



# Here & Now

Vol. 2

An update for Florida Baptist Historical Society Board of Directors and friends

No. 2

May, 2010



## Directors

Joe Butler  
Chairman  
Orange Park

Elaine Coats  
Fernandina Beach

Clysta De Armas  
Port Charlotte

Don Graham  
Graceville

Thomas Kinchen  
Graceville

Dori Nelson  
Miami

Paul Robinson  
Pensacola

Guy Sanders  
New Port Richey

John Sullivan  
Jacksonville

Jerry Windsor  
Sec. Treas.



Penny Baumgardner  
Secretary

Dear Board Members and Friends of the Florida Baptist Historical Society,

The 2010 FBHS spring meeting in Madison was very interesting. Phil Heard presented an excellent paper on the History of Pine Grove Church. Phil and Dorothy Heard are two of our best partners on Middle Florida research and always do a good job with what ever they undertake. What would we do without Gene and Geraldine Stokes? They set up our lunch arrangements at Divine Events and were the very best host and hostess we could have had in any association.

Pastor Ferrell Morris led FBC, Madison in celebrating their 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the weekend of our meeting and Jerry Mae and I had the joy of being with that great church. Jean McWilliams did a wonderful job with the "History of First Baptist Madison" and the private hymn fest for the FBHS Board in the 1898 auditorium by Waunita Regans was special.

Chairman Joe Butler guided us through our agenda and welcomed new board members Elaine Coats (Fernandina Beach), Dori Nelson (Miami) and Paul Robinson (Pensacola). Don Hepburn (Florida Baptists and WWII) and Jerry Windsor (Carlton Watson Todd) read papers and Rob Story had a helpful presentation of the digitizing of the Middle Florida and some Florida Associational minutes. Elaine Coats and Paul Robinson showed up with arms and hands in protective braces and slings. We do want to wish them Godspeed in their recovery and thank them for their faithful efforts in making our spring meeting.



Stain glass window  
FBC, Madison,  
1898 Auditorium



L to R Dori Nelson (Miami) and  
Elaine Coats (Fernandina Beach)

Our prayers need to be made on behalf of Scott and Dori Nelson upon the death of Scott's father near Chicago in Indiana. Scott and Dori had to make an emergency trip there and have returned to Miami but remember them as you pray. When you work on a Christian Board of Directors there is some kind of spiritual family ties that are very important.

In that our Children's Home marker is in place in Arcadia it was decided to prioritize the possible placing of more historical markers. If you have suggestions for marker locations please let me know. Lakeland (beginning of BCF), Monticello, Mt. Olive (motion made in 1853 to start up the FBC), Quincy (Providence, first Baptist Sunday School in state in 1843), Lake City (Columbia College), Palatka (Baptism and first sermon of Billy Graham) are possibilities that would bear more research and development.

We now have 1,112 different books in our Convention Book collection. Penny Baumgardner is working on a list of the books we don't have. We will make this list available for you this summer so you can assist in locating some needed volumes. The official Convention Press series just goes from 1955-2005 but we also seek earlier books from the Sunday School Board and Foreign Mission Board items published.

We decided to keep the idea of the sermon contest open for discussion and seek out better ways of nudging the PR. One source would be a partnership with the Baptist College of Florida in this area. Ideas are still being floated on this possibility.

Our next Board meeting will be November 8, 2010, at the Embassy Suites in Brandon. An Olan Mills connection at the state convention in Brandon (November 8-9) is being pursued. Pastors could have their pictures made at no charge and fill out a biographical sketch for us. There are a few hoops to jump through but this could happen and would be a win-win situation.

We look forward to our fall journal on the subject of "They Came Preaching". It will be an overview of the life and work of about seven men who personally spent at least 50 years in preaching, teaching homiletics, teaching pastoral ministries or work in evangelism. There will be some contrasting research done on "teaching versus doing" and specific areas of expertise (C. Roy Angell: illustrations etc.)

Remember to visit our web site for some helpful Baptist historical updates. When in the BCF and Graceville area please take the time for us to give you a tour of our offices and our artifact, written and microfilm holdings. Come and see us. Lunch is on us if you let us know in advance.

Honoring those who honor Christ,



Jerry M. Windsor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Matthew 6:33



L to R Jerry and Jerry Mae Windsor  
Phil and Dot Heard



Painting of R. J. Mays mansion owned by Jan Smith, a descendent of R. J. Mays. Painted by a student at North Florida Community College-2009



Jean McWilliams, Chairperson of the Historical Committee, FBC, Madison