

THE THE
KENTUCKY
BAPTIST



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A Newsletter Of
THE KENTUCKY BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
507 Byers Avenue, Owensboro, Ky. 42301

(Return Requested)

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VOLUME I PAGES 51-58 AUGUST 15, 1971
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MEMBERSHIP STILL CLIMBING

1971 ANNUAL MEETINGS HELD

Membership Report.....118
(As Of August 10, 1971)
ANNUAL DUES-----\$2.50
(Personal and Institutional)
LIFE MEMBERSHIP-----\$25.00
(Personal and Institutional)
Send Membership Applications to
address given above.

The annual meetings of the Kentucky Baptist Historical Commission and the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society were held at the Cedar Creek Baptist Church, near Fern Creek, Jefferson County, Kentucky, on July 23, 1971.

The Historical Commission met at 2:30 P.M. with Chairman Wendell H. Rone, Sr., presiding. Present also were Vice-Chairman Dr. Leo T. Crisomon, Secretary George R. Jewell, and members Dr. Harold G. Sanders, Dr. W. Morgan Patterson, and Francis M. Walters, Jr.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

- *Nichols, Mrs. Charlie
- Patterson, Dr. W. Morgan
- Southern Baptist Hist. Soc.
- Woodward, J.S.

*Omitted from previous reports.

Reports were heard on the recent Xeroxing of the minutes of the Hodgenville Baptist Church and the South Kentucky Separate Baptist Association #2 (1787-1917). Also, the actions of the Bi-Centennial Committee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention were reported (see fuller story elsewhere).

NOTE: It is certain that additional persons have become members of the Society, especially at our meeting with Cedar Creek, but as of today (August 10) we do not have the report in full from the Secretary. We do know it is on its way in the mail to us. A full report will be made next month. As soon as we receive the new members copies of "The Life and Times" of William Hickman will be sent to them.

Dr. Harold G. Sanders reported on the progress being made on securing and preparing portraits of former General Secretaries of the State Convention for presentation to the Convention. The portraits of Calvin M. Thompson, W.D. Powell, J.W. Warder, W.M. Pratt, George Waller, Andrew Broaddus, and James Madison Frost are about ready for presentation. Some of them will be presented to the Convention at Lexington in November. Portraits of W.C. Boone, J.W. Black, A.D. Sears, Jonathan G. Bow, and Oscar Eugene Bryan, Sr., have already been presented.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST ENCYCLOPEDIA
Volume III (Now Available)..\$9.95
At Your Baptist Book Store

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ENCOURAGE YOUR CHURCH AND MEMBERS
TO TAKE OUT A LIFE OR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE KENTUCKY BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Help keep the membership climbing.

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They are now in the Baptist Building at Middletown.

The matter of placing an Historical Marker at the site of the old Bear Grass Baptist Church (January, 1784), the first organized north of the Salt River and west of the Kentucky River in the state, and also the first in the present bounds of Jefferson County, was brought to the attention of the Historical Commission and the Historical Society by Mrs. Lemuel B. Felts, a society member and descendent of Dr. John L. Waller. The officers of the Commission and Society will work with Mrs. Felts in seeing that this is done. The original site was in the shopping center at St. Matthews. Bear Grass church succumbed to "Campbellism" about 1830, and the Bear Grass Christian Church, St. Matthews, became its "successor."

After the Commission had completed its business, the meeting adjourned. The members of the commission then joined with several others who had come and been enrolled for the meeting of the Historical Society in making a tour of the Cedar Creek area. We went to the old Chenoweth's Run cemetery site, and the site of the Chenoweth's Run Baptist Church (now Cedar Creek), on what is now Biltown Road, about twelve miles southeast of Louisville. Here we saw the grave of Silas Garrett, the church's first regular pastor, and the graves of other early members and leaders. We next saw the site on Bardstown Road, to which the church moved in 1849 and erected its second building. A third building was erected on this site on 1907, and destroyed by fire in 1940. The church met in Fern Creek school for some time during World War II, and erected its fourth building in 1944-1952. An educational annex was added in 1954, and a pastorium was built. In 1957 the church purchased thirteen and one-half acres across the road from its fourth building.

