

Baptist

Mississippi

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Annual Meeting Held In Laurel

Churches from every area of Mississippi sent messengers to the campus of Southeastern Baptist College to conduct the business of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi.

The theme for the 2009 meeting was "Go Quickly - For The Night Is Coming" taken from John 9:4. President Leon Carmical, pastor of Midway First Baptist, Sumrall, introduced the theme in the president's address on Tuesday morning. He stressed the need to obey the heart and purpose of God's Great Commission - to do business and occupy until Jesus comes.

The annual message was brought on Tuesday by Bro. Ken Riley, pastor of Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel. He spoke from James 1:22-25 on Looking In The Mirror.

The 2010 annual meeting will once again meet on the campus of South-

eastern College. Bro. Gary Smith, pastor of East Fulton, Fulton, will be the speaker. The messengers voted to accept the invitation of Pastor Justin Rhodes to hold the midyear meeting at Oakland Church, Vicksburg, with Bro. Dewitt Bain, pastor of Shiloh, Mt. Olive, as the speaker.

There were no petitionary letters at this year's meeting, which highlights the need to be about the business of reaching others for Christ.

Visitors at this year's meeting included Dr. Kevin Clayton of DiscipleGuide Ministries. He presented the needs and ministry of each area of DicleGuide, including publications, camp ministry, information services, and conference ministries. Clayton urged churches and small group leaders to take advantage of DiscipleGuide Classics. Undated re-

sources are being made available on the Internet for use in a number of ways in the local church.

Clayton also spoke about a new effort to minister to our supporting churches. A new program entitled "DiscipleWay" is in the development process and involves all of the departments of our national association. The program consists of 7 Disciplines for maturing in Christ. This program will be available sometime in 2010.

Ron Chesser, director of Ministers Resource Services, presented his department. He encouraged churches to put their pastors in the department's retirement plan.



New State Missionary
Ray Boone

Baptist Music Fellowship Director Doug Lee reported on the BMF and offered his resignation. He cited time constraints and other ministry obligations which prevented him from serving. Bryson Hayden, music and youth director at Pine Grove Church, Purvis was elected to fill this position.

The state Brotherhood adopted as a new ministry a disaster relief operation. They will have more information concerning funding and participation in later reports.

The Missions Department presented Bro. Ray Boone as a new missionary staff member. Bro. Boone will be working in the South Hattiesburg area.

The Youth Department Trustees reported on the search for direction in the ministry of their department. They have plans for a Winter Conference. They asked the Association to be pa-

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Women Understand: The Only Choice Is To Go On

by The BMAA Middle East
Missions Coordinator

There are times in our work when the only choice we have is to go on. Failure is not an option. When asked about his approach to handling the German attacks on Britain during World War II, Winston Churchill answered, "Never give up, never give up, never give up."²

To many women in the Middle East this statement is a reality every day. With rampant abuse and no hope of change, with divorce a matter that is mostly at the mercy of their husbands, with a mentality of "keep them barefoot and pregnant,"² the Middle East represents a fairly hopeless scene for women.

In summing up the theology of senior Iranian cleric Khomeini on women, the Islamic Council of Guardians in Iran issued the following: "A woman does not have the right to leave her home without her husband's



permission, not even to attend her father's funeral... A woman is completely at the service of her husband and her social activities are conditional upon her husband's permission."^{2*}

The only choice these women have is to go on. They have no other choice

and we don't, either. It is this type of community that our women's ministry serves, and our message is clear: "You are made by God for a purpose, that makes you of great worth, so much so that Christ Himself came to redeem you. The Word of God in Proverbs uses terms to describe a virtuous woman's worth as being "more precious than pearls."¹ This is only a sampling of how God truly looks at women."²

We have a mandate from the Lord and the churches of the BMAA to use every opportunity to reach every segment of society, and women make up more than half of it. For two and a half years, we have worked diligently with these women to reach them with a message of hope, acceptance, grace and great self-worth. God has blessed this effort with many coming to Christ in spite of the difficulties we encounter. Keep in mind that it is not easy for those women either.

The BMA women's ministry in the

Middle East has proven to be a vital tool for evangelism and breaking down of many barriers to the gospel. The recent conference in Egypt that netted 40 saved and 70 new homes open for the gospel is only a sample that we, and our national teams, want to repeat. Remember, we win them "one at a time."²

In addition to conferences, we have classes that attract the local women to come and learn various things and to hear the message of hope and of their personal worth in the sight of the Lord. We also offer them free New Testaments and free literature that will help them understand the message of hope

We Need Your Help

Our funds for this ministry are running dangerously low, and it would be a sad day for our churches to have to

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Parental Rules for Your Kids in Dating

Let me begin by saying that I strongly urge you to not allow your teens to date. I would encourage you to allow them to do courtship. This involves parental involvement in the relationship. It is honoring to both the guy and the young lady and it establishes biblical guidelines in the relationship. More importantly, it protects your teens against all the serious consequences that occur in dating.

This is outlined in my teaching to both teens and parents when I do conferences. I don't have space in this column to begin to outline this "courtship" in detail. I would suggest you get any of the books in the series of courtship books writ-

ten by Joshua Harris, starting with his first book, "I Kissed Dating Goodbye". This will help

Family Ark Ministries



Travis Plumlee

PO Box 163
Mountain View,
AR 72560

you if you are interested in learning more about this.

For those of you who bow to societal pressures and allow your teens to date, then I plead with you to establish very clear restrictions on relationships for

your teens. There have to be boundaries for behavior with teenagers. If you don't do this, there could be life altering impact on your child's entire future. Date rape is not unusual, but common these days. That is life altering. HPV causes life altering diseases in the body and it is an STD. There are many. 1 in 4 teens have an STD. Drinking alcohol at this age can be life altering, and so much of it begins and centers around the dating experience. This is just the tip of the iceberg. You need to help your teen avoid a "dating spirit".

