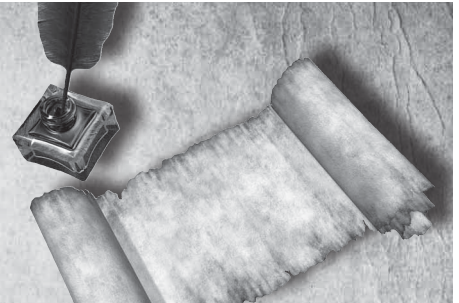


HISTORIAN'S DIGEST



Volume 49, Number 4

Fall, 2009

2010 Annual Meeting to Feature Chloe Clark Willson, First American Teacher in Puget Sound

The Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History will host the 2010 annual meeting of the HSUMC at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, WA, from July 19-22. One of the highlights of the meeting will be the celebration of a new, life-sized memorial to Chloe Clark Willson, the first American woman to teach in the Northwest. Clark was born in East Windsor, CT, in 1818, attended Wilbraham Academy in Wilbraham, MA, and traveled to Oregon in 1839, at age 21, to serve at Jason Lee's Willamette Mission, which was featured at our 2001 Annual Meeting which was held in Salem, OR.

Seattle Pacific University professors, Priscilla Pope Levinson and Doug Strong, will be making presentations on African American women evangelists, Amanda Berry Smith, Emma Roy, and Julia Foote. Participants will hear about David and Catherine Blaine, first pastor and teacher in the Seattle area and David LeSourd, one of Tacoma's first pastors and founder of the University of Puget Sound. There will be a scenic ferry ride, a Salmon dinner and Native American presentation, and a day-long tour to Steilacoom and Nisqually Indian Mission.

Registration is \$185 (\$155 for HSUMC members) which includes membership in the HSUMC, the scenic ferry ride and salmon dinner and Wednesday's tour and lunch. Housing is available at Seattle Pacific University for \$37/night/double/triple and \$45/single. The meal package is \$68. Two motel choices are also available for a somewhat higher cost. Registration information and a more detailed program will be available in the Winter issue of *Historian's Digest*. For further information, contact Jim Walker at jdwalk01@aol.com.



Chloe Clark Willson



Bishop Atticus G. Haygood*

Methodist Bishop Who Fought for Civil Rights to be Honored Posthumously

Bishop Atticus G. Haygood received posthumously, on August 14, 2009, a Silver Bowl Award from the International Platform Association (IPA) a lifetime achievement award in education. In addition to the award, DeWard Publishing Company will be releasing a Silver Bowl Award Limited Edition of *Our Brother in Black: His Freedom and His Future*.

Haygood was a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the president of Emory University (1875-1884) and an early leader in civil rights in the South. Not long after Sherman's March to the Sea, he challenged the common attitude toward the role and place of black persons in the region, even though equality among the races was unpopular in the South.

Haygood thanked providence that slavery had been overthrown, extolled the virtues of free labor over slave labor, urged increased industrialization and encouraged people to work industriously to build a new South. It is because of work like this that Haygood is being honored.

The IPA was founded by Daniel Webster in 1831. Other recipients include Winston Churchill, Lyndon B. Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Elizabeth Taylor, Bob Hope, Larry King, Wolf Blitzer, William F. Buckley, Lawrence Spivak, and Pearl Bailey. Pat Boone was also honored at the 2009 ceremony.

DeWard Publishing company, Ltd. was founded by Nathan Ward of Tampa, FL, and Daniel DeGarmo of Chillicothe, OH in 2007. Historical details taken from the preface of *Atticus G. Haygood: At the Crossroads of Change*, by William Haygood Shaker and Marcus Sidney Shaker, scheduled for release in late 2009.

*Used by permission of the Moore Methodist Museum, Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Historical Society of the UMC

Dan Swinson, President
223 North Emerson Street
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056-2509
djswinson@wowway.com

Jim Morris, Vice President
1103 Joshua Avenue
Creston IA 50801
641-782-2715
mjmorris_jm@hotmail.com

Barbara Essen, Secretary
P.O. Box 655
Pomeroy, WA 99347
509-843-1212 (h)
bessen@peoplepc.com

Charles Yrigoyen, Treasurer
950 Willow Valley Lakes Dr., #I-106
Willow Street PA 17584-9663
717-464-3276
jyrigoyen@cs.com

Patricia J. Thompson, Editor
P. O. Box 538
Morrisville VT 05661
802-888-2185
pajt8817@aol.com

Philip Lawton, Membership
Secretary
P. O. Box 247
Felton DE 19943
philip.lawton@dol.net

Program Committee:
Carol Roszell
crozell@txwes.edu

Linda Schramm
lars@greatlakes.net

Rob Sledge
rsledge@mcm.edu

Chris Shoemaker
brothershoe@zebra.net

Please send address changes to Phil Lawton. Editorial correspondence should be directed to Pat Thompson. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is September 1, 2009.

