



## Amite County Historical and Genealogical Society

William G. Barron, President  
 Wayne B. Anderson, Secretary  
 Dawn Taylor, Vice Pres.  
 N. Gay Blalock, Treasurer  
 Oma J. Gordon, Council-at-large  
 Wayne B. Anderson — Newsletter Editor

May 2011

Vol. 7, No. 5

Without a past, there is no future

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held to coincide with Liberty Heritage Day on May 7, 2011. A short business meeting will be convened if members desire at 9:00 am.

### AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of April 9, 2011 meeting

**DRAFT**

#### Future Meeting Schedule

**May 7, 2011**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS. Coincides with Heritage Day.

**June 11, 2011**, 10:00 am — Annual Society meeting with election of officers and program to be announced.

**July 2011**, 10:00 am — **No meeting**, decided by action of Executive Committee due to typical low attendance at the July meeting.

**August 13, 2011**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS

**September 10, 2011**, 10:00 am — Quarterly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS. Program to be announced.

**October 8, 2011**, 10:00 am — Quarterly meeting — details to be announced.

**November 12, 2011**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**December 3, 2011**, 10:00 am — Annual Open House and Membership Drive. Location to be announced.

**January 14, 2012**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**February 11, 2012**, 10:00 am — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

President Greg Barron called the meeting to order at 10:00 am in the meeting room of the Liberty library. There were 13 attendees. VP Dawn Taylor gave the invocation.

The draft minutes from the February 12, 2011 meeting were presented for approval. Oma Gordon made a motion to approve; Vera Prestridge seconded. The minutes were approved as written by vote of the members present.

President Report: Pres. Barron reported that:

The field trip to Magnolia was held although the Vaughn House was not on the tour due to the owner being away. Pres. Barron could not attend due to health problems but he understood that the alternative tour had been interesting and had gone well.

A historic family-owned site, the east end of Cat Island in the Mississippi Sound, has been sold to British Petroleum, best known for the offshore oil well blowout and leak last year.

An old cemetery from which the grave markers had been removed many years ago has been identified on the Hwy. 24 road-widening right-of-way. The Mississippi Dept. of Transportation will be surveying the site with ground-penetrating radar to confirm the exact burial spots.

An old corn crib dating from many years ago is on the road ROW as well and will be torn down

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You may contact this editor at:  
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for the road project. If anyone wishes to see the old crib and its homemade, split-rail construction, they should plan to visit the site in the near future.

Vice President Report: VP Dawn Taylor reported that she has the sign-up sheet for volunteers to work on the quilt on Heritage Day. She suggested that raffle tickets for the finished quilt be sold for \$5.00 each beginning on Heritage Day with the drawing to be held later, probably at the December Open House. Otherwise for Heritage Day, the society will have other quilts on display and will have knitters, rope-making and drop-shuttle spinning demonstrations. A piper has been lined up to play bagpipes periodically on the green. Jim Freeman will have his genealogy display set up in the library.

Secretary Report: Secy. Wayne Anderson had no report.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock gave a written report. The society account currently stands at \$4720.23. Wayne Anderson made a motion to approve the report; Cathy Jaecke seconded. The report was approved without dissent.

LRSH COMMITTEE REPORT: Mrs. Vera Prestridge reported that she still needs volunteers for the LRSH on Heritage Day.

Old Business: Pres. Barron as VP Dawn Taylor to show the pre-pieced quilt cover that will be sewn onto the batting and backing.

New Business: The following were discussed: Frances Phares reported that she is putting together another family history book that will hopefully be ready for Heritage Day. By consensus to the members present, it was

decided to drop the calendar idea for this year. It may be revived as a fund-raiser next year.

Other Business: The following were discussed: Sue Severson presented a short slide program showing the genealogy resources for researchers that are available on the internet.

David Dreyer gave an update on the showing of the film about Ibrahim, Abd al-Rahman who had been a prince in his African nation, thus he became known as "Prince" in slavery. The film will be given a special showing in Natchez on June 5, 2011, from 2:30 until 5:30 pm at the Natchez City Auditorium.

Cathy Jaecke showed some materials that she has acquired including a photo of her Grandfather when he was a fireman at Camp Van Dorn, a photocopy of a "passport" allowing travel in Indian Country to the west, a preformatted chart for writing in names and dates for genealogy tree making (she can get members copies of the blank charts), a copy of one of the books containing excerpts from the Woodville Republican newspaper and a copy of a list of Confederate graves.

Dan Morgan told of his recent visit to some very rural property he owns in east central Mississippi and his discovery of a sandstone mound or cairn almost certainly built by Indians, probably Cherokees.

