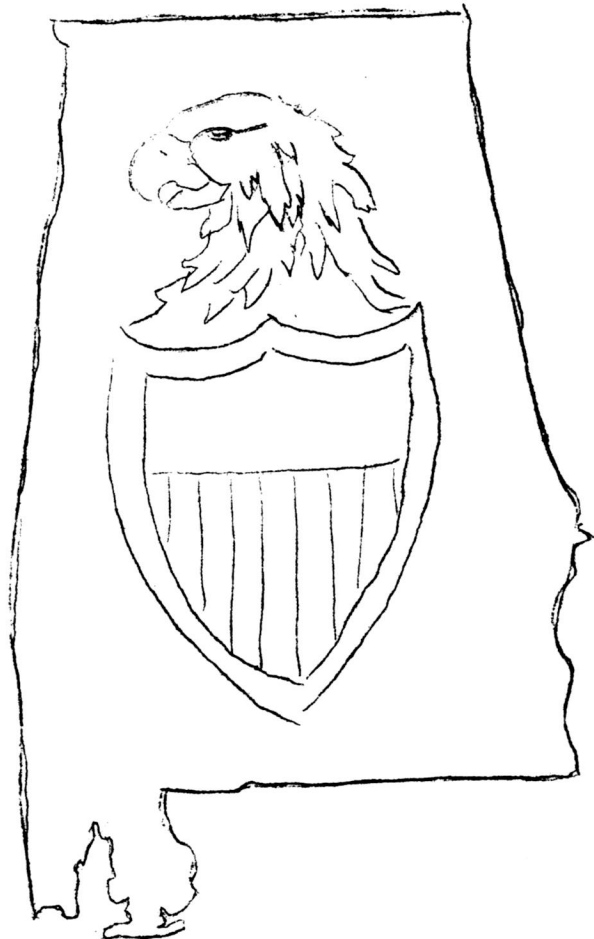


A SALUTE to famous Alabamians!



ESCAMBIA ECHOES

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

Mrs. Barry L. Emerich, Editor and
Secretary

NOTICE OF MEETING

Tuesday, January 22, 1980 at
7:00 p.m. at

THE THOMAS E. McMILLAN MUSEUM
on campus of
The Jefferson Davis State Junior
College

PROGRAM: BEACON - A Story of Famous Alabamians (a film)
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR
1980 and 1981

The film to be shown is sponsored by the Alabama Public Library Service and is a salute to famous Alabamians--film clips of famous Alabamians from all walks of life, war heroes, political giants, entertainers and sports stars. Your editor has seen this film and can certify that it will be an inspiration to all who see it.

The Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers: A slate of officers for 1980 and 1981 will be presented by the Nominating Committee, Rev. J.W.Caldwell, Chairman. Because of the seriousness of the situation regarding junior colleges over the state and our own Jeff Davis, this is an extremely important year for our officers, particularly the President who will automatically have a seat on the Thomas E.McMillan Museum Advisory Council and who with State Superintendent of Education Wayne Teague, has the designated power over the \$200,000 raised by this Society now invested in power company bonds, the income from which is used for the benefit of the museum. We have a conflict of meeting with the annual Brewton Chamber of Commerce banquet which will cut down some on our attendance somewhat, so please be present if at all possible for this most important meeting.

PAY YOUR DUES - \$6.00 and save us the expense of our having to mail you a separate notice. Those who have not paid by March 31st will receive a billing, and if not paid by June will be dropped from the mailing list. Also, check your address so that you will be sure to receive all publications.

NEW MEMBERS since November, 1979:

Mrs. Charles W. Barnhill, 712 Artillery Range, Spanish Fort, Al.
Mr. W.Y. Jernigan, Jr., Box 37, Brewton, Al.
Mr. Frank Ashton, 135 Florida St., East Brewton, Al.
Mr. Maury Weaver, 803 Shoffner St., East Brewton, Al.
Mr. Herschel Weaver, 1603 Shoffner St., East Brewton, Al.
Mrs. Dave Elliott, 7430 Hennessy Road, Jacksonville, Fl. 32210
Mr. R.L. Weaver, 734 Belmont, West Memphis, Ark. 72301
Mrs. George M. Eddins, Jr., 2 Sulu Drive, Pensacola, Fl. 32507
Mr. Ed Williams, Jr. 601 Ashley Circle, Apt. 6, Brewton, Al.
Mrs. Byrtle Coogle, 545 Willow St., Milton, Fl. 32570
Col. John W. Sowell, P.O. Box 30036, New Orleans, La. 70190
Mr. Mike English, P.O. Box 386, Brewton, Al.
Mrs. Anne Gometz Foshee (Librarian, genealogist and historian)
1509 E. Powell St., Bainbridge, Ga. 31717.

