

CHATTAHOOCHEE TRACINGS

Newsletter of the Historic
Chattahoochee Commission

VOLUME 37

WINTER /SPRING 2009

Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor Study Act Passes the U.S. Senate

On January 15th, S. 22—the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009—passed the U. S. Senate and was promptly referred to the U. S. House of Representatives. Contained within this bundle of bills is Section 8101 which pertains to the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor Study Act. The Study Act had been introduced during the 110th Congress with the support of Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL), the initial sponsor, and Senators Richard Shelby (R-AL), Saxby Chambliss (R-GA) and Johnny Isakson (R-GA). Last year, a companion bill had also been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Terry Everett (R-AL) with the support of Congressmen Mike Rogers (R-AL), Sanford Bishop (D-GA) and Jim Marshall (D-GA). Quick action on S. 22 is anticipated in the House.



Doug Purcell and Congressman
Bobby Bright

The proposed act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the appropriate State historic preservation officers, State historical societies, State tourism offices and other appropriate organizations and agencies to conduct a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the study region a National Heritage Area. The study area is the eighteen county bi-state region which is promoted by the Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC). If approved, the act will make the Chattahoochee Trace region eligible to receive funding for publications and marketing for tourism, historic preservation, environmental education, outdoor recreation and small business development. However a major study of the region will be

required before the designation as a heritage area can be made. Funding will be needed to make this study a reality.

In a related development, Congressman Bobby Bright (D-AL) introduced H.R. 867 on February 6th. This legislation is identical to the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor Study Act which is contained within S. 22. Bright noted that “The Chattahoochee Trace Corridor is a unique and special part of the country and it deserves recognition. I am grateful for the bi-partisan support this legislation has received, and I am glad to be able to reintroduce legislation that my predecessor [former Congressman Terry Everett] sponsored in the last Congress. While the Senate has already passed the legislation, I strongly believe it needed a champion in the House. I urge its quick passage.” Congressman Mike Rogers (R-AL) is an original co-sponsor of H.R. 867 and additional co-sponsors from Georgia are expected in the coming days.

The bill was modeled after the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Study Act of 2002. It was drafted by HCC Executive Director Doug Purcell in 2005 and has been introduced into the U.S. House and Senate during each of the last three sessions of Congress. Purcell believes that the chances are very good that this bill will be passed early in the 111th Congress.

Water War News

Florida and Alabama are asking a federal court to stop the Army Corps of Engineers from supplying water to Georgia from Lake Lanier, Atlanta’s main water source. The states argue the withdrawals are illegal without Congressional approval. They say they will file a motion in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, Florida to invalidate the Corps’ operations on the federal reservoir. Florida and Alabama have long argued that the Corps is misusing Lanier at the expense of their interests downstream. The latest motion comes two weeks after the U.S. Supreme Court let stand a lower-court ruling that said the Corps needed congressional approval before reaching a 2003 agreement to give Georgia even more water from Lake Lanier in the coming decades. Emboldened by the decision, Florida and Alabama say that rationale should also apply to Georgia’s current withdrawals. Their motion also comes after the Corps issued an opinion recently saying that it has legal authority to supply metro-Atlanta’s drinking water from Lake Lanier. Corps attorney Earl Stockdale’s opinion said that setting aside about 12 percent of the lake for drinking water would have only minor effects on the project’s goals to produce hydropower, control floods and float barges.

HCC Appoints Five New Board Members

Recent Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC) board appointments include: Mr. Ed Garrison, Fort Gaines, Georgia; Dr. Ann Pearson, Auburn, Alabama; Mr. Jim Jones, Valley, Alabama; Mr. Mike Bunn, Columbus, Georgia; and Mrs. Sharon Haynes, Ozark, Alabama. The twenty-eight member board of directors includes fourteen members from both Alabama and Georgia who represent the



Mr. Ed Garrison

eighteen county region served by the Commission.

Mr. Ed Garrison was appointed to fill the Clay County board slot formerly occupied by Mr. Bill Koch who completed his four year term.

Garrison had a nineteen year career in banking before assuming a position with the Eufaula based family lumber business. He has been active for many years with church and civic organizations in this area including the Fort Gaines Historical Society, Eufaula Heritage Association, United Way, Eufaula-Barbour County Chamber of Commerce and St. James Episcopal Church. Garrison and his wife, Paige, now reside on Pataula Creek in Clay County, Georgia. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama.

Dr. Ann Pearson was appointed to fill the unexpired Lee County term of Mr. Carl Summers who recently found it necessary to resign. Pearson is the daughter of former Lee County board member Dr. Allen Pearson and is the granddaughter of Luther Duncan, a renowned president of Auburn University. She served as president of the Auburn Heritage Association (AHA) for eight years and has been active with the Lee County Historical Society in its Museum Building Renovation Fund. Dr. Pearson has just been

(Continued on page two)

HCC Appoints Five New Board Members

(Continued from page one)

appointed as Lee County's representative to the Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance. In addition she received the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's Achievement Award for her work on the Baptist Hill Cemetery in association with the AHA. She lives in historic Noble Hall, a two-story 1854 Greek revival home just north of Auburn. Pearson is a graduate of Auburn University.

