

ECHOES
The Newsletter of the Escambia County Historical Society
August, 2003 - Vol. 30, No. 8
Editor, Ranella Holley

THE NEXT MEETING

Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2003; **Time:** 3:00 p. m.; **Place:** The Thomas E. McMillan Museum on the JDCC Campus; **Program:** Chris Bachman and Stephanie Cassidy, our guest speakers, have one of the great adventure stories to tell. They circumnavigated the world in their sail boat, the Osprey. To follow the route of their three year adventure, see the map on page 2. Chris, Dr. Bachman, has a medical practice in Century, Florida. Stephanie manages the office.

ECHS MEETINGS FOR 2003

- **September 23, 2003** – Bob Pasquill. Mr. Pasquill will discuss the activities and display pictures of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC and WPA projects).
- **October 28, 2003** – A picnic and nature outing at Turtle Point Environmental Center. The outing will include a boardwalk stroll through the big Escambia Creek swamps.
- **November** – No meeting planned.
- **December 13, 2003** – A Christmas Party. Meeting time and place to be announced

THE JULY MEETING

Society members and guests enjoyed a tour of the Alger Sullivan Historic District in Century. Listed on the National Register, the district covers what is left of a turn of the Century mill town. On the tour, Society members were first given a tour of the James Houston Jones Historical Park, which includes the Leach House Museum, the original post office (which contains photographs, the mill clock, and other displays), and an Alger-Sullivan boxcar, which has been turned into a museum. Then the group toured the Methodist Church which has beautiful beaded board walls and ceiling as well as burled wood panels and railings.

In the Leach House Museum, one of the most interesting items is the scale model of the mill town, including a recreation of the sawmill operations, as well as models of some houses and other structures on Front, Church and Jefferson

Streets. Members also toured the memorial garden, which is part of the grounds of the Museums.

Members of the Alger Sullivan Historical Society served as tour guides. Brewton's RSPV provided transportation.

- A white cap was left on the van on the trip to the Methodist Church. The cap may be claimed at the August ECHS meeting.

JEFFERSON DAVIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY (Leigh Library on the Brewton Campus) HOURS/ALABAMA ROOM HOURS - FALL 2003

Leigh Library will be closed on

- Monday, September 1 for Labor Day
- Tuesday, November 11 for Veterans Day
- Monday – Friday, November 24-28, for State Professional Development Meetings and Thanksgiving Holidays.
- Monday, December 15 – Tuesday, January 6 for end of fall semester and Christmas/New Years Holidays.

Regular hours for the library are:

- 7:30 AM – 8:30 PM - Monday – Thursday
- 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM - Friday
- The library is not open on weekends.

For more information concerning the library and the Alabama Room, please call **251-809-1584** or e-mail at **<library@jdcc.edu>**.

TITANIC ARTIFIFACTS

Titanic: The Artifact Exhibit will be at the McWane Center in Birmingham from Sept. 28, 2003 – Jan. 4, 2004.

ARTICLES ABOUT BURNT CORN

Society members should check out the series of articles being published in the Tri City Ledger on Burnt Corn. Charles (Chuck) Johns, Jr., writer and editor for this series writes that the remaining articles include:

- First, a detailed account of the Battle of Burnt Corn by Yank Lovelace and Tom McMillan.
- Next, an article on Fort Mims by Kevin McKinley. Kevin is a Poarch Creek Indian Probation Officer.

- Last, Robert Thrower writes of the terms and effects of the Treaty of Fort Jackson. Charles Johns notes that the Treaty of Fort Jackson is the Treaty which ended the Creek War and is the source of Poarch's land grants and "legitimacy." He points out that by siding with the United States Poarch avoided removal. Thrower's mother Gail Thrower (Society member who gave a wonderful program last year on herbal medicines) is tribal historian and Robert is employed by Poarch. Chuck Jackson also points out that members of the Thrower family were some of the Native Americans who were killed at Fort Mims and that Robert is a descendent of Sam Manac.
 - ❖ The annual Reenactment of the Battle of Fort Mims will take place at Fort Mims on August 23 & 24.

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS RECOGNITION

The Escambia County Historical Society would like to recognize members of the Civilian Conservation Corps at the September ECHS meeting. If you were a member of the CCC, either in Alabama or elsewhere, please contact Ann Biggs-Williams at 251-867-2445 or abw@netlinc.net by September 1st and leave your name and contact information.

NEWS FROM THE PAST -Transcribed by Larry E. Caver, Jr.

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**.

