



# 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

July 2007

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Without a past, there is no future

## Welcome to the 14th 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 regular Thursday meeting.

**Location:** Amite Co. Courthouse Courtroom

**Date:** July 12, 2007 **Time:** 7:00 pm

### Future Meeting Schedule

A new list of meeting times and dates will be included in the next issue to cover the entire upcoming fiscal year. Space does not permit publishing the schedule this month.

### **Important Note:**

If you receive this by mail, look at your mailing label. If you have "\*\*\*\*\*" printed after your name, your dues have not been paid and the 30-day grace period will expire at the end of July. If you feel this is incorrect, please contact one of the officers or send a note to address on page 4.

### AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of 9 June 2007 meeting  
DRAFT

President Oma Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:00 am in the meeting room of the

Liberty Library. There were 26 attendees. She then asked Greg Barron to open the meeting with prayer.

President Gordon then asked if all present had reviewed the draft minutes of the May meeting. After a few moments to allow those who had not read through the draft to do so, Frances Phares moved to approve the minutes as written. Mildred Morgan seconded. The motion passed without dissent. President Gordon urged everyone to read the minutes prior to the meetings to facilitate moving the meeting forward.

President Report: Pres. Gordon indicated that the society was continuing to grow with a lot of new members. She reported that Mrs. Pearl Strange had donated materials on Gail Borden and Percy Quin which will be placed at the Little Red Schoolhouse for research purposes. Reminded members of balloting for next year's officers.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock provided a written Treasurer's report showing society income and expenses for the last month and that the society has a balance of \$5960.07 as of the day of the meeting. Jeannine Dixon moved that the report be approved; Vera Prestridge seconded; the report was adopted as presented.

VP Report: VP Barron reported the following:

- Thanked the officers and committees for all their efforts this year. Also thanked all those that donated or loaned artifacts to the LRSH
- The next quarterly meeting, September 8, 2007, will be at the McComb-Pike County Library. The business meeting will be held as usual at 10:00 am in the library meeting room there and at 11:00 am, there will be a presen-

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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)

tation by Gabriel Morley. Mr. Morley will show the society all the materials available in the genealogy room at the library. He will show how the materials may be used and will also explain what plans there are for the future regarding genealogy research materials at the library. Following the presentation, members who wish to join the group for lunch will adjourn to the Golden Corral Restaurant that offers an all-you-can-eat buffet lunch.

- The December quarterly meeting will be the Open House as the society has held in the past two years. This year, it will be scheduled for a different day from the Liberty Christmas Parade. The meeting room has already been reserved for December 1, 2007, which will likely be the day of the Open House if no other events cause a change to be needed.
- In 2008, the March quarterly meeting has already been scheduled for March 8 and will be a visit to the arboretum in Gloster. The spring foliage should have begun to bloom by then, e.g., azaleas and annual bulb plants.
- The June quarterly meeting will be a local version of the Antiques Road Show. Experts on antiques and artifacts will be asked to evaluate items that are brought in. The evaluations will be available to both members and non-members alike.
- VP Barron and his son Will presented an antique crucifix (ca. mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century) to be loaned for display in the LRSH. He also provided a brief explanation of the meaning of different elements represented on the crucifix. Mrs. Laramore, who is somewhat knowledgeable about jewelry and jewelry-making techniques, indicated that the metal portion of the crucifix appeared to be a bronze casting using the lost-wax process. VP Barron added that the wooden portion appeared to be brown ebony wood.
- VP Barron passed out info regarding the other web sites that are being used for society information – the Yahoo Group and the Flicker

Photo posting web site.

- VP Barron requested that he be informed by members who have knowledge of any coming events that would be of interest to the society so that he may notify the appropriate newspapers and assure that the news gets out.
- The logo that we currently have is not a high resolution image adequate for the banner that we have been trying to have made. McComb Printing has been authorized to create a high resolution version of the logo for use on the banner and any other large format item that we would choose to have made.
- It is planned to have doubloons made up for giveaways in the Bicentennial events. These will have the society logo on the obverse and the LRSH on the transverse. They will be the typical aluminum coin-shaped items such as are thrown out in Mardi Gras parades and similar events. VP Barron asked for a show of hands of any members would be interested in buying special doubloons in bronze by subscription. Details of that will be worked out but manufacture lead-time of 12 to 18 months is needed, thus sales will be by pre-paid subscription so that society money is not tied up in the project.

Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson discussed the finalization of voting and instructed anyone still needing to vote to see Mrs. Jeannine Dixon during the break.

Committee Reports:

- WPA Book Reprint – Pres. Oma Gordon reported that less than 15 sets remain in stock, so members who have yet to get a copy need to go ahead and buy it because there will be no reorder on these books. The Bicentennial book will be out by 2009 and the society will shift emphasis to sale of those books.
- Bicentennial Committee – Pres Gordon indicated that it is time for the society's Bicentennial committee to begin working on the various aspects of the planning that the members have volunteered for. Two members on that committee have moved away and will need to be replaced since they can't do much from their new locations. Pres. Gordon also an-

*(Continued on page 3)*

nounced that society members should dress in appropriate period clothing for the various Bicentennial events so members should begin planning now for acquiring or making appropriate clothing. It is expected that any activities that the society spearheads will be centered around the LRSH except for the WBTS reenactment which will use Vance Park.

- Little Red Schoolhouse – Mrs. Vera Prestridge has only had one visitor to the LRSH in the last month. The picture from the Sesqui-Centennial that was donated to the society anonymously has been reframed and is ready to be hung at the LRSH. For the future, assistance in naming all the people in the picture will be asked.

Old business: Pres. Oma Gordon reported that there is nothing new on the artifacts in the old Virgie Hays house.

New business: A suggestion was made to periodically publish a newspaper notice asking for pictures and info on the Sesqui-Centennial and other Amite Co. history to help bolster donations and loans to society files and records.

Pres. Gordon indicated that since there appeared to be no other business, the business meeting would be adjourned and a short break taken before moving into the day's presentation.

At about 11:00, society member David Dreyer gave a program on the McKnight family of Amite County. This family and a number of others came from South Carolina after the Revolutionary War and settled across the county. He quoted from letters written in the early days and completed the program with a slide show of pictures of the area of Scotland from which the family originally came and of various locations in Amite County where the McKnights used to live and work.

Following Mr. Dreyer's presentation, he gave a brief summary of the history of the Gloster Arboretum and told members what they could expect to see during the visit in March, 2008.

At the conclusion of Mr. Dreyer's presentation, a short break was taken while the food brought for lunch was set up for serving. Following lunch, members of the Nominating Committee counted votes from the election of officers. All nominees recommended by the committee were elected and the changes to the Constitution and By-Laws were approved.

Mrs. Vera Prestridge and others made the LRSH available for visiting while the meeting room was being tidied up.

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

This information was not complete as of publication time and will be printed next month and thereafter following conclusion of all changes to committee chairs.

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### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The **Southwest MS Genealogical Society** has invited ACHGS members to accompany their society on a field trip to Woodville on July 28. More specific details can be obtained by calling Mrs. Virginia Ziegler at 601-684-7668 or by e-mail to Larry Carruth at [llcisme@cableone.net](mailto:llcisme@cableone.net). More details will also be provided at the next ACHGS meeting.

**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**