Mr. Jim Jones was appointed to fill the Chambers County board slot formerly



Mr. Jim Jones

occupied by Mrs. Mac Bryant who completed her four year term. He is an experienced manufacturing and municipal government professional who is currently employed

by WestPoint Home, Inc. of West Point, Georgia. In addition, Jones serves on the Valley City Council and has chaired the City of Valley Planning Commission. He is a graduate of Your Town Alabama; a project leadership course sponsored by the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce; and a Basic Economic Development Course sponsored by the Georgia Tech Institute of Technology. In 2001 he chaired the Valley Vision Committee and has since played a key leadership role in the Langdale Mill Project.

Jones is also involved with the Southern Textile Heritage Corridor project which links textile communities from Richmond, Virginia to Montgomery, Alabama. He is a graduate of Auburn University.

Mr. Mike Bunn was appointed to fill the unexpired Georgia at-large term of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Dick Grube who recently found it necessary to resign. Bunn has served as Associate Curator of History at The Columbus Museum since 2004. Prior to joining the Museum staff, he worked with the Alabama Historical Commission, The Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society, the Birmingham Historical Society and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Bunn has participated in a wide variety of cultural heritage projects and has extensive experience in the history museum environment. His work has been recognized with a number of awards from organizations including the American Association for State and Local History, the Southeastern Museums Conference, The Georgia Historical Society and the Historic



Mr. Mike Bunn

Columbus Foundation. He has authored numerous exhibition catalogs, articles and book reviews. In addition he is the co-author of two books: Images of America: Lower Chattahoochee

River, published in association with the Historic Chattahoochee Commission, and the recently released Battle for the Southern Frontier: The Creek War and the War of 1812. He is a graduate of Faulkner University and the University of Alabama.

Mrs. Sharon Haynes was appointed to fill the unexpired Dale County term of Mrs. Mary Stewart who recently found it necessary to resign. She is currently employed by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, Division of Early Intervention and has also worked at Vivian B. Adams School in Ozark as a Learning Resource Aide. She has served as chair of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Historical Committee and has done historical research for a variety of projects connected with the National Chapter of this sorority. She is a graduate of Troy University.



Mrs. Sharon Haynes

E-mail Addresses Needed

Due to severe budget cuts in both Alabama and Georgia, the Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC) will start moving toward distribution of a Chattahoochee Tracings E-newsletter. This will save the HCC printing costs and postage. In addition, our Chattahoochee Tracings Calendar of Events can be distributed in the same manner with additional costs savings. If you don't mind receiving the newsletter and calendar in this format, please send your e-mail address to trace@eufaula.rr.com or call 877-766-2443 (toll free). It will probably take several months before we are prepared to initiate this new E-newsletter and calendar format. Those individuals that don't have an e-mail address will continue to receive both publications in print format. At present we send out almost 1600 newsletters and calendars with each mailing.

In another cost saving measure, the HCC has decided to release our newsletter every four months instead of every three months. That means that only three newsletters will be produced each year saving the Commission almost three thousand dollars. So the current newsletter will be listed as the winter-spring issue for 2009. Once the new E-newsletter is launched, we will be able to produce a newsletter four times a year or quarterly. In the meantime, however, the print version will be produced and mailed out only three times a year.

The Chattahoochee Tracings Newsletter and Calendar of Events are always available for viewing on our web page at www.hcc-al-ga.org. By accessing this site, you can also view previous issues of the calendar and newsletter. Our web calendar is periodically updated to include new events that are not listed in the print version of the current calendar.

The HCC will welcome any special contributions to help us through these difficult times. All gifts to the Commission are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



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 trace@eufaula.rr.com, Web Page www.hcc-al-ga.org. 1-877-766-2443.

OFFICERS

- Becky FendleyChairman
- Tommy Boswell Vice Chairman
- Deborah P. Shaw . . Administrative Assistant
- Douglas C. Purcell . . Executive Director



GUEST COLUMN

Historic Old Trade Center

by Jessie Summers

(Curator of the Lee County Historical Society Museum)

A part of our Museum complex in Loachapoka is the Trade Center, the oldest commercial building in Lee County still in use.



Mrs. Jessie Summers

Built in 1845, it is definitely showing its age and is falling apart, so of course we must fix it. It was built with 14 inch thick walls made of lime, stone and sand but now the mortar has deteriorated so that the wall is no longer attached to the exterior stucco. The renovation includes removing and replacing the exterior stucco, replacing the plaster on the interior wall as needed, replacing the windows with energy efficient units, adding insulation, refinishing the original floors, repainting and also installing a central heating and air conditioning system so that the museum will be suitable for year round use.

We have kept the well and use it for a very popular part of our children's programs. They love to draw water and scrub clothes! However, city water and electricity were added after the Society bought the building in 1969, but those are the only modern conveniences we enjoy.

It is a fine old building, built the year the railroad from Mobile reached and ended in Loachapoka, it served as the preeminent trading center for east Alabama. Manufactured goods from England would be unloaded and cotton would be loaded for the train's return trip to Mobile Bay and then shipped to England. In 1862 three Confederate regiments were formed there. It also served as an armory for the Confederates. Union General Rousseau spent the night there. (I really dislike remembering that!) Education of children and adults is our goal. We host school field trips, wonderfully rewarding events for all of us, where they learn by doing and from excellent demonstrators. "The blacksmith said he was going to make a leaf. And he did." "It was the best time of my life." "I gave the rag doll I made to my

grandmother and she loved it." "Singing old songs with the dulcimers was so much fun." With thank-you notes like those, we know we have to do a good job of restoration!

