

Goshen History Meeting

April 30, 2024

The second Meeting of 2024 was held at the Goshen United Methodist Church. Russell Gayer started the meeting just after 6:30 pm with 10 members present: Russell Gayer, Jerry Martens, Terri and Glenn Wilson, Dallas Hale, Charles Langham, Martha Estes, Jerry Hogan, Jacci Perry-Ryan, and Bernadette Boyle.

Russell Gayer shared some history of the Hash family, many of whom are buried at the Goshen Cemetery. Fielding Hash was born on January 29, 1828, in Illinois and at the age of 8 moved to Washington County, Arkansas. Fielding served in the Kansas Militia (Union) during the Civil War and fought in the battle of West Port (Kansas City). He died on January 15, 1894.

There was some discussion about a possible cannery in Goshen, but the closest cannery anyone could recall was in Mayfield by Brush Creek.

Russell Gayer passed around a picture of a matchbook cover advertising Bowen's Turkey Hatchery, Fayetteville, Arkansas. Phones 2-4902 – 2-2912. The names BB Bronze and BB Beltsville were on the matchbook. Russell found it on eBay and it was up for sale for \$3.99 but with no bidders. They believe the matchbook was from the 1950's.

Jacci Perry brought a map, maybe early 1970's that listed all the Goshen property owners living in Goshen City limits.

Dallas Hale brought in two vintage items. The first is not what we thought and surprised us all. It was an antique, bronze sugar cutting tongs. The second item was a telegraph key.

Bernadette Boyle brought the very first scrapbook from the Goshen Home Demonstration Club formed in 1945. The book contained the names of all the members and officers from 1945 – 1959 as well as newspaper articles about their monthly meetings. Thank you notes for the club's donations to the VA and Red Cross and blue ribbons won for Home Demonstration projects entered in the Washington County Fair were also included in this scrapbook. They even saved a Goshen Community Fair pamphlet from September 13, 1958 and Goshen RCI Program from April 29, 1958.

Terri and Glenn Wilson showed a photo of the original, two-story Methodist Church with **Eva (?), Alta, and Darrel Tisdale** taken around 1920 - 1930. A second photo was of the Goshen School House. Charles Langham identified the building by the doors. The south end door was for the Goshen High School and the north end door was the entrance for the Goshen Grade School. Charles attended this school for several years.

Russell Gayer gave us a history of the Goshen Masonic Lodge #413. In 1882, the Masons met on the upper floor of the Methodist Church and the congregation used the ground floor of the building. After the 1944 fire, the church was rebuilt over a full basement. The Masons met in the basement of the new structure. In 1974, the Masons traded their rights for the church basement for the old schoolhouse that is now Pancho's Mexican Restaurant. By 2012 the Masonic Lodge could no longer sustain itself due to lack of members. They affiliated with Springdale Lodge #316 and the building was sold to Audrey "Rusty" Stroud who converted it into a restaurant.

Russell said a lot of the fraternal organizations long ago would hold their meeting nights on or before a full moon. Since full moons varied each month, it was hard to keep track of when the meetings would occur. Most people would walk to the meetings with a lantern so the full moon helped light their path home.

The meeting ended early, just after 8:00 pm. Russell will send out a notice of the next Goshen History Meeting.

Bernadette Boyle, Secretary



Russell Gayer, Charles Langham, Dallas Hale



Matchbook Cover



Goshen Home Demonstration Club 1945-1959