The business meeting was adjourned about 11:20 am.

### **Nominating Committee Announces Officer Slate**

The nominating committee has announced the officer slate to be offered for vote by the members:

President—William G. Barron  
Vice President—Dawn Taylor  
Secretary—Wayne Anderson  
Treasurer—Gay Blalock  
At-large Exec. Committee—Oma Gordon

Floor nominations may be made at the next meeting. Ballot will be sent out afterward.

## **BITS AND PIECES OF AMITE COUNTY HISTORY**

### **SAMUEL TILLOTSON**

1. Samuel Tillotson , son of Daniel Tillotson and Hildah Gridley, was born 4 Aug 1790 in Hartford Co, Connecticut and died abt 24 Oct 1844. Samuel Tillotson and Mary Ann Daniels were married on 15 Sep 1823 in Connecticut. The census of 1830 would indicate his presence in the county with a wife. and 2 daughters by 1830.

US Census 1830 Amite County, Miss 1 M (20-40); 2 F (-10); 1 F (20-40); Total 4 1 Slave

US Census 1840 Amite Co, Miss 3 (-20 years); 3 (20-49) Total 6 27 slaves

Mary Ann Daniels was born about 1807 in Connecticut. She died Apr 1862 and was buried beside her husband, Samuel Tillotson, in Liberty Cemetery. No marker remains. [Mary Ann Tillotson and (2) William Smith were married on 8 Nov 1848 in Amite Co, Miss.]

Estate Papers, Amite County, Miss - File 177, Estate year 1863, Mary A Smith.

Petition for letters testamentary by William Smith on Mary A Smith who departed this life April last. Petitioner, William Smith, is husband of Mary A Smith, August 10, 1863. Justina A Winn and John B Winn, her husband and Daniel W Tillotson, heirs of estate of Mary A Smith, object to appointment of Wm Smith as administrator as he has stated that said distributees should have no more of their mother's estate than they could get by litigation. Inventory of estate Nov 7, 1863 \$1266. Appraisers of estate J M Covington, P P Faust and D A Faust.

Petition of Wm Smith, administrator of estate of Mary A Smith, who is desirous of surrendering his letters of administration. Petition shows Sarah Hurst, wife of David W Hurst, Justina Winn, wife of John B Winn, and Daniel W Tillotson are the only heirs of said estate August 18, 1864. Sale of residence known as "Smith's Hotel" January 4, 1864. (It is assumed Eliza Ann Tillotson is deceased since not named.) Amite County Mississippi 1699-1890, Vol # 3, The Environs, compiled by Albert Eugene Casey

The Conveyance records indicate Samuel Tillotson was a very active business man in Amite County.

Amite County, Mississippi Land Records - Conveyance Book I:

Robt Montgomery granted to Saml Tillotson Land 7-16-1830 Bk 2, p 483

Z Rembert conveyed to Saml Tillotson Chattel 3-22-1834 Bk 3 , p 146

John Hall & wife conveyed to Sam. Tillotson Land 9-26-1834 Bk 3, p 188

B O Smith conveyed to Saml Tillotson Land 9-26-1834 Bk 3, p 187

Saml Tillotson & wife conveyed to Swearengin & Gordon Land 10-29-1835 Bk 3, p 279

Saml Tillotson & wife conveyed to John Walker Land 10-29-1

Samuel Tillotson conveyed to V T Crawford Land 8-13-1837 Bk 4, p 52

Michael Baker conveyed to Saml Tillitson [Tillotson] Land 9-3-1837 Bk 3, p 13

J M Norwood & wife to Saml Tillotson conveyed to Saml Tillotson Land 9-28-1837 Bk 3, p 544

Samuel Tillotson granted to Pres Board Police Bond 12-31-1837, Bk 4, p 71

Avery & Thompson conveyed to Samuel Tillotson Land 3-30-1838 Bk 4, p 48

J W O Way granted to Samuel Tillotson Chattel 8-30-1838 Bk 4, p 438

G L C Davis conveyed to Samuel Tillotson Land 9-4-1838 Bk 4, p 345

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Agrippa Gayden conveyed to Samuel Tillotson Land 9-4-1838 Bk 4, p 323  
S H Strong Admr granted to Saml Tillotson Land 10-26-1838 Bk 3, p 459  
Samuel Tillotson granted to County Treasurer Bond 5-15-1839, Bk 5, p 278  
Samuel Tillotson granted to Union Bank Land 6-20-1839 Bk 5, p 230  
Mary McDowell conveyed to Saml Tillotson Land 6-26-1839 Bk 5, p 234  
Saml Tillotson & wife to Shubal Tillotson Land 3-16-1840 Bk 5, p 403  
Sam Tillotson & wife to E M Davis Land 5-2-1840 Bk 5, p 430

The Samuel Tillotson Building, located on west side of Courthouse was completed in 1839 and used by Probate Clerk while the Courthouse was being built It was later used as a rooming house, school, store, and combination of the above mentioned.

