

CHATTAHOOCHEE TRACINGS

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Newsletter of the Historic
Chattahoochee Commission

Winter 2006

CHATTAHOOCHEE TRACE NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR STUDY ACT OF 2005 INTRODUCED IN U.S. SENATE BY SENATOR JEFF SESSIONS

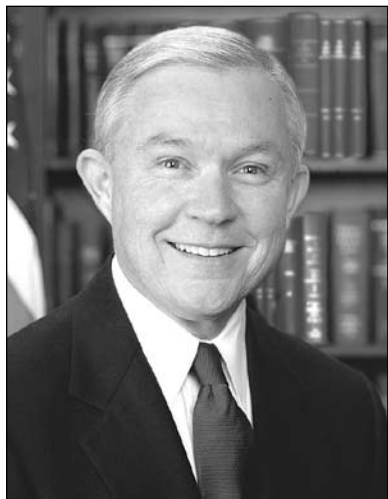
On December 20th Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions introduced Senate Bill 2143 which is also known as the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor Study Act of 2005. The bill, if passed, directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor which will overlay the eighteen county region promoted by the Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC). The bill was read twice and then forwarded to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The proposed act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with appropriate State historic preservation officers, State historical societies, State tourism offices and other appropriate organizations or agencies to conduct the study to see if the Chattahoochee Trace region can be designated as a National Heritage Area. If the study results are positive, the Chattahoochee Trace area would become eligible to receive funding for publications and marketing for tourism, coordination, historic preservation, environmental education, outdoor recreation and small business development.

Eight criteria are evaluated during the study. The Secretary of the Interior then must submit a report on the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the study to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate within three fiscal years after the date for which funds are made available for the purposes of the act.

Since 1970 the HCC has been involved in a heritage-tourism program of work in these eighteen counties along the lower Chattahoochee River of Alabama and Georgia. Because of its exemplary work, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has cited the HCC as a national model for heritage corridor development. Doug Purcell, executive director of the HCC, has advised Congressmen and Senators that "once the 'Chattahoochee National Heritage Corridor' study is completed, the HCC would be ideally suited to manage the corridor project as part of its bi-state program of work." He noted that "This designation would be the final piece in our corridor development plan which would enable us to initiate new and innovative projects to help invigorate the economies of member counties."

The HCC encourages those who are interested in this project to write letters of endorsement to the four U.S. Senators from Alabama and Georgia. The addresses of these Senators are available on request from the HCC by calling 334-687-9755 or sending an e-mail to hcc3@earthlink.net. Efforts are also underway to have a companion bill introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.



U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions

RILEY PLEDGES FUNDING FOR HCC IN FY 06-07 GENERAL FUND BUDGET



*Alabama Governor Bob Riley and HCC
Director Doug Purcell*

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission's future appears much brighter now after a surprise announcement from Alabama Governor Bob Riley on December 8th. Riley told Eufaula Rotarians and Kiwanians that the HCC would be included in the FY 06-07 General Fund budget. The announcement is good news for the Commission, which has struggled to survive after being left out of the Alabama General Fund budget beginning in 2004. "I am grateful to Governor Riley for his commitment to put the Historic Chattahoochee Commission in his proposed FY 06-07 General Fund budget," said HCC Executive Director, Doug Purcell. Over the past several months, and even years, the HCC has fought to retain funding from both Alabama and Georgia. Both states have funded the HCC for 35 years until last year when the HCC was cut from the Alabama budget. Purcell said the loss of most public funding jeopardized the heritage-tourism programs and projects administered by the Commission. The Commission recently increased efforts to grow its membership rolls and also holds a silent auction each

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RILEY PLEDGES FUNDING FOR HCC IN FY 06-07 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

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year to raise funds. The Commission has also applied for several grants. Purcell said Riley's recent announcement did not come without the hard work of area leaders. He cited Representative Billy Beasley and HCC board chair, Bob Hendrix, who accompanied him to a meeting with Riley's finance director, Jim Main, in early December. Riley told Purcell that HCC officials did an excellent job of proving its worth to the state and added local House and Senate delegates have continuously fought for HCC funding. "The credit for this good news goes to our Alabama board members, House and Senate members from our seven Alabama counties, and other friends who did an outstanding job in communicating the details of our program activities to the Governor and his staff," Purcell said. "In fact, the Governor specifically complimented these individuals for their tenacity and communication skills. It is obvious that Governor Riley now believes in the value of our heritage-tourism work along the lower Chattahoochee Valley in Alabama and Georgia," noted Purcell. Since this announcement, Governor Riley has made good on his pledge by including \$100,000 for the Historic Chattahoochee Commission in his proposed FY 06-07 General Fund budget.

