

The Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

APRIL 1, 2009

Vol. 63 No. 7

2008 Yearbook Delayed Supplement to be Provided for 2009 Annual Meeting

by Philip Attebery, President
Baptist Missionary Association
of America

The availability of the 2008 Yearbook will be postponed this year until after the 60th Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America. This is due to several unique and unavoidable circumstances.

The annual yearbook is normally made available in time for messengers to use as a resource during the annual meeting. The book contains information such as the BMA's chronology, constitution, doctrinal statement, departmental, agency, and auxiliary reports, roster of churches, roster of the missionary committee and proceedings of the previous annual meeting.

Most of this information is also available in the BMA Directory and Handbook 2008-2009. Extra copies of this resource will be made available at the during the 60th Annual Meeting in Branson.

A "2008 Yearbook Supplement" will also be provided at the registration table during the meeting in Branson. The recording clerks have prepared this resource to provide our messengers with the proceedings of the 2008 meeting.

The officers hope that these actions will meet the information needs of our messengers adequately and with convenience. Each officer appreciates your understanding and encourages your prayers on behalf of the annual meeting. Remember the theme: Faith, Raising the Sails!

The 60th Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America is scheduled for April 20-22, 2009 in Branson, Missouri.

Search and Rescue efforts underway

LOST – SEACH – RESCUE are very much a part of BMAA churches these days as they prepare for SEARCH AND RESCUE SUNDAY, May 3. Many pastors and churches have ordered promotional materials and are using them to remind their members just how LOST humanity really is.

During the month of March churches are compiling lists of LOST individuals for whom they will pray and seek to share the gospel within the next few weeks. One pastor reported that his people were shocked at the number of LOST people within their extended church family. The pastor shared how families were aware of one or two within their own family units, but when the entire church family pooled the names there was a list of over two hundred LOST people who need to be rescued. He says, "It was a shock to many of our people to know that there were that

many in our own families who are still LOST, and then to think of all the other LOST people in our town. It brought a whole new awareness to us of what a mission field we have here at home."

Another pastor said, "The word LOST has once again been re-emphasized among our people and they are becoming more aware of the lostness of people all around them and as a result are becoming more burdened for them. They are realizing that the LOST are all around us!"

Another pastor writes, "Our people have really bought into this. Our outreach director reported yesterday over 100 lost people have been identified in the first two weeks. Our people seem to be praying more. There are more moves during the invitation time. We are receiving new members every week. We are having visitors coming out of the woodwork it seems."

Two more important ingredients of a successful SEARCH AND RESCUE

SUNDAY will take place during the month of April: Prayer and Training in how to share the Gospel in personal witnessing. Churches are encouraged to schedule prayer meetings at church and in homes praying for the LOST to be rescued. Pastors are encouraged to train their members in how to witness to the LOST in preparation

SEARCH AND RESCUE

for SEARCH AND RESCUE
SUNDAY, MAY 3.

For further information concerning free materials or help in planning and promoting SEARCH AND RESCUE SUNDAY contact the BMAA Department of Missions (501-455-4977 or visit www.bmaamissions.org. Pray that there will be a harvest of souls on May 3.

Pray for God to stir mightily throughout the BMAA as a result of our SEARCH AND RESCUE efforts to win the lost to Christ.

Reservations for Annual Meeting Low

For those who are planning to attend our annual meeting at Branson in April it is important that you register in the designated hotels because of the room blocks arranged with them. These blocks will insure that the cost of our meeting facility will not be so high. Our contract is contingent on filling these blocks. So far the registration is very low and we are certainly hopeful that more people are planning to attend the meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Committee on Arrangements

2009 South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference

Nearly 300 senior adults gathered at Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, on Tuesday, March 31 for the South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference. Good music, preaching and fellowship were the highlights of the day. A catfish lunch was enjoyed and a special message by Bro. James Schoenrock of Mesquite, Texas, highlighting the "senior years" was a blessing to all attending.

"Senior Adult In Charge" Bro. Vern Holifield (pictured at right) did a good job organizing this year's event.



**Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi
Missions Department**

2009 Special Emphasis Drive - April - May 2009

So You're on the Pulpit Committee

God does have a way to get our attention and our fellow church members do sometimes get even with us. You have been placed on the pulpit committee! Wow, what a task! Set aside time to pray more than once a day about what you are doing. What you are doing is so very important to the life of your congregation that it cannot be handled any other way than through the unction of the Holy Spirit. May the fire of His presence fall on you as you serve on the pulpit committee/pastor search team!

Let's get another thing up front about your job. You must decide on the validity of New Testament passages (at least 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1) regarding qualifications of the man you seek. Are these descriptive and prescriptive of your pastor? You must settle this and add to it your own church's history, denominational understanding, and community requirements.

With the two most important things out of the way, let me talk to you about what I would recommend to you in addition to the normal process. I have been on the other side of the pulpit

search team and I observe this in the process of pastor search today.

Look at his education and experience. The point of the search is to find the educated and experienced man who will walk with God. Education is a requirement for today's pastor; period. I understand some educated preachers are not able to minister. However, most educated preachers are able and most do minister. This is their training. This is their work. Experience is a fickle resume teaser. Some have one year's experience replicated over ten years. That's not ten years' experience. It is one year's experience repeated ten times. Solid experience, not the exotic, is what you are seeking in a pastor.

