



Then & Now

Vol. 7

A monthly update for Florida Baptist Historical Society Board of Directors and friends

No. 5

June 2008



Directors

Lulrick Balzora
Coral Springs

Joe Butler
Orange Park

Jean Ducanis
Hollywood

Judith Jolly
Dade City

Thomas Kinchen
Graceville

Carolyn Melton
Chairman
Greensboro

Guy Sanders
New Port Richey

Frances Shaw
Jacksonville

John Sullivan
Jacksonville

Jerry Windsor
Sec. Treas.

Penny Baumgardner
Secretary

Dear Board Members and Friends of FBHS,

Wright Baptist Church at Ft. Walton Beach celebrated their 50th Anniversary on Sunday, May 18, 2008 and Jerry Mae and I enjoyed being with them. Jim Hardwick, a doctoral student at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary was here doing research last week and has made some break through in Florida Baptist history discoveries that will be documented in his forthcoming dissertation. As Baptists prepare for their 400th Anniversary celebration in 2009 there will be more and more researchers using our facilities. We are fortunate to be a part of the Baptist College of Florida Library holdings. President Tom Kinchen and librarian John Shaffett do everything they can to make sure the Baptist College of Florida and the Florida Baptist Historical Society present the best place possible for Baptist deposits, reading and research. We are so grateful for their assistance.

The Alibi (Archivists, Librarians in Baptist Institutions) meeting in Macon and the Baptist History and Heritage meeting in Atlanta were excellent times for learning and fellowship. I tell the Alibi group that I learn more by osmosis from them than I could ever pick up any other way.

It is a truth that the Baptist historical directors in our adjoining states are some of the finest people in the world to work with. Laura Botts in Georgia and Lonette Berg in Alabama are the best of friends and highly professional in all they do. Most of our good ideas come from them. Elizabeth Wells in Alabama and Arlette Copeland in Georgia are research friends that know as much about "early" Florida Baptist pioneers as we do. How wonderful it is to have tri-state relationships with these wonderful people.

Bill Sumners at the Southern Baptist History, library and archives collection in Nashville is a go to person. Edie Jeter at the International Mission Board is an archivist that will dig until she gets an answer. Charles DeWeese and Pam Durso at Baptist History and Heritage in Atlanta are also great soldiers of Baptist research and writing. All of these people and an introduction to their work may be found on their websites.

With all these wonderful scholarly assets we all should look forward to excellent Baptist publications in our 2009 celebration.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33



2007 Alibi Officers (L to R) Bill Sumners (Nashville), Kent Millwood (Anderson University), Elizabeth Wells (Samford University), Naomi Taplin (Baptist General Convention of Texas)



Three wonderful friends in Baptist research. Lonette Berg (Alabama), Laura Botts (Georgia), Alan Lefever (Texas)



2008 Alibi officers. Bill Sumners (Nashville), Kent Millwood (Anderson University), Jason Fowler (Southern Seminary), Eldonna DeWeese (Southwest Baptist University)