

*Jones County Journeys*  
July - August - September 2019



Volume 26 – Number 1

Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization, Inc.

P. O. Box 2644

Laurel, MS 39442-2644



*Jones County Journeys*

A Quarterly Publication of the Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization, Inc.

Future Meeting Dates:

September 28, 2019 – guest speaker Dorothy Knight Marsh

October 26, 2019 – Fellowship Meeting – Bring your favorite finger food & come join us

November – December 2019 NO MEETINGS

January 25, 2020

February 22, 2020

March 28, 2020

April 25, 2020

May 23, 2020

June 27, 2020

July 25, 2020 – end Fiscal Year of the JCGHO

August 22, 2020 – Begins Fiscal Year of the JCGHO

September 26, 2020

October 24, 2020 – Fellowship Meeting

November – December 2020 – NO MEETINGS

IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAS  
MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES 8/2019, THIS WILL  
BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER! PLEASE USE  
THE FORM AT THE END OF THE  
NEWSLETTER TO RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP!

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So it is quite obvious none of you wanted to share your family history to be published in the newsletter for our group.

If you would like to contribute ANYTHING for this newsletter, or have any suggestions you would like presented, please submit them by email at [jcgho1@yahoo.com](mailto:jcgho1@yahoo.com), or by mailing the JCGHO at the address listed on the cover page.

*Like branches on  
a tree...we may grow  
in different  
directions, but our  
roots remain as one.*

Author Unknown

## **GALA DAY AT LAUREL**

Third of July Picnic to Celebrate the Glorious Fourth

The big Fourth of July celebration, Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Lindsey park is calculated to be a gala day for Laurel and Jones county. Senator A. J. McLaurin is billed for a speech, and otherws will be on hand.

Boat Races, Swimming, Diving Contests, Tub Races, Base Ball, and many other attractions.

The barbacue will be abandoned and regular basket picnic held instead.

\*\*\*Source: *Jones County News*, Ellisville, Miss., Friday, June 25, 1909, page 3.

### **Died**

Mrs. Sallie Bush who lived some six miles north of Ellisville died at her home at 7 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> just in the 44<sup>th</sup> year of her age. She died suddenly from heart trouble from which she had been suffering for sometime. On the evening of her death, she went into her garden in apparent good health an dgathered some vegetables for her neighbors, brought them in the house and after directing to whom they should be sent, picked up the little baby of Mrs. Wamble her daughter, and sat down. In a moment she says to her daughter "Here take the baby" and immediately fell from her chair and died. She had been a member of the Baptist church for a number of years, and was a devoted concerated christian. The last act of her life was contributing to the wants and comforts of her neighbors, and sharing with them her own comforts and luxuries. While she lived she endeavoured to imitate the life of her Savior, always doing good, she died without pain or suffering in the full triumphs of a living faith, and no doubt is now enjoying that eternal rest that remaineth to the people of God.

She was the daughter of Mr. Darling Herrington and sister of our townsman Mr. J. T. Herrington, one of the oldest as well as most substantial families in the county. Mrs. Bush was followed to her last resting place at Hickory Grove church by a large \_\_\_\_\_ of relatives and friends, where she was burid the 25<sup>th</sup>.

She leaves a large number of relatives and friends to mourn her loss, but they mourn as those who have no hope, for their loss is her gain.

We extend to the relatives our heartfelt sympathies in their sad and unexpected bereavement. \*\*\*Source: *The New South*, Saturday, June 27, 1891, page 4.

## **FOUL PLAY SEEN IN BIG STRINGER FIRE**

TWO STORIES ARE RAZED BY FLAMES

BURGLARY BEFORE FIRE, IS BELIEF OF OFFICERS

**BLAZE OCCURS LATE AT NIGHT**

Coin in Bank Vault is Melted by intense Heat

Stringer, Aug. 2 – Local officers are quietly but relentlessly running down every clue which may lead to indentification of burglars who it is believed, were responsible for a \$20,000 fire which razed two of the largest buildings in this town a few nights ago.

The theory that the blaze was the work of burglars, who entered W. A. Ruffin's general store and started the fire, either maliciously or accidentally, which destroyed that building and razed the two-story brick buidling housing the O. P. Foley general store, has been definitely accepted by officers.

Fire was discovered in the Ruffin frame building Sunday night about 11 o'clock and a bucket brigade was formed as soon as the alarm was sounded. The fire had gained such headway that the building was destroyed before the flames were extinguished.

