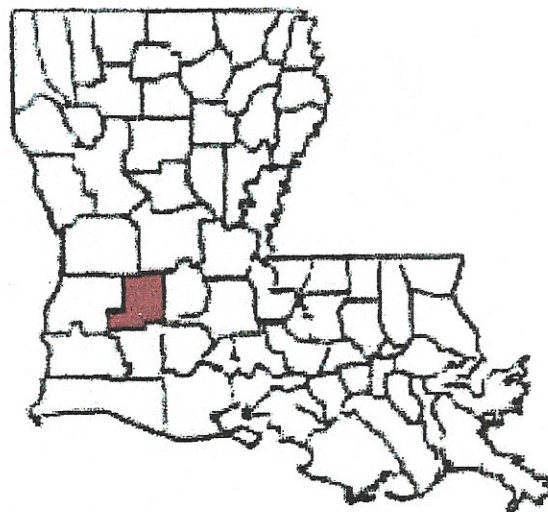


ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January, 2018

P.O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648

Issue No. 255



CROSSROADS

COVERING

**Kinder, Oakdale, Oberlin, Elizabeth, Reeves,
LeBlanc, Mittie and surrounding communities.**

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2018

President --- Betty Sarver

Vice President --- Durvin LaFleur

Secretary / Treasurer / Editor --- Fran Clemmons

Reporter / Tourism Envoy --- Steve Fontenot

ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized May 1985 to collect, organize, process, and preserve genealogical material. The purpose of the Society are to promote interest in genealogy, to assist and encourage genealogical researchers in gathering material on historical events and people of Allen Parish, and to help complete family histories. AGHS was incorporated in March 1990.

AGHS regular meetings are held every other month on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library located at 833 4th St., Kinder, La. Workshop meetings are held the following month on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the library. Members are willing to help visitors with research and to answer questions they may have.

MEMBERSHIP fees are \$15 per calendar year per person and includes an annual subscription to **CROSSROADS**. Any Correspondence and your dues should be sent to AGHS, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648

CROSSROADS is published semi – annually. Please let AGHS know any change of address to assure delivery. Queries are free to members, \$3 each for non – members and will be published as space permits. When sending in a query, please include all pertinent information such as names, dates, and places along with your name and address.

EDITORIAL POLICY We encourage and welcome contributions of genealogical and historical material that pertain to Allen Parish locations and families for inclusion in CROSSROADS. The Society does not assure responsibility for accuracy for any copyright infringement of submitted and published material. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject material we deem not suitable for publication.

DONATIONS of genealogical and historical materials such as books, periodicals, family histories, newspaper clippings, old photos, filled out 5-generation charts are accepted by the Society and each item donated will be cataloged and placed on file in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library to be used for research. Memorials and honorariums are also welcomed by the Society.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY ALLEN GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The following books are published by the AGHS and are available for purchase at the prices listed plus \$2 each for shipping and handling.

Rev. Paul Leeds' Congregational Church records("Marriages & Funerals"—1895-1957—vol.1) \$25

Rev .Paul Leeds' Kinder Congregational Church records(1893—1957—volumes 1, 2, 3, & 4) each \$25

Rev. Paul Leeds' Bethany (Green Oak) Church records \$15

Congregational Church records of the Indian Village, Edna, and Emad Communities \$15

Congregational Church records of Elton and China Communities \$15

Congregational Church records of Iowa, La. \$15

St Peter's Bayou Blue Indian Congregational Church records(1901-1957(includes St Luke's early church)) \$15

China Cemetery, Elton, La. \$8

LeBlanc Cemetery, Allen Parish \$8

Indian Village Cemetery, Kinder, La. \$15

Sonnier Cemetery, Allen Parish, La. \$8

Resthaven Cemetery, Oakdale, La. \$8

Lyles Cemetery—Barnes Creek, Reeves, La. \$15

Index of Surnames in all recorded Allen Parish Cemeteries \$10

St Augustine Cemetery, Basile, La. \$15

Ancestor Charts—five generation charts—Allen Parish ties \$25

THESE BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!!