NEWSLETTER

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC), an agency of the states of Alabama and Georgia, is involved in the promotion of tourism and historic preservation throughout the lower Chattahoochee Valley.

Chattahoochee Tracings is published quarterly and is free to interested citizens. Requests for the newsletters and changes of address should be directed to HCC, P.O. Box 33, Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033. (334) 687-9755 or P.O. Box 942, LaGrange, Georgia 30241, (706) 845-8440, e-mail hcc3@earthlink.net, Web Page www.hcc-al-ga.org. 1-877-766-2443.

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GUEST COLUMN

By Ashley Parsons

Champion of the Ordinary and Unappreciated



Original rendering of Fred Fussell by Folk Artist Butch Anthony

Carnival-colored folk art canvases cover the tall walls of the stately Victorian home. Large, wooden rocking chairs creak conversationally in the parlor. A metal statue of a cockroach stares down from high atop one of the graceful indoor columns. This is the home of Fred Fussell.

Fussell, 62, states a truth – obvious to outsiders but often forgotten by natives, “There’s no conflict between (being) Southern and (being) outlandish.” Although we were speaking about small town “characters,” the comment could relate to Fussell himself. Perhaps nowhere else is the marriage between regionalism and eclecticism more appreciated than in Fussell’s own parlor. Part sociologist, part archivist and activist, part champion and artist – Fussell is best described as a “folklorist” – standing guard over artifacts, arts, and traditional crafts – trying to make certain that “progress” doesn’t steam-roll our past.

Fussell’s recent work has been in keeping with his life’s work – maintaining the link between the past and ensuring continuation for the future. Though Fussell jokingly refers to himself as “self-unemployed,” in truth he

has many proverbial irons in the fire.

One of those projects is working on the Historic Chattahoochee Commission’s AgriTourism project. Its goal is to use agri-tourism as an economic development tool for the depressed, rural counties of the lower Chattahoochee Valley. For example, Fussell thinks organic herb farms could do very well. Other possibilities include establishing hunting preserves, catfish farms, wineries and folklife festivals that would bring in eco-tours, cultural and genealogical tourism and more.

Doug Purcell, executive director of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission, knows that Fussell is the right man for the job. “Fred is a valuable asset to this whole area. He’s extremely knowledgeable and well respected by his peers,” says Purcell. “When he gets going on a project, (you know) it will be done right.”

Fussell is modest about his job as a folklorist. “I’m called a folklorist – it’s because I’ve done so much with traditional culture. I’m not academically trained, but have on-the-job experience,” Fussell says, his blue eyes smiling behind large-framed glasses. “It’s serendipity,” he continues, rocking chair creaking. “I’ve

been accused of having for a job what everyone else has for a hobby. I never get paid much, but I am getting paid for what I like to do.”

Fussell has gotten paid while indulging his interests in and writing books about the blues and other music, regional arts, and American Indian culture.

“Fred knows that in preserving the past, he is preserving the future,” says Billy Winn, 66, a friend of Fussell’s for more than 12 years. Winn recognizes the importance of a link to the past.

“To live a moral life you have to know the past and your history. You have to know your roots,” says Winn, a retired editorial page editor of the Columbus, Ga. *Ledger-Enquirer* and author of several books. “(Fred) takes the stuff of our lives – common objects, and uses them to show us who we are. I don’t know of work any more important than that.”

