

Baptist

Mississippi

Journal

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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2010 Annual Meeting held in Laurel

Learn It - Live It, The Life of a Disciple

On October 20, 161 messengers from 79 churches from around the state assembled on the campus of Southeastern Baptist College for the 2010 annual session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. An additional 20 churches were represented by letter only. The WMA and Brotherhood met on Monday, October 19, at

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove.

Reports were heard from each department, commission, and auxiliary of the state work along with reports from a number of our national workers. Missionaries reported on their individual ministries and the progress of their efforts.

Officers elected to serve for the 2010-11 year are President, Shane Singleton, pastor of Parkview Church, Laurel; I Vice President, Ken Riley, pastor of Lebanon Church, Laurel; II Vice President, Gary Smith, pastor of East Fulton Church, Fulton; Clerk, Danny Pitts, pastor of First Church Shady Grove, Laurel; Assistant Clerk, Justin Rhodes, pastor of Oakland Church, Vicksburg; Director of Public Information, Don Brown, pastor of Big Creek Church, Soso.

The 2011 meeting will again be held at Southeastern College with the 2011



President Leon Carmical presides as Clerk Danny Pitts (left) records the proceedings of the 2010 BMA of Mississippi meeting.

midyear meeting to be hosted by Parkview Church, Laurel. The speakers for the midyear meeting will be Hispanic Missionaries Elvis Garcia and Estuardo Marraquin. The 2011 annual speaker will be James Sprayberry, pastor of First Church, Bay Springs, with the alternate being Dr. Martin Jameson, pastor of Bethel Church, Fulton.

The annual message was brought on Tuesday evening by Bro. Gary Smith, pastor of East Fulton Church, Fulton from Acts 27:14-29 on the subject "Four Strong Anchors". A mini concert by the group "Stubborn Love" was held prior to the Tuesday evening session.

The Southeastern College Choir presented a short program during the Tuesday morning session. President Leon Carmical brought the president's message and emphasized the theme for this year's meeting, "Learn It - Live It, The Life of a Disciple".

Visitors from the national work who spoke are Missions Director John David Smith along with Bro. Jerry Kidd. Smith presented an inspiring challenge to the churches and

pledged to "come along side of the local church to do mission work and to reproduce the local church". Kidd shared inspiring words concerning the ministry of BMAA missions around the world.

Dr. Kevin Clayton, Director of DiscipleGuide in Texarkana, Arkansas, was present and discussed the progress of their work. He addressed the recent decision to make our literature available in more than one Bible translation. He stressed that this has been requested for some time and a number of churches have been looking to other publishers for help. Publishing works across the nation have experienced a decline in sales and this is also true for DiscipleGuide. Another new feature he discussed is a "text messaging service" that churches can make available to their teenagers. They would receive a weekly message encouraging church attendance.

Clayton shared that Sunday School attendance across the nation is in serious decline and that they were currently selling only one-half the resources that they were selling in 1977.

Special Committee Report

The special committee elected by the messengers at the midyear meeting to address concerns at the Children's Home and Youth Department gave their report. There seemed to have been some confusion as to the scope of this committee's work. Many thought the purpose and direction was to look at the feasibility of combining the two departments. Bro. Arthur Smith, who brought the motion at the midyear meeting creating the committee said that this was not his intention. The committee limited its report to the feasibility of using the Children's Home property or any portion of it for a Youth Camp. They obtained a legal opinion that there were not restrictions in the deed to prevent such a move if the Association directed. After lengthy discussion a motion was made to table any further action.

Report continued on page 2

Donnie Boutwell dies

Donald Ray Boutwell, age 61 of Carriere, Mississippi, died Friday, October 29, 2010 in Picayune. A native of Picayune, he was the pastor of Lee's Chapel #1 Missionary Baptist Church for the past 12 years. Bro. Boutwell was actively involved in the work of the BMA of Mississippi. He had served in a number of offices and was currently the chairman of the Children's Home Trustees.



Bro. Donnie Boutwell

Bro. Boutwell is survived by his wife Pam Carlisle Boutwell of Carriere; one daughter, Carla (Jeffrey) Boutwell-Hodnett of Poplarville; one son, Lewis (Hally) Boutwell of Wiggins; five granddaughters; one sister, Lawanna Boutwell of Carriere; and one brother, Carlos Boutwell of Carriere. He was preceded in death by his parents Carl H. Boutwell and Jean Kirkland Boutwell.

Funeral services were held on Monday, November 01, 2010 at Lee's Chapel #1 Church. The services were conducted by Bro. Tim Parker and Rev. A. W. Kirkland. Burial was in the West Union Cemetery.

We are saddened by this news and are encouraged to lift up his wife and family in prayer during this most difficult time.



2010-11 officers - left to right - President Shane Singleton, I VP Ken Riley, II VP Gary Smith, Clerk Danny Pitts, Asst. Clerk Justin Rhodes and Director of Public Information Don Brown.

Commission on Senior Adults

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



2010 Annual Report

Greetings

It is good for me to once again stand before the assembled messengers from the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. It is indeed an honored privilege to be a part with churches that believe the Bible to be the very Word of God. To hear our leaders report how God is blessing our BMA work around the world is inspiring and encouraging to my heart. I know we are not the only people doing business for God in this world, but we are engaged in a wonderful way. I believe ever pastor and every church who are members of the BMA of Mississippi and the BMA of America should feel blessed to be a part of a work that is doing business for the God of heaven. No we are not perfect even as the first church was not perfect. However, the Bible message we carry is perfect. The gospel we preach is perfect. The Christ who died and rose again is perfect. He is the One our churches represent here on earth. I am proud to be an AMERICAN and I am proud to be a CHRISTIAN and I am proud to be numbered with Missionary or BMA Baptists in Mississippi and around the

world. AMEN! And AMEN!

