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HISTORY

AND

MEMORIES

OF

SWIFT SCHOOL

By-Doris Fulford Witt Jones

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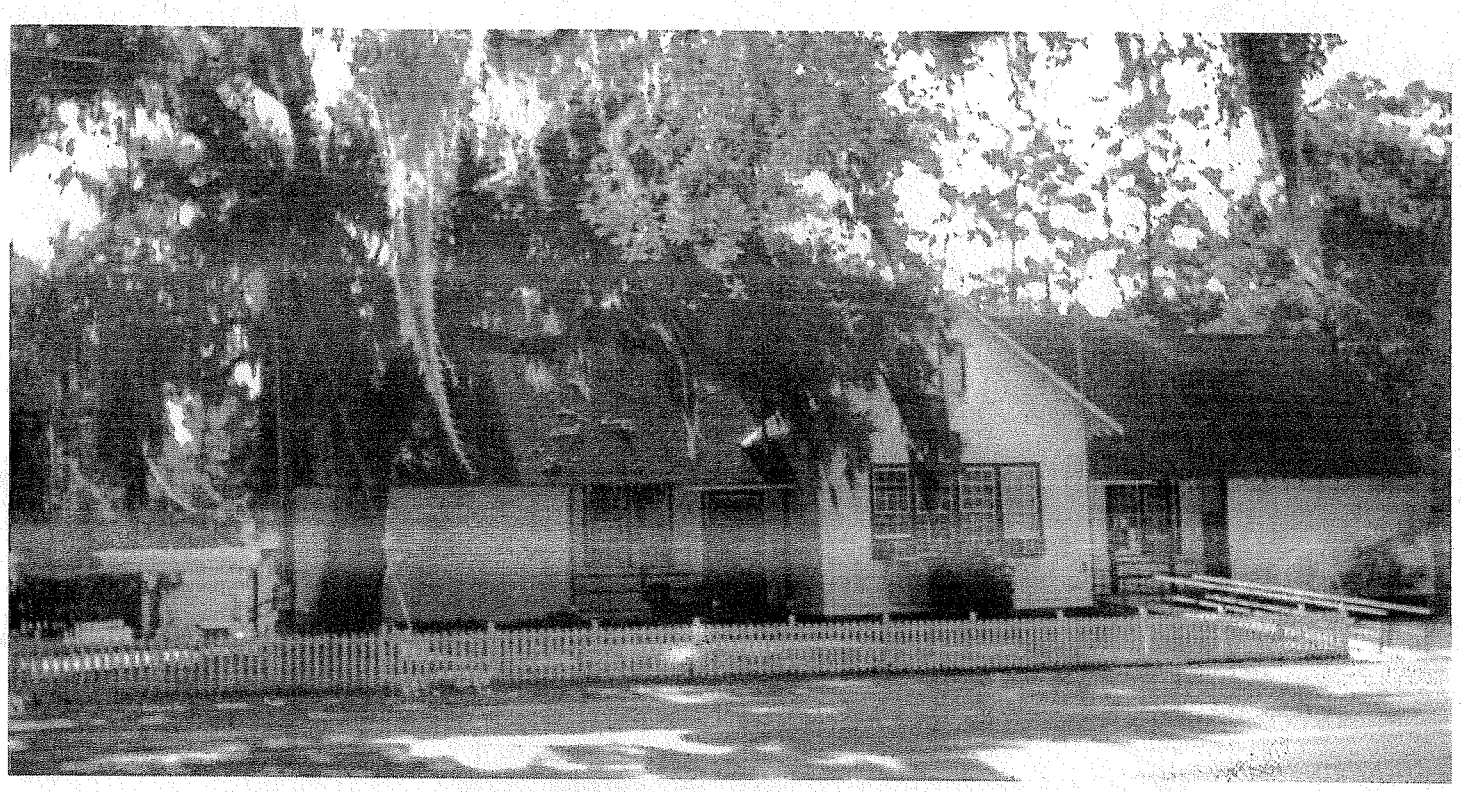

History and Memories of Swift School

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Preface

This has been an humble attempt to record some of the history and memories of Swift School. Please forgive any errors or omissions that might be found in this work.

The compilation of this book was a real challenge, but an enjoyable one. I want to thank all the many good folks I talk with by phone and in person, that lent books for gleaning information, for pictures, and the loan of pictures for coping. For all the assistance and information that was so freely and graciously given. Without all of you this effort of mine would never have been realized.

May God Bless You,

Doris Fulford Witt Jones

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The writer: fall of 1951

Background on right Swift School. Left the original schoolhouse, which was moved south of its original site, housed in an addition and became the home of the Norrell Family in the early 1930's.

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THE

BEGINNING

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HISTORY OF SWIFT SCHOOL

Possibly as early as the 1850's, a settlement just west of the Bon Secour settlement began to form. This settlement came to be known as Miller's Bend. About 1885 St. Peters Episcopal Church by the Sea, at Miller's Bend, built a schoolhouse next to the church. Some writings refer to this school as Witt's School, I suppose because the Witt Family gave the land for the church and school and was also the caretakers of them. Sometime prior to the school year 1914 -15 this school became a public school and was recorded in records as Witt School district # 21.

June 1906 the Swift family purchased land in the Bon Secour Settlement, and soon moved to the area. They built a sawmill and soon a school for their children and the children of their employees of the sawmill. This little one room schoolhouse was across the road from the present building, where the Morgan's Chapel now stands. School year 1915-16 this school also became a public school with one teacher Emily M. Swift , it was recorded in records as Swift School district #20.

July 1916 Witt School #21 and Swift School #20 were consolidated and Swift became Swift Consolidated, and was moved to Woodman Hall. The teachers were Emily Swift and Emma Billie, Miss. Emma was from Witt School.

July 1917 Oak School from up river was also added to Swift Consolidated. That school year 1917-18, Swift was assigned their first principal, E.P. Yeldell. Mr. Yeldell and Miss. Swift taught the upper grades, fourth through eighth, and remained at Woodman Hall. The primary grades, first through third, were moved back to the little one room schoolhouse with Miss. Emma as the teacher.

In late 1916 or early 1917 the Swift Family made available five acres across the road from the little one room schoolhouse to the public school system. In 1920 a new school building was completed on this land. The Bon Secour Settletment now had a new school with three large and two small classrooms. The building consisted of two very large rooms with high ceilings. The room across the back was much larger than the front classroom and was divided with folding wooden doors, which are still there, all though they no longer fold, creating two classrooms. Two small rooms were also part of the building, these being on either side of the front classroom.

In April 1922 plans were drawn for two additional classrooms. The annexation, a classroom on the south end and one to the north, was completed in 1925. Also added at that time were the two small front porches.

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Interesting Note

There are two accounts as to what happened to the school building at Miller's Bend. One is that it was moved up river and became a home. The other is that it burnt in 1928 when the church building burnt. The Oak schoolhouse and acre of land was sold by the Co. Board of Ed. The little one room Swift schoolhouse and land belonged to the Swift Family and was given to the Methodist Church.

The Treachery

I have been unable to pen point just when the little house on the school grounds was built. I have been told that it was there in the 1920's and was used as a home for the principal and family. Principal A.S. Smith and family lived there in the 1920's. In the 1940's principal Ione Swift and family lived in the little house. 1955 till 1971 the house was rented out as a private home to Barney and Irma Davis and family. Since school year 1971-72 the little house has served in many capacities, some being library, classroom, storage area and canteen.

" Old Bell "

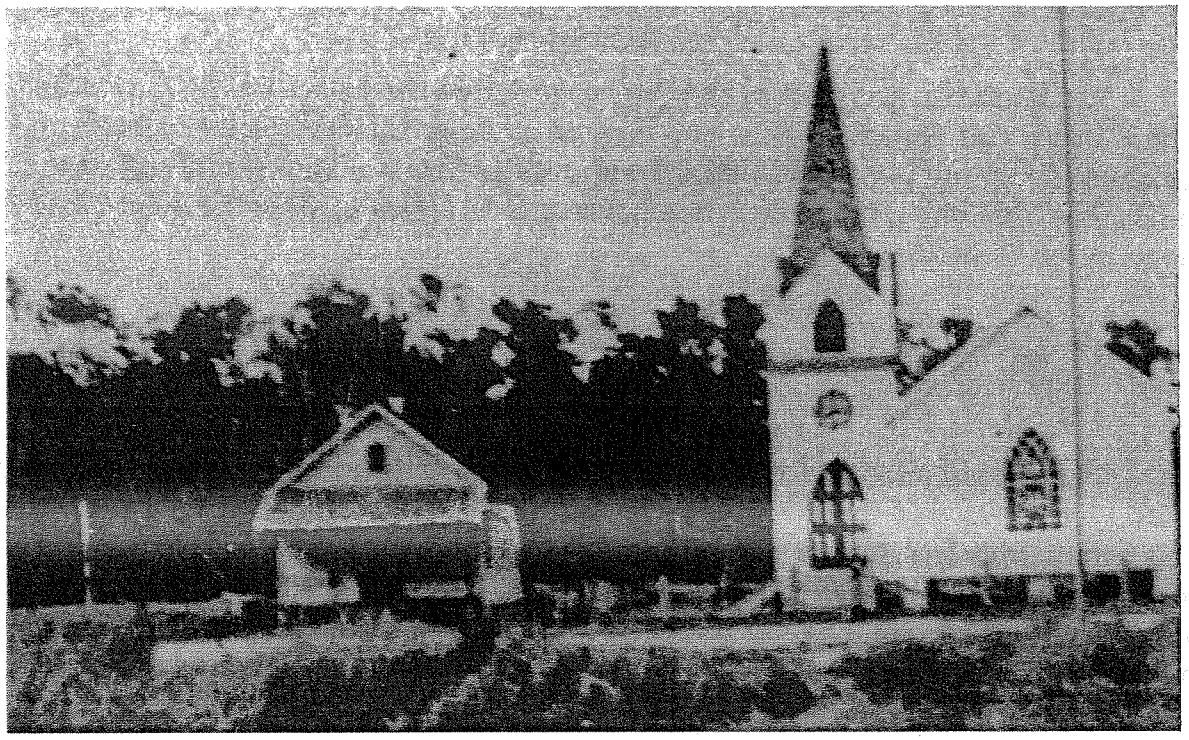
A very large black bell, which had to be rung manually, was used for many years to start and end the school day. It was also used to announce and end recess. The bell is still at the school, housed in the front entrance way, all though it is no longer used.

Facilities

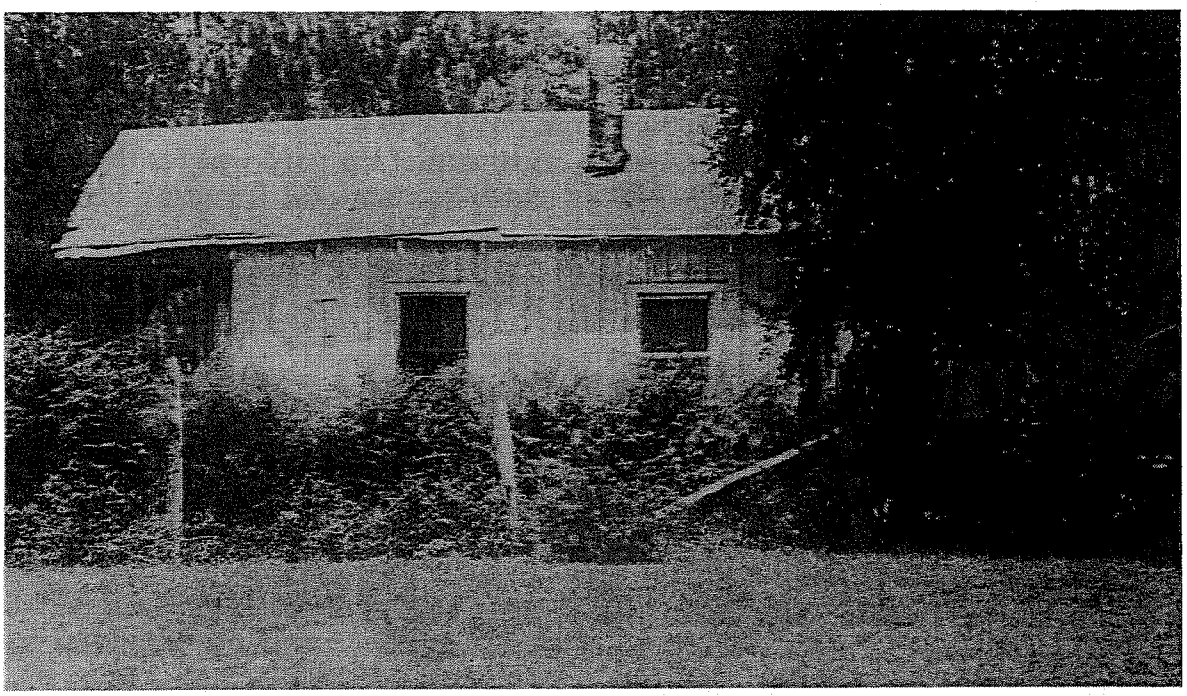
Until the school year 1947-48 two large outhouses served as necessary facilities. They were out back of the school. The one at the north end of the yard was for the boys, the girls was across the yard to the south. In 1947-48 bathrooms were added to the back of the school building. This completed the building as it stands today.

