

THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O.Box 276
Brewton, Alabama 36426

January 7, 1974

Newsletter

Carolyn Pugh McLendon, Editor

NOTICE OF MEETING - The January meeting, our annual meeting, will be held on January 15, 1974, at 7:00 p.m. in the Jefferson Davis Junior College Student Center. Mrs. M. G. Waters, a retired teacher and one of our busiest historians copying and collecting history items, will present a program on the Escambia County schools. Mrs. Waters has been working on this particular story for several years. Officers for 1974 and 1975 will be elected at this meeting from a slate to be presented by the Nominating Committee.

LOOKING BACK OVER 1973 we can't help but be proud of our accomplishments--excellent monthly programs; successful Garden Party at The Leigh Place, Fall Pilgrimage to Fort Mims, and Christmas Party; our first efforts at publishing history being well received and appreciated by the public; all 500 copies of our first quarterly sold; 100% renewal of the 1972 membership of 78 members, and 143 additional members for a total membership of 221.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - Through March 31st we will be conducting our membership drive for the year. At the end of this newsletter is a form for your use in inviting your friends, or anyone you think might be interested in being a part of our Society, to join--just give it to them or mail it to them, or if you wish we will be glad to mail an invitation to them at your request.

1974 NEW MEMBERS (11) - Judge R.E.L.Key, Evergreen, Ala. for 1973 and 1974; Telmon H. Fulmore, Jr., Jay, Fla.; Raymon Weaver, Friendswood, Texas; Herschel Weaver, East Brewton; Mrs. J.C.Rocher, Mobile; Maclyn Weaver, East Brewton; Mrs. Sally W. Brooks, East Brewton; Terry Elliott, Columbus, Ga.; Mrs. D. J. Elliott, Lexington Park, Md.; E. C. Boykin, Harvey, La.; and Mrs. Betty Campbell, Brewton.

1974 RENEWALS PAID: A. H. Riley, Jr., Miss Elizabeth Riley, Mrs. W.P. Parker, Mrs. M. G. Waters, Mrs. Jewel Williamson, Wilburn J. Nall, John David Finlay, Sr., Mrs. Emily W. Finlay, Phelan L. Findley, Mrs. Carolyn P. McLendon, Miss Katie Hand, J. F. Elliott, Gordon Weaver, Ed Leigh McMillan, Miss Mary Holladay, Mrs. Ruth Thompson, Reginald McFarland, A. J. McCreary, Joseph A. Jackson (for 1974 and 1975), Dan S. Robertson, Miss Helen Robertson, Mrs. Margaret S. McMillan, Mrs. W. W. Foster, and Mrs. Lillian Watson.

GRATUITIES: A very special thank you to Mrs. Bert Campbell, Jr., Chairman, who bore all the headaches and arrangements for the Christmas Party, and to Mrs. Sam Coale, Mr. and Mrs. W.P.Parker, Mrs. Jack Bruner, Mrs. Frank Luttrell, Mrs. Joel Bostic, Mrs. Phelan Findley, Mrs. John David Finlay, Mrs. Pelham Coale, Mrs. James Garrison, Miss Jan Redditt, Mrs. E. T. Archer, Mrs. J. R. Miller, Miss Marjorie Davison, Miss Ethel Davison, Mrs. Jess Dixon, Mrs. Robert Farrer, Ed Leigh McMillan, Thomas McMillan, and Mrs. Hermine Holtzborn who helped in preparing, furnishing, donating and delivering refreshments for the party and acting as hostesses for the party, decorating and lighting. They did a great job! Also, to Floyd Currie, who acted as our Master of Ceremonies for the Costume Contest and Story Hour, having been appointed at

at the last minute in the absence of J.W.Caldwell, President, because of an emergency; to the Jefferson Davis Junior College for the privilege of having our party in the spacious Fine Arts auditorium; to The Brewton Standard for furnishing a photographer and the page-spread coverage of the party; to all the contestants in the costume contest: Mrs. Jewel Williamson (1st place winner); Mrs. Marie Nall (2nd place); Wilburn Nall (3rd place); Mrs. Annie C. Waters (4th place); Rev. M.G. Waters, Mrs. Voncile Pugh Windham, Evergreen; Mrs. Harriett Miller, Mrs. Louise Smith; and Mrs. Doris Bruner. Mrs. Williamson's and Mrs. Bruner's costumes were authentic as was the lace and hat worn by Mrs. Nall; Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Windham and Mrs. Waters wore copies of 1700 and 1800 dresses. Mr. Nall wore a rented George Washington costume, and Rev. Waters wore a copy of an 1800 suit and hat. Harriett Miller and myself just enjoyed putting together "likely-looking" costumes for the party. For those of you who missed it, it was a lovely party--90 people attending with entertaining stories told by Ed Leigh McMillan, Dan S. Robertson, Floyd Currie, Miss Rita Jane Boykin and Miss Sallie Davison.

