



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

September 2007

Vol. 3, No. 9

Without a past, there is no future

Welcome to the 16th 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 quar-
terly Saturday meeting

Location: Pike-Amite-Walthall Library,
McComb

Date: September 8, 2007 **Time:** 10:00 am

Future Meeting Schedule

September 8, 2007, 10:00 am — Quarterly
meeting at Library, McComb

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

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 9 August 2007 meeting
DRAFT

President Oma Gordon called the meeting
to order at 7:02 PM in the court room of the Amite
County Courthouse in Liberty, MS. There were 18
attendees. President Oma Gordon asked Greg Bar-
ron to open the meeting with prayer.

President Gordon then asked if all present
had reviewed the draft minutes of the March meet-
ing. After a few moments to allow those who had
not read through the draft to do so, Linda Honea
Lea moved to approve the minutes as written. Ann
Brumfield seconded. The motion passed without
dissentation.

President Report: Pres. Gordon recognized and
welcomed member Sylvia Campbell who was at-
tending her first meeting. She made announce-
ments of several workshops and other information
reported in the Federation newsletter. She re-
ported that we have received a notice from the
Mid-Continental Public Library in Independence,
MO, that a new facility is being opened and has
the largest genealogical collection of references
in the world. The Library is extending an invitation
to anyone traveling through their area of Missouri
to visit and see the materials they hold. She also
announced that the society gets a copy of the
Journal of Mississippi History each quarter and
will be available at the LRSB for borrowing upon
promise of return. Mrs. Oma, Mrs. Vera, and
Greg Barron met with Mr. Don Wicks from
Picayune, MS earlier in the year regarding his
research on Eliza Jane Nicholson at the Liberty
Female Academy (Liberty

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Raymond, MS 39154
Or by e-mail at sitemanager@achgs.org

Seminary). Mr. Wicks sent a letter and e-mail to share some of the materials he has collected.

VP Report: VP Barron reported the following:

- On September 29, 2007, the society will be at the Osyka welcome center to provide information to interested visitors. A sign-up sheet is being set up for volunteers to give name and time of day that they can be present to help.
- September 8, 2007 – The society will meet in McComb at the regional library at about 10:00 am for its regular business meeting. At about 11:00 am, Gabriel Morley will present a discussion on research materials offered by the library, focusing on genealogical materials. Instead of a potluck lunch the society will assemble at Golden Corral restaurant for lunch following the meeting.
- The error in information posted on the history of the county on the Bicentennial web site was discussed and details were given on what the information should be.
- Greg and Will Barron are making an additional loan of artifacts to the LRSH. These include a framed steel engraving of Jenny Lind from 1851, a handmade ship model of wood, two large pieces of petrified wood from Brushy Creek in west Amite County, a Chinese porcelain vase from an Amite County home, ca. 1880, a Victorian glass dome, a \$1000 Confederate Bond with 7 attached coupons, a \$5.00 State of Mississippi note, a printer's sheet of \$5.00 Louisiana Notes ca. Early 1800s framed, a large fish trap made of white oak ca. 1950s, a fish/frog gig ca. 1960, a shell vase from the late Victorian period mounted on a blue canning jar ca. 1920, two blue canning jars containing seashells – a Ball quart and an Atlas pint, hand colored engraving of the last Mississippi delegation in Congress before the war (February 1861) published in Harper's by Winslow Homer, a large blue crock bowl ca. 1890 to 1920, a small handled kerosene/oil

lamp from early 1900s, ivory glove stretchers (used by ladies to keep their gloves sized and neat), and a large bone/wood crucifix from 1900-1910 from an Amite County home.

Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson had no report.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock was unable to attend and Pres. Gordon provided information on the status of funds in the society bank account. A \$580 deposit was made on August 7 and no checks were written on the account since last month giving an account balance of \$7374.80. Additionally, a cash income of \$500 for four WPA book sets has been received but not yet deposited.

Committee Reports:

- Little Red Schoolhouse – Mrs. Vera Prestridge reported that Dot Whittington has agreed to join the LRSH committee and assume responsibility for the second floor artifacts display.
- Nominating Committee – Mrs. Jeanine Dixon read the list of new committee chairman volunteers: LRSH – Vera Prestridge, Archives – Dot Whittington, Amite County History – Kenneth Gordon, Family History – Nelson Dawson, Cemeteries – Bobby Haygood, Hospitality – Linda Lea, Special Events and Food – Gay Blalock, Publicity for Special Events – Robert Stratton, Programs and Publicity – Greg Barron, Tours – James Allen Causey.
- WPA Books – Pres. Gordon reported that we have only eleven sets left of the 150 total that were printed.
- Bicentennial Committee News – Mrs. Oma reported that the ACHGS is going to do its "own thing" with respect to the LRSH. Next Bicentennial Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 25.

Old business: Pres. Gordon reported that the old school records that are poorly stored currently will be released to the society October 1, provided Pres. Gordon is present to accept them. Pres. Gordon has arranged with Bobby Haygood to make shelves to house the school records in the LRSH. He has indicated that he will do the

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shelves to be available by the December Open House. The tax records that are similarly stored in county facilities will be loaned to the society in a similar manner; however, review of the tax records by visitors will require monitoring. Mayor Ricky Stratton has committed to reinstall the burglar bars on the LRSH.

New business: On a call for new business, Mrs. Sylvia Campbell asked if any members are also members of the Order of First Families of Mississippi. No one indicated membership. She indicated that many people in Amite County qualify for membership. The state organization is aware that their existence is not well advertised and they are going to be working to improve that. She also suggested that the Bicentennial would be made much better if all old families in the county could provide family information to be included in the souvenir book. Mrs. Campbell suggested contacting Mr. Clinton Bagley who works at the state archives and is the out-going Governor General of the Order of FF of Mississippi. Pres. Gordon called on guest Mr. Robert Rousi to describe the doll collection that he had brought for display.

After a call for any additional business, Pres. Gordon asked James Allen Causey to close the meeting with prayer. The society adjourned at approximately 8:10 PM.

Notice

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 in the next month for this card.

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