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A regular meeting of the Allen Genealogy and Historical Society was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, and a workshop meeting was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, both at 10:00 a.m. in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library.

PLEASE mark your calendar with the following Allen Genealogical and Historical Society meetings, the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m., to be held in the genealogy room of the Kinder Library located at 833 4th Street in Kinder, La.

2018 –March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3, August 7, Sept.4, Oct. 2, Nov.6, Dec.4

NEW MEMBERS

CHARLES NEVILS, P.O.BOX 307, Kinder, La. 70648

ANN NEVILS, P.O.BOX 307, Kinder, La. 70648

STEPHANIE BANKSTER 9638 Hwy 165, Oberlin, La. 70655

President's Greeting

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with friends and family.

We were happy to have Scott Bell visiting in our November meeting. Scott lives in Scotland but comes "home" to Kinder twice a year. He has always been a friend of the AGHS providing us with discs of old photos. When he was with us in November he brought original photos for us to archive with our other original photos. We certainly appreciate his donation and look forward to his next visit to Kinder.

Ethel Sacker has contacted the society stating she wants to donate her genealogy research material, etc. to the society. She is no longer able to attend meetings but has stayed an active member. We truly appreciate her donation and wish her well. She can and hopefully will continue submitting articles to CROSSROADS.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year ,

Betty Sarver

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.....*fran clemmons*

The articles chosen for this issue of **CROSSROADS** maybe daunting, but I hope you read on and find the material interesting. Most of the information in the articles come from the internet. I do not take credit for the research on the articles, but I report what research I find that I think will be of interest to you.

I have included in this issue a couple articles researched and written by Mary Cole, a member of **AGHS**, about cemeteries in Allen Parish. Mary has compiled a book of the histories of cemeteries in Allen Parish, and has donated a copy to the **AGHS**. The book is very professionally put together with the history and pictures of each cemetery. The members of **AGHS** thank you, Mary, for such a wonderful contribution to the society.

Just a little reminder!!! It is time to send your dues. Disregard this reminder if you have already sent in your dues. Thank you!!!

I need your attention and **HELP** in getting material to publish in **CROSSROADS**. Any advice, or comments, and even criticism you may have to offer, I would appreciate very much.

AGHS regular meetings are held every other month on the first Tuesday of the month and workshop meetings are to be held the following month on the first Tuesday of the month. The meetings are held in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Libraries located at 833 4th Street, Kinder, Louisiana at 10:00 A.M. The Society extends an invitation to you to come join us on March 6th, 2018 and bring someone with you. Coffee and fellowship begin when you arrive.

.Life is like a roll of toilet paper----the closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes. So have fun, think "good thoughts" and learn to laugh at yourself, and count your blessings.

If you don't recount your family history, it will be lost. Honor your own stories and tell them . The tales may not seem very important, but they are what binds families and makes each of us who we are. Madeleine L'Engle

Cemeteries are Important

It is important to Preserve our Graveyards

Have you been to a cemetery lately? More and more people are visiting graveyards, and not just to visit a loved ones' grave. Our graveyards are becoming destinations for photographers, for walkers and runners, and for genealogists and historians. There is a long time assumption that cemeteries are creepy and depressing and that anyone who enjoy visiting them is morbid. That attitude is changing fast because of genealogists seeking their families' roots. Cemeteries can be critical sources of information when records are impossible to locate, it is often from gravestones that give answers or clues as to where to search. Sometimes what we find on them is surprising and can lead to unexpected directions. If you mention to someone you're interest in cemeteries, they will probably tell you of someone in their family, or of friends that also have interest in cemeteries.