Dendrochronologists Date Historic Houses by Reading Wood Rings

For Steve Nicklin, buying a rural estate called Bowling Green earned him the ultimate in historic-house bragging rights. The \$750,000, 4,200-square-foot home not only had some of its original glass, floors and hardware intact, but records show that George Washington had dined there, and that it had been built in 1669 – making it one of the oldest houses in Virginia. Just to be sure, Nicklin called for a professional opinion. Not an architect or residential genealogist, but a special technician who bored into a couple of beams with a hole saw – only to determine that Bowling Green was 71 years younger than Nicklin had thought. “I would have loved it if it was built in 1669,” says the advertising executive, who paid \$2,000 for the service. “But I want to be accurate from a historical perspective.” Is your house as old as you think? Thanks to a little-known science called dendrochronology, you can find out – by hiring a technician who takes samples from your wood beams, then counts and measures the rings to determine when the wood was harvested. A technique

originally used by researchers interested in astronomy and weather patterns, dendrochronology is catching on now with old-house buffs. In Rensselaer, New York, the research firm Hartgen Archeological says 75 percent of its architectural history clients are homeowners wanting their homes “dendrodated;” five years ago, only a quarter of their historical work came from such clients. One geographer at the University of Tennessee fielded 10 requests to dendrodate private homes last year – up from one request in 2002. The dendro-dating movement is mostly being fueled by architecture-preservation types, primarily those in the South and Northeast whose homes are among the oldest in the country. Current consumer fascination with early American history and the Founding Fathers is also playing a role. But dendrochronologists – earth scientists, historians and others trained in the technique – say the trend has a lot to do with the cachet of owning an antique house. “It’s very sexy to be able to know the exact year your house was built,” says Walter R. Wheeler, an architectural historian in New York.

Having a home dendrodated rarely affects its market value, since the difference of a couple of decades one way or the other – the typical dendrochronology age correction – is not enough to derail a sale, real-estate agents say. In fact, the historic home market has been so strong since the mid-1990s, the value of well-located historic homes is appreciating as fast as, or faster than, luxury homes in parallel markets, according to Joseph Carini, the president of a real estate firm in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Many homeowners like Dan Chaika in Newcastle, Maine, say they commission dendrochronologies just for the pleasure of knowing. While waiting for the results of a dendrodating ordered in November, Chaika is outfitting the 18th-century house with wireless Internet access and installing modern bathrooms and kitchen. “If only these guys 200 years ago knew what was in their house now,” says Chaika.

**Information in this article was abstracted from a story by Katherine Rosman, which appeared in The Wall Street Journal.*

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Two full-time staff members recently joined the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper office in Columbus, Georgia. **George Williams** is the new Riverkeeper. He is from Seale, Alabama but now lives in Columbus and is married to Jodi Williams. They have two sons, both of whom are students at Columbus High School. George has an undergraduate degree in journalism from Humboldt State University and has completed his course work for his masters in environmental science from Columbus State University. **Bill Edwards** is the new executive director of the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. He practiced law in Columbus from 1991 until joining the Riverkeeper. He is married to Wanda T. Edwards, community relations librarian at the new Columbus Library. Two of Bill's three sons also live in Columbus. Bill grew up in Atlanta. He started taking courses at Georgia Tech before graduating from high school, majored in biology and chemistry at The Citadel, did graduate study in biochemistry at The Medical College of Georgia and then got his law degree from Emory University.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division has appointed Underwater Archaeologist **Jason Burns** as DNR's first Deputy State Archaeologist. Burns was hired in 2003 to develop Georgia's statewide underwater archaeology program and was instrumental in establishing DNR's first archaeology station outside metro Atlanta on Skidaway Island, near Savannah. Created through a unique partnership with Georgia Southern University's Applied Coastal Research Laboratory, the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography and DNR, the station focuses on conservation, recreation and research on publicly owned archaeological sites on state lands and water bottoms throughout Georgia. Burns is interested in speaking with anyone who knows of any sites on Georgia's waterways. You may contact him directly at Jason_Burns@dnr.state.ga.us or by calling (912) 598-3346. Information on Georgia's new underwater archaeology program and coastal archaeology office can be found online at www.gashpo.org.

