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ESCAMBIA ECHOES

APRIL 2000

ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL MEET APRIL 25, 2000 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE THOMAS E. MCMILLAN MUSEUM LOCATED IN THE FINE ARTS CENTER OF JEFFERSON DAVIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, BREWTON, ALABAMA.

APRIL MEETING. Darryl Searcy, noted area wildflower expert, will share with Society members about both hybrid and native roses. The presentation will cover the history of the rose--how it came to Europe and the Americas, what roses meant to the church, the impact of roses on today's society, rose symbols in today's society, as well as what roses meant to Asia and the western world. Darryl will show slides of roses and will tell how roses are judged by the Rose Society. Society members may want to visit Darryl's wildflower site at: www.brewton.org/wildflowers. The site has recently been updated.

Refreshments will be served by Sissy Horton.

MARCH MEETING. We had a very interesting presentation on the Sepulga River which is a principal tributary of the Conecuh River. The Conecuh River traverses Bullock, Pike, Crenshaw, Covington, and Escambia Counties, Alabama for 235 miles and then the Conecuh River becomes the Escambia River in Florida where the remaining length is another 65-1/2 miles. The Sepulga River enters the Conecuh River upstream from McGowin's Bridge, located on Highway 29, north of Brewton.

NEW MEMBERS: Marty Dukes and Janie C. Odom. We welcome you to our Historical Society and hope you can attend our meetings.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Johnnie Mae Stone Winter, Brewton native, who died recently.

BOOK. Donna J. Booth has donated an autographed copy of her book, "Alabama Cemeteries: a guide to their stories in stone" to the Escambia County Historical Society. The book is on display in the Alabama Room at Jefferson Davis Community College. Included in the book is a feature on two graves in Union cemetery in Brewton.

The following article was in the Science & Technology page of the March 19, 2000 issue of the Pensacola News Journal. The article is not quoted in its entirety, but it is quite interesting, don't you think?

"Camera that see underground sort out history. Thermal imaging unlocks Civil War mystery. Associated Press....SALISBURY, N.C.-- Time has erased almost all traces of one of the Confederacy's most notorious prison camps, except for a fenced cemetery on a hill where a monument notes that 11,700 unknown Union prisoners were buried in mass graves.

For decades after the Civil War ended, the U.S. government and historians believed the Union prisoners at

With the help of infrared thermal imaging cameras, history could be rewritten.

History buffs using the cameras that can scan objects as deep as 25 feet underground or find moisture seeping into walls took images of the underground features left by the camp. They drew two important conclusions: that roughly 4,500 prisoners died at Salisbury and that dysentery - not harsh treatment by the Confederate overseers - took many of the lives.

Thermal archaeology is one of the space-age technologies increasingly applied to archaeological sites from U.S. battlefields to Roman-era Egypt"

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LOOKING AHEAD:

April 23	Easter
April 25	Escambia County Historical Society meeting
May 7	V-E Day
May 14	Mother's Day
May 20	Armed Forces Day
May 23	May meeting of Escambia County Historical Society
May 29	Memorial Day observed
May 30	Memorial Day
June	Brewton's yearly Blueberry Festival

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