

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 9

Number 2

Enclosure -

Annual Meeting Program/Registration Form

Tuesday - Friday, July 8 - 11, 2008
At Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, TN

"The Methodist Episcopal Church in the Holston Conference"

(If the program folder with registration form is not in your copy of the *NOTES*, please request a copy from The SEJ Heritage Center, P O Box 1165, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745. If you want additional copies, contact the Center or make your own duplicates.)

Reminders! (For Annual Meeting)

A. Our biennial memorial service is scheduled for Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. Conferences should submit names of deceased members in the past two years to our vice-president, the Rev. Arthur Warren. (See directory in this issue for his addresses and phone number.)

B. Don't forget to see that someone brings 100 copies of your Conference Commission and/or Historical Society annual report to the meeting - and is prepared to summarize the highlights during our business sessions. (The copies will be inserted in our 2008 Proceedings.)

In Memoriam

H. JOSEPH CURTIS

The Rev. H. Joseph Curtis, an active member of our Society since 1994, entered the Church Triumphant on April 12, 2008 following a battle with cancer. Joe was graduated from Huntingdon College and Candler School of Theology, and was an elder in the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference. Joe loved history and was a member of the Alabama Historical Association. He also served as the Conference Historian for the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference for several years, served on the Southeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History from 2000 until his death, and had served as vice chairperson since 2004. He also served on the General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church from 2004 until his death. Joe was the keynote speaker for our Society's 1995 meeting, when he delivered the address, "How and Why Alabama and West Florida Came Together." He served as an at-large member of our Society's Executive Committee from 1997 until 1999.

Joe is survived by his wife, Michelle, his two daughters, Kristen and Erin, three brothers, two sisters, and many other relatives. We will certainly miss Joe and his graciousness, his sense of humor, his smile, his insights, and his friendship.
- Jim Pyatt

Michelle Curtis may be reached at home: 15219 Julie Ann Circle, Silverhill, AL 36576.

DEATH OF MRS. LUCILLE R. HAMRICK

Word has been received of the death of Lucille Hamrick, Birmingham, AL, an honorary member of our Society, on April 2, 2008. Lucille was the first secretary of the North Alabama Conference Historical Society in 1993-94. Lucille was vice-president in 1999-2000. She also served on the Conference Commission on Archives and History during the same period and was secretary of the Commission.

In 2002, Lucille suffered a stroke that slowed her down, but her interest and enthusiasm for our Methodist history never diminished.

- SEJ/HS -

“FORTY YEARS AFTER DALLAS: RETRIEVING THE EUB HERITAGE FOR UNITED METHODISM”

An international conference of scholars recovering Evangelical and Pietist traditions for the renewal of the church is set Friday-Saturday, September 12-13, 2008 at United Theological Seminary, Trotwood, Ohio.

Twelve prominent scholars will present papers focusing on the history, doctrine and theology, polity and practices of the Evangelical United Brethren Church (1946-1968) and its predecessor denominations. The scholars are:

Paul Wesley Chilcote
Wendy Deichmann Edwards
Tryon Inbody
James Kirby
Scott Kisker
Kendall McCabe
William E. Naumann
J. Steven O'Malley
Kenneth E. Rowe
Ulrike Schuler
K. James Stein
Jason E. Vickers

Dr. William J. Abraham will conclude the conference with an address focusing on the importance of the EUB heritage for the future of

United Methodism.

The opening session is at 1:30 on Friday and the closing plenary ends at 2:30 on Saturday. For further information and registration, contact: The Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage, United Theological Seminary, 4501 Denlinger Road, Trotwood, OH 45426. .

- SEJ/HS -

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL !

The address labels for this issue of *NOTES* includes a date after the names of the annual members. The date indicates the full year through which your dues are paid. A form is included in each issue of *NOTES* to enable persons to join or renew memberships. Please feel free to use the form, or to share it with a friend. (See page 7)

- Franklin Buie, Treasurer

RECEIVE NOTES BY E-MAIL?

We are surveying members to determine interest in receiving issues of these *NOTES* as a PDF document by e-mail that may be read on a computer screen or printed by the recipient as desired. The exercise would save the Society at least 75 cents per issue for each one sent by e-mail, but only if a sufficient number of persons are interested. So far, we know of 22 members who would like this service. If you would like to sign up for *NOTES* by e-mail, send a message to Frank Buie, Treasurer, at fbbuie@sc.rr.com. We will let you know as soon as possible if we will inaugurate this service. If we do, subscribers will be asked to keep their addresses up-to-date!

fbbuie@sc.rr.com

We are sending *NOTES* by first class mail now, as the bulk mail service was far less than satisfactory. Please let us know if you are receiving the mailings on time! And please, keep us up-to-date on your USPS addresses as well!