Appreciations

We appreciate Dr. Freeman and his Trustees for providing us office space in the Missions Complex. I enjoy brief times of fellowship with Brother Freeman, Brother Lee and others who work there. My Trustees make a great team and are good people.

My wife Dorothy is a faithful co-worker with me. She is an efficient book keeper. She travels with me to Associations and churches. She is a very good driver and I am very good sleeper. I appreciate my brethren in the other Departments. We see one another in the Local Associations and hear each other's reports over and over. I love hearing what God is doing in all the work. We are all in this work together. We will rise or fall together.

2010 A Good Year

Because of the goodness of God and the cooperation of our people your Commission on Senior Adults had a good year. We have promoted and urged every church to organize an active ministry to their dear seniors. To my knowledge every church in the BMA of Mississippi does not have such a ministry, but each year more churches are

becoming aware of this need. The ministry to your seniors is a worthwhile work. I guess some pastors and some churches are cool toward such a ministry, but they are not cool toward the tithes and offerings that come from seniors. They are not cool to the body of an old person that fills a place on a church pew each Sunday. Surely they are not cool to prayers the older people pray in their behalf. Take away the prayers, the presence and the money of the seniors and many churches would close their doors. Why not give some special attention to this group of people in the church?

We have added a few churches to the growing number of budget giving churches. The drop outs are far and few between. We welcome the continued support of seven of the eleven Local Associations. I plan to target the Local Church and ask the pastor and church to prayerfully consider placing your Commission in your budget. The amount is not as important as the assurance that you believe in a ministry to the seniors in our BMA of Mississippi Work. After all, it is a duly authorized work of the BMA of Mississippi. It is your work, not mine. I will love you regardless of what you do.

Finally we reached the point when the Commission can pay a small salary to the Director, pay his expenses to attend the Associations, pay the book keeper a small amount, pay for some office help, and pay the difference between the fee and

the cost of conducting the two Conferences. We have worked hard to promote this work and a number of churches have given to make it grow. All praise belongs to the Lord who is over all His Work.

The 2011 Conferences

The Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso and Pastor Don Brown will host the South Conference. The date is Tuesday, March 29. The First Baptist Church, Mantachie and pastor Dr. John Adams will host the North Conference. The North Day will be May 3. We will begin at 9:15 am and close around 3 pm. The Theme for the Conferences will be "Making Disciples" or "Discipling". Last year the Theme was "Evangelism". To disciple a person is to teach that person how to be a productive follower of Jesus Christ. The Mississippi Baptist Paper will carry information about these great meeting as well as letters to the churches and pastors.

We ask you to pray for your Commissions, the Trustees and the Director. Please pray for the planning of the Conferences and pray for the all the program

on Conference day. I want it all to honor the Lord, edify the people, and point lost sinners to Christ.

Preachers with 50 Years in Ministry

We will recognize preachers with 50 years in the ministry in 2011. Forms will be sent to the churches. All qualifying preachers are urged to participate. We need your information by late January, 2011.



National Missions Director Dr. John David Smith presented the work of Missions to the messengers at the October 2010 session of the BMA of Mississippi.

Annual Meeting

from page 1

Reports from each department and commission are printed in this edition of the Mississippi Baptist. Others reports will be presented from areas of the work in the next issue.

Missions Director Search

As printed in the October 1, 2010 issue of this publication, Bro. Rayburn Freeman has submitted his resignation as state missions director. A committee of 6, composed of three trustees from the missions committee and three from the revolving loan fund, has the responsibility of receiving resumes for this position. All inquiries and resumes should be directed to Bro. Harold Floyd, 19 Pat Holifield Rd., Laurel, MS 39443.

Youth Department - Children's Home Inquiry Committee Report June 28, 2010

The inquiry committee (appointed at the mid-year meeting to look into the feasibility of using some of the property presently owned by the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home as a possible site for a state youth camp) met at the Children's Home on June 28, 2010.

Bro. Denny Patterson served as chairman of the committee. Roger Akers was elected clerk. Committee members present were Donnie Boutwell, Roy Caldwell, Ted Quinby, Phillip Burns, Matt Hudson, Denny Patterson, and Roger Akers.

After discussion of the property and the idea of using part as a youth camp site, the committee asked Brethren Sidney Davis and Donnie Boutwell to look into the legal aspect of how the land was obtained for the home and any stipulations that would hinder using some of the land for a youth camp. Enclosed is a letter from Bro. Sidney Davis Stating the findings.

The committee recommends that if there are no legal hindrances that the possibility exists for part of the property to be used for a youth camp site if the association chooses to pursue it.

The meeting adjourned with prayer.
Denny Patterson, Chairman
Roger Akers, Clerk

Proclamation Honoring Billy Huffmaster



WHEREAS Bro. Billy Huffmaster has served as clerk of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi from 1984 to 2010 and

WHEREAS Bro. Billy Huffmaster has kept accurate records of the proceedings of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi for these Twenty Six years and

WHEREAS Bro. Billy Huffmaster has consistently seen that all records of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi be published in the annual minute book and distributed to the churches and

WHEREAS Bro. Billy Huffmaster has faithfully distributed the association's funds as designated by the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

BE IT RESOLVED that he Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi on this nineteenth day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Ten, recognize and honor Bro. Billy Huffmaster by designating this day as Billy Huffmaster Day.

WE FURTHER RECOMMEND that the 2010 Minute Book be dedicated in honor of Billy Huffmaster.

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

President's Annual Report October 19-20, 2010

Theme

The theme for this year's meeting, LEARN IT, LIVE IT, The Life of a Disciple, is in line with the Purpose of Southeastern Baptist College, which states, "The purpose of Southeastern Baptist College is to glorify God by providing quality post-secondary education from a biblical world view in a Christian atmosphere, thereby developing Christian growth in students and preparing them for service in the Kingdom of God." We are helping students to LEARN IT and preparing them to LIVE IT.

