



## Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Dawn Taylor, President

Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary

Nancy Martin, Vice Pres.

N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

William G. Barron, Council-at-large

Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

January 2014

Vol. 10, No. 1

Without a past, there is no future

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be a regular business meeting at 10:00 am on January 11, 2014, in the meeting room of the Liberty Library.

### AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of November 9, 2013 meeting

**DRAFT**

#### Future Meeting Schedule

**January 11, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**February 8, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**March 8, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**April 12, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**May 10, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**June 14, 2014, 10:00 am** — Annual membership meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**July 2014** — Traditionally, no meeting is held in July.

**August 9, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**September 13, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**October 13, 2014, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

President Dawn Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:07 am in the meeting room of the Liberty library. There were 17 attendees. Pres. Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Following a round of introductions of everyone, Greg Barron gave the invocation.

Pres. Taylor then moved to the draft October meeting minutes. She asked if anyone had corrections or objections to the draft minutes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Greg Barron made a motion to adopt the minutes; Nancy Martin seconded. The motion was approved by all present.

#### President Report:

A number of members went the Angels on the Bluff tour at Natchez.

The Railroad Museum in McComb held a special tour of the facilities. A number of members attended the 6:30 pm tour on October 26.

Ron Skellie has published a new book entitled May Angels Guard Thee, The Letters and Life of Private George S. Lea, Company C 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment Mississippi Infantry 1861-1864. He sent a few copies for sale; see Dawn. He also sent two sets of the Lest We Forget regimental histories of the 7<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Infantry Regiment.

The calendars are still being sold. Copies of the DVD of Ron Skellie's program on the 7<sup>th</sup> Mississippi are also available. Boxes of Christmas

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cards can be purchased for \$5 per box. Business card size announcements of the Battle of Liberty commemoration are available for members to distribute to promote the event.

Vice President Report: VP Nancy Martin had no report.

Secretary Report: Secy. Anderson had no report.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock reported that the society currently has a bank balance of \$6058.21. Pres. Taylor read a card from member Evie Magee who made a memorial donation of \$50 in memory of her Great Grandfather Robert Edward Stewart who served in the War of 1812. She also read a note from Carole Walker who made a donation of \$50. Greg Barron made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; V seconded. The report was approved unanimously.

LRSH COMMITTEE REPORT: There was no activity at the LRSH in the last month.

OPEN HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT: Gay Blalock reported that the society is still waiting to receive the form to apply to participate in the Gloster Christmas parade. The open house will begin at 1:00 pm and run until 3:00 pm at the Huff home, 4538 East Homochitto Road in Gloster. Mrs. Huff is inviting people from around Gloster to try to encourage more local participation in the society. The Huff house is of 1870 to 1880 vintage. Sam King and Mrs. Huff are planning to put together a flyer giving a brief history of the home. Members that are not attending the parade should be at the Huff house about noon.

CALENDAR COMMITTEE: Mrs. Oma Gordon reported that the calendar project needs every member to try to sell at least 5 calendars to assure all are sold.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Greg Barron announced that the Stockdale Rangers SCV Camp has invited the society to participate in the Lee-Jackson Banquet in late January at the Tangipahoa Baptist Church Family Life Center. More details will be

announced later.

Other Business: None.

The business meeting adjourned at 10:47 am.

Following the meeting, a program on the Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864, was given by Wayne Anderson and Greg Barron.

### **From Greg Barron:**

The ACHGS has been invited to the **Lee/Jackson Banquet** sponsored by the Stockdale Rangers Camp 1681, Summit, Mississippi, Sons of Confederate Veterans. It will be held Saturday, January 18, 2014, at 6:00 PM, at the Tangipahoa Baptist Church Family Life Center, Thompson Road. There will be a band and a Pot Luck Banquet. **Please bring a favorite food dish** and join in a great Fellowship. All members of the ACHGS are invited. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!!

### **Calendar Sales Successful**

As the year turned to 2014 only about 10 calendars remained unsold. Thanks to all those who helped with the sales and helped make this a successful fund raiser. Be thinking of what can be done this year to keep community interest in the society.