Samuel's home, located on the corner lot south of the present courthouse, was the first brick house built in Liberty. It burned abt 1903. (This may be the house referred to as Smith's Hotel in the Estate Papers.) The foundation of the home became the front yard of the Ed Nelson home. Samuel was one of the first business persons to establish businesses including a loan company in the town of Liberty--important in making it a permanent town. Even though he probably wasn't in the area for more than ten or fifteen years, his and his family's contributions to the town were important. Per Joseph Hoff.

Samuel Tillotson and Mary Ann had the following known children:

- 1.1. Eliza Ann Tillotson was born abt 1828.
- 1.2. Sarah Gridley Tillotson was born about 1830 in Amite Co, Miss. Sarah Gridley Tillotson and Judge David Wiley Hurst were married on 13 Jul 1847 in Amite Co, Miss. David Wiley Hurst, son of Richard Hurst and Alice or Ailcy Berry Lattimore, was born in 1819 on a farm about eight miles southeast of Liberty. He died on 15 Jul 1882 at the home of his daughter, Kaloolah and husband, James C Lamkin, Summit, MS.

From *The Slaves of Liberty*, by Dale Edwyna Smith, p 123 & 125 David Wiley Hurst, a Whig attorney, voted against secession at the secession convention. In 1862, David Wiley Hurst, having failed in his efforts to keep Mississippi in the Union, raised his own military company and was elected its colonel, but after his horse killed in battle at Corinth, threw him and fell on him, he returned to private life.

US Census 1850 Amite County, Miss - No 159 - David W Hurst 31 yrs, Lawyer, Value of estate \$3000. Sarah G Hurst, 20 yrs and Harris P Hurst, 2 yrs. All born in Amite County.

Sarah Gridley Tillotson and David Wiley Hurst believed to have had the following children:

- 1.2.1. Honorable Harris Priuli Hurst was born abt 1848. He died at the Confederate Home in Vicksburg on 15 Sep 1904 and was buried in Summit, Miss. He was survived by his mother and brother, Judge Teb Hurst. per McComb City Enterprise, 22 Sep 1904
- 1.2.2. Abdel Osmond Hurst
- 1.2.3. Alice Hurst
- 1.2.4. Daniel Hurst,
- 1.2.5. Kalooah Hurst and Honorable James C Lamkin of Holmesville were married at Hurst home in Summit, MS on 2 Jan 1873 by Rev Wm Hoover. per Magnolia Gazette.
- 1.2.6. D Warren Hurst died at fourteen years of age.

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1.3. Daniel Webster Tillotson MD was born about 1833 in Amite Co. Daniel Tillotson was a physician boarding in the Samuel B and Mary Moore hotel in Amite County. Per 1860 Census.

CSA D W Tillotson, Amite County Defenders Co K 33rd Mississippi Regiment. Daniel W Tillotson MD and Sophia E Garner were married on 2 May 1865 in Amite Co. Sophia E Garner was born on 14 Jul 1841 and died in 1876. Daniel W and Sophia moved to Franklin County, Miss and were buried near the Concordia Church. Per Joseph Hoff.

They had the following known children:

1.1. Osmond G Tillotson was born about 1866.

1.2. James Tillotson was born about 1868.

1.3. Justina Tillotson was born about 1836 in Amite Co, Miss. Justina Tillotson and Professor John B Winn were married on 19 Feb 1858 in Amite Co, Miss. Prof Winn died 31 July 1896 in Austin, Texas, where he was Superintendent of Public Education. Per Liberty Herald, 8-12-1896.

Share your genealogy and Amite County stories by sending to Frances Phares, PO Box 1639, Clinton, LA or [phrances@att.net](mailto:phrances@att.net) Your corrections and additional information solicited.



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

**Linda Honea Lea— Nominating Committee**

**Vera Prestridge — Little Red Schoolhouse**

**Dan Morgan — Amite County History**

**Nelson Dawson — Amite County Family History**

**Mary Pallon, Jennie Livingston, Bobby Haygood — Amite County Cemeteries**

**Linda Honea Lea — Hospitality**

**Gay Blalock — Special Events and Food**

**Greg Barron — Programs and Publicity**

**James Allen Causey — Tours and Amite County Landmarks**

Any member interested in helping should contact the committee chairman or Pres. Greg Barron.

**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):

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