A new and very modern building was erected in 1961-1962 on this new site. A very beautiful and useful annex was added in 1968, shortly after the church observed its 175th Anniversary, having been organized on June 16, 1792, only a few days after Kentucky became a state. Pastor William D. Martin, with justifiable pride, escorted us to these sites and told us of the evident hand of God being with the Cedar Creek Baptist as they struggled to maintain their existence during some rather precarious times in the period 1831-1844. When "Campbellism" took 78 of their 98 members in December, 1831, the remaining 20 members, called "Regular Baptist", reaffirmed their Baptist faith and adherence to the Philadelphia Confession of Faith and were recognized by the Long Run Association as the "lawful" church. The "Reformed Baptists" were recognized by the followers of Alexander Campbell. Both groups claimed ownership of the first building and continued to meet in it on alternating Sundays. Unfriendly relations caused the Baptists to move away in 1838 and leave the "meeting house" in the hands of the "Campbellites." They returned to Chenoweth's Run "Meeting house" in 1840, grew weaker and decided to dissolve. But some did not take letters of dismission. From June, 1841, through July 1844, the church held no meetings. On August 13, 1844, the nine remaining members and one who came by letter, reorganized. In May, 1846, the church changed its name to Cedar Creek, by which it is still known. With the removal to a new site in 1849 the church took on new life.

The "Reformed Baptist" continued to meet in the Chenoweth's Run meeting house for a number of years. They are now known as the Cedar Springs Church of Christ, and are located elsewhere, also, they still maintain

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the old cemetery in an excellent condition.

Pastor Martin presided at an excellent and bounteous dinner provided by the church and served by some elect ladies at 6 o'clock P.M. About fifty guests and local people were in attendance. Antiques were evident on the dining tables and some of us had a hard time determining what our ancestors used them for. After all, who trims the wicks of lamps today? And who snuffs out the flames of candles with an instrument today? But we all enjoyed the salt on our fresh and red-ripe tomatoes, added by the finger-pinching method from the little antique salt-holding dishes adjacent to our plates. Everyone loves such "good old days." And those "home made" pies were just like the ones both "ma" and "grandma" used to make. Our absent Commission and Society members really missed a great treat.

After dinner, at about 7 o'clock P.M., the Historical Society met in the auditorium of the Cedar Creek Church. A most elaborate display of old minutes, photographs, copies of the Church's History, bulletins and brochures of important events, community surveys, etc., etc., was abundantly in evidence at the front; showing that Pastor Martin and others had diligently preserved the records of this congregation. Few churches have excelled this one in such an endeavor.

Dr. Leo T. Crismon, President-Curator of the Society, presided. George R. Jewell, Secretary, presented the minutes of the 1970 meeting at Hodgenville. Dr. Harold G. Sanders, the Treasurer, presented a Treasurer's report. (It is given elsewhere). Dr. Crismon reported on the recent microfilming of the South Kentucky Separate Baptist Association #2 Minutes from 1787-1917. This was made possible through the persistent efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Nichols. A report

was also made by President Crismon on the proposed Bi-Centennial Volume (1776-1976) on Kentucky Baptist History, of which he is Editorial Chairman. Vice-President Rone presented some interesting information from the Microfilm Copy of John Asplund's Register Of The Baptist Denomination In North America (1790-1793) especially as it pertained to Western Kentucky and Western Tennessee Baptists. Asplund's Constitution of An Association, Rules Of Decorum, and Abstract Of Principles were used by all the early associations in the above areas in the period 1796 to 1840, and some at a later date. Such associations as Green River (1800), Russell Creek (1804), Stockton Valley (1805), Gasper River (1812), Little River (1813), Barren River (1830), West Union (1834), Blood River (1870), and probably others still adhere to the above Abstract of Principles. Thus its influence was far reaching. Asplund copied his information from the minutes of the Portsmouth (Virginia) Association (1790) which had adopted the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Principles at its organization in 1790.

Our 1971 meeting was climaxed with the presentation of very interesting highlights in the history of the Cedar Creek Baptist Church, by Pastor Martin and two of the laymen of the church.

The former officers of the society were retained for another year. They are:

Dr. Leo T. Crismon
President-Curator
Wendell H. Rone, Sr.
Vice-President
George Raleigh Jewell
Secretary
Dr. Harold G. Sanders
Treasurer

We are also delighted to report that the 1972 meeting of the Commission and the Society will be held with Campbellsville College, Campbellsville, Kentucky, on July 28. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend.

