



# Then & Now

Vol. 4

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

No. 12

December 2005



## Directors

Lulrick Balzora  
Coral Springs

Joe Butler  
Lake City

Judith Jolly  
Pensacola

Thomas Kinchen  
Graceville

Carolyn Melton  
Chairman  
Greensboro

Frances Shaw  
Jacksonville

John Sullivan  
Jacksonville

Reginald Walters  
Miami

Laura Watford  
Graceville

Jerry Windsor, Sec. Treas.

Jan Cunningham, Sec.

Dear Board Members and friends of FBHS,

Words of appreciation are extended to all who made our fall board meeting in Ocala a very productive session. Thanks are also extended to Jerry Oswalt, Wiley Richards, Don Hepburn, Barbara Denman, and Mark Rathel for research and writing in our volume seven of *The Journal of Florida Baptist History*.

Our trivia question last month was to name two Southern Baptist football coaches in Florida on the Division 1A level in football. There may be others but Bobby Bowden at FSU and Larry Coker at the University of Miami are members of Southern Baptist churches. Both are highly respected and appreciated in their work.

Our new web site can be accessed rather easily now and we would be happy to hear any feedback from our members and readers. Go to [www.floridabaptisthistory.org](http://www.floridabaptisthistory.org) for an overview on our progress. Don Hepburn and Jan Cunningham have worked hard to bring this site about and I am grateful. This can really help us in serving our churches.

A recent correspondence has proven to be a real thrill. We have recently received information from Carson Brittain of Gainesville. Carson was 90 years old this past June and he is the son of Charles Mercer Brittain (1873-1943) who served as the fourth executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention. Carson and his wife have had a wonderful ministry themselves. Carson retired from active pastoral ministry in 1978 when he was serving as pastor of Ancient City Baptist Church in Saint Augustine. Since that time, he and his wife have served in 23 interim pastorates and as mission volunteers in the Netherlands and Indonesia. They give God the praise and glory for their good years of ministry and service.

Already we are receiving some Convention Press Study Course books for our new collection. Gene Stokes in Madison Association; Max and Sue Laseter in Chipley, and Tim Shoemaker in Greenville have donated some excellent resources. This is a unique collection. We are not aware of any one else in the Southern Baptist Convention doing this. We feel this is the core of our theological belief system because so many of our people in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s did not have an opportunity to go to college but they were eager for self improvement and studied these study course books in their homes and churches. Of course this continued into the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s with January Bible Studies and Sunday School teacher training. The 1980s 1990s and 2000s have brought us doctrinal studies and leadership series. This should end up being an outstanding collection. Remember us with your old study course books. The older the better.

The trivia question for this month is in honor of a deceased friend to many of us. What Florida Baptist pastor eventually served as president of the Texas Baptist Convention, North Carolina Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention? Call us at (800) 328-2660, ext 480 with the correct answer and a helpful gift will be sent to you.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
*Matthew 6:33*



1943 photograph  
of trivia subject.