Troy Littrell has been appointed as the new manager of the Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge. A ten-year veteran of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Littrell said he has been impressed with the community support and

knowledge of the refuge. He said that is largely due to the work of his predecessor, Frank Dukes. One of Littrell's passions is environmental education and he wants the refuge to become an outdoor classroom for local schools. "We reside in a rural area and most of these students don't have an opportunity to visit a big zoo or some other exhibit, but we have an even better learning experience right next door on the refuge," Littrell said. "I will work to develop a positive outreach program for this station because it so important for the young people who live here." During his career, he has served at five different wildlife refuges in Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia, Arkansas, and most recently Texas. Littrell, who holds a Bachelor's degree in wildlife biology from the University of Tennessee-Martin, said he applied for the Eufaula position because his family wanted to move back to the Southeast to be closer to family. Littrell's office is in the new refuge headquarters on Alabama Highway 165 about seven miles north of downtown Eufaula.

Thomas B. Solomon has recently been appointed as new executive director of The Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission. A native of Headland, Alabama, Mr. Solomon attended public schools there, graduating from Headland High School in 1970. He received a B.S. degree from Troy State University in Troy, Alabama and is a graduate of the Alabama Banking School at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama; the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma; the American Economic Development Council's Basic Economic Development Course at the Georgia Institute of Technology and completed the National Economic Development Council's Economic Development Finance Professional certification program. After college graduation, Mr. Solomon began a career in the consumer finance field with a major national consumer finance company in Dothan, Alabama. He entered the commercial banking field in 1975 and was promoted through the ranks from an assistant loan officer to vice-president of a rural community bank where he was in charge of consumer, agricultural and real estate lending as well as collections. He was very active in the Alabama Young Bankers

section of the Alabama Bankers Association in the area of economic education and was named Alabama's Most Outstanding Economic Education School Coordinator in 1981 and 1982. After a brief career in the insurance and securities field, Mr. Solomon joined the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission in 1991 as an economic development specialist with responsibility to implement and manage a seven-county regional Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program. He replaces Freddie Dykes, who retired.

Cynthia Flowers is the new executive secretary to Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel director, Lee Sentell. She assumed the position on November 1st following Sandy Faulk's retirement. Cynthia has been an ABTT employee for ten years, formerly as a Tourist Promotional Representative in the Montgomery office. "I am excited about the new position and look forward to working with the director," she said. Cynthia is married to Willie Flowers and they have three children.

More than 350 guests partied, dined and celebrated the Chattahoochee River at The Foundry at Puritan Mill during The Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper's Eleventh Patron Appreciation Dinner held on September 15. The annual event served as a special occasion for those involved with The Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and honor those who have helped safeguard north Georgia's most precious natural resource - The Chattahoochee River. Among those recognized were **John Shepard** and **Dr. Becky Champion**, Historic Chattahoochee Commission board member. Shepard and Champion received the River Educator Award for creation of the award-winning "Waters to the Sea" CD-ROM.

Leo Goodsell is the new executive director of Westville, the historic village at Lumpkin, Georgia, where it's always 1850. After a nation wide search that started in May and drew some 50 applications, Goodsell, 46, executive director of The Berrien County Historical Association, Berrien Springs, Michigan, accepted the position and started work on January 2. "He's got

(Continued on page eight)

TOURISM AND PRESERVATION NEWS

The Fort Gaines Historical Society, Inc. has been revived and is now an active 501(c)3 IRS-approved corporation, incorporated in Georgia. According to Bill Koch, the society has just received a \$20,000 grant and is now in the process of folding into their organization the Historic Fort Gaines group. "We are seeking grants to preserve the Old Pioneer Cemetery and use of the Toll House, a 170 year old building in the historic district of Fort Gaines," according to Koch. The society is active in conducting tours of Fort Gaines and the Suttons' Corner General Store Museum as well as the Coleman Opera House. Bill Koch is president, Ken Penuel is vice president, and Ann Lynn is the secretary/treasurer. For more information, contact Koch at william_koch2003@yahoo.com or call (229) 768-2366.

