

JACKSON CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY.NET

The Jackson County Historical Society

The Jackson County Historical Society was organized in 1984 by a group of citizens whose purpose was to (1) promote historic preservation, (2) provide a repository of artifacts, genealogical information and historical documents concerning the county and (3) promote community interest in Jackson County history.

The Jackson County Historical Society meets on the second Monday night of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Jackson County Historical Museum located 105 Montpelier Street at the corner of Main and Montpelier. Membership in the Historical Society is open to anyone with an interest in the history of the county. Dues are ten dollars (\$10.00) annually or a lifetime membership is offered for one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Members receive a quarterly newsletter, The Trace, which also has back issues for sale at the Museum.

The Museum building was constructed in 1894 for the Methodist Church which met there from 1894 until 1923 when the church moved to a new building across the street. When the building vacated, it was purchased by owners of the Jackson County Sentinel and served as that paper's office for many years. The building was purchased by Fred Lucas Haile of Indiana who presented it to the City of Gainesboro as a memorial to his Jackson County ancestors, and the building became the home of the Museum. Located in the Museum are artifacts from the early county seat of Williamsburg, and from the steamboat I.T. Rhea which sank in the Cumberland River near Gainesboro. Additionally, furniture, household goods, photographs, ledger books from early businesses, genealogical books, and clothing from early times is also on display. A model of Fort Blount is one of the prized exhibits while another favorite is a still that was used at one time in the manufacture of whiskey. The Museum is open on Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

The Jackson County Historical Society has published two books, videos, and DVDs about the county. Recently the Society has purchased markers to identify early communities and historic areas in the county. These markers complement the historic markers placed by the state. Other projects include the historic walk, "Somewhere in Time" scheduled in September, sponsorship of the Avery Trace Bicycle Race in June, and participation in the Poke Sallet Festival in May. As a member of the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association, the Society hopes to promote tourism in the area.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

If you would like to become a member send checks to: Jackson County Historical Society
P. O. Box 874
Gainesboro, Tennessee 38562