The "dating spirit" is one where your child is more inter-

ested in their pleasure than their purpose. They are only



into dating for what fun it brings, rather than ever giving thought of how to glorify God in all of their relationships. If the relationship does not start out Godly, it will not be a Godly relationship.

You have to look at who they pick to date. While we don't want to be judgmental, you better be involved. You may have to be the surrogate brain for your teen. They want to date because they want to be "normal" and "accepted". But we don't want them to just pick any ship in the port. When your teen is cutting horses out of the herd you better make sure they pick a winner. So what would that look like?

No kid your teen is going to date will be perfect. Neither is your kid. Everyone has a past and has sinned. However, if the prospective date partner is just now turning over a new leaf, I think it would be better to wait and date them until we see some consistent Christ-centered behavior established. If the two teens can't wait for this fruit to be born, then that is a problem. Many teens will say they are saved, or Christian, just so they can date your child. If they are truly saved then you should see some fruit. There should be evidence of their salvation. Do they go to church consistently? How is their language? Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. What is their testimony at school and in the community? We don't want to fall prey to gossip, but you

should desire for your teen to date someone who is not known at school as - well, you know what I mean.

If they have been involved in drugs, alcohol, etc. then you are not saying that God can't change them and heal them, but let's wait for a few months and see some growth. You should want your teen to date another teen who will encourage their walk with Jesus. It is hard for any teen to stay on the straight and narrow path for the Lord. We sure don't want to add someone into the mix who is going to pull them away, rather than push them towards the light.

Kids mature at different ages. Does your teen consistently show a maturity that they have earned the right to go out into an adult world, at an adult time to make sound adult decisions?

Where in the Bible does it say that when you hit 16, you have a God-given right to date? Let's talk to your teens more about responsibility in dating, rather than their rights to dating. Let's talk to them about using wisdom - Proverbs 4:7,9. You have the right as their parent to set a time to be home, the type of places they go, the choices of entertainment, and be very involved in who this other person is. I think that most parents are coming down on the side of "let's not be judgmental" and "they can choose their own friends" when it comes to dating. Let me strongly urge you to come down on the side of "let's protect our kids physically, emotionally and spiritually" and "let's give parental guidance and structure in all their relationships to insure biblical integrity" in dating.

I am heartbroken over all the teens I have to work with every week whose lives are tattered, shattered and forever changed because "good Christian parents" don't help their teens in the dating arena. You helped teach them right from wrong when they were younger. The process is not over when they are teens. Especially in dating. Pray hard for God's guidance. Listen to the Holy Spirit.

BMA Theological Seminary Motion Classes January 2010

January 4-8

Old Testament Introduction
& Survey II • OT 512
Dr. Greg Parsons

January 11-15

General Church History II
CH 512
Dr. Thom South

(Jacksonville, Texas Campus)

Registration Form For Motion Classes • January 2010

Name _____ SS# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Need Housing: (Circle One) Yes No

(It is very important that you circle yes or no on the housing. Housing is limited. The cost is \$10 per night.)

Circle the course above you wish to take and return by the registration deadline (Nov. 20) to the Dean's Office at 1530 E. Pine St., Jacksonville, TX 75766.

You must make financial arrangements with the business office before you are considered enrolled. **All** previous balances must be paid before you may enroll.

All courses may be taken at reduced costs for non-credit.



Still... "earnestly contending for the faith"

BMA Theological Seminary

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 670 • Jacksonville, TX 75766

Physical Address:

1530 E. Pine Street, Jacksonville, TX 75766

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Southeastern Baptist College

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



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Southeastern Baptist College President's Annual Report October 20-21, 2009

Theme

The theme for this year's meeting is both a challenge to us and an expression of activities here at the college. We feel an urgency to do now what the Lord opens up and gives us direction to do and seems we can never do all that needs to be done, which appears to be the case with most people these

days. But we do feel that we don't have long to work for our Lord.

Expression of Thanks

This has been another good year for the college. I appreciate the privilege to serve as president and thank my Lord for giving me health and all other resources that He provides so we can serve where He has placed us. There is a feeling of satisfaction in knowing that we have a definite place in

the spreading of the Gospel in the world. And God is using Southeastern Baptist College.

I want to thank the trustees for their faithful support and the administrators, faculty, and staff who are very dedicated and capable workers. I also sincerely thank each person, church, and association who support the college with your prayers, encouragement and finances. And, of course, we are thankful for the students the Lord has given us to be a part in their preparation to serve Him. I also appreciate all my family and friends who encourage, help, and pray for me. That means so much.

Accomplishments During the Year

As I have been reporting, our accreditation was re-certified for ten more years. The enrollment continues to increase each year. This fall en-

rollment was 16% higher than last fall and the highest in five years.

The choir is also growing in number and in their representation of the college. We appreciate Mr. Glenn Padgett, all those in the choir, and those who support them. They want to be used for the Lord.

The alumni is being better organized and is being a blessing to the college. Our thanks goes to Mrs. Ginny Singleton who is working with the alumni. I appreciate those who are former students for voluntarily establishing web sites, etc., to correspond with each other and promote the college. There are many possibilities for their support.

The Foundation continues to grow and provide a source of income to the college, even though the economy of our country has affected it this year. Thank you to all who

send regular contributions and memorial offerings to the Foundation.

The Special Emphasis has been good again this year. Some contributions are still coming in. The total at this time is over \$17,000.00.

Because of the churches who send offerings designated for the Land Fund and the state Brotherhood who took that as their project this year, we were able to pay the interest on the note plus \$17,000.00 on the principle.