The Trade Center, as the main museum building, is the site of our quarterly history programs and holds the majority of our museum exhibits. It is available for civic and social meetings, and is the meeting place for our board. We also host thousands of people on Historical Fair Day. The loss of this building would be tragic and would be detrimental to meeting the missions of the Lee County Historical Society.

Architects and builders have inspected the Trade Center as to the necessary improvements and have estimated the total cost to be \$232,000.

If you agree that the Historic Old Trade Center is worth preserving for many generations to come, please write a check to the Lee County Historical Society and send it to P.O. Box 206, Loachapoka AL 36865. The Society is a non profit corporation under Federal Regulation 501 3c and all donations are tax deductible.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Governor Sonny Perdue's office has announced the recommendation of Chris Clark, Executive Director of the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA), for the Department of Natural Resources Commissioner. Joy Walstrum, Tourism Development Alliance of Georgia (TDAG) executive director, said, "During his tenure at GDEcD, Chris worked closely with us on tourism policy issues. He was a leader on educating those at the Capitol and at GDEcD that tourism is economic development. DNR is an important partner for TDAG, and we look forward to working with Chris in his new leadership role as Commissioner of DNR." Clark will succeed current DNR Commissioner Noel Holcomb in April 2009. "I look forward to working closely with the tourism industry on how we can fully leverage our state parks and wildlife management areas," said Clark. "We have incredible assets in this state and we need to do more to promote their use."

The Board of Directors of the Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce has voted to approve hiring Evelyn Clay as Chamber President effective October 1. According to Suzi Bonifay, Board Chairman, "Evelyn comes to us with a wealth of

experience in the business arena and in chamber operations. Individuals who worked with Evelyn at Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce describe her as bright, hard-working, innovative, always prepared, one who can handle and diffuse difficult situations, who has tremendous customer service skills and will leave a gap in their community that cannot be filled. Evelyn is the perfect fit for our community and clearly has the right combination of soft skills, experience, and enthusiasm to build on the legacy that Cile Warr left and lead us to the next level." Mrs. Clay and her family moved to Bainbridge from Lutz, Florida where she was an independent insurance agent. She has had much community involvement including past president of the Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce for which she also served on the Board of Directors.

Former Historic Chattahoochee Commission board member Dollie Winslow Harris, age 95, of Cuthbert, Georgia died on November 28, 2008 at her residence. Mrs. Harris served as a board member of the HCC from 1982-1992. She was a member of the Cuthbert United Methodist Church and was a graduate of Wesleyan College. She retired as the state program director for the Georgia

Tuberculosis Association.

Auburn Heritage Association member Dr. Ann Pearson has recently been appointed as Lee County's representative to the Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance. Emily Sparrow, another AHA member, was appointed as the assistant Lee County representative. The ACPA is a volunteer organization which works in conjunction with the Alabama Historical Commission. The organization's goals include locating, registering and recording each cemetery in Alabama. The information gathered by ACPA volunteers assists the Cartographic Research Lab at the University of Alabama in assembling the Cemetery Atlas which lists all known cemeteries in the state by county.

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation has three new staff members. Anne Farrissee is taking over the position of Senior Director of Development. She has been working with the Trust since Spring 2007 as Director of Preservation Services. Anne is the co-author of the award-winning Democracy Restored, an illustrated history of the restoration of Georgia's Capitol. Jordan Poole is the Trust's

(Continued on page eight)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Mike Bunn, associate curator of history at The Columbus Museum and Dr. Virginia Causey, a Columbus State University history professor, received the Roger K. Warwick Local History Achievement Award from the Georgia Historical Society on December 4th at the site of the new National Infantry Museum. The award was for their work on exhibitions and educational programs on Columbus history, in particular, the "Chattahoochee Valley World War II Home Front" exhibit. Bunn worked with the Shaw High School Young Historians Club to gather oral interviews that were videotaped, edited and shown as part of the exhibit.

On September 13, 2008, Westville hosted its third Legacy Awards ceremony at the Country Club of Columbus. Each year Historic Westville selects three area community leaders for the honor based on their contributions to Westville, history or historic preservation. This year's honorees were Sue McLendon Moye, a long standing supporter, volunteer, board member and founder of Historic Westville; R. Duke Miller, a retired Aflac executive, a proud long standing supporter of Westville and past board chair; and Teresa Pike Tomlinson, an attorney, strong community leader, advocate of historic preservation and executive director of MidTown, Inc. Historic Westville is an 85-acre living history museum in Lumpkin, Georgia, focusing on 1850s life in west Georgia.

On November 26, 2008, the Clay County Commissioners officially dedicated the new Social Services Building as the James Edgar Coleman Building. The dedication was in recognition of Mr. Coleman's lifetime of service to Clay County and its municipalities. Patti Cullen, executive director of the Lower Chattahoochee RDC, stated "Mr. Coleman has been a valuable part of economic development for our region." Coleman has many accomplishments to his name including leading the committee which planned a targeted campaign with the State of Georgia to create the Bagby Lodge. He has also written several books on the history of Clay County and a walking/cycling guide that are used today. Coleman was a board member of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission from 1985 to 1990.

