

ECHOES

The Newsletter of the Escambia County Historical Society

July, 2003 - Vol. 30, No. 7

Editor, Ranella Holley

THE NEXT MEETING

Date: Tuesday, July 22, 2003; **Time:** 1:00 p. m., meet at the Thomas E. McMillan Museum on the JDCC Campus; **Program:** A visit to the Alger-Sullivan Museum in Century. There will be a van for transporting members to the Museum. The van will leave for Century by 1:30. Jerry Simmons will join us at the Museum and conduct the tour. After the tour, we will have cool drinks on the Museum porch, and then go to the Pan Handle Restaurant to have ice cream and snacks.

Plan to wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

THE JUNE MEETING

President Darryl Searcy called the meeting to order and led society guests and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes were approved as read. Treasurer Peggy Bracken reported that the Society has a balance of \$4046.66. President Searcy recognized speaker Elizabeth Edward's guests, her son Stephen and friend John Gleason, and Jackie Stone's guest, Darryl Watson.

President Searcy reported that the society had received a note from the family of Jean Shelton expressing appreciation for the flowers sent by the society. Ann Biggs-Williams showed the group a sample of a book of post cards showing scenes of Atmore's past, which has been compiled and printed by the Atmore Historical Society as a money making project. President Searcy announced that he has received permission from the Mobile Press/Register to reprint in a future edition of the Society's journal, the paper's article on Murder Creek, which featured Ann.

President Searcy also gave special recognition to two members. First, he recognized Willellen Elliott who has been appointed as one of two Alternate Trustees of the Society. Next, he gave a certificate of appreciation to Pat McArthur whom he characterized as "special to family, friends" and "always ready to do a job."

Ann Biggs-Williams asked society members to remember Jack Jackson, Clara Jackson's husband, who has had a heart attack recently. The society has sent cards and greetings to Clara and her husband. Alma Hall reported that she has recently visited with her son who has had a stroke but who is recovering and doing well.

Vice-President Lynn Wixon introduced society member Elizabeth Edwards who presented a program on family artifacts, beginning with those related to her great grandfather, William Malcolm Roberts, a civil war veteran. Ms. Edwards showed the mourning dress and jewelry of his widow. She also displayed an 1896 Smith and Wesson owned by a family member who was a pony express rider.

Other artifacts included a hand made tool chest, a sickle, a tool for carding cotton, a weight, small scale and pick from one of Brewton's ice houses, a stirrup from one of the horses on Brewton's "First" Merry-Go-Round, and a miniature monkey wrench used to crank Ms. Edward's father's Model T. President Searcy presented Ms. Edwards with a framed print of a rare Magnolia in appreciation of her program.

Society members were reminded that the collection of tools and other artifacts given to the Historical Society by the Luttrell Hardware Company,

and now a part of the collection in the Alabama Room, contains valuable material for research.

After the program, Peggy Bracken served delicious refreshments.

A NEW BOOK FOR RESEARCH ON FAMILY HISTORY

Larry Caver, who presented a program to the Society at the May meeting on using newspaper transcriptions to research family history, has announced the publication of his new book, DEATH, MARRIAGE AND PROBATE NOTICES FROM MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA NEWSPAPERS, Vol. II (1866-1875). In his announcement, Larry notes that the collection contains valuable historical and genealogical information on individuals who resided in Central Alabama counties following the Civil War. This is the second volume in a continuing series of newspaper transcriptions related to Montgomery, Alabama.

In his email announcing the book, Larry writes that during the years following the Civil War, "Some local newspapers were not in operation, so the Montgomery newspapers became an important source of communication. The collection also contains some valuable information for individuals residing in other parts of the state. Montgomery's newspapers devoted a lot of coverage to the surrounding counties in Central Alabama. Information was often included from correspondents and other newspapers in Alabama counties from as far east as the Georgia line and all across Alabama counties in the Black Belt region to the Mississippi line. In some instances this collection may contain valuable reprinted extracts from newspapers that have since been lost from local county records."

Larry does not try to make a profit from the sales of his books but uses the money to continue his research and to fund his trips to various organizations. The anticipated release date for the new book is September 1, 2003. Below is an order form.

ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Please send me _____ copies of your book, DEATH, MARRIAGE AND PROBATE

NOTICES FROM MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA NEWSPAPERS, Volume II (1866-1875).