The financial demands are a constant challenge to us to raise enough to pay the expenses of operating a college. Just as your utilities, insurance, etc., are increasing, so do ours increase each year. Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide students and supporters to meet these needs.



Commission on Senior Adults

Vern D. Holifield, Director
4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Greetings

At this writing the month of October is about gone. Cool, autumn weather is a welcome change after an extremely hot summer. Many greens like turnips, mustard, collards and green onions are looking good these days. Now, Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the bend. God bless all who read the Mississippi Baptist Paper, and this article.

The 2009 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi is now history. All in all the Association went real well. The reports were encouraging and informative. We added a missionary to work in the Hattiesburg area. The Tuesday evening service was simply great. The choir from Midway First Baptist was truly at its best as they led to great heights in Christian joy. The Annual message by Brother Ken Riley could not have been better. This service and the entire meeting reminded me of Associations we use to have. Thank the Lord for His wonderful grace.

Due to the lateness of the hour when the Tuesday evening worship service was over the messengers voted to accept the reports of the Commission without reading them.

This was done at my request. Please read the reports when they come out in the Year Book. The Commission enjoyed a good year in about every way. The financial support grew. Several churches placed the Commission in their budgets. A number of churches organized a work with their seniors. The Trustees and I do appreciate your prayers and your financial support.

2010 Conferences

Please take note of the 2010 Senior Adult Conferences. The South Conference will be March 2, 2010. The place is Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso with Pastor Don Brown. Brother Kenneth Bobo will be the guest preacher. The North Conference will be May 11, 2010. The place will be the East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, Brother Gary Smith pastor. The Theme for the Conferences will be Evangelism. We urge our churches to join us in prayer for these great meetings. It seems to me that the spirit and work of Evangelism and soul winning is very low in many of the churches of the BMA of Mississippi. In my opinion, we all must begin to talk about this great work of the Lord, and we must get to work doing what Jesus told

His Church to do about witnessing to lost sinners. Please, pastor, mark your calendar and plan to attend the Conference in your area, and bring loads of your people old and young.

Church Visits

Church visits since my last report include Hopewell, Soso; Big Creek, Soso; Bethel, Semi-

nary; Good Hope, Columbia; Good Hope, Ovet; and Parkway, Petal. I appreciate every opportunity to represent the Commission and to preach God's Word. We enjoy the fellowship with God's people.

**continued
on page 4**

Canaan, Purvis Revival

Canaan Baptist Church of Purvis, Mississippi, will hold Fall revival services November 15-18. Weekday services will begin at 7:00 each evening. Our speaker will be Bro. Donnie Guy. Please come and join us as we worship.

Sings scheduled at Pine Ridge Baptist Church

The Harper Family from Bunker, Missouri, will be with Pine Ridge Baptist Church on Sunday, November 15 during our morning worship service. The group Chronicle, from Holden, Louisiana, will also be with us in our morning services on November 29. We are located at 220 Service Road, Laurel, Mississippi. For more information call 601-319-8466.

Unity, McHenry to hold Homecoming

Unity Baptist Church, McHenry, would like to invite all former members and guests to join us on this special day of services on Sunday, November 15. The services will begin at 11:00 a.m. with the morning message to be presented by Bro. Bruce Shaw, first pastor of Unity. Following morning services a lunch will be served. After lunch an afternoon singing will be held with special music being provided by church members and guests. Pastor Carlos Smith and congregation extends a personal invitation.

Resolutions for the Harmony Baptist Association Annual Meeting

1. Be it resolved that the messengers of the Harmony Baptist Association state in unequivocal terms our dismay and displeasure that the 2009 White House Christmas tree will be called a Holiday tree instead of "Christmas tree" and will have no religious symbols or religious ornaments as ordered by the Administration.

2. Be it resolved that we, as a Christian association of churches, declare our sadness over our President and White House Administration not participating in the May 7, 2009, National Day of Prayer.

3. Be it further resolved that we, as an association of churches, state our strong disagreement with our President and First Lady hosting within the White House the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) group on June 22, 2009, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall Gay riots.

4. Be it further resolved that we as God's churches reaffirm our Christian stand against pornography, gambling, the consumption of alcohol as a beverage, same sex marriages, the gay rights movement, or any like evil in the eyes of God.

5. Be it also resolved that as God's children we will support elected officials who recognize God, His Bible, and His church and that we deny our support to those elected officials who fail to recognize God.

Resolutions Committee:

Dr. John M. Adams, Mantachie, Mississippi, Chairman
Mr. Randy Boyd, Mantachie, Mississippi
Mr. David Chaney, Tupelo, Mississippi

The Harmony Baptist Association of Northeast Mississippi consists of 17 churches working together for the cause of Jesus Christ.

Moderator Rev. Timothy Nall, Corinth, Mississippi, Clerk Mavous Phifer, Tishomingo, Mississippi.

Done in unanimous vote on Saturday, October 10, 2009, at the First Baptist Church, Mantachie, Mississippi.

Dr. John M. Adams

Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Annual Reports Issue

In this edition of the paper you will find annual reports from various departments, commissions and auxiliaries. These reports were given at the recent Annual meeting held at Southeastern College in Laurel.

The printing of these reports gives the reader a good insight to the recent meeting and let's them hear directly from each worker.

We ask that you read each report carefully along with the brief statistical report that begins on page one. A number of photos of the recent meeting are placed throughout this issue.

The business of this year's meeting was completed in one day. We heard from all of the state missionaries, a number of guests from our national work, and were entertained by the choir from Midway First Baptist Church, Sumrall, Mississippi, as well as the Southeastern Baptist College Choir. A reception was held for Latrelle Windham in honor of his 23 years of service as state youth director.

How pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in harmony and unity. This year's meeting was such an event.



