

# Volunteer Newsletter

Alabama Department of Archives and History

Edited by Kelly Hoomes

Summer 2012

## DR. BRIDGES RETIRES

After 30 years, Dr. Ed Bridges will retire this fall.

Many of you know his major accomplishments in the acquisition, organization, and care of Alabama's important records and artifacts.

You also know him as a great friend to the Archives' volunteers. Dr. Bridges always takes time for the volunteers. He

welcomes them by name, inquires about their volunteer projects, and asks about their lives. Most importantly he recognizes and values the incredible work that our volunteers do.

Volunteers are invited to an **Open House at the Archives on Monday, October 22, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** to honor Dr.

Bridges. This public event will include formal comments by the Board of Trustees and other officials, as well as parting words from Dr. Bridges.

Volunteers will receive an invitation in the mail soon.



Dr. Bridges catches up with Tom, Bill, and Chuck at a volunteer enrichment event.



Dr. Bridges congratulates Gene on his work on the Civil War Database.



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## NEW DIRECTOR ELECTED

The Board of Trustees announces the election of Steve Murray as the agency's new director.

Murray has worked in Alabama history for sixteen years and has already been recognized as a statewide leader.

Mr. Murray joined the staff of the Archives in 2006 as the Assistant Director of Administration. He has handled a wide range of responsibilities ranging from building repairs and budgeting to fundraising and publication of the *Ala-*

*bama Guide*. He also oversaw contract management and administration for the construction and installation of Phase I of the Museum of Alabama.

Before coming to the Archives, Mr. Murray was the managing editor of the *Alabama Review* and the *Encyclopedia of Alabama*.

Mr. Murray has already taken a great interest in the Archives volunteer program. He attends most volunteer events and makes a sincere

effort to get to know each volunteer.



Mr. Murray with Jr. Volunteer Nandi during graduation.

### Volunteer Liaisons

#### Staff Contacts:

**Kelly Hoomes 353-4702**  
(Volunteer Office, Hands-on Gallery, Reception, Docents)

**Mary Jo Scott 353-4694**  
(Private Records)

**Alden Monroe 353-4613**  
**Mike Breedlove 353-4614**  
(Government Records)

**Nancy Dupree 353-4674**  
(Reference)

**Allison Gore 353-4691**  
(Gift Shop)

## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

#### September

Ray Bean 9/1  
Abigail Barr 9/1  
Mary Hazel Winstanley 9/5  
Katherine Pool 9/16  
John Figh 9/21  
Martha Durham 9/26  
Richard Chambers 9/27  
Myra Wade 9/28  
Juliette Wimberly 9/30

#### October

Gregory Philmore 10/3  
Bill Baltzell 10/9  
Haeley DePace 10/16  
James Durie 10/17  
Bruce Buehler 10/21  
Doug Dillard 10/23  
Joe Sutton 10/25  
Willadean Walden 10/25  
James Cotton 10/26  
Lydia Ward 10/29

#### November

Matthew Hornsby 11/2  
Paul Robinson 11/13  
Elizabeth Via Brown 11/22  
Sandra Parsons 11/24  
Kelhi DePace 11/25  
Peggy Morgan 11/26



**Did we miss your birthday?**

**We may not have it on record. Please let Kelly know and she will add it to our list!**



### STATE HOLIDAYS

ADAH will be closed to observe the following official state holidays:

**September 3:** Labor Day

**October 8:** American Indian Heritage Day/Columbus Day/ Fraternal Day

**November 12:** Veterans Day

**November 22:** Thanksgiving

**December 25:** Christmas

### FRIENDS OF THE ALABAMA ARCHIVES AND YOU

By Steve Murray

The Friends of the Alabama Archives is a nonprofit, membership auxiliary to the Department of Archives and History. Founded in 1982, its purpose is to provide support for Archives programs and to promote awareness of the Archives among the general public.

The first project undertaken by the Friends was the refurbishment of a space to be used for public programs and meetings. The effort

memorialized former director Milo B. Howard Jr., and the auditorium named for Howard has been the venue for thousands of events since.

The scope of projects and programs underwritten by the Friends quickly grew. The organization purchased equipment for the research room and museum on a number of occasions and sponsored numerous public symposia. Ongoing programs include the monthly ArchiTreats series, fellowships for young scholars, the gift shop, the administration

of numerous grants, and even the purchase of coffee and snacks for our volunteers.