Footnote: In the process of my research I came across, in the Baldwin Co. Board of Ed. Minutes, the name Swift Mill School district #20. This name was listed with the schools receiving money from the general and poll tax funds. Oct. 1909 Swift Mill School was allotted $360.00, in April 1910 $199.00. I'm not sure of the meaning of this information. Possible in the early years the county assisted both public and private schools.

Swift School did not appear again until school year 1915-16.



Witt School St. Peters By The Bay



Swift School early 1900's

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EXCERPTS FROM

MINUTES OF

BALDWIN COUNTY

BOARD OF

EDUCATION

APRIL 1916—JULY 1929

April 9, 1916:

9. On a motion of W.D. Randall, seconded by Frank Earle, That the application of the citizens of Districts Nos. 20, 21, *45* and *65*. Laying along Bon Secour River, for a consolidated school comprising the aforesaid school districts be considered; that the County Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to investigate the feasibility of such consolidation and report his findings to the Board of Education at its next meeting.

July 5, 1916:

Supt. J.B. Lambert reported that, on the evening of April 14th 1916, in accordance with the instructions of the Board, he held a mass-meeting of the citizens of Bon Secour district,No45, Witt district,No.21, Swift district,No.20 and Oak district,No.65, at Woodmans Hall, Bon Secour, to discuss the possibility and advisability of consolidating the said districts into a central school; that the result of the conference showed that the cost of transporting children from district No. 45 to the proposed consolidated school to be erected on a site near the present site of Swift School, No.20, as agreed upon by said citizens in mass-meeting assembled, would be too great to justify the inclusion of said school No.45 in the proposed consolidation; that the representatives of Oak district, No.65,were about equally divided on the question of consolidation; that the citizens of Nos. 20 and 21 were unanimously in favor of consolidation and that efforts were being made to secure the required five-acre site for the erection, with state aid, of a three-room school house. On a motion of Chas. Barclay, seconded by Frank F. Earle, the consolidated school was approved and state aid promised on the condition that all forms of the law governing state aid for the erection and equipment of school houses be complied with by the citizens of the districts comprising the proposed consolidated school. On a motion of J. B. Lambert, seconded by Chas. Barclay, it was agreed that the Woodmans Hall, near Pattersons store, Bon Secour, would be used for the accommodation of the consolidated school, if necessary, until the proposed new school house will be completed, provided that such arrangement shall not extended beyond the school term of 1916-1917.

May 9, 1917:

The Superintendent reported that he had held meetings with the citizens of districts 20 and 21 at Bon Secour and of districts 36 and 66 at Rosinton to discuss and arrange for consolidation, and that plans for the consolidation of the two schools named at each place were preparing, with a view to the erection of a three-room school house at Bon Secour and a two room school, for the present, at Rosinton;

July 11, 1917:

Mr. Thomas Steele, representing the people of Swift Consolidated District, No. 20 Bon Secour, stated to the Board that the citizens of the said district had raised locally $725 in cash, in consideration of which, he asked that the Board allow the said District at least $500 from the apportionment to said District for the year 1917-1918, allow a loan of $300, at 6% interest, to be made on account of the apportionment to the said District for the year 1918-1919, also $600 from the State Building and Equipment Fund for the purpose of erecting and equipping a three-room school house in said District 20.

11. A letter from the Superintendent, under the date of June 11,1917, to the trustees of Battles District No. 61, and Oak District No. 65, notifying the citizens of said districts that the Board of Education were contemplating the consolidation of Battles school No. 61 with Pt. Clear school, No. 15, and Oak school No. 65 with Swift Consolidated School, No. 20, and inviting the citizens of said districts to send representatives, if they so desired, to the July session of the Board of Education to show cause why the said consolidations should not be effectuated.

No one appearing to protest, or show cause why such action should not be taken by the Board of Education, by a unanimous vote, Battles school No. 61 was consolidated with Pt. Clear School No. 15, and Oak school No. 65 with the Swift Consolidated School No. 20.

Sept. 5,1917:

On a motion of Chas. Barclay, seconded by Chas. R. Weeldey, Permission was granted the school in Swift Consolidated District, No. 20. To teach the primary grades in the old Public School House for the term 1917-1918, there being not room enough in the Woodman Hall for the accommodation of three teachers.

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LOOKING BACK AT SWIFT SCHOOL'S FOUNDATION AND SOME MEMORIES

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Feb. 18,1919:

Mr. Childress, Trustee of Swift Consolidated School, District 20, stated that Mr. Lambert had offered to give them an eight month school with three teachers for the years 1917-1918 and 1918-1919, or give them a seven months school with two teachers for the two years and let the other amounts that would be paid in the teachers salaries go to the erection and equipment of a three room building in said District. The Board agreed to carry out this promise. A check amoution to $810.86 with interest was placed in the hands of the Board of Education from this school, to be placed to the credit of said school. The Superintendent was authorised to apply for State aid for said school.

List of Seventh Grade Applicants, from Swift Consolidated, who took County Examination, May 1st and 2nd 1923.

Name
Ethel Fulford
Julia Thornton
John F. Miller
Aly ? Ivey
Marline Shows
Marion Ivey
Naomi Prince
Grady Nail
Maud Carver
Odeal Fell
Clyde Shows
Myrtle Wallace
Carl Shown
Mynatt Childress
Rosie Bemis
Kate Mitchell

May 28, 1926:

A letter was received from one of the patrons of the Swift Consolidated School requesting that a truck be run from the Swift Co School to Foley to accommodate the high school students from the Swift Con. School. The Superintendent was requested to inv gate and report back to the Board.

July 30, 1926:

A committee from the community know as the "Mississippi Settlement" came before the board and requested transportation to t Swift Con. School, District 20. Their request was not granted.

July 29. 1927:

Mr. J. R. Mien was given the contract to paint the Swift Consolidated School building, District 20, two coats inside and out, for $250. The County Board to furnish paint, putty, etc.

July 29, 1927:

The following contracts for transportation of school children were awarded:

13. Burruss Grantham, Dis. 60, $60 per month, for transporting high school children above 8th grade from Swift Consolidated school to Foley High School, 1 year.

July 26, 1929:

E. P. Lipscomb, - To transport the children from the Mississippi settlement to the Swift Consolidated School and high school cl dren from Swift Consolidated school to Foley and other elementary children out of distance along the route to Foley, at $90.00 month for a period of three years.

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"Mississippi Settlement"

In the mid 1920's through the early 1930's there was an influx of farmers and their families from Mississippi that settled in an area northwest of the Bon Secour settlement. This area came to be known as the "Mississippi Settlement". Due to this the enrollment at Swift school increased greatly. I'm told that in the early 1930's first grade was taught in one of the rooms of the little house. Also told that school year 1934-35 that two grades with the least students, first and sixth, were taught by Miss Bernice Miller in one of the small side rooms of the Episcopal Church, heated by a wood burning pot belly stove.

Utilities

Through the 1930's the school was heated with wood. In the 1940's coal was used for heat. Electricity possible came to the school in 1935 after the REA was established.

Fences and Cattle Gaps

It is said that in the 1930's there was a fence around the school with cattle gaps at the entrance. I'm not sure when this fence came down, nor when the cattle gaps were removed. For years there was a line of shrubbery across the front of the school. These were removed and Edward Vail built a wooden fence in their place in the early 1990's. Covered walkways from the unloading area were also built at this time.

Nurse

A school nurse has been a part of Swift School history dating back to possible the late 1930's or early 1940's. I personally remember, in the mid 1940's, Miss. Pauline Marshall coming to the school, setting up her equipment in the room now serving as cafeteria. The children would line up and file by her and receive their shots. Of course inoculation are no longer given at school, but a nurse still comes to the school on a regular basis.

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Grades Levels

In the early years Swift School consisted of eight grades. I'm not sure what year the eighth grade was moved to Foley School, possible in the early 1930's. School year 1980-81 kindergarten was added. School year 1983-84 seventh grade moved to Foley. 1994-95 sixth grade also moved to Foley. Leaving Swift teaching K-5th grades.

P.E.

There was no organized or supervised P.E. in the early years of Swift School. Did have recess and a playtime when marbles, tag, hide & seek, red rover, & jump rope and other games were enjoyed. In the 1950's Physical Education became a part of the school program. Each teacher took their class out for structured physical activity. Later P.E. Teacher's and aides were added.

Lunch

Early years of school meant carrying lunch because until 1939 there was no food available at school, except for those who had no food to bring. A thoughtful lady in the community, Mrs. Olivia Miller, mother of one of the teacher's, Miss. Bernice Miller, kept peanut butter, crackers and soup on hand for these children.

In 1939 Mrs. Margaret Holmes, the new bride of the then principal, Roy Holmes, started the first kitchen, a soup kitchen. A cup of homemade soup and crackers cost .02 cents. The farmers of the area donated food for the soup. The small north room became the kitchen and as of this writing is still the kitchen.

The school year of 1942-43 Mrs. Luby Cockrell came as the school cook and soon started serving meals. Mrs. Madie Woodard joined Mrs. Cockrell in 1947. They worked together for the next ten years. Spring of 1957 Mrs. Cockrell retired. Mrs. Madie continued until Dec. 1971 and she also retired.

Jan. 1972 Mrs. Louise Benton took over the kitchen. Mrs. Annie Lee Daughtery assisted her. Also during her four and half years Rita Molsbee and Besty Dean Lipscomb, at different time, helped in the kitchen. School year 1976-77 Besty Dean became head cook, assisted by Linda Daughtery, Jane Lipdcomb and Linda Bingert. School year 1977-78 Mrs. Georgia Daughtery took Betsy Dean's place with Linda Bingert still assisting. Mrs. Georgia was there for ten years. Then came Rose Mary Wilson assisted by Janice Vail, this was in 1987 and as of this writing they are still serving.

In 1986 the north end of the large room across the back of the building was converted from a classroom to a cafeteria. Prior to this the children ate lunch at their desk or table. 6th & 7th grades helped with the serving.

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Auditorium

Prior to the building of the auditorium, which was started in late 1946 or early 1947, any function that required space took place in the large room across the back of the building. The dividers were folded back creating a very large room. For functions requiring a stage, a portable stage was put in place across the south end of the room.

The seventh grade graduating class of 1949 was the first to hold their graduation ceremony from the new auditorium, even though it was not finished.

Office

For many years the small room between the south and front classrooms served as office space. The principal used this office where she did the bookkeeping. She also taught a class, some year's two classes.

School year 1986-87 a full time secretary was hired. Prior to that, for a short period of time, a lady came two days a week, for a couple of hours, and did the books and paid the bills. Donna Willis was the first full time secretary and she filled this position for thirteen years. During her term, in 1997, the office was moved to the large front classroom. In 1999-2000 school year Janie Whitaker became the secretary after Donna retired.

Custodians

The early years of school the teachers and students kept the school clean. Each week a chore list was posted and every student had a responsibility, sweep, dust, clean blackboard, dust erasers, take out trash, take out ashes, bring in wood/later coal, clean closet where we hung our coats, and so on. The yard was kept clean by men of the community.

In the late 1940's or early 1950's Mr. Walter Miller, father of one of the former teachers, Miss. Bernice Miller, worked around the school doing varies jobs. He would come to the school early in the morning and clean out the stoves,taking out the ashes, bring in coal and start the fires so the school would be nice and warm when the children arrived. He also kept the yards clean.

In 1970's a janitor was hired to come after school and clean the classrooms and restrooms. 1988 outside work was added. 1995 this position became a six hour a day job and 1996 eight hours. Some of those serving in this position were, in the 1970's until the spring of 1985, Irwin and Bell Nabors, and Jackie, (Mrs. Buckey), Taylor. 1985 till 1987 Rosemary Wilson. 1987 till mid 1990's Janice and Edward Vail. Janice started helping Rosemary in the latter part of the school year 1986-87, fall of 1987 Janice and her husband did the cleaning and Janice also helped Rosemary in the kitchen. Mid 1990's forward those serving were, Deborah Nelson followed by Julie Peed then Pamela May, for a short time, then Danny Kerbey, who as of this writing is still there.

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Library

Until 1996 the school library was setup and moved about the school grounds. At one time a corner of the auditorium served as a library. Also the large front classroom and the small house. Then in 1996 through efforts of Gaston Monroe and many volunteers from the community a library building was built and the books had a home.

P.T.A./P.T.O.

The PTA/PTO, as well as the Trustees, have played a large roll in the foundation of Swift School. Many volunteer hours have been given in order to provide supplies and equipment needed, but not supplied by the county school system.

Fundraisers

All through the year's children, parents and teachers have taken part in various fundraising projects and still do so today. In the early years square dancing with cake walks and movies on Friday nights were enjoyed by the community.

Fall Festival

The fall festival has been a major fundraiser at Swift for many years. In the early years it was known as the Halloween carnival. It has been a part of the Swift tradition since the early 1940's and continues still today.