Don Brown
Editor

New Church Plan Member

We welcome the Rock Creek Baptist Church of Union, Mississippi, to the Paper's family plan. We are glad they are part of our Association and look forward to working together with them and their pastor Bro. Wayne Stockstill.

Women Understand

from page 1

shut down a ministry that represents the core of what the BMAA stands for the salvation of souls. These are women that can only be reached through a ministry such as the women's center, a place that provides a welcoming atmosphere of acceptance and love and a message of hope and eternal life.

During a short (three week) visit to the United States that will come to an end this week, I have been able to visit a few churches and have spoken at a few local associations. The response has been encouraging, but it is not enough. Many pre-

Former BMA pastor dies

Bro. Roxie Odell Sullivan, 63, died Wednesday, October 14, 2009, at South Central Medical Center. Funeral services will be held Saturday, October 17, 2009, at Mineral Springs Baptist Church in Taylorsville. Burial was in the Mineral Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

Bro. Sullivan celebrated 49 years of serving as pastor in Baptist churches in eight states: Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, Florida, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri, on Sunday October 11, 2009. He was preceded in death by parents, Rozell and Deter Johnson Sullivan and brother Readell (N. R.) Sullivan. He is survived by his wife, Arvanell Sullivan; brother Noel and wife Lynn Sullivan of Woodstock, Georgia; sister-in-law Betty Sanders Sullivan, Springdale, Arkansas; a number of nieces and nephews and a host of friends over eight states.

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



Some things never change.

cious BMA members have felt the burden and have promised to help, but the need is for many more like them if this ministry is going to continue and grow.

The Bible says "ye have not because ye ask not," so I am asking and trusting Him to supply these needs:

- We need 600 individuals to join the 600 Club and commit to giving \$100 a year to cover expenses and conferences.

- We need our churches, WMAs and other groups to put this ministry into their budgets to make sure our funding is sustained, and

- We need these groups to take ownership of this ministry and encourage one another to prayerfully and financially support it.

Won't you be a part of this wonderful work? Please send your support to the BMAA Missions, P.O. Box 30910, Little Rock, AR 72260. It is very important to designate your gifts, ³Middle East Women's Project.² This will insure that they go to this ministry.

I thank all the pastors and churches who have been very receptive and generous and I challenge them to pray that God will use this work for the salvation of many and for His glory.

If you are interested in get-

ting updates about this ministry, please email me at charliejetsetter@hotmail.com.

*Zolan, Alexander J., The effects of Islamization on the Legal and Social state of Women in Iran, 1987 as quoted by Frog and Amy Orr-Ewing in Holy Warriors, p.61, Authentic Media, Waynesboro, GA 2005.

Senior Adults

from page 3

Associations Visited

We enjoyed our visits with following Associations: Big Creek, Hobolochitto, Tombigbee, Harmony, Judson, and the BMA of Mississippi. All but three of the Local Associations have the Commission in their budgets. The opportunity to represent the Commission in these Associations is greatly appreciated.

National Senior Adult Conference

The Lord willing, Mrs. Holifield and I will attend the national Senior Adult Conference. It is going to be a great meeting. Hundreds will be in Branson for this annual event. We plan to visit our children and other relative around this time also.

Thompsons celebrate 65 years of marriage

On November 12, 1944 at 10 am, Rev. C. A. Simmons (their pastor) performed the wedding of Charles Gradel Thompson and Laura Jim Martin. At 11am they were at church that day. Eld. & Mrs. Charles Thompson will observe their 65th wedding anniversary on November 12, 2009. Bro. Thompson been retired from the ministry for 3 years. They are currently members of Springhill Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi where their grandson, Rev. Duane Ledlow, is their pastor.



Mississippi Baptist

Don J. Brown, Editor
E-Mail - editor@msbaptist.org
Web site www.msbaptist.org

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Mississippi State Brotherhood Report

by **Roger Jefcoat, President**

The Brotherhood of the Mississippi BMA met Monday, October 19, 2009 at Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, Mississippi.

The response to this year's project has been great. Donations have come near the \$3,000.00 mark. We thank each person that had a part in this. We praise our Lord for the support that we were able

the moral action of our communities, state and nation. Dr. Adams asked that all of our men come to the alter to pray for our Christian politicians and our nation.

Mark Jones gave the Galilean report. The Galileans are doing great, but there are very few churches that are involved in the ministry. If your church does not have a Galilean program, please consider this



2009-10 Brother Officers

to provide to the Mississippi Galileans and the Southeastern Baptist College Land Fund.

During the business meeting, our brotherhood voted to establish a Disaster Relief Ministry with a five man team to organize and direct this ministry. There were at least 30 men raised their hand as volunteers to help with this ministry.

The following officers were elected for the 2009-10 year. President, Roger Jefcoat; First Vice President, Bryson Haden; Second Vice President, Adam Sloan; Secretary/Treasurer, Roger Akers; Galilean Director, Mark Jones; and Assistant Galilean Director, Larry Trammel. The project for this year will be 75% Disaster Relief Ministry and 25% Mississippi Galileans. Please put these officers and projects on your prayer list.

Our speakers for the program were Senator Joey Fillingame and Dr. John Adams. Senator Fillingame gave us information on how we could be more involved in and have a positive affect in legislation in our state. Dr. Adams gave thoughts of why and how we could be more involved in

program for your boys and young men. Mark and Larry are available to assist you in building or organizing a Galilean program.

God has blessed our state brotherhood this year. The men of our association are becoming more evolved in His work. The attendance in this years meeting increased.

The offerings for our annual projects increased. Our prayer is that we will follow God's guidance into even a greater, more fruitful experience this year.

