davidadaniels@comcast.net">davidadaniels@comcast.net</a>	615-517-5225	Daneils, Causey, Jackson, Buford, Nesmith
Elliott	Robin	<a href="mailto:robinelliott@att.net">robinelliott@att.net</a>	504-453-0831	McGehee
Fortenberry	Teresa	<a href="mailto:taf6768@aol.com">taf6768@aol.com</a>	404-296-6768	Simmons, Goslin, Covington, Washburn
Jensen	Frode	<a href="mailto:skipjen@aol.com">skipjen@aol.com</a>	435-200-9901	McLean, Bates, Weathersby
Johnson	Sonya	<a href="mailto:sonyacj@gmail.com">sonyacj@gmail.com</a>	601-248-3347	Matthews, Kirkland, Bellue, Nettles, Allred, Bowlin, Pettis
Johnson	Sylvia	<a href="mailto:sylviajohnson3@bellsouth.net">sylviajohnson3@bellsouth.net</a>	601-876-5602	Turnipseed, Wells, Williams, Walker, Brent, Bridges, Gunnell, Alexander, Boyd, Thompson, Conerly, Norman, Spencer
Khayat	Susannah	<a href="mailto:susannahkhayat@gmail.com">susannahkhayat@gmail.com</a>	404-556-7040	Walker, Benthall, Jackson, Jenkins
Lane	Maurice	<a href="mailto:mauricelane@att.net">mauricelane@att.net</a>	205-988-3521	Lane, Garner, Cook, Addison, Sleppy
Lofton	Kathryn	<a href="mailto:kathrynlofton@yahoo.com">kathrynlofton@yahoo.com</a>	904-403-7158	
Lovgren	Wendy	<a href="mailto:mx287308@SBCGlobal.net">mx287308@SBCGlobal.net</a>		Anderson, Causey, Daniels, Jackson, Jenkins, Perkins, Smylie
McGehee	Debra	<a href="mailto:debby_higgins@yahoo.com">debby_higgins@yahoo.com</a>	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
McLaurin	Marcia	<a href="mailto:geemarcia@gmail.com">geemarcia@gmail.com</a>	601-988-4077	Gordon, Butler, Newman, Burris, Barron, Causey
Parks	Tracy	<a href="mailto:tracycparks@comcast.net">tracycparks@comcast.net</a>	901-409-7751	
Payne	Jennifer	<a href="mailto:jenpayne10@gmail.com">jenpayne10@gmail.com</a>	832-696-5973	Cain, Caston, Cunningham, Covington, Cockerham, Huff, Jones, Longmire, Moore, Payne
Price	Gregory	<a href="mailto:gaprice@comcast.net">gaprice@comcast.net</a>	601-856-0009	Price, Rollins, Bunch
Prospere	Katherine	<a href="mailto:prospere@cableone.net">prospere@cableone.net</a>	601-597-0955	Middleton, Thornhill, Emfinger, Barksdale
Randall	Neil	<a href="mailto:Jrand57@msn.com">Jrand57@msn.com</a>	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

LAST	FIRST	EMAIL	PHONE	FAMILY NAMES
Sanders	Janet	<a href="mailto:txvsok@aol.com">txvsok@aol.com</a>	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	<a href="mailto:sue@severson.org">sue@severson.org</a>	925-254-1679	
Turner	Martha	<a href="mailto:martha.turner58@yahoo.com">martha.turner58@yahoo.com</a>	540-645-2013	Butler, Gordon, Robinson, Turn, Quin, McElveen, Brumfield, Campbell
Williams	Lynn	<a href="mailto:lwilliams226@gmail.com">lwilliams226@gmail.com</a>	601-730-3206	Williams, Vardell, Garner, Simmons, Ball
Williams	Darlene	<a href="mailto:williamsdart21@yahoo.com">williamsdart21@yahoo.com</a>	601-248-3215	Corban/Corbin, Whittington, Causey, Butler, Bradley, Smith, Farr, Jackson, Bass, Temple
Young	Rob	<a href="mailto:ryoung51@gmail.com">ryoung51@gmail.com</a>	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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

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 for FAMILY RESEARCH PURPOSES:**

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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