Taphophilia is a fancy word for love of cemeteries. The Wikipedia definition is "a cemetery enthusiast," "a cemetery tourist," describing an individual who has a passion for and enjoyment of cemeteries, epitaphs ,gravestone rubbings, photography art and history. This definition also describes genealogists and historians. Cemeteries are fascinating places, full of history, and beautiful sculptures, parks, full of beauty and tranquility. They could be considered as an open air museum. Every gravestone in the cemetery has a story to tell of people who lived, worked, and loved memorized by a few carved sentences. They are a record and a link to our past and should be looked at and appreciated.

A number of older cemeteries are unknown, abandoned, or endangered. They are not maintained and are not accessible because of uncooperative land owners. Some people believe such cemeteries are not worth preserving. These cemeteries are part of our past and should be preserved if at all possible. Preservation of a cemetery is not about the living. Instead, it is a commitment to honor and remember the lives of those who have come before us. We owe our ancestors a better monument than a forgotten grave surrounded by briars bushes and weeds.

About - Louisiana Cemetery Preservation

Louisiana Cemetery Preservation

Abandoned, Endangered and Historical Louisiana Cemeteries

If you've visited a Louisiana cemetery recently, please submit your information below and add your cemetery visit to the blog. You will receive information about how to contribute by email.

A number of Louisiana cemeteries do not appear on the USGS maps and are unknown, abandoned, or endangered. This website, wikispace and blog is to organize and support the historical significance of Louisiana cemeteries and Louisiana cemetery preservation as well as make others aware of an unknown cemetery. Those interested may be genealogists, historians, society members, parish government, churches or community members, those familiar with using remote sensing equipment and GPS in locating cemeteries. (In order to identify cemeteries to USGS for inclusion, GIS coordinates must be given.)

Please consider joining us on Saving Graves and Wikispaces.

More about Wikispaces

About Louisiana Cemetery Preservation Wikispace

This wiki is set as a public space for community members, genealogists, geochachers, concerned citizens and organizations who would like to locate and support the preservation of unknown, abandoned, historical or endangered cemeteries in Louisiana. It is a place for public contribution for the following information topics:

- * The State of Louisiana laws pertaining to the creation, upkeep, and preservation of both local cemeteries and historical cemeteries.
- * The Louisiana Cemetery Board is an organization in charge of certain cemeteries, certain cemetery laws, trusts and liscening pertaining to cemeteries in Louisiana. (See their webpage for further information. Changes "amended" in 2006).
- * Each parish in Louisiana has (or should have) its own set of laws governing the care of our cemeteries.
- * Louisiana Saving Graves Yahoo Group was created by Saving Graves in an effort to promote Cemetery Preservation in Louisiana.
- * This wiki is in support of Saving Graves, Historic Preservation, USGeoGen, USGenWeb and LAGenWeb.

Louisiana Cemetery Law

From the Louisiana Cemetery Board

Chapter 3 Expropriation of abandoned private cemeteries Whenever the governing authority of any municipal corporation or **parish** determines that a **private cemetery** within its jurisdiction is not being used or maintained and is in fact abandoned or that there is no longer in existence any person or legal entity with the legal authority to operate, control, or manage an existing cemetery, it may judicially expropriate the cemetery and thereafter operate and maintain the cemetery as a public cemetery and make expenditures necessary for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance thereof. Acts 1974, No. 417, 1. Amended by Acts 1984, No. 646, 1.



Click to join Louisiana Saving Graves

POWERED BY Wikispaces

Louisiana Cemetery Preservation

Community and Organization support for Louisiana Cemetery Preservation.

Interesting Tombstone Symbols & Their Meanings

Acorn: Power. Often seen on military graves

Anchor: Hope or Navy

Beehive: Mormonism

Candle: Everlasting life

Clover: 4 H Club

Harp: Praising God

Heart and Rose in cupped Hands: Organ Donor

Lamb: Innocence. Often on children's graves

Mortar and Pestle: Pharmacist

Tree Stump: Life cut short

Thistles: Remembrance

Epitaph on the tombstone of John Knott in a Sheffield, England Cemetery

Here lies a man that was Knott born,
His Father was Knott born before him,
He lived Knott, and did Knott die,
Yet underneath this stone doth lie.

