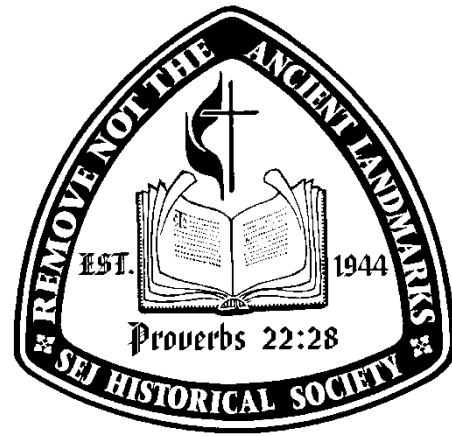


SEJ / HS NOTES

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



Volume 17

OCTOBER, 2017

Number 2

The President's Message

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It's hard to believe that five months have passed since the last newsletter, and to comprehend all of the events and activities we have experienced. The months keep slipping away, and day by day the events of our lives became another page in our histories. So much has happened in the world, in our society, in the life of the Church, and in our individual lives in just a few short months.

In the last edition of SEJ/NOTES, I reported the resignation of our Treasurer, the Rev. Jerry Williams of Lena, MS due to a deteriorating health situation. For those who may not have heard, Jerry (age 76) entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior on the 27th of April, just a few weeks after publication. Jerry, with several degrees in accounting and economics including a PhD, and a CPA, had a long and varied career in state government. While serving in these many different capacities, he also answered a call to ministry, and served as a local pastor in several charges in Mississippi, and received the Denman Evangelism Award. He served for several years as Chairperson of the Mississippi Conference Commission on Archives and History. He was also a 50 year member of the Masonic Order. We are deeply appreciative of his service to God, to his state and community, and to the SEJHS. May we prayerfully continue to remember his family, friends, and associates.

With the resignation of Rev. Williams as Treasurer, and with the permission of the Executive Committee, Franklin Buie, a former SEJHS Treasurer was asked to serve as Interim Treasurer until the annual meeting in Wilmore, KY. I am deeply appreciative of the many days and hours Franklin committed to transitioning our financial matters from MS to SC, and bringing everything up-to-date prior to our June meeting in KY. I am also thankful for the assistance and guidance of Roger Gramling during this interim period.

The 2017 Meeting of the SEJHS was convened June 25th, at Asbury Theological Seminary, in Wilmore, KY. Ms. Grace Yoder, Vice-President of the SEJHS, and Archivist of Special Collections in the ATS Library is to be commended for her planning and organization for our



annual gathering. The Asbury campus in the rolling hills of central Kentucky was a beautiful location, and the hospitality of the Asbury community was outstanding. I know that going into this Grace was quite apprehensive, as she had never planned and prepared for an event like this. Our Annual Meeting was a great success! Thank you Grace, for your efforts and commitment, and thanks for the support given by the staff of Asbury Seminary and the Kentucky Conference. The agenda was well-organized, with excellent presenters: Dr. Anne Mathews-Youne, "The Life and Ministry of E. Stanley Jones" (her grandfather); "The International Ashram Movement" and "Stories from Mabel

Lossing Jones". Foster Ockerman, presented "The First Methodist Conference in Kentucky". Paul Whalen, presented, "Gone But Not Forgotten: A Survey of 19th Century Kentucky Educational Institutions"; and on the last evening, Dr. Robert Danielson, Archeologist, who presented "On the Bend of the River: Bethel Academy and G. Herbert Livingston". Two Field Trips were offered to participants: "Kentucky Underground" an abandoned limestone mine now used for storage of documents, goods, and other properties; and a trip to Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, KY (Shaker Town), the restored village preserving the history of the Shakers in KY. A complete record of our meeting will be available in the 2017 Proceedings.

