



# PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



C/O PINTLALA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
175 FEDERAL RD.  
HOPE HULL, AL 36043

VOLUME 9, Number 1

JANUARY 1995

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Vice-president.....	Jack Hornady .....	265-5752
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	Place 4. Lurline Hall ....	281-3399
Editors .....	Ethel Tankersley Todd .....	288-3225
	Lurline Hall .....	281-3399

JANUARY MEETING: January 15, 1995      2:30 P.M.      PINTLALA BAPTIST CHURCH

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy New Year! 1995 is here and most certainly will see many changes in our society. The Republican landslide that swept our Country and our State mandates the "new Congress" in Washington to introduce several new and innovative pieces of legislation in their first 100 days. Well, this new president of the Pintlala Historical Association is neither Democrat nor Republican but would like to see more people involved in our various activities - activities such as increasing our membership, inviting visitors to our meetings, gathering historical materials, suggestions for programs, recommending projects for PHA to get involved in, serving as an officer or board member, etc.

The State of Alabama just celebrated 175 years of statehood. This also means that most of our ancestors had just moved here then or were contemplating that move from South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, or wherever. On a recent Sunday ride around the Pintlala area, I noticed how clean the Bethel, Shackelford, and Mosley cemeteries were where many of these pioneer settlers were laid to rest.

I hope everyone has a prosperous new year. Make those resolutions, keep them for a couple of months, break those resolutions and get back to life as normal.

RICKY McLANEY

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

The January 15th PHA Program will be presented by Mark A. Dauber. His talk and slate presentation entitled "Exploring the Old Federal Road" will be of interest to those of us in this area of the State as parts of the Federal Road are in our "Neighborhood".

Mr. Dauber is now a resident of Hope Hull and is currently pursuing research for a book on the Federal Road. Please join us for an interesting presentation. Alice T. Carter, Program Chairperson

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THE OCTOBER TOUR:

A congenial crowd participated in the field trip planned for PHA by Alice T. Carter. In the absence of Alice, Gary Burton capably substituted as tour guide. At the Frank Mosley home we were greeted by Ruby Mosley who had prepared an attractive display of photographs and snapshots of the home and family. Gary Burton acted as spokesman giving an interesting narrative of the history of the house and highlights of the family who established the home and lived there. At the Tankersley log cabin, Will Hill Tankersley took us back to the days of the pioneers who traveled the Federal Road, among them members of his family who chose to settle on this particular part of Alabama. They built this log cabin and lived in it for many years, adding immensely to the early growth as well as the continuing history of the county, the state and the country. At Liberty Church of Christ, Mitch Henry drew upon the memories of older members of the church back to its beginning and then gave us memories of his own as to the first church on this spot and also this present beautiful structure. At the Ernest Garrett house, Dr. Ina Garrett Slade gave a history of the house and told of the research involved as they now attempt to restore it to its original state. She also gave interesting memories of visits she made as a child to her grandparents at this house. All in all it was an interesting and educational journey down memory lane. We appreciate Gary for stepping in as tour guide par excellence. We missed Alice and appreciate her planning in advance for a perfect outing. LH

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WELCOME NEW OFFICERS:

A hearty welcome is extended to our new officers with best wishes for a successful term. We look forward to many interesting events in 1995. We wish, also, to thank our outgoing officers for a job well done and good things accomplished.

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"A friend is the first one to walk in when the world walks out."

"When God measures men, He puts the tape around the heart, not the head."  
Copied

#### PROGRESS MADE ON MCGEHEE CEMETERY

The Hope Hull United Methodist Church has agreed to 'adopt' the McGehee Cemetery. They will handle monies donated. Checks should be made to HHUMC and clearly marked for McGehee Cemetery. Nearly \$1000.00 has already been received and word has not even gotten out. In a few weeks a communique will be sent to descendants whose addresses are known to tell them of what has been done.