Expression of Thanks

We appreciate every association, church, and individual for all you have done for Southeastern Baptist College this year. We are grateful for your prayers and support of the col-

lege. I am thankful for the privilege to serve as President another year. I commend the Trustees for their cooperation and support. A special thanks goes to Bro. Scott Downes and Bro. Kenneth Flynt, who are going off the board this year. They have done an excellent job. There are always new challenges that we face, but it is encouraging to see the Lord work all of those out to let us know that He is still in control. He provides every need and does it in a way that we must trust Him. We can only do what He enables us to do. That is the way we want it to be.

We are thankful for the students the Lord has given us the privilege of being a part in their preparation to serve Him. I want to thank the administrators, faculty, and staff who are very dedicated and capable workers.

This has been another good

year for the college. God is blessing and using SBC. Several accomplishments have been realized during the past year. I will mention a few of them.

1. The choir performed at the BMAA meeting in April. They are trying to go more this year and would like to get appointments. Call the college or check the web site for available times they want to fill.

2. One of the largest numbers of students ever received degrees, diplomas, and certificates in the May graduation.

3. Some much needed improvements were made to the buildings and grounds. The choir room was renovated along with one practice room.

The faculty lounge is being remodeled.

Repairs were made to the parking lot.

All of these were done with funds donated for that purpose. Thanks to those who provided those funds.

4. Three classes were put on-line and have students enrolled this semester.

5. The Foundation continues to grow and provide a source of income to the college. Thanks to all who send regular contributions and memorial offerings to the Foundation.

Thirty Years On The Job



SBC President Dr. Medrick Savell presents Mrs. Bonnie Brown a Certificate of Recognition for completing 30 years of service to the college during the recent annual meeting in Laurel. Mrs. Brown completed 30 years of service in July 2010.

6. The Special Emphasis contributions continue to come in. The total is getting near \$17,000 and that has been a life saver for us again.

A Challenge

We ended the fiscal year on June 30 with a financial deficit. Like other problems, we are accepting this as a challenge. We are praying and working hard to get more income, and we are trusting the Lord to provide as He has before. I have peace about it and believe He will help us to clear the deficit by the end of this fiscal year.

It's going to be interesting to see how He does it. He has already begun to give new funds.

We have things in progress that will help and some areas

look promising, like the on-line classes that could bring in many students. We are planning to expand the Business program from a two-year program to a four-year program, beginning in the fall. That will provide a bachelors degree program for students who are not ministers.

We ask that you pray for us and help us clear this up. Give a special offering for it, pray for more students in the spring and next fall. Consider enrolling as a student. I am asking that churches who have not been supporting lately begin to send something if at all possible, and some have already done so. Some churches are increasing their regular contributions. Most of all, pray with us and let's see what the Lord is going to do.

11th Annual National Senior Adult Conference November 16-18, 2010 - Hiltons of Branson, Missouri

\$125 Per Person by October 18, 2010. Late Registration is \$135 & Off-site is \$145. You may register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org/conferences or print the form and mail it with your check to the DCM office.

Make your reservations at the Hilton Convention Center Hotel or the Hilton Promenade by calling 1-800-445-8667 or direct at 417-336-5400. The parking garage is \$8 per day and there is limited free parking. Group rate is \$122 per night with the meeting room on site.


DiscipleGuide
CHURCH RESOURCES



Jerry Jolly
Speaker



David Attebery
Worship Leader

Guest Artists



Allison Durham Speer



Ken Nedera

A BMA Homecoming Singing

Branson Show



Shiloh



Sight & Sound
The Miracle of Christmas



Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Random Thoughts

The 2010 Association meeting is now history. The attendance seemingly gets less each year. Surely the importance of the work is no less than it has been - if anything, the work is **more** important than ever. Bro. Vern Holifield addresses this and other concerns in a letter to the editor that you may read on this page.

The attendance at the Tuesday evening session, which included the annual message by Bro. Gary Smith, was a paltry 133. Many of our churches have this many in there midweek service. This low attendance says something, but I dare not speculate on what. Is it lack of caring or excitement for the work that God has given us?

Could it be a lack of communicating the fact that we had a meeting to the people in our churches?

Whatever the reason, we must remedy this and turn it around, or soon there will be no one attending and no one to care for the business of the work.



Don Brown
Editor

Eugene Murphy health concerns

Bro. Eugene Murphy, former director of missions and former president of Southeastern College, is currently confined to Comfort Care Nursing facility in Laurel. The financial burden of this move is great. Currently Bro. Murphy does not receive any Medicare or Insurance aid in covering the expense of this needed care. A special offering was taken for Bro. Murphy at the recent annual meeting in Laurel.

Bro. Murphy has been a dedicated servant of our work and to the churches of the BMA of Mississippi and BMA of America. If any church, individual or association would like to give a special love offering to help with the cost of his care they could contact his pastor, Bro. Ken Riley of Lebanon Baptist Church. The mailing address is 460 Lebanon Rd., Laurel, MS 39443. You may call him at 601-729-2123 or 601-729-2436.

Another called home

It was with shock and sadness that we learned of the death of Bro. Donnie Boutwell this past week. We just saw him and his family at our recent annual meeting. Information can be seen on page one of this issue. Our prayers go out to his family and church, especially his wife, Mrs. Pam Boutwell.

Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

Writer concerned over state of Association
Dear Editor,

What I want to say is not meant to be controversial nor judgmental. I want it to be constructive and helpful. I will discuss something that is of great concern to me. I love our BMA work. I love our people in the BMA of Mississippi.

I considered saying something at the recent Annual meeting of the BMA of Mississippi. I decided not to say anything that might hurt the good meeting we enjoyed.

Something has happened to the attendance at the State Association. If we look back a few years we know the College Auditorium was about full of messengers and visitors. We reserved Wednesday evening as Youth Night. The building was packed out and the bleachers were open on both sides. Brother Mike Gott preached and the Youth from North Mississippi formed a choir and performed on one Youth night. The altar was packed during the invitation. I know because I was then Director of the State Youth Department. Buses were packed from many parts of the state. This happened on more than one occasion. The Parkview Church Sanctuary was packed out several times on Youth night.

