



# The Rankin County Historical Society

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**Meeting of RCHS set for Thursday, October 13, at 6:00 P.M. See page 2**

**“Shared Meeting” with BHGS set for Thursday, Sept. 29 See page 2**

## Charter and bylaws amended by society

Rankin County Historical Society President Anne Vanderleest and Vice-president Paul Davis will be meeting with the Rankin County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, Sept. 29, to ask if financial assistance will be available from the Board of Supervisors to help in the preservation and maintenance of our Museum buildings.

Earlier this summer when help was first requested from the Supervisors, we were informed that Section 39-9-1 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 requires that Museum property

must be held in trust in for the County to make donations to the society. In everyday language, our society’s Board of Directors must be called a Board of Trustees.

### **Bylaw Changes**

This change in terminology

required that the RCHS bylaws be changed to meet the requirements of the State of Mississippi. At the July 12 business meeting a Resolution supporting this action was read and

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## Symposium planned for Spring

Saturday, March 3, 2012, has been set for a Symposium bringing together the many groups in Rankin County who are working to preserve the history of their communities, churches, cemeteries and

schools.

Preservation of their history and education of the public is the mission of many groups here in Rankin County.

In order to advance this mis-

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**Getting better every day**

We are very pleased to report that Mel Corley, our immediate past president, is making a

fast recovery from the stroke he suffered in August and is planning to rejoin us at meetings

very soon.

We are looking forward to seeing you, Mel, you are missed by all.

## General meeting set for Oct. 13

Please join us for the next General Membership meeting on Thursday, October 13, at 6:00 P.M. We will have met with the Rankin County Board of Supervisors to discuss the future of our museum building renovations and will make a full report during the meeting.

Also on the agenda will be a discussion of the Symposium being planned for 2012. We will also start making plans for our April Open House. A one day event with lots of fun activities will be on our schedule.

## Symposium planned for Spring ...

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sion the Rankin County Historical Society is planning a symposium for all Rankin County groups interested in furthering the collection and preservation of historical sites and genealogical information in our county. Included will be museums, cemeteries, historical, genealogical, and preservation groups.

This symposium will be held at the Brandon Public Library on March 3.

The RCHS would like to showcase all county groups involved in this important work

## Charter and bylaws ...

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accepted unanimously by the membership. Your former Board of Directors is now your Board of Trustees.

Since the Museum did not exist at the time of incorporation of the RCHS, the phrase "maintaining a public museum" was added to the stated purpose (Article II) of the bylaws. The next step was to amend the Charter filed in 1978 to add the phrase "operating a public museum" to the society's purposes.

Mr. Alexander C. Martin II at the law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell

and introduce them to each other, allowing all who are interested in local heritage to support the common goals they share. Each group attending will be asked to present information on its mission and goals. This can be a static display, a slide show or an oral presentation no more than 10 minutes in length. We know there are groups working to preserve information about their churches, cemeteries and local museums and we hope that all of them will participate. If you know of a group that will be interested in joining us in this symposium, please let us know.

and Berkowitz served as RCHS advisor and drew up all the necessary papers for these changes to our bylaws and charter. The Charter amendment resolution was presented to our members at the August 11, society meeting and approved unanimously.

The amended charter, the final document we are required to revise, has been mailed to the office of the Mississippi Secretary of State. President Vanderleest will present the bids obtained for the needed repairs to the Supervisors along with our request for financial help.

A full report will be made to the membership at the October 13 meeting of the RCHS.

Further plans will be discussed at the October 13 general meeting of RCHS.

## Joint meeting with BHGS

Thursday, Sept. 29, at 7:00 P.M. has been set for the first joint meeting of the Brandon Historical and Genealogical Society and the Rankin County Historical Society in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors of the Court House Annex building.

Program will be presented by Jerry Willis and Kelly Robins who will share Rankin County stories and artifacts. Light refreshments will be available.

## You just never know what you will find!

Board member Mary Lou Ayers was recently surprised to learn there were pictures of her father that no one in the family knew existed.

While looking around the Truman Library her brother found two pictures of their father made in 1951 with then President Harry S. Truman.

The captions reads “President Harry S. Truman stands at the base of an airplane off-ramp with Brig. General R. Dinwiddie Groves (left) and three unidentified Air Force personnel.”



**Found treasure** — If the gentleman second from the left looks a bit familiar, he is the father of RCHS Board Member Mary Lou Ayers.

## Mayor’s Youth Council and Girl Scout to start public service projects for Rankin County Historical Society

### Scouts’ highest award

Allie Otting, a Girl Scout and junior at Brandon High School, is working toward earning the highest honor the Girl Scout organization offers, the “Gold Award”.

This winter Allie will be spending time in the RCHS museum as her project includes cataloging, photographing, and relabeling items included in our museum collections.

Guidelines for the projects selected call for a girl to identify a community issue she cares about and to select a pro-

ject that is sustainable, lasting after her involvement ends.

We look forward to working with Allie.

### Mayor’s Youth Council

Tim Coulter, Mayor of Brandon, has announced that members of the Mayor’s Youth Council will be taking on some public service projects for the Rankin County Historical Society. Members of the Youth Council are students in grades 10-12 who maintain good grades in addition to being well rounded students in both academics and sports.

The first project we will be asking them to complete will be the sorting of the historical calendars published by the society for the past 30 years. Council members will be asked to assemble sets of the calendars for each of the years that they are available. Having complete sets will enable the society to have the calendars readily available for pickup or shipping when they are requested.

Tiaya Dobbs, secretary to Mayor Coulter, serves as coordinator for the Youth Council group.

# Living history event set for April Open House

Living history will be the highlight of a one day Open House showcasing the Rankin County Historical Society Museum in April 2012.



Plans are underway for the Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 265 of Brandon to present a display which will include a period infantry camp as well as an artillery piece.

Robert Myers, member of the Camp will be working with RCHS in setting up this event.

This will be a great time to open the Museum building to display the renovations that are to be completed this fall; new

roofing, and new siding.

Children of the area always enjoy visiting the Museum and asking questions about “the old stuff” so this should prove to be a real treat for young and old; a lesson in history showing how our great grandfathers lived during the time of the Civil War.

## Microfilm added in the genealogy research room

New rolls of microfilm have been acquired and added to the growing list of Rankin County records available at the Brandon Library Genealogy Room.

- Rankin County Personal Tax 1874, 1892, 1894

- Rankin County Land Tax 1887, 1889
- Rankin County Personal Tax 1894-1896, 1899
- Rankin County Land Tax 1896
- Rankin County Personal Tax 1900-1901
- Rankin County Land Tax 1900, 1902
- Rankin County Personal Tax 1903-1905
- Rankin County Land Tax 1902

## Volunteers needed

With or without computer experience. On job training, flexible hours, pleasant surroundings.

Many projects are available from which to choose.

Contact Anne Vanderleest  
Brandon Public Library  
Monday-Thursday, 10:00-3:00.

## Coming Events

Thursday, September 29, Joint Meeting with Brandon Historical & Genealogical Society

Thursday, October 13, RCHS Membership Meeting 6:00 P.M. at Brandon Public Library

Saturday, March 3, 2012 Symposium for history and preservation groups

Saturday, April 21, 2012 RCHS Open house and one day event

## Officers and Board Members

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