



Caine School 1921

May Meeting

In celebration of Historic Preservation Month, the Escambia County Historical Society will visit two buildings in Historic Downtown Brewton on Tuesday, May 23rd. Terrence Breckenridge, owner of the Old Luttrell Hardware building that formerly housed the Pensacola Mill Supply, has graciously allowed ECHS to hold its monthly meeting in that historic building.

The Luttrell Hardware Building (the downtown building with the plow on top!) is located east of the railroad tracks at 1450 South Blvd in Brewton. There is a parking lot to the right of the building.

Jacqueline Stone, ECHS Secretary, is our hostess for June and will serve refreshments across the street at Willie's, another historic down-

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Luttrell Hardware Company

by F. Alex Luttrell, III

The business which eventually became known as Luttrell Hardware Company

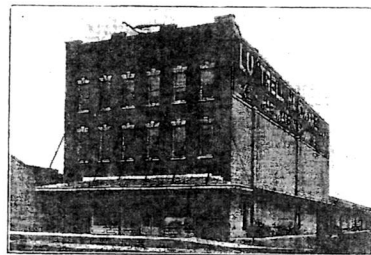
building near the former site (133 St. Joseph) of Moorman Drug Company in Brewton, Alabama.

We Invite You

To inspect our place, that you may know our ability and desire to serve you in a most acceptable manner

Wholesale and Retail

Hardware Merchants



Luttrell Hardware Company

BREWTON, ALABAMA

was first established in January 1893 as Luttrell and Foshee.

Chester M. Luttrell and W. E. Foshee opened the hardware business in a 25 x 90 ft.

In 1894, Capt. J. H. Fuller and R. E. Mallett purchased the Foshee interest, and changed the name to Luttrell, Fuller, & Company.

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Minutes for April Meeting

The meeting was opened by President, Ann Biggs Williams who welcomed members and guests. Society member Dement Hays introduced his daughter, Vernon Jean. Ann gave the society greetings from Peggy Bracken who is recuperating from surgery. Also, she noted that Darryl Searcy, who was hospitalized re-

cently, is recuperating.

Moving then to the order of business, Treasurer Susan Crawford reported that the society has some \$1400 in the treasury. There was no reading of the minutes since they are published in the newsletter. The minutes as published and treasurer's report were approved

(motion for approval by Paul Merritt and second by Clair Sanborn).

Ann then called on Paul Merritt to conduct the business of voting on the proposed changes to the Society By Laws concerning election of Trustees and changes in

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The May Meeting

The Escambia County Historical Society will meet May 23, 2006 at the old Luttrell Hardware Building in downtown Brewton at 3 p.m.

May Meeting

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The partnership continued under this name until September 1897, when Elston Luttrell, a brother of Chester Luttrell, acquired the Fuller and Mallett interest.

From this time until its close in 1969, the business was known as Luttrell Hardware Company.

In 1900, J. W. Adkisson came to Brewton from Columbia, Tennessee as a clerk for the company. The following year he bought a one-third interest and assumed the title of Vice-President and Assistant Manager.

On May 29, 1901, Luttrell Hardware Company incorporated with a capital stock of \$30,000. The officers elected at the time of incorporation included: Chester M. Luttrell, President; J. W. Adkisson, Vice President; and Elston Luttrell, Secretary & Treasurer.

In 1902 the corporation built and moved into the building and warehouse (115 St. Joseph) later occupied by Hainje's Home Furnishers, Inc. and presently occupied by Weaver's Apparel & Fine Jewelry.

In 1906, Chester M. Luttrell, then President and General Manager, retired to become head of Emery Hardware of Bradford, Pennsylvania. He sold his stock to Elston Luttrell and J. W. Adkisson. Mr. Adkisson then assumed the duties of President and Manager.

In addition to the store in Brewton, Luttrell Hardware Company also owned controlling interest in Florala Hardware Company from 1904-1908 and Baldwin Hardware Company from 1908-1918. Bruce

F. Luttrell, a brother of Chester and Elston Luttrell, managed these stores in Florala and Bay Minette.

In 1912 the firm again outgrew its building, at which time they built a 45 x 110 ft. three-story building. Because the company shipped many orders by rail, they chose to erect the new building close to the L & N Railroad Station at 220 St. Joseph Avenue.

