

the

# Hoover Historical Log

*The Official newsletter of the Hoover Historical Society, Hoover, AL 35226*



Humans and pets benefit from HFD's paramedic services.

## All things Hoover in 2017-18: Rusty Lowe begins series

"*The Modern Fire Department*" is the subject of Captain Rusty Lowe's presentation to the historical society on September 12<sup>th</sup>. He plans to discuss the changing roles of the department as we move into the future.

Captain Lowe has been with the Hoover Fire Department since 1988, working at Stations 1 and 4 as a firefighter/paramedic. He was promoted to Lieutenant in

***Continued on Page 4***

### Save the Date!

#### General Mtg.

**Sept. 12, 2017**

Rusty Lowe: *The Modern Fire Department*; 1:30 at Hoover's library

#### ABC 33/40

**Sept. 12, 2017**

Arnold Singer talks about the Society and Hoover's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 9 AM

#### Moss Rock Fest.

**Nov. 4 & 5, 2017**

Stop by the HHS tent and play put the Clothespins in a Bottle!

## Program Schedule for 2017-18

September 12, 2017  
Captain Rusty Lowe, "The Modern Fire Department"

November 21, 2017  
Chief Nick Derzis, Hoover Police Department

January 16, 2018  
Frank Skinner, "From a Mayor's point of view"

March 20, 2018  
Charles Hickman, author & Jason Gaston, Coordinator of Public Relations, Hoover City Schools present  
*The History of the Hoover City School System*

May 15, 2018  
Faye Anderson, first female Hoover City Councilwoman and founder of the Hoover Belles speaks

## Folklore Center needs craftsmen

The start of school, fall, and the Folklore Center activities are all events that are fast approaching. The Folklore Center is always a fun place to visit! When it was the home of the Stinson family in the 1840s, the children that lived there may not have thought of it as a fun place unless they just loved to work. There was never a day that did not begin with necessary chores for everyone to do—food preparation, chopping firewood, milking cows, gathering eggs, and a hundred other necessary activities that sustained life.

“Go play!” was something that you were almost never told to do. Rather, you might have been able to turn your chores into a contest to see who could shell the most peas or pick the most cotton or chop the most wood or quilted the most squares. The winning boy or girl earned bragging rights! Did you know that Abe Lincoln was known as the best woodchopper around? Work was always looked at as useful and therefore had value. If what you did had value, then you also had value—sort of a neat way to stop feeling sorry for yourself and to be appreciated by family and friends, which is what we all cherish.

This year, just like in 1840, there is a need for willing workers. Perhaps I should say folks that have worked and would like to share their love of it with children who may not have had the opportunity yet to experience the fantastic emotional high that come from a job well done.

If you can make chairs and tables from scratch starting with a log (carpentry) or dishes from clay (potter) or metal plows and tools from iron (blacksmith) or have farm animals (chickens, goats, bees) or something else; are willing to demonstrate your skills to children while sharing your love of work; we would love for you to contact The Folklore Center so we might add you to our team. You can get a feel for what goes on at the Folklore Center by watching the short film of a day at the center on our Facebook page (or follow link below to YouTube.) —Doug Harkness

Contact: [gdhark@bellsouth.net](mailto:gdhark@bellsouth.net)

<https://youtu.be/XxQ6NbSLbs0?t=1>







*Mayor Frank Brocato, family, and staff are visiting all of Hoover's neighborhoods with cake and refreshments during the anniversary year; Arnold Singer, Coach Mary Birdwell and Cameron Moss at the Finley Center with our historical markers display.*

## President's message to membership & public

Dear Members:

We begin our club year by continuing to celebrate Hoover's 50<sup>th</sup> with programs that reflect the history of Hoover.

September 12 has two events: I am appearing live on ABC 33/40's **Talk of Alabama** show to discuss the HHS and Hoover's 50th anniversary, as well as publicize our public meeting with Rusty Lowe of the Hoover Fire Department as our speaker. The show is scheduled weekdays at 9 AM.

While it is Hoover's 50<sup>th</sup>, 2017 means milestones for the HHS, too! It's the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ribbon cutting that began our occupancy of the library at the old Bluff Park Elementary School and twenty years since the Stinson Ole Place was dismantled and

moved to the BPES grounds. Jack Crouch was instrumental in working with the city and BOE to find a home for the historical society. He was also the brains and driving force behind the acquisition of the Stinson cabin. Because of Jack Crouch, the log cabin and its outbuildings have survived.

And, as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration, Hoover is releasing fifty videos on YouTube. Doug Harkness and the Folklore Center are featured. Carolyn Kolar and I are in two other videos. Check out our Facebook page for links to these videos!

I look forward to an exciting year and greeting you at our meetings!

Best,  
*Arnold Singer*

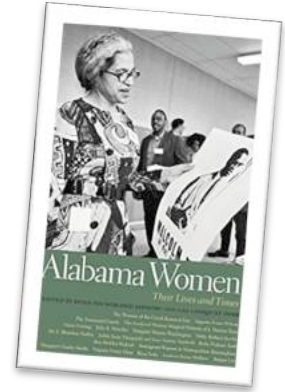


## HHS Officers for 2017-18

Attending the Summer Board Meeting at the Lake House were (l to r): Inez McCollum, Asst. Treasurer; Pam Thompson, Recording Secretary; Bob Kolar, Treasurer nominee; Carolyn Kolar, Vice-President/Membership; Arnold Singer, President; Anita Dillon, Vice-President/Programs; and Jean Butterworth, Corresponding Secretary.