THE GRAVE HOUSE

Have you ever heard of a "grave house?"

What Are They?

Grave houses, are small structures built over graves. Other names for them include grave shelters, grave shed, lattice hut, and grave box. It is important to note that they are neither crypts nor mausoleums. They are exactly what the name implies—a small structure, which closely resembles a house, built over an "in earth" interment, while in the mausoleum, the bodies are above ground, often being placed in an alcove in the walls.

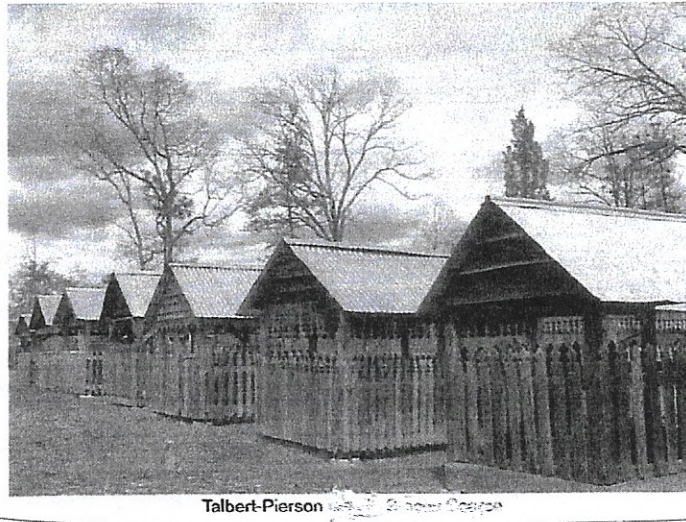
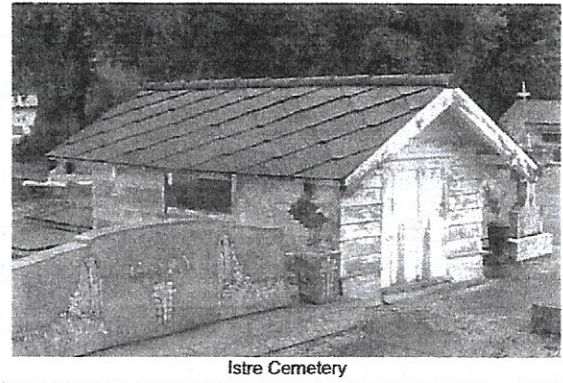
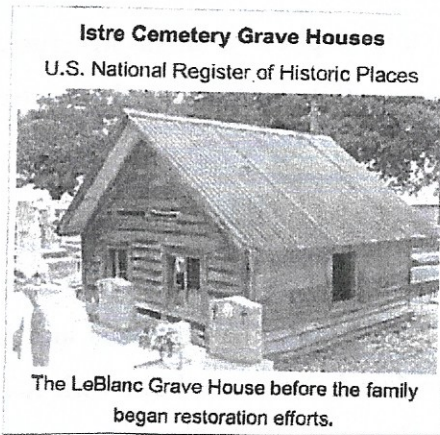
The structures can be found in at least seven states throughout the south, predominately though not always in Protestant cemeteries. They vary in building materials and styles. In South Louisiana, the structures were made of native cypress and features gabled roofs and latching doors. Examples in North Louisiana range from low enclosed structures built with hand spilt lumber, to taller open sheds whose interiors were decorated with shells, bulbs, and ceramics.

Grave houses were built as a form of protection, preventing animals from damaging graves in the days before fenced cemeteries became common, and roofed structures were intended to keep rain from eroding the graves. The house would provide shade over the grave site and was also a memorial to the loved one buried there. Grave houses were built to be functional but also could be beautiful. The materials used to build the grave houses were usually the same as those used on a house of that period. They were the size of a small child's playhouse. Some of the little houses were well finished with beaded board ceilings and scrollwork around the eaves.

