

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DRGHS Meeting	Wednesday	Feb. 8
Valentine's Day	Tuesday	Feb. 14
President's Day	Monday	Feb. 20
DRGHS Meeting	Wednesday	March 8

Passing of 2 Members

December saw the passing of two DRGHS members, Dr. Frank Bowen and Glenda Wadsworth. Dr. Bowen was a long-time and well respected physician in Leake County and for many years a member of our organization. Glenda Wadsworth, a native of Jackson, was a more recent member. Her sister, Vivian Newkirk, is an active member of DRGHS.

2017 Installation of Officers

None of the terms of the officers expired at the end of 2016 and all agreed to continue in office for one more year. Therefore installation of all current officers, conducted by Mona Raborn, was conducted at the December meeting.

DRGHS Officers

President	Robert Evans
Vice-President	Carolyn Gilchrist
Recording Secretary	Marilyn Strum
Corresponding Secretary	Shirley Evans
Treasurer	Kathy Heidorn
Archives	Mike Ellis
Board Members	James Harkins
Bob Summerlin and Lynn Johnson, Ex Officio	

RENEW MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017

All annual memberships expired on December 31.

Individual Membership	1 year	\$15.00
Family Memberships	1 year	\$20.00
Lifetime Membership		\$150.00

Make checks payable to
Dancing Rabbit Genealogical & Historical Society
P. O. Box 166
Carthage, MS 39051

MISSISSIPPI HISTORY in February

The Chunky Creek Train Wreck happened during the Civil War near the town of Chunky in Newton County in east central Mississippi. On February 19, 1863 the train left the Meridian depot at 3 AM to transport Confederate soldiers and some civilians to the Battle of Vicksburg.

Severe flooding had caused debris to build up against the bridge and the weight of this debris caused the bridge to shift, leaving it six inches out of alignment. Attempts to warn the train failed and the bridge collapsed into the Chunky River as the train crossed.

The locomotive was totally submerged and attached wooden boxcars demolished. The rear car which contained approximately one hundred passengers plunged into the waters and many were killed upon impact while others drowned after being trapped under the wreckage.

After the disastrous wreck, Choctaw Confederate Indians, who had been recently organized, led rescue and recovery efforts. Greg Boggan of Newton County Historical Genealogical Society writes "Help came quicker than expected. The First Battalion of Choctaw Indians, under the command of Major S.G. Spann, was based at a Confederate military training camp near the crash scene. Led by Jack Amos (aka Eahtonteube) and Elder Williams, the Indians rushed to the scene, stripped, and plunged into the flooded creek. Many of the passengers were rescued due to their heroic acts."

When daylight came the bodies, cargo, and \$80,000.00 were recovered from the stream. Records show that approximately forty of the one hundred passengers were killed. Many of these bodies were interred along the railroad right of way.

From Wikipedia

Help your Society keep our records up to date by keeping us informed of any change in contact information such as change of address, email address or phone numbers.

DRGHS Publications

Leake County Mississippi Marriage Records, Volume 1

Marriage Books A-D
1835-February 1867
\$22.50* plus shipping

Leake County Mississippi Tombstone Inscriptions

\$65.00* plus shipping

Looking Back

Abstracts from the Carthaginian 1872-1900
\$27.50* plus shipping

***Mississippi residents add 7% sales tax**

For information or to order please contact us at
drghsociety@yahoo.com or
P. O. Box 166, Carthage, MS 39051

Order form is posted on our website.