Seek a pastor with leadership ability. Pastoral leadership is getting the church on to God's agenda. Being a good speaker or counselor is of prime importance. Being friendly and affable is necessary for the good of the congregation. However, most churches are in stagnation or regression due to lack of leadership. Being a good leader

is what is demanded of the pastor. Look for those clues in resume minutiae that indicate management has been mistakenly labeled as leadership.

Ask about his devotional life.



Leave It To Cleaver

Tony Cleaver

(I have never had anyone to ask me this.) Have him describe his time alone with God. A church needs a pastor who is regular and systematic in his own devotional time.

Check his background. In our day a pastor must be more than pure; he must not have a serious, even recurring criminal record. I understand several of the Saints were arrested for the Gospel. I also understand conversion recalculates life. I would check background and initiate serious and private conversation with the prospect if there were any question. Also look at

his financial process, history, and situation. This kind of inquiry is not prying; it is looking for the best for your congregation.

Find out what he does for fun or recreation. The pastor who tells you he simply sits all day reading his Bible might not be the one you want to call. I would want the candidate to be serious about time for himself, his wife, and his family. I would ask him about his wellness program. Staying healthy is a must in today's demanding pastorate.

Run his references. I would check references. Tell me how you know this man and in what ways do you know him? I would ask members of his congregation about him. Of course there are those who never liked any preacher and those who loved every preacher. People generally give you the best regarding their pastor. They still have some respect for that office.

Make this more than a one-time shot. You certainly know most preachers have at least one good sermon. They preach that one in view of a call. The call goes better if the wife plays the piano or sings. The call is assured if

their children sing as a group or in family array. How could a church go wrong with this kind of performance? I know behavior in the description above does not happen often.

Spend some time with the man. It's OK to take more time than one Sunday with a candidate. Spend some time with this guy! Get to know him now rather than having an "uh-oh" a few Sundays down the road. You need to be able to tell him about your church and where you think it is going. That helps get a better fit. It's OK to say of a candidate, "I don't think he is a fit." Be certain it is not your own or committee parameters of age, culture, or obsessions speaking. Look carefully for the candidate who might not think he is a fit. Talk to him a little more.

So, you're on the pulpit committee? There is no more important work in the church for you right now. The congregation has entrusted you with the future. The Risen Lord is ready to talk to you about His man coming to your church. Let Him speak to you. Act upon His directions.

A Big Day At Big Creek For Our Senior Saints

2nd Annual Galilean BMA Softball Tournament



Left - James Schoenrock telling us about his "full cup".

Right - Joy Singers of Big Creek Church, led by Bob Barger



The National Galilean Ministry is hosting the 2nd Annual BMA Softball Tournament on Saturday, May 16th, at the Don Owen Sports Complex in Conway, Arkansas. The tournament is open to all BMA men's and women's softball teams. The entry fee is \$125 with all proceeds benefitting the BMA National Galilean Ministry. There will also be games, entertainment and contests for the kids. Don Owens Sports Complex is a family friendly park close to shopping and restaurants and located just off I-40 in Conway.

We are also looking for personal, business and church sponsorships to help with the operating costs of the tournament. If you would like to have your name, business, or church listed on the tournament t-shirt, National Galilean website, showing your support of the Galilean Ministry, please contact Larry McGee through the Galilean website or 501-679-6246.

You may register and find more information online at www.galileans.com, or contact Tournament Director Wayne Burgess at 501-215-7043.



Bro. Bob Bullock, right, honored for over 50 years in the ministry.



Above - afternoon concert by *Stubborn Love Trio*
Right - Bluegrass by the *Mississippi Five*



Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

in my report, and I apologize for that. The family of Bro. Preston M. Cochran donated 52 books from his personal library. Many other books were offered, but the library already had them. Bro. Cochran served as president of Southeastern Baptist College for two terms and was a great supporter of Southeastern and Christian education.

We appreciate this addition to the library in memory of Bro. Cochran and pray for the Lord's blessings to be with his family and friends.

Another donation was given to the library in memory of Lola Stringer. We appreciate those who remember loved ones in this manner. May the Lord bless her family.

Advertising the College

We feel that we need to advertise the college more in order to get more students and to serve the Lord in a greater way. Therefore, we have talked with a company who has billboards, and they have made an offer to put an advertisement on a large billboard on Interstate 59 for three months for approximately \$2,500.00. That breaks down to

CHURCH NEWS

News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

Bethel, Fulton

A friendly hello from all at Bethel! The Harmony Association meeting met at Central Corinth on the 6th. GMA State Camp met on the 6th & 7th. Bethel was well represented and the girls reported a great time of fellowship and food was enjoyed by all. Carli Reeder was elected Senior Miss GMA and Madison McMillen was selected 1st runner up Junior Miss GMA. We are proud of the girls that were elected to offices at the meeting.