The two acres set aside for the historic McGehee Cemetery is now in the Montgomery Industrial Park - about one mile from the Liz Claiborne factory and off the end of Emory Folmar Drive. Thanks to Julian Elgin the cemetery has been cleared around and is now accessible from a pasture road. Julian also had the front part of the cemetery cleared so that markers, including the obelisk to Abner McGehee, can now be seen. There are trees coming up through graves and many of the raised slabs appear to have been vandalized. The part of the cemetery outside the chain link fence (approximately one acre - thought to be slave graves) is clear though most markers are gone or perhaps were never there.

Julian and Caroline Elgin, Edward McGehee and I met with the Montgomery County Commission at the site in November and they agreed to build a good road with a turn around to the cemetery.

A word must be said about the years of work that was done by Miss Savilla McGehee and 'our' Abner McGehee to maintain this historic spot.

Now we need to get a professional to clear the cemetery, including the careful removal of trees and stumps and to replace markers that have been uprooted. A plan needs to be made for perpetual care. The chain link fence needs to be repaired and extended to include the entire two acres. Nothing can be done without money! Please help us get in touch with concerned people.

Address of Hope Hull United Methodist Church 305 Wadsden Road  
Hope Hull, Al 36043. ETT

#### DOOMSDAY APPROACHES

According to Ray Scott doomsday, for a wonderful old house will soon be here if he cannot find a good home for this treasure. If interested call his office.

NEW MAGAZINE ARRIVES: The Winter 1994-1995 edition of the Rural Communique arrived a few days ago in many of our homes. It is chock full of nostalgia and history of the surrounding area. In a section featuring cemeteries there are several mentioned which will be of interest to PHA members as they are located in southwest Montgomery County, including Old Bethel Cemetery, Shackelford Cemetery and Tabernacle Church Cemetery, all in or near Pintlala. Mount Carmel is included and Sandy Ridge which is just over the line in Lowndes County. Fair Prospect is another mentioned and it has just been 'adopted' by Strata Church of Christ and given a good cleaning.

There are several articles on recollections of the days of long ago and a section of down home, mouth watering recipes and a suggestion for a seven course meal. The magazine is truly a portrayal of 'our neighborhood'.

HISTORY OF HOPE HULL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Hope Hull UMC cont. from last Newsletter.

The Christian Endeavor, forerunner of the Methodist Youth Fellowship of today, was very active with a membership of 56 which increased to almost 100 after an interesting contest was held. Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting was organized and attended by many.

Another interesting organization of the time was a Young Ladies Missionary Circle, which was organized in the summer of 1930. The membership was composed of 14 teenage girls with 11 boys as honorary members that met with them regularly. Each meeting had a business session, a planned devotional program, and social hour following. This society was active for many years, even after many of its members were married couples.

During the 1930's the young people worked for funds to build a large annex and kitchen. One of the means of raising the needed money was a play, "Here Comes Charlie." It was presented in a number of places, beginning at the Hope Hull Womens Club to an overflowing house. It was later booked in other communities as well - Ramer, Hayneville, Wetumpka, and at Catoma School.

The annex was built in 1935 at a cost of \$612.88. This was used for church suppers, recreational purposes, and as an additional classroom.

In 1936, our church, small as it was, undertook a major project. It was asked to entertain the Alabama State Missionary Society at the Annual meeting, which was a two day affair. The business meetings were held at the church, but the noon meals were served in the Womens Club. The delegates spent the night in the homes in the community. Thirty-six societies reporting a total of 840 members and a total offering of \$3,230.00, was represented.

In 1939, the Methodist Episcopal Church North, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the Methodist Protestant Churches were all united into one organization - The Methodist Church.