About 3:30 Monday morning fire was seen in the Foley brick building which adjoins the Ruffin store. In this case, also, they flames had gained such headway that it was impossible to extinguish them before the building was destroyed.

The Stringer branch of the Bank of Bay Springs was located in the Foley building, and the heat became so intense about the bank vault that gold and silver money within it was melted. Records of the bank were found in good condition when the vault was opened after the fire.

Officers have discovered near the site of the Ruffin building a pail of trousers apparently stolen

from the Ruffin store and it is upon this clue that the theory of the fire following burglary has been based.

The estimated loss in the destruction of the Foley building and stock of goods is given at \$10,000, and the loss in the Ruffin blaze as \$1,000. Both Mr. Foley and Mr. Ruffin state that they were partly protected by insurance.

\*\*\*Source: *The Morning Call*, Saturday, August 3, 1929, pages 1 and 8.

### **Morgan-Trammell.**

Yesterday afternoon at seven o'clock at the home of the bride's mother on Eleventh avenue. Miss Violet Trammell was married to Mr. C. G. Morgan. Rev. W. H. Haaire performing the ceremony. Many friends were present to express the good wishes for this popular young couple.

\*\*\*Source: *The Laurel Daily Argus*, Laurel Miss., Wednesday, June 26, 1912, page 3.

### **Death Beaten in Grim Race to Hospital After Arteries of Girl's Throat Cut in Auto Wreck**

A race with death, in which every moment meant the loss of life blood to the victim of an automobile accident Sunday night on the Ellisville road ended at the Laurel General Hospital where Miss Luna Anderson, 19, of Taylorsville, was rushed to physicians at 9:50 last night after having lost an amount of blood which has rendered her in a serious condition.

Has Miss Anderson arrived at the hospital a few moments later, it is feared her life would have been at forfeit. Deep gashes about her throat and face had been sustained when shew as hurled through the windshield of a touring car driven by Will Mathis, of Taylorsville, at the time of an almost headon collison with a sedan driven by S. C. Jones, Sanford, route 1 who is now under \$250 bond charged with reckless driving.

As the collison took place just south of the end of paving on the Boulevard, Miss Anderson was placed

into the car of Miss Minnie Rena Shinn, who witnessed the mishap and brought to the local hospital.

Will Mathis was driving his light touring car north when he approached two cars traveling south. The second car, that driven by Mr. Jones, passed the coach which Miss Shinn was driving it is stated and before either he or Mr. Jones had sropped their cars the two collided.

Miss Andersonw as riding on the front seat with the Taylorsville man and the force of the impact threw her against the windshield. Cut glass wounded her throat and face severly.

Miss Shinn stopped her car immediatley as the two collided and Miss Anderson was taken into it and rushed to the Laurel General Hospital.

City officers arrived on the scene and arrested Mr. Jones. Later he was transferred to county authorities and made bail for \$250.

In the car with Mr. Jones were his two sisters, Miss Marie Jones and Mrs. Gertrude Quates and his brother-in-law, Andy Quates, all of Ellisville routh three. With Mr. Mathis and Miss Anderson were Clayton Anderson and Troy Anderson.

W. L. Pack, Jr., was in the car driven by Miss Shinn in which the injured girl was brought to the hospital.

Miss Luna Anderson is the daughter of R. Anderson, 507 Fifteenth avenue, but has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Mathis at Taylorsville.

\*\*\*Source: *The Morning Call*, Laurel Miss., Tuesday, November 12, 1929, page 1.

### **AGED PIONEER CITIZEN SOSO SECTION DIES**

W. W. Valentine is Found Dead in Bed at Home of Son when Summoned to Breakfast Saturday.

W. W. Valentin, pioneer resident of the Soso community, was found dead in his bed Saturday morning when membes of the fmaily summoned him to breakfast. Mr. Valentine, who was 72 years, was born and reared in the small community in which he



was living with his son at the time of his death.

An inquest was held and the coroner's jury empanelled by Coroner Albert Cox returned a verdict of "death from natural causes".

Mr. Valentine made his home with his son, Lauses Valentine. He is survived by three daughters and four sons and other relatives.

Funeral services will be held at the Union Line church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

\*\*\*Source: *The Laurel Leader-Call*, Laurel Mississippi, Saturday, January 7, 1933, page 8.