\$1,200.00 for the setup on plastic which can be saved and used later, and \$450.00 per month rental. We would like to do this, but we must raise the money for it before we can do it. We are looking for individuals or churches who would help us by paying \$1,200.00 for setup, pay for one month rental, or who would give an offering to go toward that project. We would like to advertise in May, June, and July to help the enrollment for the fall semester.

On the 8th, "Souledout" attended Winter Jam at Tupelo. On the 13-14 the Galilean State Camp was held and Alex Davis was elected Senior Mr. Galilean and Philip Christian Junior Mr. Galilean. On the 15th a new service call "Connect" met in the Youth Center at 6:00 p.m. The Senior Adults made a trip to Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, to the Old Amish Country on the 19th. On the 22nd Relay for Life had a fund raiser luncheon in the COC, a good crowd turned out for this. On the 28th a Ronald McDonald House trip was held. There have been 7 additions since our last report. Remember our doors are always open for a visit or chat.

Dr. Martin Jameson, Pastor
Joyce Cooley, Reporter

Oak Grove, Revival

Oak Grove Church, Mantachie will hold revival services June 14-19. Services will be nightly at 7:00 pm with Bro. Don Savell bringing the messages. Friday of this week will be Youth Night. For more information contact Pastor Tony Moore at 662-282-4369.

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

The atmosphere around the college this semester continues to be exciting and positive. We are thinking already about the ending of this semester, graduation, and making plans for the new year ahead.

College Day

The College Day for the Spring semester will be April 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m. This will be a day of fun, food, inspiration, and information about the college. It is attended by groups from private schools and by pastors, parents, and prospective students who are able to attend on that day. We would like to urge anyone interested to attend if you can. It would help us to plan for the day if you could let us know

that you are planning to attend.

College Choir

Since my last report, the choir performed at Antioch Baptist Church, Lucedale. Their pastor, Bro. Jason Howard, is a student at Southeastern Baptist College and reported that the church really enjoyed the choir. At the time of this writing, two other performances are set within the next two weeks. We appreciate the interest in the choir and pray that the Lord will use it to honor Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Memorials

One generous donation given recently to the A. R. Reddin Memorial Library was missed

58th Annual Observance

PRAYER... AMERICA'S HOPE

**THURSDAY
May 7
2009**

**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**

**"May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we
put our hope in you." -Psalm 33:22**

www.NationalDayofPrayer.org

Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

One Smooth Stone...

A shepherd boy stood before the challenge of the giant. The boy had one shot to make a difference. He selected one smooth stone and with great precision defeated Goliath. Like that one smooth stone, a timeless truth communicated in a timely fashion can slay giants.

Gimme That iPod Religion!

(Article No. 2)

Not so long ago in the rural Bible-belt South you would often hear an old favorite being sung in Sunday morning worship. That old favorite was a song that went something like this. "Give me that old-time religion, give me that old-time religion, give me that old-time religion, it's good enough for me!"

It's not often that song is heard today, and maybe that's not so bad. Some people have a great desire to get back to a simpler time when the world didn't seem quite so bad, things were more black and white, and there were fewer of those hard-to-figure-out, gray areas of life. On the other hand, some who long for that old-time religion only want to hang on to a world that's gone, never to return. By holding on to the past they are missing the present. If you were to write lyrics for a song describing today's expression of Christianity, it might go something like this. "Give me that iPod religion, give me that iPod religion, give me that iPod religion, it's all I want for me!" For many, religious life today is a cafeteria of choices - after all, we all like choices. Choose the parts of the Bible you want to believe; choose which church meets your needs; choose those programs in which you want to participate; choose the convictions that are comfortable and the truths on which you want to build your life — a totally "customized" religious life and experience!

It's kind of like an iPod - just download the parts you want

and ignore the rest. After all it's your life, your music, and your religion! The calling card of American church culture in the twenty-first century seems to be a privatized "designer religion" which puts the worshiper at the center. The same advertising slogans intended to sell us a hamburger have become our religious worldview: "You deserve a break today" and, "Have it your way." This privatized, designer religion — this iPod religion — is but the reflection of an independent and even isolated approach to life. Americans pride themselves on their rugged individualism. In many ways it's what made this country great. But the same thing that made this country great is the very thing that works against a true and healthy expression of the New Testament Church! Christianity was intended to be lived in community where Christ-followers worshiped in truth, met one another's needs, and grew in their faith. And that faith was the common faith which was the foundation for new life in Christ. It's what held them together in unity and accountability. An iPod faith does the exact opposite, and accounts for the church-shopping and church-hopping syndrome of today which is unlike anything seen in 2,000 years of church history.

The truth is we can't approach God the way we choose our music or shop for a pair of shoes or buy a hamburger! God is Who He is, and we can't pick and

choose what parts of Him or His Word we want to live by. Real joy, peace, and success in life is only experienced as we seek to know and follow a God Who is more than we'll ever comprehend in this life.

Yes, I too would like to be able to turn back the clock to simpler times, but those days are gone forever. Retreating into a church mentality which still worships and does ministry as though we were living fifty years ago is not the answer — that's not the oldtime religion we need. We need a revival of the really old-time religion, an Acts 2 expression of religion where believers lived in true community, met one another's needs in love, were passionate about sharing their faith with an unbelieving world, and challenged each other daily to grow in the Word of truth. They were being shaped by the Word, not shaping the Word to themselves! Give me some of THAT old-time religion, it's good enough for me!