Anyone can become involved in the Friends by completing a membership form, available from Allison or on the "Fridge Notes" insert.

*In addition to supporting the Archives, other benefits include a quarterly newsletter and 10% discount in the Gift Shop. (Friends who join at \$100 level or higher also receive a subscription to Alabama Heritage magazine.)*

# VOLUNTEERS ON THE MOVE

Mary Jo leads the behind-the-scenes enrichment group into map storage



Roland and Harmon help Allison decorate the new gift shop



Harriott II Riverboat enrichment group photo



Bob Bradley shows Bill, Tom, and Judy what a flag looked like before restoration during behind-the-scenes enrichment



Jakob and Chuck on the Harriot II Riverboat enrichment



Jennie, Allen, Caryll enjoying the view from the deck on Harriot II Riverboat enrichment



# 'FRIDGE NOTES

Keep track of activities at the Archives! Put this on your refrigerator! (*Volunteer events are highlighted in yellow.*)

EVENT	DATE
ArchiTreats: <i>Sloths, Mammoths, and Saber-toothed Cats: The Ice Age Mammals of Alabama</i>	September 20, 2012
ArchiTreats: <i>The Space Race in Alabama in the 1950s and 1960s</i>	October 18, 2012
Dr. Bridges Retirement Open House 1:00pm-3:00pm	October 22, 2012
Academy of Honor	October 29, 2012
Ft. Toulouse/Fort Jackson Frontier Days	November 7-10, 2012
ArchiTreats: <i>Lord Remember Me: Archiving Alabama's Folklife</i>	November 15, 2012
Volunteer Enrichment: Holiday Tea @ Buena Vista Mansion in Prattville	December 3, 2012
ArchiTreats: <i>Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Alabama in the Civil War</i>	December 20, 2012

Alabama Department of Archives and History  
624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36130  
[www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov)

Volunteer Coordinator:  
[Kelly.Hoomes@archives.alabama.gov](mailto:Kelly.Hoomes@archives.alabama.gov)  
(334) 353-4702

## Friends of the Alabama Archives Membership Application

- New Member  
 Renewal

- Family/Single \$25  
 Contributor \$50  
 Subscriber \$100  
 Sustainer \$250  
 Sponsor \$500  
 Patron \$750  
 Benefactor \$1,000  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Yes, I want to be a Friend.

Please enter my membership with all benefits including a subscription to *ADAH News*, a 10% Gift Shop discount, and free or reduced admission to Archives-sponsored events. (Subscriber members and above receive a one-year subscription to *Alabama Heritage* magazine.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to and mail to:

FRIENDS OF THE ALABAMA ARCHIVES  
624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130-0100  
[www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov)

## INSIDE THE ARCHIVES

### 4th Alabama Infantry (Co. E, Conecuh Guards) Flag

This flag was presented to the Conecuh Guards at the Sparta Depot in Conecuh County on April 24, 1861. It was one of ten company flags used during a dress pa-



rade at Harpers Ferry, Virginia in June 1861 and was reported to be illustrated in an issue of Harper's Weekly.

When the 4th Alabama was brigaded under General Bernard Bee all of the company flags were turned in except for that of the Marion Light Infantry. James W. Darby (last captain of the company) was custodian of the flag. Somehow the flag was

secured and brought back to Alabama by Private Henry C. Stearns of the Conecuh Guards.

The flag was presented to the Alabama Department of Archives and History on November 22, 1907 by Colonel P. D. Bowles and Captain James W. Darby, both formerly of the 4th Alabama Infantry.

This flag hasn't been conserved yet.

## MEET A FEW OF OUR JUNIOR VOLUNTEERS

Each summer, teenagers volunteer at the Archives. Often these volunteers help out in the Hands-on Gallery, gift shop, and special projects. Many junior volunteers return year after year. Meet three of these helpers.

### Joy Scott

Joy started volunteering at the Archives in 2010, but as she says,



*Joy assembling teacher workshop packets*

“she grew up here.” She is the daughter of private records archivist Mary Jo Scott and has been around the Archives for many years. Joy volunteers in the Hands-on Gallery and has a great rapport with the children. She can often be seen working

one-on-one with children. Joy is 16 years old and attends Cornerstone Classical Academy.

