

Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 175
McComb, MS 39649

November 2015

Vol. 15, No. 6

www.swmgs.com



Early Settlers of Pike County Revisited in honor of the Bicentennial

Pike County was established December 9, 1815. Prior to that date, immigrants from South Carolina settled on the Bogue Chitto River. "John Magee, Sr. made the first settlement in the latter part of 1811, as did also Wm. Sibley."

Pioneers who followed and "settled on the Bogue Chitto, Magee's Creek, Topasaw, and Tangipahoa were Benjamin Bagley, David Morgan, Bedy Goldman, Henry Goldman, Mathew Cox, James McNulty, Isaac Sadler, David Cleveland, William Bullock, Thos. Heard, William Love, Edmund Andrews, John Brent, Jesse Harper, Vincent Garner, James Andrews, David McGraw, Henry Raglan, John Bond, Wm. Sibley, Jere Smith, Richard Dillon, Chas. King, and Isaac Carter."

"A year later mostly from the same state came Willis Prescott, George Hartzog, Peter Felder, Solomon Cole, Allen Carter, Michael Prescott, John Buck Allen, Derrell Martin, Wm. Martin, Hardwick Vaughn, Green Cook, Wm. Miller, James G. McNab, Robert Hundley, Robert Love, Richard Smith, and Isaac Roberts."

1814 settlers included Ralph Stovall, Daniel, Richard and Henry Quinn, Nathaniel Wells, Samuel Prestridge, Thos. Reeves, Edmund Gatlin, Hiram Terrell, Shadrack Cooper, Zachariah Reeves, Allen Carter, Willis Prescott, Peter and Isaac Felder and Peter Quinn.

Most of these early inhabitants settled on the streams in the county. "In that early day the pine woods were covered by switch cane and afforded a fine pasture for stock the entire year."

The first county site was Jacksonville on the east side of the Bogue Chitto River. As population increased, settlers on the west side of the Bogue Chitto insisted on an election for a permanent courthouse location. In 1816 the election was held and Holmesville was chosen. It was later moved to Magnolia.

John Felder, Laban Bacot, Felix Allen and Peter Felder

were appointed commissioners to lay off the new county site.

David Dickson, Wm. J. Minton and James J. McNab were delegates to the convention that framed the Constitution of 1817. The first clerk of court was Henry Quinn, a son of Peter Quinn, Sr. Some years later, S. A. Matthews, Esq. served as county clerk. The first sheriff was Laban Bacot who held the office for many years. He and James J. McNab were the Pike County representatives to the 1832 Constitutional Convention.

The Illinois Central Railroad runs the entire length of the county, a distance of 25 1/2 miles. Towns situated on the line are Magnolia, Johnston, Summit, McComb City, Chattawa and Osyka. Other towns in the county are Walker's Iron Bridge, Tylertown, China Grove and Sartinsville.

Pike County has 69,064 acres of cleared land and a population of 21,203.

From A History of Mississippi by Robert Lowry and William H. McCardle, published 1891.



Newsletter

Beginning with the July issue, the newsletters are being posted on the swmgs.com website. You'll find a link to each one in the right column on the Home Page.



November Meeting

November 17 at 6 PM at
J. W. White Church
'Fall Get Together'

Meat will be furnished.

Members bring a side dish.

If you need a suggestion,

contact Sue: susanboyd1@bellsouth.net

President's Corner

..... Rick Penick

We had a great attendance at the September meeting for Grady Howell's program, and I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did. I plan to have him speak again next year.

For information on his books, check out his facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/h-grady-howell-jr-historian-author/price-list-for-current-books--in-print/473902712701480>



Pictured are Jim Freeman, co-program chair, Grady Howell, and president Rick Penick. Photo by Larry Carruth.

I want to urge all our members to attend the Bicentennial celebration at the old courthouse in Holmeville on November 14 from 1 to 5 PM. A lot of hard work has gone into putting the program together and it will include speakers, local residents playing the part of early settlers in skits, and the unveiling of the new historical marker.

Paul Walker has put together a CD on early Pike County records, 'Historical Papers and Maps, Vol 1' and has donated it to be used as a fund raiser for the Bicentennial and the restoration of the Holmesville Courthouse. It costs \$10.00. Contact Sue Boyd if you want to buy a copy: susanboyd1@bellsouth.net

It contains a copy of the 8-page article in the Fall 2015 Pulse Magazine on the formation of Pike County, 1800 Pike County Plats with land patents plotted, Original Pike/Walthall County surveys, WPA Pike County Archives, WPA Amite County archives, Mississippi Territory Map, 1863 Louisiana-Mississippi Map, 1918 Pike County Map, 1906 New Holmesville and 1918 Holmesville area maps.

His goal in putting these files together on a CD is to

provide convenient access to users. Some of the files are available for free download but are large files that are difficult to use. It eliminates the need for Internet access and makes all the files available from one source.



Settlers

....Continued....

Articles on the following families also appeared in earlier newsletters: Bacot, Boyd, Ellzey, Felder, Gatlin, Gray, Harper, Lamkin, Love, McGraw, Prescott, Prestridge, Prewitt, Quin, Stockdale, Terrell, Wells, and White. They can be viewed at:

<http://msgw.org/pike/Settlers.html>



2015-2016 Officers

President: Rick Penick
Contact: rickpenick@hotmail.com

First Vice President: Jimmy McDaniel
Contact: jimmymcdaniel59@yahoo.com

Second Vice President/Program Co-Chairs: Betty Penick and Jim Freeman
Contact: betty0323@hotmail.com

Secretary: Carolyn Richmond
Contact: carich@bellsouth.net

Treasurer and Newsletter: Virginia Zeigler
Contact: ginyaz@bellsouth.net

Refreshments Committee Chair and Website Search Requests Contact:
Susan Boyd Contact: susanboyd1@bellsouth.net

Board Members:
Term expires May 31, 2016:

Betty Penick - Pike County
Virginia Odenwald - Amite County

Term expires May 31, 2017:

Ralph Brock - Pike County
Patsy Carruth - Pike County
Dell Clawson - Walthall County