



# Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Oma J. Gordon, President  
Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary  
William G. Barron, Vice Pres.  
N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer  
Nelson Dawson, Council-at-large  
Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

October 2007

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Without a past, there is no future

Welcome to the 17th issue of the ACHGS  
newsletter —

Please let this editor know your thoughts  
and suggestions on this newsletter (see e-mail and  
mail addresses elsewhere in this issue.)

Thank you.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be a regu-  
lar monthly meeting

**Location:** Amite County Courthouse, Lib-  
erty, MS

**Date:** October 8, 2007 **Time:** 7:00 pm

## Future Meeting Schedule

**October 11, 2007, 7:00 pm** — Regular monthly  
meeting

**November 8, 2007, 7:00 pm** — Regular  
monthly meeting

**December 1, 2007, Time TBA** — Quarterly  
meeting & Open House/Membership Drive. Pri-  
mary function to be at the Winston Wilkinson  
House.

**January 10, 2008, 7:00 pm** — Regular monthly  
meeting

**February 14, 2008, 7:00 pm** — Regular  
monthly meeting

**March 8, 2008, 10:00 am** — Quarterly meeting  
at Gloster Arboretum

**April 10, 2008, 7:00 pm** — Regular monthly  
meeting

**May 8, 2008, 7:00 pm** — Regular monthly  
meeting

**June 14, 2008, 7:00 pm** — Annual Membership  
meeting

## AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of 8 September 2007 meeting  
DRAFT

President Oma Gordon called the meeting  
to order at 10:02 AM in the meeting room of the  
Pike – Amite – Walthall Library in McComb, MS.  
There were 22 attendees. President Oma Gordon  
asked Linda Lea to open the meeting with prayer.

President Gordon then asked if all present  
were getting the newsletter which contains the  
minutes of the previous meeting. No one indicated  
that they weren't. She then pointed out he re-  
quest in the newsletter for feedback from mem-  
bers. She then stated how pleased the society was  
to be at the library for the meeting and thanked  
Mr. Morley for the library's hospitality. She then  
asked if everyone had reviewed the draft minutes  
of the March meeting. No one indicated that they  
had not. Glen Huff moved to approve the minutes  
as written. Linda Lea seconded. The motion  
passed without dissention.

President Report: Pres. Gordon read two  
letters recently received by the society.

- The first was from Mrs. Patsy Bostick of Still-  
water, OK, and was enclosed with a "duster" or  
"motor coat" donated for the Little Red School-  
house (LRSH). The garment dates to the  
1905-1910 era and was worn by women trav-  
eling in open carriages or cars to protect their  
clothes from being dirtied. The duster was  
originally owned and possibly made by Marg-  
aret Gordon, wife of Thomas Jefferson Gordon,  
(of Amite County) and is ornamented with  
quite a lot of embroidery.
- The second was from LTC Lee Terrell thanking

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You may contact this editor at:

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the society for the life member certificate.

Pres. Gordon then announced that Mrs. Frances Phares has donated a hand-made quilt made by Mrs. Leona Hazlewood Jones. The quilt won first prize in the 1933 county fair. Later, she reported that the editor of the New Roads, LA, newspaper had interviewed her by telephone about Dr. Tichenor's time in Amite County. She later sent him some printed material. An article on Dr. Tichenor is planned for the newspaper.

VP Report: VP Barron reported the following:

- On August 25, VP Barron and member Dawn Taylor met with a Canadian film crew, toured them around Liberty and discussed a film project that will feature in-depth film coverage of 12 out of the over 200 American towns with the name Liberty. The visitors included Johnny Zyrenski from Vancouver and a lady (first name Janet) from Montreal. They plan to return for a 5-day period later in the fall to actually do filming.
- The society will have a display at the I-55 Welcome Center near Osyka on September 29. Volunteers to help with supporting the display for a couple of hours during the day.
- The annual Open House / Membership Drive will definitely be held on December 1, 2007. If it can be arranged, the Winston Wilkinson house will be the featured location for the event.

Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson had no report.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock had no report.

Committee Reports:

- Little Red Schoolhouse – Pres. Gordon has asked Mayor Stratton to seal the windows with caulking and he agreed to have that done as

soon as the maintenance personnel are available. This will help prevent infiltration of moist air that is contributing to the mold growth. Also, the Board of Supervisors has approved purchase and installation of a dual function heating/cooling type air conditioner for the second floor room.

- WPA Books – Pres. Gordon reported that we still have a few sets and, based on demand as we approach the Bicentennial, more copies will likely be ordered.
- Bicentennial Committee News – Mrs. Oma reported that there has been no news since last month.

Old business: Pres. Gordon again reported that the school records are being donated to the society and the tax records are being loaned until there is adequate room at the courthouse for their storage.

New business: Mrs. Frances Phares announced that she had extra photocopies of an article on the Liberty Confederate Monument from the March/April, 1987, issue of Mississippi Magazine if anyone would like a copy. Glen Huff mentioned the Amite Co. Land Grants map book (which the society has a copy of) and indicated that it is a good source of information on land-owners in the nineteenth century.

After a call for any additional business, Pres. Gordon asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Pearl Strange moved; Treasurer Gay Blalock seconded. VP Barron declared the business meeting adjourned at 10:45 am and reminded the group that Mr. Gabriel Morley would begin his presentation at 11:00 am.

After about a 15-minute break, Mr. Morley made his presentation explaining a bit about his history of coming to the library, the various improvements in services that the library has undergone in order to provide for a separate genealogy research room. He described the various genealogy materials available at the library. Near the end of the formal presentation, the group moved to the re-

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search room so that Mr. Morley could actually demonstrate some of the materials in use. In addition to a variety of printed material in book form, the library currently has records on microfiche and microfilm and has a single computer terminal from which online genealogy records can be accessed. Right now only one database is accessible but the bigger Ancestry.com service is scheduled to be added by year's end.

Following Mr. Morley's presentation of about an hour's length, the group dispersed and most went to Golden Corral for lunch.

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### **Memorial Donations Received**

The Society hereby acknowledges and expresses its gratitude to Mrs. Evelyn Cutrer-Magee, Life Member, for her generous donations in memory of three of her ancestors. Mrs. Cutrer-Magee donated \$50.00 each as memorials to her GGGrandfather Robert Edward Stewart, her GGGrandfather John Tisdale Newman and her GGGrandfather James McFarland Stewart. All three are buried in Amite County cemeteries.

Likewise, the Society would like to thank Oma and Bill Gordon for their memorial donation of \$20 in memory of Ms. Doris Mereline Haygood Daniel

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### **Notice — update**

For the first time the society will be issuing membership cards to all paid members. These cards will contain your membership type and expiration date. Due to the number of late renewals received in September, printing of the cards has not yet been done. Cards will be printed as soon as membership stabilizes for a significant period. Watch your mail for this card.

Update:

Due to a malfunctioning printer, the cards have been delayed yet again

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

**Jeannine Dixon — Nominating Committee**  
**Vera Prestridge — Little Red Schoolhouse**  
**Dot Whittington — Archives (at the Little Red Schoolhouse)**  
**Kenneth Gordon — Amite County History**  
**Nelson Dawson — Amite County Family History**  
**Bobby Haygood — Amite County Cemeteries**  
**Linda Honea Lea — Hospitality**  
**Gay Blalock — Special Events and Food**  
**Robert Stratton — Special Events Publicity**  
**Greg Barron — Programs and Publicity**  
**James Allen Causey — Tours and Amite County Landmarks**

Anyone interested in helping with one of the committees should contact the committee chairman or contact President Oma Gordon to be referred to the committee chairman.

**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**