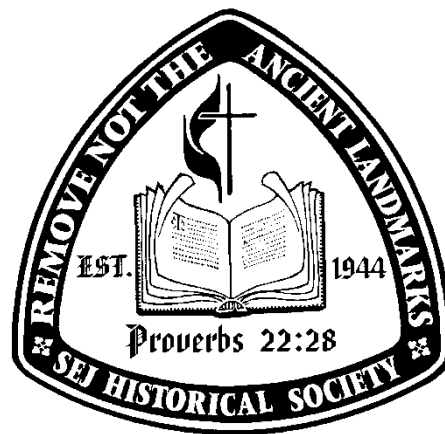


# SEJ / HS NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Volume 17

APRIL, 2017

Number 1

## The President's Message

Greetings, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. The year is fast passing by, and even though Spring has just made its debut, we find ourselves anticipating Summer's events and activities. As the people of God called Methodists, we are preparing for local church charge conferences, district pre-conference briefings, meetings of staff-pastor-parish committees, anticipation of pastoral appointments, and finally annual conferences. We come together each year as a connectional people, for worship, celebration, inspiration, and preparation for the coming year. Our commission from our Lord and Savior, and our mission as a church is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world". And we keep journals and other historical records of all our activities, ministries and events... including those of the pastors and laity involved in carrying out our "mission"!

The United Methodist Church has a long history of ministry in America. Our initial beginnings date back to the Methodist movement in England, led by the Wesleys in the 1730's. Then through immigrants to the colonies like Strawbridge, Embury, Heck, Webb, Boardman and Pilmore in the 1760's', the Methodist movement was established and began to spread. In the 1770's John Wesley sent Richard Wright and Frances Asbury to America to support the growing number of societies. The dates 1773 and 1784 represent the beginning of "conferencing" and the formal organization of Methodism in America.

Soon, as the population of America continued to grow, settlers began crossing the eastern mountains, and heading West, and the lay leaders and circuit riders followed them, sharing the gospel and establishing churches. So, for almost 250 years, we have sought to fulfill the 'commissions' under which we serve. Thus, long ago "the collecting, preserving, and making accessible the historically significant records" of Methodism at all levels of organization was deemed necessary and important. Therefore, there was written into *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* that there shall be a Commission on Archives and History. In addition, there may be a Historical Society of the United Methodist Church, to encourage and promote interest in the study and preservation of our history.

Unfortunately, participation and interest in things historical seems to have waned over the last few years. As the denomination has aged, the number of historians, archivists, and students interested in Methodist history has been dwindling away. We have been fortunate in the Southeastern Jurisdiction to have had strong leadership and interest. I am hopeful we can continue to encourage the organization and support of annual conference historical societies and the participation of their officers and members at the jurisdictional level.

Our current Membership Coordinator for the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society (SEJ HS) is Franklin Buie. He is an avid historian and long-time participant in the "ministry of memory" at all levels. In this edition of the SEJ HS NOTES,

Franklin is providing membership information and materials for joining, as encouragement to those who are not already members of the SEJ HS. We would also encourage your copying and distributing this info to historical commission members, local church historians, etc. and friends with an interest in United Methodist History.

We have a yearly meeting of the SEJ HS in one of the annual conferences of the jurisdiction. This summer's session will be held at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, KY, June 25-28, 2017. Planning and preparation for our meeting is being carried out by Grace Yoder, Archivist at Asbury, and Vice-President of the SEJ HS. Registration and program materials are included in this edition of the NOTES. I hope you will join us.

Looking ahead, the 2018 meeting of the SEJ HS will be held in Historic Williamsburg, VA. Planning is underway for that session, under the leadership of Rev. John T. Martin. Look for information regarding the dates and program in future editions of the NOTES.

**PRAYER CONCERN:** In closing, I regret to announce the resignation of our SEJ HS Treasurer, Jerry Williams, of Lena, MS. Due to his deteriorating health situation, Jerry felt it was time to pass this responsibility on to someone else. Jerry has been an active member of the SEJ HS for many years. We are deeply appreciative of his service and participation, and his representing the Mississippi Conference Historical Society in the SEJ. I know we will all keep Jerry and his family in our thoughts and prayers going forward.

