

## **ECHOES**

### **The Newsletter of the Escambia County Historical Society**

**September 2003 - Vol. 30, No. 9**

**Editor, Ranella Holley**

#### **THE NEXT MEETING**

**Date:** Tuesday, September 23, 2003; **Time:** 3:00 p. m.; **Place:** The Thomas E. McMillan Museum on the JDCC Campus; **Program:** Guest Speaker Bob Pasquill will present a program on the CCC, Civilian Conservation Corps, in Alabama. Mr. Pasquill has provided the Historical Society with the copies of the photos of the CCC camp, Camp P 54, Brewton, that are shown on page 2 of the Newsletter.

- ❖ As part of our program for September, the Historical Society would like to recognize members of the Civilian Conservation Corps. If you were a member of the CCC, either in Alabama or elsewhere, please contact Ann Biggs-Williams at 251-867-2445 or [abw@net1inc.net](mailto:abw@net1inc.net) by September 1<sup>st</sup> and leave your name and contact information.

#### **ECHS MEETINGS FOR 2003**

- **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

#### **More about Bob Pasquill – Speaker for the September Meeting**

Mr. Pasquill has supplied this biographical information:

Born in New Hampshire, he grew up in the northern New England States of Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1980 with a B.A. in Anthropology and began his career as an archeologist with the U.S. Forest Service in January of 1981. Except for a few breaks in temporary positions, he has worked for the Forest Service for 21 years.

The first five years he spent on the Sumter and Francis Marion National Forests in South Carolina where he had the opportunity to write his first book, a book about the Civil War battery on the Francis Marion NF, Battery Warren and

the Santee Light Artillery, published by the Berkeley County Historical Society in 1987.

In July of 1986, he transferred to the National Forests in Alabama, where he worked as the Forest Archeologist, the Forest Historian, and eventually, the Forest Heritage Program Manager.

His initial interest in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began through project work. Deeper research began back in 1990 with a trip to the National Archives to retrieve records from the Forest Service CCC Camps. In April of 2001, his research became much more intensive and grew into a much wider research project on all of the CCC camps in Alabama.

Since April of 2001, he has been working on a state-wide public education program, which includes public programs, coordination with other federal and state agencies, assisting college students with research projects, and interviewing former members of the CCC. His publications on the subject of the CCC include five articles published in the NACCCA Journal, The National Association of CCC Alumni. Also, he is writing a book on the CCC in Alabama.

### **How to Acquire Civilian Conservation Corps Service Records from the National Archives by Mail**

Ann Biggs-Williams received the basic information for acquiring these records from Jennifer Hora, a graduate student at Jacksonville State who contacted the Archives because of her research on the CCC at Cheaha State Park. Thus, thanks to Jennifer and Ann, we have this advice:

Although everyone would benefit from taking a trip to our National Archives in Washington, D.C., when money is a factor, there is another way to obtain the records of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The National Archives will send copies to researchers for the price of 50 cents per page. The first step in this process is to contact:

Mr. Gene Morris, Civilian Records, Textual Archives Services in College Park, Maryland, at 301-837-1993.

It is best to prepare as much information as possible prior to the call. The information can be retrieved by Company number or by Camp number. Camp location is helpful. The basic information of almost all CCC camps can be found through the website of the National Association of CCC Alumni ([www.cccalumni.org](http://www.cccalumni.org)). Mr. Morris can quickly tell you how much information is available, and approximately how much it will cost to have it sent.

Copies from the National Archives are 50 cents per page. A “Quotation for Reproduction Services” will be sent to you, listing the information available and price. The minimum order by mail is \$10.00 and must be prepaid. They accept a credit card, check or money order. After you payment has been received, it usually takes ten to twelve weeks for delivery. For additional cost, several different vendors at the National Archives can make reproductions of still photographs, aerial film, maps and drawings. A list of these vendors will be sent with information on how to contact them.

Information concerning Native American companies and camps can be obtained from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. at 202-501-5395. Records of work projects conducted by the Department of Grazing and other departments of the Bureau of Land Management are filed at the Rocky Mountain Regional Archives in Denver, Colorado. The phone number is 303-236-8017. Some Camp Reports for the Bureau of Land Management are at the National Archives.

## **THE AUGUST MEETING**

Society members and guests enjoyed the presentation by Chris Bachman and Stephanie Cassidy on their successful circumnavigation of the world in a 32 foot sail boat. Willellen Elliott and Mary Catherine Luker furnished delicious refreshments.

### **Burnt Corn, Alabama**

Last month, the Newsletter called attention to the series of articles on the Battle of Burnt Corn. This month, the Historical Society has received information on a web page on Burnt Corn which is being developed by Ed Williams, Escambia County Historical Society member and Professor of Journalism at Auburn University. The Web page at <http://www.auburn.edu/~willik5/burntcorn.html> contains photos of the general store at Burnt Corn and the monument erected by the Monroe County Historical Society which notes that Burnt Corn was the earliest settlement in Monroe County and became the cross roads of the Great Pensacola Trading Path and the Federal Road.

This interesting web page also contains the reminiscences of a former resident of Burnt Corn, “Remembrance of Growing Up in Burnt Corn, Alabama,” by Eugenia Ellis Brown. Ms. Brown notes, among other memories, that “the

county line ran right through our house. We ate in Conecuh and slept in Monroe. We paid taxes in both counties.”

Ed’s web page on Burnt Corn is well worth a visit.

### **Award for the Auburn Plainsman**

Ed Williams is to be congratulated on the recent notification that the school newspaper, The Auburn Plainsman (Ed is the Plainsman faculty adviser.), is once again a finalist for the Pacemakers Award, the college newspaper equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize. Only two college newspapers have won more Pacemakers than the Auburn Plainsman.

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

**Leigh Library** will be closed on

- 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](mailto:library@jdcc.edu)>.

<b><u>Books for Sale</u></b>	<b>Mailed</b>	<b>Regular Price</b>
<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

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### **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](mailto:Ranny1@earthlink.net)

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**Membership: \$10.00. Clip the following form and send to Treasurer:  
Peggy Bracken, 602 Edgewood Drive, Brewton, AL 36426.**

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**Membership Renewal/Application Form**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
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Larry E. Caver, Jr.  
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