At the 1944 Annual Conference, Hope Hull Methodist Church and Snowdoun Methodist Church, were made a charge, making it possible for the first time in the church's history to have preaching services twice in a month. A house was rented for the parsonage. In 1946, the two churches bought a parsonage, which was located on the Mobile Highway. Some remodeling and painting had to be done and furniture secured. Various families made donations of furniture and it was not necessary to buy much in the way of furnishings. The parsonage was sold in 1950 and the money was used as a starter fund for separate parsonages.

World War II following the Depression made it impossible to do much on the building program of the church. The Hope Hull Church was badly in need of repairs and paint. Many of the young men were

Hope Hull UMC cont.

away in the service and the community seemed a very inactive place.

When the war was over and one by one the boys came home, Hope Hull took on a new life again. In 1950, the Young Adult Sunday School Class began raising money to do something about the run down condition of the church. After a couple of years of fund raising events, in the fall of 1952, the interior of the church was completely redecorated. Walls were covered with sheet rock and painted. Carpet and stained glass windows were installed. Materials were bought and cabinets were built in the kitchen. An apartment size stove was bought by the W.S.C.S. The Sunday School members met at the church on Saturday and refinished the walls of the annex with cellotex. The woodwork was painted at a night meeting later.

The old piano at the church had served its years and seemed would not take a tuning any more, so Mr. & Mrs. W.L. Webster donated a new piano to the church in the late 1940's.

In the fall of 1952 an electric organ was presented to the church in memory of Miss Savilla McGehee, a great granddaughter of the Honorable Abner McGehee, in a very moving memorial service.

In the spring of 1954, the congregation of the Hope Hull Church decided to have a full time pastor for the 1954-1955 conference year. No parsonage was available as several years previously, the parsonage for the Hope Hull-Snowdown Charge had been disposed of and the money divided between the two churches. At the last Quarterly Conference of the 1953-54 church year, the Official Board agreed to provide a parsonage for the church and plans were begun immediately.

A Building Committee was elected by the Board with the responsibility of securing a suitable site and constructing the parsonage. Approximately \$5,000.00 was on hand at the time and available for immediate use. This money included the church's share from the sale of the old parsonage, and additional funds which had been raised through various projects.

After considering several sites for the parsonage, the decision was made to accept the offer of a site on the Lamar Road. This site was donated without cost by Mr. and Mrs. Z.P. Gordon, Sr. and deeded to the Conference September 3, 1954.

In order to keep the cost at a minimum, the building committee decided to depend on the congregation for most of the necessary labor. Foregoing ground breaking ceremonies, the actual construction of the building began in July of 1954. Due to the efforts of the entire congregation, very little of the cost of the parsonage went for labor. The only labor expenses were nominal amounts for the plumbing and electrical work, and one paid carpenter. It seemed that everyone in the congregation made some contribution to the completion of the building, either through their own labors, or by personal donations

Hope Hull UMC cont.

towards the building.

As the work progressed, it was necessary to secure additional funds to complete the building and purchase furniture. The Official Board recommended that a loan of \$5,000.00 be made. To obtain the loan from a bank, it was necessary that the church be incorporated. After several special board and congregational meetings, the church was incorporated, the loan was granted. \$3,000.00 of this was going to complete the building and \$2,000.00 being allotted to purchase furniture and appliances.

A committee was elected by the Official Board to select and purchase the necessary furniture and decide on the decorations for the parsonage. The parsonage was ready for occupancy in early fall, and on October 15, the pastor and his family moved in.

Realizing the need for a larger church as the community was growing, the church began making plans. After several years of discussions, planning, and fund raisings, it was agreed to build a new church.

Once again the unity and ability of the congregation was witnessed as members of the church undertook the task of dismantling the building as the new church was to be erected on the same site. Services continued without interruption as the Womans Club again made their facility available for the benefit of the church.

The present brick structure, consisting of a large sanctuary, choir loft, pastor's study, choir room, fellowship hall, kitchen, bathrooms, eight classrooms, and a large furnace and storage room was completed at a cost of \$46,750.34. Consecration Services were held in the spring of 1961.