Due to the resignation, of Rev. Jerry Williams, it was necessary for us to elect a new Treasurer. A nominating committee was appointed, and after consultation presented Mrs. Linda Collier, from the Tennessee Conference as the nominee for this office. She was elected by acclamation to serve (2017-2019). The Steering Committee also elected Rev. Carl Casey as Representative to the Executive Committee to serve (2017-2019). The members of the Society elected Mrs. Becky Buie as Representative to the Steering Committee (2017-2019). The Nominating Committee (Leah Pittard, Carleton Casey, and Bob George) will present nominations to the Society when we meet in Virginia, for President, Vice-President, and Secretary for (2018-2020).

Matters of Concern:

I'm sure we are all aware of the drastic changes taking place in our society with regard to historical matters. The recent demonstrations and calls for removal of statues and other symbols of our past, especially in our area of responsibility - the Southeastern United States, raises questions and concerns for those of us involved in the preservation of history. What affect this will have on the church and its history is yet to be determined, but as the Methodist Church has long been one of the principal participants in the area of social concerns, this is an area we need to be praying about.

An area of more immediate concern for several of our annual conferences and local communities is the damage being wrought by the current seasons hurricanes... Harvey and particularly Irma. Let us be in prayer for these communities and their people during these trying times. The wind and water damages being experienced throughout the South, with the

accompanying flooding (Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina) has surely affected many church properties, and historical sites. The protection and preservation of historical records and artifacts is problematic under normal conditions. We can only hope and pray that the winds and waters have not done too much damage.

May I encourage annual conference Historical Societies and Commissions on Archives and History to be proactive in seeking out those persons on your areas with an interest in church history and preservation as members of the SEJHS. Especially those from later generations (e.g., millennials). As we all age in place, we must find replacements to maintain and preserve our history.

Pray for the Executive Committee as we prepare for our Fall meeting at the Heritage Center in November. 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 T. Carden, Jr.



-sejhs notes-

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Special Greetings

Alfred Day, Chair, General Commission on Archives and History

We received special greetings from Alfred Day, Chair of General Commission on Archives and History in late April. He was sorry he, or others from the commission, weren't able to join us at Asbury in June, as they were attending the National Historical Society gathering in Alaska. (As were others from our SEJ – see article later in issue)

He encouraged us to “like” the GCAH’s Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/UMCHistory) and the GCAH’s e-newsletter (contact Michelle at mmerkel@gcah.org or Jay at jrollins@gcah.org to be mailing).

SEJHS Annual Meeting 2017
Grace Yoder, Vice President

The 2017 SEJHS annual meeting was held in Lexington, Kentucky, at Asbury Theological Seminary. It was hosted by the Archives and Special Collections department at the B.L. Fisher Library. The theme of the event was “The Lives and Legacies of E. Stanley and Mabel Jones and the Impacts and Influences of Kentucky Methodism”. There were over fifty people in attendance and, judging from the comments received, “a good time was had by all”.



Special events included a tour of Kentucky Underground Storage, a tour and lunch at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill and a tour of the Special Collections and Archives at the B.L. Fisher Library. There were also special exhibits on some of our speaker’s topics.



Our main speaker was Dr. Anne Mathews-Younes, granddaughter of E. Stanley and Mable Jones. She was wonderful at sharing with us some insight into the lives and influences of her grandparents. We also heard from Foster Ockerman about the first Methodist conference in Kentucky, Paul Whalen spoke to us about Methodism’s contribution to higher education in Kentucky and Dr. Robbie Danielson spoke to us about Francis



Asbury’s Bethel Academy. Dr. Danielson challenged us as historians and archivists with his reflections on “how we do history, how we think about history as archivists, and how we think about history as archaeologists”.

If you missed being at the meeting this year, or attended and would like to revisit the speaker’s sessions again, they can be found at: <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/do/search/?q=sejhs&start=0&context=24358168&facet=>

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Treasurer’s Report

Linda Collier, Treasurer

I have been elected treasurer for the SEJ Historical Society for a two year term at our annual meeting in June. I am secretary of the Tennessee Conference’s Commission on Archives and History, treasurer of the Tennessee Conference Historical Society and curator of the Asbury-Babb House in Lebanon, TN.



