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Point Clear Ala. Jany 23rd, 1909

Pursuant of the call of the President, the Board of Education for Baldwin County met at the school building at Pt. Clear, Alabama, on the above date & was called to order by the President at 7:30 P.M. with the following members present: W.D. Randall, C.A. Swift, & J.A. Ramsbosh. The special object of the meeting, as stated by the President, was to adjust differences which had existed between the Trustee, A. DuMont, & the Principal, Miss Augusta Martyn, for several months to very great detriment to the efficiency of the school.

Quite a number of propositions were submitted by the Board seeking to compromise said differences between trustee & principal for the best interest of the cause of education in Pt. Clear District.

None of the propositions submitted by the Board being acceptable to the Trustee or principal, on motion, the Board adjourned at 11:30 P.M. to meet at 9 A.M. to hear charges & counter charges against trustee & principals & to hear & consider the testimony of witnesses.

J.A. Ramsbosh, Secty.

Point Clear, Ala., Jany 24th 1909

The Board of Education for Baldwin County met at the Pt. Clear school building on the above date & was called to order at 9 A.M. by the President.

The following members were

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Archived in Belleview

HISTORY OF POINT CLEAR SCHOOL

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HISTORY OF POINT CLEAR SCHOOL

As far back as most people can remember there has been a Public School at Point Clear. More than seventy-five years ago there was a one-room school building on what is now the Ollenger place. I have been told that it was taught by Dr. Schowalter's grandmother. Dr. Schowalter was a prominent doctor in this area some years ago.

Miss Naomi Rogers who was principal of the school from 1913-1917 gave me an interesting glimpse into the past. When she went there to teach, the building was a straight-jacket frame building with three rooms and a front porch. The equipment was typical of the times. She had the upper elementary grades and the seventh grade. The one other teacher had the primary grades. At the back of the building there was a pump. The grounds were fenced in and full of pine stumps. This was the building near the present Baptish Church and was used until 1924. At that time they had seven months of school. The enrollment was between 81-93 children. The seventh graders took a county examination which was given to all children completing the seventh grade at that time. She said all her children had lovely manners and she was very proud of her school. She spoke very fondly of Mr. Otto Zundel who was a most cooperative trustee.

Miss Colene Brodbeck remembers the programs the school used to have at the old Point Clear Hotel. She played the piano at some of the graduation exercises. She did not attend the Public School. Her family had teachers in the home.

The Brodbeck and Zundel families were leaders in the community and school over a number of years. Mr. Otto Zundel served many years as a school trustee. Later Mr. Arnold Brodbeck was a trustee.

In 1917-1918 Miss Clara Hall was principal . Miss Sara Street (Mrs. Carl Yenne) and Miss Louise Johnson (Mrs. George Lundberg) were the other teachers. They used the 6-3-3- plan.

Miss Edna says of her years at Point Clear, "When I went to Point Clear in 1920, we taught in a wooden building near the Baptish Church. We had closing exercises. The Eighth Grade had graduation exercises. Some of the school patrons made a temporary stage. We had a nice time. After that we gave a play or two in the old Point Clear Hotel. We used tables for the stage.

Mr. Ledbetter from the state department and Mr. Tharp met several times with the patrons of the school and the new school building was planned and built-completed in 1924. It was one of the first if not the first in the county that Mr. Tharp built after he went into office in 1918. At first there was noauditorium. We used one of the class rooms for an auditorium. Miss Grace and Miss Nina McRea and I were the first teachers who taught in the new school building. We had a big all day affair when the new building was dedicated. I spent some mighty pleasant years there and have lots of sweet memories of them."

In 1929 the auditorium was added to the building. During the thirties the grades above the sixth grade were sent to Fairhope. For some time then there were only two teachers. I did not find out just who all the teachers were during the time but for several years Miss Cecile Stapleton taught the upper grades. Miss Wilson always taught the primary grades. In 1946-1947 the school began to grow. Mrs. Carl Yenne went to the school in 1947. She had taught before she was married back in the old building. The school got electric lights, in-door restrooms, and a lunchroom. The active P.T.A. worked hard on these projects, and with some generous donations and Mr. Tharp's cooperation the school made rapid growth. The wise program of consolidation was on its way.