Tombigbee Assoc. Meets

The Tombigbee Association met on March 5, 2009, at Mt. Pleasant Church. The meeting began with a wonderful meal provided by the host church. Mt. Pleasant's choir blessed us with the opening songs.

Bro. Joseph Oyeleye gave a good report on the Maple St. mission. Bro. Gary O'Neal gave an encouraging report on Bro. Gary Smith's ministry. He reported there were seven saved in recent revivals. Wow! What awesome news!

Bro. Tim Holsonback brought the evening message from Proverbs 4:23, "Keep your Heart with all diligence." The next meeting will be April 9 at Pleasant Hill. This will be the rally for the Seminary with Dr. Charlie Holmes as the speaker.

Announcements: East Amory will be in revival April 5-8 with speaker Bro. Todd West. Please remember to bring maps to your church at the next meeting.

Bro. Bryan Wilson, President
Jessica Haden, Reporter

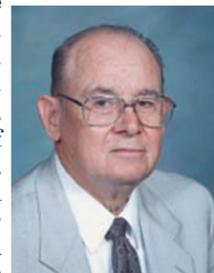
Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"Will the owner of the Rolls Royce with the license number I-M-R-I-C-H please report to the finance committee immediately."

Henry Phelps passes away

Funeral services were held March 25, 2009 at College Heights Baptist Church in Poplarville for Bro. Henry C. Phelps. Phelps 72, of Poplarville, passed away Monday, March 23, 2009 at his residence.



Henry Phelps

Brother Walter Pierce and Brother Jeff Easterling officiated the service. Burial was in the Oak Hill Baptist Church Cemetery. A native of Pearl River County, he was born April 11, 1936 to Sylvester Lafate Phelps and Esther Penton Phelps. He was retired from the United States Air Force, former Pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Biloxi, and a member of College Heights Baptist Church. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, J.C. Phelps.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy Ruth Hodge Phelps of Poplarville; two daughters, Brenda Andrews and husband Carlos of McNeill, and Ruthie Keller of Poplarville; one brother Junnure Phelps and wife Barbara of Waynesboro; one sister, Annie Martinez of Las Vegas, New Mexico; four grandchildren, Riley Cole, Hailey Lofton, Melissa Burdette, and Hannah Wiggins; seven great-grandchildren, Jadea Lofton, Trevor Naftzger, Jaycee Naftzger, Jor-

dan Wiggins, Kennedy Wiggins, Kylie Wiggins, and Noah Burdette; and one special great-niece, Lelia Rainey.

Leon Gaylor passes away

Funeral services for Leon Gaylor, age 91, of Jacksonville, Texas, were held March 25, 2009 in the Chapel of Aunty Funeral Home in Jacksonville with Rev. James Blaylock, Rev. Leon Ross, Rev. Richard Smith, and Rev. David Smith officiating.



Leon Gaylor

Leon Gaylor, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather went to be with the Lord on March 22, 2009 in Jacksonville, Texas. He was born on July 1, 1917 in Weir, Mississippi, to W. T. and Josephine Gaylor. He served in the Merchant Marines and U. S. Army. He was Editor of the (BMA of Texas) Baptist Progress, taught at the BMA Seminary, was Director of Baptist News Service, and was Chairman of the Religion Department at Jacksonville College for 29 years. He was pastor of Craft Baptist Church in Jacksonville for 20 years and was currently Pastor Emeritus.

Bro. Gaylor was preceded in death by his parents, twin sister, two brothers, his beloved wife Violet Irene, and a daughter Barbara Jean.

Mississippi Baptist

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Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi Missions & Loan Department

Special Emphasis 2009

First Hispanic Mission
Ripley, MS
Bro. Elvis Garcia

Homestretch Mission
Cleveland, MS
Bro. Edward Duvall

Obeying

?

New Missionary
In 2009



Maple Street Mission
Columbus, MS
Bro. Joseph Oyeleye

?

New Missionary
In 2009

El Camino Mission
Laurel, MS
Bro. Estuardo Marroquin

Our Commission

Working Together . . .
We can add two Missionaries in 2009.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
Matthew 28: 19 & 20

GMA Girls

GMA Promoter - Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011

Sunbeam Promoter - Linda Dertinger
132 Howard Hill Road, Soso, MS 39480
601-729-2908

2009 State Galilean Retreat results

by **Mark Jones**
Acting Galilean Director

As the acting State Galilean promoter, I am looking forward to promoting Galileans in the state. I believe the Galileans is by far the best young mens discipleship program there is. If you have a Galilean program in your church, I ask that you contact me with your church information. If you do not have a Galilean program, please pray and consider starting one. I am here to help in anyway possible. We have set up a email address just for the Mississippi Galileans to use for contacting me about this program. You may email me at msgalileans@yahoo.com. The national Galileans have website - www.galileans.com.

