



# Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Joey H. Wall, President

Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary

William G. Barron, Vice Pres.

N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

Robert Stratton, Council-at-large

Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

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Without a past, there is no future

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING:

**Annual meeting** — The annual ACHGS meeting was held in July at which time officers were elected for the next year. See the masthead for the current officer list. The only change in officers was that Sue Severson declined to continue as Secretary due to her distance from the county and Wayne Anderson was elected to that slot.

**WPA Amite County History reprint project** — The society, through the hard work of Mrs. Oma Gordon, got the first printing of 100 sets of the two-volume WPA history of the county. The materials available in these books is amazing and getting a copy should be a must for anyone interested in the county's history. See the details on Page 3.

### **Amite County Bicentennial Committee begins work —**

The committee for planning out all the activities and details of celebrating the bicentennial in 2009 has been formed and begun holding meetings. The society's committee-person is Mrs. Oma Gordon and she has already set about forming her own sub-committees of society members to advise and assist. If you have any suggestions for activities, programs, etc. that you think would fit into the bicentennial observance, please contact Mrs. Oma and/or try to attend a Bicentennial Committee meeting.

### **ACHGS meeting schedule has been set for the next year —**

The society's executive board, in responding to member concerns about not being able to attend meetings on the normal 2nd Thursday night of each month, has scheduled to have the third monthly meeting of each quarter on the 2nd Saturday of the month in the daytime. These meetings may involve regular business if there are

### **New Members: Welcome to the 5th issue of the ACHGS newsletter —**

Welcome to the fifth issue of the ACHGS newsletter. This will be issued once per quarter when sufficient news is available, but special, abbreviated editions may be issued as needed. Please feel free to send any comments to this editor at the address shown on the second page or to the ACHGS return address on the back.

matters to discuss but will also include programs from visiting presenters, field trips to local historical sites, and other such non-business activities. If the members desire, a pot-luck lunch may be arranged for the Saturday meetings as well. See the block insert on Page 2 for the specific meeting dates and times.

### **Society logo adopted —**

As you can see in the masthead above, the society has adopted a logo unique to our organization. The center graphic of the logo is a magnolia blossom (the Mississippi state flower) with inset images of the Amite Co. Courthouse, the Little Red Schoolhouse and Ebenezer Church representing the governmental, educational and religious institutions of the county. The logo will be phased into use in all places where any graphical representations of the county have been used in the past.

### **Relationship forged with the Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society —**

On July 15 the Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society visited the county to review records at the courthouse. The society took this opportunity to

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assist in hosting the group and introduce them to the society's work. From the positive responses expressing gratitude for the society's efforts received from the SWMSGs, it would appear a quite amicable relationship between the two groups has been created. Thanks to all the ACHGS volunteers who assisted in this.

#### OTHER STUFF:

##### **ACHGS Forum —**

We're still seeking new subscribers to the forum that has now been operating for almost a year. This was created to encourage exchange of information on Amite County history, genealogy, and culture. Unfortunately, we've had only a handful of registrants join the forum thus far.

I would like to again encourage all internet-active ACHGS members to register for membership on the forum and contribute to it. Membership in the ACHGS is not required to join so pass the word to non-members that you might know with an interest in Amite County.

To get to the forum go to the ACHGS web site at <http://www.achgs.org> and click on the forum link that appears near the top of the opening page. Anyone who has trouble with the registration process can e-mail me at [sitemanager@achgs.org](mailto:sitemanager@achgs.org) and I will guide you through the process.

##### **Society Vice President William G. Barron starts Yahoo! Group web site —**

This new Yahoo! Group site is designed to complement the ACHGS web site and forum. Anyone interested in Amite County History should consider becoming a member. Go to web address

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AmiteCounty/>

Here you can visit as a guest or sign up as a member of the group (it's free). If you join the group, you will have the advantage of posting photos on this site much more easily than can be done on the society site or forum.

