



WEST FELICIANA RR BUILDING . 1834
THE WILKINSON COUNTY MUSEUM 1991

THE WOODVILLE CIVIC CLUB

FOUNDED IN 1971



THE BANK OF MISSISSIPPI . 1819
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM 2004

www.historicwoodville.com

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WOODVILLE CIVIC CLUB WINS OUTSTANDING LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY AWARD FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Founded in 1971, the Woodville Civic Club has celebrated fifty years at the forefront of promoting economic development, community unity, and historic preservation in Woodville. It led the preservation efforts of two of Woodville's most historic buildings that once held the Office and Banking House of the West Feliciana Railroad Company, the third oldest railroad system in the nation, and the Branch Banking House of the State of Mississippi respectively during the early 1800s. These buildings now house the Wilkinson County Museum and the African American Museum owned and operated by the Woodville Civic Club. The Civic Club was influential in nominating the Woodville Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. In addition to historic preservation, the Civic Club organizes community programs in Woodville such as the Main Street Program, and also maintains historic publications such as *Journal of Wilkinson County History* and *The Plantation World of Wilkinson County, Mississippi 1792-2012* written by Stella Pitts and Ernesto Caldeira.

The Outstanding Local Historical Society Award is presented to historical societies in the state for significant contributions to the preservation and interpretation of local history. The prize carries a \$300 cash award.

The Mississippi Historical Society, founded in 1858, encourages outstanding work in interpreting, teaching, and preserving Mississippi History. Membership is open to anyone; benefits include receiving the *Journal of Mississippi History*, the Mississippi History Newsletter, and discounts at the Mississippi Museum Store. For information on becoming a member, call 601-576-6936. It takes teamwork.

FACEBOOK LIVE SALE!!!

Every Thursday Night
7 p.m.

Follow us:

Main Street Market
PHONE: 601-888-3449



The photograph of a handful of folks accepting the Outstanding Historical Society Award for the State of Mississippi for 2021 is as casual and as comfortable as the work of this community has been for almost fifty years of accomplishments.

We celebrate our 50th anniversary on September 7th.

The award is being presented by Mr. Marshall Bennett, the President of the Mississippi Historical Society, and former State Treasurer of the State of Mississippi, who along with Mr. Brother Rogers, the Secretary Treasurer of the Society, and Director of Programs and Communication for The Mississippi Department of Archives and History, after the award was announced Friday, March 5th, at the MHS virtual Annual Meeting.

Bennett and Rogers, in the front row to the right are shown presenting the plaque to Ernesto Caldeira, Executive Director of the Civic Club since 1971, and to his right, to David Nait Wilkerson, longtime President of the Civic

Club, local attorney, and County Administrator for Wilkinson County.

We regret the absence of hundreds of volunteers who through the years made the Civic Club contribute to the betterment of this community with events, publications and journals, and to our partner, the Main Street Association with the Main Street Market.

We would also like to make mention of three volunteers who have given decades of dedicated service to the Civic Club, who are working members of our Executive Committee, but were not able to be with us at the museum; Mrs. Andrew Jackson (Lili Rouprieh) Lewis, Mrs. Thomas (Polly Asher) Rosenblatt, and Mr. David Abner Smith.

But those contributors were represented by those who could join us on such short notice: to the far-left Mr. Douglas Lewis, author of the recognized volume on the work of Palladio, and preservationist; Eleanor and Glenn Thomas, his late mother was Mrs. Alice Ray Wall Thomas Farrar, who founded the Civic Club; Mrs. Stella Pitts, who was co-author of the plantation book on Wilkinson County and has been a constant volunteer; Mrs. Ann Wilkerson Morris, whose son is our President and she, President of

the Field Hospital Board; Mr. Percival Thomas Beacroft, who bought and opened Rosemont in 1971 and helped kick off the efforts and energy that triggered the start of the Civic Club; Mr. A. Wettlin Treppendahl, who along with his family have been donors for decades; Mr. Philip Cutrer, Vice-President of Concordia Bank, donor and representative of another contributing old family; Ms. Sallie Roberts, standing in front, long time Daughters of the Confederacy volunteer and Civic Club volunteer; Mr. Jerome Lee, for thirty years a helper and johnny-on-the-spot for so many of our events and activities; Mr Selvin Gaines, who helped put together and build our current exhibits at the WCM; and Ms. Cierra Sherman, a local writer, working with Audubon Encounters Promotion Services.