

1776 - 1976

-Escambia Echoes-



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NOTICE OF MEETING: April 20, 1976, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Place: Brewton Public Library

Program: SHOW and TELL

This will be our first "Show and Tell" this year, and is something all of our members enjoy participating in. Since this is our Bicentennial Year some of you may want to bring some of the bicentennial specialty items you have purchased to commemorate the bicentennial of our nation. You may bring anything you would like to tell the group about--old or new except do not bring a bell. We are planning something special with bells for next month. For the shy ones who do not want to describe their item to the group Miss Rita Jane Boykin, our Program Chairman, will tell it for you--jot the information down on a slip of paper ahead of time. This is the night that you are on the program, come and bring a friend.

NEW MEMBERS, total now 301! Mr. J.L.Ryals, Rt.3, Box 24, Brewton; Mrs. Ann S. McLellan, P.O.Box 237, Brewton, Al.; Mr. Gordon M. Tew, 900 U.S. 90 West, Crestview, Fla. 32336.

BICENTENNIAL MARTHA AND GEORGE WASHINGTON PARTY. Plans are now under way for our Martha & George Washington Party to be held in the indoor swimming and recreation hall at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. McMillan, 105 McLellan Street, Brewton, on Tuesday, June 15th. The McMillans' have always been most gracious in allowing us to hold outings at The Leigh Place, Jay Villa Plantation, Dozier Camp and at their home and they have again extended a warm welcome to us. Since we wanted to do some elaborate planning for this, we didn't want to have to be concerned about the weather cooperating. Mrs. Dumas Jennings has agreed to be Chairman for this event and Mrs. Harriett Miller has also agreed to serve on the committee. The committee will be needing a lot of help from people with special talents. This is to be a costume party with dress of the 1776 period, so be getting your costume ready. Any suggestions you might have regarding types of food to serve, decorations, etc. will be appreciated. More plans will be announced in next month's newsletter.

EVERGREEN BICENTENNIAL TOUR is to begin from the Evergreen courthouse at 9:00 a.m. on April 28 (Wednesday) going to the museum at the Castleberry school, to Belleville for several places of interest, to Burnt Corn to several sites and a sack lunch at Sam Lowrey's store, to Johnstonville to two Johnston homes, and to Brooklyn Baptist Church. This will be a full day's tour. If you wish to go with me give me a call. I hope that more than one car load will make this tour. Those participating should plan to carry a sack lunch.

The combined choirs of The First Baptist Church of Brewton, under the direction of Leon Enzor, will present the bicentennial cantata "I LOVE AMERICA" on May 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. They are going "all out" to make this one of Brewton's Bicentennial Spectaculars. Plan to be present for this happening.

Jefferson Davis Junior College Choral Union, Choir, drama and dance groups are presently working on the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Oklahoma" for presentation in June. Watch for this date.

Flomaton is planning a July 4th celebration in their park area. The old home which they have restored will be furnished for the occasion. Vice-President Eugene Pettis will report on this at our meetings.

The Brewton Bicentennial Council is planning a July 3-4-5th schedule of events to take place in O'Bannon Park--arts and crafts, baseball, canoe rides, contents, etc.

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#### THOUGHT IT WAS THE FIRE WHISTLE

Copied from The Brewton Standard, April 23, 1908

Contributed by: Mrs. Annie Waters  
Route 5, Box 471, Brewton

"Jerry," the big iron grey horse and his bay team-mate, who have pulled the hose wagon of the Brewton Fire Department on so many lightning runs, took a gallop all on their own accord Tuesday and under the evident impression, too, that they were doing the proper thing. They were standing at the power house hitched to a wagon and waiting patiently while a load of coal was being unloaded, when all at once the planer whistle of Lovelace Lumber Co. plant just a few feet away sounded its shrieking announcement of the dinner hour. Now Jerry is an old-stager and knew full well that it was not the fire alarm, but his restive mate is less skilled in the art of whistle phonetics and the shrill blasts sounding in his ears seemed to be the same danger signal that had summoned him on many a mad rush through our streets with the fire laddies behind him. He didn't take time to consider the matter but bolted like a flash, and the dizzy speed at which that farm wagon was yanked through our streets was such as a Reo buzz-devil might well envy. "Jerry" knew better all the time, but he galloped along with him just so he could give him the "horse-laugh" when he stopped and found out his mistake; he even winked at some of the fire boys that were standing on the corner as they flew past. They went down Rotten Row like a rocket, thundered across the long bridge over Murder Creek, and East Brewton got only a glimpse of them as they sped through on their way to the river. Mr. Sam Sowell jumped into his buggy and followed them and by hard driving came up with them over three miles on the other side of Conecuh river. There was no serious

damage done, only a wheel twisted rather shapeless. "Jerry" now munches his oats in his comfortable stable with his customary placidity, while he treats the matter as a huge joke. In the meantime Mr. Sowell is going to give the spirited bay some careful lessons in the science of diacoustics in order that he does not again get the sound of whistles mixed-up in his equine think-tank.

NOTE ABOUT FIRE HORSES

By: Mrs. Annie Waters

When a fire horse was retired from the service he usually was sold to a farmer. But alas, the poor farmer was in for a rude awakening. When he hitched his animal to a plow or wagon he made a dash for the wide open spaces and the only way the farmer could use him was to hitch him to a wagon and let him gallop several miles and tire himself out, then bring him back to the farm and begin his days work. This process consumed too much of the farmer's time consequently poor "Jerry" and all the other fire horses wound up at the glue factory.

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WARREN'S ADDRESS AT BUNKER HILL

(June 16-17, 1775)

Stand! the ground's your own, my braves!

Will ye give it up to slaves?

Will ye look for greener graves?

Hope ye mercy still?

What's the mercy despots feel?

Hear it in that battle-peal!

Read it on yon bristling steel!

Ask it,--ye who will.

Fear ye foes who kill for hire?

Will ye to your homes retire?

Look behind you!--they're afire!

And, before you, see

Who have done it! From the vale

On they come--and will ye quail?

Leaden rain and iron hail

Let their welcome be!

In the God of battles trust!

Die we may,--and die we must!

But, O, where can dust to dust

Be consigned so well,

As where heaven its dews shall shed

On the martyred patriot's bed,

And the rocks shall raise their head,

Of his deeds to tell?

--John Pierpont