

# DANCING RABBIT GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March 2015

Hope to see you at the March meeting.



**Wednesday, March 11, 2014**  
**1:00 PM**  
**Carthage Public Library**  
**114 E. Franklin St., Carthage, MS**

## Officers

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<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Carolyn Gilchrist</b>
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## President's Message

In February we celebrated President's Day to honor two of the Founding Fathers of our great country.

George Washington was known as the "Father of Our Country" as he was the first president of the United States of America. He was born on February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, to a moderately prosperous Virginian "middling class" family. He grew up in Virginia and was a tobacco and stock farmer, a schoolmaster and a surveyor before he began his political career. Washington served as a general and commander-in-chief of the colonial armies during the American Revolution, and later became first president of the United States, serving from 1789 to 1797. He died on December 14, 1799, at Mount Vernon, Virginia.

Not much was known factually about Washington's childhood, which fostered many of the fables that we have heard all of our lives. Among these are the stories of Washington throwing a silver dollar across the Potomac and, after chopping down his father's prized cherry tree, he openly confessed to the crime.

Abraham Lincoln was born to a poor frontier family on February 12, 1809, in a log cabin in Hardin County, Kentucky. In 1817 the Lincolns moved to Perry County, Indiana, where the family "squatted" on public land to scrape out a living in a crude shelter, hunting game and farming a small plot.

When he was nine years old, Abe's mother died. After a few months his father remarried a widow, Sarah Bush Johnston, with three children of her own. Abe quickly bonded with her. She encouraged him to read and become educated. Books were in short supply in the Indiana wilderness. Neighbors recalled how Abe would walk miles to borrow a book.

In March, 1830, the family again migrated, this time to Macon County, Illinois. By this time Abe was 22 years old, so he struck out on his own to make a living doing manual labor. He was six feet four inches tall, rawboned and lanky, but muscular and physically strong. He spoke with a backwoods twang and walked with a long-striding gait. He was known for his skill in wielding an axe and early on made a living splitting wood for fire and rail fencing. He worked as a shopkeeper, a postmaster and eventually owned a general store. When the Black Hawk War broke out in 1832, the volunteers in the area elected Abe to be their captain. It was here that he was able to make important political connections. He went on to become a lawyer, a Civil-Rights activist, U.S. Representative and President.

Lincoln was elected 16th president and preserved the Union during the U.S. Civil War and brought about emancipation  
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## Our Publications

**Leake County, Mississippi Marriage Records**  
Volume 1  
**Marriage Books A-D**  
**1835–February 1867**  
\$22.50\* plus shipping

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**Leake County, Mississippi**  
**Tombstone Inscriptions**  
\$65.00\* plus shipping

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**Looking Back**  
**Genealogical Abstracts**  
**From The Carthaginian**  
**1872—1900**  
\$25.00\* plus shipping

\*Mississippi residents add 7% sales tax

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