The Troup County Archives received the Council Exemplary Service Award from the Society of American Archivists during a ceremony on August 29, 2008, at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco. The award is given for outstanding service to SAA and the archives profession and was presented during SAA's 72nd annual meeting. Established in 1983, the Troup County Archives was recognized

for providing outstanding service to residents, researchers and writers, and for serving as a model of how local government can work together to care for their records. The Archives is currently involved in a number of projects, including: scanning 19th-century court records made available by the Digital Library of Georgia; indexing LaGrange newspapers that date back to 1843; assisting the Troup County Historical Society with a pictorial history publication; and offering genealogy classes. Manuscript collections include letters, Civil War diaries, family plantation and church records, photographs, and books and pamphlets relating to Troup County and West Georgia. The citation notes that the Troup County archives has "fostered a vision of how local government records are among the most important records created in the United States, touching the lives of their citizens more directly than records stored in any other kind of archives."

The Auburn Rural Studio in Auburn, Alabama, was the recipient of the 2008 Preservation Service Award given by the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. The award recognizes the unique contribution of both the students, faculty and administration of Auburn University in creating environments in which individuals can learn, live, and socialize in stimulating environments that contribute to the overall well-being of a community. Over the last 15 years, the structures created by the students of the Auburn Rural Studio have become iconic pieces of the landscapes in the communities in which they are housed. From the Butterfly House in Hale County to the Thomaston Rural Heritage Center in Marengo County, the students and their teachers have utilized innovative techniques that incorporate salvaged and recycled materials to create well-insulated, inexpensive dwellings. Demand for the Rural Studio and its energetic students has only increased and developed the need for other programming efforts along similar lines.



Mr. Thomas S. Gates

Thomas S. Gates, of Columbus, Georgia, was inducted into Admiral's Circle of the

National Civil War Naval Museum at Port Columbus during their annual meeting on October 13, 2008. Gates has been active in preservation since he moved back to Columbus in 1978. His first contact with the Naval Museum came in 1982 when he was asked to serve on the board of the Confederate Naval Museum, the ancestor of Port Columbus. He was elected as second president in 1983 and served during some very tough years for the museum. His vision for the eventual development of the current facility started at the very beginning, and he remained a cheerleader for the project for the next two decades, always a champion for the cause. After serving nearly 20 years as the president of the Friends of the Museum, he now serves on the Board of Trustees and is a valued member of the team at Port Columbus.

The Alabama Tourism Department has won the Travel Industry Association's highest honor for its Year of Alabama Arts campaign, announced Governor Bob Riley, as well as two other national competitions. The TIA's Discover America Marketing Award was presented at its "Odyssey" awards banquet in Portland, Oregon on October 28th and featured in the November issue of National Geographic Traveler. The 2007 promotion also won the National Council of State Tourism Directors' "Mercury" award for best state promotion and Travel Weekly's "Magellan" award for promotion of culture and the arts in the U.S. and Canada. "To win one top award is outstanding, but to win the best in three separate competitions must be unprecedented," Governor Riley told several hundred tourism and arts representatives at a reception at the State Capitol. The purpose of the 15-month campaign was "to put a huge spotlight on the arts, everything from architecture to dance and in between," said state tourism director Lee Sentell. "We had involvement from more than 60 communities which shows how important the arts are all over the state." Staff member Brian Jones created a 56-page brochure that promoted exhibitions, festivals and landmarks in 64 towns and cities. Four television commercials featuring the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, arts festivals and Gee's Bend quilts were broadcast on Alabama Public Television, the Bravo network and Raycom Media stations, Sentell said. A website created by Luckie & Company, a Birmingham ad agency, allowed individual artists to post profiles of themselves and works for sale, he added. Sentell said the Alabama Folk Art Exhibition sponsored with the Birmingham Museum of Art displayed works by some of the state's best-known "outsider" artists, including Lonnie Holley, Mose Tollier, Jimmie Lee Sudduth and Jerry Brown.

TOURISM & PRESERVATION NEWS

Clay County and the Fort Gaines Historical Society recently received a \$1,000 grant from the Georgia Historic Preservation Division. The purpose of this grant is to identify, preserve and protect rural cemeteries. Clay County will use geographic information system technology to identify and map all county cemeteries. The Lower Chattahoochee Regional Development Center assisted in the preparation of the grant and will be involved in the mapping of the cemeteries. The long term goal is to identify and map all of the rural cemeteries and create a "Cemetery Trail" throughout the region.

"The Coin: The History of Newville, Alabama and the Newville Baptist Church" by Robert Whiddon has recently been released. It is now available for purchase at the Blanche Solomon Memorial Library in Headland for \$15. It can also be ordered for \$15 plus \$4.50 for postage/handling from Roberta W. Childs, 100 Greenbrier Court, Headland, AL 36345.

After over 10 years of lobbying and hard work, the official groundbreaking for a new 200-seat group shelter at Seminole State Park was held on October 22. More than 50 people were on hand for this ceremony including former State Representative Hugh Broome (who was responsible for the funding), Senator John Bulloch, and State Representative Gerald Greene. Also attending the ceremony was State Parks Director Becky Kelley. Construction should begin in early 2009. According to Ms. Kelley, Seminole State Park has a \$6.8 million yearly economic impact on the surrounding area.