In 1948 Mrs. Yenne and Mrs. Pearl Nelson helped to bring about the consolidation of Riverpark with Point Clear. Some of these children had been going to Fairhope. But Point Clear was better able to take more children than Fairhope. It had rooms that had been vacant.. The grounds were improved with the planting of grass in the front yard.

Sixth Grade graduations were one of Mrs. Yenne's big programs of the year. Her baseball games with other schools were enjoyed. Point Clear boys were pretty good I hear, in spite of the sandy ball field. They played barefoot.

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1950 marked the end of thirty years at Point Clear for Miss Wilson. The people of Point Clear honored her with a tea and presented her with gifts. She had been with them many years and they loved her dearly.

When Mrs. Wingrad became principal in 1950, she had the task of making the consolidation of Barnwell with Point Clear a success. This she did.

The P.T.A. planned to install gas heaters this year; however, this work was not completed until 1953. The county furnished the heaters. The P.T.A. had Ponder Co. do some of the work.

Plans for a fine new lunchroom were made.

With Miss Day's help music became a more important part of the school day for the children.

In 1952 Mr. W.F. Bower became principal. He has had one of the busiest years most any principal could have. The lunchroom was begun and completed. The dedication of the opening of the lunchroom was in the form of a banquet. A nice plate was served by the P.T.A. The auditorium was made lovely with Spring flowers. The guests at the banquet were Mr. Tharp, Mr. and Mrs. McGowin, Miss Dixie Johnson, and the County Board Members.

During the year all the heaters were installed and put into working order. The auditorium was freshly painted.

A school store is run by the sixth grade. This store makes it possible to have some of the new equipment and supplies that were so badly needed.

A Student Council has been organized. A newspaper is started.

The physical education program includes a basketball team.

The school is fortunate in having a patron who give of her time and talent to bring music into each classroom that wants music. Mrs. Paul Davenport plays for singing, programs, The Rhythm Band, and gives private lessons to all who want to take.

Music is becoming more and more important in the daily program. We can thank Miss Day for this. She has helped us so much with aids, encouragement, and her presence.

The present faculty consists of the following:

Mr. W.F. Bower, principal and Sixth Grade Teacher

Mrs. Katherine Dobbins, Fifth Grade Teacher

Miss Rita Moore, Third and Fourth Grade Teacher

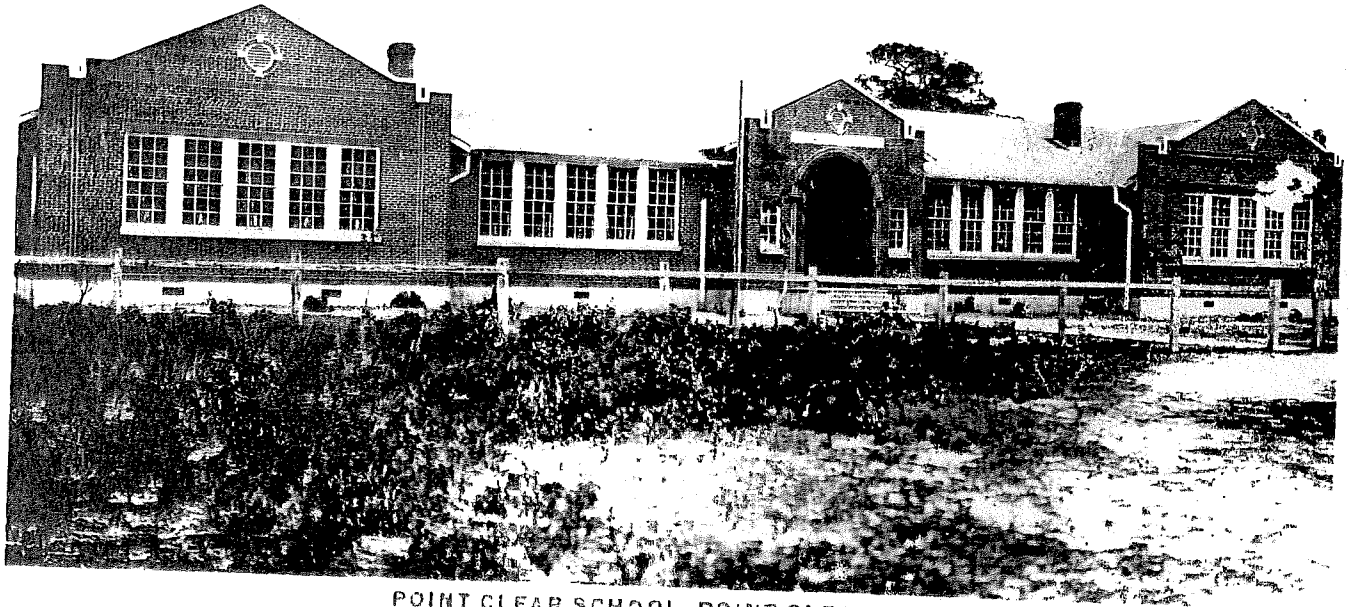
Mrs. Leoma Stubblefield, First and Second Grade Teacher