The Mississippi Galileans had their state camp at Lake T'Okata in Louisville, Mississippi. Bro. Coy Rice was our camp pastor and did a great job. We had one young man saved and others that the Lord is dealing with. Our numbers were down this year, but we had a sweet time of fellowship.

Alex Davis was elected the Mississippi Senior Mr. Galilean and Philip Christian was elected Mr. Junior Galilean. Please pray for these young men as they continue their work and compete for the national title

at Galilean National camp in Gary, Texas. The theme for national camp this year is "Is God Real" John 1:1-5.

We will be starting a newsletter about Mississippi Galileans in the future. If your Galileans pass a step or do something good let me know and we will put it in. If you have any ideas on promoting the Galilean work please let me know. You may call me at 662-322-9155.

MISSISSIPPI STATE GMA/SUNBEAM TREASURER'S REPORT

February 25, 2009
By Shirlene Smith

Balance February 1, 2008	\$ 2,173.58
Total Received from Feb. 1, 2008-Feb. 25, 2009	15,831.20
Total to Account for	18,004.78
Paid Out (See List Below)	14,156.55
Balance on Hand, February 25, 2009	3,848.23
General Fund	\$1,139.54
GMA Project (75%)	2,523.69
Sunbeam Project (100%)	185.00
Balance on Hand	3,848.23

PAID OUT

Check No.		
890	Camp Garaywa, deposit (void-added back)	\$ 100.00
891	Myrtis Bankston, GMA Sashes	33.00
892	Chelle Webb, Monogramming Sashes	45.00
893	Wanda's Discount Trophies, GMA Trophies	79.05
894	Skinner's Florist, Roses for Queens	83.46
895	Geraldine Necaise, GMA T-Shirts	71.55
896	Matt Hudson, 2008 Houseparty (Matt & Lisa)	300.00
897	Corbey Jones, 2008 Camp Pastor	200.00
898	Teresa Broom, Mission Trip to Romania	200.00
899	Bethel, Fulton, Mission Trip for Lindsey Begley, Carli Reeder, and Keely Naden	300.00
1500	Camp Garaywa, GMA Camp	4,995.50
1501	Trace Thurman, 2008 Project	1,303.35
1502	Wal-Mart, 8 Frames for SB Retreat	25.68
1503	Wanda's Discount Trophies, SB Trophies	25.41
1504	Jean Knight, Sunbeam Sashes	10.00
1505	Ten Mile Church, Refund of Reg. Fees	72.00
1506	Bandy Grace, Sunbeam Retreat	100.00
1507	Mt. Carmel Church, Refund of Reg. Fees	88.00
1508	Paramount Church, Refund of Reg. Fees	144.00
1509	Arthur Smith, SB Camp Pastor	200.00
1510	VOID	
1511	School and Carnival Supplies, Ribbons	15.25
1512	Commercial Stationery Co., SB Certificates	16.05
1513	Camp Garaywa, Sunbeam Retreat	2,245.00
1514	Trace Thurman, Sunbeam Project	559.10
1515	Chris Smith, SB and GMA Expenses	147.52
1516	Daniel Springs Camp, Beth, Linda, Megan & Paige	380.00
1517	Beth Caldwell, GMA Planning Meeting (lunch)	80.00
1518	Cheap Totes, Canvas Bags for GMA Retreat	223.99
1519	Beth Caldwell, GMA Planning Meeting	170.00
1520	Blackhawk Designs, Canvas Bags & T-Shirts	330.05
1521	Camp Garaywa, Deposit for 2010 GMA Retreat	100.00
1522	VOID	
1523	Beth Caldwell, GMA Expenses	220.00
1524	Linda Faye Dertinger, SB Promoter	250.00
1525	Chris Smith, GMA Expenses	94.211
526	Blackhawk Designs, T-Shirts	838.25
	Service Charges Feb. '08 - Feb. '09	111.13
Total Paid Out		\$14,156.55
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR THE GMA PROJECT BY FEBRUARY 25, 2009		
25% General Fund (plus special offerings)	\$	942.49
(This amount is reflected in the General Fund Balance)		
75% Missionary Ed Duvall's Building Fund, Cleveland, MS		2,523.69
Total Received by February 25, 2009		\$3,466.18
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR THE GMA PROJECT BY MARCH 31, 2009		
25% General Fund (plus special offerings)	\$	1,894.80
(This amount is reflected in the General Fund Balance)		
75% Missionary Ed Duvall's Building Fund, Cleveland, MS		4,055.89
Total Received by March 31, 2009		\$5,950.69
CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MS STATE GMA PROJECT		
March 31, 2009		
GMAS		
1.	Bethel Baptist Church, Fulton	\$750.00
2.	Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso	130.00
3.	East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton	45.00

Mississippi W.M.A.

Mrs. Ruby Bynum, President
43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-1901

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

Tiger Creek Church, Ovett to hold Ladies Conference

All ladies are invited to the 4th Annual Tiger Creek Ladies Conference on April 25th 2009, 9:30 - 12:30 p.m. Special speakers will be Kristy Matthews and Marla Brady with special music by Connie Ward and Katie Easley. Brunch and lunch will be served and door prizes will be given away. Please come and enjoy a day of Bible Study, prayer, praise, and Christian fellowship.