The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places includes another piece of Auburn's history. Originally a 2,500 acre plantation, Sunny Slope sits quietly off busy South College Street. This Greek revival raised cottage, built about 1857, was the boyhood home of Governor William James Samford. The preparatory work for documenting Sunny Slope was an effort spearheaded by Mary Norman, president of the Auburn Heritage Association. On her committee were Ralph Draughon who wrote the narrative and Kit Connor who executed the drawings. Mary Norman, Ann Pearson and Ian Lipscomb abstracted the deeds in the Macon County Courthouse.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development has awarded its first round of Product Development Grants. These grants seek to financially support tourism development activities at the local level in both urban and rural areas. In this first round, the Clay County Board of Commissioners was selected to receive a \$10,000 grant for the Fort Gaines Historical Society. The Society will use the funds in the

restoration and marketing of the Sutton's Corner Museum which it recently purchased, using a OneGeorgia Authority Grant.

Co-operative tourism marketing reimbursement grants have been awarded to local communities, convention and visitor bureaus, regional travel associations and other non-profit tourism entities across the state by the Georgia Department of Economic Development. This year there were three recipients in the Lower Chattahoochee region including Callaway Gardens - Ida Cason Callaway Foundation; Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau; and the Columbus Sports Council. "The co-op marketing grants program encourages public-private partnerships among state and tourism entities allowing us to support the marketing initiatives of our tourism entities," said Charlie Gatlin, GDEcD Deputy Commissioner for Tourism and Marketing and Executive Director of the Tourism Foundation. "The economic impact of the funded projects will contribute significantly to our tourism industry," according to Gatlin.

The Eufaula High School Chapter of the Future Farmers of America placed first in the 2008 Chevron Delo Tractor Restoration Competition in Indianapolis, Indiana, winning \$2,500 for a restored antique 1946 Case DC tractor owned by Landmark Park in Dothan. The tractor was originally owned by the late Sam Kelley in Headland and was donated in 1997 by his son, Darwin. The tractor will soon be placed on display in the Agricultural Museum at the Park. For two months, during the summer, members of the team volunteered to work on the tractor. The competition was between nine restoration teams from across the country.

Effective January 1, 2009, Westville began operating under a new interpretive format. The village will be primarily a costumed guide-led tour facility. According to Leo Goodsell, Executive Director of Historic Westville, "We have learned through surveys and personal conversations that our visitors want to know more about the village, its times, and the people who lived and worked in the houses. Therefore, we have reformatted our operations. We believe this will provide a richer and more rewarding experience for our visitors." Goodsell also noted that, "We will continue our special event schedule that will incorporate a rich crafts and hands-on program, as well as provide quality programs and experiences for the school groups that visit Westville each year." To accommodate the need to prepare the village for the new format, as well as the retraining of staff and interpreters, Westville will be closed for two months - January and February. The village will reopen to the public on March 1. New operating hours will be Thursday, Friday, and

Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM (ET) and on Sunday from 1 to 5 PM (ET).

Renovations at the Lakepoint Resort and Lodge in Eufaula, which began 14 months ago, are going well according to project superintendent Mack Goff. Goff predicts that renovations will be completed by early summer, with a tentative completion date of June 10. The newly renovated resort will include new guest wings, enlarged meeting rooms, new kitchens, a new concrete walkway to the boat ramp, new landscaping, a new laundry room and much more.

The OneGeorgia Authority and Governor Sonny Perdue announced in late November that the Georgia Highway 27 Association had received an equity fund grant to pay for the development of a tourism strategic plan. Board members of the association traveled to Dahlonega, Georgia in the snow to receive the check at the December OneGeorgia Authority board meeting. These funds are for phase one in the regional tourism development of US Highway 27 in eighteen counties of Georgia.

Fendall Hall, in Eufaula, Alabama, has been chosen as one of the featured homes in an upcoming book titled Great Houses of the South by Steven Brooke and Laurie Ossman. Brooke is an internationally recognized leader in the photography of architecture, landscape and interiors. He has dozens of books including Historic Houses of Virginia, The Majesty of Mississippi and Views of Jerusalem and the Holy Land. Ossman has a Ph.D and a Masters degree in American Architectural History from the University of Virginia and an undergraduate degree from Brown University. They both spent many hours at Fendall Hall in July gathering details and photos for their book. Three houses from each of the Southern states were selected to appear in Great Houses of the South, and Fendall Hall is one of the three from Alabama. The book should be completed and available in November 2009 in time for Christmas. Mr. Brooke and Dr. Ossman have been invited to return to Fendall Hall for a book signing after the book is released.

Due to dwindling donations since the economic downturn, the Chattahoochee RiverWatch is scaling back its activism. As a result, executive director Bill Edwards has been released and the Columbus Natural History Museum has been spun off into a separate nonprofit organization. If the economic outlook brightens next spring and donors again warm to its cause, Chattahoochee RiverWatch, Inc. may resume operations. Until then, it will reside in the Spencer Environmental Center at 303 12th Street, Columbus' tree-shaded haven for preservation and conservation organizations

(Continued on page six)

TOURISM & PRESERVATION NEWS

(Continued from page five)

such as Trees Columbus and the Coalition for Sound Growth. Edwards said he will continue to volunteer for RiverWatch and check out pollution complaints on the river and its tributaries. But now much of his time will be spent serving as the volunteer host of the Columbus National History Museum at 11th Street and Broadway downtown.



Ken Callaway, President of the Board of Trustees at The Columbus Museum, shakes hands with Tom Landrum, Sr., VP for External Affairs with the University of Georgia, at the Singer-Moye Mounds transfer ceremony.