The number of children in the school at the present time is about 100.

All indications seem to be that Point Clear is in for more rapid growth in the years to come. We at Point Clear are proud of the progress we have made in recent years and to Mr. Tharp who has made all this possible we are thankful.

Mrs. Leoma Stubblefield

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POINT CLEAR SCHOOL, POINT CLEAR ALA.

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South Baldwinite is a True Pioneer-- by Jo Ann Flirt
published in The Foley Onlooker about 1958

Almost from the time she arrived in Baldwin County by covered wagon, Mrs. Laura Wolbrink has been involved in some remarkable "firsts."

She was Foley's first photographer, the town's first and only woman postmaster and in 1908, she and her husband were the first couple to be married in the frontier town.

She and her family came from Council Bluffs, Iowa with five wagons and teams. Mrs. Wolbrink, then 13 drove one of the teams. It took seventeen months and 13 days to make the trip.

In Magnolia Springs where the family camped, they traded their best horse to the local store owner for 15 acres of land on Magnolia River. Later, they traded a team and wagon to the Swift Lumber Co. at Bon Secour for lumber with which to build a story and a half house. Still another team and wagon was traded for groceries.

Mrs. Wolbrink's mother was a milliner before her health caused the family to move south and so it was not altogether unusual that she and her two daughters would begin to make hats in Baldwin County. But the material they chose--dish cloth gourds, palmetto strips and gum balls was a novelty.

They opened up the dish cloth gourd, so called because the spongy substance was actually used for dish cloths,.removed the seeds and water inside and then washed the meaty part on a rub board. The result was a spongey lacy material which was used for the hat base. The base was then trimmed with finely braided palmetto strips and dried gum balls.

" The hats were beautiful, " recalls Mrs. Wolbrink, " and we made

more

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over $1000 selling them to tourists at Magnolia Springs and customers all over the country. We even shipped them to France and England."

While the hat business was booming, Mrs. Wolbrink's father, W.H. Monteith learned that a spur of the L&N railroad would be built from Bay Minette to the present site. He correctly assumed that a town would be built at the railroad end and that it would need a post office. He applied to Washington, D.C. for the job and was accepted and told to "give the town a name." So he replied " Foley" because J.B. Foley's land company owned most of the land here.

"At that time the only house in Foley was a log cabin, " said Mrs. Wolbrink. "Dad pitched a tent for the post office and later built a wooden building which became Foley's first store. In 1915, Mr. Monteith moved to California and Mrs. Wolbrink became the postmistress.