Youth Department Seeks Applicants

The BMA of Mississippi Department of Youth is actively seeking to fill the position of Youth Director for our state work. The trustees will begin the interview process in late January. We need your help to get the word out to all our churches, pastors, and youth workers.

We will be taking resumes until the end of December. Resumes may be sent to P.O. Box 4247, Laurel, MS 39441, or electronically to cypresscreekbaptistchurch@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your help,
Chris Freeman, Clerk,
BMAM Department of Youth



Annual Christian Action Commission Report

Dr. John M. Adams, Director
Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Support

Your faithfulness to stand with this agency has been the strength upon which we have drawn from this past year. Mrs. Adams and I "thank you" for your continued prayers as we have joyed in the work of this ministry. We wish to thank each church and association for your continued financial contributions. There have been sixty seven (67) churches, organizations and associations that have pledged to this ministry.

Suggestions

The CAC welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding this ministry. We are dedicated to spreading the message of morality through God's Word. Please feel free to contact us at: Telephone 662-282-7425; Cell 662-231-3863; Email Fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com; Website www.cacbma.net; Address, Christian Action Commission, P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855

Service

During our 2008-2009 Associational year, your Christian Action Commission has been well represented at the Mississippi State House and at our United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. It was my distinct

Moral Action

Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi
Dr. John M. Adams, Director
P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863
Email - fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com



John Adams

honor to share with Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour and Lt. Governor Phil Bryant about our CAC mission. I was privileged again to lead in the opening prayer for the State Senate and our State House. I have also visited with U.S. Senator Roger Wicker and U.S. Representative Travis Childers regarding our CAC concerns

During this past year, each church was mailed a copy of the "Petition For Initiative Measure To Amend the Mississippi Constitution." (Attached) The petition has been well received. It's intended purpose is to show the "term person to be defined to include every human being from the moment of fertilization." Our churches, along with hundreds of others, have pledge to stand against abortion. Abortion has been our highlighted focus for the 2008-2009 year. As of September 2009, there will need to be 90,000 petitions validated before our local circuit clerks.

Once validated, the petitions are sent to the Honorable Delbert Hoseman, Secretary of the State for Mississippi. The 90,000 signed petitions will allow this amendment to be voted on by Mississippi voters. Thanks to each church, pastor, teacher, and circulator who had a part in this drive. For further information, you can go to www.personhoodmississippi.com. Schedule of Yearly Special Interest for CAC:
2006-2007 Religious Freedom
2007-2008 Gambling
2008-2009 Abortion and Pro-life
2009-2010 Homosexuality and Gay Rights

Name Change

The Director and Board of Trustees of the Christian Action Commission of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi propose that the Christian Action Committee's name be changed to Moral Action of Mississippi, an agency of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi.

This is a request by our national agency Moral Action. Each state or regional association will be asked to name or rename their moral agency such as: the Moral Action of

California, the Moral Action of Texas, etc. This will enhance unification and cohesiveness among our states in the area of morality. As Executive Director of our national Moral Action agency, I desire to have contacts in every state and region of the BMA.

The Silencing of Christians

America is in a "Valley of Decision" as Joel declared in the Old Testament. We recognize the desire by Satanic forces to silence the voice of Christ and His Church.

But we that believe in Godly, biblical convictions cannot sit idly by, our voice must be heard. BMA churches still believe in the home, morality, the Bible, the Church, and the greatness and power of God.

The War is Before us

The main battlefield today is for our children. Whoever controls the children, controls our future. There is an agenda today to guide the children in America from God via television, books, movies, public school mandates, etc. Such organizations as the ACLU and American Atheists are leading the battle in our courts to remove God from our children in the public schools.

The New Testament church has a mandate and unlimited opportunity to engage our children in the teaching of the word through Sunday School, VBS, Awana, Galileans, GMA's, church camps and youth groups.

Alan Sears in the book, "The ACLU vs America" states, "the ACLU is defending those who abuse children while attacking those who give them moral guidance."

The Christian Action Commission continues to promote Biblical morality and to strongly oppose the evils of our time, such as alcohol, child and drug abuse, sodomy, homosexuality, pornography, gambling, abortion, and euthanasia. As we share articles in our state paper, printed materials, videos, webpage and suggested readings, pray that God will use this work for His cause.

Mississippi WMA

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

State WMA Meeting Report

October 19

Southeastern Baptist College

Mississippi State WMA Officers, 2009-2010: President, Ruby Bynum; 1 Vice-president, Lida Hudson; 2nd Vice-president, Anita Akers; 3rd Vice-president, Jessica Haden; Corresponding Secretary, Shirlene Smith; Assist. Corresponding Secretary, Barbara White; Recording Secretary, Kay Chisholm; Assist. Recording Secretary, Jeanelle Burkes; Historian, Chris Smith; Editor, Donna Lawrence; Pianist, Belinda Lee; Song Director, Cindy Jones; GMA/YLA Promoter, Beth Caldwell; Sunday Promoter, Linda Faye Dertinger; Project Promoter, Lynn McCoy, Dianne Rainey. Project 2009-2010: 75% South Hattiesburg, Mission, Missionaries Ray and Joann Boone; 25% General Fund. Advisory Council, Bro. Matt Hudson, Bro. Arthur Smith, Bro. Roger Akers; Retreat Committee, Sharon Lindsey (Chairperson), Chris Smith.

Bro. Matt Hudson spoke on behalf of the national WMA project in the absence of his wife, Lisa, as she is undergoing treatment for breast cancer and unable to attend. The goal is \$50,000.00 - 80% for the Hospital in Laos, 15% Youth, 5% general fund. Please remember this and get your project money in as soon as possible. Bro. Matt thanked everyone for their prayers and support and asked that we continue to remember them in our prayers.