I remember several years ago when the President of the Association suggested that we could finish all the business on Tuesday if we all kept it short. I do not remember the man. We did finish all the business of the Association by late afternoon and we all went home. In my humble opinion we have rushed the Annual meeting to death. We have streamlined

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



“Let’s try that song one more time, there’s still something funny about it”

our meeting to death. We have cut and dried our meeting to death. For the past few years we had little inspiration time. The department heads read their report, a motion is made and a second given, no discussion, no question, we vote and move on. By late Tuesday many messengers have gone home. The last reports on late Tuesday are given to very few people. This year the President's message and the Annual message were great. The music was better. Tuesday evening the “Stubborn Love Trio” was a blessing. We leaders have taught our people to be in a hurry when it comes to the Lord's work. It will take time to teach them to come to the State meeting with the idea that they can't be home by bedtime Tuesday.

I believe we should include more inspirational time in the meeting. Why not invite a good singing group and pay them to give a full concert on Tuesday evening and also have the Annual message? We should plan the program to include a Wednesday session and finish by noon on Wednesday. If we give our people something spiritual and inspirational along with the dry reports, I believe we will regain the attendance. People will stay for something good and something they need.

Maybe this open letter to the

editor will cause our people over the state to do some praying and some thinking about where we are. I don't have all the answers. I do believe our people will work together to make some changes for the best in the Lord's Work here in our BMA of Mississippi.

Please allow me to present another idea for your consideration. At the recent State meeting no church sent an invitation for the Mid-Year meeting. Finally Brother Shane Singleton invited us to Parkview. I think one reason for this is that we have expected the entertaining church to furnish the noon meal. That notion must be erased from our minds.

Now another thing we BMA Baptist in Mississippi need to

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AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

Virgil T. Ainsworth

Virgil T. Ainsworth is available for service. He is willing to serve wherever or however the Lord may lead. He may be contacted at the following numbers - home 601-7298059 or cell 601-577-0924.

Larry Pierce

Bro. Larry M. Pierce is available for service and pulpit supply wherever the LORD leads. He may be reached at 601-947-3531.



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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

Annual Report
 October, 2010

Comments and Concerns

The Moral Action welcomes your comments, suggestions, and concerns. We are dedicated to spreading the message of morality through God's Word. Please feel free to contact us at 662-282-7425 or 662-231-3863.

Standing With Us

Your faithfulness to stand with this agency has been the strength upon which we have drawn from these past few years. 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 are sixty-five churches, organizations and associations that are pledged to this ministry.

Representation at Jackson and Washington

During the 2009-2010 BMA Associational Year, your Moral

Action has been visible in Jackson and at the State Capitol. I have met with the Senate and House on six occasions. Our agenda for the year has targeted gambling and abortion. Ms Adams and I had the privilege of attending the Watchmen On the Wall Conference in Washington, DC. The Wall Conference is sponsored by Dr. Tony Perkins and the Family Research Council (FRC). My desire is that our churches, pastors and congregations become familiar with the:

Family Research Council

Dr. Tony Perkins
 801 G Street NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 1-888-372-2284
 www.frcaction.org

AND THE:

Alliance Defense Fund

Dr. Alan Sears
 15100 N. 90th Street
 Scottsdale, AZ 85200
 1-800-835-5233
 www.AllianceDefenseFund.org

Our Duties at Moral Action

1. Moral Action is accomplishing its purpose of presenting Christ as Saviour to all with whom it may come into contact.

Jesus Christ is presented as the sole means of salvation, in all of our presentations. If Christ is a person's Lord, then good, clean, and moral living is absolutely necessary for a Christian witness. No morals, no witness

2. Moral Action is accomplishing its purpose of leading the churches of this association in the promotion of biblical morality in all areas of society and in opposition to evils such as: alcohol and drug abuse, pornography, sodomy, gambling, child abuse, abortion and moral/political issues that endanger the human race, the church and the family.

This decade is in desperate need of strong voices from our churches. We must not let evils go unchecked; we must confront in Godly love.

Group Available for Ministry Opportunities



Stubborn Love

A group dedicated to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
Visit Their Web Site at www.stubbornlove.org for more information and to hear a number of their original recordings.

This group will be a blessing to you and your church and come highly recommended by this editor.

They may be reached by email from their site or by calling 601-323-7070.

As we alert our churches, God's Spirit will guide and enhance.

What Can You Do For Morality's Sake?

1. We must get the salt out of the shaker. As a born again believer, you can influence your local school principals, superintendents, teachers and school boards.
2. Talk to your town/city mayor and council members about good, clean sponsored events. Get involved. Study the board agenda. Pledge support for Godly measures and disapproval for ungodly propositions.
3. Inform your chief of police,

sheriff and supervisors of your desire for a better city, county, and state. Obey the laws and be a good citizen and role model. Hang the American Flag with pride at your home.

4. Get to know (introduce yourself) to your Governor, MS State Senators and State Representatives. Telephone them. Send cards, notes, emails. Go to the Capitol when the legislature is in Session. Get personally involved.
5. Contact your US Senator and US Representative regarding your concerns for a better state and nation. Always be respectful and kind. Be precise when calling or writing.

6. Make a display in your church building for Moral Action. Display material, recommended books, magazines and contact information.

7. Take the time to review the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights. **BE ALERT CITIZENS**

8. Be Patriotic. Teach your children and grandchildren all about the American Christian Heritage. Visit memorials. A reminder, that classroom textbooks used today may not portray the America that you want your grandchildren to learn about.

9. Visit our Moral Action office at First Baptist Church, 6080 Highway 363, Mantachie, MS. We have many material that will be of help to you.

