



## ESCAMBIA ECHOES

Published by

The Escambia County Historical Society

P.O.Box 276

Brewton, Alabama 36426

Carolyn Pugh McLendon, Editor/Secretary

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June 20, 1978

NOTICE OF MEETING: Tuesday, June 27, 1978 - 7:30 p.m.  
Brewton Public Library

Speaker: Mr. Roger D. Anderson, Curator for the  
Thomas E. McMillan Museum

Program: "The Importance of the Luttrell Hardware  
Collection 1894-1922"

The energetic curator for the Thomas E. McMillan Museum, now under construction on campus of the Jefferson Davis Junior College, to be completed within a few weeks, Roger D. Anderson, will bring the program for the June meeting. Mr. Anderson has almost completed the cataloging of the vast papers of the old Luttrell Hardware which were contributed to the Escambia County Historical Society for the museum through the efforts of Mr. Hoyt Beckham and Pensacola Mill Supply. These records had been preserved by the previous occupants of the Luttrell building by the Luttrell family, and the J.W. Adkisson family over the years. When the collection was first offered to the Society many of the members recognized the importance of the collection and voted to accept the collection for the museum when constructed. Mr. Anderson recently moved the collection to his office at the college for cataloging. He will explain what is in the collection and how it applies to a museum. Also catalogued for the museum have been the fossil, petrification, early American and Indian artifacts of Ed Leigh McMillan, the genealogical and historical reference books and quarterlies of five historical organizations of Carolyn Pugh McLendon, the collection of the Escambia County Historical Society, consisting of files, books, microfilm, a microfilm reader census records, etc., and some old letters and maps contributed by Mrs. Muriel Brewton of El Paso, Texas. Other items have been promised for the museum that will be delivered after the building is completed to provide adequate protection for them. If you have items for the museum please contact Mr. Anderson at 867-4832 regarding their delivery. He is placing values on them and giving receipts to be used for income tax deduction purposes. Be reminded that this is a non-profit organization and all gifts are tax deductible.

MRS. L.E. (HELEN McCONNICO) DICKINSON of Atmore Passes Away. While on a trip to England with her brother and sister, Mrs. Helen Dickinson had heart failure and passed away without any pain or suffering while in Ireland last Friday. Her heart simply gave out. It will be several days before her body will be returned to Atmore. She was a regular and active member of this Society and we grieve with her family on her passing.

Contributed: The History of The East Brewton Church of The Nazarene, prepared May 23, 1971 by Mrs. Hazel Brewton Wood. Many thanks to Mrs. Wood for this fine work.

BOOK AVAILABLE: "Ancestral Key to the PEE DEE" by Mary Belle Manning Bethea. Some 300 family names included, Marion and Dillon Counties, South Carolina along the Pee Dee River, available August 28, 1978, limited edition - \$37.15. Manning & Shine Distributors, P.O.Box 7, Lotta, South Carolina 29565.

YOUR ANCESTORS - THEY WERE HERE! You are their mouthpiece to see that they are remembered and recorded in the Escambia County history this Society has planned for some time. Please jot down or writeup information regarding the early settlers of this county that were your ancestors, supply pictures if possible, and furnish to this Society. The main purpose of publishing our quarterlies has been to gather information for a county history. Give their parents, grandparents and great-grand-parents names when possible, what country the family is said to have migrated from, pinpoint their homeplace, who their neighbors or friends were, religion, occupation, their children. If its not but two paragraphs, you will have done your part to get them included. We cannot rest on our laurels. The first commitment of this Society was to establish a museum, the second to see that a county history is published-- something nearly every other county in this state already has. We are behind, do not rest until you have seen that your ancestors are included.!

EDITOR BEHIND - Because of the essential part your editor has had to play in the fund-raising for the museum and other more pressing matters for the Society, she has fallen regrettable, but not hopelessly, behind in publishing the Escambia County Historical Quarterly, the last issue being the June/September, 1977. Your editor also admits to having on occasion such human feelings as discouragement and despondency. There still is another \$10,000 to be raised for the museum. Your patience will be appreciated as will any offers to help or suggestion as to who might help with the styping of the stencils to get us caught back up. The December, 1977, March and June, 1978 issues, and 1975 index need to be gotten out. Notices of delinquent dues and typing of mailing labels are also matters at hand.

BE ACTIVE - There is much to be done in order to make the museum a success. Four walls do not make a museum. Get your items for the museum together, contact your neighbors about items they might contribute and receive tax deductions for. Leave no stone unturned. Be a vital part of the success of YOUR MUSEUM.

MUSEUM FUND: Memorial Contributions:

MR. BUFORD HINSON and

MRS. FLORA P. COON

By: Mrs. Joe Larkin

Mrs. Alice Till Beall

MR. ED LEIGH McMILLAN and

MR. THOMAS E. McMILLAN

By: Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Neal, Jr.