Bro. Paul Lee spoke on behalf of the Prisoners Bible Crusade. He encouraged each of us to seek out ladies that are in prison or are the spouse or mother of a prisoner to encourage them, be a witness to them and tell them of the love of God.

The theme for our meeting was "Thou Art Come For Such a Time as This" from Ephesians 5:16, redeeming the time because the days are evil. This theme was carried out in the business meeting as well as the annual message delivered by Bro. Ken Riley. We need to ever draw nigh unto God as the coming of our Lord is closer

than ever before. Start today, there is no better time to serve the Lord. We are not promised tomorrow.

Three ladies from the Northeast district were on the program. Each had parts that revealed how the theme was so perfect for the fast pace hectic lives that we live today. The program was truly a blessing. Anita Akers not only organized a great program, but truly blessed each of us with special music also.

Junior Miss GMA for the State of Mississippi as well as first alternate National Junior Miss GMA, Crystal Brewer, gave her testimony of her belief first hand in the power of prayer. She chose James 5:16 as the verse to base her belief. She had prayed for her alcoholic Dad for several years before he was saved. She was so glad to report that he had been sober for over three years.

Please remember our project for the coming year and start now encouraging your WMA to work hard to support the mission in south Hattiesburg with Bro. Ray and Sister Joann Boone. Pray for them in your daily prayers.

Donna Lawrence, Editor

2009-10 State WMA Officers



State WMA Theme for 2009 - 2010 "Beautiful Feet...Bringing Salvation" Isaiah 52:7

Audit Report for the Mississippi State WMA

November 1, 2008
Mississippi State WMA
Laurel, MS

Project Funds Received by September 30, 2009

25% General Fund plus Designated Offerings (This amount has already been added to the General Fund)	\$2,090.42
75% Bro. Estuardo Marroquin's Building Fund	4,810.72
Total Received	\$6,901.14

Ladies,

I have looked at the bank statements, check register, and the journal that our secretary uses and all balances agree with the figures that she gave to you at the state meeting in her report.

Shirlene does complete and neat entries in the books and that is so good when you go through them.

Sincerely,

Della N. Priest, 698 Rock Hill Road, Brandon, MS 39042, 601-591-0110

Note: This audit was published in the MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST.

Final Totals for the 2008-2009 State Project

25% General Fund (plus designated offerings)	\$2,575.45
75% Estuardo Marroquinn's Building Fund	\$5,617.84
Total Received	\$8,193.29

Top Five Churches contributing to the Mississippi State WMA Project

1. Vardaman Street Baptist Church, Wiggins	\$1,533.41
2. Parkview Baptist Church, Laurel	1,000.00
3. Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl	755.00
4. Hopewell Baptist Church, Laurel	526.00
5. Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso	500.00

Ladies, thank you for a job well done in supporting the MS State WMA General Fund and the Building Fund of Missionary Estuardo Marroquinn. The new project selected for the coming year is 25% General Fund and 75% New Mission in South Hattiesburg. You may send your offerings for this project to Shirlene Smith, 730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443. May God receive honor from all that we do for Him through WMA.

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

Camp Already?

By Presley Jones

We are barely two months past GMA camp and already the ground has been broken for next year's camp planning. The National GMA officers met in Vicksburg, Mississippi with the Director of Youth Auxiliaries; Robin Clark, the Assistant Director of Youth Auxiliaries; Mandi Townsend, the GMA/ YLA Promoter; Beth Caldwell, the Sunbeam promoter; Claudie Thompson, and other sponsors to begin the task of planning camp.

The camp theme for 2010 will be "How Great Is Our God" with I Chronicles 16:25 as our scripture inspiration. Among the projects discussed was for each National Officer to raise at least \$100 for the camp relief fund which assists girls and/or churches who need help with camp fees. We encourage everyone to help the officers achieve their goals.

2010 promises to be an exciting camp with a heavy burden on evangelism, both home and abroad, and the goal to reach every girl at the camp with the gospel message of salvation and service to our Lord Jesus Christ. Each officer was made aware of their responsibility as a role model for Christ, their church, and their office. Pray for us as we continue in our endeavors.

The next meeting is planned for February 19th and 20th in central Arkansas.

CHILDREN'S HOME

118 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928

Director's Annual Report

Go Quickly— For the Night Is Coming

This year's theme of the BMA of Mississippi's annual session is "Go Quickly—For the Night Is Coming." Jesus said in John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." It is clear through the teachings of Jesus that the influence we have on others are important and that we must use every opportunity possible to challenge them to give their lives in service to Him for a lifetime.

Special Emphasis

October and November are the months that have been set aside by the BMA of Mississippi as Special Emphasis months for the Children's Home each year. Our goal this year is \$25,000 and we want to ask for your help once again during this Special Emphasis period. God will surely bless you for your efforts and all of us here at the Mississippi Baptist

Children's Home shall be forever grateful for your support.

Food and Miscellaneous Rallies

The food and miscellaneous rallies continue to be of utmost importance in the ongoing operation of the Home. They help provide extra support from the churches throughout the year that supplies the needs of the Home in a financial way. We want to say "thank you" to all the associations, churches, and individuals who participated in these rallies during the previous year.

Christmas Sharing

As you know, Christmas is not too far off in the distant future. Each year during the Christmas holiday season many of you share your gener-



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

osity with the children. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated and brightens the lives of our boys and girls. If you would like to help this year at Christmas time you may contact us about your desire to help and we will be glad to assist you concerning your wishes to share with the children at Christmas.

Mississippi Department of Transportation

The Mississippi Department of Transportation at present propose to four lane Highway 15 northward from the Laurel city limits to Newton. Their present proposal would come

to the east-northeast portion of our property coming very near or taking in a portion of our present structure. Final plans have not been released by the Highway Department, but I am told that they will do so by December or the first of the year.