##### **Reminder: ACHGS web mail still available —**

If you are a member of ACHGS with internet capability but did not have it or did not provide an e-mail address at the time you joined the society, you may use the ACHGS web mail feature to be given a web mail address associated with the main web site. This web mail address can be used to also register for the forum if you do not have another e-mail account or don't wish to reveal it on the forum. If you want to be activated for the

You may contact this editor at:

**Wayne B. Anderson, Sr.**  
**1737 Bridgers Drive**  
**Raymond, MS 39154**

Or by e-mail at [sitemanager@achgs.org](mailto:sitemanager@achgs.org)

#### Meeting Schedule

Thursday, August 10, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Saturday, September 10, 2006, 10:00 am  
Thursday, October 12, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Thursday, November 9, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Saturday, December 9, 2006, 10:00 am  
Thursday, January 11, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Thursday, February 8, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Saturday, March 10, 2006, 10:00 am  
Thursday, April 12, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Thursday, May 10, 2006, 7:00 pm  
Saturday, June 9, 2006, 10:00 am

All Thursday meetings will be in the courtroom of the Amite County Courthouse. The location and starting time of Saturday meetings will be determined by the activities planned. Notification of changes from the times above will be made well in advance of the meeting date.

web site mail feature, contact Wayne Anderson at

- 1737 Bridgers Drive, Raymond, MS 39154, or
- (601) 857-8272, or
- at [sitemanager@achgs.org](mailto:sitemanager@achgs.org) by e-mail.

Signing up for the web site mail feature is a little more complicated than just registering for the forum but it effectively gives you a separate (and free) e-mail service should you choose to use it.

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#### Last time we asked...

The Liberty White railroad ran from 1904 until 1921 with its primary run connecting Liberty to McComb. Entrepreneur J.J. White built the line expressly for the purpose of hauling one type of freight. What was it?

The freight was timber being cut in the county and hauled to mill in Pike County.

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#### Do you know?

Workers who moved and loaded timber used a specialized tool that had a unique name. Do you know what it looked like and what it was called?

## The WPA County History Reprint Project

The Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society is now taking orders for purchase of copies of the reprint of the WPA Books on Amite County. The books, known as the WPA Books, consist of the material compiled for Amite County, Mississippi, as a Works Progress Administration project in 1936-1939. The Amite County material was considered Volume III of the statewide compilation and was divided in Parts I & II for publication. Only 3 sets of the original printing are known to exist today.

One copy of the original 2-part set is in the possession of the society. It was used to produce masters for the reprint so that the character and style of the original printing is preserved. The original printing was created from 8.5 x 11 pages produced by manual typewriting. Part I has 406 pages and volume II has 528 pages. The original printing was in hardback; the reprinting is in semi-flexible covers of a dark blue style called Carnival Cordwain and the pages of text are on an off-white paper called Parchtone.

Since the original printing had no formal name, the ACHGS has named the two books in the set, Selected History of Amite County Mississippi I & II, respectively. The material covered in the two books vary over too many subjects to list but include, for example, such topics as: Slavery Days, Formation, Indians, Early Schools, Officials, Churches, Agriculture, Homes, Transportation, Pioneer Doctors, Wars and Men that Served, Outlaw Days, Burial Customs, etc.

The books are now being made available to anyone desiring to purchase them but are sold only in sets of both books. A two-book set costs \$125.00. An additional \$8.00 per two-book set should be added if they are to be sent by mail. In-person pickup from a society member requires no additional shipping charge.

If there appears to be a significant demand for the books on the part of the general public, the society will consider an additional printing.

**You may use the order form below or create your own facsimile of it if you do not wish to cut this page. Please provide all the information requested below when ordering.**

### Order Form

Mail completed form to: **Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society**  
**PO Box 2**  
**Liberty, MS 39645**

Make checks payable to the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

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

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ sets @ \$125.00 per set for a total cost of \$\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to have \_\_\_\_\_ sets mailed to me @ \$8.00 per set for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

**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 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):

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