Columbus-area visitors will have even more places to lay their heads with the city poised for another hotel building boom over the next couple of years. No fewer than eight hotel chains are being mentioned in hospitality industry circles as either in the planning or development stage in the local Columbus market. The brands include another Country Inn & Suites, Holiday Inn Express, Homewood Suites by Hilton, Microtel, Ramada, Sleep Inn, Staybridge Suites and the upstart extended-stay chain, Value Place. Though most are targeting the north end of Columbus, at least a couple appear to have south Columbus on their radar. That would put them in proximity to Fort Benning and the proposed \$75 million National Infantry Museum, which is on track for a February groundbreaking. "I really think Fort Benning is going to become our major market segment, whereas right now we're looking at associations being that," said Peter Bowden, president and CEO of the Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau. "So you may see a shift with the Infantry Museum coming on line. We also have Port Columbus (National Civil Naval Museum) with a military connection." Columbus attracted 965,472 visitors in fiscal year 2005, a nearly eight percent increase over 895,100 visitors the year before, according to data compiled by Columbus State University. The city is shooting for 1 million-plus visitors in fiscal year 2006.

The Auburn Heritage Association was recently informed that a group of young

boys were charged with vandalizing Pine Hill Cemetery. According to the City of Auburn, approximately \$30,000 worth of damage was done to monuments and markers in the cemetery. Unfortunately, the City may not be able to recoup the money from the parents of juvenile perpetrators. The damage is extensive, but efforts by the city are being made to "right" the markers that can be set up straight again and then work will begin to try and repair the broken markers. Plans for marker repair and cleaning by the Auburn Heritage Association were temporarily suspended when it was learned about the vandalism. The Association is assessing the situation to see which markers can be repaired with their limited financial resources.

Canada is a big market for Alabama tourism. Information recently released by Statistics Canada shows Canadians represent 185,100 overnight stays in Alabama and spent over \$12 million during their average 5-day stay during 2004. The largest age group of visitors to Alabama was 65+ with seventy-four percent coming from Ontario.

Thanks to the \$114,000 grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Landmark Park in Dothan, Alabama has just installed a new storm drainage system. Funds were made available through the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection program and will help solve many of the erosion and drainage problems that have plagued the park for years. The City of Dothan provided the in-kind match for the grant with engineering and administrative services.

Between February 26th and July 16th, The Columbus Museum will sponsor an exhibition entitled "A Remedy for Every Ill: Hatchett's Drugstore and the Evolution of American Pharmacy." This exhibition includes a five thousand-item inventory of an early 20th century drugstore. The Stewart County Historical Commission's Hatchett's collection is a virtual time capsule. Portions of this outstanding collection will be on display for this exhibition, which explores the ways medicines were made and marketed in the era previous to federal regulation, as well as the developments that transformed pharmacies during the years of the store's operation. Also included is a glimpse into the lives of the store's owners and the small town

in which they operated. This exhibition was made possible by a grant from the Historic Chattahoochee Commission.

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's 2006 list of "Places in Peril" included Pasaquan, in Marion County, Georgia. This internationally acclaimed visionary art site near Buena Vista, consists of six major structures - the oldest a redesigned 1885 farmhouse - and hundreds of feet of decorated walls that are rapidly deteriorating due to lack of adequate funding to maintain the property. The seven-acre site is now managed by the Pasaquan Preservation Society, a volunteer board of trustees that needs funding to develop a strategic plan, a master plan for the site and for restoration. Like Pasaquan, there are scores of historic landscapes throughout Georgia that need additional funding to support restoration and maintenance efforts.

The Chattahoochee Valley Historical Society is in the process of re-surveying all of the cemeteries in Chambers County with plans to publish a new book or volumes of books. This will include all town, community, church, and family cemeteries with burials through December 31, 2005. If you would like to participate in this project, or if you are aware of any old cemeteries that are in remote areas that might not be known, please contact Jane Elliott at (334) 768-9580, Ron Williams at (334) 756-7588, or Miriam Syler at the Cobb Memorial Archives at (334) 768-2050.

A fund raising campaign to build a Civil War ship replica in front of Port Columbus was kicked off on December 19, 2005. Museum executive director Bruce Smith said the estimates to build the replica amount to \$962,000. One Port Columbus board member has already pledged \$5,000 toward the project, designed to increase visitation at the museum and create a new landmark for Columbus. Smith says the museum hopes to break ground on the project during its 5th anniversary celebration at this year's RiverBlast event on March 11-12. A replica of the USS/CSS Waterwitch would be constructed to help focus visitor attention on Port Columbus, the National Civil War Naval Museum. This project had its origins

(Continued on page six)

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE POOCHIE NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



Will you consider becoming a member of the HCC?

