



# Then & Now

Vol. 7

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

No. 1

January 2008



## Directors

Lulrick Balzora  
Coral Springs

Joe Butler  
Lake City

Judith Jolly  
Pensacola

Thomas Kinchen  
Graceville

Carolyn Melton  
Chairman  
Greensboro

Guy Sanders  
New Port Richey

Frances Shaw  
Jacksonville

John Sullivan  
Jacksonville

Reginald Walters  
Miami

Jerry Windsor  
Sec. Treas.

Penny Baumgardner  
Secretary

Dear Board Members and Friends of FBHS,

In Baptist Historical Society work you always are looking for the "silver bullet". It's the thing that opens the door to other possibilities and the mother of all problem solvers. Obviously this kind of thing by it's very definition is a rare and definable moment. That kind of opportunity came when Jerry Mae and I spent time at the Baptist Building in Jacksonville and viewed their hundreds of copies of associational minutes. It was a bonanza experience. The best general collection of Florida Baptist associational minutes (microfilm, photostat, hard copy, CD, DVD, photocopy) would be the FBHS collection at the Baptist College of Florida. However by far the next best collection of Florida Baptist associational minutes are in the Baptist Building at Jacksonville.

Each of these two collections has their own benefits. The best microfilm collection is at Graceville. The best hard copy collection is in Jacksonville. The oldest documents are in Graceville but the best bound documents are in Jacksonville. The largest variety is in Graceville but the best minutes since 1900 are in Jacksonville.

The good news is that we certainly have research interest and access to both collections. When you consider all our Florida Baptist associational minute sources (BCF, FBHS, FBSC, SBTS, NOBTS, Southern Baptist Archives, UF, FSU, Stetson, Mercer) we have nearly a complete set of associational minutes.

There is the goal! We want to set as our goal the location of all of our state Baptist Association minutes. The oldest state associational minutes we have is Florida Association, 1845. The oldest hard copy we have is Alachua Association, 1848. The best way to approach this is to make sure we get the new minutes from each association each year. By staying current we can help solve the acquisition problem. For instance the only Alachua Associational minutes we lack are 1912-1917 and 2006. The only Northwest Coast Florida minutes we lack are 1986 and 2006. If you have associational minutes you will donate to our collection please call me at 1-800-328-2660 ex. 428.

We are always pleased when our FBHS membership makes a historical niche. Lifetime member Robert K. Dunaway was kind enough to invite his pastor Bro. Loren Mercer and myself to the institution ceremony for the William Dunaway Chapter of the Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution. It is the first SAR chapter to be formed in Florida since 1989. The new chapter was named after William Dunaway who was a foot soldier present at Yorktown for the Cornwallis surrender. The new chapter President is Harry Dunaway. The Vice President is Robert K. Dunaway. The second Vice President is Fletcher Dunaway and the chaplain is James Dunaway. Robert F. (Kenny), Fletcher and pastor Loren Mercer have been so helpful in establishing Greenwood Baptist Church documents and Silas, Jesse and Joshua Mercer research. Baptist history and USA history are vitally connected. We are grateful to those who "mind the gap".

5400 College Drive \* Graceville, Florida 32440

Telephone: 850-263-3261, Ext. 480 \* E-mail: fbhspt1@baptistcollege.edu \* web: floridabaptisthistory.org

The trivia question this month is name the person who served the longest length of time as WMU corresponding secretary of the Florida Baptist WMU? Call 1-800-328-2660 ex. 428 with the correct answer for a prize.

Honoring those who honor Christ,



Jerry M. Windsor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Matthew 6:33



Sons of American Revolution Chapter inauguration. L to R Kenny Dunaway, Fletcher Dunaway and Harry Dunaway.



SAR inauguration of Dunaway Chapter. L to R Kenny Dunaway, Pastor Loren Mercer, and Fletcher Dunaway.



L to R Pastor Loren Mercer, Greenwood Baptist Church, 2008, Charlie Sanders, Mayor of Greenwood.