May we continue to pray for one another, and for the "ministries of memory" we represent in these societies and commissions of the United Methodist Church.

Your servant in Christ,  
Leland Thornburg Carden, Jr.

## Historic Site Marker #515

Standing on the campus lawn outside Annie Pheiffer Chapel of Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida, is the newest of our United Methodist Historic Site Markers - #515. It was



dedicated on a delightfully sunny March 31, 2017 in a wonderful worship of dedication. The Reverend Alfred T. Day III, General Secretary of the General Commission on Archives and History, gave the message as about 75 people gathered at the end of the college's Founder's Day Convocation, commemorating the 132<sup>nd</sup> year of FSC. He shared



Frank Lloyd Wright's vision when he began working on his buildings on the campus of a "college of the future" growing out of the ground and into the light, and what Florida Southern has become and the men and women who have attended here. To remember all the happenings of these years, Rev. Day brought to us an "Ebenezer"; and with the familiar hymn and the lesson of Samuel from Scripture, he reminded us of the importance to our faith and witness of this simple monument – United Methodist Historic Site Marker #515 – of what God has done here in this special place of learning and growth, and continues to do.



## Heritage Sunday – 2017

An invitation to Heritage Sunday, May 21, 2017: “Milestones” – Calling Local Churches to Discover and Celebrate Their History. Heritage Sunday is set aside for remembering our legacy as United Methodists. This year’s approach to Heritage Sunday is a bit different. It gives congregations an opportunity to uncover, examine, celebrate and take inspiration from their local church’s story. A congregation’s history – in parts or as a whole – is an untapped resource. What can a church do for Heritage Sunday, 2017?

- Select a particular event or program that meant a lot and remember and celebrate it
- Highlight some of the long-time members of the congregation
- Highlight the Sunday Church School classes

For more ideas and resources go to [www.gcah.org](http://www.gcah.org) – the General Commission on Archives & History.

sejhs notes

## Heritage Preservation Workshop

The SEJ Commission on Archives and History will sponsor a Heritage Preservation workshop Friday-Saturday, November 16-17, 2017, at Lake Junaluska. The topics to be discussed include how to do living history presentations, writing a church history, and how to create an oral history program. Further details and registration information will be published in the next issue of the SEJHS Notes. Put these dates on your calendar now and make plans to attend!

sejhs notes

## SEJ Commission on Archives and History

The SEJ Commission on Archives and History met at Lake Junaluska November 10-11, 2016. As this was the first meeting of the quadrennium, and with seventy-five percent of the members being new, we introduced ourselves, learned of the work and ministry of the Commission, and had a discussion with Dr. Jack Ewing, Executive

Director of the Lake Junaluska Assembly, on “Good Governance.” The Commission was divided into committees, who then reported back to the Commission. Among the actions taken were: to send an Advent Fundraising letter in 2016 and a Fundraising newsletter in 2017, the approval of a budget for 2017, approval of a sabbatical leave for the Director in January 2017, approval of a new web site for the Commission, and approval of a Heritage Preservation Workshop to be held November 17-18, 2017 at Lake Junaluska. (Details of this workshop are elsewhere in this newsletter.) The Commission will meet again on November 16-17, 2017 at Lake Junaluska.

sejhs notes

## Next Year’s SEJHS Annual Meeting Destination: Williamsburg, Virginia

The Virginia Conference Historical Society will host the 2018 Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society Annual Meeting, July 17-20, 2018 in Williamsburg, Virginia. The theme for the event will be *Religious Liberty in the Historical Advance of Virginia Methodism* with emphasis on the Colonial Era; the Old Brunswick Circuit; the Eastern Shore and other regions. There will also be a celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Uniting Conference with particular emphasis on the Central Jurisdiction and the Evangelical United Brethren. Special speakers will address each of these aspects of our Wesleyan Heritage in Virginia.

