



## 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

December 2012

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Without a past, there is no future

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be the annual Open House on December 1, 2012. Both the LRSH and the library conference room will be open beginning at 11:00 am. The LRSH will close at noon and everyone will retire to the conference room for a slide show of the Amite County photos collected thus far by the photo project headed by Sam King. Refreshments will be available. See minutes for details.

### AMITE COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of November 10, 2012 meeting

**DRAFT**

President Greg Barron called the meeting to order at 10:00 am in the meeting room of the Liberty library. There were 14 attendees. Pres. Barron gave the invocation. He then thanked VP Dawn Taylor and other society members for handling the October 13 special meeting with guest speaker Ron Skellie.

Pres. Barron took up the minutes of the August meeting. Dawn Taylor made a motion to adopt the minutes; Oma Gordon seconded. The motion was approved by all present.

President Report: The next ACHGS Open House is scheduled for December 1, 2012. Due to the efforts that went into the October 13 special meeting, this year's open house activities will be cut back. The open house will begin at 11:00 am at which time the LRSH and the library conference room will be opened for visitors. At 12:00 noon the LRSH will be closed and all will move to the conference room where a slide presentation of the scanned photos collected thus far in the effort spear-headed by Sam King will be given. Limited refreshments of popcorn and drinks plus any donated snacks will be available. LRSH merchandise will be available for those wanting any of the genealogy booklets or other items. The open house will end at 3:00 pm.

#### Future Meeting Schedule

**December 1, 2012**, Anticipated date of Open House. Details to be determined.

**January 12, 2013, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**February 9, 2013, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**March 9, 2013, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**April 13 9, 2013, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

**May 4?, 2013, 10:00 am** — Heritage Day event. No business meeting will be held.

**June 8, 2013, 10:00 am** — Regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the library in Liberty, MS.

*(Continued on page 2)*

You may contact this editor at:  
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**Raymond, MS 39154**  
Or by e-mail at [sitemanager@achgs.org](mailto:sitemanager@achgs.org)

Vice President Report: VP Dawn Taylor announced:

DVDs of the Ron Skellie 7<sup>th</sup> Mississippi program and the Confederate Memorial Service that followed are now available for \$5.00 (to cover cost of DVDs, labeling, etc.).

The Amite Cemeteries web site is once again being forced to move to a new web provider. VP Taylor and Oma Gordon have recently been working to copy the current site down one file at a time since batch copying or transferring is not possible. A new web provider is being checked out as to likely future availability so this transfer will not be required again in the near future. Following the meeting the group that previously signed up for the "Angels on the Bluff" tour will be traveling to Natchez for lunch and attending the Wirt Adams Cavalry Reenactments at Washington before the "Angels..." tour in early evening.

VP Taylor and Mary Ann Gearhardt attended the Rose Hill Cemetery tour in Meridian. This was mentioned in the September meeting.

Secretary Report: Secy. Anderson provided some additional detail on the DVDs.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Gay Blalock reported that the society currently has a bank balance of \$6390.41. Dan Morgan made a motion to approved the Treasurer's report; Dawn Taylor seconded. The report was approved unanimously.

LRSH COMMITTEE REPORT: Mrs. Vera Prestridge reported that there were no visitors in the last month. The attendance at the special October program numbered 70.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Jim Freeman donated a book of Pike County

land patent maps to the LRSH library; he also donated 10 magazine/booklet holders for grouping and classifying small publications.

Oma Gordon donated large format copies of newspaper articles on syrup making and grist milling.

James Allen Causey reported that the Camp Van Dorn Museum will be holding an open house on November 11. The Mississippi Digital Library staff will be setting up a photo archive for Camp Van Dorn and Amite County veterans photos.

Dawn Taylor asked if anyone would be interested in setting up tours to any Mississippi battlefields such as Vicksburg, Shiloh, Brice's Crossroads, etc.

Jim Freeman discussed the project the society was considering on helping the library recatalog the existing genealogy books. Members of the society have indicated a willingness to assist but this is still not underway.

Other Business: Joyce Bacon has obtained a brief summary of her Great Grandfather's Confederate service information.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.



## **BITS AND PIECES OF AMITE COUNTY HISTORY from Southern Herald, Liberty, Mississippi**

### About March 1944

#### WHITE REGISTRANTS TO CAMP SHELBY FOR PHYSICAL FOR MARCH

James Bythall Cobb, Morris Bythal Randall, Leslie Wall, Joe L. Higgins, Merwin Frank Bennett, Charles Joseph Coleman, Charles Frank Haynes, Moyese Lamar Causey, Jr., Smiley Lee Freeman, Clifton Denman Stinson, Loyd Elmoe Dawson, Carey Lynn Williams, Henry Earl Blalock, Paul Edward Campbell, Nathaniel Jack Coleman, Samuel Melvin Robertson, James Millard Johnston, Hugh Andrew Durtain, Julius Whittington, Dorris Henley Simmons, Doyle H. Blackard, Eugene Aster Scales.