- Franklin Buie, Treasurer
- SEJ/HS -

(Reprinted from April 18, 2008 issue of Wesleyan Christian Advocate ...

NEW ARTHUR MOORE METHODIST MUSEUM DIRECTOR GIVES UPDATE

by Judi Fergus

Did you know that the South Georgia Conference owns and operates a museum and library?

The Museum continues to be a resource not only for the South Georgia Conference but also for people throughout the world. Thousands of people come in to tour, conduct research or hear a lecture or special program. In 2007, just a few of the many visitors we had included:

- 98 groups from the South Georgia Conference including confirmation classes, summer campers and other groups.
- 25 groups from Florida and 20 groups from North Georgia with 19 from other areas of the country.
- 2969 total participants in the Museum's educational programs.

Last year the focus was the celebration of Charles Wesley's 300th birthday. This culminated with a Charles Wesley Festival hosted by Epworth By The Sea and Moore Methodist Museum from September 27th to 29th. The Museum staff arranged to get Dr. S T Kimbrough and Dr. Richard Heitzenrater as keynote speakers. The festival of music, poetry, and history was a huge success with many events at standing room only.

We want to expand and enhance our displays with a yearly display project. An elevator is being installed in the rotunda, which will allow us to make our upstairs rooms available to our patrons and will give the museum the ability to increase exhibit space. One of our upstairs rooms is being prepared to depict a minister's study at the turn of the century, including period furniture and fixtures. Also on the upper floor is a room dedicated to Volunteers in Mission.

There are articles from mission trips including scrapbooks of pictures and items reflecting the countries where George and Cora Herndon served as missionaries.

This year, our new exhibit will be focused on the history and ministry of the circuit riders. The circuit riders were vital in the expansion of Methodism, particularly under the guidance of Francis Asbury. The exhibit will include a touch-screen computer kiosk which will have an interactive game as well as other circuit rider memorabilia. The exhibit will be important as we welcome children in confirmation classes and summer camps.

The former director, Mary Vice, retired from the Museum at the end of 2007. She had been the director for nine years and with her tireless dedication and just plain hard work, brought many improvements and additions to the museum, library, and archives. Mary began the process of computerizing the museum's collection and records. Mary's husband, John (Bo), also was instrumental in coordinating volunteers and help in so many ways, including portraying Francis Asbury at the last moment. The new director is Judi Fergus with Jane Thompson as assistant director and Jan Smith as museum assistant. Our main volunteer is the Rev. David Ogletree, a native of Perry, Georgia. It has been his lifelong dream to be one-site as the Museum since he first visited Epworth By The Sea in 1950. He is a retired member of the North Georgia Conference, having served 33 years with the Atlanta First UM Church. Rev. Ogletree says he takes joy in having provided his extensive Wesleyana, rare Methodist books, and creche collections, which are housed in the Museum. The staff welcomes the opportunity to speak to your church or church group, particularly about your church history and archives or Methodist history.

I encourage you, your family, and congregation to help the Museum continue to grow in ministry and service. Here are some possibilities: Become a volunteer! Don't live in

the coastal area? The museum has lodging available for volunteers at no charge! Join the Friends of the Museum and invite others to join. Be sure your church contributes 100% of the annual conference apportionment for the Museum. Invite a representative of the Museum to speak or present a historical program in your church. Encourage contributions of historical items to the Museum in your estate planning. Do you have or know of artifacts to be included in our current or future exhibits? Take a group from your church to tour the Museum ... learn first-hand about our church's great history and be inspired for faithful discipleship. May your own faithfulness become church history to inspire generations to come. Contact Judi Fergus at 911-634-4050 or at mmm_lib@bellsouth.net.

Editorial Note: SEJ/HS NEWS NOTES would welcome an article like the above one from any of our historical centers in Annual Conferences of the Jurisdiction.

- SEJ/HS -

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

If the records are correct at the Heritage Center, the following Annual Conferences plan to host our annual Historical meetings. Note on your calendar that our 2009 meeting will be June 29-July 2 at Lambuth Inn, Lake Junaluska. It will include a celebration of the 20th anniversary of The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church, established on the occasion of the 1st Historical Convocation at Lambuth in 1989. We will host the Historical Society officers and members as a part of our annual meeting. Watch for further program details!