The four-day event will include tours of Colonial Williamsburg and the Jamestown Settlement with historical interpreters along the way. There will be special music – including a concert performance the evening of the Uniting Conference celebration - banquets and plenty of time for fellowship with folks from throughout the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

---Rev. John T. Martin, Jr.

sejhs notes

## Remembering Two SEJ Leaders

### DR. THOMAS HAROLD CROWDER, JR.

Dr. Thomas Harold Crowder, Jr., a long-time faithful member of the SEJ Historical Society, entered the more immediate presence of the Lord on Monday, March 27, 2017. Harold was a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Duke University Medical School. A pediatrician, Harold served as Captain in the US Air Force as Chief of pediatrics at Burderop Park Hospital in Swindon, England, then practiced medicine at the Fuller-Roberts Clinic in South Boston, VA for thirty-nine years, until his retirement in September 1999.

Harold was an amateur scholar of John Wesley, and had a lifelong pursuit of collecting Wesley and Methodist memorabilia. For years his collection of busts of John Wesley was on display in the World Methodist Museum at Lake Junaluska.

Harold was an active member of the SEJ Historical Society for many years, having attended more than twenty-five meetings between 1965 and 2011. He served as First Vice-President from 1972-76, as an At-Large member of the Executive Committee from 1976-78, and as Co-Secretary (with his wife Thelma) from 2000-04. Harold presented "Collecting Wesleyanna" at the Society's 2004 meeting. At the Society's 2009 meeting Harold and Thelma were both named Honorary Members. Dr. Crowder also served as a member of the SEJ Commission on Archives and History from 1996-2004, representing the Virginia Annual Conference.

Dr. Crowder is survived by his wife of sixty years, Thelma, four children, six grandchildren, and a sister-in-law. We thank God for the life and friendship of Harold Crowder, and remember his family in their time of grief and loss.

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### DR. JIMMY LEE CARR

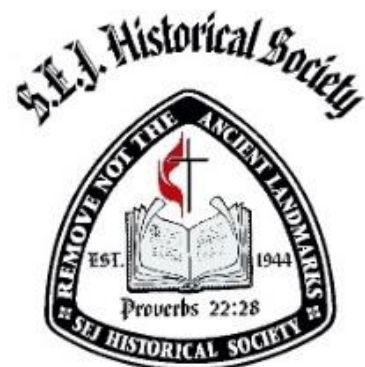
Dr. Jimmy Lee Carr, a former Executive Director of the Lake Junaluska Assembly from 2000-2010, entered into the more immediate presence of the Lord on Saturday, March 18, 2017. An Ordained Deacon in the Mississippi Annual Conference, Jimmy was a Christian Educator for many years and served as Associate General Secretary of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the UMC before being named as Executive Director at Lake Junaluska in 2000. As Executive Director, he worked closely with the Director of the Heritage Center and the Chair of the SEJ Commission on Archives and History and was helpful in many ways.

Dr. Carr is survived by his wife of fifty years, Joy Carr, three children, four grandchildren, and two brothers. We thank God for the life and ministry of Jimmy Carr, and remember his family in their time of grief and loss.

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In our October 2016, issue, we listed those who had been remembered during the Memorial Service at the summer's SEJ/Historical Society's Annual Meeting. This name of **Elizabeth Hare Lasley** of the Western North Carolina Conference was inadvertently left off the list at printing.

---Editor's apologies



## MEMBERSHIP FORM REVISED

Long-time readers will note that the **Membership Form** included in this issue of *Notes* has changed!

One important change to note: a place to mark your preference for delivery of this newsletter. New and renewing members may simply mark their preference as well as make sure we have your correct e-mail if that is what you would like. Anyone may send Frank Buie an e-mail to state your preference, with or without the form. Frank's e-mail and street addresses are on the form.

Also, we have included space for Life and Honorary members to make donations. We occasionally receive checks from Life and Honorary members paying dues! We have treated these remittances as donations – with great appreciation – but worry if some think they are required.

Another addition provides for gift memberships. If you have a friend you think would like to know more about the SEJ Historical Society, why not donate a year's membership?

The Form may be used to make corrections, but a simple e-mail to the Membership Secretary will suffice. The address is on the form.

## ADDRESS LABEL INFORMATION

A date is included on your address label to indicate the last year your paid membership includes. If it reads 2016 or earlier and you wish to continue as a member, please use the Membership Form or a copy to renew. An e-mail message to provide the information will be sufficient; send the check then, and we will match them up!