The Christmas Play

The Christmas play at Swift School has become a tradition. For many years Mrs. Betsy Carver wrote and directed the play. All the children took part and the community turned out to enjoy it. For many years the grand finally of the annual Christmas play was the manger scene depicting the birth of the Christ child. The Christmas play is still preformed, but sadly the manger scene can no longer be the focal point.

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Mayday/Spring Festival

In the late 1940's and early 1950's Swift School participated in the Mayday Pageant in Daphne, AL. Schools from around the county sent Mayday Courts to participate in the festivities. In the mid 1950's Swift School started having a Spring Music Festival at which the children sang and did folk dancing and concluded the program with the wrapping of the Mayploe. This became a tradition at Swift and continued for many years. Mrs. Ida Callaway was in charge of this function.

Spring Festival is still a part of Swift School, although over the years it has changed in nature. Today it is a fundraiser and music, dance and the maypole are no longer part of the spring festival.

Spring/Field Day

Every year, for many years now, on a warm spring day, usual a Friday, Swift School holds a Field Day. Children, teachers and parents all participate in various games and fun is had by all.

Graduation

Each year children advancing from Swift to a higher school participate in a graduation ceremony. This has been a long time tradition at Swift School. There is also a graduation ceremony for kindergarten children advancing to first grade.

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FOUR

AND

FIVE

GENERATIONS

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Four Generations

While compiling information for this book I realized there are many families in the area that have or have had four generations attend Swift School. The following are a few of those families that I have been able to verify. I'm sure there are many more.

1. Kathleen Bemis Benton her son Buddy Benton

2. Lorraine Allen Gates her daughter Linda Gates Benton

Their daughter Sandy Benton Thorpe and her children. Interesting note: Sandy is the niece of Mrs. Betsy Carver, long time teacher and principal of Swift. Sandy was a very active student at Swift. She became a P.E. aide and aide to lead teacher Robbie Owens. She is there now as a third grade teacher.

3. Kathleen Bemis Benton her son Andrew Benton

4. Margie Daugherty Nelson her daughter Ruby Nelson Benton

Their son Joe Benton and his children. Mrs. Margie's son William Nelson his son Billy and Billy's son's also attended Swift.

5. Rosie Bemis Nelson Ewing her daughter Rosa Lee Nelson Jones and all three of her daughters:

1. Tammy Jones Rowell Salzman her children Rosalee and Jesse Rowell. 2. Julie Jones Peed her sons Gary and Clint Peed. 3. Wendy Jones Williams Douglas and her children, Nicole, and Chuckie Williams and Blake Douglas.

Interesting note: Julie Peed worked at the school for two years as custodian.

6. Gaynell Ross Richerson her son Eugene Richerson his daughter Lounell Richerson Knight and her daughters.

Interesting note: Gaynell Richerson taught at Swift for ten and a half years.

7. Ed and Georgia Davis Daugherty their daughter Elvis Daugherty Etheridge and her son and daughter and their children.

Interesting note: Georgia Daugherty served ten years as head cook at Swift. Her daughter Gloria Schlieper taught P.E. at Swift and her sons also attended school there.

8. Irma Bemis Allen her daughter Patsy Allen Shutt her son Chris Shutt and his daughter Holland.

9. Carol Bemis his daughter Carrie Bemis Etheridge her daughter Karen Etheridge Risinger and her children.

10. Vera Carver McCallister Hough her daughter Diane McCallister Nelson her daughter Holley and her daughter Megan.

11. Edna Mae Ross Taylor & husband D.W. Taylor their children, grandchildren and greatgrand children.

12. Bell Pruitt Nabors Styron her children, grandchildren and this school year 2000 a greatgrand child.

13. Herbert Styron his son Rodney his son Troy and Troy's daughter.

14. My own family - both my mother, Thelma Long Fulford, and my dad, Preston Fulford, my sister Patricia Boddie her son Steve and daughter Daphne, Daphne's daughter Tausha - all attended Swift School. So did my first husband, Tom Witt, and three of our children, Cindy, Al and Preston. I have always been sorry our oldest child, Charles, never had the opportunity to attend this special school.

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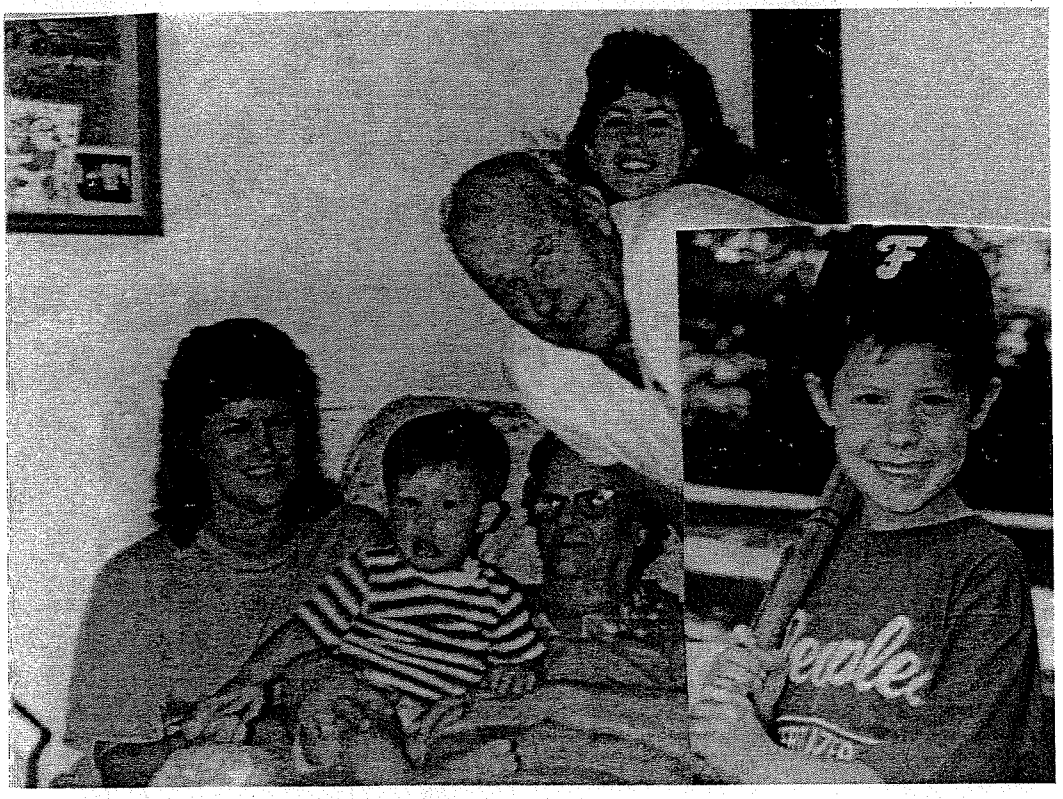
Five Generations

I was able to verify two families that had five generations attend Swift School.

The first was Mrs. Kathleen Bemis Benton, altho she never attended school at the present building she did attend Swift School when it was being held at the Woodman Hall. Mrs. Kathleen was the mother of Mrs. Marie (Besty) Benton Carver who attended Swift, became a teacher, and taught at Swift for Forty years, serving as Principal thirteen of those years. Mrs. Carver's daughter Besty Dean Carver Lipscomb, her children and grandchildren also attended Swift School. Mrs. Carver's father, Walter Benton, served as Trustee of Swift and her daughter Besty Dean has ,over the years, served in different capacity at the school. Mrs. Kathleen's daughter Margie Miller also attended and taught at Swift School.

The second, pictured below, was Mrs. Rosie Bemis Nelson Ewing, sister of Mrs. Kathleen Benton, her son Robert (Tunk) Nelson his daughter Jeanette(on left) her daughter Annette and her son Dustin. The second picture of Dustin was taken when he was in the 1st grade at Swift.

Mrs. Rosie attended Swift in the 1920's at the present building. She passed away at the age of 92 , September 20, 2000.



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FACULTY

AND

TRUSTEE'S

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Principals

1. E.P. Yeldell.....1917-18 thru 1920-21
2. Stewart A. Smith.....1921-22 thru 1931-32
3. A.G. Edwards.....1932-33 thru 1935-36
4. Mr. Stapleton.....1936-37 thru 1937-38
5. Roy Holmes.....1938-39 thru 1941-42
6. Ione Swift.....1942-43 thru 1970-71
7. Marie Carver.....1971-72 thru 1983-84
8. Ariabell Rachel.....1984-85 thru 1986-87
9. Connie West (first principal that did not teach).....1987-88 (one year)
10. Mrs. Tipton (lead teacher).....1988-89 (one year)
11. Robbie Owens (lead teacher).....1989-90 thru Dec. 1993
12. Nelda Nazary (lead teacher).....Jan. thru May 1994
13. Linda Capps.....1994-95 till present

Footnote: Over the 85 years that Swift School has been a public school there have only been 13 different principals or lead teachers.

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Teachers

In the early years of Swift School there was only one to three teachers at a time. Soon growth brought a fourth in the mid 1930' s. It remained such till the early 1970's and a fifth teacher was added. For the next ten years there was only five teachers at Swift School.

The following is an attempt to list ,in order, the teachers of Swift School and years served. The list is close to accurate till the mid 1980,s. From there it is not totally complete, but is as close to accurate as I was able to determine.

1. Emily Swift ..... 1915-16 thru 1918-19
2. Emma Billie ..... 1916-17 thru 1918-19
3. Willie Grace Stewart ..... 1919-20 one year
4. Amelia Swift ..... 1920-21 one year
5. Carrie Lee Bowling ..... 1920-21 one year
6. Mrs. Stewart Smith ..... 1921-22 thru 1931-32
7. Lenola Cromartie ..... 1922-23 thru ?
8. Bernice Miller ..... 1927-28 thru 1928-29
   Then 1931-32 thru 1947-48
9. Francis Rogers ..... 1929-30 thru 1930-31
10. Lilly Corrick ..... Sept. thru Dec. 1932
11. Rubye Weihr ..... Jan. 1933 till May '34
12. Margie Andrews (Nolte) ..... 1934-35 thru 1941-42
13. Catherine Edwards ..... 1935-36 one year
14. Ione Swift ..... 1936-37 thru 1970-71
15. George McMillian ..... 1938-39 one year
16. Ida Callaway ..... 1939-40 thru 1980-81
17. Margaret Holmes ..... 1939-40 thru 1941-42
18. Marie Benton (Carver) ..... 1942-43 thru 1983-84
19. Margie Benton Miller ..... 1948-49 thru 1949-50
20. Gaynell Richerson ..... 1948-49 thru Dec. '59
21. Mrs. Meredith ..... 1950-51 one year
22. Mazie Epperson ..... Jan. 1960 thru 1973-74
23. Jewel Lawson ..... 1971-72 one year
24. Hazel Snyder ..... 1971-72 thru 1984-85

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25. Maxine Yelding ..... 1972-73 one year
26. Miss Barnes ..... 1973-74 one year
27. Deborah Davis (Caleb) ..... 1974-75 thru 1984-85
28. Elaine Persons ..... 1974-75 one year
29. Nelda Nazary ..... 1975-76 thru 1999-00
30. Pamela Vinson ..... 1980-81 thru 1985-86
31. Ariabell Rachell ..... 1984-85 thru 1986-87
32. Esther Hellmich ..... 1985-86 thru 1988-89
33. Mrs. Beale ..... unknown
34. Mary Walker ..... 1985-86 thru 1988-89
35. Sandra Dawkins ..... 1985-86 thru 1986-87
36. Sarah Tipton ..... 1986-87 thru 1989-90
37. Sandra Small ..... 1986-87 thru 1987-88
38. Gloria Schlieper ..... 1986-87 thru 1987-88
39. Caroline Ellis ..... 1987-88 thru 1988-89
40. Robbie Owens ..... 1988-89 thru Dec.1993
41. Sandy Thorpe ..... 1988-89 till present
42. Kim Rowe ..... 1989-90 till present
43. Janet Egbert ..... unknown
44. Amy Chuckvarrie ..... unknown
45. Buddy Moore ..... unknown
46. Dawn Peterson ..... unknown
47. Suzanne Ott ..... unknown
48. Danelle Morrow ..... 1993-1994.....1yr.
49. Julie Nordman ..... Jan. 1994.....1/2 yr.
50. Sharon Nelson ..... 1994-1995.....1yr.
51. Helen Rivenbark ..... 1994-95 thru 1997-98
52. Deb DeShazo ..... 1994-95 thru 1995-96
53. Alicia Graham ..... 1994-95 thru 1995-96
54. Cecilia Day ..... 1994-95 thru 1996-97
55. Margaret McCarthy ..... 1994-95 thru 1997-98
56. Kristina Davis ..... 1994-95 till present

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57. Marilyn Harrison ..... 1994-95 till present
58. Brenda Acreman ..... 1994-95 till present
59. Reneah Doherty ..... 1994-95 till present
60. Joanna Garris ..... 1994-95 till present
61. Debbie Webb ..... 1995-96 1 yr.
62. Stephanie Cleverdon ..... 1996-97 1 yr.
63. Electa Harmon ..... 1997-98 1 yr.
64. Stephanie Davis ..... 1997-98 1 yr.
65. Jennifer Davis ..... 1997-98 till present
66. Pat Harrison ..... 1997-98 till present
67. Jodi Blohme ..... 1997-98 1 yr.
68. Angela Holly ..... 1997-98 till present
69. Joan Slimon ..... 1999-2000 1 yr.
70. Ann McMeans ..... 1999-00 till present
71. Janine Parker ..... 1999-00 till present
72. Dennis Turner ..... 1999-00 till present
73. Kathy Bozemen ..... 1999-00 till present
74. Hope Bauer 2000-01
75. Dianna Wolchina 2000-01
76. Ruth Henning 2000-01
77. Melanie Hamrac 2000-01

Trustees

For many years Trustee's, now called School Patrons, were a very important factor in the functioning of schools.

