



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

February 2008

Without a past, there is no future

Welcome to the 21st 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 Thursday night meeting.

Location: Amite County Courthouse, Liberty, MS

Date: February 14, 2008 **Time:** 7:00 pm

Future Meeting Schedule

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, 10:00 am — Annual Membership meeting

AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of January 10, 2008 meeting

DRAFT

(Due to the absence of Secretary Wayne Anderson, Linda Honea Lea took notes from which these minutes were compiled.

Thanks to Mrs. Lea for helping. President Oma Gordon's personal notes relating to

the agenda were also used.)

President Oma Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the courtroom of the Amite County courthouse in Liberty, MS. There were 10 attendees. President Oma Gordon asked Jeannine Dixon to open the meeting with prayer.

Glen Huff passed out copies of an outline of the school records that are now deposited in the Little Red Schoolhouse under ACHGS care.

President Gordon stated that, due to the open house in December, there were no minutes to act upon.

President Report: Pres. Gordon reported the following:

- The open house on December 1, 2007, at the Winston Wilkinson house drew a total of 176 guests. The society received \$50.00 in donations, \$25.00 for postcard sales, \$500.00 for sale of WPA books and \$110.00 in dues.
- Mrs. Vera Prestridge sent a Thank You card to Mr. Jenne following the open house to thank him for allowing the society to use the venue.
- In addition to a number of locals, there were visitors from New Orleans, Vicksburg, Natchez, Baton Rouge, Hattiesburg, Jackson and McComb at the open house.
- Two descendants of Winston Wilkinson were in attendance.
- The price for official copies of birth or death certificates in Mississippi has gone up to \$15.00 for the first copy and \$5.00 for each additional copy. Corrections to vital records by affidavit or court order will cost \$25. Forms for records may be obtained at the court house (Sharon Walsh's office).

VP Report: VP Barron was not present.

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You may contact this editor at:
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Raymond, MS 39154
Or by e-mail at sitemanager@achgs.org

Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson was not present.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock handed out copies of the Treasurer's report then covered details verbally as well. The report covered the last calendar quarter of 2007. The balance on hand as of the meeting date was \$7828.29. James Allen Causey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Bill Gordon seconded. The report was approved without dissension.

Committee Reports: There were no formal reports. See new business below.

Old business: No one had any items.

New business:

- Mrs. Vera Prestridge thanked everyone who had helped out with the open house.
- Pres. Gordon reported that only 5 sets of the WPA books remain of the original 150 sets.
- Pres. Gordon reported that the shelves in the upstairs of the LRSH have been completed. Melvin Blalock built the shelves; Robert Morgan stained them.
- Pres. Gordon reported that she picked up the remaining school record books on Monday prior to the meeting. There were 16 boxes. The task to unbox the books, sort them alphabetically and by date and file them on the new shelves remains to be done. Volunteers to assist will be appreciated.
- James Allen Causey reported that the Hughes couple is working on the location of the Springhill School.
- Pres. Gordon read a recent letter sent to James Allen Causey by Joseph Hoff.
- Glen Huff reported on the Bicentennial book preparation which he is now overseeing and editing. He mentioned the following details
 1. Anyone wanting to submit information for possible inclusion in the book should send it to him.
 2. Plan to begin book sales next Christmas.

3. The following additional people will be working on materials collection for the book as well: Sandra Martin (information on historical people and places), Sissy Burris (churches), Anita Campbell (schools) and Hattie Nunery (history of Liberty). Glen Huff will personally work on arts and literature.

4. Expect that the book will be about 170 pages long.

5. The Board of Supervisors will be called upon for help to clean up cemeteries (a 1972 law allows such work to be done by county workers).

6. Anyone knowing the location of any old stores that existed in the past is asked to provide that information.

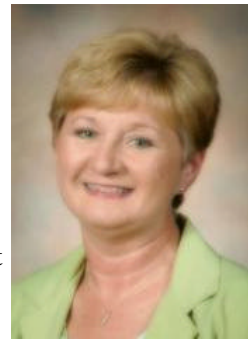
- James Allen Causey suggested that the historical committee meet with the Bicentennial Committee.
- David Dreyer reported that PBS will present a documentary on February 4, 2008 at 9:00 pm entitled "A Prince Among Slaves" about an African prince who was a slave in Adams County.
- Mrs. Vera Prestridge announced that the "Look Around Mississippi" segment to be aired on February 7, 2008, will feature the footage shot by Walt Grayson and his crew on their visit to the Little Red Schoolhouse. This brief feature is usually shown during the 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm newscasts on WLBT-TV Channel 3 in Jackson.

Pres. Gordon asked Gay Blalock to dismiss the meeting with prayer. The meeting closed at about 8:00 PM.

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 – Joey Wall
- War Between the States – Dan Morgan
- Tours of Homes & Landmarks – James Allen Causey
- Hospitality (incl. merchandise sales) – Linda Honea Lea
- ACHGS Membership – Jeannine Dixon
- Special Events (incl. food/drink) – Gay Blalock
- Entertainment – Wayne Anderson

In Memoriam Susan Jean Anderson Barnes



Mrs. Susan Jean Anderson Barnes, age 55, of Ocean Springs, MS., died Thursday, January 31, 2008, in Pascagoula.

Susan was born in Liberty, MS., but resided in Ocean Springs since college. She taught mathematics at Biloxi High School until retirement and became manager of the Prudential Gardner Realty office in Ocean Springs most recently. She was a life member of the Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society. She was a very active member of the Towns Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club of which her husband is president. She also belonged or had belonged to the Historic Ocean Springs Association (HOSA), the Krewe of Harlequins, the Hibernia Marching Society and Rotary, Celtic Nations Heritage Foundation, along with a long list of professional organizations concerned with either her educational or realty careers.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents, James Harland Anderson and Eva Jeanette Bryant Anderson of Liberty.

Survivors include her husband of 33 years, David Hubert Barnes, her daughter, Jennifer Lynn Barnes, both of Ocean Springs, son and daughter-in-law, Daniel Joseph Barnes and Alicia Denai Aiken Barnes, currently of Starkville, MS., brother, Wayne Bryant Anderson of Raymond and sister, Wanda Anderson Miley of Madison.

Visitation was on Sunday, February 3, 2008. from 1-3 PM, with a 3 PM Memorial Service, all at the Ocean Springs Chapel of Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers the family prefers donations be made to the American Cancer Society, 447 Security Square, Gulfport, MS., 39507.

View and sign register book at www.bradfordokeefe.com.

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 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