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission's membership funds are helping to make up for lost public funds in both Alabama and Georgia. Within the next six to eight weeks, it is hoped that 200 new members will join the Commission and swell the membership rolls to over 500 individuals, organizations, and businesses. Membership investments range from \$15 to \$150. Special gifts received to date have included amounts from \$50 to \$500. Joining the HCC is easy. Just call 1-800-POOCHIE (766-2443) with your credit card information or send a check to HCC, P.O. Box 33, Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033.

TOURISM AND PRESERVATION NEWS *(Continued from page five)*

in a suggestion made by local businessman, Bill Turner, who commented the museum needed something on the outside to indicate both the nature, scale and quality of the exhibits inside. A new marketing study completed in March, 2005 also affirmed that an external piece was needed to attract more of the 30,000 plus cars per day that travel down Victory Drive. "The Waterwitch has a tre-



USS/CSS Waterwitch, as it would look in front of the National Civil War Naval Museum

mendous Georgia story, an African-American story and it served in both the Union and Confederate Navies," said Smith. For more information on this project, call the museum at (706) 327-9798 or e-mail the museum at cwnavy@portcolumbus.org.

Historic Columbus Foundation board member and local historian, F. Clason Kyle, has

a new book coming out this winter entitled **In Order of Appearance: Chronicling 135 Years on America's Most Celebrated Stage.** According to Mr. Kyle, his research establishes beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Springer Opera House is the most celebrated theater in America; that more famous stars of stage, screen and radio and other celebrities have trod its boards during the past 134 years of its existence than any other theater in the United States. A National Historic Landmark and the State Theater of Georgia, the Springer was built in 1871 and served as the meeting place for the populace of this initially small textile town - remotely located on the west boundary of the last of the thirteen original colonies - to view world renowned personages, whether they were champion boxers or accomplished debaters, musical curiosities or future presidents, learned educators or modern dancers, noted tragedians or zany comics. It also served the community as the site of high school graduations and nuptials. Copies of the book are available for \$45 plus shipping and applicable sales tax and may be ordered by sending a check to The Springer Opera House, 103 Tenth Street, Columbus, Georgia 31901.

On behalf of the Houston County Commission, Chairman Mark Culver, went to Columbia, Alabama on the evening of October 27, 2005 and presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the Columbia Historical Society. The money will be used for the purpose of replacing the roof and

other repairs on the old railroad depot, which was acquired by the society earlier last year. Work is already underway for the restoration of the early-1890s railroad depot. When the work is completed, the depot will be used, among other things, as a visitor's welcome center and railroad museum at Columbia. The depot is located on Highway 52 on the west side of Columbia.

Hurricane Katrina brought both evacuees and increased tourism to Alabama, according to preliminary figures prepared by the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel. Hotel rooms were rented between six to seven percent more than the year before, as calculated by an increase in the state's lodging tax, which is 4 percent. The figures represent the 2005 fiscal year, which ended September 30. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) spokesman Jay Eaker said about 25,464 evacuees are living in the state, with about 3,000 of those in 982 hotel rooms. The rest live with relatives or in travel trailers at state parks, he said. The number of evacuees in hotel rooms is significantly lower since the peak of hotel room usage, which was between October 1 and October 15, just after the Tourism of Travel's board report was completed. Tourism and Travel spokesman Brian Jones said the state was doing well before the disaster, but the increased use of hotel rooms by both evacuees and aid workers heavily contributed to the spike.