The following is a partial list of trustee's and school patrons and years served. This list is by no means complete and the years may not be exact, but is as close as I was able to determine. Interesting note: notice only men served as trustees until the 1970's.

1. J. B. Childress ..... 1917 thru 1930
2. Walter Miller ..... 1931 thru 1932
3. Walter Nall ..... 1931 thru 1932
4. Wiley Carver ..... 1931 thru 1932
5. W. H. Benton ..... 1932 thru 1938
6. T. W. Walters ..... 1932 thru 1934
7. T. M. Parker ..... 1932 thru 1934
8. Archie Allen ..... 1934 thru 1940
9. Thomas Steele ..... 1934 thru 1975
10. Silas D. Powers 1938 thru1940
11. Jack Taylor ..... 1940's
12. George Kaiser Sr. ..... 1955 thru 1957
13. Preston Fulford ..... 1955 thru 1957
14. Herbert Styron 1957 thru1959
15. Virgil Parker ..... 1957 thru 1959
16. Frank Stewart ..... 1963 thru ?
17. Richard Peavy ..... 1963 thru 1967
18. John Ray Nelson ..... 1967 thru 1971
19. Thomas B. Benton ..... 1971 thru ?
20. Jane Nelson ..... 1970's
21. Patsy Shutt ..... 1970's
22. Sheldon Lipscomb ..... 1970's
23. Gaston Monroe ..... 1994 thru 1998
24. Billy Parks ..... 1994 thru 1998
25. Janie Whitaker ..... 1994 thru 2001
26. Deborah Peed ..... 1998 thru 2001
27. David Tindal ..... 1998 thru 2001

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PICTURES

AND

NEWSPAPER

CLIPPINGS

BE00106.62

1

Smith Consolidated School

Monthly, Term and Annual Report

of Paxton Fuelford

Grade, 2a

for the school year 1928-29

L. O. Smith Teacher

The Parent or Guardian is requested to examine this report carefully, and to acknowledge its receipt by signing below. Kindly return at once.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

September Mrs. Lillian Raymond Fuelford

October

November Mrs. Lillian Raymond Fuelford

December

January

February

March

April

May

June

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS, PLEASE READ

On or before the first Wednesday of each school month this report will be filled out by the teacher and sent to you for inspection. If this report is not presented at the proper time, kindly notify the teacher.

If a pupil receives S, N or P on any subject, it should be made a matter of immediate inquiry. Possibly it is to be attributed to lack of study, to too many outside engagements, to irregularities in attendance or to some cause which may be removed.

Special attention is called to the serious consequences of Irregular Attendance. It is important to remember that the loss of even a portion of a school session often proves to be a serious interruption to progress, and tends to produce a lack of interest in the school work. Excuses showing good cause for the absence or tardiness should always be sent promptly to the teacher on the return of a child to school. Neglect of this may cause the child to be sent home after the excuse.

We suggest that you talk over this report with your child each time it is received, and if it has any peculiar needs which are indicated to you by the marks on this card, that you confer with the teacher or superintendent regarding it.

Your hearty cooperation is solicited in the endeavor to secure the best development of your child.

Teacher

Moore Printing Co. :::: Bay Minette, Ala.

2

Method of Grading: E 90 to 100
B or G 80 to 90
S 70 to 80
N 60 to 70
P Below 60

Any grade lower than S will not be honored by promotion

ATTENDANCE DEPORTMENT STUDIES	September	October	November	December	Exam.	January	February	March	April	Exam.	Year's Av.
Times Tardy	0	1	1	1	3	3	1	0	0		
Days Present	18	20	18	20	19	19	19	20	20		
Deportment											
Reading											
Spelling											
Writing											
Arithmetic	G	E	E	B		E	G	G	E		
Geography	S	G	E+	B		B	G	E	S		
Gram. and Lang.	E	G	E+	E		E	E	E	G		
U. S. History	S	E	E	E		E	E	E	E		
Physiology											
Agriculture											
Music											
Science	E	E	E	E		E	E	E	E		
Civics	E	E	E+	E		E	G	G	E		

CERTIFICATE OF PROMOTION

I CERTIFY that Paxton Fuelford is eligible to promotion to ~~or remains in~~ 2a

L. O. Smith

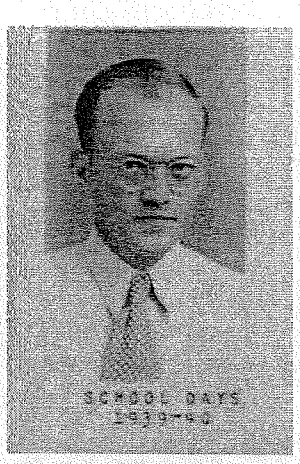
BE00106.62



Bernice Miller
19 yrs



Ione Swift
33 yrs



Roy Holmes



Margaret Holmes



Ida Callaway
42 yrs



Marie Carver
40 yrs



Gaynell Richerson
11 ½ yrs



Nelda Nazary
25yrs



Luby Cockrell
15 yrs



Madie Woodard
24 ½ yrs



Mrs. Georgia Daughtery
10 yrs

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BALDWIN COUNTY ALABAMA

Elementary School Report Card

ISSUED EACH SIX WEEKS

SCHOOL Swift Consolidated

YEAR 1944-1945

GRADE 5

STUDENT Jimmy Stith

TEACHER Merrell Carver

To Parent:

This card is for you. It is sent out every 6 weeks. If your child has done well, praise him. If his record shows poor results, encourage him to do better.

We ask your co-operation in the school program. We shall appreciate all your suggestions.

S. M. THARP,
County Superintendent.

BE00106.62

Swift School Developed From Private Institute

Operator Of Lumber Mill Employed First Teacher For His Own Children; School Enlarged With Community.

(Editor's Note: This is another in a daily and Sunday series of illustrated articles on principals of public schools in Baldwin County.)

By AUTRY GREER
State News Editor

BON SECOUR—The Swift Consolidated Grammar School at Bon Secour had one of the most interesting origins of any school in Baldwin County. Mrs. Ione Swift, principal, said the school started as a one room private institution founded by C. A. Swift, a lumber mill operator and father-in-law of the present principal.

Swift, the father of 11 children, first employed a tutor to instruct his children, but as the Bon Secour community grew he realized the need for a school where children of other families employed at the mill and in the seafood industry could receive education.



MRS. IONE SWIFT
. . . heads interesting unit

Built In Early 1900's

The school house was built in the early 1900's and several years later was enlarged and taken over by the Baldwin County public school system.

This year, the school with four classrooms, has an enrollment of 150 pupils. Four teachers are employed to teach the first through the seventh grades.

Mrs. Swift has the greatest praise for the school cafeteria system. "I believe we have the best school cafeteria in Baldwin County," she declared, "and we spend 90 cents of every school dollar allotted us in securing the best food possible."

The cafeteria was established eight years ago under the WPA and has since been subsidized under the federal school lunch room program.

Mrs. Swift, who attended State Teachers College and Howard College, has had six years teaching experience. She has served five years as principal of Swift's Consolidated School and also taught one year at Loxley. Her seven-year-old daughter, Ione, is a pupil in the school at Bon Secour.

Mrs. Swift says she likes teaching very much "and I'm not planning on quitting for some time to come." Last year she served as president of the Baldwin County Teachers' Assn. and she is now president of Alpha Gamma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, a teachers' sorority.

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May Day at Daphne, AL. 1949

Front row LtoR: Jean Nelson, Doris Fulford, Dorothy Herrington, Carrie Etta Nelson, Kathy Allen, Rita Jean ?, & Queen: Myrna Taylor

BE00106.62



1948-49 7th grade class

Left to right: Tommy Allen, Dorothy Herrington, Sonny Nelson, Annie Pearl Taylor, Bobbie Ruth Stewart, Jean Nelson, Mrs. Ione Swift, Myrna Taylor, Thomas Lovette, Ann Mason, Vivian Myrick, Carrie Etta Nelson and Gail Glass. Not pictured Doris Fulford(took picture).

BE00106.62

Graduation Exercises

SWIFT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

May 11, 1949

8:00 P. M.

PROGRAM

Opening Song	Audience
Invocation	The Rev. J. D. C. Wilson
Salutation	Carrietta Nelson
Class Poem	Myrna Taylor
Last Will and Testament	Dorothy Herrington
Class Prophecy	Jean Nelson
Address	Dr. Maurice Smith
Valedictory	Tommy Allen
Presentation of Diplomas	Mrs. Swift
Closing Song	Graduates

PROGRAM

SWIFT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Graduation Exercises

and

Dedication of Auditorium

Thursday, May 11, 1950

8:00 P.M.

Song	**America The Beautiful**
Invocation	**Mrs. S. M. Tharp**
Welcome	**Babs Fulford**
Symposium	**Graduating Class**
Literature, History, Citizenship, Sports, Mathematics, Music, Folk Dancing, Art	
Introduction of Visitors	**Mazie Cooper**
Address:	
Dedication of Auditorium	**Mr. L. W. Brannan, Jr.**
Presentation of Keys	**Mr. P. M. Mason**
Presentation of Diplomas	**Mrs. Swift**
Class Song	**Graduates:**

Buddy Benton, Nelda Bemis, Mazie Cooper, Babs Fulford, Mae King, Juanita McKay, Hulin Nelson, Maureen Norris, Juanita Parker, Loyce Parker, Leslie Nelson and Joan Stewart.

BE00106-62



Womanless Beauty Pageant 1952

BE00106.62

THE PARENT — TEACHER ASSOCIATION

OF

SWIFT CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

PRESENTS

A WOMANLESS WEDDING

BY

HUBERT HAYES



APRIL 9, 1953

8:00 P.M.

BE00106.62

A WOMANLESS WEDDING

CHARACTERS

George Brown.....Mr. Henry Wheathearts
(Uncle of the bride)

John Ray Nelson.....Mrs. Wheatheartz
(Aunt of the bride)

Kenneth Teemes.....First Usher

Verlin Carver.....Second Usher

George Kaiser.....Mrs. Rosey Teedvine
(A neighbor)

Ed Dunaway.....Miss Viola Scratchfeed
(Jilted sweetheart)

J. D. Taylor.....Miss Needra Mann
(A guest)

James Dean.....Sis Katzer Oats
(The baby sister of the bride)

Bill Meredith.....Aunt Hemby Grits
(A colored nurse)

Thomas Steele.....Sappy Rock'n Rye
(Grandfather of the bride)

Laurenda Nelson.....Granny Rye
(Grandmother of the bride)

Frank Stewart.....Mrs. Oats
(Mother of the bride)

Ralph Totsch.....Mr. Turnip Green
(Soloist)

Howard Reyes.....Mr. Chucky Stringbeans
(Ringbearer)

James Allen.....Miss Muddie Ricefield
(Maid of honor)

D. W. Taylor.....Mr. Percy Birdseed
(Best Man)

Clyde Styron.....Mr. J. Flivverton Earle
(Groom)

Jim DuBose.....Adam Turnipseed
(Official Splicer)

Clarence Daughtry...Tiny Oats
(Bride)

Herbert Styron.....Mr. Knowsis Oats
(Father of the bride)

Elmer Allen.....Kate Cornsmut
(Train bearer)

Leslie Carver.....Duplicate Cornsmut
(Train bearer)