### Court Houses

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Supervisors of Jones County Mississippi at Ellisville until 12 noon o'clock Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1907 for the erection of two Court Houses, one to be erected on present Court House Square in Ellisville, and one on lot South of the new High School building in Laurel, according to plans and specifications prepared by P. J. Krouse, architect, Meridian, Miss. Said plans can be seen at architect's office and at the Chancery Clerk's office at Ellisville. Each bidder is requested to have a representative present at the opening of the bids as the Board may ask for alternate bids according to schedule furnished by architect. Certified check for \$1,000.00 payable to B. Dubose, President, must accompany proposals and shall be forfeited to the County in case bidder to whom contract is awarded fails within reasonable time to furnish satisfactory bond according to the law for the faithful performance of the contract, the Board preserving the right to reject any or all proposals.

By order of the Board of Supervisors April Term 1907. Given under my hand and seal, this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1907.

W. H. Bufkin  
Chancery Clerk

\*\*\*Source: *The Laurel Ledger*, Laurel Mississippi, Friday, April 5, 1907, page 5.

### MARRIAGE

Mrs. Emma Abram and Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Abram wish to announce the coming marriage of her daughter and niece, Miss Lizzie L. to Mrs. Jessie Lyles, a successful business man of this city Wednesday, June 23, 1926 at eight o'clock, Dudley Chapel, Ellisville, Miss.

\*\*\*Source: *Laurel Voice of the People*, Laurel, Miss., June 14, 1926, Vol 1, No 14. page 1.



Hotel Bass

- Lee Bass, Prop.

1928-1929 City Directory indicates hotel was located near Windham Avenue, Laurel MS.

\*\*\*Source: *Laurel Voice of the People*, Laurel, Miss., June 14, 1926, Vol 1, No 14. page 3.

### JOHN M'CONKEY

Accidentally Falls From Barn Loft and Breaks His Neck

A very sad and deplorable death was that of John McConkey which occurred at the home of his son, Frank, late Saturday afternoon. It seems that the old gentleman had gone up into the barn loft for some feed stuff and accidentally fell through a scuttle hole to a lower floor breaking his neck in the fall. Mr. McConkey was born in Portland Me., 81 years ago and has been a citizen of this State for 6 years. He was a stone-mason by trade and allowed no one to surpass him in this art. His remains were buried Sunday afternoon in the Windham Cemetery. The LEDGER extends love and

sympathy to the bereaved family.

\*\*\*Source: *The Laurel Ledger*, Laurel Mississippi,

Friday, February 5, 1907, page 6.

### **NARROW ESCAPE FROM THE FLAMES**

#### **Mrs. Campbell's Home Caught Fire While She Slept**

Mrs. Campbell had a narrow escape from being fatally burned in her home in the Pettibone addition, early Saturday morning. At about 2 a.m., Mrs. Campbell got up and went into an adjoining room to take a dose of medicine. On her return to her bedroom, she left a lamp lighted on a table. About two hours afterwards she was awakened by an intense heat to find flames breaking through into her bedroom. Mrs. Campbell hastily made her escape, but did not succeed in doing so before suffering from scorched hands and face, the fire having also attacked her hair.

Fortunately, Mrs. Campbell's children were not at home; but she lost what furniture she had. On this she had some insurance.

The building, a five room cottage, the property of Mr. Thomas Hicks, was totally destroyed, the insurance on it being \$350.

\*\*\*Source: *The Laurel Ledger*, Laurel, Mississippi,

Thursday, October 14, 1909, front page.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I was not able to locate who this Mrs. Campbell was.

### **MINUTES**

MAY 25, 2019

The JCGHO met in the upstairs meeting room of the Laurel-Jones County Library on May 25, 2019 with 9 in attendance, that includes one visitor.

Charles Robine led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone was welcomed. The usual reminders were given: turn off cell phones, pay dues, and the need to sell the family history books was stressed.

Carolyn Horne was the speaker for today's meeting. Carolyn told about the Sylvester and Alma Graves family and especially the memories and food recorded by their daughter, Mattie.

Mattie's cookbook, *Country Vittles and Memories*, was written for her family and recorded their favorite's recipes as well as family memories.

A short break was taken to enjoy refreshments provided by the refreshment committee Betty Morad and Betty Dupuy.

During the Business portion of the meeting, there were no committee reports. A motion was made, seconded and carried to combine the October and November meetings, which will be the fellowship meeting.

Another motion was made, seconded, and carried to bring finger food to the October-November meeting.

Only one birthday for this month, Gene Phillips.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Horne, Secretary

June 22, 2019

15 attendees

Meeting began at 10:15.