2005 - 2006 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

(Listing date: October 5, 2005 - February 3, 2006)

RENEWALS

Bill Carroll
Harry Hall
Jacquelyn Cook
T. Larry Smith
Calvin Dean
Sarah T Lawrence
Susan Gristina
Betty S. Brown
Edna G. Bush
Martin Price
Lindy Money
Jerry Beasley
Tim Beasley
Pat Schiller
Carl Summers
Roberta Childs
Joe A. Cannon
Alice Budge
Wendell Wentz
Roger B. Davis
Sarah Fishburne
Gloria Franklin
Deborah Casey/Fendall Hall
Brenda Howell
Betty G. Milldrum
Sara Singer
Carolyn Hutcheson
Willie M. Porter
Jim & Linda Straub
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Killian
Bill & Pat Wente
Neal Rumble
Gayle & Ronnie Thomas
Terry & Anmarie Honan
Jack & Sandy Jordan
John & Lou Martin
JB & Barbara Short
Earl & Roberta Hyers
Dr. & Mrs. Danny Hartzog
Bob & Barbara Patton
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Murphree
Dean S. Wall
Virginia Freeman
Branko Medenica
Tom & Ann Ballenger
Ruth Ann & Lamar Powers
Gary & Laura Fuller
Tim & Joy Glover
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Marley
Elizabeth Lipscomb
Bill Dillard
Susan & Terry Bishop

Charles & Patricia Auman
Dave & Dallas P. Jankowski
Shay & Barbara Ingle
Frank & Anne Turner
Paul & Jean Hufham
James & Janice Biggers
Larry & Rebecca French
Dothan Area CVB
Stewart County Commission
Beasley Pharmacy
Henry County Historical Group, Inc.
Friends of the Library (Ozark/Dale Cty.)
Register Realty
The Columbus Museum
Ozark-Dale County Public Library
Stewart County Historical Commission
Best Western Dothan Inn & Suites
Farmers Exchange Bank
Charter Bank
Troup County Historical Society
Karen & Gerald Sprenger
David & Marie Peterson
Tom & Carolyn Gates
Anderson Construction Company
Thomas C. Parker
Mary E. Stewart
Dorothy W. Morris
David J. Allen
Wigham & Imogene Mixson
The University of Georgia
Compass Bank
Columbus Convention &
Visitors Bureau
Florece Sheffield
Alice Bowsher
William & Tami Holman
Albert Simpson
Virginia Harvey
Clason Kyle
Tim French
Marty Olliff
Charles & Regina Garrett
Ronnie & Judy Marshall
Col. Reid Wallis
Bob & Barbara Smith
Lt. Col. (Ret.) Dick & Deanna Grube
William F. Church
Roselyn Holloway
Thomasville -Thomas Co. CVB
Barbara Howell
Forrest Shivers
Wilma Crapps
Jay & Lynette Jaxon

Fred & Judy Tye
Maple Hill Gardens & Guest House
Doug & Mary Winkleblack
Chattahoochee Co. Hist. Pres. Society
Virginia T. Copeland
Quitman Co. Bd. of Commissioners
Janette Baxley
Jane Dickson Lanier
Calvin & Pat Wingo
Gloria Jones
Eleanor Harris Family
Jack Wingate
Jean Turn
Ozark Area Chamber of Commerce
Rich Daniels & Marilyn Weeks
Auburn Heritage Association
Mountain Hill Schoolhouse
Foundation
Roy D. Moultrie
John Lupold & Lynne Willoughby

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Auburn Opelika Tourism Bureau
Meryl Crapps
Gregory Jeane
Ozark, Alabama Mayor Bob Bunting
G. Sidney Waits
Fulton Frumin
Van Smith
Melinda McCall
Dr. Hugh Rodgers
Kenneth A. Cantley
Mischa Nixon
Gloria & Al Fleming
John & Judith Armstrong
Jeff & Carol Jakeman
Cindy Hodnette
David & Patricia Strobel
Shay & Barbara Ingle
Columbus State University-Library
The Porch House Restaurant
VFW Post 5850
Abbeville Chamber of Commerce
Early County Board of Commissioners
Bruce & Jody Kearley
Yvonna (Cookie) McGlaun
City of Abbeville
Mary E. & John Huff
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Methvin
City of Bainbridge, GA
Glenn T. Eskew
James Tresca
Trish Thorne

Dorothy S. Kirk
William Cawthon
Clay County Board of Commissioners
Armeto C. Reynolds
Gary Norman
Alabama-Mississippi Rural Tourism
Sally Sharpless
Jim & Louise Howard
Joel P. & Ann S. Smith
Betty A. Shackelford
Chambers County Library
Chattahoochee Valley Hist. Society