10. Pray. The greatest gift that we have been given is prayer. Our nation needs prayer. If we do not, pray, who will? God bless America

and mail it to DCM with your check. After December 14, registration is \$100 and does not include a t-shirt. All in attendance must register and fees are non-refundable after the deadline. The camp must have a medical release form for each attendee as required by Daniel Springs Camp. Go to the DiscipleGuide web site and click on Camps where you can access all the camp information, rules, medical release form and what to bring/leave at home. Call the DCM office with any questions at 501-513-3726.



Letter

from page 4

consider is moving the Annual meeting around to North Mississippi, South Mississippi and the Laurel area. We do this for the Mid-Year meeting. If we remove the idea of the entertaining church feeding us then all we would need is a place to meet. We would provide our own meals. The church would need to be near sufficient restaurants to take care of the folks.

I offer these suggestions for our people to consider. Please think on these things. Think what is best for the over all work of our BMA of Mississippi. Pray hard for God to show us the way to a better day in our work. I hear all over the state that we need to do something. Let me restate that I believe we have rushed, we have hurried, we have cut and dried, until we have lost our way. The State Association should be for business, but it should be a time of worship, fellowship, and inspiration. We can't have this without time to have it.

God bless,
 Vern D. Holifield

M-E-R-G-E 2010

Picture this: It's a very chilly night, and you can see your breath in the night air. Several hundred students and leaders have gathered under a bright, clear, and starlit sky with more stars that you can count! A guitar and worship fill the air around a huge bonfire that helps to take the nip out of the air. This is taking place in GARY, TEXAS!! I know it's hard to believe, but the temperature does drop below 100 degrees at Daniel Springs Camp. We've experienced it the last two years during the MERGE Conference during Christmas break.

Merge began two years ago after 30 youth pastors came together to ponder the idea of what it would be like to take the "heat" out of Gary, Texas. We thought of a way to MERGE the winter conferences so that youth groups could come together for a "unique" winter conference experience. If you love Fall Retreats, get-a-ways, and youth group trips that are different and unique...you'll LOVE MERGE.

MERGE started out with about 175 - 200 students 2 years ago and it doubled in one

year! We are anticipating another jump this year as youth groups see the value of "getting away" for a 2 1/2 day event where groups can connect, relax, and gear up for the New Year! Each year MERGE introduces our theme as we begin to prepare for SOAR. This year's SOAR theme is "One Step!" We will be focusing on Service at SOAR 2011, so MERGE will begin to set that theme up. It is a GREAT Conference!

MERGE speaker will be Robert Upshaw of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Worship will be led by Kent Wiles, comedian Bob Smiley will make you laugh, and the ALWAYS popular MERGE WINTER GAMES will be back in full force. (Be Prepared for KILLER the over inflated giant multi-colored ball.) Don't miss out on the coolest winter event around, MERGE 2010!

Registration is \$90 per person and covers: sessions, 2-nights lodging, winter games, MERGE t-shirt and 5 meals. Register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org by going to Conferences/MERGE or download a registration form



Dwight Lindsey, Director
662- 397-6832
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Email: dwightlindsey@live.com
Facebook: BMA of MS Youth

Director's Annual Report

I want to begin by stating how thankful I am for God to lay me on the hearts of the association and to entrust me and your trustees with the ministry of your Youth Department. I am also thankful for all the words and prayers of encouragement from pastors and church members across the

state as I have begun down this new road of ministry before me. Not yet serving a year makes for a bit of an abbreviated annual report, but God has definitely not been abbreviated in His actions over the past eight months.

Before I became director your trustees began the year with a new event holding our

first annual Winter Camp. We ministered to 66 registered campers and were told of at least 4 professions of faith. As I began as interim director in March of 2010 the Lord used a passage He shared through a former pastor as an overlying personal theme for this ministry in 2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." Those words became my hope and prayer for the 2010 summer camp season, to see the children of our state grow in the grace and knowledge of God.

I was privileged to be a part

of 3 camps this summer with 309 registered campers and 12 professions of faith. As my summer came to a close I could see from local camps to national retreats a re-energized focus on discipleship. I am sure many of you have experienced what the Lord did with me as I prayed for our youth to become true Disciples of Christ - He reminded me of the obvious. God showed me in His word that if we want to see the next generation grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ we must answer the challenge of Deuteronomy 6:6, 7 "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Please pray with me for our young people. Pray for our second annual winter camp coming up December 29, 30, and 31. Pray for the thoughts, ideas, and planning through myself and your trustees of future programs for our youth. Most importantly, pray for the salvation of souls by the grace of God through the shed blood of His son Jesus Christ.

Director Dwight Lindsey

Mississippi State Brotherhood

**Annual Meeting Report
October 19, 2010**

The Brotherhood of the Mississippi BMA met Monday, October 18, 2010, at First Baptist Shady Grove in Laurel, MS. Brotherhood President Roger Jefcoat presided over the meeting. The opening song was "Victory In Jesus" led by Brother Justin Rhodes followed by Brother Grover Laird leading in prayer. Bobby Lowe gave the host church welcome with the response given by Dr. Medrick Savell.

The business meeting began with Brother Roger Akers reading the Minutes of the Midyear meeting and giving the Treasurer's Report. A motion carried to adopt this reports.

Mississippi Galilean Direc-

tor Mark Jones gave the Galilean report and Treasurer's report, both were approved. The Galilean's had a great state camp this year. The Mississippi Galileans was well represented at the national camp in Gary, Texas. Brother Jones encouraged all churches to use the Galilean program to reach and teach our boys and young men. He offered his and Brother Larry Trammel's assistance with organizing or strengthening programs anywhere in the state.

National Brother President Matt Hudson reported on our national brotherhood work. The project is Moral Action with a goal of \$15,000.00. He en-

couraged our people to get out and vote to help turn our nation back to God.

A motion carried to change the by-laws to add Project Promoter to the second Vice Presidents duties.