Regular Price: \$34.00 per copy (shipping/handling included).

Pre-publication Price: \$29.00 per copy (for orders received by August 31, 2003).

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

SEND ORDERS TO: Larry E. Caver, Jr., P.O. Box 680052, Prattville, AL 36068. Email: <LECAVERJR@AOL.COM>.

SAMPLES FROM THE BOOK

Below are a few samples of some of the material included in the book from surrounding areas in Alabama:

In Cleburne County, on the 8th, Michael PESNELL was shot and killed by a man named MARKS, who fled (May 24, 1867, Daily State Sentinel).

Mr. John ALBRIGHT, an old citizen of Talladega County, died at his residence near that place, on Sunday last. He was upwards of 80 years (May 28, 1867, Daily State Sentinel).

Died, near Hayneville, on Tuesday, 20th instant, Miss Sallie S. GILCHRIST, eldest daughter of Col. James G. GILCHRIST, in the 25th year of her age (August 30, 1867, Daily State Sentinel).

We regret to learn of the death of William M. WYATT, an old and highly respected citizen of Marion, Perry County, on last Tuesday (March 16, 1868, Daily State Sentinel).

The Greenville Advocate of the 4th instant, says that in a difficulty Between James H. JONES and William H. SEARCY, in that place on Wednesday last, the latter was shot and instantly killed (January 5, 1866, Montgomery Daily Advertiser).

Died in the city of Wetumpka, on the 31st of December 1865, Sidney S. McWHORTER, Esq., aged 38 years... The readers of the Wetumpka Spectator, in 1856 will recollect the brilliancy, force and elegance of his writing; his comrades in the Montgomery Blues Artillery will attest his courage... (January 14, 1866, Montgomery Daily Advertiser)

Mr. Ed PICKETT, of Greene County, Alabama, was recently killed in a difficulty in Choctaw County (March 6, 1866, Montgomery Daily Advertiser).

The Tuscumbia North Alabamian announces the death of Asa MESSENGER, Esq., at that place on the 13th instant, at the age of 65... (March 23, 1866, Montgomery Daily Advertiser)

Died, in Mt. Sterling, Choctaw County, on the 27th ultimo, Mr. Pettigrew BELL, aged about 19 years (May 20, 1875, The Southern Plantation).

Married, on Sunday, 28th instant, in St. Mathew's Church, Autaugaville, by Rev. R.A. COBBS, Mr. James K. HAYNIE to Miss Fanny DeJARNETTE, both of Autaugaville (February 1, 1872, Montgomery Daily Advertiser).

Col. Harry T. TOULMIN, of Mobile, was married on the 4th instant, to Miss Mary M. HENSHAW, of Monroe County (May 15, 1869, Alabama State Journal).

Married, in Dallas County, 10th instant, by Rev. G.W. BOGGS, Marion C. SHELBY and Mary W. BELL (January 28, 1875, The Southern Plantation).

Married, on the 23rd instant, at the residence of the bride's father, Dr. KELLEY, of Coosa County, L.E. PARSONS, Jr., of Rockford, and Miss Kate D. KELLEY (January 28, 1872, Montgomery Daily Advertiser).

Married, at the residence of the bride's mother, Wednesday evening, June 15th, by Rev. Mr. BAILEY, Mr. D. LaVega McNEILL and Miss Mollie T. WILLIAMS, all of Lowndes County, Alabama (June 17, 1871, Montgomery Daily Advertiser).

Married, on the 11th instant, at the Baptist Church, in this city, by Rev. Jacob BELSER, colored, John WASHINGTON and Ann SPOTTS, all colored, and of this city (June 13, 1867, Daily State Sentinel).

This day came Moses McLEMORE and presented to the court for probate, a paper writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Rebecca SMITH, deceased... It is ordered that notice of this application and the day set for the hearing thereof, be given to William McLEMORE, a minor, son of William J. McLEMORE, deceased, who was a son of Rebecca SMITH, residing in Texas... (January 5, 1866, Montgomery Daily Advertiser)

(Legislative Act) Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Alabama, that the name of Martha Francis WHATLEY, who was born January 30, 1864, and William Arnold WHATLEY, who was born November 25, 1866, in the County of Randolph... who are children of Susan WHATLEY, be, and they are hereby changed to the names of Martha Francis PAULK and William Arnold PAULK... They are hereby declared to be legitimated, and to be the heirs at law of the said William J. PAULK... (February 5, 1870, Alabama State Journal).