Also, a special thank you to Bert Campbell, Jr. for indexing the September and December quarterlies; and to John David Finlay, Sr. for use of postage meter for mailing the newsletters.

QUERY - One of our members, Mrs. Leslie W. Watson of 2515 Anaconda Trail, Maitland, Florida 32751 would like information of the parents and brothers and sisters of William Pinkney Green of Conecuh County, Alabama, whose wife was Ann Trice Castleberry.

STALLWORTH CEMETERY near Evergreen, Conecuh County- descendant of Nicholas Stallworth (1777-1836) are seeking contributions in cleaning and fencing the cemetery, repairing headstones and in corresponding regarding Stallworth family genealogy. Write to Miss Mary L. Roberts, 117 Russell St., Monroeville, Ala. 36460, or Mrs. Lewis A. Stallworth, 1710- 14th Avenue South, Birmingham, Alabama 35205.

ATMORE'S NEWSPAPER HISTORY

By: R. W. Brooks

Copied from The Atmore Advance, May 19, 1932
Contributed by Mrs. Gertrude J. Stephens

The man who goes into the newspaper business is like the fellow who has typhoid fever. If it don't kill him, it leaves him in bad shape. In other words, he is never the same any more. He wants to be a newspaper man or work on one and nothing else will satisfy him. Atmore has boasted of a newspaper since 1903 and I have been connected with it directly or indirectly a good deal of the time. I have never gotten over liking the business.

The first newspaper was started in Atmore in September 1903 by John M. Gatlin, who moved from Century and started the Atmore News having it printed in Atlanta by the Western Newspaper Union. He later sold to Dr. D. C. Burson, who changed the name of the paper to the Atmore Spectrum or rather the News was merged into the Spectrum. He edited the paper until 1912 assisted by his sister, Miss Blanch, and as that was in the days before the linotype, she got to be almost an expert at setting type. I think sometimes she longs for the chance to do some more newspaper work. The paper was sold to Mr. Neil who hailed from the far west, Nebraska. Neil was a good newspaper man as far as the mechanical department was concerned but I was called on to edit the paper which I did until he went to Brewton and purchased the Standard Gauge of that city.

Atmore's Newspaper History (continued)

The Record was later sold to different parties, none of them making much success of it and at last it was bought by R. B. Vail of Bay Minette now owner of the Baldwin County Times. He later sold it to Mr. Sharp of Mobile. In the meantime Tup Lucas came to Atmore and started a job printing establishment and later started the Atmore Advance. Mr. Sharp struggled along with The Record for a few months and finally gave it up and moved the plant to Mobile. The Advance came out just in time to take its place and give the people of this section an up to date local newspaper, and as the merchants soon waked up to the fact that it pays to advertise, it continued to grow, and now has close to 1500 paid subscribers and to say the least for it, it is decidedly the best paper in Escambia County.

-Copied from The Atmore Advance, May 19, 1932
by Gertrude J. Stephens, July 1973.

INVITATION TO NEW MEMBERS AND PROSPECTS

Invitation is extended to you by the Escambia County Historical Society to join with it in its efforts to record and preserve the history of this area. As a member you will be entitled to receive the monthly newsletters which contain history briefs, the quarterlies, and an index to the quarterlies at the end of the year. Your \$5.00 will help in covering the expenses of our publications and projects. Upon receipt of your check for \$5.00 and the information signified below, you will be entered as a member of the Society.

Escambia County Historical Society
P.O.Box 276
Brewton, Alabama 36426

Name of applicant: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Zip Code

Phone

Signature of Applicant

Date

NOTICE! The March, 1974 issue of The Escambia County Historical Quarterly will contain Henderson Potter's "History of Escambia County, Alabama" as published in 1941. You won't want to miss this!