Betty Holifield, reporter
Brother Dana Williams, pastor

4.	First Baptist Church, Bay Springs	100.00
5.	Good Hope Baptist Church, Stringer	25.00
6.	Grace Baptist Church, Saucier	105.00
7.	Hopewell Baptist Church, Laurel	100.00
8.	N. E. District Association GMA	200.00
9.	Paramount Baptist Church, Perkinston	76.00
10.	Shiloh Baptist Church, Steens	30.00
11.	Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl	735.00
12.	Temple Baptist Church, Laurel	100.00
13.	Temple Baptist Church, Lucedale	501.27
14.	Profit from T-Shirts and Canvas Bags	379.96
15.	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Carriere	70.00
16.	Good Hope Baptist Church, Columbia	118.95
17.	East Amory Baptist Church, Amory	363.00
18.	Bethel Baptist Church, Bassfield	30.00
19.	East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton	150.00
20.	Snack Shop at Retreat	799.75
21.	Silent Auction and Offering for General Fund	441.60
22.	Candy Grams and Officer Competition	72.20
23.	Craft Sales at Retreat	385.21
24.	Remainder of T-shirt Profits	242.75
Total Received		\$5,950.69

REPORT OF T-SHIRT AND CANVAS BAG SALES		
T-Shirt and Canvas Bag Sales		\$2,015.00
Cost of T-Shirts and Bags		1,392.29
Profit from sales applied to GMA project		\$ 622.71



Philip Christian - Mr. Junior Galilean

Ten Mile WMA

The Ten Mile WMA held their meeting on January 12, 2009, at Temple Baptist Church, in Biloxi. The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Myrtis Mallett. Mrs. Alana Woods and Mrs. Myrtis Mallett led us in our opening song "America, the Beautiful".

Brother Tony Shoemaker from Temple brought us a special song, "Thank You."

He recognized all teachers and women in our association for giving their talents to the Lord and making a difference in children's lives. This was a very special time. Sister Myrtis asked all teachers to stand up and they received a standing ovation.

The Program: Ten Mile District Sunbeam and GMA Presentation and Coronation.

Sunbeams District Promoter Dianna Williams and Assistant Angela Givens gave a summary of the Sunbeam accomplishments and recognized the following: Presentation of Sunbeams: Grace Baptist Church, Paramount Baptist Church and Ten Mile Baptist Church. Presentation of Ten Mile District: Little Miss Sunbeam, Little Mr. Sunbeam, Miss Sunbeam, and Mr. Sunbeam.

Girls Missionary Auxiliary Mrs. Nancy Brewer and Assistant Nicki Pickett explained the purpose, achievements of our GMA's for the previous year and recognized the following churches for their accomplishments: Grace, Paramount, Ten Mile.

We enjoyed a great fellowship after services with Temple Baptist Church. The next Ten Mile District WMA meeting will be April 13, 2009, at Ten Mile Baptist Church in Perkinston, Mississippi.

Reporter Maria Ochoa



Too much or too little time with your kids

All things in moderation. It isn't bad to have some candy or ice cream from time to time. But too much of it can cause health issues and put on unwelcome weight. Staying in bed for a prolonged period of time can be good and even fun every once in a while. But staying in bed too much will cause you to become tired, listless and lazy. As humans, we must strive to achieve a balance in our life. We want to have harmony physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. This is also true in parenting. Parents can actually harm the well-being of their children by spending inappropriate amounts of time with their children, whether that be too much time or too little. Goldilocks put a lot of effort into finding just the right porridge and so must parents when it comes to spending time with their children.

Too much time: The greatest problem in American culture today is the vast majority of parents who spend too little time with their children. So to say that some parents spend too much time with their kids seems out of place. Yet, in some homes this is the scenario. It is most frequently carried out by moms. In this home, it seems to the casual observer that the mother and child are sewn together at

the hips. They are rarely apart. The parent will not leave the baby or child with anyone else. No matter what the event, the child is dragged along to the event because the mom won't leave the child with a sitter. Even at totally adult events like a banquet, or business function or marriage conference, there is the mother trying to keep the child quiet while the event is occurring.

The mother justifies her irrational behavior by saying she doesn't trust others to keep her child, can't find a trusted sitter or the child is sick. It may not be the child that is sick. It may be the mom. Not to be too harsh, but the mother may have some emotional issues that need to be addressed in her own heart. She has developed an unhealthy and unholy sense of identity through the child. Her whole existence is wrapped up in the child. There could be a myriad of reasons for such behavior. Anxiety and irrational fears over the child being hurt. This is a lack of trust in God. The mother living out her whole sense of self-worth through the child. She needs to

see herself as valuable and worthy to God separate from her child. She gets her total sense of purpose from mothering and it should be from God.

This creates anxiety in the child. It creates separation anxiety. It creates a child that is socially retarded in the long run. They can't make independent decisions in life because

mother is always there to make them for the child. They can't even make a decision in schoolwork because they have not had to think on their own. This is only exacerbated when the child is home schooled. While our children do not have to be exposed to the sins of the world early-on, they are going to have to learn to live in the world. Too much mothering will leave them ignorant about how to cope in the world with other people. A "mother smother" is going to hurt the child they love so much. The mother needs to let go.