Furnishings and improvements have been added throughout the years as funds were available. The church now has central heating and air conditioning and the classrooms have all been painted. The beauty of the sanctuary has been improved by the addition of six new pews, additional song books, and two large permanent planters of greenery. The most meaningful addition is a large cross placed in front of the sanctuary by the MYF in memory of Cathy Callaway, one of the young members of the church who lost her life as the result of an automobile accident.

Conversations concerning union between The Evangelical United Brethern Church and The Methodist Church, were held over a long period of years. The Constitution was adopted in Chicago, Illinois, on November 11, 1966, by the General Conference of the two churches, and thereafter by the requisite vote in the Annual Conferences of 1968. This church, thus, became The Hope Hull United Methodist Church.

Hope Hull UMC cont.

Many new families have come into the community and given generously of their time, talents, and money to help build a bigger, better and stronger church.

This is a church rich in history with a heritage we can all be proud to acknowledge. There has been much time, energy, and effort put into the many endeavors of this church throughout the years, as well as much fun and fellowship received from them. May we always remember that the church is just a meeting place, but the lives we live and the deeds we do in His name are the most important of all.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bonham 863 Fairview Drive  
Ft. Walton Beach, Fl 32547-1969

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1850 LOWNDES COUNTY CENSUS DONATED

PHA has received a very nice gift from Doris Thomas of Luverne. We have a book compiled of the 1950 Lowndes County Census. It is a great addition to our files.

Mrs. Thomas sends the following query:

Seeking information regarding Hugh Barkley who married Demaris Stringer, dau. of John Stringer. Their two children were Louisa who married Alexander Stringer and ?Washington who died young. Hugh Barkley died CA 1839 and his widow married 2nd William Sims. Hugh Barkley said to be born in SC and lived in Lowndes County, AL and possibly Montgomery County. I would appreciate any information regarding his parents & siblings. Montgomery County records show the marriage of Elizabeth Barkley to Benjamin Collier by Lovett Reams, J. P., 7 December 1822, consent given by Hugh Barkley for his sister who was over age 18. (Marriage Book B, Pg. 68) and the marriage of Agnes Barkley to Robert Vickery on 24 Dec 1822 by Lovett Reams, J. P., consent given by Hugh Barkley for his sister's marriage (Mrg. Bk. B, Pg. 79). Will be glad to exchange information.  
Doris Thomas, Rt. 2, Box 143, Luverne, AL. 36049.

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DUES                    DUES                    DUES                    DUES                    DUES                    DUES

DUES ARE DUE: Yes, with the new year, dues are due once again. \$8.00 per family for renewal. Make check to PHA. Hattie Smith is our treasurer and you can pay at the meeting January 15 or mail check to Hattie at 1802 Sprague Junction Road, Sprague, AL 36069

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HAPPY NEW YEAR from the Newsletter staff: Ethel Tankersley Todd, Susan and Kerry Brown, Mamie Sellers and Lurline Hall.

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IN THIS ISSUE: McGehee Cemetery, 1850 Lowndes Co. Census, Hist./Hope Hull Un. Meth. Church (Completed).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Pintala Historical Association  
c/o Pintala Public Library  
175 Federal Road  
Hope Hull, AL 36043

\$5.00 registration fee + 8.00 annual dues.  
Note: All members of a household are included.

Mr., Mr. and Mrs., Mrs., Ms. Carolyn Dunn

Other household members: Henry J. Dunn Jr

Address Rt 1 Box 350A

City, State, Zip Hope Hull, AL 36043

Phone (home) 334-281-4344 (office) \_\_\_\_\_

Interest Areas: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are interested in genealogy, please indicate family surnames Dunn; Copeland; Murphy; Floyd; (Carolyn) Finkley; Patterson; Railey;  
Gray

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Hope Hull, AL 36043



Mrs. Carolyn Dunn  
Rt. 1, Box 350A  
Hope Hull, AL 36043