



Here & Now

Vol. 3

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

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Sec. Treas.



Penny Baumgardner
Secretary

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

Friends are very important in this ministry and Gene and Geraldine Stokes have been wonderful friends and research associates through the years. Gene and Geraldine are retiring this month after their faithful work as DOM and secretary of the Middle Florida Baptist Association. They gathered some very important books for a donation to our historical society and I was able to go by and pick them up on the way to the Palatka spring board meeting. We have many more books donated than we have to purchase and this is a helpful contribution to our holdings and some kind relief for our budget.

Appreciation is extended to Guy Sanders for representing the FBHS at Athens Baptist Church at Ft. Meade on their 100th celebration and thanks to Don Hepburn who represented the FBHS at Old Plank Road Baptist Church in Jacksonville on their 50th Anniversary. Framed certificates were presented to each church.

Another Florida Baptist Historical Society marker was dedicated on April 9, 2011, at Bostwick Baptist Church near Palatka. David Eddins is pastor of the church and this special marker was placed to commemorate the time and place that Billy Graham preached his first sermon on Easter Sunday night, March 28, 1937.

Guy Sanders led the service and Don Bailey represented The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

A special time of gospel presentation and prayer highlighted the marker dedication. More than 100 people were present for the ceremony and luncheon.

Billy Graham was baptized at nearby Silver Lake and was ordained at Peniel Baptist Church, which is on Silver Lake Drive in Palatka. Peniel Baptist is also in the St. Johns River Baptist Association.



Looking at Billy Graham historical marker wording

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Florrie Wilkinson Hoeltzel and her sister were present in the 1937 service. David and Paula Eddins and the people at Bostwick were wonderful hosts for our marker dedication.

The next historical marker dedication is set for July 10, 2011, when a marker will be dedicated at Olive Baptist Church near Monticello, to note the place where the motion was made in 1853 to organize the Florida Baptist Convention.

Honoring those who honor Christ,



Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33



Persons present for the marker dedication included (seated L to R) Florrie Wilkinson Hoeltzel, who was present when Graham preached his first sermon; Paula Eddins, Bostwick Baptist; (standing L to R) Joe Butler, Director of Missions, Black Creek Baptist Association; Jerry Windsor, FBHS; Asa Greear, Director of Missions, St. Johns River Baptist Association; Don Bailey, BGEA; Guy Sanders, FBHS.

The Bostwick Baptist Church is about eight miles from Palatka and is a member of the St. Johns River Baptist Association.