On November 17th, The Columbus Museum officially transferred ownership of the Singer-Moye Mounds site in Stewart County, Georgia, a Mississippian-era mound center, to the University of Georgia. The Singer-Moye Mounds site has been owned, maintained, and investigated by The Columbus Museum for over 40 years. Obtained through donations by the Singer and Moye Families, the site has been a vital part of the museum's effort to interpret regional culture. Through this arrangement with the University of Georgia, the Museum has secured a partner that shares its commitment to the long-term care of the site as well as its continued development into a unique educational resource for our region. Featuring eight known earthen mounds surrounding a large central plaza, the Singer-Moye site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The tallest of the mounds stands over 40 feet high, making it the fourth largest such structure in Georgia behind mounds at Etowah, Ocmulgee and Kolomoki. Archaeological study has revealed the earliest habitation of this site dates to several thousand years ago, with the Mississippian mound center being built and occupied circa 1000 C.E. to approximately 1,450 C.E. The mound center was apparently abandoned prior to the arrival of European explorers in the southeast in the 1500s.

Enhancements are in the future plans for Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center in Columbus, Georgia. Among the plans for making Oxbow Meadows bigger, better and more accessible are a new "signature" gateway, a pair of dog parks, more boardwalks, new academic facilities including lab, lecture hall and classrooms, and facilities for more recreational use of Oxbow's "Pond

3" including rowing and canoeing. One of the most significant parts of the project is the planned 12-foot-wide, mile-plus-long paved trail linking the Oxbow learning center with the pond, the Chattahoochee Riverwalk and the new Infantry Museum. The clustering of attractions could be tourism and visitor multiplier. A "Phase II" plan includes such big-picture amenities as the marina, a "destination" playground, an extensive trail system and an RV park with a store, campground and cabins.



Westville slave house

Students from the Design-Build master's program in Auburn's College of Architecture, Design and Construction have researched, designed and constructed a replica of a slave cabin in Westville, a living history town in Lumpkin, Georgia that portrays life in the pre-industrial South of 1850. The installation in November was in conjunction with Westville's fall festival. The village has historically accurate buildings, such as houses, schools, churches and shops but has not had interpretations of slave houses that would have existed during that period. Westville's board of trustees approached Dr. Anthony Carey, form chair of Auburn's Department of History in the College of Liberal Arts, and D.K. Ruth of the Design-Build master's program to help construct a historically correct 1850s slave cabin. Students, in a studio under the direction of visiting professor Anthony Tindill, created a plan for the design and construction of the structure. Westville then cut lumber to specifications and shipped the material to Auburn. As a teaching tool for the students, the house was first constructed at Auburn. The disassembled structure was then shipped to Westville, where it was reconstructed in its permanent location. Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the project was directed by Andy Moye, former chair of the Westville Board of Trustees, in collaboration with the History Department in Auburn's College of Liberal Arts and the College of Architecture, Design and Construction.

Quail hunting enthusiasm has drastically increased in Alabama through the help of the Alabama Quail Trail which brings together

more than 40 quail hunting locations around the state, including the Hawkins Ridge Lodge, Old Spring Hill Plantation and Oak Ridge Hunting Lodge in Barbour County. Because of state and national advertising sponsored by the trail, Alabama is attracting more and more quail hunting enthusiasts. "Our goal in creating the Alabama Quail Trail was to focus interest and resources on quail hunting, quail research and quail conservation," Executive Director of the Alabama Wildlife Federation Tim Gothard said. "We've seen an increase in the spending of recreational dollars in rural Alabama that is associated with quail hunting, improving quail habitats across the landscape and ultimately improving quail numbers." Each of the Alabama Quail Trail facilities offer great quail hunting outings, and beautiful outdoor surroundings that highlight the variety of hunting land a Alabama. For more information, call Craig Hawkins at (334) 687-2647, Phil and Brandy Anderson at (334) 688-5050 or Joe or Mark Andrews at (334) 266-5607, or go to www.alabamaquailtrail.org.

The new Legacy Museum on Main in LaGrange, Georgia had its grand opening on November 16th. The new facility, operated in conjunction with the Troup County Archives and the Troup County Historical Society has a variety of exhibits that detail the history of LaGrange and West Georgia. Of special interest is the new interactive kiosk located in exhibition hall. The touch screen kiosk features four exhibits from the museum including: Indians and Early Settlers; Civil War; Transportation; and Industry in Troup County. The kiosk exhibits were developed by a local studio, Kelsey Advertising and Design, integrating Flash technology with high resolution photography and striking graphics. With additional kiosk stations located in the Chamber of Commerce and Memorial Library, visitors can explore and engage with artifacts using their fingertips on the large touch-screen monitors. The curator of Legacy Museum on Main is Laurie Sedicino. The facility is located at 136 Main Street. Hours are Monday-Friday 9 AM to 5 PM ET and Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM ET. For special tours or questions call 706-884-1828. Also check out the web page at www.legacymuseumonmain.org.



