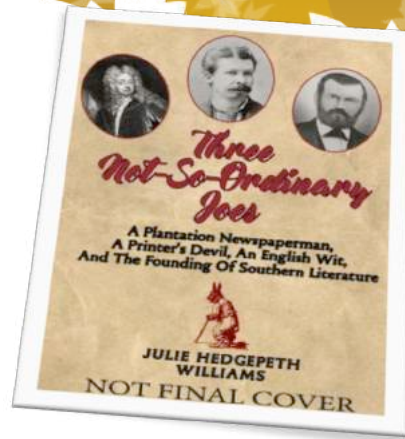


the

Hoover Historical Log

The Official Newsletter of the Hoover Historical Society, Hoover, Alabama



2021-2022

Program Schedule

SEPTEMBER 21st

Julie Hedgepeth Williams presents *Three Not-So-Ordinary Joes* with audience interaction at 1 PM, Hoover Public Library's Shakespeare Room.

NOVEMBER 16th, 2021

Ken Boyd presents *Historical Watermills of North America: A Visual Presentation*

JANUARY 18th, 2022

James Lowery presents:

Water is Life: In the Netherlands

MARCH 15th, 2022

Dr. Marlene Rikard presents:
Patti Ruffner Jacobs, Suffragist

MAY 17th, 2022

Girl's Diaries and Scrapbooks at the AL Department of Archives and History

with Haley Aaron

Three Not-So-Ordinary Joes

Southern literature is arguably the focal point of American literature and has been for more than 100 years. How did that happen? It took three guys named Joe many years to work it out. The three Joes who had a hand in starting Southern literature were Joseph Addison, Joseph Addison Turner, and Joel Chandler Harris — three not-so-ordinary Joes indeed. These three Joes were all newspaper editors who stuttered and staggered their way into starting Southern literature. The entertaining story of the three Joes will involve audience members to help out in three short skits to help tell a story written by each Joe. *Continued on Page 4*

Save the Date!

Board Meeting

September 14th

Meet at the Archive/Office, 2020 Valleydale Road, Suite 108, at 10 AM

General Meeting

September 21st

Hoover Public Library at 1 PM; Julie Williams is our speaker; audience participates!



Grants Awarded to three Hoover graduates

The Hoover Historical Society administers a scholarship grant program each year with the help of sponsors from the community. This year we changed the focus from Alabama History to the history that our students are living – the effect of the 2020 Pandemic on their lives. Students apply for a \$1,000 grant from the Society with academic credentials, a record of extracurricular activities, and a 1,000-word essay in response to prompts written by Dr. Marlene Rikard, a member of the HHS. For example, “While under shelter-at-home orders, your daily activities changed dramatically. Education, home life, part-time jobs, extracurricular activities, sports, etc., had to ‘retool.’ What positive things came out of this experience? What positive things do you think will continue when the pandemic ends?”

Ria Shah & Morgan Patrick (below), Luis Sanchez (right), with instructors at RC3



Spain Park’s Morgan E. Patrick wrote movingly about the positive impact on her family, “...it was easy...to be distraught over the things I had lost... [but] I grew closer to my mom during the Pandemic. This time was extremely valuable to me since I am about to leave for college...”. Signature Homes sponsored this grant for a Spain Park High School senior. Morgan was admitted to the University of Alabama’s Early College program and will continue her studies there.

Ria Shah of Hoover High looked at the advantages of digital education in her essay, noting that adaptation was a learned skill. She quoted writer Eckhart Tolle, “...people are more likely to make behavior changes during times of upheaval; thus, quarantine is the perfect environment for personal growth.” Carlo and Dianne Joseph, owners of V & W Supply Company, are the sponsors for Hoover High School.

For the third year, a student enrolled at RC3 received a \$1,000 worth of equipment with which to enter the work force immediately upon graduation. Natalie Coleman, Career and Technical Specialist, along with the Skilled Trades lead instructor, Rex Hare and an in-house committee, selected Luis Sanchez as the recipient of the Skilled Trades Scholarship. Luis also wrote an essay about the effect of the Pandemic on his training, stating “It was hard to learn as much as I wanted...as we were only able attend the school twice per week.” He added that enrollment in the Skilled Trades allowed him “to explore the different trades...With the help of RC3, I have been able to interview with various companies and have received an offer from one of them.”

Luis recommends the skilled trades academy to anyone not certain of what they want to do after high school. The award was sponsored by Signature Homes, and President Jonathan Belcher and president of the Hoover Historical Society, Jim Langley, were on hand on “Signing Day” to present \$1,000 worth of tools to help Luis get started on his career. During the summer, Luis Sanchez, now a graduate of Hoover High, traveled for training with his new employer, Myrick Gurosky + Associates—designers, developers, and construction specialists.