The officers elected for 2010-11 are President, Roger Jefcoat; First Vice President, Adam Sloan; Second Vice President, Mark Jones; Secretary/Treasurer, Roy Caldwell; Galilean Director, Mark Jones; and Assistant Galilean Director, Larry Trammel. The annual project will be 75% Brotherhood's Disaster Relief Ministry and 25% State Galileans. The Disaster Relief Ministry Committee elected were Brother Cory Rice serving through 2011, Brother Hugh Dusza through 2012, and Harold Floyd through 2013.

Brother Bryson Haden introduced Brother Jeff Bass as

the speaker for the program. Brother Bass brought an outstanding message on "What To Do When The Lights Go Out". He shared with us that there is Help in the Brethren, Hope in the Bible, and Healing in the Balm.

Brother Hugh Dusza extended the right hand of Appreciation to Brother Bass for a great message. Dismissal prayer was led by Brother Adam Sloan.

God has blessed our state brotherhood this year. The men of our association are participating in more Brotherhood activities. The offering for our annual projects was almost \$4,000.00. Our prayer is that we will follow God's guidance into even a greater, more fruitful experience this year.

Roger Jefcoat, President
Roger Akers, Sec. Treas.



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

First Baptist, Calhoun to celebrate Homecoming

First Baptist Church of Calhoun would like to invite everyone to our Homecoming services on Sunday, November 14, 2010. The guest speaker will be former pastor, Bro. Fulton Lindsey. Services will begin at 10:00 a.m. with lunch to follow in the fellowship hall. All former pastors and members are encouraged to come join us on this special day. There will be special music throughout the morning and afternoon services. For more information call 601-319-0961.

First Baptist, Bay Springs sets Revival

First Baptist Church, Bay Springs would like to invite you to our Fall Revival with Bro. Kenneth Bobo on November 7th-10th. Sunday Services will be at 11:00 am and 6:00 pm, then Monday through Wednesday services will begin at 7:00 pm. We are excited about having Bro. Bobo with us and are praying for a



Kenneth Bobo



Speaker
Robert Upshaw



Worship
Kent Wiles



Comedian
Bob Smiley

Merge is the winter student conference from DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry that combines the former Encounter and Revolution conferences for a more laid back retreat setting at Daniel Springs Camp in Gary, Texas. Student Leaders get their group away for a few days in a relaxed atmosphere before the New Year begins. Merge will kick off the theme for 2011 of Service. The first session will start at 7:00 pm Tuesday and will conclude by 11:00 am on Thursday. Go to www.DiscipleGuide.org for more information. Call the DCM office with any questions, 501-513-3726.

Registration: \$90 Per Person which includes: All Sessions, 2-nights lodging, Comedian, Games, 5 meals and T-shirt. Register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org or download a registration form and mail it to DCM with your check. After December 14 registration is \$100 and does not include a t-shirt. All in attendance must register and fees are non-refundable after the deadline. Don't miss this opportunity with your students as you start the New Year growing together and in Christ.

Student Leader: The camp must have a medical release form for each attendee as required by Daniel Springs Camp. Go to the DiscipleGuide web site and click on Daniel Springs where you can access all the camp information, rules, medical release form, and what to bring/leave at home.



December 28 – 30, 2010
Daniel Springs Camp, Gary, Texas

continued on page 7

CHILDREN'S HOME

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

Learn It, Live It

The Life of the Disciple

This year's theme of the BMA of Mississippi's annual session is "Learn It, Live It—The Life of the Disciple", Acts 18:24-28. As the old saying goes, "one must crawl before they can walk." So it is with our walk with the Lord. The Lord wants every child to learn how to walk. That's where the ministry of training others in the ways of the Lord comes in. May the Lord place a desire in our hearts to be a good role model for others to follow that it might help prepare them for the future. Spiritual Blessings

Because of the caring ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home three of the children at the Home came to know Christ as their personal Lord and Savior during this past year. We rejoice in the fact that we can help supply the physical needs of the boys

and girls that the Lord has entrusted under our care, but the greatest joy comes when one of them comes to a saving knowledge of Jesus as their personal Savior.

October and November Are Special Emphasis Months

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 are asking for your help once again during this Special Emphasis period. With your help and cooperation this goal can be met and used in helping children prepare for the future.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

Food and Miscellaneous Rallies

The food and miscellaneous rallies continue to be important in the operation of the Home. They help provide 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 this associational year.

Christmas Sharing

As you know, Christmas is not too far off. If you would like to help this year at Christmas time you may contact us about your desire to help. We want to express our appreciation to those who shared with the children in past Christmas holiday seasons. Your generosity and thoughtfulness helps brighten their Christmas holiday season.

Staff and Trustees

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appre-

ciation to those who serve on the staff of the Home and their dedication to this ministry. Also, I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Trustees for their faithfulness to this ministry and their willingness to serve as a trustee.

Remember In Prayer

Continue to remember this ministry in your prayers. All of us have a responsibility of "Learning It and Living it." May our task continue to be helping children prepare for the future with an emphasis on discipleship.



Director Sidney Davis introduces the four children who currently reside at the Children's Home.

Church News

from page 6

great time of Revival. We would love to have you with us for any service.

Church to celebrate Homecoming

Trinity Baptist Church, Florence, Mississippi, will hold Homecoming on November 7. Former pastor Harold Floyd will be our guest. We will have our regular morning services with lunch at the church and an afternoon service with preaching and music by the Revelation Quartet at 1:30. Your prayers and presence would be welcomed.

Bro. James Brown Pastor

Recipe Books for Sale

First Baptist Church of Calhoun has recipe books for sale. These books were created by our church youth and are on sale for \$12.00 each. The proceeds will go to our church youth ministry. For holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, secret-pal or for anytime you need a gift for someone, these books would make a great gift. If you or your church would like to purchase any, please call 601-319-0961.