Annual Members included in the e-mail list will receive a message from the Membership Secretary concerning their status later this spring.

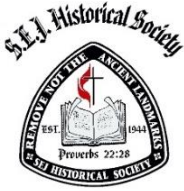
## COMMISSION MEMBERS ADDED TO MAILING LIST

All individuals serving on Conference Commission on Archives and History were added to the mailing list by the Executive Committee last November, effective with this edition. Welcome, new readers!

This essentially doubled the numbers and prompted a survey to find as many as possible to receive the newsletter by e-mail. We have requested preferences from over 240 names. We will note the preferences of those who have responded to an e-mail request for preferences. Non-responding individuals will initially receive this newsletter as PDF in e-mail and may request a change by e-mail or letter.

People who serve on Annual Conference Commissions on Archives and History receive complimentary subscriptions to this newsletter – provided we have their addresses! We have lists of commission members in most Annual Conferences and the SEJ Commission. If you live in an Annual Conference without a Commission on Archives and History, please help us acquire a current list of your *de facto* historians! (And include their e-mail addresses as well as their street addresses.)

# IS IT TIME TO JOIN THE SEJ HISTORICAL SOCIETY – TO RENEW OR GIVE A MEMBERSHIP TO A FRIEND?



Annual memberships in the SEJ Historical Society follow the calendar year, but dues paid after September apply to the next year, as all general activities have ended for the current year. Lapsed memberships are easily renewed: send in your dues for the current year! Honorary and Life Memberships do not expire, but gifts are most welcome! Friends who currently serve on United Methodist Annual Conference Commissions on Archives and History are granted complimentary subscriptions to *SEJ HS NOTES* and invited to join the Society.

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## Individual Membership */// Address Correction* *\\ Gift to the Society*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(For E-Mail newsletter and SEJ HS use only. WILL NOT BE SHARED!)

I WOULD LIKE THE NEWSLETTER SENT TO ME BY: E-MAIL \_\_\_\_ FIRST CLASS USPS \_\_\_\_

ANNUAL CONFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

*THIS IS A GIFT MEMBERSHIP, PAID BY* \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

*DONOR'S E-MAIL* \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

ONE YEAR \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ TWO YEARS \$27 \_\_\_\_\_ THREE YEARS \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ GIFT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$200 \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY MEMBERS AND BISHOPS COMPLIMENTARY**

### LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERS

LIFE  HONORARY  ADDRESS UPDATE \_\_\_\_\_ GIFT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SEJ HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

SEND THIS FORM (OR COPY) ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK, TO:

REV. FRANKLIN BUIE 209 JABAY DRIVE COLUMBIA, SC 29229-4348

OR

E-MAIL INFORMATION TO [fbbuie@umcsc.org](mailto:fbbuie@umcsc.org) AND SEND THE CHECK TO ADDRESS ABOVE.