Harry Dockery.....Pianist

Sim Parker.....Flower Girl

Silas Powers.....Bridesmaid

Wayne Parker.....Bridesmaid

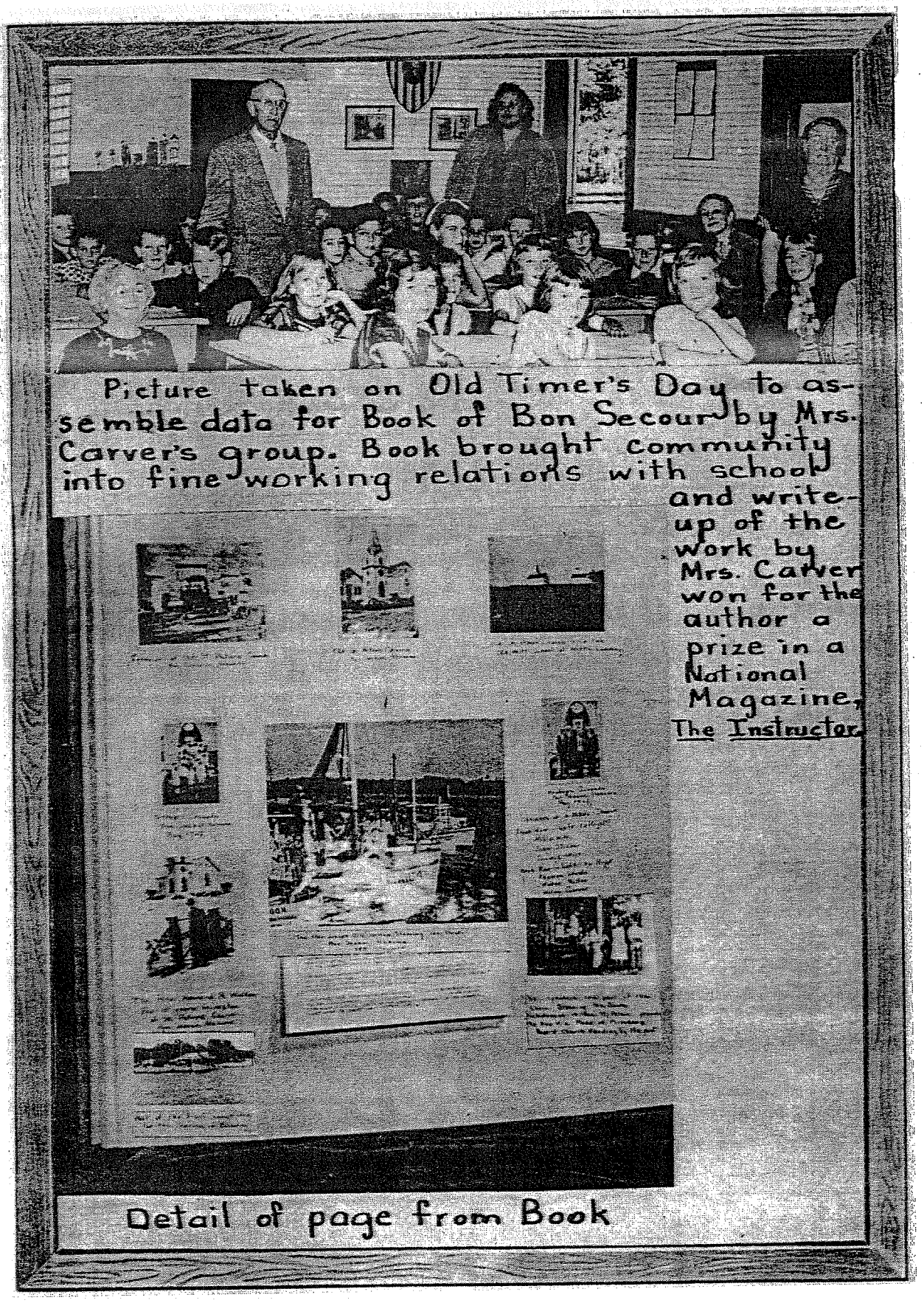
Grover Parker.....Bridesmaid

Bill Carver.....Bridesmaid

Make-up by Mrs. Ethel Lee Linton
Courtesy of Merle Norman Cosmetics

BE00106.62

School Year 1953-54

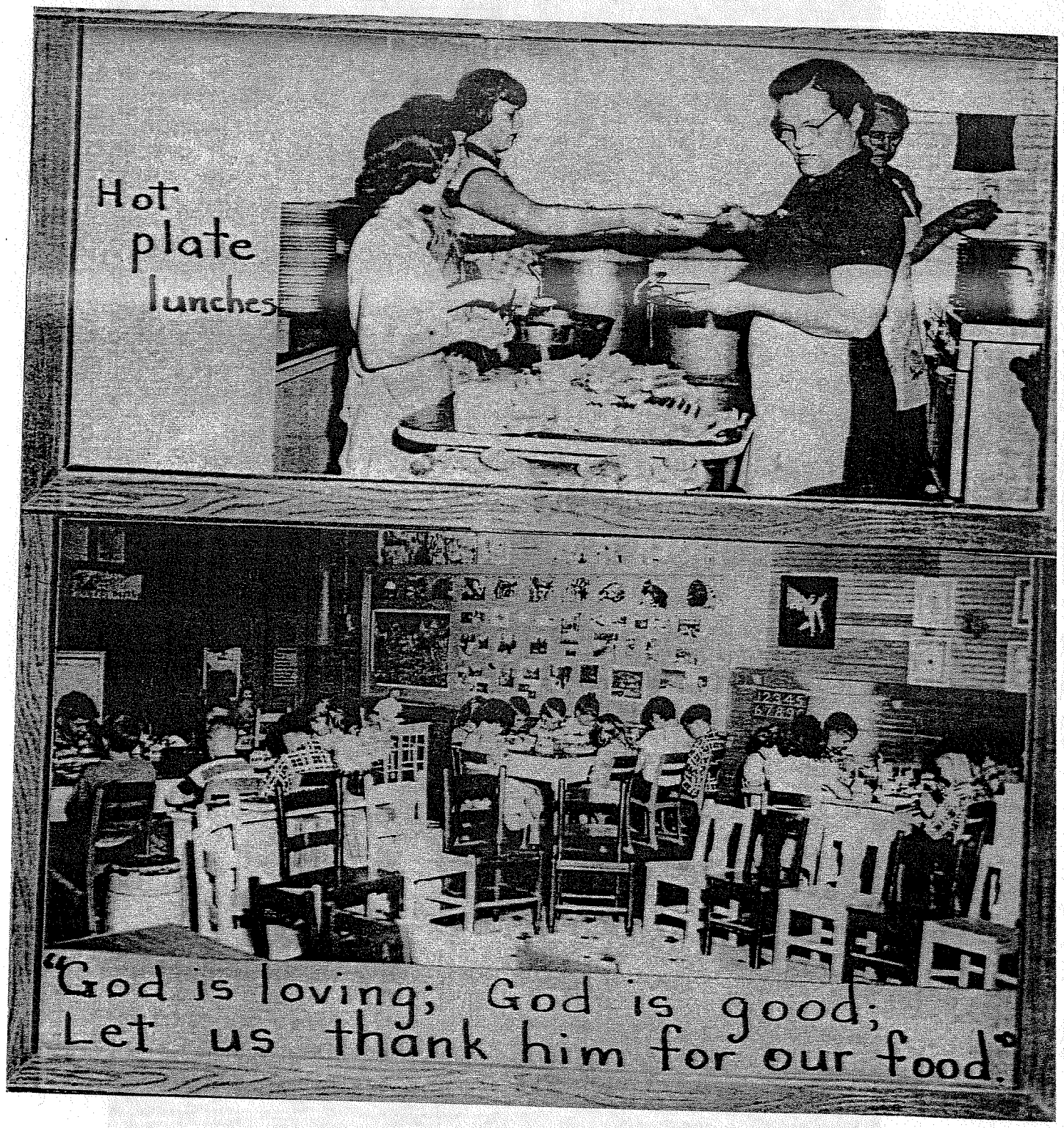


Picture taken on Old Timer's Day to assemble data for Book of Bon Secour by Mrs. Carver's group. Book brought community into fine working relations with school and write-up of the work by Mrs. Carver won for the author a prize in a National Magazine, The Instructer.

Detail of page from Book

BE00106.62

School Year 1953-54



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School Year 1955-56



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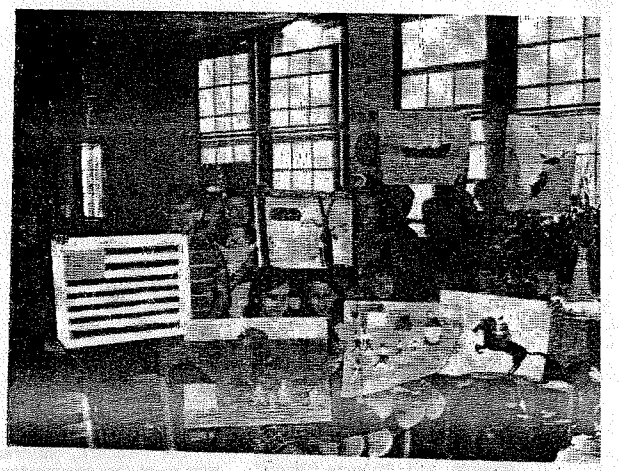
News of Bon Secour

Study Patriotism At Swift School

Students in the fifth and sixth grades at Swift School, Bon-Secour have been studying American History in their classes taught by Mrs. Marie Carver. In the unit on patriotism, they learned about the Constitution of the United States and the "rights" guaranteed to individuals, with the understanding that with every "right" there is a duty. They learned and sang patriotic songs, learned the history of the American flag, how to display it, and to respect it, learned patriotic poems, composed original poetry, studied the Revolutionary War, learned about the Declaration of Independence, learned to recognize symbols of the United States and drew and painted pictures related to American history.



We All Drew And Painted Pictures



We Learned The Symbols Of Our Country

Doyle Parks, Jane McNeil



We Studied The Revolutionary War

Robert Evans, Ernest Perez, Emory Sandspree, Kathryn Jones Cynthis. Witt.

BE00106.62

School Year 1971-72

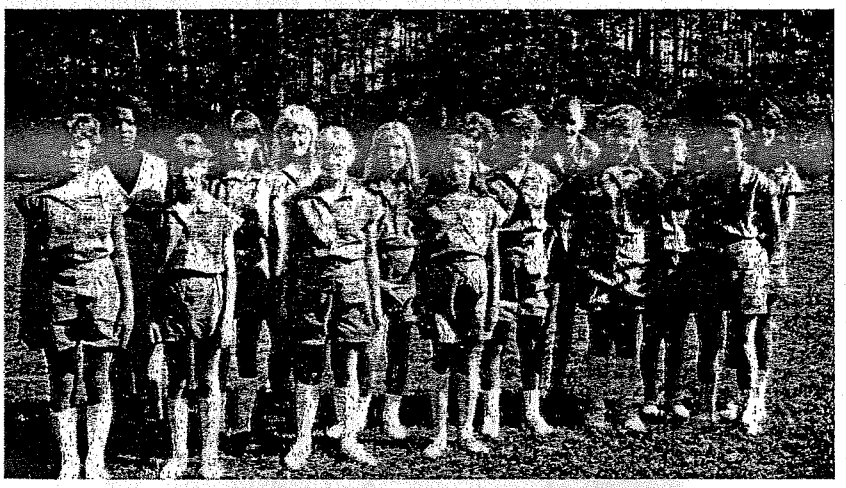
Changes made at Swift School

Mrs. Marie Carver, principal, Thomas Steele, Frank Stewart, and Thomas "Buck" Benton, trustees, have approved several changes at Swift School. These changes were necessary because the school is constantly growing.

The teachers, children and women of the community are making a library and visual aids center out of the house next to Swift School, which is owned by the County Board of Education. One room will be arranged in the form of a living room for small gatherings of parents or children and for parent-teacher conferences. One room will be a visual aids center and two rooms will be used for the library. The remaining room will be used for a storage room.

Mrs. Carver and her seventh grade are now occupying the old library and Mrs. Lawson has moved into what was the seventh grade room.

Leslie Smith, supervisor of School Transportation and Buildings, and his carpenters and painters gave the new library and visual aids center a new look with a paint job and several big new bookcases and shelves.



New Gym Suits At Swift School

Mrs. Jewel Lawson, physical education teacher at Swift School, and her sixth and seventh grade girls show off the new gym suits purchased by the girls. These are the first gym suits ever used at Swift School. Left to right are: Janice Macks, Mrs. Lawson, Ann Rachel, Janet Taylor, Geneither Mayson, Jackie Harrison, Donna Britt, Sonia Styron, Cynthia Witt, Vanessa Britt, Rissa Nelson, Sandy Benton, Kathy Hess, Winnie Carver, and Debbie Benton.

BE00106.62

Taken from a scrap book school year 1973-74

SOME RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SWIFT SCHOOL:

1. Fees are $4.00 per pupil.
2. Lunches are 40¢ per day or $2.00 per week. According to new lunchroom rules, lunches must be paid by the end of each week. This means everyone. There will be no exceptions!
3. There will be no candy sold at school. We will have a morning snack break at 10 o'clock during which time each child can buy a carton of milk for 5¢. If your child does not drink milk, please send a snack for the smaller children.
4. Please check your local paper for rules for dress and personal appearance for students. (Seventh grade students will be required to wear shoes when in school.
5. Please keep your dogs at home. We cannot have them on the playground or in the classrooms.

