



# Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

Oma J. Gordon, President  
Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary  
Nelson Dawson, Council-at-large  
Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

William G. Barron, Vice Pres.  
N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer

November 2008

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Without a past, there is no future

## Welcome to the 30th 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.)

Please notify this editor by the best means if you wish to change the manner (e-mail or regular mail) in which you receive this newsletter.

Thank you.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be a regular monthly meeting at 10:00 am in the meeting room of the Liberty Library. Members and guests are welcome. Final planning for the Dec. 6 Open House will be done so all involved in that endeavor are encouraged to attend.

### Future Meeting Schedule

**November 8, 2008**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**December 6, 2008** — Annual open house at the antebellum Jonah Ford home in eastern Amite County. Time and other details to be announced.

**January 10, 2009**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**February 14, 2008**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**March 14, 2008**, 10:00 am — Quarterly society meeting with program and activities to be announced.

## **AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** **Minutes of October 11, 2008, meeting** **Draft**

President Oma Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM in the meeting room of the library in Liberty, MS. There were 15 attendees. President Oma Gordon asked Gay Blalock to open the meeting with prayer.

President Gordon asked if all had read the minutes. Hearing no questions, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Linda Lea made a motion; James Allen Causey seconded to approve minutes as amended. The motion passed without dissention.

- President Report: President Gordon reported the following:
  1. A number of events are being held in various places. More information on those is available from Pres. Gordon.
  2. She reported that the society has been invited to participate in the Camp Van Dorn recognition event on November 8. Since that is the date of the November society meeting at which the important final plans for the December 6 open house will be discussed, most of the society officers and other principals having involvement in the open house will be unable to attend the Camp Van Dorn event. It was suggested that Dan Morgan may be interested in representing the society that day and Pres. Gordon will pursue that possibility.
  3. She reported that the society was invited

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to participate in a planning meeting set up by persons interested in forming a society in Lincoln County. Unfortunately all officers that live locally had conflicts with attending so the invitation was refused.

- VP Report: VP Barron was not present due to his mother's illness.
- Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson had no report.
- Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock presented a verbal Treasurer's report. The balance on hand as of the meeting day was \$3267.81. Vera Prestridge made a motion to approve the report; Linda Lea seconded. The motion passed without dissention.

#### Committee Reports:

- WPA Books: One set of books was sold since in the last month.
- Bicentennial Committees: Pres. Gordon reported that there were no new developments with the Bicentennial Committee.
- Little Red Schoolhouse: Vera Prestridge reported that Mrs. Helen Wells who works for Amite County is extremely interested in the welfare of the LRSB and has been extremely helpful to the society in arranging for work, repairs and other county activities to ensure that the LRSB is kept in as good a shape as possible for visitors to safely visit. Consequently Mrs. Prestridge requested that the society authorize a thank you gift for Mrs. Wells consisting of a tote bag and sets of the LRSB cards. Members unanimously voted to make the gift.
- Open House: Dawn Taylor will be organizing the finger food for the open house. She passed around a sheet for members to sign up to provide snack food items. Note that any members not attending this meeting and not expecting to attend on November 8

can sign up to contribute food by contacting Dawn, VP Greg Barron or President Oma Gordon. Dawn also made available copies of the flyer that has been printed to advertise the open house and encourage attendance. Anyone knowing of a public location where a flyer could be posted or copies could be left for the public to pick up should notify Dawn so that flyer distribution can be arranged.

(Although listed above in its normal position in the minutes, the approval of the previous meeting minutes did not occur until this point in the meeting.)

Old Business: Linda Lea asked if any progress had been made on having the historical marker for the Old Natchez District reinstalled out on the right-of-way of Hwy. 24. No one knew of any progress in that regard since the sign minus the post is still stored at the Amite Co. Courthouse..

New Business: There was no new business.

#### Other Business and Announcements:

- James Allen Causey reported that he now had a picture of Mrs. Alma Causey who worked on compiling the WPA books.
- Pres. Gordon reported that all the old records (such as the school records) stored in the LRSB have now been identified (named) and recorded in an inventory.
- Ann Brumfield reported that she had come into possession of a copy of the Mississippi Code of 1890 that had been owned by her father.
- Pres. Gordon reported that Mayor Ricky Stratton has given the society a copy of the Mississippi Baptist Association book that summarizes the association's history for 1806 through 1906.
- Pres. Gordon reported that both the double reservations and the tote bags are going fast.
- Vera Prestridge asked for volunteers to meet at the LRSB on October 14 from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm to assist with some work needed on and in the LRSB.

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The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:12 AM. Ann Brumfield closed the meeting with prayer.

## **In Memoriam**

**The society recently learned of the death of Lee Terrell, LTC Retired, a life member of the society since it's early days. LTC Terrell lived in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, and was therefore unable to attend meeting; however, he contacted the society on several occasions with words of encouragement for our efforts. The exact date or cause of his death is not known.**

### **ACHGS Bicentennial Committees**

Little Red Schoolhouse – Vera Prestridge  
Genealogy Research – Nelson Dawson and Eva Frances Phares  
History of County – Kenneth Gordon and Glen Huff  
Cemeteries – Bobby Haygood and Mary Pallon  
Artifacts (Upstairs in LRSH) – Greg Barron and Dot Whittington  
Military & War Between the States – Dan Morgan & Joey Wall  
Tours of Homes & Landmarks – James Allen Causey (will help provide maps/directions but will not be able to actively participate in tours)  
Hospitality (incl. merchandise sales) – Linda Honea Lea  
ACHGS Membership – Jeannine Dixon  
Special Events (incl. food/drink) – Gay Blalock  
Entertainment – Wayne Anderson

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

**Jeannine Dixon — Nominating Committee**  
**Vera Prestridge — Little Red Schoolhouse**  
**Dot Whittington — Archives (at the LRSH)**  
**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 Ancestor 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**