You may contact this editor at:  
**Wayne B. Anderson, Sr.**  
**1737 Bridgers Drive**  
**Raymond, MS 39154**  
Or by e-mail at  
**sitemanager@achgs.org**

## BITS AND PIECES OF AMITE COUNTY HISTORY

*Bits and pieces of Amite County news, believed to be of interest to the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society, were gleaned from the six volumes of the Woodville Republican, Mississippi's oldest existing newspaper. These volumes, published by Heritage Books, Inc. were abstracted and compiled by O'Levia Neil Wilson Wiese. With permission from the compiler, members of the society have a chance to take a peek at her compilations.*

Continuing from: *The Woodville Republican, Volume 3*

August 21, 1855 - T. J. Spurlock, near Liberty Miss. has about 1000 acres of land for sale situated on Bayou DoGlaise, 7 miles from Simsport, and 10 miles from the Mississippi. 400 acres under fence, 325 acres well drained and in cultivation, two first rate Cotton Gins and Corn Mills, one on each side of the Bayou, about half mile apart-about 150 acres now deadened, part of which is now ready for the plow. Overseers' cabin and other out buildings, cattle, hogs, corn and fodder can be had with the place.

September 4, 1855 - Hopewell Church, Aug 13, 1855 Mr Editor--Dear Sir: Feeling that I can no longer remain a Know Nothing without sacrificing my political principles, I do hereby in the face of the members of that order, resign. . . . . Wm. M. Cassels Additional withdrawals: Peter Ratcliff, Peter W. S. Longmire, Balaam Strawn, and S. J. W. Nix.

September 11, 1855 - At a meeting of the Citizens of Woodville, held at the Courthouse, on Monday the 24th inst., for the purpose of regularly organizing a Relief Association to nurse the sick among us during the present epidemic, [yellow fever] T. W. Dyer was called to the Chair and John S. Lewis, appointed Secretary. Hon. C. P. Smith, Hon. Stanhope Posey, Col. Geo. H. Gordon, C. C. West, Esq., and Jas M. Miller, ascertain each day as to who needs the aid of the Association. T. W. Dyer appointed Secretary and Treasurer, to keep a list of all the sick reported to the Association. N. G. B. Young and J. L. Anders of Amite County, withdraws from the Know Nothings.

TREATMENT OF YELLOW FEVER -- Captain Jonas P. Levy, late of the U. S. transport ship American, who has had hundreds of cases of yellow fever under treatment, says he never knew of a case terminating fatalaly after observing the following directions: Dissolve in a wine-glass of water, a table spoonful of common salt, and pour the same into a tumbler adding the juice of a whole lemon, and two wine-glasses of castor-oil. The whole to be taken at one dose, (by an adult). Then a hot mustard foot bath, with a handful of salt in the water --the patient to be well wrapped in the blankets until perspiration takes place freely. On removal to bed, the feet of the patient to be wrapped in the blanket. Afterwards apply mustard-plasters to the abdomen, legs and soles of the feet. If the head-ache is very acute, apply mustard

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-plasters to the back of the head and temples. After the fever has been broken, take 40 drops of elixir of vitrol to a quart of water. Dose-wine-glassfull three times a day, Barley-water, lemonade, and ice-water may be used in moderation.

October 2, 1855 - Liberty, Amite Co. Sept. 20, 1855, Major H. S. Van Eaton: You will please announce the following persons withdraw from the Know Nothing order: E. B. Rountree, Z. A. Robinson, Elias Bell[Beall], Lewis McGehee, Abner McGehee, L. J. Beck, W. J. Brown, Gray Andrews, A. C. Andrews, M. H. McCraine, Richard Williams and W. S. Byrd. [Know-Nothing was a secret society that flourished in the United States from 1852 to 1860. They protested against immigration, the election or appointment of Catholics and foreigner-born to official positions, and opposed the Roman Catholic Church. They formed the American party, often called the Know-Nothing party, since when asked about the party would reply "I don't Know".]