### Roland McDonald

17-year-old Roland has been volunteering at the Archives for five years. He home schools and also volunteers throughout the year. Since he's been volunteering he's also recruited his brother, Harmon, and mother, Vickie, to volunteer. Roland volunteers in the Hands-on Gallery where he is well known for keeping it clean and tidy. Roland also conducts Hands-on Gallery programs and helps out



*Roland conducting program*

with special projects. He says the best part of working at the Archives is “seeing the faces of children as they learn and enjoy history.”

### Mason Shell

Mason has worked in the gift shop, Hands-on Gallery, and during special events since 2009. “I enjoy doing it!” he says with a smile.

16-year-old Mason also plays football, participates in theater, and reenacts the 1812-1814 period in addition to volunteering at the Archives. He attends Montgomery Catholic and has been known to volunteer at ADAH during school breaks.



*Mason at Frontier Days*

## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

### MEET OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS

Please join us in welcoming our new volunteers!

Thanks for your time and talents!

**Graeme DePace**  
Gift Shop

**Haeley DePace**  
Hands-on Gallery

**Maegan DePace**  
Reception/ Hands-on Gallery

**Ruth McCune**  
Hands-on Gallery/ special projects

**Melanie Pieper**  
Research

**Savanna Moore**  
Hands-on Gallery

**Elizabeth Via Brown**  
Private records special project

**Lydia Ward**  
Hands-on Gallery/Reception (Saturday)

### 1940 CENSUS ALABAMA INDEX COMPLETE!

On July 7, the 1940 Alabama index of the census was complete. Many thanks to the volunteers who made this happen.

A special thanks to volunteer Jim Cotton, who volunteered 308 hours and indexed 12,681 records in

Alabama. He's also worked on many other states and hasn't stopped with the completion of the Alabama index.

Jim can tell some interesting stories about his finds while indexing, including coming across Warm Love. Yep, you read that right the name is Warm Love!

You can access the records at [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) and [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org).



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: FRONTIER DAYS

We are looking for education outreach volunteers who want to take the Archives to Fort Toulouse for their annual living history program, Frontier Days.

**When:**

Wed, Nov. 7 through Sat, Nov. 10.

**Where:** Fort Jackson/Fort

Toulouse, Wetumpka

**Time:** 8:30am-4:00pm

You can volunteer half or full day. We really need volunteers between the hours of 10am-2pm.

**What:**

Volunteers assist school children (and families) with two hands-on activities: decorating pottery and

grinding corn.

You will also have plenty of time to look around at the reenactors and vendors!

Contact Kelly at 353-4702 to sign up!



*Ken and Chuck at Frontier Days 2011*

### VOLUNTEERS MAKE GOVERNMENT RECORDS AVAILABLE TO RESEARCHERS: PART I

By Mike Breedlove, Gov't Records Archivist.

We have a number of volunteers who work on a diverse set of projects and series. Those working right now include...

**Allen Edwards** is working on the eleven cubic ft. of Foreign Trade Relations Commission Administrative files, 1977-2001.

**Ann Paris** is refolding the Alabama Commission on Higher Education Admin. files, 1968-1991, seventy-nine cubic ft.

**Chuck Maney** and **Glen Alderton** are entering one hundred and sev-

enty cubic ft. of the various Codes of Alabama into a database.

**Hardy Kirk** is processing the eighty cubic ft. of Alabama Development Office Economic Development files, 1912-1971.

**John Rylee**, is refolding the two hundred and forty-five cubic ft. of Dept. of Public Health, Admin. files of the State Health Officer, 1866-ongoing.

**Martha Durham** is processing the ninety-four cubic ft. of Alabama Dept. of Archives and History Admin. Files and the files of directors Thomas and Marie Owen, ca. 1901-1955.

**Sandy Parsons** is refolding forty one cubic ft. of Governor's legal advisor's files,

1995-2011.

**Willa Fay Munson** is refolding the twenty-four cubic ft. of Alabama Building Commission Project files, 1945-1986.

**Paul Robertson** and **Ed Ewing** are working on identifying and sleeving over one hundred cubic ft. of George C. and Lurleen B. Wallace files and their family photographs.

**Gene Stabler** is refolding Governor George C. and Lurleen B. Wallace administrative files from the 1960s.

Our heartfelt thanks go to these volunteers. They make research in government records possible!