Books for Sale	Mailed	Regular Price
<u>A History of Escambia County</u>	\$55.00	\$50.00
<u>Headstones and Heritage</u>	\$40.00	\$35.00
<u>Escambia Historical Society Cookbook</u>	\$10.00	\$ 5.00

Get in Touch with Us
Address: Escambia County Historical Society, P. O. Box 276, Brewton, AL 36427; **Phone:** 251-809-1612; **Email:** Ranny1@earthlink.net
Membership: \$10.00. Clip the following form and send to Treasurer: Peggy Bracken, 602 Edgewood Drive, Brewton, AL 36426.

Membership Renewal/Application Form				
Name				
	First	Middle	Last	
Address				
	Street	City	State	Zip
Phone				
Email				

Transcriptions From The Conecuh-Escambia Star

July 31, 1879:

- There was a **pleasant gathering** of young ladies and gentlemen at the residence of **Mr. S.B. STROUT**, in Evergreen, on the evening of the 28th instant. The occasion was the celebration of the birthday of B.H. STROUT.
- The farmers are now complaining of **too much rain**. Cotton has begun to shed considerably on account thereof.
- **D.W. RANKIN** was **killed** at Perdue Hill by **Charles ROBERTS** Monday, 21st instant... RANKIN was shot in the breast with a shotgun loaded with buckshot and killed instantly... (*Lengthy article*) –Monroe Journal
- **Mr. Drewry McMILLAN**, aged 74 years, died in Monroe County on the 24th instant.
- **Tribute of Respect** to the memory of John NEWBERRY, who was born in Jasper County, Georgia, December 18th, 1812, and died in Pollard, Alabama on the 25th of July 1879. Our departed friend was one of the oldest and most useful citizens in Escambia County, who demise has created a void that will be difficult to fill. He was an active and unceasing promoter of the public interests of the community in which he lived... The affectionate husband, the doting father, the unwavering friend, the public-spirited citizen is no more...
- August 7, 1879: **Mrs. A.C. STEARNS**, one of the noblest and best of women, is visiting her daughter, **Mrs. Hortense MITCHELL**, of Baldwin.
- Mr. Elliot GANTT has been confined to his room for several days...
- We are glad to see our friend **Mack ETHERIDGE** out again. He has had a serious time of it but is now about all right.
- **Mrs. P.F. PERRINOT**, a lady who formerly resided in Conecuh County, and was well known to many of our citizens, died in Rockport, Texas recently.

August 21, 1879:

- The colored **baseball club** of this place was badly beaten by the Greenville colored club... Brooklyn, Conecuh County, has caught the baseball fever. A club has been organized in that place.
- Married, at Louisa C.H., Virginia, August 6th, 1879, **Mr. Lewis FINCH**, of Evergreen, to **Miss N.C. HUDSON**, of Virginia.
- Married, in this county, on the 14th instant, by **Rev. Ingram SPENCE**, **William R. CASSIDY** to **Miss Lou WIGGINS**.

THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Anyone wishing to add a loved one to our **Memorial Plaque** should send his/her request and a donation of \$25.00 or more to the treasurer. A notice of the memorial will be placed in the Newsletter at the time the name is added to the plaque. Those members wishing to make a tax exempt gift to the Society may send the gift to the treasurer. The latest names added to the **Plaque** include

Mary C. Skelton, Irene M. Carmack, Doris Atkins, Jessie Mae Weaver-Ashton, Frank R. Ashton, David P. Elliott, Sallie Bell Weaver-Brooks, Alvin Byron Weaver, Maclyn A. Weaver, Maury O. Weaver, Herchel A. Weaver, and Gordon E. Weaver

SPONSORS FOR PUBLICATION OF THE NEWSLETTER OR JOURNAL

If you know of any **person or business** who would like to **sponsor the publication of an issue of the Newsletter or Journal**, please contact the society at the email or mailing address noted below.

Larry E. Caver, Jr.
Email: LECAVERJR@AOL.COM

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FORM-----
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Please send me _____ copies of your book, DEATH, MARRIAGE AND
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