Mrs. Kaye Minchew and Mrs. Ann Petry taken at the Legacy Museum Grand Opening on Main in LaGrange

2008-2009 Membership Campaign

(Listing date: October 8, 2008 – February 4, 2009)

New Members

Anne K. Alsobrook
Col. James R. Lillethun
E.L. Roy Hunt
Jane M. Fulghum
LaGrange Art Museum
Ronnie Ogburn
Fairfax Drug Company
Ed Garrison
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Sheftall
Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Langley
Mike Bunn
Laura & Phillip McCarty
Dennis Daniels
Jim & Judy Matheson

Renewals

David Seibert
Steve Parrish
Paul Emerson
Jim & Marianne Phillips
J. Smith Lanier, II
Dr. Carole Rutland
Gene & Joan Creighton
Farmers Exchange Bank
City of Ozark, AL
Rep. Steve Clouse
Best Western Dothan Inn
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Scarborough
Seminole County Commission
Al & Gloria Fleming
Clay County Commission
Sam & Ann Singer
Arts Assoc. of East Alabama
Dr. Ann B. Pearson
Mary Stewart
William F. Church
Dothan Area CVB
Willette & Tom Chesnutt
Gayle & Ron Thomas
John & Lou Martin
Henry & Mary Gray
Margaret C. Russell
Jerry G. Beasley
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Smith
City of Fort Gaines, GA
City of Eufaula, AL
Kaye B. Cutchen
Kathryn Lillethun
Randolph Co. Historical Society
Anne M. Lynn
James Cook, Jr.
A. Stephen Johnson
James E. Coleman
Port Columbus Civil War Naval Center
Ed & Sidney Wilson
Congressman Sanford Bishop
Carl Summers, Jr.
Rep. Vance & Michele Smith
Thornton F. Jordan
Susan Gristina
Richard Crozier
Claud Brown
Shirley Watford
Southeast Alabama RPDC
Fred & Judy Tye
Col. James N. Langley, III
Bruce Mumford

Marilyn Vines/Vines Funeral Home
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Miller, Jr.
The Honorable Jack T. Brinkley
Polyengineering, Inc.
Frank & Mary Helen Benford
Dr. & Mrs. Werner A Linz
Tim & Joy Glover Family
Dr. Hugh Rodgers
Mr. & Mrs. Mac Moye
Calvin & Pat Wingo
Historic Columbus Foundation
James T. & Patti Barnes
LaVerne N. Wright
Elizabeth Y. Davis
Cusseta-Chattahoochee Co. Unified
Government
Jack Ryals
Harris County Chamber of Commerce
John Gilchrist
Frankie & Connie Garrison
Bob Bunting
Bob & Barbara Smith
Susan & Terry Bishop
Edward & Katie Howard
Brenda & William Howell
Bob & Jane Holcombe
LaGrange-Troup County C of C
Martha Espy
Maple Hill Gardens & Guest House
Robertta Childs
Henry County Historical Group
Kenneth & Sharon Hall
Blakely-Early County C of C
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Beck
Pine Mountain Tourism Association
LaFayette Rotary Club
Dr. & Mrs. Danny Hartzog
Manonia Snell
George Greene
Jack & Sandy Jordan
Neal Rumble
The Columbus Museum
G. Mayo Livingston
Shay & Barbara Ingle
Ann Ballenger
Sandra Mathis Family
Willie Marie Porter
Earl & Robertta Hyers
Robert H. Bennett, Jr.
David Ongemach
Bill Dillard, Jr.
Col. M. Reid Wallis
Jim & Linda Straub
Carolyn Hutcheson
Jane & Terry Gordon
Ann McNorton
Jack Wingate
Thomas Troy Ziemer, Jr.
Ben & Ann Jarrell
T. Larry Smith
Col. Albert F. Simpson
Senator Ted Little
Bob & Barbara Patton
Bill & Pat Wente
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Methvin
Pete & Karen Klear
Betty G. Milldram
Cliff C. Glover
John & Judith Armstrong

Clara Daniel
Register Realty Company
Chambers County Commission
Columbia Historical Society
Mrs. Johnnie Mae Anderson
Headland Chamber of Commerce
Bob & Betsy Powers
Charles & Peggy Mitchell
Gary & Laura Fuller
Florence Foy Strang
Newell Floyd
James & Janice Biggers
Deborah L. Braun
Virginia T. Copeland
Sara Dickert Bowden
Robert W. Davis
Edward A. & Margaret W. Mueller
Dr. Ken Shaw
Patricia Schiller
Mary Alice Budge
Russell Co. Historical Commission
Armeto C. Reynolds
Early County Historical Society
Ernest & Jeanne Koone
Phenix City-Russell County C of C
Curtis T. Williams
Dr. Charles S. Otto
Vera S. Smith T
Ozark-Dale County Public Library
City of Donalsonville, GA
The Headland National Bank
Columbus CVB
Steve Sharp
City of Opelika, AL
Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Dixon
Great Southern Wood Preserving
BankTrust
Compass Bank
Alabama Power Company
Ponder Enterprises, Inc.
Farmers State Bank
American Buildings Company
Callaway Gardens Resort, Inc.
G. Sidney Waits
Ken Penuel
Columbus State University Library
Van Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Falkner
Mr. & Mrs. Earl P. Cook
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Edelson
Mr. & Mrs. Forrest Shivers
Dr. David Griffin
Bruce & Rosa Alice Gray
Marjorie Gay
Richard Harry Hart
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Slay
Rev. T. Grant Parker, Sr.
J.J. Jaxon Company
Jim & Louise Howard
Katherine Cook
Sue Winkleblack
Andy & Pam Moye
Mrs. Frank Turner (Anne E.)
Sheila & Michael Eckman
City of Abbeville, AL
Friends of the Ozark-Dale Co. Library
Lester & Catherine Killebrew
Chuck Auman
Wiregrass Museum of Art