Historian's Digest is published quarterly by the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

Letter from the President

Recently I drove to Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, from the northwest Chicago suburbs. I took Dempster Street through several suburbs and into the heart of Evanston. I wondered along the way how many of the hundreds of thousands of residents who use that thoroughfare knew that it was named for John Dempster, a founder of Garrett Biblical Institute (as well as Boston University School of Theology).

As I entered Evanston, passing Asbury and Wesley Streets, not to mention Orrington, Foster, Haven, Garrett, et al., I wondered how many, even among Evanston's United Methodists, are aware of how deeply imbued their history is by mid-nineteenth century American Methodism, exemplified in the town's namesake, John Evans. Evans was a physician by training, and a politician and entrepreneur of considerable skill, particularly in real estate and railroads. Philanthropy was his Methodist noblesse oblige. He was an influential Trustee in Northwestern University. Like many progressive Methodists of his time, he saw the advance of his faith and of the nation as naturally intertwined.

With this vision, Evan's Evanston became a place of educational enterprises like the Evanston College for Ladies and Kendall College, as well as Northwestern University and Garrett-ETS. It witnessed the reform energies of Francis Willard, Methodist head of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and, until recently, the only woman honored with a statue in the Hall of Statuary in the Nation's Capital. It showcased the Social Gospel preaching and World War I pacifism of Ernest Fremont Tittle.

The list of distinctions largely unknown, sometimes (as in the case of both Evanston's and Northwestern University's Methodist connections) intentionally downplayed, could go on. But the influence remains, in more than street names. Those mid-nineteenth century Methodists shaped Church and nation in ways that still touch us.

As you receive this edition of *Historian's Digest*, we will be passing through seasons of memory and gratitude for both country and Church. Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and New Year's will invite reflection and renewal. You who are members of the Historical Society or who receive this publication because of an interest in history, you know the histories of United Methodism. In your region, you know the sites, the buildings, the street names, the organizations, and all of the other echoes of our past that are in your care.

I would invite you to use the seasons of remembrance as an avenue to celebrate what you know and share it with others. As the General Commission's web site recalls the Christmas Conference, let us recall the histories all around us, both those far past and those in the making, in memory and gratitude.

And, as a personal word, I would urge us to honor those who have gone before with accurate memory and sober gratitude. We do not need plaster heroes on pedestals, but flesh-and-blood human beings whose accomplishments are the more remarkable because they came from folks sharing the full measure of the strengths and weaknesses of their time and culture, as well as the imperatives of their faith. The testimony of a Dempster or a Willard is not diminished by the recollection of their human limitations, even their miscalculations. Their good and Godly deeds shine brighter, not dimmer, in the full context of their lives.

For instance, if Evans' Methodism helped create an Evanston we should remember and celebrate, it also led him to become the Civil War governor of Colorado Territory in 1862 (a position offered at the behest of Bishop Matthew Simpson, not least because it would forward Methodist missions in the Colorado country). Two years later he would be censured by Congress because of the actions of another Methodist, John M. Chivington, commander of the forces at the Sand Creek massacre. In the complex of power and politics that followed, he was forced to resign. The heady stuff that accompanied the march of nation and Church in Evan's Methodist vision did not always lead to beneficent endings or a neatly defined heroism. The stains could be deep and lasting.

Yet there is so much to celebrate. Many do not know about the schools that they attend, the hospitals that they frequent, the buildings by which they pass, even the streets on which they travel. We should remind them. It is part of the ministry of memory in our care. They need to hear. Let us tell them.

Yours on Dempster Street,

Dan Swinson

From the General Secretary of GCAH:

The General Commission on Archives and History held its annual meeting at Drew University, Madison, NJ, on September 10-12. Thirty-four chairpersons of conference Commissions on Archives and History also attended. Worship experiences included sharing in the Eucharist lead by Dr. Paula Gilbert using the Philip William Otterbein chalice and having the Asbury Bible placed on the communion table; a reflection about life stories by Doug Scott; and worship on Sunday morning at John St. Church in New York City.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Bishop Forrest Stith for his distinctive and tireless leadership of the African American Methodist Heritage Center. The close working relationship of the Commission with the Center is helping to move forward its work in collecting materials, developing satellite centers for displays, and offering training events. The evening program was a celebratory moment that included the Pan African Choir of Drew University and a sterling address on the paradoxes of African American history in the Methodist tradition by Bishop Stith.