Shortly after Mr. Monteith's store was completed, Mrs. Wolbrink became interested in photography. She took a year's course at Evergreen and returned to Foley where her father built a studio for her. "Photography in those days was more complicated than it is now." she said as she described the glass plated and large bellowed camera she used. Not only did she make portraits, but also thousands of picture post cards showing early scenes of Foley. She now has the town's most complete collection of early pictures including those of the first store, post office, hotel, school bank, church, depot and other buildings and early settlers at Magnolia Springs, Marlow and Bear Point. Laura taught for a year at the Creole school She had to row down the river to the old log landing, and walk about a mile to the school, which was in session only ABOUT FOUR ~~more~~ MONTHS.

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The Baldwin Times , May I4, I896 ,

From Point Clear, Ala. May 6, I896,

Editor of the Times , You missed a treat not being present at the may Picnic held by Brook Cedron , and Point Clear Union mission Sunday Schools , at the old Pearce place on friday last,

Brook Cedron school under the direction of miss Irene Bryant, mrs Fannie Slocum and n mrs Will Dorgan,

miss Corrine Henderson queen.

Point Clear school under the direction of mrs Chas. Magley, mrs S. N. Adwood and mrs Mary A. Mc Donnel miss Estelle Nelson queen,

met on the grounds and proceded to carry out the exercises, which consisted of songs ,recitations by members of the flower convention. May pole dance ect. ect,The Organ a new feature at the picnics was in charge of miss mc Dowell, and was a great help to the children singing, Superintendent Lamar of Point Clear school escorted by misses Annie Corrine and Mary Veacich and miss Marinie Martin carrying banners and two national flags and singing hold the fort for we are comming , made the score of the day ,

dinner was announced just when all were hungry ,and you may be sure the good things dissapeared very rappidly, but there was enougt and to spare,

Mr Chas. Joseph was on hand and from the manner inwhich he circulated among the voters , was putting an anchor to windward, preparing for the august Stormm, this part of the cal cable is all right,

Rev. H P. Hanson and H. W. Mc Donnel were also present , and gave the children a talk, both seemed to enjoy themselves, and if they had eaten all that was offerd them doctors would have been in demand,

the good gentlman who ran the race to the Spring for the amusement of the children, was on the beach last Sun. looking it is said for the

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Lady who gave him the pod of peper, I am very sorry you were not with us

Rustie

schools

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Alabama's First School Was A

By Kay Nuzum

Since April is Teaching Career Month, let's think a bit about what the earliest known school, not only in Baldwin County, but in Alabama, was like.

This early school, known as the "Blab" School, where students studied and recited aloud, was established in 1799 by John Pierce, a Connecticut Yankee, 20 years before Alabama became a state, and was still a part of the Mississippi Territory.

The school was located at the Boat Yard on the Tensaw River within sight of Fort Mims.

Students who came to this school to learn to read, write and do sums, were the children of Red Eagle, the Indian Chief Weatherford; the aristocratic Linders, whose father and mother had come from Switzerland; the colorful McGillivrays and wealthy Mims; the Taits, Durants and McQueens. Language-wise, the school had a perfect setup for a "language lab" since French, Spanish, Scotch, English and Indian languages were spoken.

Probably the only books used were owned by the teacher - a Webster's Spelling Book, a geography, an arithemetic, and perhaps a Colonial New England Primer and the Bay Psalm Book. As a consequence, the method of teaching was by word of mouth, or "blab."

The schoolhouse was a crude log cabin with puncheon floors, no windows, only square holes closed by wooden shutters. The hard-to-sit-on rough log benches surely must have caused much squirming and leg-dangling. There were no blackboards and no crayons. Also, no Title I, II, or III monies, no accreditation standards, no guidelines, and no new math!

A regular term at the Boat Yard School was unheard of. Classes were held at odd times. Sometimes the older children had to stay out to work. On days school was in session, it was attended from eight to 12 and one to four.