During the 1920's and 1930's, the company

"Luttrell Hardware Company, along with Robbins & McGowin Company and Hainje's Home Furnishers, Inc., drew customers to Brewton from all over South Alabama and Northwest Florida."

maintained a large mail order business. They advertised a large assortment of iron; hardware; wire; steam fittings; paints, oils, & glass; sash, doors, & blinds; sporting goods; mill supplies; and nails. The company also owned the "Cedar Creek" brand name and line of tools.

Luttrell Hardware Company, along with Robbins & McGowin Company and Hainje's Home Furnishers, Inc., drew customers to Brewton from all over South Alabama and Northwest Florida.

In the early 1920's, J. W. Adkisson, Jr. entered the family business and was elected Vice-President following the death of Elston Luttrell in 1930.

H. H. Luttrell and R. B. Luttrell took over Elston's interest as Secretary/Treasurer and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, respectively.

In 1964, J. W. Adkisson, Sr. died, leaving the management of the company to his son, J. W. Adkisson, Jr.

H. H. Luttrell was elected Vice-President and C. R. Luttrell was named Secretary-Treasurer.

J. W. Adkisson, Jr. died in July 1969, at which time H. H. Luttrell was elected President and C. R. Luttrell, Vice-President & Secretary/Treasurer.

Approximately six months before Mr. Adkisson's death, the company began a complete liquidation. Harvey Haynes Luttrell stated that Mr. Adkisson completed the liquidation in a magnificent manner. The stockholders received almost full asset value for their shares.

Mr. Luttrell also noted that from the day they opened in 1893 until the doors closed in 1969, the company paid cash for everything they bought.

Luttrell Hardware Company was dissolved on 26 November 1969, bringing to an end the 76-year old hardware enterprise owned by the Luttrell and Adkisson families.

Later that year, the Pensacola Mill Supply Company purchased the Luttrell Hardware building, where they operated a hardware/mill supply business until May 2005.

At that time, Terrence Breckenridge purchased the building and began an extensive renovation project. He currently operates his business, Turning Leaf Construction, on the third floor.

The Jus Do Signs & Graphics shop is also a current tenant of the building, leasing space on the first floor.

Terrence Breckenridge

By Burgess Owens

Terrence Breckenridge is a new edition to the Brewton area, but has quickly grown to love the history and heritage of our town.

With 20 years of food service under his belt, he ventured to Brewton in 2002 to open David's Catfish House. In 2004 he teamed up with Rusty Miller to form Turning Leaf Development, LLC, which specializes in custom new construction and restoration.

When the old Luttrell Hardware building hit the market, Terrence quickly saw the potential of this

grand structure and eagerly purchased a little piece of Brewton history.

Terrence and Rusty located the office for Turning Leaf Development in the mezzanine area that was once the "Harness Room" which originally warehoused harnesses and other leather tack.

Currently the first floor is renovated for retail space, as will be the second floor. The third floor is planned for guest accommodations in the style of a Bed and Breakfast.

HISTORY OF JDCC BOOK

Members who wish to order a copy of the Jefferson Davis Community College history book by mail need to add \$5 for shipping to the \$12 cost of the book for a total of \$17.

Send order check to Ada Adam's attention at Jefferson Davis Community College at P.O. Box 958, Brewton, AL 36427.

Make check payable to JDCC Foundation and include your mailing address for shipping book. Below is a link to a Brewton Standard article on the book:

<http://www.brewtonstandard.com/articles/20>

Dixon Home in Andalusia Star News

By Sophia Ruffin

The Dixon Home Place has been added to the Alabama National Register of Landmarks and Heritage.

"The historical register recognizes buildings that have historic value and are worthy of being preserved. The Dixon Center is very historic and it is very well deserved for preservation," said center representative Rhett Johnson.

The Dixon Home Place is a site built on 80 acres of land. The house was original constructed in 1850 as a dogtrot. In 1900, the breezeway was enclosed.

In 1978, Solon and Martha Dixon donated the house to Auburn University for



the use of its forestry education center.

The home was the primary residence of many Dixon family members who were prominent in the forestry industry in Alabama.

"The home is now the centerpiece of the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center complex in Covington County. It is one of the finest field facilities of its type in the nation," Johnson said.

The Dixon Center offers comfortable, efficient classroom and living accommodations and a diverse 5,300-acre natural resources base for the benefit of students and visitors.

Since the dedication some years ago, the center has managed its natural resources and programs to meet the objectives of the Auburn University students.

