



Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Dawn Taylor, President

Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary

William G. Barron, Vice Pres.

N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

Allen Terrell, Council-at-large

Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

February 2018

Vol. 14, No. 2

Without a past, there is no future

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be a field trip only, no business meeting. Attendees should be at the Little Red School House at 9:45 am, February 10, 2018. Departure will be at 10:00 am. Transportation will be provided.

Future Meeting Schedule

Note: Time of regular meetings is 10:00 am and location is the Little Red School House unless otherwise specified.

February 10, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

March 10, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

April 14, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

May 5, 2018 — Heritage Day. Details TBA.

June 9, 2018 — Annual Meeting with election of officers.

July, 2018 — No meeting unless scheduled by Executive Committee.

August 11, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

September 8, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

October 13, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

November 10, 2018 — Regular monthly meeting.

December 1, 2018 — Annual Open House TBA

January 12, 2019 — Regular monthly meeting.

February 9, 2019 — Regular monthly meeting.

March 9, 2019 — Regular monthly meeting.

April 13, 2019 — Regular monthly meeting.

May 4, 2019 — Heritage Day. Details TBA.

June 8, 2019 — Annual Meeting with election of officers.

AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the January 13, 2018 meeting

DRAFT

The meeting was held in the Little Red School House. President Dawn Taylor called the ACHGS business meeting to order at 10:01 am.

VP Greg Barron gave the invocation.

VP Barron also discussed the Winter Field Trip to the Young, Gordon, and Gardner cemeteries hosted by Ronnie Volentine. Transportation will be provided to all cemeteries. This trip will replace the February 10th business meeting. Attendees will meet at the Little Red School House at 9:45 to depart for the cemeteries at 10am. This is a members-only trip but children of members are welcome.

There minutes for the October and November meetings were considered for approval. Linda Lea made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS:

President:

President Taylor stated that the Shiloh field trip would not take place in 2018.

President Taylor suggested a possible field trip to the Port Hudson State Historic Site in

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April. She also mentioned a possible field trip to visit the new Mississippi Museum of History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum sometime in September.

Vice President: Vice President Barron's report was about the Winter Field trip as given above.

Secretary: Secretary Anderson was not present.

Treasurer: Treasurer Gay Blalock presented her report. A motion was made by Neil Randall and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

Old Business: None

Other Business: None

Announcements: Vice-President Barron announced an invitation from the Stockdale Rangers Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp to attend their Lee/Jackson Banquet on Jan. 20th, 2017 at 6:00pm.

A motion was made by Marci Gordon McLaurin and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 am. The motion passed.

And then he said...

"History never really says goodbye. History says, 'See you later.' —Eduardo Galeano

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." —Marcus Garvey

"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." —Carter G. Woodson

February Meeting—Field Trip Only

As stated in the next meeting announcement on page one and in the draft minutes, the next meeting will be a field trip to three Amite Co. cemeteries courtesy of Ronnie Volentine. Transportation will be provided so attendees can assemble at the Little Red School House at 9:45 am and leave their personal vehicles parked there.

Current plans are to visit the Young, Gordon, and Gardner cemeteries. The duration of the field trip will depend on how much time attendees wish to spend at the cemeteries.

This trip is for **members only** (plus members' children).

Any change of plans will be announced before departure.

Upcoming Event in the Area

March 24-25, 2018

30th Annual Natchez Powwow

Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m.–8 p.m., and Sunday, March 25, 1 p.m.–5 p.m., at the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians.

30th Annual Natchez Powwow: Two Day Southern Plains style Powwow featuring contemporary American Indian music and dance. Highlights of the event include Inter-tribal dancing, Gourd dancing, native foods and art.

The event is open to the public and the cost of entry is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. For more information call 601-446-6502 or email lharris@mdah.ms.gov.

BITS AND PIECES OF AMITE COUNTY HISTORY

As many of you know, Mary Pallon is a long-time member of the society. She makes frequent contributions to various Facebook groups that are related to the history of southwest Mississippi. Recently she published a short Amite County related piece by Virgil Roberts, another long-time society member. This was taken from the Facebook group page for Rodney, Mississippi Remembering-photos, documents, history.

From Virgil Roberts:

Found some notes last night from a good man, who taught me a lot about the NW part of Amite Co, along with the NE corner of Wilkinson Co, and the Rosetta and Freewoods area. Mr Sidney Johnson (full name was Albert Sidney Johnson, after the Confederate General) was a walking wealth of knowledge, and I was fortunate enough that he took time to share some of it with me. Tidbits of the notes I'm posting here are from the late 90s.

Lewis Wetzel (famed Indian fighter) was buried in Rosetta in 1809 after dying from yellow fever while staying with Philip Sykes, who owned land in Sect 13, T4N, R1E (Rosetta area)

Wilson's Ferry (his family still has timbers from the cabin) was located on the south side of the Homochitto River, in Amite Co. Was in operation from app. 1810-1895

The ferry was built by Daniel Wilson, who married an Indian, possibly an Oglesby, and raised another generation of Wilson, one of who was Alexander Wilson, (1/2 W 1/2 Indian) who married Rachael Gibson in Franklin Co.