SPECIAL GIFTS \$50+

Marjorie Gay
Mr. & Mrs. Henry B Gray
Lester & Catherine Killebrew
Sara & W.B. Singer
Oline Reynolds
Bobby Rowe
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HONORARIUMS

Magnolia Garden Club of Columbus
• In Honor of Billy Winn

GIFTS IN KIND

The Image Agency

(Continued From Page Four)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Leo Goodsell

the experience,” said Andy Moye, chairman of the Westville Board of Trustees and its search committee. “He is a professional manager of historic properties. That is what he brought to the ball game. I would say he understands how to care for and nurture historic property while still making it accessible to the public. He has fundraising experience in both the public and private sectors.” Goodsell noted that the biggest challenge will be finding ways to increase visitation at Westville. “We must increase the number of people coming,” he said. “You increase your funding base and your friends base. They’re all tied to getting people through the gate. I have a lot of ideas I’m going to bring to the table. We can start testing some and see how many pan out and we can be successful with. I will access the current programs and abilities of the local organization.” Goodsell replaces Mac Moye who retired after 26 years of service at Westville.

With a new director leading the charge, Columbus State University’s Coca-Cola Space Science Center is planning a major upgrade to its lobby and its Omnisphere Theater, adding a new digital planetarium system powered by 16 computers to produce the highest resolution video production system in the world. The U.S. Air Force is the only other organization now using the new Digistar 3 Laser, and its system is exclusively used

the experience,” said Andy Moye, chairman of the Westville Board of Trustees and its search committee. “He is a professional manager of historic properties. That is what he brought

for pilot training. “The picture, created 180 degrees around viewers on the space center’s 50-foot screen, will be more stable than in a movie theater, more colorful and crisp than a large-format theater movie and four to eight times sharper than the latest high-definition television on the market today,” said space center executive director **Shawn Cruzen**, a CSU astronomy professor who’s been a fixture at the center since 1997. Cruzen joined CSU that year from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he earned both his Master’s degree and Doctorate in physics. He developed the astronomy program for CSU’s College of Science into one of the University’s most popular elective programs. In addition to maintaining an active research program, he collaborated with CSU faculty colleagues in establishing NASA-sponsored research scholarships for students. He has twice been named CSU’s Educator of the Year.

On December 1, 2005 **Maggie Potter** joined the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) as the new Presidential Pathways Regional Tourism Representative. This position will entail tourism marketing and development in the nineteen county region of west central Georgia. Maggie was most recently with the Monticello-Jasper County Chamber of Commerce as the executive director. Prior to that role Maggie was with Hardin Construction as part of the marketing and creative services team charged with developing collateral and responding to proposals for business development. Maggie holds a Bachelor’s degree in Industrial Design from Auburn University.

At the Historic Columbus Foundation’s Annual Meeting in November, **Virginia T. Peebles** was named the 2005 Sara Turner Butler Heritage Award Recipient. Mrs. Peebles retired last year as executive director of the foundation. Her work began as a volunteer with Historic Columbus and involved into a fulltime professional career. Even in retirement, she remains an active contributor, using her time, talents and vast knowledge to benefit the foundation in many critical ways. Mrs. Peebles has spent decades laboring tirelessly for the betterment of Columbus. She has been an effective advocate for historic preservation, a proponent of education about local and regional history, a champion for the preservation of Columbus’ historical, architectural, and cultural character, and a driving force in the effort to revitalize the historic neighborhoods in Columbus. She has served on numerous Columbus boards including Uptown Columbus, the Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Commissioners, the board of Historic and Architectural Review, the Uptown Façade board, several chamber of commerce committees, the Historic Linwood Foundation, the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Center, NeighborWorks Columbus, the Cultural Arts Alliance, the Midtown Project, and Columbus South, just to name a few. She has been recognized numerous times on a state and local level for her achievements, including last year when she received the Governor’s Award in the Humanities. She also recently received a preservation achievement award from the Historic Chattahoochee Commission.



Historic Chattahoochee Commission
Post Office Box 33
Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033
Web Site www.hcc-al-ga.org
E-mail hcc3@earthlink.net



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