I have been asked to explain the income and expenses of the SEJ Historical Society. The main income for the Society comes from membership dues. All SEJ Conference Commissions on Archives and History or the equivalent are asked to contribute \$200 annually. Alabama-West Florida, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Alabama, North Carolina, North Georgia, South Carolina, South Georgia, Tennessee/Memphis, and Western North Carolina have done so. All SEJ Conference Historical Societies are asked to contribute \$100 annually. Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Georgia, Tennessee, and Western North Carolina have done so. Virginia has combined their Commission and Society and contributes \$300. The rest of the membership dues comes from individuals. The one year dues is \$15, two years is \$27, three years is \$40 and life membership is \$125. Other income comes from our annual meeting in the form of registration fees and orders for copies of the proceedings along with a dedicated worship offering. Honoraria, donations and interest on our reserve funds make up the balance of our income.



We have unexpected income of \$621.83 to the Society from our annual meeting this year. Not only did the Kentucky Conference not ask for the \$750 that was available to them for programming, but Asbury Theological Seminary, the host site, graciously donated the expense of the whole banquet. Attendees had paid \$10 per person for their share of the cost of the banquet. The Society is most appreciative of the donation.

Our main expenses for the Society are the expenses for travel. The \$200 paid by the Conference Commissions and the \$100 paid by the Conference Historical Societies are earmarked for travel expenses. When paid for that year, the Chair of the Commission and the President of the Historical Society (or a designated representative of the Commission and Historical Society) will receive a check for either \$120 for Commission or \$60 for Historical Society to attend the SEJ HS Steering Committee meeting at the annual meeting site that year. The balance of \$80 and \$40 respectively, pays the Executive Committee's travel expenses for the summer and fall meetings. However, some Executive Committee members donate their expenses. Other expenses include the cost of the semi-annual *SEJ/HS Notes*, any extra cost of the annual meeting proceedings over the income received and the cost of office supplies and postage. \$750 is available to the host conference to offset their cost of programming for the annual meeting. If enough funds are available, a donation as generous as possible is made to the SEJ Heritage Center each year. Life memberships are deposited in the reserve funds to earn interest. The annual worship offering is designated by those in attendance at the annual meeting.

I hope this helps explain where our money comes from and where it goes. If you have any questions regarding membership dues, please email Frank Buie, our Membership Secretary, at fbbuie@hotmail.com or call him at 803-865-2121. (See Membership articles)

Remembering a SEJ Leader

Our former Treasurer, the Rev. Jerry Williams of Lena, MS, entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior on April 27, 2017; he was 76. Jerry had several degrees in accounting and economics, including a PhD and a CPA, and served in state government. He answered a call to ministry, and served as a local pastor in several charges in Mississippi, and received the Denman Evangelism Award. For several years, he served as Chairperson of the Mississippi Conference Commission on Archives and History. We are deeply appreciative of his service to God and to the SEJHS. May we prayerfully continue to remember his family, friends, and associates.

-sejhs notes-

-sejhs notes-

Items From the SEJ Commission on Archives and History Chair...

Jim Pyatt, Chairperson SEJ Commission

The SEJ Commission on Archives and History will have their annual meeting November 16-17, 2017 at Lake Junaluska. During this meeting we will hear about the ministries at The Heritage Center, approve the 2018 budget, work on publicity of The Heritage Center, complete preparations for the workshop on November 17-18 (if needed), prepare for future workshops, and deal with other business as needed. All SEJ Commission members are urged to be present.