Bethel, Bassfield to hold revival

Bethel Baptist Church, 1307

Bethel Church Rd., Bassfield, MS will be holding revival services from December 6 - 10, 2010. Services will begin nightly at 7:00 pm with Bro. Greg Bennett preaching. All are invited to attend.

South Green, Tupelo welcomes new pastor

Bro. Blake McCain came to be pastor of South Green Baptist Church in Tupelo on June 27, 2010. God has truly blessed this church over the years and we feel God is not through with us. As Paul wrote to the Philippians, "...being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." We have leaned upon this verse as our assurance of God's continual work through us and in us. We are pleased to welcome Bro. McCain and ask that you pray for South Green Baptist Church.

Harmony annual meeting

The 56th annual meeting of the Harmony Association was held on Saturday October 9, at Shady Grove in Tishomingo. The roll call of the churches showed 10 churches repre-

sented with 51 present. The new officers for the coming year are: Martin Jamison - Moderator; Bob O'Neal Asst.; Mavious Phiher - Clerk; Geraline Phiher Asst; Doug Wilson - Treasurer; Tony Marolt - Promotional Secretary; Resolution Committee - Ricky Johnson, Bob O'Neal, and John Adams.

The 2011 meeting will be held at Forked Oak with speaker Bro. Elvis Garcia and alternate Bro Tim Nall. The Harmony Association voted to meet on a quarterly basis on the Monday night after the first Sunday. The next meeting is on January 3, 2011, at First Hispanic in Ripley. The annual meeting will meet on the first Saturday after the first First Sunday in October.

Bro. Martin Jameson, Bro. John Adams, and Bro. Bob O'Neal were selected to check into the feasibility on the Harmony, Judson, and Tombigbee Associations combining into one.

Reports were given by Elvis Garcia, Bro Mark Jones representing the Galileans, Youth Director Dwight Lindsey, and Missions Director Ray Freeman. Bro. John Adams reported on Moral Action and Bro. Doug Wilson reported on the college. Bro Bob O'Neal brought the message from Math. 28:19-20 on The Great Commission.

Tim Nall, Moderator
Tony Marolt, Secretary



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Becoming O-L-D

At a recent gathering Bro. Vern Holfield told this story:

An elderly woman called the local Newspaper and asked where her Sunday paper was. She heard the explanation that this was Saturday and the Sunday paper would be delivered the next day on Sunday.

There was a long pause before the "old" woman replied, "Well, that explains why there wasn't anybody at church this morning."

All of the "old" people laughed at the story, but the younger ones did not. I'm supposing that they didn't think it was funny because they know that they'll be there pretty soon!

Matter of fact, most all of us will according to Pslms 102:26, ".....yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment....."

And so we shall!!!

R-E-V-I-V-A-L
Hopewell Baptist Church
95 Jasper Hwy 533
(4 Miles North of Soso)

November 7-10, 2010
Sunday Services
10:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.
Monday - Wednesday
7:00 P.M.

EVANGELIST
BRO. GROVER LAIRD
FULTON, MS

COME WORSHIP WITH US
"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" Psalm 85:6

Fulton Lindsey resigns

Bro. Fulton Lindsey has resigned Koinonia Baptist Church, Mooreville, Mississippi, effective November 7, 2010.



BMA OF MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

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



Director's Annual Report

GOD IS GOOD

He is good all the time. In the 1994 annual state meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi, the messenger body elected me as State Missions Director. At that time, I had been serving as your missionary to the Philippines since April of 1976. Faye and I grew to think of the Philippines as our second home and the people as our people. At the first contact from the Missionary Committee of the BMA of Mississippi that I was being considered, I was elated at having been honored in consideration for the position. However for such drastic change I definitely needed some time with the Lord. Through the strong leading of God the Holy Spirit within the next couple of weeks, it became clear that to accept the position was God's will for me. In November of 1994, Faye and I returned to the United States.

The years of serving as your Director of Missions have been rewarding ones. I will spare you of reminiscing other than to say it has been fulfilling to see how the Lord has blessed with a beautiful Missions Complex and the expansion of Caucasian missions, while at the same time initiating a strong Hispanic and Afro American ministry. I am one of those who can say, "My life with the Lord and within the fellowship of the Baptist Missionary Associa-

tional ministry is a very enjoyable and rewarding journey. On October 7, 2010, I submitted to the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi Missionary Committee my resignation as your Missions and Revolving Loan Director to be effective March 1, 2011.

This earthly journey with the Lord is an exciting one, and I have no intentions of retiring, just moving into another phase of ministry. It has been said, "choose a work you enjoy and you will never work a day in your life." That's me, that saying opens up an inside view of my inner being.

The churches of the BMA have been very kind to my family and me affording us with a quality life materially. You have also afforded me the opportunity to work with the second-to-none best Baptist churches existing. While visiting the associational meetings and various gatherings, even the laymen have taken time to express their appreciation for the accomplishments of the past years as missionary and Director of Missions. Through the years, it has also been my privilege to have reliable office personnel who have given credibility to our operation. Mrs. Lori Garrett, our current accountant, who has served with me most of the years is a very reliable, confident and deserving person. I will always remember her with highest honor. I am also thankful for our relatively new comer, Ms. Kim-

berly Glenn, who serves as secretary and bookkeeper of our Missions department. You have been good to elect godly men to the Missionary Committee and Revolving Loan Fund Trustees; with these there have been the best of cooperation. I take this opportunity to say to each of them personally, thank you and may the Lord always smile upon you and your families. It has also been a blessing to serve with the different department heads. One of the greatest privileges the Lord is affording me is to resign when Missions and the Revolving Loan Fund departments are at a high point of success and stability. From a director's viewpoint, associationally I will miss each of you, but I will be serving together with you in other positions. This is not a goodbye, just a revamping according to the direction of the Master's will.