We hasten to make the knowledge we never heard of a skeeter in all our lives till within a few days past, and in no place we have ever been but Woodville. About last Thursday they took possession of our office--determined not to be conquered without a struggle--we commenced an attack with tobacco smoke, which soon became so dense we were smoked out ourselves. (This was repeated the next day and to his astonishment, the skeeters had become used to the tobacco smoke.) We are compelled to keep the tobacco locked up out of their reach, and while we write, 3,000 skeeters more or less, like hungry friends, are sucking the life-blood from our hands, face and nose, and another installment having just whetted their bills on the hearth, have attacked us through our clothes. We have little hopes of surviving.

November 27, 1855 - Franklin Love, democrat, has been elected Senator from Amite and Pike, the two banner counties of Know Nothingism in the State!

July 13, 1861 - C. P. Neilson, esq., of Amite County is a candidate for District Attorney for the first Judicial District of Mississippi.

Elias Safford, Esq., of Amite County . . . . candidate for Judge of the High Court of Errors and Appeals for the second judicial District.

A cable, to be laid across the Mississippi River, has arrived at Vicksburg. It is to connect Vicksburg with Shreveport.

The Amite Saw Mill now on hand and for sale - Weatherboarding, Ceiling, Flooring, Bastard plank, Scantling, Roughedge, at from \$10 to \$30 per M. Our mill is 26 miles from Woodville, 10 miles south east of Centreville. Terms cash. Dixon & Parker. All orders left with Messrs. Posey & Austen in Woodville, promptly attended to.

1876 - During the centennial exhibition, samples of air from various parts of the grounds were bottled up for examination in 1976, with a view to determine whether the earth's atmosphere is undergoing a change.

The Woodville Republican, Volume 4: June 22, 1878 - December 25, 1880

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June 29, 1878 - We were favored with a call this week by Mr. F. L. McLain, Esq., a native of Amite County, but now practising Law in Cuero, Texas. Mr. McLain and ourselves were old college friends and it was a great pleasure to meet him again.

August 31, 1878 - A letter from D. C. Bramblett of Liberty, offering assistance should there be a yellow fever epidemic in Woodville.

September 28, 1878 - From the Liberty Herald, we learn that Truman Causey was shot by John Bradham Tuesday evening. Also that the difficulty was an old feud. Bradham shot Causey over the heart, but luckily he was standing sideways and the ball did not penetrate to the heart, but ran around and lodged under the shoulder blade. Truly a miraculous escape from death!

November 9, 1878 - Mrs. O. R. Huff returned from Liberty this week and is discharging her duties at the Collegiate Institute. Capt. D. C. Bramlett of Liberty was in town on Wednesday. . . .

February 15, 1879 - Col. C. P. Neilson leaves today to attend Court in Pike and Amite Counties and the Supreme Court in Jackson.

February 22, 1879 - Physicians and midwives wishing blank certificates of births and deaths can procure the same by calling on the Circuit Clerk.

March 22, 1879 - One day last week, as Mr. W. A. Elder and a lady were on their way to Liberty, the horse took fright and ran away. They both succeeded in getting out of the buggy without injury, but the vehicle met with a sad fate.

*Editor's Note: This is the fourth part of a lengthy collection of news items; it is expected that four or five parts will be needed to publish the collected items.*

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**Share your Amite County genealogy, stories, additions, and corrections by sending to Frances Phares, PO Box 1639, Clinton, LA 70722 or [phrances@att.net](mailto:phrances@att.net).**

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**Memorials and Honorariums may be sent to Amite County Historical & Genealogical Society, PO Box 2, Liberty, MS 39645. Please indicate the name of person remembered or honored with address to send the acknowledgment if known.**

### **ACHGS Standing Committees and Chairpersons**

**Due to changes in membership and in makeup of committees, the Standing Committees are being reevaluated and reformed. Once this process is complete, a new list will be posted.**

**Annual Membership Contribution**  
**Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society**  
**PO Box 2**  
**Liberty, MS 39645**

**Check or circle choice**

- \$15.00 – Individual    \$25.00 – Family    \$50.00 – Sponsor or Ancestor Memorial  
 \$200.00 – Lifetime    \$10.00 – Student (under 18)    \$10.00 – Senior (over 65)

All contributions are tax-deductible.

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

**(Please print)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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):

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