BE00106.62



Teacher: Mrs. Mazie Epperson (14 yrs.) Back row L to R, Kevin Beebout, John Adams, ? , Rhonda Fortner, Regina Fitkin, Danny Parks, Ray Norris, Lisa Standcliff, Evelyn Breland, Daphne Lamprow, Sherry Mobley.
Front row L to R: Anthony Beebout, Wendy Jones, Darlene PArks, Aretha Adams, Margie Jackson, Billy Nelson, Damon Styron, Anthony Morris, Preston Witt



Teacher: Mrs. Hazel Snyder (13 yrs.) Back row L to R: Lisa Parker, Donnie Nelson, Terri Shutt, Mitzi Gregory, Lori Styron, Tammy Boykin, Ellen Persons, Lloyd Britt, Angela Breland, Charollet Lipscomb, John Jones, Annie Ruth Adams, Lana Bemis, Tommy Benton.
Middle row L to R: Billy Day, Al Witt, John Hess, Robin McCombs, John Taylor, Chris Nelson, Kelly Walters, Danelle Norris, Susan Adams, Mark Nabors.
Front row L to R: Paul Cleverdon, Edward Standcliff, Robert Beebout, Steve Lamprow, Ricky Vail, ?, ?, ?, Cindy Jackson, Laura Boyd, Lee Boykin, ?.

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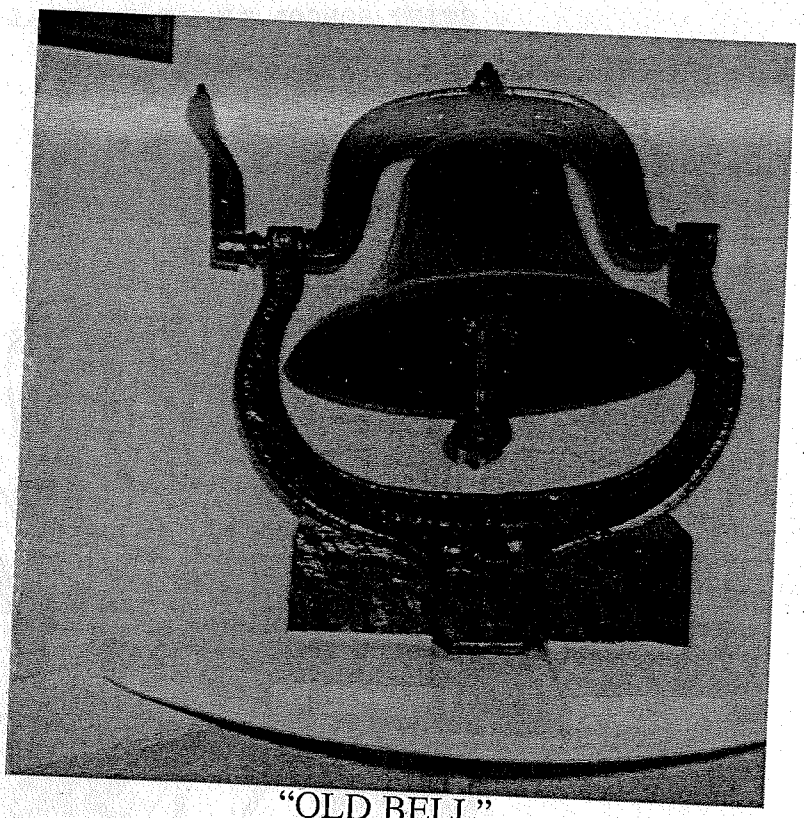
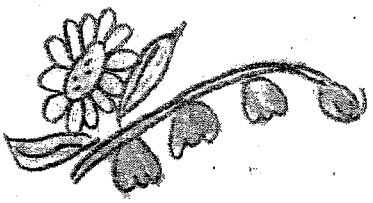


"OLD BELL"



SWIFT SCHOOL SPRING FESTIVAL
April 6, 1975
3 P. M.



BE00106.62

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

BE00106 62

Program

Invocation ----------Rev. Stan Persons
Pledge of Allegiance-----Audience
America the Beautiful----Audience
Welcome----------First Grade
Songs----------Children
"Give Me Your Hand"------John Taylor
Chris Nelson

Folk Dances:
Seventh Grade:
Tandem Rochester Schottische (America)
Jessie Polka----------America
Fifth and Sixth Grades:
Green Sleeves----------England
Kettengalloup----------Switzerland
Ace of Diamonds---------Denmark

Fourth and Fifth Grades:
Norweigan Mountain March-Norway
Rochester Schottische--America
Polly Wolly Doodle-----America

First, Second, and Third Grades:
I See You----------Sweden
Susanna----------America
Shoemaker's Dance------Denmark
Sevens and Threes------America
Manitou---------- America
Maypole Dance----------Seventh Grade
Grand March---Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh Grades

BE00106.62

SWIFT SCHOOL

GRADUATION PROGRAM

MAY 20, 1975

8:00 p.m.

SWIFT SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

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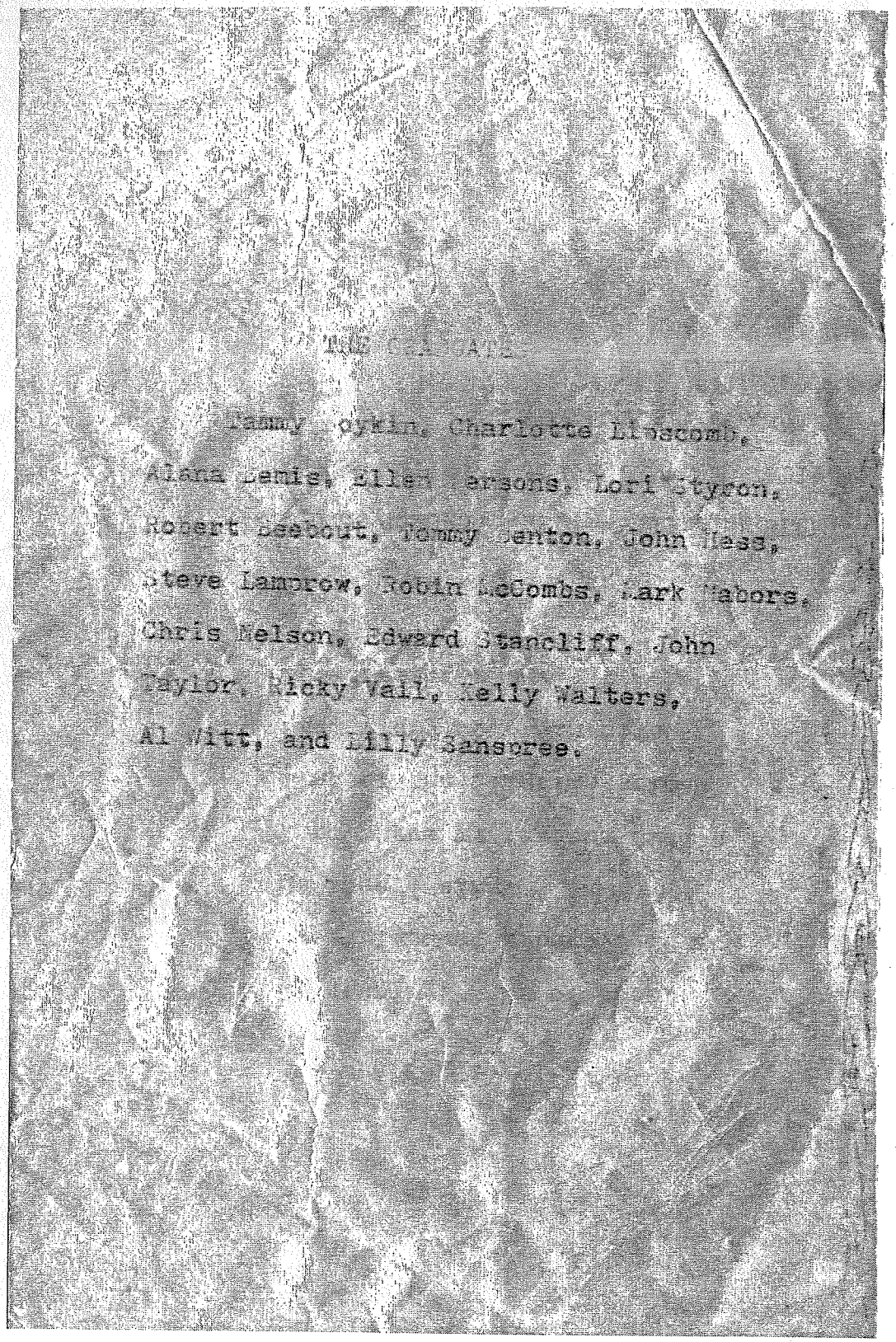


Tammy Aykin, Charlotte Linscomb,
Alena Lemis, Ellen Parsons, Lori Styron,
Robert Seebolt, Jenny Denton, John Hess,
Steve Lamprow, Robin McCombs, Mark Mabors,
Chris Nelson, Edward Stancliff, John
Taylor, Ricky Vail, Kelly Walters,
Al Witt, and Lilly Sansoree.

PROGRAM

Processional.....Mrs. Lawrence Nelson

Invocation.....Rev. Frank Ware

America.....The Audience

Pledge of Allegiance.....The Audience

Program.....The Graduating Class

Presentation of Attendance
Certificates.....Mr. Frank Stewart

Presentation of Awards.....Mr. Thomas Fenton

Presentation of Diplomas.....Mrs. Carver

Class Song.....The Graduates

Benediction.....Rev. Stan Iverson

Recessional.....Mrs. Nelson

BE00106.62

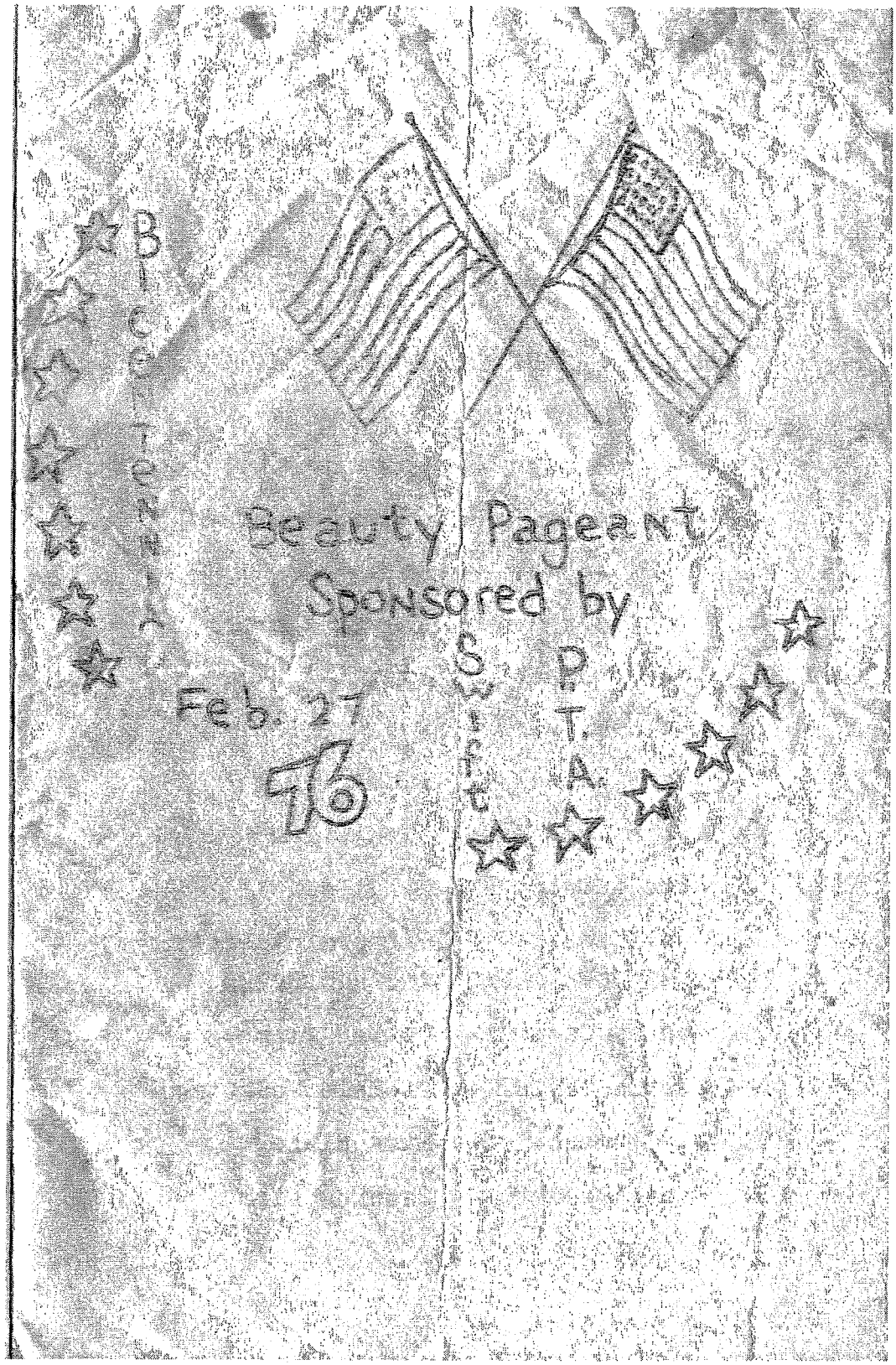
AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died!
Land of the Pilgrims pride!
From every mountain side,
Let freedom sing.