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				

Newspaper Transcriptions From The Conecuh-Escambia *Star*

Transcribed by Larry E. Caver, Jr.

February 24, 1876:

J.V. McMILLAN vs. John JOHNSON; W.L. WITHERINGTON, Garnishee

In this cause it appearing to the Court by the affidavit of the plaintiff that the defendant, John JOHNSON, is a non-resident of the State of Alabama and resides at or near Lanier, Cass County, Texas. It is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Conecuh-Escambia *Star*, a newspaper published in the town of Evergreen, Conecuh County, Alabama, for four successive weeks requiring the said JOHNSON to answer the complaint in this cause, in default of which judgment will be rendered thereon against him. —W.D. TOMLINSON, Notary Public, Evergreen, Ala., Feb. 2, 1876

Died, in Evergreen, on the evening of the 17th instant, Austill Hunter, youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. COOPER.

Died, in Conecuh County, on the 13th instant, Mrs. Jane S. KINDALL.

July 17, 1879:

Died, in this county, on the 13th instant, Mrs. Hannah VARNER, consort of Mr. J.N. VARNER.

Mr. J.J. DARBY, a gentleman who married a Miss TURK of Conecuh, died at his home in Troy, Alabama the 12th.

Married, in this county, recently, Edmond L. ETHERIDGE to Miss Mary S. HAMMONDS.

In Escambia County recently, Mr. Tom OWENS was badly cut by Riley WILLIAMSON with a drawing knife, inflicting dangerous wounds.

Mr. J.E. SPOON has bought the FARNHAM lot near Mrs. ROBINSONS' residence and will begin the erection of a dwelling house thereon at an early

day.

Mrs. Amanda ASHLEY sends us a large cabbage for which we return thanks. The cabbage weighed 5 ¼ pounds and measured 3 ¼ inches in circumference.

July 24, 1879:

Mr. S.M. PARKER is agent for the Conecuh-Escambia *Star* at Lewis' Station, Escambia County, Alabama.

The wife of Hon. Augustus W. JONES, formerly of Conecuh County, died in Florida on the 24th of June last.

Newspaper Transcriptions From The Conecuh-Escambia *Star*

July 24, 1879 (continued):

Friday before the third Sunday in August next, a protracted meeting will begin at Arkadelphia Baptist Church, Conecuh County.

At Sepulga Baptist Church on Saturday, before the first Sunday in August next, a protracted meeting will commence.

Evergreen is one of the healthiest places in Alabama. Since January 1879 only three persons (white) have died in this place; Mrs. THOMAS, a child of Dr. LEE, and a child of Robert J. McCREARY. Evergreen has a population of six or seven hundred.

Died, at Monroeville, at the residence of Capt. W.S. WIGGINS, July 14, 1879, Mrs. Mary Jane HENDERSON; she was a daughter of Mrs. Betsy WIGGINS, a sister of Capt. W.S. WIGGINS, and mother-in-law of Dr. H.P. SMITH of Buena Vista. She was born in Conecuh County, July 17, 1827.

Married, in this county recently, Mr. James H. HAYS to Miss Lanveah WATSON.

Croquet parties by lamplight are a new feature in Evergreen life. They are enjoyed by the young ladies and gentlemen.

The Courthouse would present a much better appearance if it was repainted and

recovered. Cannot the Commissioners have it done?

NOTICE!

It is with pleasure that we call the attention of our readers to the advertiser of the Evergreen Academy. This is a first-class institution, and we trust that the citizens of Conecuh and adjoining counties will patronize it liberally.

Brewton, Ala., July 15, 1879

Editor:

It is with pleasure that I inform you of the improvements that are being erected in the town of Brewton and vicinity. By the energy and benevolence of our esteemed citizens we are erecting two chapels, one of which will be used by the Methodists and the other by the Baptists... Our esteemed citizen, Mr. C.L. SOWELL, is having erected a large saw mill situated on Big Juniper Creek five miles from this place; the erection of said mill, with other improvements, will furnish employment for about thirty or forty hands, which at this dull season of the year is an important consideration to the bread-eaters... Mr. SOWELL is one of our most enterprising citizens, and we have plenty of room for as many such as will come. By the way, Mr. Editor, I must not forget to inform you that we have a brickyard in the course of erection, under the efficient management of our townsman, Mr. James McMILLAN; said brickyard is located about a half mile below this place... There is talk of Messrs. G.G. HAROLD & Bros. building a large brick storehouse in this place... [*No author listed*]

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

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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.
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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