MEMORIALS:

IN MEMORY OF NORMAN J. FINLAY

By: Mrs. Beth Finlay Corbin
Dr. and Mrs. Finlay Corbin

SEPTEMBER/DECEMBER, 1979 QUARTERLY has been typed and is in the process of being mimeographed. It should be ready for mailing by the end of the month. The 1978 index has been completed by our youngest member, Greg Mantel, who has also offered to index the 1979 issues as well. Typing will begin on the 1978 index next week. Information in the Sept./Dec. Quarterly includes the following:

The Yankee Calvary Raid into West Florida and South Alabama
by Dr. A.J. McCreary of Pensacola
The Walker-Fisher Lineage of the Brooks Family of Escambia
County, Al. by J.M. Jones, Jr. of Camden, New Jersey
Alco Hill Skirmish Site (1813): An Artifactual Analysis
by John T. Powell, museum curator
History of The Leigh Family from the Iva Lee Miller McMillan
genealogical records
Affidavit of Ed Leigh McMillan regarding the Robertson-Leigh
Family history, from the McMillan Family Records

REGARDING THE ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION - Mrs. Carolyn Cagle of Montgomery,, Legislative Chairman for the Board of Advisors of the Alabama Historical Commission has asked that the following news editorial published in The Enquirer and Ledger of Columbus, Georgia, be published. Two Board of Advisor members, Gordon L. Cooksey, and your editor's cousin, Mrs. Virginia Brannan Smith, both columnists, keep that newspaper up to date on historical happenings and events:

THE SATURDAY ENQUIRER AND LEDGER, Columbus, Ga., Dec., 1979

WRONG WAY PANEL - Accounts of this week's Alabama Historical Commission meeting carried the noises of a steamroller in the

background.

Acting Chairman James Record, the chief architect of Director Warner Floyd's demise last year, rammed through approval of a new director whom none of the commission members had met. Objections were countered with Record's offer that the new director could be fired if he didn't work out.

Following this ramroad style of hiring were Record's dismissals of inquiries about investigations into thefts of department gasoline and a truck. Fortunately for Alabama, Record is no longer in charge of the commission. Former University of Montevallo President Kermit Johnson, a moderating influence, was elected to chair the group.

But the events of the last AHC meeting leave serious questions about the independence of the body, recently wracked with political pressures. Floyd lost his job trying to shield the commission and its work from this very same high-handedness.

Regardless of the interest or stated qualifications of the new director, who lives in Virginia, commission members should have had the opportunity to interview him. Regardless of who was involved in the theft of gasoline and the truck, they should be exposed and punished.

For the AHC to regain its credibility, Johnson must resolve the criminal inquiries and set a direction for the commission. Moreover, the board's members must assert their independence and refuse to be badgered by special interests.

Carolyn Cagle reports that a move is underway through Mr. Bob Davis, Administrative Director for the Governor, to have the Archives and Records Management Program for the state revamped. The archives is three years behind in cataloguing its papers, books and other items. Because of this fact, although Gov. Wallace had given his earlier papers and those of his late wife, also former governor, Lurleen Wallace's papers, he decided to have his papers from his last administration catalogued by a lady from Birmingham and will later make a decision as to where to house them. For years people over the state have complained and requested that Milo Howard keep the Archives open on Saturdays so that people can go there and do research without having to take valuable time off from work, but Mr. Howard turns a deaf ear or with a shrug pleads "insufficient funds" when only a little know-how in re-arranging his present personnel and a little help from college students would solve the problem. Your letter of request to the Governor asking that the Archives be open on Saturdays would bring the desired results, as Mr. Howard will only open on Saturdays if he is forced to do so.

NEW ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Above the protest of Lt. Gov. George McMillan who asked that a final decision not be made as to a new executive director until the four newly appointed members of the Commission had time to study the applications, then Chairman James Record called for a vote and F. Lawrence Oaks of Waterford, Virginia, 36 years of age and a native Alabamian was named to the post. Oaks has undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Alabama and continued study at Georgetown University in Washington and at the University of Virginia. Oaks, who is presently an administrative assistant in the Fairfax County, Va. public schools, with his wife and 7-year old son will move to Alabama in January. At the meeting Dr. Kermit A. Johnson, retired president of the University of Montevallo was elected as Chairman of the Commission.