

Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 175
McComb, MS 39649



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www.swmgs.com

Icons of Statehood

Saturday, January 7, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and Sunday, January 8, 1–4 p.m. at Historic Jefferson College. Icons of Statehood--Mississippi's first constitution, drafted on the grounds in 1817, and a rare, 20-star US flag that flew over the nation after Mississippi became a state will be on display in Prospere Hall.

On Saturday a program beginning at 1 p.m. will feature remarks from Senator Bob Dearing and a presentation by staff of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History on the artifacts. The first governor of the state, David Holmes, will be portrayed by living historian Don Verstace, and staff will offer children's activities throughout the day, as well as a 200th-birthday cake.

The flag and constitution will again be on display on Sunday, January 8, from 1 to 5 p.m., during which time the public can enjoy living history portrayals of Governor Holmes by Verstace, and children's activities. At 2 p.m. MDAH staff will give their presentation on the history of the two artifacts, and refreshments will be available from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

MISSISSIPPI GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 at the Sparkman Auditorium, Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum, 1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS.

The speaker is D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, nationally known and recognized genealogical author, lecturer, and researcher and a frequent speaker at family history events across the globe. He's currently one of the hosts on Genealogy Road Show. Cost is \$40.00.

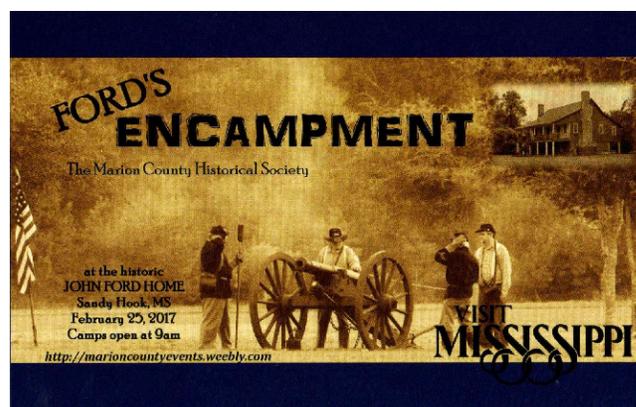
Amite G&H Society February Program

On February 11th they are planning a field trip to 'venture forth into the wilds of Jefferson County' to find General Thomas Hinds' grave. Members will carpool/caravan on this trip so there is no registration required, but they'd like a head count just to know who's interested in participating.

Contact: Dawn Taylor rdawnt@gmail.com

Ford's Encampment

For members interested in the military experience, the Marion County Historical Society will hold their annual encampment at the historic Ford Home on February 25.



Amite H&G Society NOLA Trip Update

Don't forget to register for the NOLA trip on **March 18**. (Final date--it was tentatively set for March 11.) The cost is \$81.00 with buffet lunch on the boat or \$67.00 without the buffet. Contact: Dawn Taylor rdawnt@gmail.com

Our Remaining 2016-2017 Meeting Dates

March 28

May 30 (End of our fiscal year is May 31)

January Meeting

January 31, 2017 at 6:00 PM

J. J. White Church
(Use last door on Third Street side)

Kathleen Goss of the South MS Genealogical & Historical Society will give a program on dating photographs from clothing.

President's Corner

..... Rick Penick

We had a good attendance for the November fall potluck, some wonderful food, and a great time visiting with each other.

The Amite Genealogical group cemetery tour was on November 12, and Sonya, Sue, Virginia, Betty and I participated. We first visited the Old German Cemetery just across the state line at Osyka in Tangipahoa Parish. It's a very interesting cemetery and if you haven't been, you should make the trip. The Amite group took photos of any graves that didn't already have a photo on Find A Grave and were to update the memorial pages.

After a delicious lunch at Osyka Seafood, we visited the grave of Rev. Milton Shirk, founder of the Amite County Female Academy, in the Osyka Cemetery and checked out some of the oldest tombstones in the cemetery. Rev. Shirk came to Amite County in 1853 and was responsible for adding three buildings to the existing school facilities and among them was the Little Red School House which still exists.

Lynn Williams then lead us on a trip to visit the house that Rev. Shirk lived in at Osyka where he spent his last 25 years. It was short trip just around the corner past the cemetery, and the size of it was a complete surprise. A couple from Louisiana has bought it and are remodeling it. We got to walk up to the front porch and see the outside--see the picture below. They're still remodeling the inside, so maybe we'll get to go back one day.



We finished the day with a visit to the Jewish Cemetery in Summit. Another fascinating place full of old tombstones that everyone should visit.

Visiting sites on the U. S. Historic Register

A professor and his team at the University of Waterloo created an online map that guides you on a tour of nearly 50,000 U.S. Historic sites--all the sites on the National Historic Register. To actual go to all the sites in person by the shortest route would cover 217,605 miles. If that's not in your plans, you can visit each spot online--the map includes photos from the National Park Service archives and links to more information on each site.

See: www.math.uwaterloo.ca/tsp/road/us50k_tour.html

The Mississippi Preservation website contains a link to their updated '101 places to see in MS' and you might consider subscribing to their newsletter. It has some really interesting articles.

See: <https://misspreservation.com/final-101-mississippi-places-to-see-before-you-die/>

2016-2018 Officers

President: Rick Penick

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First Vice President: Jimmy McDaniel

Contact: jimmymcdaniel59@yahoo.com

Second Vice President/Program Co-Chairs: Betty Penick and Jim Freeman

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Secretary: Carolyn Richmond

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Treasurer and Newsletter: Virginia Zeigler

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Susan Boyd Contact: susanboyd1@bellsouth.net

Board Members:

Term expires May 31, 2017:

Ralph Brock - Pike County

Jim Freeman - Pike County

Dell Clawson - Walthall County

Term expires May 31, 2018:

Gail Spinnato - Pike County

Virginia Odenwald - Amite County
