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## ESCAMBIA ECHOES

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



October 18, 1977

Annual dues - \$6.00



Carolyn Pugh McLendon, President and Editor

NOTICE OF MEETING - Tuesday, October 25, 1977 7:30 p.m.

### BREWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

PROGRAM - Group participation - "TELL IT ALL"

We had scheduled this program for the June meeting, but the meeting was canceled because of the death of one of our Trustees. It seems more appropriate for this month since this is the month of ghosties and goblins and things that go bump in the night. This is your opportunity to tell of strange and unusual events for which there was never an explanation, a supernatural happening, family legend or tradition, frightening cemetery episodes, unbelievable sights, or some mischievous act for which the perpetrator was never identified. If you have something you want to show to the group, bring it along. But do come, and bring a friend. The public is always welcome.

Books Available - The second printing of COLLIRENE, THE QUEEN HILL, a Black Belt Lowndes County, Alabama Community, a history of seven pioneer families Caffey, Dunklin, Dudley, Lyon, Middleton, Pierce, Rives and allied families (60 families listed), \$16.00 from June Middleton Albaugh, 144 Forest Drive, Short Hills, New Jersey 07078 or Banner Press, P.O.Box 20180, Birmingham, AL 35216. Also available pen and ink prints of old homes for framing 11x14, \$4.50.

MUSEUM FUND PROJECT - The Fine Arts Building which will house the museum is making good progress, people all over the area are asking about the museum. The Museum Fund now stands at \$27,414.86 with firm commitments for another \$1,100.00. Since the last newsletter was published the following contributions have been received:

MEMORIALS - MRS. MATTIE O'BANNON  
by Mrs. Thomas McMillan

W. EMMETT BROOKS  
by Mrs. H. Pettis Randall, Tuscaloosa

THOMAS E. McMILLAN  
by Mrs. H. Pettis Randall, Tuscaloosa

MISS MARY HOLLADAY  
by Mrs. John David Finlay

JAMES ROBERT STEWART  
by Mr. and Mrs. David R. Snider, Pontiac, Michigan

REPORT ON THE EAST BREWTON AREA PILGRIMAGE - Those of you who missed this well-planned outing certainly missed a treat. The weather was beautiful and pleasantly cool, the tour was most interesting, and relaxing at the Williamson retreat at the end of the day made it perfect. We could not express enough appreciation to those who worked so hard to make this pilgrimage a success--Mr. and Mrs. Winfred (Wink) Williamson, Mrs. Doris Bruner and Mrs. Mary Rose Peavy. Special commendation is due Mrs. Jewel Williamson for the delicious old-fashioned desserts furnished for our meals, and the hand-out material of historical facts regarding the East Brewton Area researched and prepared by Mrs. Mary Rose Peavy and Mrs. Doris Bruner. For the benefit of those members who do not subscribe to The Brewton Standard the writeup regarding the pilgrimage is being reprinted for this newsletter.

In A History-Oriented Tour  
EAST BREWTON PILGRIMAGE WELL ATTENDED  
The Brewton Standard, September 29, 1977

More than fifty members of the Escambia County Historical Society and their guests participated in the Saturday afternoon pilgrimage to East Brewton and the Travis Community, with the motorcade led by representatives of the East Brewton Police Department and the Escambia County Sheriff's Department.

A fall pilgrimage is made each year by the Historical Society to observe points of historical interest and share in an afternoon of fellowship. This year's tour was under the direction of Mrs. Carolyn McLendon, president of the Escambia County Historical Society, with Mrs. Mary Rose Peavy and Mrs. Doris Bruner acting as tour guides, and Mr. and Mrs. Wink Williamson hosting the group at the supper meeting following the tour.

The motorcade left the Brewton courthouse parking lot Saturday afternoon, traveling first to Fort Crawford Park on Murder Creek in East Brewton, where the park facilities and nature trail were noted.

Fort Crawford Cemetery was then visited, and members viewed the older graves in the cemetery, and noted the site of the old Fort Crawford, which was erected on the bluff in 1816.

The tour then progressed through the area known as "Little Germany," which community was settled during the mid and late 1800's, forming a large portion of what is now the City of East Brewton.

Members of the tour group were presented a pamphlet, "Little Leaves of History," which noted facts and stories concerning various points along the tour which proceeded from East Brewton on to the Travis Community.

The old Travis Cemetery was visited, with sketches presented concerning the Travis family and other pioneer settlers of the area. A road through the wooded area along the ridge past Dixon Mill Creek took the group to Dixonville, where the cemetery provided the group with historical data concerning that community's earlier years.

TAR LANDING

Mr. and Mrs. Wink Williamson hosted the group at their Tar Landing Retreat located near Murder Creek, where barrels of tar were prepared for shipping in the 1800's.

The cabin, constructed by Williamson is built on the style of a home owned by his grandfather, and is furnished with many items of historical interest, farm implements, old photographs, handcrafted wooden items and memorabilia of bygone years added interest to the supper meeting.

Following a welcome and prayer by East Brewton Mayor Malcolm Edwards, the group shared in a picnic supper in the cabin and screened porch of the retreat, where rustic tables were decorated with straw sun hats holding arrangements of french mulberry and wild flowers.

Homemade desserts including buttermilk pie, peanut butter pie, cushaw and potatoe pie and sherry cake were served by Mrs. Williamson.

#### HISTORY SKETCH

Following supper, the group gathered on the lawn of the retreat, where Mrs. McLendon expressed appreciation for participation in the tour.

Mrs. Kenny (Inez) Ashton gave an informative and interesting sketch concerning the settlement in this vicinity of the Ashton family and their contribution to the settlement and growth of the East Brewton area. A display of old photographs added interest to Mrs. Ashton's presentation.

The activities of the pilgrimage were rounded out by a music session presented by James and Jimmy Sundy, who sang original songs of regional flavor with danjo and guitar accompaniment.

Historical Society members and guests sharing in the pilgrimage activities included Betty Garrison, Jan Redditt, J.M. McLellan, Bertha Barron, Rosalie DeRieux, Ella V. Wesson, Inez Ashton, Carolyn P. McLendon, Esther Shellenberger, Bert Campbell, Betty Campbell, Bryan Campbell, Eddie Wood, Emily Finlay, John David Finlay, Jr., Julia Ashton Jones, Doris Bruner, Sylvia Archer, Betty B. Archer, Anita Sundy, Cindy Sundy, Jimmy Sundy, James Sundy, Liz Sundy, Jackie Sundy, Edda Brown, Jewel Williamson, Claudine Parker, Pauline Duke, Gladys F. Chavers, June Martin, Evelyn Jernigan, Bill Thompson, Cordie B. Thompson, J. Vernon Brantley, Thera M. Watson, Georgia Hart, Vivian B. Jones, Gertrude Ashton, Gale Pearson, Clint Pearson, Annie Will Pearson, Hattie Ashton, Allean Edwards, Malcolm Edwards, Ethel Bethea, Mrs. Maude D. Whitley, Lottie Mae Armstrong, Mrs. A. L. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Ryals, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Riley, Wink Williamson, Mary Rose Peavy, and Helen Martin.

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A leaf falls from a tree, when its life ends  
And blows with gust of wind, or lies  
With other kinds of leaves to form decay.

...With passing years, who can separate  
With true exactness, leaf from leaf?  
All have blended for a richer earth.

...And like those fallen leaves are tales of old,  
Blending together with sure facts to form  
The richness of the earth . . . called HISTORY.

--Author unknown