Amount Distributed from Museum Fund to College -	\$182,164.00
Balance left in Museum Fund Account -----	7,298.37
Total funds raised to date -----	\$ 189,462.37
BALANCE LEFT TO BE RAISED -----	10,537.63
Total Commitment made to college for Museum ----	\$ 200,000.00

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AFTER THE BALL IS OVER - Mesne excuses everywhere -- too hot, the gymnasium not air-conditioned, no fun if you don't have a bar, religiosity, too busy. Our faithful members and a good many friends from out of town numbering about 50--with the 50-piece orchestra and 4-member dance group from Montgomery, we had a total of about 100 people present. It was altogether lovely, appropriate and everything we wanted it to be except that the people did not turn out. Balls were a beautiful part of a historic era that this modern age knows little about. Yes, the lovely ladies of yesteryear in their glorious attire did perspire, there was no air-conditioning to spoil their excitement over a summer ball or house party. Mr. and Mrs. Roger Anderson worked hard to have everything right and perfect for the ball including covering the cost of the evening meal for the Montgomery group which Mrs. Anderson prepared and served with the help of Mrs. Emily Finlay. Carolyn McLendon furnished punch, tea, ice, nuts and plastic cups for the occasion and donated \$100.00 to cover the cost not covered by ticket sales. Appreciation is expressed to Miss Rita Jane Boykin for helping with the serving of the cakes and punch and to the following ladies who furnished the most beautiful and delicious cakes ever tasted by mortals: Mrs. Bert Campbell, Mrs. Winfred Williamson, Mrs. Bob Martin, Mrs. Frank Jones, Mrs. Jack Peavy, Mrs. Hoyt Beckham, Mrs. Virgil Jernigan, Mrs. John David Finlay, Mrs. Woodfin Patterson, Mrs. James P. Garrison, Miss Rita Jane Boykin, Mrs. Ethel Bethea, Mrs. Ambrose Riley, Mrs. Arthur Chavers, Miss Mary Larkin, Miss Lula Pearl Neal, Miss Pauline Duke and Mrs. Carolyn McLendon. NO MONEY WAS MADE BY THE BALL. Those who have never attended a ball or danced to the musical strains of a full orchestra still have not and may never have an opportunity again. The opportunity was offered, those who did not attend were the losers.

#### MONTGOMERY GROUP GIVEN TOUR ...

Upon their arrival in Brewton for the Jefferson Davis Birthday Ball and Costume Party given by the Escambia County Historical Society for the benefit of the Thomas E. McMillan Museum, the Montgomery Community Orchestra and members of the Ballroom Dance Association of Montgomery, were treated to a bus tour of the historic district of downtown Brewton and beautiful Belleville Avenue conducted by Mrs. Carolyn McLendon. The group also toured the home of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ed Leigh McMillan where they were greeted by Mrs. J. R. Ellis as hostess, after which they toured the home of Mrs. Thomas E. McMillan and were served a buffet supper by Mrs. Roger (Marzilla) Anderson and Mrs. Emily Finlay in the lovely recreation hall of the home.

#### THERE'S MUSIC AND DANCING ...

The slight turn-out of people did not marr the enjoyment of a perfect evening of heavenly music provided by the Montgomery Community Orchestra under the direction of Mr. John Dressler, and the outstanding performances by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Dell of the Ballroom Dance Association of Montgomery and their students, Mrs. Ann Carroll and Mrs. Paola Bolinsky of Montgomery and Mrs. Carolyn McLendon of Brewton. Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell gave a rendition of the

lovely Viennese Waltz and a Hustle-Disco Medley, Mrs. Carroll an exhibition waltz, Mrs. Bolinsky a Quick Step and Tango, and Mrs. McLendon a Cha-Cha. The satin-skirted cake table covered with sixteen cakes contributed by the members of the Escambia County Historical Society was decorated to resemble a huge tiered birthday cake to honor Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America. The gymnasium of the Jefferson Davis State Junior College was decorated under the supervision of Mr. Roger D. Anderson, Curator of the Museum and noted horticulturist, in the old south theme, using tall greenery, white picket fences, and an old steam engine. Each of the tables in the sitting area were covered with white cloths and held an arrangement of gardenias. Urns of blue hydrangea graced the entrance hall and other points of interest in the gymnasium. Mrs. Winfred Williamson and Mrs. Hazel Wood were awarded first prizes in the costume contest for which Mrs. Jermione Holzborn was the judge. Mr. and Mrs. B.G. Francisco were the trophy winners of the dance contest for which Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Dell acted as judges.

#### TALENTS DIFFER

A Fable by Ralph Waldo Emerson

The mountain and the squirrel  
Had a quarrel,  
And the former called the latter "Little Prig";  
Bun replied,  
"You are doubtless very big;  
But all sorts of things and weather  
Must be taken in together,  
To make up a year  
And a sphere.  
And I think it no disgrace to occupy my place.  
If I'm not so large as you,  
You are not so small as I,  
And not half so spry.  
I'll not deny you make  
A very pretty squirrel track;  
Talents differ; all is well and wisely put;  
If I cannot carry forests on my back,  
Neither can you crack a nut."

It is the lifted face that feels the shining of the sun.--  
Browning.