2010 - Red Bird Missionary Conference
2011 - Mississippi Conference
2012 - Tennessee Conference
2013 -

It is not too early for other Conferences to step forward for future years.

- SEJ/HS -

PROPOSED FRIENDS OF THE HERITAGE CENTER GROUP

At their most recent meeting, the SEJ Commission on Archives and History endorsed the idea of starting a Friends of the Heritage Center group. Nell Thrift, chairperson, would welcome suggestions and assistance in fleshing out this proposal with purpose statement, bylaws, officers, meetings, etc (See Directory in this issue on how to contact Nell.)

Mary and Bo Vice have contributed \$1,000 to be life members of this new support group. WE are grateful for their idea for this Friends group - and for their initial membership. - AWS

- SEJ/HS -

ART'S ATTIC

Ye Olde Editor's Comments

About This and That From Here and There

A. Joice Elam, our part-time assistant and librarian at The Heritage Center for over 5 years has resigned, effective May 24th. Her husband's health requires a growing amount of her time. All our members and friends who have worked with Joice know what a blessing her faithful and effective work has been for us. Thank you very, very much, Joice!

B. A new copier has been purchased by the SEJ Commission for the Heritage Center.

C. The Heritage Center has a set of 12 volumes of the old Interpreter's Bible (1952) in good condition for sale at \$100 (plus shipping). Check in with us for this good buy. Many pastors find the old set more useful than the new edition for their preaching preparation.

Remember too that the Heritage Center has a second-hand collection of books for sale at very reasonable prices.

The Center is always grateful for annual conference journals from our jurisdiction, and we make any extra copies available to interested persons. Stop in the Center every time you visit at the Lake.

D. Visiting archivist LaVere Webster cleaned and varnished the portrait of George Stuart in the Heritage Center. We are in the process of having it properly framed and protected.

E. Somewhere recently I read a statement that went something like this: "Bearers of memory bring the past forward and invoke renewal in the Church." How true! Do you think of yourself as a bearer of memory and called to the task of witnessing for the enrichment of our common life in the Church of Jesus Christ?

F. Bill Lowry, Lake Junaluska historian, continues his steady work on a major definitive history of the Lake. He is using much of the archival material that he gathered and organized in the Heritage Center in recent years. His goal is to complete the manuscript this fall.

G. The new lighting in our museum area is in place with the generous financial aid of the cookbook committee of the Woman's Club and the Junaluskans. The new lights required new tracks which our regular budget has provided.

H. Dependent on the funding approved for the SEJ Commission on Archives and History for the 2009-2012 at the July session of the Jurisdictional Conference, the Commission will be seeking to fill the position of Director of the SEJ Commission and Heritage Center. It has been vacant since the resignation of Kim Boyd in January, 2007.

I. Work continues on the second edition of Joe Lasley's book on *Names and Places at Lake Junaluska* which we hope to publish very soon. Gerry Reiff has edited and updated the 1993 printing. Watch for further information.

J. Everyone is learning a new way to arrive at events at Lake Junaluska. You stop at the Bethea Welcome Center regardless of where you will be staying.

K. Rachel Suggs, who has been working at the Center for over 4 years, has begun her full-time

summer position with us..

L. The Friends of the World Methodist Museum have their annual dinner meeting in the Terrace Hotel auditorium at Lake Junaluska on Friday evening, July 11 at 6:00 pm. The program will feature Lynette Danskin from Oklahoma portraying Susanna Wesley. Our readers are welcome to attend by making advance registrations with Dianne Mills at 828-456-9432, extension 4, and driving home from our annual meeting in Athens by way of the Lake.

M. One thousand three-hundred seventy-three (1,373) confirmands and their leaders visited the Heritage Center during the six events sponsored by the Intentional Growth Center. In addition, other confirmation classes from other churches have scheduled visits independently. The youth and their leaders participate in a treasure hunt to discover our Methodist heritage as revealed in the Museum exhibits.

N. Though I have not finished reading it, I want to commend a new book by Martin Marty, *The Christian World (The Modern World, 2007)*. Its subtitle "A Global History" suggests a broad painting of church history with renewed attention to the nature of the church globally. Dr. Marty is helping me see the story of the Church beyond Methodism in a fresh perspective. A good read for me when I am tempted to think the church began with John Wesley and continues within the bounds of Methodism.

