



# Then & Now

Vol. 6

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

No. 5

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Dear Board Members and friends of FBHS,

The Florida Baptist Historical website is up and running with 8,775 hits so far. The website provides an ongoing opportunity of information-sharing and dialogue. Numerous Google customers find our site and thereby hangs an interesting story.

Virginia Cowherd Love of Chattanooga, Tennessee found her mother's name on our website. Her mother was Marian Peeler. Marian married Rufus Gray while they were at Southern Seminary in 1939. They then went to China as Southern Baptist foreign missionaries and Rufus later died in a Japanese internment camp in 1942. Virginia has consented to write a monograph of the life of her mother and her mission service in China and Indonesia. We hope to publish this wonderful story of love, commitment, sacrifice and missions in early spring.

Another contact we have made is with Charlotte, the daughter of Charles Bray Williams. This contact may also produce a very important monograph. Dr. Williams (1869-1952) is the only Florida Baptist to produce a New Testament translation (Williams translation, 1937). Charlotte now lives in Montreat, North Carolina, and is going to assist us in producing a monograph on the work of her father.

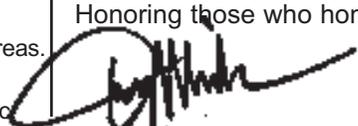
The trivia question last month was: Name the smallest church to ever host the Florida Baptist State Convention. The answer was: The Concord Church of present day Middle Florida Association. Today the Concord Church has 135 total members, but in 1855 when they hosted the Florida Baptist Convention, they had 37 members!

The trivia question for this month is: Can you name the Florida Baptist pastor who was the father of the Sunday School "Action Plan." If you can name him, call (850) 263-9080 for a gift. The "Action Plan" was a dynamic enrollment tool that worked and brought much excitement to Sunday Schools across the Southern Baptist Convention in the 1970s.

Due to the fact that all of us are part-time at the Florida Baptist Historical Society there is an obvious turn over in help and assistance. However, we receive excellent benefits from the hard work and good ideas of these employees. Laura Garner and Trent Gann are recent graduates of BCF. Joanne Bennett has moved on to full-time employment, and we appreciate all the work these folks have done.

We are grateful for the Jerry Wallace Lee family for giving us his correspondence and sermons for our Florida Baptist research files. We are also grateful for Donald Minshew, pastor of Wellborn Baptist Church for giving us a copy of the "History of the Namibia Baptist Mission, 1967-1977."

Honoring those who honor Christ,

  
Jerry M. Windsor  
Secretary-Treasurer

Matthew 6:33



Left to Right: Laura Garner, Jerry Windsor, Joanne Bennett, Trent Gann, Jan Cunningham



Chairman Carolyn Melton presents a gift of appreciation to Laura Watford for her serving on the FBHS Board of Directors