Distractions, in this primi-

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lege to have Exchange Student Hein Wittenaar and his American mother, Mrs. Malcolm Fosberg at the meeting. Hein gave an informative talk on his home land "The Netherlands" and then of his experiences as an Exchange Student at Robertsdale High, a resident of Silverhill, a citizen of Baldwin County, and a family member in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fosberg.

Delicious refreshments were served in the church parlors, at which time the business meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. George Lundberg.

The following members were present: Vice-president, Mrs. Meribah Vandenhuerk (Foley Green Acres), secretary, Mrs. Eunice Ness (Fairhope); treasurer, Mrs. Mabel Griffith (Foley), past president, Mrs. Thelma Blake (Montrose), District I President, Mr. and Mrs. F. Clements (Brewton); from Fairhope were Mrs. G. Curry, Mrs. Lucille Lloyd, Mrs. Dora [illegible];

Bay Minette Miss [illegible]hew; from Stockton Kilpatrick; from

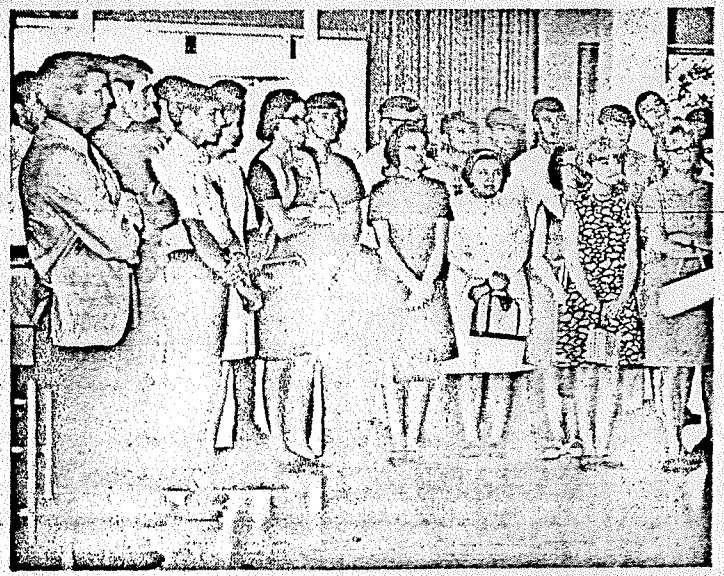
The Mission Covenant Church had a wonderful day on last Sunday with the Dedication of their new education building. People attended from other churches and other communities also. Guest speaker was Rev. Paul Anderson, Covenant Chairman of America, Chicago. A delicious Fellowship Dinner was served at noon.

* * *

The Baptist Congregation enjoyed a most interesting and informative evening on Friday night when visiting friends, Major and Mrs. G. O. Horn and children showed moving pictures and gave a very interesting talk on personal experiences in Vietnam. Major Horn not only brought before the people the horrors of war and a suffering people, but the natural beauty of landscape, the freedom-loving people, the delightful children and youth, all who have fallen victims of a tragic situation. Mrs. Horn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gustafson, who enjoyed immensely the visit of their daughter, son-in-law, and delightful grand-children.

Yancey Class Tours Bank

This is one section of Economics 201 at Yancey State College whic last week. The classes are taught by David Lindsey. Conducting th F. Byrne. There are 24 students in the above section.



35 Students Visit Bank

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MAR 1985
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Point Clear School
Thursday March 28, 1985

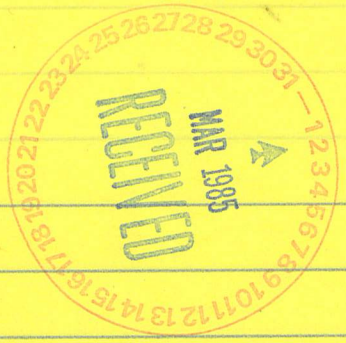
Mr. Smith,

My father wants to keep the photographs of the old schools a little longer to try and identify more of the people in them. The following is a list of items my father has and will probably send to you next week.