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This came about through the invitation of Mr. Robert Clark. A confirming letter has also been received from Mr. David L. Jester, Academic Vice-President, stating that the college will provide the meal for those who come. The meeting will be held in the Little Auditorium of the Student Union Building.

-- Wendell H. Rone, Sr.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

I. KENTUCKY BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY Aug. 31, 1968 thru June 30, 1971

RECEIPTS:

Designated Contribution	\$ 14.00
Funds Transferred to Convention	303.54
Membership Dues 1967-68	18.10
Reimbursement for Charts of Assn's 1967-1968	162.00
Membership Dues 1968-69	9.50
S.B.C. Microfilming	9.36
Membership Dues 1969-70	27.50
Membership Dues 1971	507.35
Book Sales (Tentative)	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$ 1,051.35</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

Charts of Associations 1967-1968	\$ 162.00
Meeting Expense 1967-68	19.55
Microfilming 1968-69	14.36
Postage 1970-71	70.00
Bellevue Church-Reimbur. Newsletter	84.40
Wendell Rone Reimbur. Newsletter	84.79
Court Of Appeals Trial Transcript of Patterson Bapt. Test.	25.47
Refunds -Hist. Ten Chs.	151.35
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$ 611.92</u>

BALANCE 6-30-71 \$ 439.43

II. KENTUCKY BAPTIST HISTORICAL COMMISSION 1970-1971

BUDGETED AMOUNT: \$ 2,000.00

USED THROUGH JUNE 30, 1971:

October, 1970	
Postage.....	\$ 11.52
Typewriter .	15.75

January, 1971	
Restaurant Conc.	11.70
G. Brakemeier	77.76
Western Recorder	46.75
Xerox Usage	1.86

February, 1971	
Xerox Usage	.62
Lou. Microfilms	42.92

March, 1971	
W. Rone - Refund	36.38
S.B.C. Hist. Commission	30.84
Blossom Shop	13.70
McQuary Studio	317.98

April, 1971	
Postage	6.00

May, 1971	
S.B.C. Hist. Commission	360.07
Xerox Usage	4.20
Cedarmore	10.00
W. Rone (S.B.C. H.C. Meeting)	44.44
McQuary Studio	301.25

TOTAL \$ 1,333.74

BUDGETED AMOUNT

STILL AVAILABLE \$ 1,166.26 *

* Contracts for additional portraits of Executive Secretaries will take up most of the balance

The amounts to the Southern Baptist Historical Commission are for microfilming and for Kentucky's part on the Southern Baptist Encyclopedia, Volume III

Reimbursements to Wendell H. Rone and Bellevue Baptist Church are for expenses on the Newsletter - Stencils, mimeo paper, mimeo ink, address setncils, secretarial help, postage, etc.

ON THE BLESSING OF MICROFILM

By means of microfilming, or the putting of old records on film in a greatly reduced-in-size manner, our churches and institutions can now preserve their most cherished Records at Nashville, in Louisville and at home. Have it done soon.

IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARIES IN 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZED</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION</u>
<u>50th ANNIVERSAY 1922-1972</u>			
Louisville, Van Buren	March 19, 1922	Jefferson	Long Run
Sherman	August 13, 1922	Grant	Crittenden
Mercer	August 19, 1922	Muhlenberg	Muhlenberg
South Jefferson	Sept. 10, 1922	Jefferson	Long Run
Quality	Nov. 25, 1922	Butler	Gaspar River
Mexico	----- --, 1922	Crittenden	Ohio River
Elsmere	----- --, 1922	Kenton	Northern Ky.
Chestnut Grove	----- --, 1922	Casey	Casey County
Chestnut Grove	----- --, 1922	Wayne	South Concord
Mt. Freeman	----- --, 1922	Boyle	South District
Bond	----- --, 1922	Jackson	Laurel River
East Corbin	----- --, 1922	Knox	Lynn Camp
North Corbin	----- --, 1922	Laurel	Lynn Camp
Muddy Gap	----- --, 1922	Clay	Booneville
Mt. Zion	----- --, 1922	Jackson	Irvine
Lothair	----- --, 1922	Perry	Three Forks
Cumberland	----- --, 1922	Harlan	Pine Mountain
Hyland Heights	----- --, 1922	Boyd	Greenup
<u>24th ANNIVERSAY 1947-1972</u>			
Madisonville, Second	April 20, 1947	Hopkins	Little Bethel
Draper	May 8, 1947	Harlan	Upper Cumb.
New Providence	May 15, 1947	Calloway	Blood River
Louisville, Gethsemane	May 25, 1947	Jefferson	Long Run
Buffalo	June 8, 1947	Whitley	East Union
Owingsville	June 22, 1947	Bath	Bracken
Flatwoods, 1st	Sept. 28, 1947	Greenup	Greenup
Mt. Zion	Oct. 26, 1947	Wayne	Wayne Co.
Louisville, Thirton Lane	----- --, 1947	Jefferson	Long Run
Lexington, Rosemont	----- --, 1947	Fayette	Elkhorn
Lexington, Trinity	----- --, 1947	Fayette	Elkhorn
Greenbrier	----- --, 1947	?	Boone's Creek
Middletown	----- --, 1947	Madison	Tate's Creek
Berea, Liberty Avenue	----- --, 1947	Madison	Tate's Creek
Hickory Knobb	----- --, 1947	McCreary	McCreary Co.
Fall Creek	----- --, 1947	Wayne	Wayne Co.
Tanyard Hill	----- --, 1947	Bell	Bell Co.
Antioch	----- --, 1947	Laurel	Mt. Zion
Martin, 1st.	----- --, 1947	Floyd	Enterprise
Shelbiana, Grace	----- --, 1947	Pike	Pike
Unity	----- --, 1947	Pike	Pike
<u>10th ANNIVERSARY 1962-1972</u>			
Frances	Jan. 14, 1962	Crittenden	Ohio River
Park Hill	April 1, 1962	Whitley	Mt. Zion
East Frankfort	August 12, 1962	Franklin	Franklin

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZED</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION</u>
Highland Heights First	Sept. 2, 1962	Campbell	Northern Ky.
Frankfort, Immanuel	Oct. 15, 1962	Franklin	Franklin
Cairo	Nov. 22, 1962	Henderson	Green Valley
Jacksonville	Dec. 9, 1962	Pulaski	Pulaski Co.
Shiloh	----- --, 1962	Christian	Christian Co.
Henderson, Watson Lane	----- --, 1962	Henderson	Green Valley
Dedicated	----- --, 1962	Warren	Warren
Ridgwood	----- --, 1962	Jefferson	Long Run
Georgetown, Faith	----- --, 1962	Scott	Elkhorn
Oakland Ave.	----- --, 1962	Kenton	Northern Ky.
Oakwood Ave.	----- --, 1962	?	Union
Barbourville, East	----- --, 1962	Knox	North Concord

THE BI-CENTENNIAL GENERAL COMMITTEE

Since the fall of 1966 the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society has been emphasizing the fact that in 1776 the Baptists of Kentucky will be observing the 200th Anniversary of the first recorded Baptist preaching on the soil of Kentucky. This interesting event took place in the month of April, 1776, and the elderly ordained Baptist minister, Thomas Tinsley, and the youthful licensed Baptist minister, William Hickman, preached under the large spreading elm tree located at the big spring near the fort built (in 1775) by James Harrod and his men. The fortification was known as Fort Harrod and Harrodstown, the first permanent settlement in Kentucky. Young Hickman later returned to his home in Virginia and did not come back to Kentucky to settle permanently until 1784. Of Tinsley we know very little, as he drops out of sight historically. Had it not been for publication of Hickman's "Life and Travels" he would probably have remained unknown altogether.

In 1876 the Baptists of Kentucky, after making lengthy preparation for it, observed the first century of Baptist preaching and ministry in the state. A great awakening in the study and publication of Baptist History took place prior to and after 1876. Kentucky Baptists went forward as never before in their work. The observance was climaxed with the publication of J.H. Spencer's two volumes of "Kentucky Baptist History" in 1885, after over a decade of work on the project. In 1887 the Baptists of the state observed the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky.

Since 1966 interest in Kentucky Baptist history has been increasing by leaps and bounds. Churches and Associations have been and are observing anniversaries, and histories of them have been and are being published. More and more churches are having their old records microfilmed. History Committees of Associations and Churches have come into existence. Inquiries come often to the Kentucky Baptist Historical Commission and the Society to help in historical research. Interest in Kentucky Baptist history is at an alltime high, and the membership in the state society has climbed to about 125, the highest in the one hundred year history

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of the said society. In November, 1967, the Kentucky Baptist Historical Commission came into existence by official action of the state convention to be the convention's agency to gather, preserve, and stimulate interest in Kentucky Baptist history.