CLASS COLORS: RED, WHITE AND BLUE.

CLASS MOTTO: "GIVE US NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND WE WILL BECOME LEADERS."

BE00106.62



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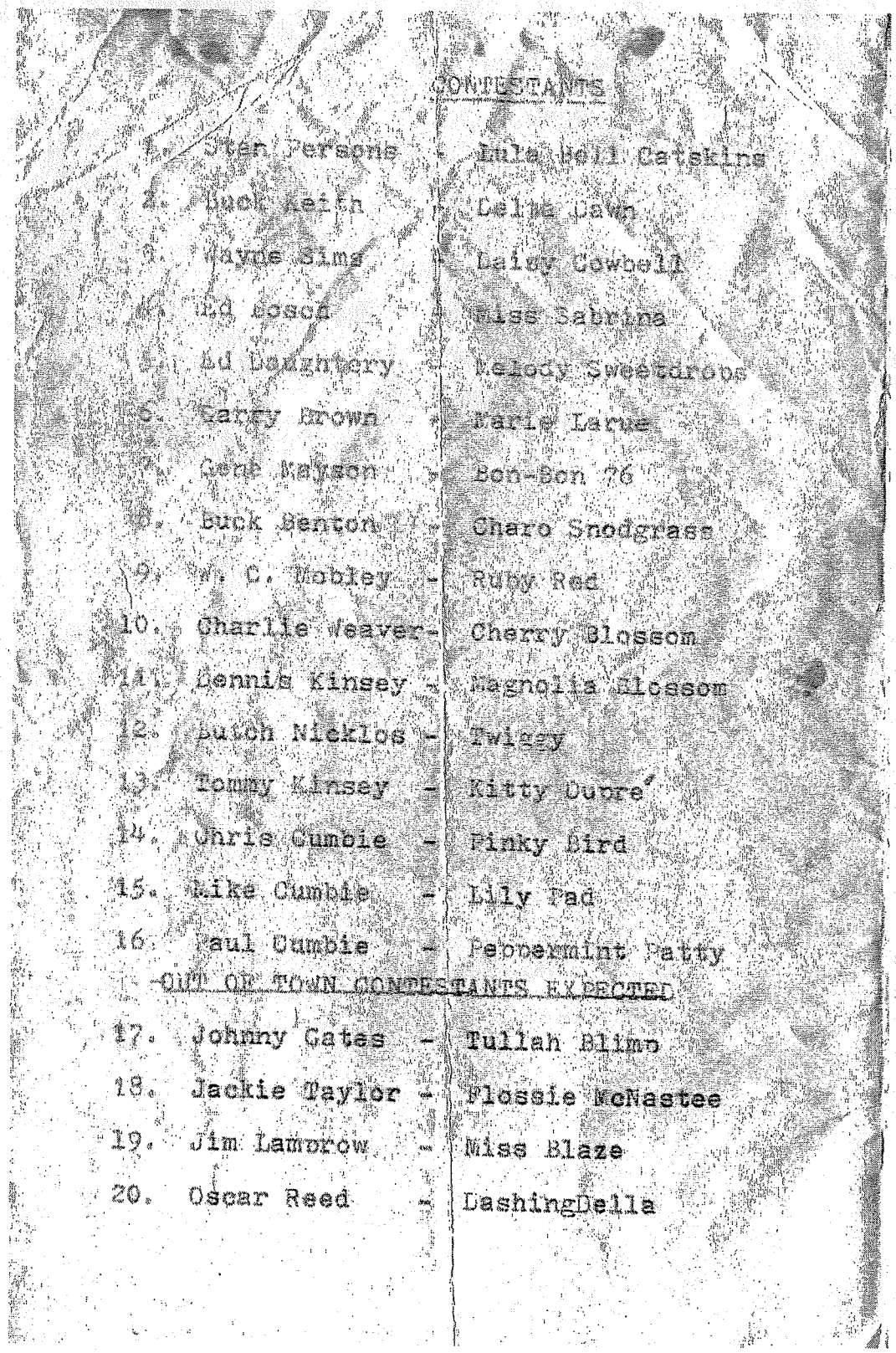


CONTESTANTS

1.	Stan Persons	- Lula Bell Catskins
2.	Buck Keith	- Celia Dawn
3.	Wayne Sims	- Daisy Cowbell
4.	Ed Bosco	- Miss Sabrina
5.	Ed Daughtery	- Melody Sweetdrops
6.	Larry Brown	- Marie Laine
7.	Gene Kaysen	- Bon-Bon 76
8.	Buck Benton	- Charo Snodgrass
9.	W. C. Mobley	- Ruby Red
10.	Charlie Weaver	- Cherry Blossom
11.	Dennis Kinsey	- Magnolia Blossom
12.	Butch Nicklos	- Twiggy
13.	Tommy Kinsey	- Kitty Dupre'
14.	Chris Cumbie	- Pinky Bird
15.	Mike Cumbie	- Lily Pad
16.	Paul Cumbie	- Peppermint Patty

OUT OF TOWN CONTESTANTS EXPECTED

17.	Johnny Gates	- Tullah Blimp
18.	Jackie Taylor	- Flossie McNastee
19.	Jim Lamprow	- Miss Blaze
20.	Oscar Reed	- DashingDella

BE00106.62

SPECIAL TALENT

PRESENTED BY

ED BOSCH - [illegible] SABRINA

CHRIS CUBBIE - INKY, [illegible]
FEATURING
THE CROCKER [illegible]

BUCK BENTON - AS "CHER"

JUDGES

Liz Bates — Joyce Owen
Joe Wyatt — Wayne Trawick

* If any of our contestants get a date,
NO DEBUT HERE!

** THIS PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING
PERFORMANCE

BE00106.62



Thanksgiving Pow Wow



The Fish Fry

BE00106.62

Some Annual Traditions In the 1980's



The Christmas Play



Field Day

BE00106.62

SCHOOL YEAR

2000-2001

85TH

ANNIVERSARY

OF

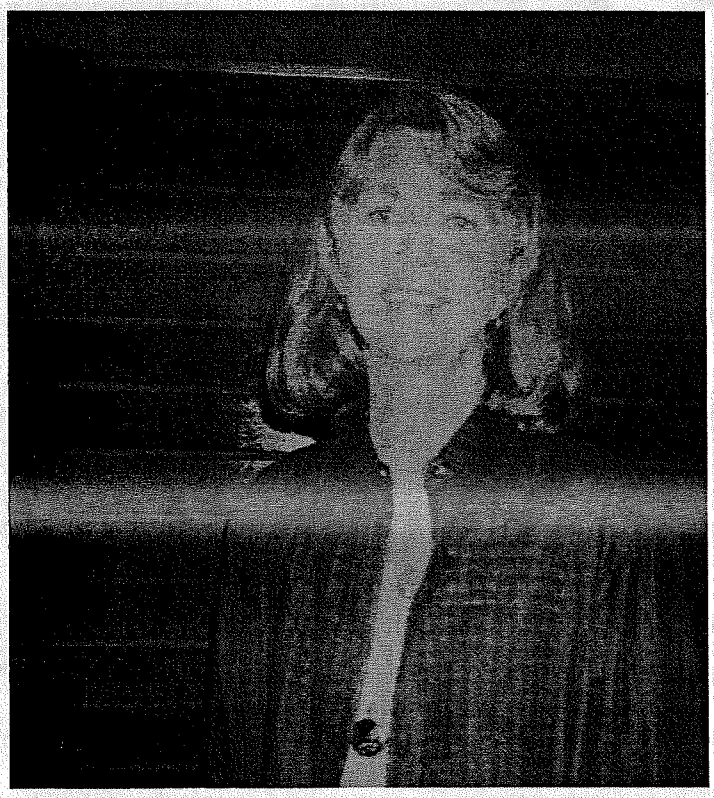
SWIFT SCHOOL

BE00106.62

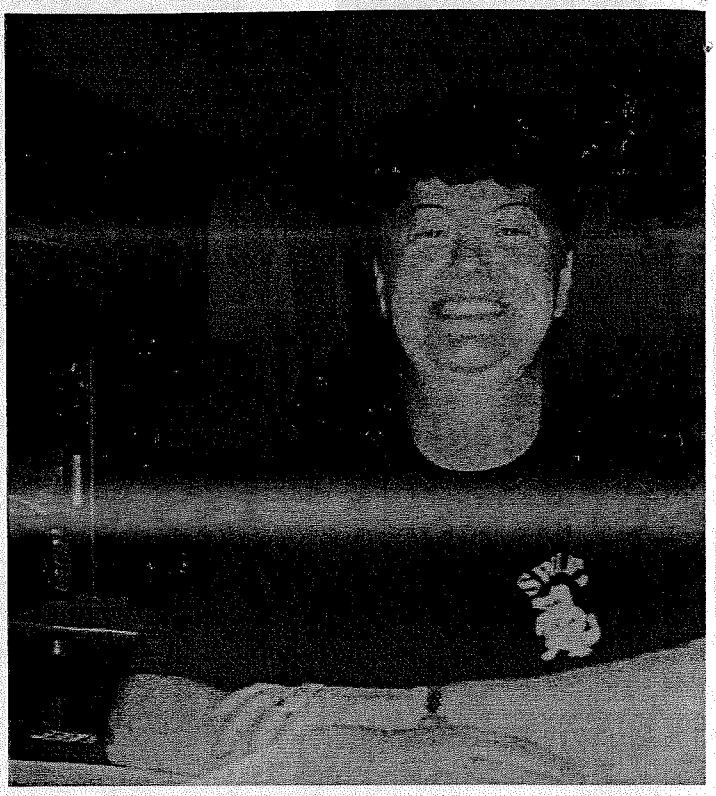
FACULTY & STAFF SCHOOL YEAR 2000-2001

Principal:	Linda Capps
Secretary:	Janie Whitaker
Counselor:	Pat Harrison
Nurse:	Melissa House
Kindergarten:	Tina Davis
	Melanie Hamrac
First Grade:	Hope Bauer
Second Grade:	Reneah Doherty
Third Grade:	Sandy Thorpe
Fourth Grade:	Jennifer Davis
Fifth Grade:	Kim Rowe
Teacher's Aide:	Dianna Wolchina
Special Education:	Ann McMeans
Physical Education:	Jo Anna Garris
Computer Lab:	Janine Parker
Librarian:	Brenda Acreman
Art:	Ruth Henning
Music:	Kathy Bozeman
Speech /Language:	Angela Holley
Project Jubilee:	Dennis Turner
Cafeteria Manager:	Rosemary Wilson
Cafeteria Assistant:	Janice Vail
Custodian:	Danny Kerby