Not as an afterthought, but as one thinks of what has been said and accomplished, I close by saying that all or any progress has been made possible by the Lord's help and my very faithful, encouraging, and loving wife Faye. Only the Lord know what strength she has been to me along the way.

SPECIAL ENCOURAGEMENT

The Revolving Loan Fund is an inspirational ministry to missions. The 1994 annual audit revealed a total of all funds at \$3,280,922, this stood as an encouragement to the BMA people of Mississippi. It not only revealed progress financially, but showed where the heart of our people were. The annual audit for the fiscal year of 2009/2010 reveals that our total funds are now at \$14,902,168. This amount has

even grown since the July 31, 2010 close of our fiscal year. For most of the years of my tenure as director I have had the encouragement and strength of having Mrs. Lori Garrett. Mrs. Garrett who has a degree in accounting from the University of Southern Mississippi will remain as RVLFF accountant. Personally, I could not think of this department without her as part of the team.

My resignation has been with SPECIAL consideration with the Revolving Loan Fund in mind. Bro. Lavell Lee came on board as manager of the RVLFF department almost three years ago. He was selected as manager due to his tenure as trustee layman and then chairman, his financial experience, and his show of concern for the responsibilities of the department. Bro. Lee has agreed to remain as manager of RVLFF during this transition period. Bro. Lee's tract record validates his worthiness and ability of such position of responsibility. I ask you to remember in prayer those that will be remaining.

In consideration of limited time, I will leave most mission news to the missionaries.

Maple Street Baptist Mission, Columbus, MS: Bro. Joseph is realizing growth in the areas of the attendance, offerings and spiritually. According to his report plans are in motion to organize Maple Street into a New Testament Church in the near future. Please pray for them.

Homestretch Baptist Church of Cleveland, MS: On September 25, 2010, at 2:00 P.M., Bro. Ed and the people of Homestretch were excited to organize into a new Testament church in their new building with 22 charter members. The participation of nearly 90 of our BMA and related friends was an encouragement to this new church.

New Heart Baptist Mission, Hattiesburg, MS: New Heart has exceeded general expectation in numerical growth. They are also moving ahead in spiritual development, also with noticeable signs in tithe and offerings. New Heart is in the process of purchasing more or less 7 acres of property about 4/10 of a mile south of their present location. The rapid growth of the mission is pushing them to begin looking for additional space.

First Hispanic Baptist Mission, Ripley, MS: Bro. Elvis plans to organize First Hispanic into a New Testament Church on Saturday, November 27, 2010, at 2:00 P. M. We ask for your presence at this very special service.

El Camino Baptist Mission, Laurel, MS: El Camino is growing in their current location and is already having to make plans for additional space. Bro. Estuardo briefed the Missionary Committee with plans to help solve their challenge of additional space. This will need to be done on cash basis due to the total indebtedness they initially incurred. The Petal mission supported by the Oak Grove Association is also moving ahead in attendance and offerings.

2010 REVOLVING LOAN FUND REPORT

Psalms 145:1 *I will extol thee, my God, O King; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.*

Our great God is worthy of our worship and praise and every day of our lives should find us giving Him this glory and honor from the depths of our hearts. God is truly good to us and we should never forget this. God has allowed the Revolving Loan Fund to enjoy a good year of growth and for this we are thankful. The RLF continues to be a strong ministry that BMA of MS Churches and Missions use to help with their financing needs.

It is a privilege for me to serve as manager of your RLF. This year has been a little more stable in the world of economics but there is still need for continued growth in the job market as well as in overall economics. The Federal Reserve is still holding their rates at record rock bottom. Because the economy has shown more stability this year, we have been able to continue paying 2.65% on investment accounts and variable loan rates continue at 5.4% and we hope to not have to make significant rate changes soon. That being said, we still have to keep a cautious watch on these changing times. We greatly appreciate the many individuals who have share accounts with us.

Our annual audit by Horne CPA Firm is complete. They made their annual report to the RLF Trustees October 15, 2010. They found the RLF function and condi-

tion to be very satisfactory. Their report is a part of our hand out. Some audited financial statistics for your RLF as of July 31, 2010 are as follows: Gross assets are \$13,986,239, an increase of \$33,713 over 2009. Net unrestricted assets are \$2,597,525, an increase of \$333,560 over 2009. 11 new loans totaling \$1,277,962 were made during this year and 7 refinanced loans totaling \$3,859,814 were also made. Investor accounts stand at \$11,055,520, a decrease of \$183,324 from 2009. Also during this year, the RLF has funded financing for our State Missions building projects at Ripley, MS and Cleveland, MS.

Excess funds are invested in strong local banks in a manner to attain as much FDIC protection as we can secure and still have enough funds with which to operate. RLF funds are restricted and not available for use in general mission operations. Missions is responsible for raising their own operations funds. 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 also appreciate the wise counsel of Director Dr. Rayburn Freeman. In addition, Sis Lori Garrett has served several years as our very able accountant, and I appreciate her very much.

I greatly appreciate the many years of faithful service Dr. Rayburn Freeman has rendered as Director of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund. Bro. Freeman and I

have enjoyed a good harmonious relationship in the almost three years that I have served as manager of the RLF. We have logged many miles together in associational travels, enjoyed good fellowship with each other, eaten a lot of meals together at these associational meetings, no doubt prepared by the best cooks in the land and as a result, our waist lines have also expanded. It needs to be clearly stated that successful progress has been made, both in mission endeavors and the Revolving Loan Fund. In short, Bro Freeman's tenure as Director has been very successful and I commend him and Sis. Fay Freeman and I will pray for their continued future service in God's Kingdom work wherever God leads them.

I want to thank the 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.

In conclusion, a reception to honor Bro. Ray and Sis. Fay Freeman will be planned in the near future and will be hosted by our office staff, the Missionary Committee, the RLF Trustees, and Bro. and Sis. Freeman's family, and all are invited to attend.

Psa. 145:2 Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Dosson L. Lee, Manager,
Revolving Loan Fund