Mr. & Mrs. Robert MacElvain
Cynthia Coleman
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Murphree
Jean O. Turn
Leonard E. & Frances P. Messer
Jenny F. Cummins
Eufaula Heritage Association
Max & Kathy Mobley
Lakepoint Resort State Park
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Marley
Early County Commission
Howard & Mary Jean Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Billy V. Houston
Chambers Co. Library
Tri-Rivers Waterway Development Assoc.
Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau
Hugh D. & Brenda Broome
Roby Robinson, Jr.
Mrs. Norma Schmig
City of Blakely, GA
George K. Floyd Family
F. Clason Kyle
Dothan Landmarks Foundation
City of Dothan, AL
David & Michele Boyette
Jane D. Lanier
Charles T. Creekman
Kaye & Greg Minchew
Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.
Auburn Heritage Association
Ben & Mary Ann Bowden
Frances Dudley Lawler
Frank T. Schnell
Troup County Archives
Bruce & Jody Kearley
Mose Tucker
Eleanor Harris Family
Alice M. Bowsher
Wendell W. Wentz
Tim French Advertising
James C. Whatley, Jr.
Gary & Diane Norman
Dean S. Wall
Mr. & Mrs. Owen L. Riley
Rep. Billy Beasley
Walter & Dancy Stroman
Charles D. Beall
Charles & Isabelle Knight
John Ross
Darrell Watford
Dr. Jeff & Carol Jakeman
James & Becky Fendley
Mountain Hill Schoolhouse Foundation
Jeanette Baxley
Paulette Leavins
Peggy & Denny Galis
Marty Olliff
Betty A. Shackelford
Beasley Pharmacy, Inc.
Opelika Chamber of Commerce
Kathy S. Scott
David Still
R.M. Reynolds, Jr.
Barbara Brooks
Martha Cato
MidSouth Bank
Charter Bank
Glenn T. Eskew

(Continued on page eight)

2008-2009 Membership Campaign

(Listing date: October 8, 2008 - February 4, 2009)

(Continued from page seven)

Special Gifts

Dennis Daniels
Betty A. Shackelford
James & Becky Fendley
Jeanette Baxley
Rep. Billy Beasley
Charles D. Beall
Tim French Advertising
James C. Whatley, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Sheftall
Eleanor Harris Family
Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.
Jane D. Lanier
Ed Garrison
F. Clason Kyle
Roby Robinson, Jr.
Jenny F. Cummins
Mr. & Mrs. Robert MacElvain
Lester & Catherine Killebrew
Andy & Pam Moye
Mrs. Frank Turner (Anne E.)
Marjorie Gay
Richard Harry Hart
Mr. & Mrs. Earl P. Cook
Dr. David Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Dixon
Steve Sharp
Robert W. Davis
Edward A. & Margaret W. Mueller
Dr. Ken Shaw
James & Janice Biggers
Deborah L. Braun
Sara Dickert Bowden

Gary & Laura Fuller
Newell Floyd
Bob & Betsy Powers
Cliff C. Glover
Col. Albert F. Simpson
Bob & Barbara Patton
Ben & Ann Jarrell
Robert H. Bennett, Jr.
Neal Rumble
Shay & Barbara Ingle
Mac & Jerry Bryant
Kathy S. Scott
Marty Olliff
Thomas Troy Ziemann, Jr.
Jim & Judy Mathisen
Peggy & Denny Galis
Jim & Marianne Phillips
J. Smith Lanier, II
Sandra Holmes
Dr. Carole Rutland
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Scarborough
Gloria & Al Fleming
Sam & Ann Singer
Dr. Ann B. Pearson
Gayle & Ron Thomas
Thornton F. Jordan
Col. James N. Langley, III
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Miller, Jr.
Tim & Joy Glover Family
Calvin & Pat Wingo
LaVerne N. Wright
Elizabeth Y. Davis
David Seibert

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

(Continued from page three)

new field services manager. Originally from Chattooga County in Northwest Georgia, Jordan received both his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in historic preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design. He comes to the Trust after working as restoration manager at George Washington's Mount Vernon. He will be offering preservation assistance to this year's Places in Peril sites through the Trust's new Partners in the Field program. Mary Railey Binns is the Trust's new special events coordinator. She is originally from Columbus, Georgia and recently moved to Atlanta from Charleston, South Carolina, where she studied arts management, historic preservation and art history at the College of Charleston. Her past experience working in art galleries and with the Charleston Fine Art Dealer's Association awakened her passion of event management.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Gertrude Baines, who was born in Shellman, Georgia but now lives in a Los Angeles nursing home, is the world's oldest person. Mrs. Baines was born in Shellman, Georgia on April 6, 1894. She spent most of her life in Ohio, where she worked as a dormitory housekeeper at Ohio State University in Columbus. The staff at Western Convalescent Hospital reports that Baines is healthy and only complains about arthritis of her left knee.

Lanett Welcome Center manager Patti Jones has accepted a position as the director of sales for the new Hampton Inn & Suites in Lanett, Alabama. The hotel is set to open in March and is owned by CVG-Greater Valley Group and managed by Greater Valley Hospitality Group, LLC.



Historic Chattahoochee Commission

Post Office Box 33
Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033
Web Site: www.hcc-al-ga.org
E-mail: Trace@eufaula.rr.com

Non-Profit Org.
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 107
Eufaula, AL



Call
1-877-766-2443
for more info on the
Chattahoochee Trace

CHATTAHOOCHEE
POOCHIE

Address Service Requested