

Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 175
McComb, MS 39649



September 2017

Vol. 17, No. 6

www.swmgs.com

Fall Genealogy Events

"Reveille" Saturday, September 16.

Historic Jefferson College, the birthplace of the state, will kick off a two-day bicentennial commemoration with barbeque plates, live music, and Native American dancing on Friday, September 15, at its second annual 'Reveille!' The site will continue the celebration on Saturday, September 16, with living history on the grounds, tours of historic buildings, the unveiling of a state historical marker, and vintage games for families.

"Delegates to Mississippi's first constitutional convention met here in the summer of 1817 to draft the constitution that Mississippi was established upon," said Historic Jefferson College director Robin Person."

At 10 AM Saturday there will be a flag raising and MDAH sites administrator Clay Williams will lead a walking tour to where Assembly Hall, the tavern in which the first Mississippi legislature met, and the Methodist Church where delegates signed Mississippi's first constitution, once stood. A new state historical marker interpreting the Methodist Church site will be unveiled.

At 11 AM, Robin Person will guide a group through the circa 1819 East Wing and circa 1839 West Wing. The original classrooms and laboratory, armory, living spaces and offices as well as nineteenth century graffiti in the attic can be seen. Space is limited so those wishing to take the tour must register in advance.

At 12:30 PM on the first floor of the West Wing, Historic Natchez Foundation director Mimi Miller will give a presentation on architecture in the town of Washington which served as the second capitol of the Mississippi Territory from 1802 to 1817.

At 1:30 she will lead a bus tour of Washington and participants will see inside rarely opened historic homes and finish with a reception at the Sweet Auburn. Other houses on the tour include Selma, Meadvilla, and Ingleside. There is a \$25.00 charge for the tour and may be purchased in advance at the Historic Natchez Foundation or on the day of the tour.

Vicksburg

Vicksburg will hold its Fall Pilgrimage September 22 - October 8 with afternoon tours of four homes. The tour includes a city tour and van escort. The cost is \$45.00. (www.vicksburgpilgrimage.com)

Natchez

The Natchez Fall Pilgrimage is September 22 - October 9. There are six morning and afternoon tours available. See www.natchezpilgrimage.com for specific times, dates and houses on each tour.

The Natchez Cemetery Tour, "Angels on the Bluff" will be November 9-11. Tickets went on sale August 1.

There are several other interesting events in Natchez including the re-enactment of Major Ellicott's encampment and the 1797 raising of the American Flag, claiming Natchez and all former Spanish Lands east of the Mississippi above the 31st parallel for the U.S.A. on Saturday, October 7 at 5:00 pm at The House on Ellicott Hill, 211 N. Canal Street. See the Events & Performances tab at www.natchezpilgrimage.com.

September Meeting

September 26, 2017

at 6 PM at

J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church
(Use 3rd Street entrance)

The speaker will be Clinton Bagley and his topic is 'Legacies & Truths Along the River.'

Mr. Bagley currently lectures aboard the Mississippi Queen Riverboat on her runs between New Orleans and Natchez.

President's Corner

Our July meeting was a great success, and we really appreciate Janice Brock letting us meet at her Bogue Chitto camp. Also thanks to Jane Ard's husband, Tony, for cooking us the delicious pork roast. With the addition of the great side dishes provided by members and guests who attended, we really had a feast.

After the meeting, Janice led a group to visit the Historic Joseph May Cemetery. If you haven't made the trip yet, I highly recommend that you do. She and her crew have beautifully restored it, and it's won awards for the Judith Robinson Chapter DAR and the Magnolia Chapter Colonial Dames Seventeenth Century for their support in the restoration.

Several members of the SWMGS joined the Amite County G&H Society on their recent trip to see the re-enactment of the August 30, 1813 Ft. Mims Massacre at the Ft. Mims Historic Site near Tensaw, Alabama, and reported it was an interesting and educational event with no rain to spoil it.



Pictured above is the cast of re-enactors. They put on a good show with lots of gunfire and bloodcurdling screams. Both Sylvia and Jane have ancestors from that area, and Sylvia used to participate in the re-enactment.

If any of you are interested in going to the tours of Jefferson College and Washington, MS, mentioned on the first page, let me know as soon as possible. September 16 isn't far off and we need to make reservations. The walking tour is free, but the bus tour and reception fee is \$25.00.

Genealogy on TV

"Finding Your Roots" returns to PBS on October 3 for 10 episodes.

The featured celebrities include: Ana Navarro, US Senator Bernie Sanders, Larry David, Garrison Keillor, Mary Steenburgen, Scarlett Johansson, Ted Danson, Aziz Ansari, Bryant Gumbel, and William H. Macy.

"Who Do You Think You Are" has been renewed for another season but new shows won't begin until the spring 2018 TV season.

"Genealogy Road Show" is still on 'hiatus' and unfortunately there's no mention so far of its being continued.

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