The grave houses are now a thing of the past in older cemeteries where they were built. The houses built years ago have been neglected and have rotted away or have been destroyed. The era in which these little houses were built, the maintenance and upkeep was done by the families of the deceased. Family members that built them have either moved or have died, leaving no one to take care of the little houses. Lately people have become interested in maintaining, or rebuilding the grave houses that survive as a way to commemorate the early settlers.

There are still a few older cemeteries that have grave houses. The Talbert-Pierson Cemetery in Vernon Parish, in the Cravens area, a stop along the Myths and Legend Byway, is reported to contain the largest number of grave houses of any cemetery in the United States. The Istre

Cemetery in Mermentau Cove, Morse, La. has three historic grave houses, the only three known surviving examples of traditional Acadiana grave houses. The grave houses were added to the National Register of Historic Places on February 21, 2008.



HORTON CEMETERY

Horton Cemetery is located on land that has been in the Horton family for many years and is currently owned by Bernard Horton. It is a very small cemetery with only eight graves. The last person to be buried there was Saphronia Skinner Horton on January 24, 1948. The cemetery is open to anyone who wishes to be buried there.

The first person to be buried in this cemetery was Tabitha Coody Hamilton, wife of William Hamilton. She died on March 2, 1894, and there is a grave house over her grave. The story is told that William Hamilton did not want rain to fall over his wife, so he built the little house over her grave.

Location: Travel west from Oberlin on Hwy 26 for 17 miles. Turn right on Hwy 377. Travel 2.6 miles and turn right on Palestine Baptist Church Road. Travel 4.5 miles and turn right. Travel .1 mile. The cemetery is on the right.



HAMILTON CEMETERY

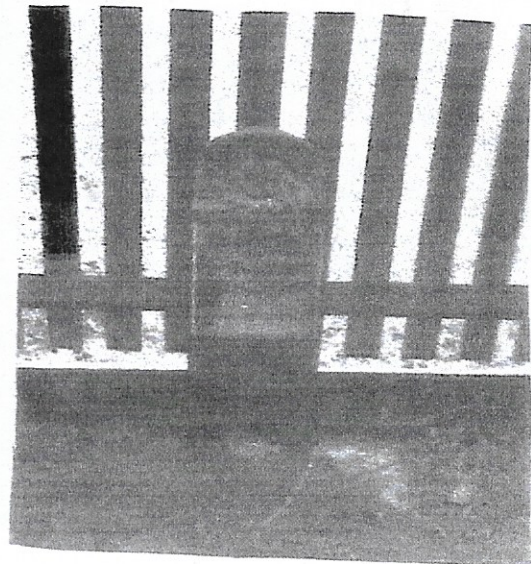
ESTABLISHED ca. 1890

Hamilton Cemetery has many beautiful oak and cedar trees, azaleas, and camellia bushes surrounding and within it. The land for this cemetery was donated by J. Adam Hamilton in 1890. However, the oldest grave dates back to 1871 indicating people had been buried there many years prior to this. Since 1890 there have been two more additions to the cemetery. In 1942, William D. Hamilton donated 232 feet x 105 feet. In 1946, Willie Quave donated one and one-fourth acres.

This cemetery tells the sad story of the mortality of infants and children during the 1800's and early 1900's. Four children belonging to W. C. and E. F. Young all died before the age of 5 years. This couple buried a one and a half year old son in July Of 1901, an infant daughter in August 1901, a four year old daughter in November of 1902, and a two and a half year old daughter in 1907.

A grave house covers the grave of J. L. Stovall who died in 1856 at seven years old.

Location: Travel Hwy 26 west of Oberlin 17 miles. Turn right on La Hwy 377 and travel two and seven tenths miles. Turn left on Parish road 40 at the Hamilton Cemetery sign and the road until it ends at the cemetery.