## Local historians published in new book

*Alabama Women: Their Lives and Times* has been published by the University of Georgia and is currently in its promotion phase. This book is an addition to the Southern Women series, which highlights the lives and contributions of women of the past and present in the Yellowhammer State. Topics such as politics, arts, and civic organization, this collection of eighteen biographical essays provide a window into the social, cultural and geographic milieu of women's lives in Alabama.



Featured individuals include August Evans Wilson, Maria Fearing, Julia S. Tutwiler, Margaret Murray Washington, Ida E. Brandon Mathis, Ruby Pickens Tartt, Zelda Sayre Fitzgerald, Sara Martin Mayfield, Bess Bolden Walcott, Virginia Foster Durr, Rosa Parks, Lurleen Burns Wallace, Margaret Charles Smith, and Harper Lee.

Society member Dr. Marlene Rikard is a contributor. Dr. Wayne Flynt, Professor Emeritus at Auburn and Marlene Rikard wrote on Pattie Ruffner Jacobs. UAB Historian Dr. Harriet E. Amos Doss wrote about the enslaved women surgical patients of J. Marion Sims. The book may be featured at the 2018 Alabama Historical Association meeting in Birmingham.

## Stinson family members trace roots to the Folklore Center

Stinson family genealogical research by Donald Joe and Bonnie Stinson of Wichita, Kansas, led the couple to the Stinson Ole Place at the Folklore Center this past summer.

Bonnie's research led her to a website, "Stinson DNA Project," which mentioned the Stinson Ole Place here in Hoover. Next she found our HHS website, where they learned that Joe's great-great grandfather was Hugh Acey Mack Stinson who is believed to have built the cabin now located behind Bluff Park Elementary School.

They spent a year learning about their family's roots and the cabin along with trips to Poland, ME; Abington, VA; Nashville, TN, and finally to Hoover, culminating in their visit on July 6. The couple examined records in the Archive and Doug Harkness opened the cabin for a tour. Arnold Singer and Carolyn Kolar showed them around the area. They



Donald Joe and Bonnie Stinson  
at the HHS Archive and office.

received HHS notecards and postcards featuring the Stinson cabin as well as the CD on the relocation of the cabin. The Stinsons are now patron-level members of our Society!

Like us on Facebook!



## Vadie Honea scholarships awarded for 2017

Scholarships that honor the late Vadie Honea were awarded this past May in Honors Day ceremonies at Hoover High and Spain Park High Schools.

Sponsored by Henry King's National Christian Foundation Alabama and Carlo and Dianne Joseph, patron members of the HHS, the scholarships were awarded on the basis of academic excellence, community service, and an essay, judged by a panel of HHS members. New 'prompts' were initiated this year honoring Alabama's Bicentennial (2017-19.)

Spain Park's winner was Emily E. Wise who wrote about Rickwood Field, the oldest ballpark in America. Lindsey D. Glick of Hoover High wrote about Sloss Furnace and its historic role in the growth of Birmingham. Emily Wise enrolled at Birmingham Southern while Lindsey started at Alabama this fall.

Carlo Joseph, a graduate of Berry High (now Hoover High), attended his first Awards Day, recalling certain school events and significant teachers that contributed to his business success. After his address to the seniors, he made the award to Lindsey. Carlo and Dianne have supported both the historical society with their membership at the patronage level, and also the scholarship effort that helps the group fulfill its mission. Carlo and Dianne will continue their support of the HHS's scholarship program.



Above, Carlo Joseph congratulates Lindsey Glick; Emily Wise, Spain Park winner, exploring the Southwest; HHS members Pam Thompson and Betty Bagby, congratulated Carlo and Dianne for receiving the Jack Crouch Award! Pam and Betty served on the Scholarship Committee and Crouch Award Committee.



### Rusty Lowe to address Society

*Continued from Page 1*

2000 and later advanced to EMS Officer Fire Administration. Since 2007, he has been in Fire Administration as EMS Officer and Executive Officer assisting Chief Chuck Wingate with overseeing daily operations of the Fire Department. He also serves as Public Information Office—coordinating information released to the public and the media.

Rusty attended John Carroll High School and UAB/Regional Technical Institute. He and his wife have twins starting college this year. Refreshments are served at 1 PM in the Shakespeare Room with the program at 1:30. Please join the HHS for this presentation—parking is free and plentiful. See you at the Hoover Public Library's Shakespeare room!





## HOOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Membership Form

Make checks payable to Hoover Historical Society

P.O. Box 360233 Hoover, Alabama 35236-0233

Archives /Office: 205-822-9392

#### Types of Membership

Individual	\$10
Couple	\$20
Sustaining	\$50
Patron	\$100
Corporate	\$150

NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: Publicity \_\_\_\_ Archives \_\_\_\_ Speakers' Bureau \_\_\_\_ Historical Research \_\_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_\_

Other interests/skills: \_\_\_\_\_

SPEAKER/PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

### *The Hoover Historical Society*

PO Box 360233  
Hoover, Alabama 35236-0233  
Archive/Office 571 Park Avenue  
Hoover, AL 35226

### *Recipient*



*The Hoover Historical Log* is published five times annually  
by the Hoover Historical Society, a 501 C (3)  
organization. Copyright 2017.

[debbie.burnnett@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.burnnett@gmail.com), Editor

E-mail: [info@hooverhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@hooverhistoricalsociety.org)