Historical Society of The United Methodist Church

“MERGING STREAMS” - Celebrating the United Methodist Church’s 50th Anniversary is the theme of the joint meeting of the Historical Society of the UMC, the North Central Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History, the Wesleyan Historical Society, the Charles Wesley Society, and the General Commission on Archives and History, and will be held July 9-12, 2018 at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH. Themes to be addressed include pietism, transatlantic revivalism, the EUB legacy in United Methodism, and the end of the Central Jurisdiction. Everyone is encouraged to put these dates on your calendar now and make plans to attend.

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National Historical Society’s June Gather

Ivan Corban, Florida Conference and President Historical Society of the UMC

Apparently many other folks from Florida traveled to Alaska this past summer to visit many natural wonders that make up one of our last true wilderness states in our union. Including Ivan Corbin and his wife, Debbie, who made their first journey to Alaska in June to attend the combined meeting of the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History and the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

Our meeting was based at Alaska Pacific University (formerly Alaska Methodist University) in Anchorage where we heard from our General Secretary of the GCAH, Reverend Fred Day, and many other speakers sharing on topics about the United Methodist



Church in general and specific missions and ministries of the Alaska Missionary Conference, historical information about the Western Jurisdiction and Alaska and had the opportunity to visit several UM congregations, an Athabascan/Russian Orthodox mission, a musk ox farm, and many other interesting sights relating to the church and cultures in Alaska.

One of the churches we visited was First UMC of Anchorage which also hosts a vibrant Samoan UM congregation as well. The dinner and program were put on by the Samoan congregation. We learned that there is a large population of Samoans in Anchorage and that until 1994 not one Wesleyan based or Methodist congregation existed, yet Methodism has been a part of Samoa since 1827 when the Tongans introduced it to the Samoans. We also learned that Anchorage and greater Alaska has attracted immigrants from all over the world looking for work and new opportunities for



a better life, bringing with them many traditions and cultural ways that have made Alaska quite a northwestern melting pot.



We feasted on native Alaskan cuisine at Christ First United Methodist Church in Wasilla where we also heard from newly arrived Pastor Dan Wilcox about the UM Church in Unalaska, the westernmost UMC in the world. A visit earlier that day took us to the Jesse Lee Home near Anchorage (now called the Alaska Children's Services, a mission of both the UMC, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the American Baptist Churches, USA.). There we learned about the history of this home that paralleled our own Florida UM Children's home in many ways except that it moved several times before ending up in Anchorage. One of its famous former residents was Benny Benson who entered a contest to design a flag for the Alaska Territory. On July 9, 1927 Benny had the honor of handing Alaska's flag based on his design to the territorial governor to be raised for the first time to fly beneath the American flag. There were many more presentations made about ministries with Native Alaskans, Methodism in California, the ongoing work of the General Commission on Archives and History and so much more that cannot be contained in this brief summary. A special double edition of the Historian's Digest of the Historical Society of the UMC has just been published and should be available soon on the Historical Society's web page to read many more details about this once in a lifetime gathering in Alaska.



details about this once in a lifetime gathering in Alaska.

If you are not already a member of the Historical Society of the UMC, I highly recommend you join and help support the ministry of memory of the entire United Methodist Church. You would receive the quarterly “Historian’s Digest” as part of your membership. Interested? Contact Don Brenneman, Membership Secretary at donald.brenneman@gmail.com for more details. I would also invite you to put next year’s meeting of the Historical Society on your calendars. We will also be noting the anniversary of the end of the Central Jurisdiction. Our web site: <http://www.historicalsocietyunitedmethodistchurch.org/>

It is a privilege to represent the Florida Annual Conference on the Historical Society of the UMC.



...and United Methodist’s!

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-sejhs notes-

Membership Up-dates...

Franklin Buie, Membership Coordinator

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

A new line offers local churches, historical sites and United Methodist institutions opportunity to “join” the SEJ HS for \$25 – more or less a permanent membership – for which each will receive the newsletter by e-mail and share opportunity to submit items for publication. Not that the opportunity is new, but as a participating “member,” each will have more freedom to share news of historical interest concerning their organization.

