

Then & Now

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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 is a current advertisement on television where an employee finds out to his dismay that his job provides no French benefits. I am grateful that mine does.

The best French benefit of my job is getting to work with other people. Let me bring you up to speed on my exact feelings on this.

First thing this morning I received a phone call from Edgar Cooper. Dr. Cooper is 87 years of age and served as the Editor of the *Florida Baptist Witness* from 1970-1983. He is retired and living in Jacksonville. How good it was to visit with him about the time he worked with the *Witness*.

We continue to be in touch with Ed Markert of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Ed is the great-grandson of E. H. Rennolds who is the father of the Florida Baptist Historical Society. Ed and his son have provided us with pictures and family records relating to Edwin Hansford Rennolds, Sr. (1839-1912) that we had not seen before. We are planning on publishing some Rennolds history in our 2006 fall journal so this family contact has been invaluable for us.

Ruth Osganian of Bradenton has provided us some wonderful materials on her grandfather James Madison Hendry (1839-1922). Her grandfather was a third Seminole War and Civil War veteran. He was a farmer, postmaster and Baptist preacher. Hendry and his wife had eleven children and four became Baptist preachers. Hendry served nearly all of his ministry in the Peace River Association.

Hugh Cater of the Florida Baptist Convention staff was kind enough to assist us and Calvary Baptist Church in Daytona Beach in retrieving the *Florida Baptist Witness* issues of 1942-1943. The good news is that the 1942-1943 *Witness* issues are the oldest ones we have and we are now binding them for library use. We had bound issues from 1944 through 2005. Therefore the 1942-1943 issues are wonderful editions. (We have the earlier issues on microfilm only).

Please keep us in mind on your old study course books. We are forming a collection of Convention Press books (1897-2006) and realize there are many books out there in your homes, attics, and church libraries. We will soon have a list of our Convention Press holdings online so you can help us fill in the gaps.

Our FBHS Spring meeting is planned for April 27-28 (two nights) at the Bethel Evangelical Church in Fort Lauderdale. Please put this on your calendar.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor Secretary-Treasurer Matthew 6:33



Picture of Mary Ellen Roman, daugher, and Ruth Osganian, granddaughter of Rev. James Madison Hendry on the 99th birthday of Mary Ellen Roman on November 14, 2005.



Rose Scheonbeck, greatgranddaugher and Ruth Osganian, granddaughter of Rev. James Madison Henry pictured withJerry M. Windsor in the library of First Baptist Church Bradenton.

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