### April 1944

#### C. T. DIXON HOME in Zion Hill burns Saturday Morning

The home of Mrs. Allie (Chas. T. ) Dixon in the Zion Hill section of the county was destroyed by fire early Saturday morning. Mrs. Dixon and her grandson [James" were alone in the home, at the time of the fire which occurred sometime after midnight, and awoke only in time to get out before the roof fell in. All household furnishing and effects were lost.

No supper had been cooked the evening before and how the house caught no one knows. The granddaughter, Eva Frances, who makes her home with her grandmother, and who graduated from the Liberty High School last week , was not at home, but all her graduating gifts, as well as most of her clothing were destroyed.

The Dixon home was one of the few "before the war' homes left in that section, and was highly prized by the Dixon family.

### May 4, 1944

Robert Warren Butler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Butler of Liberty. Warren enlisted in the Navy, January 1, 1944 prior to his 18th birthday. He is now in a Mechanical School at Little Creek, Virginia. He likes the Navy and is looking forward to his being placed aboard ship in about four weeks.

### August 17, 1944

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

Carey Lynn Williams - Son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Williams, of Liberty, Miss. is now enrolled at the United States Maritime Service Training Station in St. Petersburg, Florida. He attended Liberty High prior to enlistment in the Maritime Service; he was employed as a Brakeman.

He is now in his preliminary period of training; during this time he will be given general courses in first aid, fire fighting, lifesaving, general seamanship, physical development, mental fitness, etc. Upon completion of his basic training, Williams hopes to enter the Deck Department for specialized training where he will take up such subjects as use of cargo gear, practicing aboard steering small vessels, and many other courses that are valuable to all sailors before being assigned to one of the New Ships of our Victory Fleet.

### April 1945

#### HIGH SCHOOL CLOSING IN LIBERTY

The commencement sermon will be preached by Rev. I. O. Alexander of the Liberty Presbyterian church in the Grammar school auditorium, Sunday, Apr. 22, at 11 o'clock a.m.

The baccalaureate address will be delivered by Dr. Frank B. Smith of the Magnolia Baptist church Monday evening, April 23, at 8:30 o'clock.

Following is the list of graduates who will receive diplomas Monday evening, April 23:

Dorothy Dell Bates, Alice Jane Lusk, Elaine Haygood Stevens, Edna Earle Kirkland, Naomi Kirkland, Jessie Lane Cockerham, Mattie Rice, Mildred Causey, Nannie B. Marsalis, Lorraine Bates, Elaine Bostic, Marjorie Rice, Hazel Shaw, Ruby Freeman, Evelyn Anderson, A. T. Ratcliff, Clifford Gordon, Carl Smith, John Robert Wing, Russell Dixon, Randolph Wells, Audrey Reynolds, Mary Jo Poole.

### About June 1945

Pfc. Bennie D. Causey, Jr. Only son of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Causey of Liberty, Route 5, entered the U. S. Army, October 12, 1944 and went overseas in April 1945, age 19 years. His parents were notified by the war department that on June 7, 1945 he was missing in action on Mindanao Island in the Philippines.

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

A few days ago, the parents were informed by the war department that he is "presumed dead."

Before entering the service, he was employed by the Y. & M. V. Railroad and resided with his sister, Mrs. Ralph W. Sims, 6271 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans.

### September 6, 1945

Liberty Schools opened September 3, 1945

Faculty named - E. F. Whatley, Superintendent; L. W. Bracey; Mrs. Lottie Lee Burdette, Hall Teacher; Miss Zella Jones, Science; Miss Mary Ella Johnston, Mathematics; Mrs. Carl T. Quin, Home Economics; Mrs. Flora Wilson, Commercial

Grammar School - Mrs. T. H. Van Norman, Beginners; Mrs. Minnie Black, first grade; Mrs. H. L. Lewis, Jr., second grade; Miss Glanara Anderson, 3rd grade; Mrs. B. E. Burris, third and fourth; Miss Elizabeth Hood, fourth grade; Miss Virgie Hays, fifth grade; Mrs. Carroll Melton, 6th grade; Mrs. Alvis Tynes, 6th & 7th; Mrs. Raiford Walsh.

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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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