We include 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.

If you have a friend you think would like to know more about the SEJ Historical Society, why not donate a year’s membership? We will acknowledge your gift by e-mail – but please make sure we have both e-mail and street addresses! We will use the e-mail address first, but will change according to preference.

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.) A membership form is not required, but if anyone wishes officially to join the Society as an Annual or Life member, all are welcome! Use 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 2017 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! All renewals will begin with the current year.

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

E-MAIL DELIVERY SUCCESSFUL!

The spring 2017 edition of SEJ HS NOTES went out in two forms: printed copies by US Mail and PDF copies by e-mail. The change was dramatic and successful! E-mail copies went to 222 individuals, 82 printed copies were mailed.

Where spouses are both members, with each having his/her own e-mail address, each received the edition. With US Mail, they receive one copy. We put the newsletter into more hands at drastically reduced cost! The actual savings is difficult to compute, as we also added the members of the Annual Conference Commissions on Archives and History to the subscription list. At approximately \$0.75 per copy to print and mail, we saved about \$240!



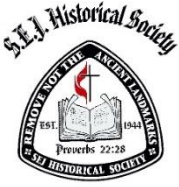
PLEASE REQUEST E-MAIL

If you have e-mail capability, please use that option for this newsletter. A message to Frank Buie at fbbuie@umcsc.org is all that is necessary if you currently receive this newsletter by US Mail. Marking the Membership Form will work for new and renewing members.

Be well assured that the e-mail list will be for the use of the SEJ Historical Society and The Heritage Center only. We will not share the list with others without your individual permission. We also use the “blind carbon copy” (bcc) option for entering addresses, so no one sees the 50 to 100 names in each group. This prevents hackers who may have invaded someone’s computer from having access to addresses in your incoming messages.



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.

Churches, UM Historical Sites and Institutions may officially join to receive and contribute to the newsletter.

Individual/Institution 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!)

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LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$125 _____

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY MEMBERS AND 1 BISHOPS COMPLIMENTARY

INSTITUTION OR LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP \$25 _____ (E-MAIL NEWSLETTER PRIVILEGES)

LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERS

LIFE HONORARY ADDRESS UPDATE _____ GIFT \$ _____

THE SOCIETY INVITES MEMBER INSTITUTIONS TO SHARE NEWS AND INFORMATION WITH ARTICLES FOR SEJ HS NOTES

SEND ITEMS TO LEAH PITTARD, EDITOR rockpitt2@verizon.net

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 and send the check to address above.
to correct any address or to discontinue membership: E-mail fbbuie@umcsc.org

**The Virginia Conference Historical Society
Invites you to join us for
*“Religious Liberty In the
Historical Advance of Virginia Methodism”***

**The 2018 Annual Meeting
Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society
United Methodist Church
In
Williamsburg, Virginia
July 17 – 20, 2018
At the
Williamsburg United Methodist Church**

The theme ““Religious Liberty In the Historical Advance of Virginia Methodism” will emphasis the Colonial Era, the Old Brunswick Church, the Chesapeake and other regions. There will also be a celebration of the 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 fellowship with folks from throughout the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

\$85.00 registration fee includes tours and evening meals; accommodation costs not included. Online registration begins in January. <https://vaumc.org/historicalsociety>

Lodging: I block of rooms has been reserved at the Fairfield Inn, conveniently located near Williamsburg UMC, for the SEJ Historical Society members. In order to get the special group rate, when registering mention that you are with the “SEJ Historical Society”. The rooms are being held for the SEJ until June 17 2018.

FAIRFIELD INN
1402 Richmond Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185
www.fairfieldinnsuiteswilliamsurg.com
757-645-3600 or 888-236-2427

Program schedule of events will be included in the April, 2018 issue of the SEJ/HS NOTES

SEJ/HS NOTES

SEJ Heritage Center

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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