In preparation for the observance of our Bi-Centennial (1776-1976) the state convention approved a recommendation originating with our Executive-Secretary that a special general committee be set up to plan for it. In consequence President of the Convention, J.T. Miller appointed the following committee: Robert L. Mills, Chairman, C.R. Daley, Wayne Ward, Wendell H. Rone, Sr., Allen W. Graves, Lewis C. Ray, Vice-Chairman, Eldred M. Taylor, Leo T. Crismon, W. Morgan Patterson, and H.C. Chiles. By Executive Board action Mr. Miller was also added to the committee.

The above committee held its first meeting at Boone Lodge, Cedarmore, on December 5, 1969. Leo T. Crismon was elected secretary. A round-robin discussion ensued as to the task of the committee. A bi-centennial of Baptist preaching in Kentucky emerged as the dominant theme.

Chairman Mills appointed the following as an Editorial Committee in late 1970: C.R. Daley, Chairman, J.T. Miller, W. Morgan Patterson, L.C. Ray, and Wayne Ward, with himself as an ex-officio member. A progress report was made to the entire committee on March 8, 1971. Executive-Secretary Sanders was also an ex-officio member of the committee, and its Secretary. The Editorial Committee recommended the following:

"That the major publication of the Bicentennial General Committee be a compilation highlighting various facets of Kentucky Baptist life during 200 years (1776-1976) with emphasis on the influence of preaching;

"That Leo T. Crismon be named as editor of all published materials authorized by the Bicentennial General Committee in connection with the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976;

"It is further recommended that Leo T. Crismon be remunerated at a maximum rate of \$1800 per year, plus expenses, for the time required for this assignment."

(Beginning on March 15, 1971)

Thus far (August, 1971) Dr. Crismon has secured the services of the following persons to write on the following subjects for the proposed volume:

James Taulman

"Baptists and Disciples"

C.R. Daley

"Baptist Papers in Kentucky"

W. Morgan Patterson

"Kentucky Baptists in the Nation"

"Other Baptist Groups in Kentucky"

Wendell H. Rone, Sr.

"Kentucky Baptist Associations"

Carl Fields

"Baptist Education in Kentucky"

Wayne E. Ward

"Early Revivals and Evangelism Today in Kentucky"

James W. Cox

"Baptist Preaching in Kentucky (after William Hickman)"

C. Ford Deusner

"Baptist Child Care in Kentucky"

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Walter C. Jackson

"Kentucky Baptist Hospitals"

Leo T. Crismon

"Theological Education in Kentucky"

"Contribution of Kentucky Baptists to Literature"

"History of the Kentucky Baptist Convention 1951-1976"

Harold G. Sanders

"Kentucky Baptist Heritage"

"Kentucky Baptists Facing a Third Century"

Homer Nutter

"Black Baptists in Kentucky"

Other proposed chapters are:

"Assemblies Among Kentucky Baptists"

"Missions and the Cooperative Program Among Kentucky Baptists"

"Kentucky Baptist Historians"

And other tentative subjects

Writing and publication schedules are as follows:

January 1, 1972: Authors present chapter outline of topics, with initial bibliography for consideration of the Editorial Committee (A meeting for all writers will be held in January, 1972).

January 1, 1973: Prospectus due from all authors; detailed outline of the chapter, with descriptive paragraph on all major points, and fuller bibliography for consideration by the Editorial Committee.

September 1, 1974: Complete first draft of chapter, fully documented; full bibliography for consideration of Editorial Committee.

January 1, 1975: Final draft due in hands of Editorial Committee.

January 1, 1976: Publication of entire Volume.

-- Wendell H. Rone, Sr.

DR. LEO T. CRISMON RETIRES

Dr. Leo T. Crismon, President-Curator of the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society and vice-Chairman of the Kentucky Baptist Historical Commission, retired as Librarian of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary on July 31, 1971, after serving in that position for many years as the successor to the late Thomas A. Johnson.

Dr. and Mrs. Crismon left after the first of August to visit their son in Turkey. He has also been commissioned by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention to do special Library work on our mission fields in Southeast Asia. They are to return about the end of 1972.

-- Wendell H. Rone, Sr.