Staff and Trustees

I would like to commend the staff serving the Lord and you through the ministry of the Home. To each I express my appreciation for their dedication to this important work.

Also, I would like to express my gratitude to the board of trustees for their interest and

dedication to this ministry.

Remember in Prayer

It is our prayer that the ministry of the Home will be used of the Lord in influencing the lives He has placed under our care and give glory to Him. Galatians 6:14. Pray for the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home that we will provide children with the loving warmth of Christian life and upbringing in an atmosphere that brings honor and glory to the Lord for a lifetime.

*Influencing Children
for a Lifetime,
Sidney Davis, Director*

Images From Recent 2009 Annual Meeting



State Senator Joey Fillingame Spoke at Brotherhood



Southeastern Baptist College Choir

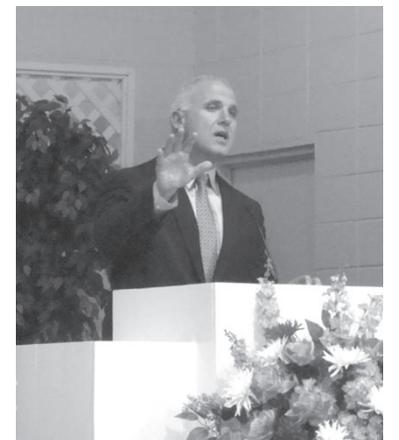


BMA President Leon Carmical introducing Annual Theme



LEFT - Latrelle Windham and his wife Linda at a reception held in his honor for 23 years of service as State Youth Director

BELOW - Bro. Ken Riley brings annual message.



Mississippi State WMA Corresponding Secretary's Report

by Shirlene Smith

September 30, 2009

Balance September 30, 2009	\$10,559.00
Total Received October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009	8,728.74
Total to Account for	19,287.74
Expenditures (See List Below)	9,263.37
Balance on Hand	10,024.37
General Fund Balance	\$5,213.65
Project (75%)	4,810.72
Ladies' Retreat Fund	.00
Balance on Hand	\$10,024.37

Expenditures

Check No.	Amount
764 Louise Crawley, '07-'08 Salary	\$ 50.00
765 Shirlene Smith, '07-'08 Salary	50.00
766 Dustie Chisholm, Nursery Worker	25.00
767 Bro. David Ruffin, Speaker	250.00
768 Vardaman Street, Wiggins, President's Award	100.00
769 Southeastern Baptist College, Meeting Expenses	100.00
770 BMA of MS, Minute Fund	200.00
771 National WMA, Pastors' Wives and Widows' Breakfast	350.00
772 BMA of MS Missions, Estuardo Marroquin's Land Fund, WMA Project	7,088.38
773 Chris Smith, Expenses	85.05
774 Cindy Clark, Refund, Flowers for Leroy Caldwell	75.00
775 Chris Smith, Historian's Expenses	46.31
776 Camp Garaywa, Ladies' Retreat deposit, 2010	100.00
777 Lynn McCoy, Project Promotion Materials	2.63
778 Mr. Terry Hall, Mid-Year Speaker	250.00
779 Hopewell Baptist Church, Refund, Flowers for Tommy Dertinger	114.49
780 Beth Caldwell, GMA Workshop at Cleveland	214.97
781 Wal-Mart, 5 Frames for WMA Certificates	21.40
Service Charges for 2008-2009	110.14
TOTAL PAID OUT	\$9,263.37

2009 State Meeting

from page 1

tient as they continue their search for a director and the future ministry decisions of the department. They recommended to stop the ABS ministry on the three campuses where it was being held and to have a quarterly ABS event.

David Norvell, director of the BMA Missions Chaplaincy program gave a report on both national missions and the chaplaincy program. He introduced Chaplain Lt. Col. Forest "Bo" Bankston, who is serving as head chaplain at Camp Shelby

south of Hattiesburg. Bankston reported on his ministry with the thousands of troops that are processed through Shelby.

Attendance was somewhat better at this year's meeting. The Brotherhood once again had a fellowship meal on Monday evening before their meeting.

Each department's individual report is printed throughout this issue. Readers are encouraged to look at each one to get a good understanding of their work.

November 2009
Children's Home
Special Emphasis
*Making a difference
in a child's life*

BMA OF MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

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



Director's Annual Report

Luke 24:32, *And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures.*

The Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi Missions and Revolving Loan Fund Departments has 180 churches and 4 missions listed for Mississippi. In January of the fiscal year of 2008-09 the LifePoint Baptist Mission of Hernando, MS., and in March the Divine Grace Baptist Mission of Long Beach, MS., were organized into New Testament churches. Four Missionaries with missions remain on mission status with plans to organize and become self supporting by the end of fiscal year 2009-10.

The Lord continues to answer prayer. In the annual meeting of the State Missionary Committee Bro. Ray Boone was elected as Missionary to serve in the South Hattiesburg area. Communications are now in process with two other possible applicants who have expressed a desire to work in Mississippi.

Truly, the Lord is good to the BMA of Mississippi Missions Department. The BMA of Mississippi Missions effort for the past fiscal year has realized 498 professions of faith and 35 baptisms. Receipts for general offerings reached \$332,583, which was a decrease of only \$17,129 from the previous year. Our expenses for 2008-09 were \$360,987, which was \$29,723 below our adopted budget.

The birthing of the New Testament Baptist Church was by Jesus Christ during his personal earthly Ministry. He organized her and sat in her the necessary offices and ordinances for operation, and then empowered her on the day of Pentecost. We also thank the Lord for his promise of her continual existence until His return for her.

Individuals come and go, local churches come and go, but his church marches on as she victoriously encounters the doctrinal, financial and numerical obstacles. We must pray that in her years of earthly tenure she will remain faithful in doctrine and direction to her founder Jesus Christ.