BE00106.62



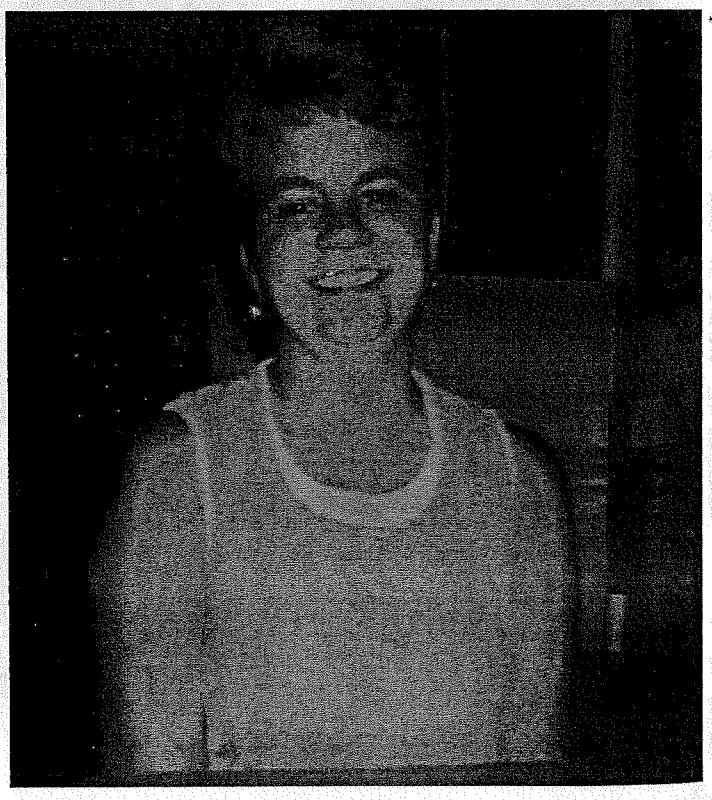
Principal: Linda Capps



Secretary: Janie Whitaker



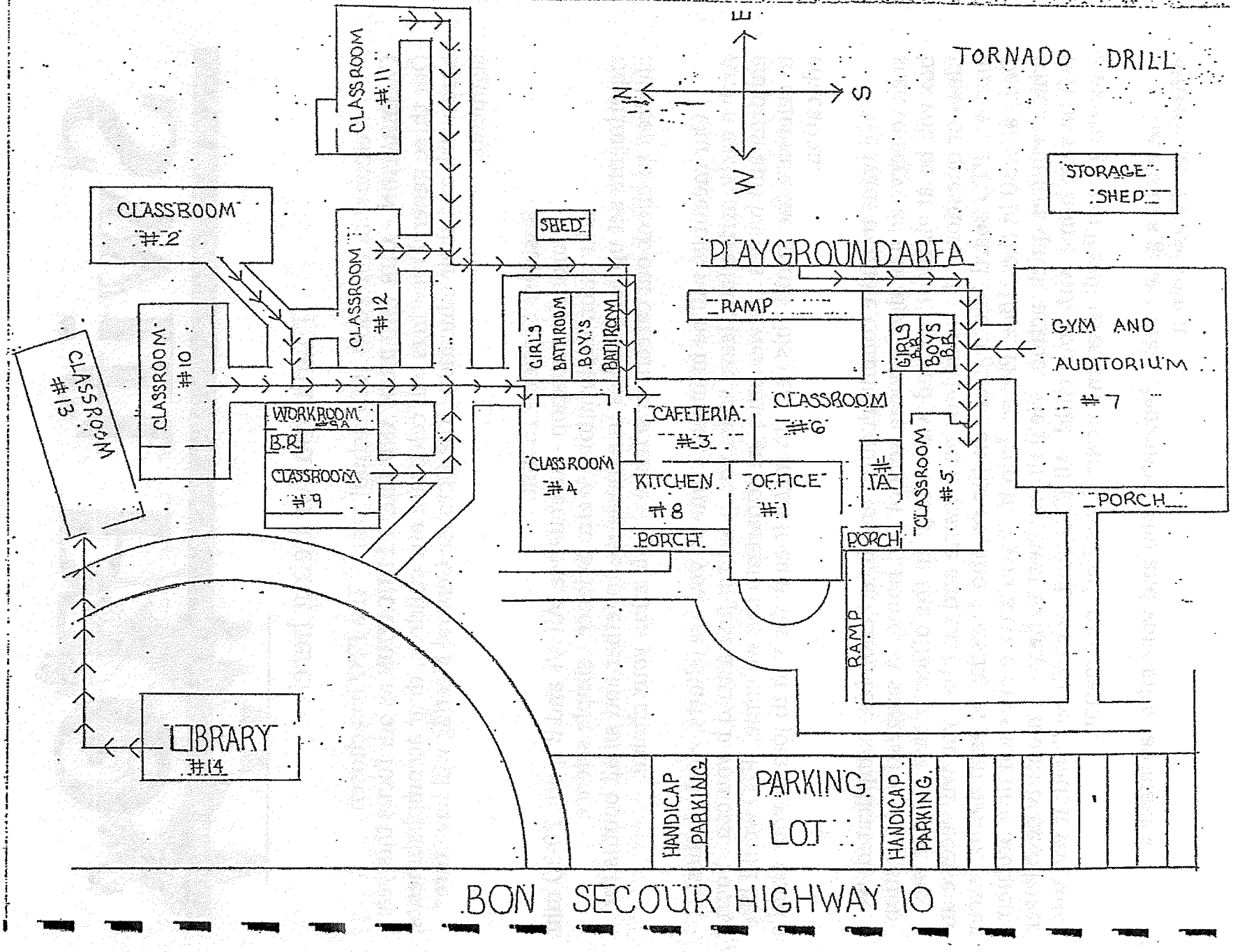
Counselor: Pat Harrison



Nurse: Melissa House


DAVIS, TINA
DOHERTY, HELEN ANN
THORPE, SANDRA
DAVIS, JENNIFER
ROWE, KIM
MONEANS, ANN
PARKER, DANNE
VAIL, JANICE
WILSON, ROSEMARY

BE0010662



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Swift PTO



For the children Because of the children August 22

Thank you for being here!

Welcome to the 2000-2001 school year. The PTO has chosen **CELEBRATION – OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR EDUCATION** as our focus this year. Our three general meetings will celebrate our children, their accomplishments, hard work and their education. The October General Meeting will have three segments:

Business Session - 15 min.
Awards Presentation - Attendance, All A's and B's, etc. 20-30 min.
Education Exploration - Weird Science - simple science experiments set up for families to experience together and small booths for children to check out careers in science - 5-30 min.- your choice.

Our meetings will be informal; come as you are (shorts, work clothes). Arrive early, arrive late, leave when you need to; just attend if you can. Young children and babies are welcome; grandparents are welcome. PTO would like to celebrate the family this year, to make it easy for you to join in your child's education.

We want to make communication and interaction less complicated; we seek to serve as a bridge between school and home. A suggestion / question box will be at all meetings and will be kept in the office; please send in any ideas or questions. If you include your name and number, you will receive an answer! PTO Board Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month (except Dec.) at 5:30 in the office. Please drop in if you have a question or a problem which requires quick action. We'll do our best to help. A monthly newsletter will be sent home with your child. All PTO business will be listed; if you miss a meeting , you'll still have important dates and information.

Here's to a grand year. Remember you and your gifts can make a difference. Please join us.

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SWIFT SCHOOL PTO
2000-2001
BUDGET

MONTHLY EXPENSES:		
BASIC TELEPHONE SERVICE	$480.00	
SECURITY LIGHTS	$300.00	
COPIER (MAINTENANCE & COPY OVERAGES)	$1800.00	
TOTAL		$2,580.00
MISC. EXPENSES:		
OTHER EXPENSES (MARDI GRAS, FIELD DAY, ETC.)	$100.00	
SANTA PROGRAM	$300.00	
ROOM COUNT	$100.00	
GRADUATION	$100.00	
HONOR ROLL AND ATTENDANCE	$350.00	
TEACHER APPRECIATION	$75.00	
TEACHER APPRECIATION GIFTS	$100.00	
CLASS OR GROUP PURCHASES FOR TEACHERS	$600.00	
TOTAL		$1725.00
TOTAL BUDGET 2000-2001 FOR APPROVAL		**$4305.00**

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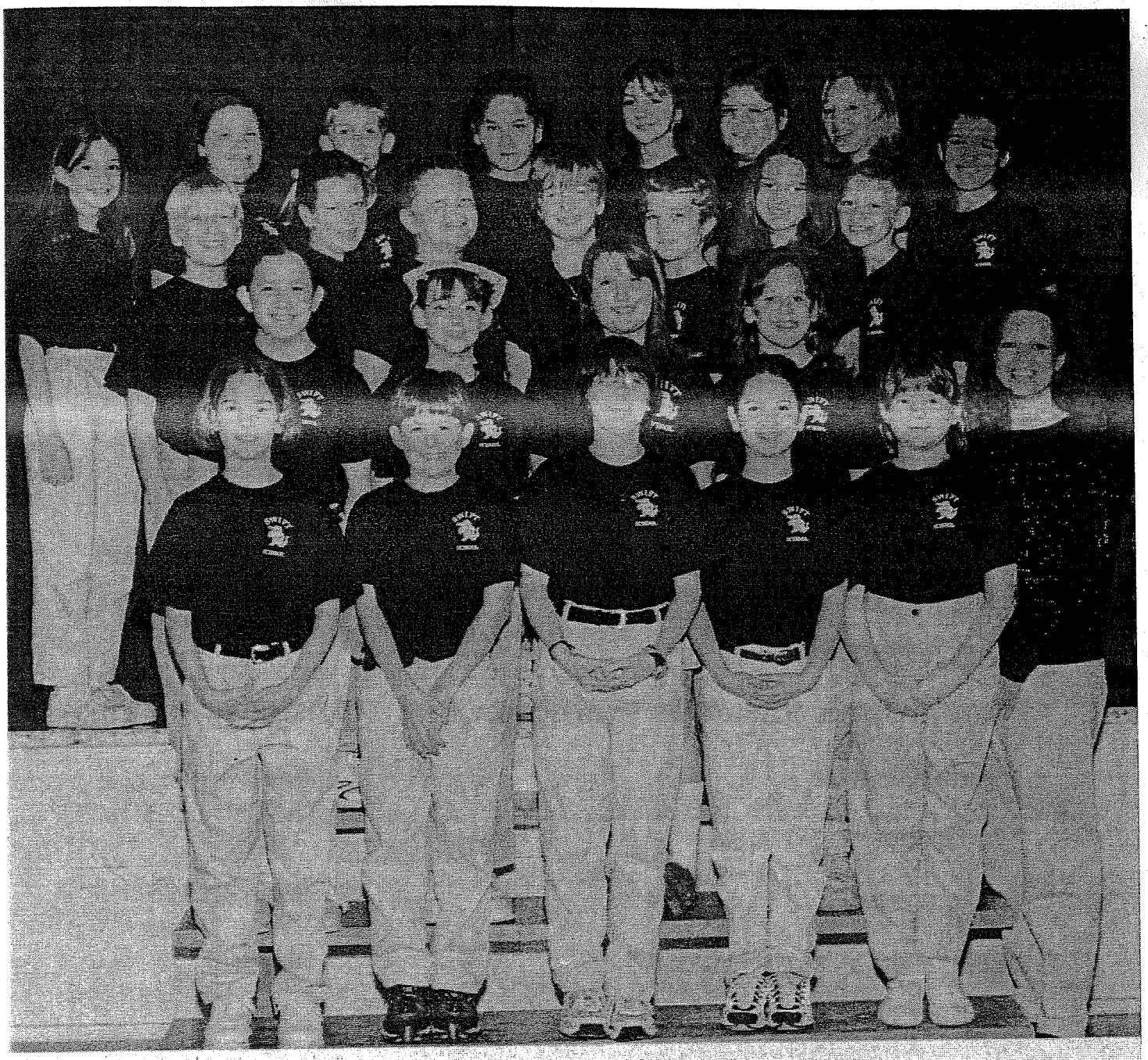

Bottom Row LtoR: Alex Horn, Briana Gentry, Corey Webb, Adam Quates, Tyler Bohan, Meghan Ward, Julie Hamilton, Hannah Fleskes, Sabrina Knight.

Back Row LtoR: Dara Bateman, Audra Oppenheimer, Timothy Lawson, Chesley Peed, Ashley Flowers, Randy Englert, Tiffany Stewart, Candice Benton, Amber Ethridge, Natalie Collin, Esmeralda Cabarrubia, Kyle Cinereski, Noelle Price, Sawyer Storm.

Not pictured: Clifford Orbin

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Some Facts In A Nutshell

1. The first Swift School was a one-room private school across the road from the present building, where the Morgan's Chapel now stands.

2. Swift became a public school in the school year 1915-16 with one teacher, Emily M. Swift.

3. Became Swift Consolidated school year 1916-17 and moved to Woodman Hall. Added a teacher, Emma Billie from Witt School.

4. School year 1917-18 the first principal, E. P. Yeldell, was added. Primary grades were moved back to one room schoolhouse with Miss. Emma Billie as teacher. Mr. Yeldell and Miss. Swift remained at Woodman Hall.

5. The present building consisted of three large and two small rooms when it opened school year 1920-21.

6. Consisted of eight grades until maybe the early 1930's.

7. Four teachers taught at Swift School for more than twenty years, and two taught forty years or more. Nelda Nazary - 25yr's, Ione Swift - 33yr's, Marie Carver - 40yr's, and Ida Callaway - 42yr's.

8. First kitchen was a soup kitchen in 1939-40, the cook was Margaret Holmes who was also a teacher.

9. Early years school was heated with wood, later coal. There was no electricity until 1935.

10. In 1940's inoculations were given at school by nurse Miss. Pauline Marshall.

11. Bathrooms were completed school year 1947-48. Prior outhouses were used.

12. Auditorium was completed the school year 1948-49, it flooded every time it rained. Prior to that a portable stage was set up across the south end of the back classroom.

13. There was no paid janitor until the 1970's.

14. In 1971 the Library was moved from the front classroom to the little house. In 1980's corner of auditorium served as library. 1996 present library building was built.

15. Kindergarten was added school year 1980-81. Pam Vinson was the teacher.

16. First portable classroom came school year 1984-85.

18. The first secretary came in school year 1986-87, Donna Willis was full time filling this position for 13yr's.

19. Present cafeteria came in school year 1986-87. For many years the children ate at their desk or table.

20. Until school year 1994-95 School Patrons were known as Trustees.

21. P.T.O. was P.T.A.

22. Present office school year 1997-98.

23. Mrs. Linda Capps is into her seventh year as principal.

24. Many families in the area have or have had four generations attend Swift School. I have been able to verify two families who have had five generations attend Swift.

25. This school year 2000-2001 is Swift School's 85th Anniversary.

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Reflections of the Writer

In the process of this work it brought back many memories. One of the things that I remember vividly, and believe was very important to my upbringing, every school day started with Bible reading and prayer then the pledge to the American flag. Love of God, respect and high morals were very important both in school and at home, and I believe the world was a much better place.

I truly enjoyed the research for this book. I pray the readers enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed putting it together. It also reaped unexpected opportunities, such as speaking, giving briefs of Swift School History, as well as discovery, it was very exciting to watch it unfold.

I give Thanks to the Lord for giving me the opportunity to write this book. I believe it came from Him as a part of His plan for my life.

Writer:

Doris Fulford Witt Jones

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