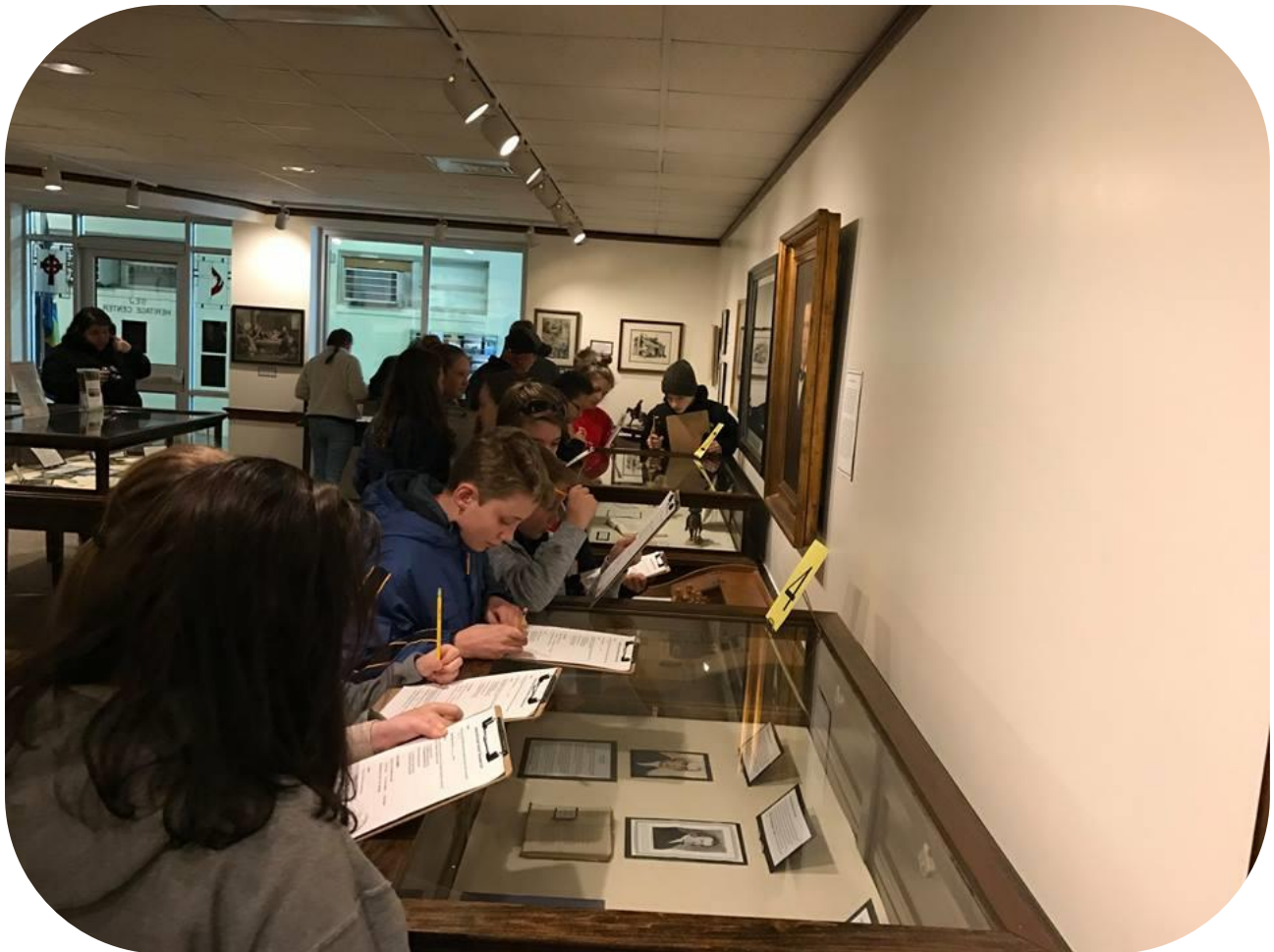
TO CORRECT ANY ADDRESS OR TO DISCONTINUE MEMBERSHIP: E-MAIL [fbbuie@umcsc.org](mailto:fbbuie@umcsc.org)

## Notes from Nancy

After a typically slow winter here at Lake Junaluska, the pace accelerated “from 0 to 60” at the beginning of March. Confirmation retreat weekends sponsored by the Intentional Growth Center, plus visits from individual church groups, are bringing an average of 175 youth and their leaders through the Heritage Center on most Saturdays through April 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is a privilege to work with these youth.

Although the pace was slow for a while, something very important happened in February! The SEJ Committee on Coordination and Accountability and the SEJ Committee on Finance and Administration approved the funding of a part time staff position at the Heritage Center for the specific purpose of processing the backlog of SEJ-related records in our collection. The 15 hour per week position is funded for 12 months with the possibility of renewal for an additional year. Ms. Whitley Albury of Waynesville, NC has been chosen for this position and will begin work on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Whitley will graduate on May 12th with a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is currently serving an internship at the Western Office of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in Asheville. Whitley comes highly recommended and she is excited about this opportunity to put her classwork and internship experience to work. If you are at Lake Junaluska, please stop by and welcome Whitley!



A confirmation group that visited recently.  
They are participating in our United Methodist History Treasure Hunt activity.  
--- Photo by Mary Bates.

## SEJ/HS NOTES

SEJ Heritage Center

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

SEJ/HS NOTES is a semi-annual letter of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society of the United Methodist Church. Items for publication should be sent to the Editor. Next issue: OCTOBER, 2017  
Copy due: Wednesday, September 27th

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