The business of the commission was handled efficiently under the leadership of Bishop John Schol, president. Careful consideration was given to the report of the Committee for the Elimination of Institutional Discrimination. Questions explored included: does the list of Heritage Landmarks and Historic Sites adequately reflect the diversity of the church? How can the commission provide scholarship help for racial ethnic persons considering a career in archival work? How do we proactively seek to increase the holdings for minority groups and assist in the writing of their histories?

An interesting artifact was shared by Larry Homitsky, a pastor in the Western Pennsylvania Conference. It was a hand carved table of Indian teak wood which was presented to the General Conference of 1904. The table has carved into it a map of India, medallions of John Wesley, Thomas Coke, William Butler, and James M. Thoburn. Through a circuitous journey the table is in the possession of a local church but Larry found papers in the desk that brought this story to light. It reminds us of the great missionary work in India and that there are stories all about us waiting to be discovered.

A session with the chairpersons of conference commissions explored a wide range of topics, including landmarks and sites, the program of placing markers on clergy graves, some provisions in the Discipline, navigating the web site, and other topics.

Next year, the Commission will hold its annual meeting in conjunction with a meeting of the European Historical Commission and Historical Conference in Budapest, Hungary in August 2010. This will be the first time the Commission has met outside the United States. It will be critical in supporting the European work and forging relationships with annual conference leadership.

Bob Williams

New Dues Structure

At the 2009 Annual Meeting of the HSUMC, Robert Williams, General Secretary of GCAH, announced that as of the October issue of *Methodist History*, the publication will now be available online for those who so choose to receive it electronically. As a result, the HSUMC voted to change its dues structure to take this into account. As of January, 2010, the new dues structure will be:

Without MH (i.e., receiving Methodist History online):

\$20 for an individual; \$18 for joint membership
\$30 for family and institution; \$27.00 for joint family membership
Benefactor - still \$100 (\$80 receipt for tax purposes)

With paper copy of MH:

\$30 for an individual; \$27.00 for joint membership
\$36.00 for family and institution;
\$32.40 for joint family membership
Benefactor - still \$100 (with \$70 tax exemption)



- January 16, 2010 Copperhill UMC, Copperhill, TN
- March 26-27, 2010: Annual Meeting of the Texas United Methodist Historical Society, at First UMC, Lubbock, Texas
- July 19-23, 2010: Joint meeting of HSUMC with Western Jurisdictional Archives and History, Seattle, WA
- July 21-24, 2011: HSUMC annual meeting, in conjunction with the 7th Historical Convocation, Oklahoma City, OK.
- May 15-16, 2012: Joint meeting of HSUMC with Northeastern Jurisdictional Archives and History, Gettysburg PA.

Around the Country

Beginning with this issue of Historian's Digest, those United Methodist Historical Societies for whom we have e-mail addresses, are being contacted and asked to contribute items which might be of interest to other UM historical societies around the country. Since this is the newsletter of the Historical Society for the whole United Methodist Church, this should be a place to exchange ideas, share items of interest, and even submit questions for which your society might be seeking answers. We are also seeking short (between 750 and 1000 word) articles regarding current research which members and friends of United Methodist history might be pursuing. So, it is the editor's hope that we will begin to receive such items as those described above for upcoming issues of the Digest.

In response to my request for this issue, I received a copy of the Texas UMHS summer newsletter. This was the first regular newsletter that was being sent out electronically. If others of you are sending your newsletters electronically, please include the Historian's Digest editor on your mailing list. Please let us hear the exciting things that are happening in United Methodist history around the country.

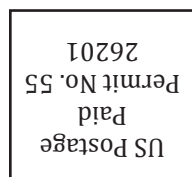
Two interesting projects sponsored by the TUMHS are an essay contest and local church history awards.

The essay contest is for students enrolled in college, university, seminary, or graduate school with an interest in Texas Methodist history for which a cash prize is awarded. The 2009 contest winner was Eric Nichols, a student at Perkins School of Theology, SMU for his essay on "Robert S. Hyer's Methodist Vision," For more information contact Dr. Gary Nall at 7206 Versailles Drive, Amarillo, TX 79121; gnall@att.net.

One of the highlights of Texas UMHS annual meeting is the announcement of the winners of the Kate Warnick Award winners for best local church histories published during the preceding year. This year's winners came from Simpson United Methodist Church in Austin and from Mason County. Awards are given for small, medium, and large churches.

Bill Hardt, the editor of the TUMHS newsletter also writes a weekly column, This Week in Texas Methodist History? It may be accessed at <http://txmethhistory.blogspot.com>. Note that it is in the form of a blog. Your comments and corrections are welcome.

Please let us know what you are doing in your Historical Society.



Historian's Digest
c/o Jane Donovan
3710 Swallowtail Drive
Morgantown WV 25608-8821