LeJEUNE CEMETERY

ESTABLISHED: mid 1800's

Isolated deep in the woods near Mittie is an abandoned cemetery called LeJeune Cemetery. The road leading to the cemetery is no more than a trail, and the last 150 yards to the cemetery entrance is a wooded area that must be traveled by foot. There are five gravesites that can still be located, three with cement markers and two with wooden stakes but only two of the three cement markers are legible. These five gravesites are surrounded by an old barbed wire fence and are believed to be the front of the cemetery. About 30 yards behind the fence is believed to be the rest of the cemetery, which at one time consisted of 40 or 50 gravesites. It has now grown over with small trees, brush and briars. The rear of the cemetery was destroyed when loggers were allowed on the property.

Many have taken metal detectors to the cemetery hoping to find more gravesites. Several have been located, but were not marked. Many sites cannot be located due to the use of wooden coffins and wooden pegs which cannot be detected by metal detectors.

There is a story concerning LeJeune Cemetery and some of its occupants. There once was a man named LeJeune who moved from east of the Calcasieu River, French speaking country. He changed his name, LeJeune, to the English version, Young. He bought a slave boy to help him on his land. He promised the boy that he would buy him a wife when the time came that the boy wanted a wife. When that time did come, a small one room, dirt floored cabin was built for the young man and his future wife. They traveled to Alexandria where they could observe and pick out a young slave woman the young man wanted for a wife. A young woman was brought out fighting and screaming at everyone. The young man decided she was the one he wanted, so five hundred dollars was paid for the woman and she was brought back home with them still screaming and fighting. After three days alone in the cabin with her new husband, the new bride emerged docile and meek with her husband. Over the years they had 17 children. An epidemic of yellow fever took most of this family. For awhile there was evidence of most of the graves of this family, but trees and brush have since taken over the area.

The date of establishment will continue to be a mystery as there is no record of the first burial date. It is believed that the land was donated by Julian Young, but not confirmed.

DUES

ARE

DUE

!!!

Just a little reminder! It is time to send your dues. Disregard this notice if you have already sent in your dues. Thank You!

QUERY FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please type or print clearly all information. Use a separate form for each person you are seeking information on. Please capitalize the last name of each person you are seeking information on. Fill in all the applicable blanks. If not applicable, place a dash in that space. Place a question mark where the information is speculative. Use "ca" for any date that is approximate or a good guess.

Subject's name: _____

Date and place of birth: _____

Date and place of death: _____

Father's name: _____

Father's birth year: _____ Death year: _____

Mother's maiden name: _____

Mother's birth year: _____ Death year: _____

Spouse's name: (Maiden name): _____

Spouse's date and place of birth: _____

Spouse's date and place of death: _____

Date and place of Wedding: _____

Subject's children: _____

Subject's siblings: _____

Subject's place(s) of residence: _____

Subject's military service: _____

Any additional information on subject: _____

Queries are free to all members. Non-member fee is \$3.00 per Query.

Send Queries to: Allen Genealogical and Historical Society, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, Louisiana 70648

2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

TO: ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 789

KINDER, LA. 70648

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

\$15.00 / Individual Per Year

NAME _____

. First Middle / Maiden Last

MAILING ADDRESS _____

. City State Zip Code

PHONE NO. _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): _____

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QUERY(S) You wish published in **CROSSROADS**. Please include names, dates, locations, and information desired for each query.

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I am willing to contribute Articles for **CROSSROADS** _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:



My Family Lineage

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D. _____

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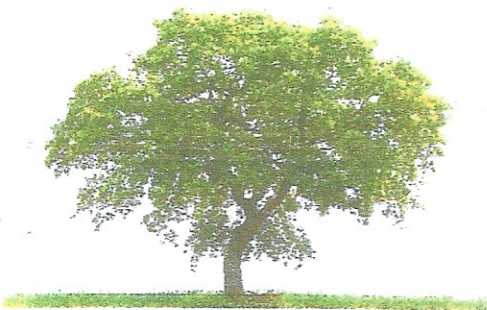
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