Too little time: This is by far the prevalent parenting technique in our society today. It is also the cause of most problems within our culture today. Throw away kids. Parents who put a higher priority on their own selfish desires rather than the kids. They are unwilling to sacrifice for the children. They want to do what they want to do. They sometimes have a career as the number one priority in their life. If you have children, your job should never be your number one priority. Sometimes, they simply are too selfish or lazy. I wished they would have never had kids in this case. You have probably read in the news of young mothers using chloroform to knock their children out so they can lock them in the car while they go drinking with their friends in bars. Can you imagine?

Children spell love: t-i-m-e. It is the most expensive gift you can ever give your children. Your time. A parent should not buy into the old lie that it is "quality time". There has to be "quantity" of time as well if you want to have any type of deep and meaningful relationship. If you have children, it is the most important job you will ever have. God has numerous scriptures regarding this as well. Rich parents invest in their children. That means they give them the



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the families of Mrs. Miriam (G. H.) Gordon and Mrs. Mae (John) Loden. Both of the ladies were faithful pastor's wives in the Lord's work. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Gordon family and the Loden family during this time of loss and sorrow.

Jesus Christ Has Arisen and Conquered Death!

Our resurrected Savior said to the Apostle John, "I am the first and the last: I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Revelation 1:17,18. Aren't you glad that you can sing with confidence and assurance the song "Christ Arose."

Death could not keep her prey,
Jesus my Saviour;
He tore the bars away,
Jesus, my Lord.

During this Easter season let us as Christians reflect on the fact that our future is full of hope because of the resurrected

Christ. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3. The tremendous power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ has conquered death and makes it possible for Christians to shout aloud, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" 1 Corinthians 15:55. Thanks be to God!



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

Spring Break

The boys and girls of the Home were out for school during spring break March 16-20. Everyone enjoyed this time off. Can you believe it's just two months until summer and another school year will be history?

Continue to remember the Home in your daily prayers.

Scotland Youth Trip

The Youth of Scotland Baptist Church in Bentonia, recently enjoyed a day at the Jackson Zoological Center on Monday, March 16, 2009. The children as well as their chaperones had a wonderful



time helping the Jackson Zoo celebrate their 90th birthday with a special penguin exhibit. The youth are under the direction of Trey and Dana Pierce while Bro. Glenn Allen is the pastor. Not pictured but in attendance were Gina Allen, Glenn Allen, Dana Pierce, Leif Dearman, and Melanie Hardy.

time they need to grow, develop and be nurtured in the ways of the Lord, the ways of love, and the ways we Christians should live our daily life.

If either of these scenarios apply to you, take heart. With God all things can be made brand new. It is never too late to create a happy childhood for your kids. Start asking God to show you your true heart. Is your heart suffering so you try and lift yourself up through your kids and constantly stay with them as you worship them as little gods? Is your heart selfish? So you

don't give your kids what they need the most from you. Other people can't love your kids like you can. Ask God to give you a healthy, holy balance in parenting. He has written a good book on parenting and on your own self-esteem. It's called the Bible. Study it as it relates to your heart and your parenting. God's speed to you because parenting is a hard, hard job. But the rewards are priceless. So are your kids.

Examine yourself before God. Check your motives, so you can be the best parent for your kids.

THIRD ANNUAL Dr. Holmes' Big Clambake-Golf Tournament & Barbeque

April 20, 2009 - Branson Creek Golf Club



Cost of Entry - Complimentary
36-Player Limit

Register by April 9, 2009
cshine@bmats.edu
903.586.2501



BMAA Equipping Center Locations and Schedules

Bethel Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi

June 20-21, 2009

It All Rises and Falls on Leadership

Magnolia Baptist, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

June 21, 2009

Sunday School Materials That Work!

BMA OF MISSISSIPPI
MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 - (601) 428-8616
 Rayburn Freeman, Director



April and May, 2009 Special Emphasis time for state missions
 Theme: **Obeying our Commission** – Matthew 28:18-20.
 The objective is to establish two new mission points in 2009.

Mission's emphasis time is again upon us. Jesus Christ our Lord is our supreme example. He left the portals of heaven, came to this earth, added to his eternal divine nature a total human nature, lived a perfect life, died in our place on the cross paying our sin debt, arose in victory over death, commanded us to be his witnesses unto the end of the earth and until the end of this age, ascended to heaven and will SOON (I believe) return for us. Scripture for these thoughts are; John 16: 27-33, 17:1-26, Acts 1:8-11, Hebrew 2:9-18.

The very heart beat of God is missions, John 3:13-21. Since we are God's children and members of his church surely our heart beat should be the same. We know without a doubt that we agree in this great responsibility which is ours to share.

Surely our time is short. Soon and very soon Jesus will return for us and we will give account to Him for our works. We must seize the opportunities set before us and redeem the time which God has given us, Ephesians 5:14-17.

This past year's debt reduction program has seen great success. We so greatly appreciate the contribution that each church and many individuals have made to make this program successful. We cannot react upon past accomplishments, we must move forward in 2009 reaching out to new opportunities.

