



Then & Now

Vol. 4

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

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Dear Board Members and friends of FBHS,

The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives is located in the Executive Committee building in Nashville, Tennessee, adjacent to Lifeway. This organization does excellent work and is headed up by Bill Sumner and his fine staff of coworkers. There are over 25,000 books, 71,000 annuals, and 17,000 microfilm reels there for research. They have just announced a microfilm sale of scores of Baptist documents that they have in duplicate. The FBHS is ordering reels that fill in some important gaps for us (*A Selected Bibliography of Hispanic Baptist History*, 6 reels, etc.). We will keep you informed about this process.

This month I want to highlight a very special pastor in the Florida Baptist Convention. I want us to salute Bro. Ben Jones, pastor of West Park Baptist Church in Jacksonville. Bro. Ben has been pastor of West Park for 57 years and counting. He was born in Pierson, Georgia, on January 17, 1924, and became pastor of the Jacksonville congregation after working for the Seaboard Railroad. He and his wife, Sue, were married for 63 years before she died on May 5, 2005. He is known as the man in the white hat, and at age 81, is still going strong in his pastoral work. He loves his people and they love him. Benjamin Clayton Jones has served as pastor of the same Southern Baptist church longer than any other preacher in the history of our convention. Bro. Ben, I salute you, Bro. Roy, and Ginger for your faithful work there at West Park.

Here is an unusual trivia question for you. What year was the Florida Baptist Convention interrupted by a bomb scare? This happened a number of years ago but there are those who can still recall the event. Call (800) 328-2660, ext. 480 with the correct answer and we will send you a handy gift.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33



Bro. Ben Jones



Bro. Roy Thomas and Bro. Ben Jones



Roy Thomas, Virginia Roundtree, Ben Jones and Jerry Windsor at West Park Baptist Church.

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