Freewoods was named so because the blacks there were free, not slaves. Havard's Ferry crossed the Homochitto River approximately where Hwy 33 now crosses the river.

Again, just a few tidbits I learned from a great teacher, but sadly I wish I could have spent more time with him. I have other notes, but most just relate to my family.

Mary Pallon also posted something on the ACHGS group page on Facebook that was taken from an online publication of the Mississippi Baptist Association at <http://baptisthistoryhomepage.com/miss.association.hist5.html>. Upon visiting the site, I found the following interesting short biographies/obituaries of four prominent Amite County Baptists.

JOHN EVERETT

John Everett was born in Richland District, South Carolina, July 31, 1793. He came to Amite county, Mississippi, in 1809. In the year 1823 he married Elizabeth Felder, a daughter of Elder

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Chas. Felder. She died in 1832, and in 1835 he married Mrs. Elizabeth Frith, a daughter of Zachariah Lea. Eight children were born to him, five by his first marriage and three by the second. Mr. Everett professed religion in 1827, uniting with East Fork church, where he remained a member until death. He served in the capacity of church clerk for many years, and in 1838 was ordained to the office of deacon. He was also secretary of the Amite Bible Society. He was an upright citizen, a devout Christian, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. An obituary notice says: "The church at East Fork has lost one of its best members, his family its affectionate head, and the county one of its most useful and upright citizens. Faithful in all the relations of life, he died in the triumphs of faith on August 5, 1860, aged sixty-seven years."



JOHN EVERETT

IVY F. THOMPSON



IVY F. THOMPSON

Elder Ivy F. Thompson was born in Amite county, Mississippi, January 20, 1820. In 1841 he graduated at Oakland College, in Mississippi, and later at Judge Shattuck's Law School at Brandon, Miss. In 1844 he was married to Miss Lucinda L. Frith, of Amite county, and during this year was, admitted to the bar at Liberty. Mr. Thompson united with Liberty Baptist church in 1848, being baptized by Elder Ham McKnight. The following year he was licensed to preach. His ordination occurred at Greensburg, La., December 21, 1851, Elders Ham McKnight and Calvin Magee composing the council. He was an earnest and effectual preacher, and was moderator of the Mississippi River Association for four years. His brethren said: "A good man has fallen in Israel. * * * No more will be stand upon the walls of Zion to proclaim the riches of redeeming love to a lost and ruined world." He died at the home of a friend, O. E. Strickland, St. Helena parish, Louisiana, July 28, 1860, in the prime of life, being little more than forty years of age.

STEPHEN JACKSON

Stephen Jackson was born near Clinton, La., July 28, 1817, and lived there until grown, uniting with Hepzibah church in 1836. In 1842 he was married to Miss Amanda Jenkins. To them twelve children were born., eight of whom are still, living. He moved to Amite county, Mississippi, in 1846, carrying his membership to Galilee church, where he was ordained to the deaconship in 1850. He was a farmer by occupation, and was a faithful and exemplary Christian. One who knew him well pays this tribute to his memory: "He fought the good fight; he finished his course; and, when the summons came, he was ready to be offered up and receive the crown of glory as his reward for faithful work in the Master's Kingdom. His was a life of service and sacrifice for his Master." Mr. Jackson died March 23, 1881, in the sixty-fourth year of his age.



STEPHEN JACKSON

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ROBERT T. RICE



Robert T. Rice was born six miles south of Liberty, Miss., March 1, 1817, and died within a few hundred yards of this place on the 20th of May, 1891, having reached more than three-score and ten years. On December 11, 1838, he was married to Miss Louisa Roundtree, and in 1850 he and his wife united with Mount Vernon Baptist church, being baptized by Elder Ham McKnight. Shortly afterwards he moved his membership to the Liberty church, where he remained until death, being a deacon for more than thirty years. During the forty years he was a Christian he seldom missed his church meetings on Saturday, and it was his custom to pay his pastor in advance. He was a co-worker with such men as Geo. F. Webb, W. Z. Lea and Ransom J. Causey. Mr. Rice was a well-to-do farmer, and was faithful in his day and generation.

My thanks to Mary Pallon for making me aware of these historical bits and pieces.

Contributions to Newsletter

Society members and other newsletter readers who have stories, family information, or other information that might be of interest relative to Amite County history or genealogy are encouraged to share through the newsletter. Contact this editor and I will send you the instructions for how to submit your contribution.



You may contact this editor at:

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Raymond, MS 39154

Or by e-mail at sitemanager@achgs.org

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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 \$150 -- Lifetime, couple 70+ age \$100 - Lifetime, 70+ individual
 \$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):

Amite County Historical and
Genealogical Society
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