1. Euclid School "about 1898".
2. Marlow School
3. Students of either Euclid or Marlow.
4. Two photographs of the class of 1898-99 of the Fairhope Public School with the teacher Mabel Webb and her sister (another teacher?) Vera Webb.
5. List of "Scholars attending first public school at Fairhope: 1898-1899." "The above (list) was written by Mabel Webb (Gray) who was the first public school teacher in Fairhope."

Sincerely,
Gene Boothe

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Point Clear School
Thursday February 28, 1985

Mr. Smith,

Thank you for your information on the Euclid School. It meant a lot to my father and he has taken the search for old school records as an active project.

He has located a person who may be able to give him a photograph of the old Euclid School and possibly other old records and photographs of other old schools, in possibly a week. There remains many names on his list he has yet to contact.

I will keep you informed on this project and forward to you any information I receive as it becomes available.

Sincerely,
Gene Boothe

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BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
2600-A NORTH HAND AVENUE
BAY MINETTE, ALABAMA 36507
PHONE (251) 937-0306
FAX (251) 937-0318

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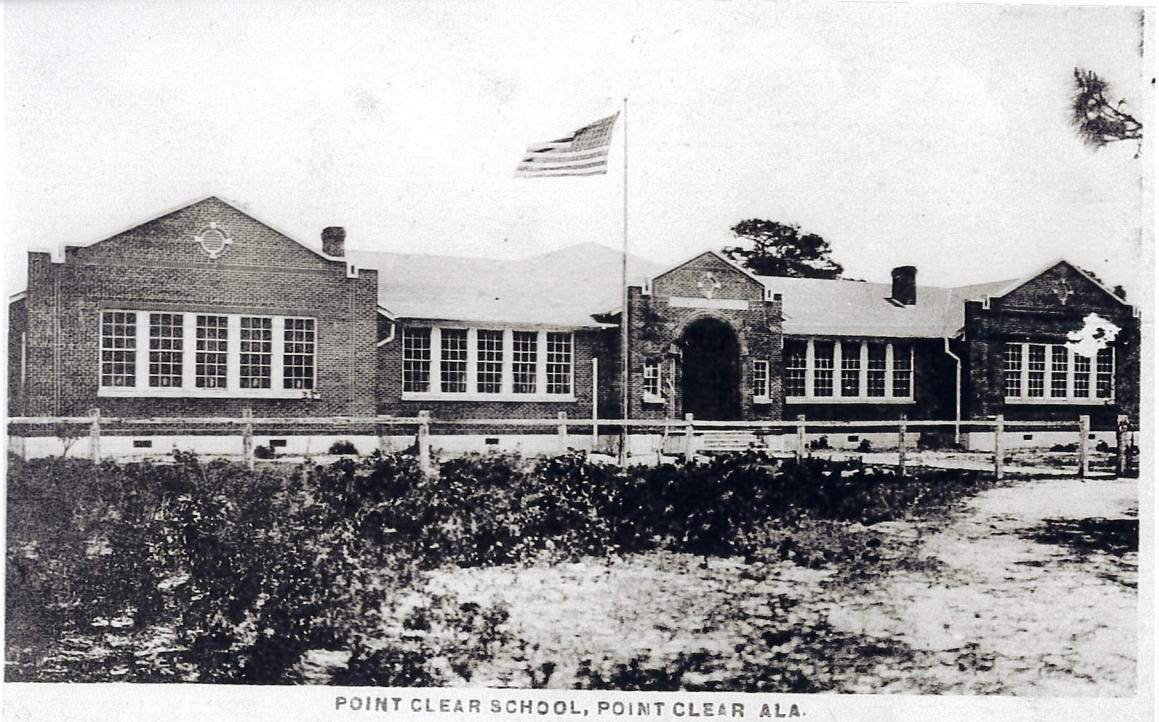
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Jay Picture [redacted]

Rev Whitfield [redacted]

Jay? History Pm
set 3 ac under
manilla folder
Point Clear - Jay



POINT CLEAR SCHOOL, POINT CLEAR ALA.