



# Then & Now

Vol. 6

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

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Dear Board Members and friends of FBHS,

There are certain meetings that inform me tremendously in my work. It just so happens that these meetings are in March-June primarily. Let me share with you some of these networking times that feed what we are trying to do at FBHS.

In March I attended the Florida Conference of Historians meeting in Orlando. This organization views Florida from an I-4 perspective. I work each day with rural, historical-anglo north Florida, but the FCH focuses on Hispanic urban impact in central and south Florida. My appreciation for small urban colleges and pin-pointed early Florida research is greatly enhanced by this group.

In April the Alabama Historical Society meets. Their primary research is in 1800s religious and social issues. I have just returned from that meeting and the papers on "Ministerial Families in the 1800s" and "Worship Among Slaves in the Lower Chattahoochee" were particularly pertinent for the research I do.

In April (19-20) we have our own Florida Baptist Historical Society spring meeting (First Baptist Church in Thomasville, Georgia) and we will hear a presentation of the history of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Middle Florida Association. Pastor Harold Reems will deliver this paper on Thursday night at the Mt. Olive Church which is located north of Monticello.

In May I plan to attend the Florida State Board of Missions meeting at Lake Yale (May 24-25) and in June I will attend the Baptist History and Heritage meeting in Campbellsville, Kentucky (June 7-9). The BHH emphasis will be on the contributions that African-American Baptists have made to Baptist work. Also in June (29) there will be a get together of the SBC state convention directors of the various historical societies. The purpose of this meeting (Nashville) will be for networking and making some plans for our 400th year celebration as Baptists in 2009.

In August there will be a Baptist gathering of Baptist history professors, society leaders and Baptist history authors at Charleston, South Carolina. This will bring together about seven different Baptist denominations for dialogue and research presentation.

Baptist work in Florida is relatively new. We have worked for 150 years in the 400-year-old vineyard called "Baptists." Its refreshing and challenging to look at the past and plan for the future.

Our trivia question last month presented some biographical data on Leo Green. He served as pastor at FBC Pensacola and FBC Gainesville. He then became one of our primary Old Testament professors and writers on the seminary level. David Solomon (Tallahassee), Jewelina Richardson (San Diego), Mark Rathel (Graceville), and West Florida Baptist Association employees identified Dr. Green correctly.

The trivia question for this month is: Name the smallest church to ever host the Florida Baptist State Convention? Call (850) 263-9080 with the correct answer for a neat gift.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
*Matthew 6:33*