"The students come here to have hands-on experience in forestry education," Johnson said. "The Auburn University School

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Meet the Officers



Society Secretary Jacqueline Watson Stone, known to all as "Jacque," was born in Calhoun City, MS. She has attended schools in

places as diverse as Columbus, Savannah, Montgomery, and Albuquerque. A graduate of Jefferson Davis Community College (AA), the University of West Florida (BA), and Troy State University (MA), she majored in English Education and taught language arts for twenty-seven years to sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. She worked at North Brewton, Atmore, and East Brewton and retired three years ago.

Jacque and her husband, Charles Stone, will celebrate their twelfth anniversary this July. They have seven children, two boys and five girls, nine grandchildren, and one great grandchild. She says, "Our children are the most interest-

ing gifts we have received. They each do things that we [she and Charles] always wanted to do. We love being with them." She adds, "I can't say enough about Charles – he is the love of my life."

Jacque enjoys many outdoor activities, including canoeing and walking, and has recently begun gardening. She also loves

Other favorite activities include word games (she says they "rank way up there"), going to movies and plays with Charles or with close friends for a "girls' night out."

reading and writing, both activities she can enjoy now that she has retired from teaching. Other favorite activities include word games (she says they "rank way up there"), going to movies and plays with Charles or with close friends for a "girls' night out."

She and her husband have begun to take short trips with a local group, the

EBA. She also notes there are several women that she loves to be around, "not just for fun but to help others." She says these are the women who "keep me straight." One other thing she loves is music and remarks that she has attended some wonderful concerts.

She is very close to her three brothers, Paul, David, and Deryl.

A member of Damascus Baptist Church, she plays the piano for the church on occasion and teaches the Ladies Sunday School Class. She remarks that she enjoys reading, studying, and researching the bible. She is a member of the Treasure Forest Association of Escambia County as well as the ECHS. "I can't be a 'native' but my children are, so I want to help preserve this [the history, the forests, and the archeology] for them."

ECHS Calendar of Events

- **May 23**, ECHS Meeting. In celebration of Historic Preservation Month, ECHS will meet at 3 p.m. at Luttrell Hardware Building in Historic Downtown Brewton, followed by refreshments at Willies. Refreshment hostess is Jacqueline Stone.



Paul Merritt, left, and Ranella Merritt, on the occasion of Ranella's last official day of teaching at Jefferson Davis Community College.

- **June 11--16**, Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham (www.samford.edu/schools/ighr)

- **May 19--21**, Civil War Expo. Rhodes Civic Center, Bay Minette (<http://liddellmosb.com>)
- **June 17**, Blueberry Festival,

Historic Downtown Brewton, Burnt Corn Creek Park

- **June 27**, ECHS Meeting, Show & Tell. Thomas E. McMillan Museum, 3 p.m. (In case of election runoffs, any meeting location change will be posted).

- **March 9--July 31**, Mummy: the inside story: an exhibition & 3-D virtual reality experience continues at the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center in Mobile from March 9--July 31, 2006. Presented in cooperation with The British Museum.

www.exploreum.net or phone 251-208-6873

- **July 8**, Antique Roadshow in Mobile, AL

Bits and Pieces

- The **Escambia County Historical Society** was represented at The Alabama Historical Association Annual Meeting in Fairhope on April 22, 2006 by the attendance of the following members: **Chuck Johns, Jacob Lowrey, Tom McMillan, Katherine Wilkinson, and Ann Biggs-Williams.**
- All five attended the Saturday presentation by Robert P. Collins of Birmingham on "The Legends of Burnt Corn: Revisiting the First Battle of the Creek War of 1813--1814." The Society hopes to have Mr. Collins as a future guest speaker.
- Thanks to **Elizabeth Edwards** who gave a gift membership to the Escambia County Historical Society.

- Copies of William H. Davidson's book, **Word From Camp Pollard**, are still available from the author. Contact Mr. Davidson at 309 E. Ninth Street, West Point, Ga 31833-1629. The book is \$75, plus two dollars shipping.
- **Sammie McGlotheren, Jacqueline Stone, Mary Williams, and Ann Biggs-Williams** traveled with members of the Atmore Historical Society to tour the Mummy Exhibit at the Gulf Exploreum in Mobile on Wednesday, May 10.
- Welcome to new members **Luther Golden** of Pace, Florida who joined ECHS after a visit to do research in The Alabama Room; and **Don Sales** of Century, Florida who has attended

several meetings.

