
President's Update

Jackson County History and Genealogy Society
Pascagoula, Mississippi

Barry McIlwain, President
July, 2009

Dear Members,

It has certainly not been the case of the lazy days of summer with the JCHGS.

Our committees are in full gear with lots of projects and activities on the drawing board. Membership continues to grow. At present we have 150 paid members.

If any of you would like to join one of our committees, just contact the appropriate chairman (Names are on next page.) We can use your talent, ideas and skills in so many ways. Come join the fellowship and fun.

The new Society computer, located in the Pascagoula Public Library's Local Genealogy and History Department, is being equipped with the full professional edition of Acrobat compliments of the library system. Family Tree Maker 2009 will be installed soon as we gear up to start the Pioneer Family program.

We continue to sell cemetery books and Journals #25, as Else Martin and Joanne Anderson are already at work on Journal #26 which will bring us up to date to 2009. If you would like to submit an article for consideration, now is the time to do it.

We will be posting a list of reduced prices on most past publications and continue to give members the first opportunity to purchase these. Our aim is to reduce our inventory and to assist local historians and gene-

(Continued next page)

The Story Behind the Cemetery Book

Else Martin, editor of the Jackson County, Mississippi Cemetery Book, will take us into the world of those who spent more than 15 years in the making of one of the Society's major publications, providing us an interesting and informative July program.



Scenes of researchers braving thickets, woods, briars, critters and driving many a mile searching out cemeteries on the roads and backroads of Jackson County are brought to life with colorful stories and Powerpoint slides by Mrs. Martin.

"A program about a cemetery book might sound boring, but it is not," she said. "We had hundreds of events, normal and strange, that led to the discovery of historical facts and interesting tales."

The book is not so much about 45,000 people who passed away, as it is a celebration of more than 45,000 lives.

Come, bring a friend, and enjoy the program, Tuesday, July 28, 6 p.m., Meeting Room, Pascagoula Public Library. The public is welcome.

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alogists in building their local reference collections at an affordable price. For example, Journal 24, dated 2007, is now being sold for \$15 per copy.

We are promoting the sale of the Cemetery Book through e-mailed flyers and press releases to all libraries, daily and weekly newspapers throughout Mississippi. Sherry Owens, Renee Hague and Joanne Anderson are working on this effort.



The monthly genealogy workshops, publicized through the Internet, e-mail and in the local media, began Saturday, July 18.

Else Martin held our first free JCHGS Genealogy Workshop on July 18 at the Pascagoula Public Library in the Genealogy and Local History Department and it was a

smashing success. Twelve people, including folks from Louisiana and Alabama, attended the two sessions of the day. Tables were set up adjacent to the Jackson County Collection and Else reports the arrangement of having close access to the collection was perfect for this first attempt to have the workshop in the department rather than the meeting rooms downstairs.

The morning session was dedicated to “beginners” and the afternoon for researchers who have hit “stumbling blocks” and “brick walls” in their research. One attendee joined the Society and others indicated they would like to have the workshops more than once a month. The event yielded seven new library users.

It is very exciting to see so many folks lending their talent, support and time to our Society. Hope to see all of you at the July 28 meeting.

Barry

COMING EVENTS

October

3 Library Porch Book Sale at Zonta Festival

29 Krebs Cemetery Tour Program

2010

Spring Gala, April 23, LaPointe-Krebs House

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

July 28 - The Story Behind the Cemetery Book

Presenter: Else Martin

August 25 - Tracing the Female Ancestor & Finding Your Indian Heritage

Presenters: Sherry Owens & Renee Hague

September 22 - Historical Trains

Presenter: Jerry Lachaussee

October 27 - Birding in Local History

Presenter: Don McKee

November 24 - Poetry of Elva Avara

Presenter: Elva Avara

July 28th Meeting
6 p.m., Pascagoula Public Library
Meeting Room
Free Door Prize drawing
for those present - Public welcome

Society Officers (2009-10)

Barry McIlwain, President

Joanne Anderson, President-Elect

Sherry Owens - Vice President, Genealogy

Kevan Hall, Vice President, Buildings & Museums

Renee Hague - Corresponding Secretary

Liz Ford - Recording Secretary

Linda Grimes - Treasurer

Kay Doyle, Director

Jim LeBatard, Director

Kathie Keene, Director

Else Martin - Editor, *The Journal*

Committee Chairmen

Tommy Wixon, Publications; Kathie Keene,

Programs; Sherry Owens, Genealogy;

Kevin Hall, Museum and Buildings;

Else Martin, Historian; Roger Hansen,

Military; Leann Bosarge, Membership;

Melanie Moore and Callie Randle, Spring Gala;

Kay Doyle, Grassroots; Walter Mansfield,

Archaeology; John Ford, Constitution and By-Laws,

Peggy Saliba, Scrapbook Historian,

Don McKee, Birding, and Pat Haynes, Hospitality.