In the absence of President Carolyn Horne, the meeting was led by Vice President Tim Dudley. Tim opened the meeting by asking Charles Robine to lead the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

In the absence of Secretary Keith Horne, Susan Blakeney took minutes and kept the sign in sheet. Visitors were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves. Lisa Thurmon introduced herself, and JCGHO member Shirley Vivion introduced herself and her companion, Gary Wettel. Lisa Garvin introduced herself as did Jane Ann Tucker and her mother. Tim talked about the marriage record book compiled by the Marriage License Committee and printed by Jean Holifield. He had a copy on display for everyone to look at. This book will be held in the genealogy library.

Tim opened the floor to guest speaker Concetta Brooks. Concetta opened with telling of the two

county seats in Jones County and informed the group that the 2<sup>nd</sup> district, Laurel, was not voted in until 1906. The first marriage license for this district was issued February 15, 1907. Records prior to 1882 – 1907 are in the 1<sup>st</sup> district, Ellisville.

Concetta went on to tell us about the fees and types of records available in the Circuit Clerk's office. They handle not only marriage records, but also some court cases, criminal records, civil cases, passports and voter registration. Most but not all of these records are available to the public.

Concetta told of the fees associated with her office and how an increase in these fees is about to take place. There are also plans for having the records digitized. The same company who handled the digitization for the Tax Assessors office, Delta Solutions, is handling this process.

The hours for the office of the Circuit Clerk are 8-5, Monday – Friday.

After many questions and answers from the group, Tim invited the group to enjoy refreshments provided by Betty Morad and Betty Dupuy.

Tim gave an updated report on the financial status of the group. He told of book sales that were made during the month of April and May, 2019. He stated the books and calendars were available for sale and that it is time to renew your dues if you have not already.

Tim also stated that the election of officers is to be held in July. He has asked Charles Robine to be on the election committee and Charles has agreed. If there is no one willing to take on the office of one of the elected positions, nominations will be held from the floor at the July meeting with voting and election taking place July 27, 2019.

After over an hour of our guest speaking keeping us so entertained and informed, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45.

Respectfully submitted by

Susan Blakeney, Treasurer/Newsletter Editor

July 27, 2019

The JCGHO met on Saturday, July 27, 2019 in the upstairs meeting room of the Laurel-Jones County Library with fourteen in attendance. President Carolyn Horne welcomed everyone and called on Charles Robine for prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Horne turned the meeting over to the guest speaker, Noel Rogers who presented a wealth of information on his family and stories he had heard when he was growing up. Noel related the family connections between the Rogers, Mitchells, Gambrells, Reddochs, Brooms, Knights and others. Noel also displayed several books on family information, pictures, and family trees.

After a time for questions and answers, a break was taken to enjoy refreshments provided by Betty Morad and Betty Dupuy.

During the Business Meeting, everyone was reminded that dues could be paid, calendars and family history books were available, and not to forget to sign the attendance registry. President Horne thanked Tim Dudley for conducting the June meeting and thanked Susan Blakeney for taking minutes.

The June minutes were read by Carolyn Horne and a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read and all were in favor.

Charles Robine conducted the election of officers. The officers for the year 2019-2020 are: President – Carolyn Horne, Vice-President – Tim Dudley, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor – Susan Blakeney, Secretary – Keith Horne, and Publicity Committee – Jean Holifield.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to pay Jennifer Eckman for her work on our Web Page for the year.

There being no further business, motion was made and seconded to adjourn and all were in favor. Respectfully submitted,  
Keith Horne





# Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization

## Membership Form

*"Dedicated To Historical Preservation"*

PLEASE RETURN TO JCGHO P.O. BOX 2644 LAUREL, MS 39442  
2644, OR LEAVE IN THE GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT OF THE  
LAUREL – JONES COUNTY LIBRARY, ALONG WITH YOUR YEARLY

DUES OF \$12.00. THIS COVERS YOUR SPOUSE AND HOUSEHOLD. DUES INCLUDE THE NEWSLETTER,  
JONES COUNTY JOURNEYS, WHICH IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION. ALL QUERIES, SUGGESTIONS  
AND IDEAS ARE WELCOMED AND APPRECIATED.

### PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_ Prior Member \$ \_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \_\_\_\_ Date

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Researching Surnames Of \_\_\_\_\_

Particular areas of interest: \_\_\_\_ Genealogy \_\_\_\_ Historical

As usual, we are always looking for volunteers to serve on the various committees of the  
organization. If you would like to volunteer for a committee, please check here \_\_\_\_.

*WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT*

Find us on the web at <http://jonescogenealogy.org/>