There is yet Hope for America, hope lies within the ministry of the local New Testament Church through her message to the world that Jesus saves. Time has ushered America into an era of intense demonic aggression against the Lord's church, therefore we must keep our priorities in order.

It is necessary that we realize an increase in mission's revenue before we can move ahead with our presently elected missionary or any additional

missionaries.

Your prayerful, moral, and financial support given through the church and associational effort of reaching the lost and building churches is appreciated and has eternal blessings. Our Mission Statement, go win souls and build churches remains.

With the election of Bro. Boone the BMA of Mississippi is blessed to have five missionaries and missions, Bro. Estuardo Marroquin and El Camino Hispanic Baptist Mission of Laurel; Bro. Joseph Oyeeye and Maple Street Baptist Mission of Columbus; Bro. Elvis Garcia and First Hispanic Baptist Mission of Ripley; Bro. Ed Duvall and Homestretch Baptist Mission of Cleveland; and now Bro. Ray Boone will be working in south Hattiesburg, all in Mississippi.

At different intervals through this associational meeting your missionaries have shared with this body an update progress report of their mission. In the handouts of the Missions Department are the statistics of each missionary.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Another very good year for the Revolving Loan Fund is now history. As director I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Bro. Dossen Lavell Lee as RVLFF Manager and Mrs. Lori Garrett as RVLFF Bookkeeper and secretary. Bro. Lee's past experience in management and financing and as a RVLFF trustee has proven to be beneficial for the management of this position. Mrs. Lori Garrett who has been with the Missions Office since 1997 and continues to excel in her performance. You will be blessed as you learn from Bro. Lee's report and the handouts how God has blessed the RVLFF with another good year.

Our new girl on the block is Ms. Kimberly Glenn a member of First Baptist Bay Springs. Kim's position is secretary and bookkeeper of Missions, she has a beautiful smile and a wonderful personality. She has worked diligently with us as we once again waded through the routine of general operations and in the annual close out and 2008-09 audit.

At this time I feel it is in order for me to say to our Pastors and Churches **ATHANK YOU@** for your continued regular monthly support and personal investment with the Revolving Loan Fund.

In Proverbs 18:22 the scripture says, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." I am grateful for my wife Faye who not only stands with me, but is my ever encourager and often times the one who pushes me just another mile.

2009 ANNUAL REVOLVING LOAN REPORT

Psa. 145:9 *The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.*

This passage of Scripture was written thousands of years ago by King David and is listed as "David's Psalm of praise". Truly God is good to all, and I know that his tender mercies are upon us today. We give the Lord the glory and praise for his continued blessings upon the BMA of MS Revolving Loan Fund. The RLF continues to be a strong ministry that BMA of MS Churches and Missions use to help with their financing needs.

I consider it a privilege to serve as Manager of your RLF. This has been a very challenging year. I made a similar statement in last year's annual RLF report as we were entering a difficult world wide financial downturn. Little did we know at that time that this financial crisis would deepen greatly. Economists tell us that this has been the deepest and longest recession since the 1950's, and it appears to have reached bottom in February, 2009. There seems to have been some slow improvement since then but no economists are yet willing to get out on a limb and say we are out of the woods. The Federal Reserve is still sitting on rock bottom in their rate system. We have had to make several downward rate adjustments since our annual meeting in October, 2008. This has been very painful to me personally because many older people have accounts with the RLF and the interest that they draw

from their accounts is actually part of their financial living resource so their income is reduced. Some ministries also use interest from their accounts to help fund their expenses so they too are feeling the pinch in a real way. I do not take this kind of responsibility lightly. It is my personal responsibility to stay on top of what is going on in the world of economics and recommend appropriate adjustments to the RLF Trustees and they have responded well. They too are very aware of the impact of their decisions and take their responsibility very seriously.

Our annual audit by Horne CPA Firm is complete. They made their annual report to the RLF Trustees October 9, 2009. They found the RLF function and condition to be very satisfactory. Their report is a part of the hand out of both the RLF and Missions.

Some audited financial statistics for your RLF as of July 31, 2009 are as follows: Gross assets are \$13,952,526.00, an increase of \$352,272.00 over 2008. Net unrestricted assets stand strong at \$2,263,965.00, an increase of \$7,142.00 over 2008. 15 new loans totaling \$929,387.25 were made during this year. 10 refinanced loans totaling \$2,305,193.02 were also made during this year. Investor accounts stand at



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

On Speaking

Mama always said, "Better to be silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt." I heard it expressed another way the other day, "Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak."

Have you ever been around someone who seemed to put their brain in neutral and their mouth on automatic pilot? Words just continue to spill out of their mouth, but there doesn't seem to be much thinking going on. It's kinda funny to just back off and listen!

We might all do well to try harder to live by Colossians 4:6: "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

\$11,238,844.00, an increase of \$341,518.00 over 2008.

Excess funds are invested in strong local banks in a manner to attain as much FDIC protection as we can and still have enough funds with which to operate.

I am thankful for the 9 men who serve as your RLF Trustees. Their wise counsel serves us well in all the decision making that comes our way. I appreciate the wise counsel of Director, Dr. Rayburn Freeman. In addition, it would be difficult for me to overstate the value of our very able accountant, Sis. Lori Garrett and I appreciate her.

I need to mention that RLF funds are restricted and not available for use in general mission operations. Missions is responsible for raising their own operation funds.

I want to thank Churches that send contributions for the general expense of the RLF. If your Church can send even a small amount monthly to help us, we will appreciate it. Please continue to pray for us.

Psa. 145:10 All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. Amen!

Dosson L. Lee, Manager
Revolving Loan Fund