O. I look forward to greeting many of you at our annual meeting at Tennessee Wesleyan. One concern that I will bring will be the need to keep the Heritage Center informed about the leaders, names and addresses, of your Annual Conference Commissions and Historical Societies as you reorganize for the 2009-2012 quadrennium. .

- Art Swarthout Acting Editor
and Interim Director of the Heritage Center

SEJ HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2007 - 2008

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P.O. Box 1165, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745 828 - 452 - 2881 ext. 781 heritage@sejumc.org

ANNUAL CONFERENCE EVENTS CALENDAR.

2008

Friday - North Georgia 20th Spiritual Weekend - Mountain Christian Ashram, Young
Sunday, Harris, GA. Sponsored by Young Harris College and area churches.
June 6 - 8 For program brochure and registration form, contact" Mrs. Dot Manchester,
1146 Wesley Mountain Drive, Blairsville, GA 30512, (706) 745-9029

Saturday, Western North Carolina Historical Society Annual Meeting - SEJ Heritage
June 7 Center, Lake Junaluska, NC (Time to be announced)

Saturday, Holston Conference Historical Society - Tazewell UM Church, Tazewell, TN
October 18

2009

Saturday, Holston Conference Historical Society - Trenton UM Church, Trenton, GA

YOU are invited to submit dates and details for this calendar to the Editor as far in advance as possible.

IS IT TIME YOU JOINED THE SOCIETY OR RENEWED
YOUR MEMBERSHIP - OR GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP ?

THE SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION _____ NEW or _____ RENEWAL

Your Name (please print) _____

Mailing Address _____

Zip Plus _____ - _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ Your Annual Conference _____

CHECK ONE: Year (\$10.00) _____ 2 Year (\$ 18.00) _____ 3 Year (\$ 25.00)
(2009) (2009 - 2010) (2009 - 2010 - 2011)

Sustaining Member (\$25.00 per year) _____ Life Member (\$ 100) _____

Please make your check payable to: SEJ Historical Society

Mail to the Treasurer: Franklin Buie, 209 Jabay Drive, Columbia, SC 29229

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ORDER FOR ANNUAL PROCEEDINGS

_____ 2008 (Athens, TN)
_____ 2007 (Chevy Chase, MD) _____ 2006 (Durham, NC)
_____ 2005 (Charleston, SC) _____ 2004 (St. Simons Island, GA)

Complete Name and Mailing Address on the form above to receive your Proceedings.

Please enclose check payable to: SEJ Historical Society for \$ 7.00 for each copy of the Proceedings you order. Price includes mailing cost. Mail to: Franklin Buie (address above).

* * * * *

**SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FOR SEJHS NOTES
FOR INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS NOT SEEKING MEMBERSHIP**

Subscription: \$ 5.00 per year. Indicate number of years desired: _____ x \$ 5.00 = \$ _____

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SEJ/HS NOTES

SEJ Heritage Center

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Art Swarthout, absvarthout@bellsouth.net
P. O. Box 268, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745
Our next issue: August, 2008
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D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

2008

Tuesday - Friday, July 8 - 11 SEJ HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, TN (Program and registration form in this issue!)

Monday - Friday, July 14 - 18 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, Lake Junaluska, NC

Friday - Saturday, September 12 - 13 Conference Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of The United Methodist Church - "Methodism AND Pietist: Retrieving The EUB Heritage" at United Theological Seminary, Trotwood, OH (See article in this issue)

Monday - Tuesday, November 10 - 11 SEJ Commission on Archives and History, Lake Junaluska

Tuesday - Wednesday, November 11-12 SEJ Historical Society Executive Committee, Lake Junaluska

2009

Monday - Thursday, June 29 - July 2 SEJ HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, at Lambuth Inn at Lake Junaluska, NC (hosting the 20th Anniversary Meeting of The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church)

Wednesday - Thursday, November 11-12 SEJ Historical Society Executive Committee, Lake Junaluska

Thursday - Friday, November 12 - 13 SEJ Commission on Archives and History, Lake Junaluska

Friday - Sunday, November 13 - 15 HERITAGE PRESERVATION WORKSHOP, Lake Junaluska

See the new Calendar of Annual Conference meetings and activities in this issue. Please send us dates and details of your events as early as possible to be included in future issues...