



Then & Now

Vol. 6

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

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Dear Board Members and Friends of FBHS,

Welcome to Dana B. Thompson of Oak Hill, Florida. Dana is lifetime member number 38 and we are glad to have her on board. Thanks to Carolyn Melton our Board of Directors chair for coming by for a visit. Carolyn, Penny and I were able to look at some plans, trends and forecasts together. Board members live all across our state and it is actually a rare privilege to have them visit our office.

The wonderful meeting of the state Baptist historical society directors has opened a flood gate of good news and possibilities. The newest example of a grand happening is the publication of Albert Wardin's *The Twelve Baptist Tribes in the USA*. The subtitle is 'A Historical and Statistical Analysis'. This book has 12 chapters and is the best insight into the organizational structures of the 53 or more Baptist groups in the United States. Dr. Wardin notes that there are now 28 million Baptists in the United States with 53 denominations or groups and 95,000 Baptist congregations in 3,036 of the 3,141 counties in our country. The largest Baptist denomination in the United States is the Southern Baptist Convention (16 million members, 42,000 churches) and the smallest Baptist denomination in the United States is the General Six Principle Baptists (15 members, one church). Dr. Wardin takes the 12 general Baptist tribes and writes about their history, theology, culture and impact on our society. The professional color graphics are (pp. 153-168) worth the price of the book. If you want to know about Baptist history in the United States in 2007 this is the book to own. On page 126 the Baptist groups in Florida are listed with their number of churches. You may order this book from the Baptist History and Heritage Society, 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30341. The cost of the book is \$24.95 plus \$6.50 postage.

Last month our trivia question was: Who was the Baptist preacher who served as baseball team chaplain in spring training for the Dodgers, Royals, Rangers and Expos, who sketched a picture of each player and then gave them a Bible verse? The answer is Sayer J. Canova, who served as pastor at FBC White Springs, FBC Jasper and 20 years at FBC Edgewater.

The trivia question for this month is: Name a Florida Baptist association that has more missions than churches? If you know the answer call 850-263-9028 for a helpful gift.

Honoring those who honor Christ,

Jerry M. Windsor
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew 6:33