



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

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Without a past, there is no future

Welcome to the 28th 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 quarterly meeting with no business. Interested members and guests will tour **Rosemont**, childhood home of Jefferson Davis, in Woodville and continue on to the other two museums in Woodville after lunch. Rosemont admission is \$10 per person. Each attendee should provide their own box lunch. Attendees should assemble at the Little Red Schoolhouse parking area for **departure at 9:00 am** convoy-style. The tour will begin as soon as most attendees arrive at Rosemont.

Future Meeting Schedule

September 13, 2008 — Tour of Rosemont in Woodville, MS. See above.

October 11, 2008, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

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.

AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Minutes of August 9, 2008, meeting* Draft

President Oma Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM in the meeting room of the library in Liberty, MS. There were 18 attendees. President Oma Gordon asked Greg Barron 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; Ann Brumfield seconded to approve minutes as amended. The motion passed without dissent.

• President Report: President Gordon reported the following:

1. James Allen Causey recently attended a reunion of his military unit. Pres. Gordon asked him to give a brief report on the reunion.
2. She recognized the donation of a biographical book about Susan Anderson Barnes donated by Secretary Wayne Anderson, Susan Barnes' brother and passed the book around for the attendees to scan.
3. She reported that all the materials and artifacts in the donation from the Virgie Hays house had been cataloged.
4. She announced that the cloth tote bags with the Little Red Schoolhouse image have been received and are now available for sale at \$10.00 each.

• VP Report: VP Barron reported the following:

1. He reminded members that the September

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- meeting will be a field trip to Rosemont, childhood home of Jefferson Davis, in Woodville with later visits to other Woodville historical sites for those that wish to go. He asked for an indication of who planned to go so that he could get a ballpark count of attendees to advise the Rosemont personnel of how large a group to expect.
2. He reported that the bronze doubloons are safely stored away and that he is anticipating the delivery of the velvet presentation bags in a few days. Members may reserve their doubloons by payment of \$10.00 per doubloon. Distribution will begin at the open house in December. Members wishing to have their doubloons mailed to them must also add a shipping and handling charge to cover postage insurance and delivery confirmation. S/H charges are \$7.15 for the first doubloon and \$0.50 for each doubloon after the first shipped together to one address. The appropriate payment for all doubloons reserved must accompany each reservation order; payment may be by check or money order payable to the society. Reservation orders may be given to Linda Lea, VP Barron, Pres. Gordon or Jeannine Dixon; mailed orders should be sent to the society address of PO Box 2, Liberty, MS 39645, Attention: Oma Gordon.
 3. He reported that planning for the open house on December 6, 2008, is virtually complete and it is intended that this year's event will be given maximum publicity to hopefully boost attendance. A brochure announcing the event has been drafted and will soon be finalized. Both the Jimmy Honea home and the older Jonah Ford home (otherwise known as the Felder Richmond House) will be open for touring beginning at noon. In addition there will be Celtic, folk and old-time music throughout much of the day presented by Wayne Anderson and Ernest Herndon, a live

auction of donated items including some antiques, costumed story tellers relating tales of yesteryear and plenty of light refreshments. The brochure will contain a more specific schedule of events and directions to the location since it is a bit "off the beaten path."

- Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson had no report.
- Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock presented a written Treasurer's report. The balance on hand as of the meeting day was \$1510.34. The balance declined primarily due to payment of the cost of the cloth tote bags. Ann Brumfield made a motion to approve the report; Cathy Jaecke seconded. The motion passed without dissent.

Committee Reports:

- WPA Books: Members were reminded that the books are still for sale in the event anyone asks.
- Bicentennial Committees: Pres. Gordon reported that the society plans for the Bicentennial week are progressing independent of the planning still underway by the main Bicentennial Committee.
- Little Red Schoolhouse: Vera Prestridge reminded all LRSB visitors to sign the register when visiting. She reported that bees were again swarming around the LRSB but do not appear to be establishing a hive in the walls as was the case last year. She then asked if anyone knew the origin of the bell that is mounted on the post just west of the front of the LRSB; no one present was able to respond so she asked that members ask others around the area and report back to her if info on the bell was determined. Cathy Jaecke reported that she had managed to get some pictures of the Virgie Hays house before it was demolished and that these could be added to the Hays materials that have been put in the LRSB.

Old Business: None.

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New Business: It was pointed out that the LRSB accepts donations of family memorabilia (photos, diaries, letters, other papers, etc.) for its collection for anyone wishing to have their collections put into a more publicly viewable location. Due to space limitations, however, large furniture pieces cannot be accepted for display at the LRSB at this time.

Other Business: Vice President Barron gave a brief explanation of a new method of making rubbings of tombstones and other monument inscriptions using pellon (facing/lining fabric) and a form of black wax. The Vacation Bible School at East Fork had incorporated this as a handicrafts-type project this year and VP Barron had a number of examples of rubbings from stones in the East Fork cemetery as well as the Jewish Cemetery in Summit. The fabric is available at most fabric stores but the wax is available only by mail order via the internet from petersenprints.com.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:10 AM. Jeannine Dixon closed the meeting with prayer.

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 LRSB) – 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 LRSB)
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