We have men that are expressing their desire to start new Caucasian mission points under the State Mission Program. The Oak Grove Association has voted to support jointly with the state a Hispanic work. It is currently anticipated that their mission will be

located in the Hattiesburg-Petal area. The prospects are great but we must have sufficient financial support to open new fields. This emphasis time is indeed important and will help. Month to month sustained income is needed. Will you help? John 4:34-35.

Emphasis posters are being mailed in time for each church to begin the Emphasis by placing posters throughout the church facilities. If we can help your church in the promotion of missions we will be happy to do so.
 Bros. Ray and Lavell

February Monthly Statistics

First Hispanic, Ripley: Bro. Elvis and First Hispanic had another good month with 49 home visits, 73 soul talks, 16 professions of faith, had an average attendance of 70, and a total offering of \$2,583.00.

El Camino, Laurel: Bro. Estuardo and El Camino rejoiced in another month of blessings with 22 home visits, 36 soul talks, 22 professions of faith, an average attendance of 70, and a total offering of \$3,270.80.

Maple Street Mission, Columbus: Bro. Joseph and Maple Street Mission finished another successful month with 23 home visits, 44 soul talks, an average attendance of 35, and a total offering of \$1,802.00.

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White



A Handsaw and a Hammer

You know, these days it seems to be getting more and more difficult to get folks to do any kind of chore or work around the church. It always seems to be the job of somebody else.

I came across a verse not long ago that said, ".....every gifted artisan in whom the Lord has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary....." Exodus 36:1.

Sounds to me like we need to learn to use a handsaw and a hammer or a mop and a broom, or a dust rag or a dish rag, or a paint brush or a shovel and hoe. The gist of it is this: If we see something that needs doing around the church - just do it! The church will have a nicer appearance to attract the unchurched, but here's a warning, your pastor may faint.

BMA Seminary begins work on new library annex

Groundwork on the BMA Seminary's new library annex is nearing completion. The ground was broken in February and laying of concrete is the project's next step.

Ninety-percent of the projected costs for the building are "in hand." This is thanks to donations from individuals, churches, associations and the national Women's Missionary Auxiliary. Funds were raised during the seminary's Golden Jubilee Campaign in celebration of the seminary's golden anniversary.

The annex will include increased shelving space for seminary and associational archives. The annex will also include a classroom with video-conferencing technology to enhance global training opportunities.



The BMA Seminary is located in Jacksonville, Texas and provides quality and affordable theological education through undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The seminary also has a graduate extension site on the campus of Central Baptist College in Conway, Arkansas.

Texans celebrate educational victory

OneNewsNow - Texans are publicly supporting critical thinking in public school classrooms.

The Texas State Board of Education has strengthened standards on the teaching of critical thinking when it comes to scientific theory. Earlier in 2009 in a preliminary vote, the board decided to strip the teaching of strengths and weaknesses of scientific theory from the requirements. However, a final vote was held last week and the standards were strengthened.

Dr. Ide Trotter of Texans for Better Science Education says the process confused a lot of people, but in the end his side won. "The reason a lot of people are confused about this is that the proponents of dogmatic evolution were readily claiming victory when they didn't have victory," he explains.

He points out the debate dragged on through the day and that many members of the media were not present when the final vote was taken. In the end, the teaching of strengths and weaknesses was voted back in, but worded differently. Trotter adds that a helpful aspect to the fight was the action alerts sent out by the American Family Association.

"A number of people found that as they reached the mailboxes of various members of the State Board of Education, they were already clogged up," he notes. "So, yes, it was a very successful attempt to alert the members of the State Board of Education that their constituents wanted science to be properly taught."

Trotter says the standards will not come up for another vote for ten years,

but that doesn't mean the fight is over. He notes that biology textbooks will be placed on the chopping block in a couple of years -- and cautions that, when it comes to textbooks, as Texas goes so goes the nation.

Texas is the largest buyer of school textbooks in America, and many publishers set their standards by The Lone Star State.

Colorado church seeks pastor

River of Grace, Pueblo West, Colorado, is seeking a pastor. Requests for an application can be sent to Jason Burns at jasonburns@pw-co.net or 1129 N Linda Ln, Pueblo West, CO 81007. For more information, call 719-248-2805.

Temple Baptist, Laurel Spring Revival

Temple Baptist, Laurel will hold its Spring Revival April 5th-8th. Services will begin on Sunday, April 5th at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be served at the church followed by afternoon services and then dismissing for the day. Services will begin at 7:00 p.m. nightly ending on Wednesday night. Keith Ulmer will be the evangelist. Please come and join us for a blessing!

Elaine Sumrall, Reporter

BMA SEMINARY FRIENDS DINNER
Tuesday, April 21 at 5:15 p.m.
 Cooper Creek Room - Branson Convention Center
 \$20 Per Reservation
 Reception to Follow

2009 Kellar Award Recipient
DR. PHILIP R. BRYAN
 President-Emeritus

- R.S.V.P -
 903.586.2501
 P.O. Box 670
 Jacksonville, TX 75766-0670
 cshine@bmats.edu

R.S.V.P by April 9