- The **Biggs Family** from surrounding counties and several southeastern states will return to their ancestral home in Monroe County on June 3 & 4 for a family reunion. The Biggs Family migrated from Robeson County North Carolina to Alabama and formed the Biggs' Settlement near Peterman, Alabama. For more information, contact Ann Biggs-Williams at 251-867-2445 or E-mail escohis@escohis.org
- The **Franklins of Covington County, Alabama** will hold their family reunion in Red Level, AL on May 27th. For more information, contact Lisa Franklin at webmaster@trackingyourroots.com

April Meeting Minutes

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es. Paul read each of the proposed changes and they were voted on individually. All proposed changes were approved.

“Thank You” cards from Jerry and Diane Simmons and LeeAnne Wafford (speaker at the March meeting on cemetery preservation) were read. Ann recognized James and Norma Rogers who have volunteered to be the coordinators for Escambia County for Cemetery Preservation. They will work to find and inspect cemeteries which have been hidden and need care.

The new format and appearance of the newsletter was noted and approved by the members. Ann then called attention to the recent convention of the Alabama Historical Society which was held in the Point Clear/Fairhope.

Jerry Simmons introduced Kevin McKinley, guest speaker.



Kevin McKinley, speaker at April meeting

Kevin’s program focused on the role of this area, especially the role played by the town of Pollard in the Civil War. Ann Biggs Williams presented Kevin with a certificate of appreciation and a copy of The History of Escambia County by Annie Waters. She remarked that she will contact the Alabama Historical Association asking that Kevin’s writings on this area’s role in the Civil War be included in some future publication.

Kevin also discussed his hopes for establishing a Civil War Trail for Escambia County. The proceeds from his book will go toward this effort. He also invited any members with a Confederate Military ancestor to join the SEB (membership fee is \$40 to have their ancestor recognized and receive a magazine published by the organization.


The meeting was adjourned and members enjoyed refreshments served by Dement and Jean Hays. Approximately thirty members and guests attended the meeting.



Hostess Dement Hayes, Margie Haigler, and Mary Catherine Luker, at the refreshment table after the April meeting.

Museum and Alabama Room

The Thomas E. McMillan Museum and Alabama Room is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-3. Other days and hours are available by appointment. Call the museum at 251-809-1528 for arrangements or other information.



ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

UNION CEMETERY

WAS LISTED ON

APRIL 7, 2006

preserve ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA
Y. Michael Curry
ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

Certificate for Brewton’s Union Cemetery listing, the first for Escambia County.

Membership Application

Clip and send to **Membership, Escambia County Historical Society, PO Box 276, Brewton, AL 36427**

NAME(S) _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ TELEPHONE _____

I AM INTERESTED IN _____

I CAN HELP WITH _____

ENCLOSED IS _____ \$ 15.00/PERSON REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

_____ \$ 100.00/PERSON FOR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

DONATION _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

ECHOES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Escambia County Historical
Society
P.O. Box 276

Phone: 251-867-7332

E-mail: escohis@escohis.org

We're on the web!

www.escohis.org

BOOKS FOR SALE

	MAILED	REGULAR PRICE (Price includes AL sales tax)
<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
<u>The Good Ol' Days (Agnes Likens)</u>	\$20.00	\$15.00

Dixon House

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of Forestry and Wildlife Science manages the Dixon Center. Each Auburn forestry student spends one 10-week summer term at the Dixon Center taking basic field forestry coursework prior to their junior year and more advance on campus courses."

The Dixon Center has served as the site for research projects in a number of fields. The Forestry research has known for its herbicide usage, forest growth and yield, forest regeneration and recently longleaf pine regeneration and management.

The Dixon Center also serves as the home base for the Longleaf Alliance, a regional organization dedicated to the retention and restoration of this once dominant native southern ecosystem.

Johnson said, "This place could become a great tourist attraction for Covington County. But, right now the center administrative department is trying to restore the home. When every thing is up

and running perfectly, visitors will be able to come and tour the building for the Family Regional Museum."

The National Register designation was made in September.

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ECHOES, The newsletter for the Escambia County Historical Society is published monthly except November. Editor, Ranella Merritt; Assistant, Jerry Simmons

Comments are welcome. You may email the Society at escohis@escohis.org or call 251-867-7332.

**Mailing address:
ECHOES**

**Escambia County Historical Society
PO Box 276
Brewton, AL 36427.**

Willie's

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town building, now a restaurant, which used to house Mason Drug Store and served as a pharmacy for years, before it became the home of Ole Willie's Place. Ole Willie's closed last year. New owners Al Briscoe, Anita Bryden, and Cecil Bryden will be reopening soon as "Willie's".

Members are encouraged to dress in historical attire for this special meeting commemorating Historic Preservation Month.