Jim & Ann Langley (left); the Freedom Award he received (center), and posing with guests at the luncheon (right).

HHS president presented Freedom Award by Hoover Chamber of Commerce

The Freedom Award was initiated by the Hoover Chamber of Commerce to recognize and honor a Hoover resident for military and community service. The Hoover Historical Society Board nominated Jim Langley, our president, for this award. “He was selected by a committee over six other outstanding nominees,” stated Brigadier General Paul Pocopanni. “The Freedom Award was designed and implemented for someone like Lt. Col. Jimmy Langley to be honored and recognized for his professionalism, selfless dedication to his country, the U.S. military, our state, and our community,” he added.

Jim served 23 years in the Army, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. Since then, he has devoted himself to the community and city; is of good character and reputation; supports this country’s patriotic ideals and serves with those ideals over

a long period of time and is a Hoover resident. These ‘ingredients’ made him a natural selection for the Hoover Area Chamber of Commerce Freedom Award recipient for 2021. Jim and wife Ann were guests at the July luncheon hosted by the Chamber at the country club, along with several members of the HHS Board.

Brig. General Paul Pocopanni said, “After reading Jim’s bio, one military adage kept coming to me which epitomizes his outstanding work ethic and community support—that is, SERVICE BEFORE SELF. Easy to say, but hard to do!”

Jim will also be the Guest of Honor at the Hoover Veterans Day Kickoff in November where he will be presented a ceremonial American Flag for his service. Congratulations, Jim!

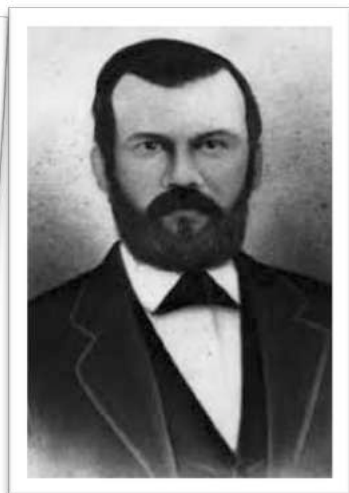
Volunteers needed for Moss Rock!



Fall is coming, and so is the Moss Rock Festival, the premier eco-festival exploring nature, SmartLIVING, and ART+DESIGN with music, food, and special events. Volunteers enter without charge—a chance to work for the Society and enjoy the festival! This year’s venue is at the Hoover Met’s Soccer Field parking lot, an outdoor setting following pandemic protocols. Our volunteers just spread the word about what we do; no expertise needed, just a friendly smile while handing out brochures! “We usually get a few new members at the MRF,” says Pam Thompson. Contact Pam at pamrayt@gmail.com to volunteer for a few hours on either day—Saturday, Nov. 6 10AM-5PM and Sunday, Nov. 7 10AM-4PM. We also need volunteers to set up our tent on the Friday before and for takedown.

Interact with the Three Joes and Julie ...

Julie Hedgepeth Williams is a media historian who teaches part-time at Samford University. She is the winner of the 2021 Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism History, the highest award given by the American Journalism Historians Association. The award was given for the book Julie is presenting today and three others, all popular history books that happen to spring from the realm of media history. In fact, the nomination said, "Julie has taken the obscure field of media history and made it popular reading." Julie takes issue with that, as she knows media history should not be obscure at all, as it's so interesting! Julie lives in Birmingham with her husband, Evan, in a historic house (of course!). Their two sons are grown and flown, a fact that Julie still finds hard to believe.



Julie Hedgepeth Williams (above) and the subjects of her research: Joseph Addison, English essayist in *The Tatler*; Joseph Addison Turner, *The Countryman* newspaper; and Joel Chandler Harris, author of the *Uncle Remus* stories.

About *Three Not-So-Ordinary Joes*, the three guys named Joe who stuttered and staggered their way into starting Southern literature. They were Joseph Addison, Joseph Addison Turner, and Joel Chandler Harris:

"Williams is as charmingly informal when dealing with [Joseph Addison] as she is with her two other subjects. 'Addison was ready to turn the tables and take over as the genius behind the new paper, which he named *The Spectator*,' she writes. 'Dick [Steele] would still be involved, and it would take both of them – the ambition of it! – because whereas *The Tatler* had been published three times a week, *The Spectator* would come out daily.' It takes a good deal of quiet confidence in your ability as a storyteller to throw in an exclamation like that 'the ambition of it!' – and that ability is in evidence on every page of the book." — Steve Donoghue, *The Christian Science Monitor*

Browse Julie's new web page! <https://juliewilliamsauthor.wixsite.com/julie-williams>

Corporate Sponsors Needed!!

If you know someone with a business in Hoover that might be interested in supporting our cause, contact Linda Joseph at lindajoseph02@gmail.com. Businesses who support our organization receive a certificate, Marilyn Barefield's *History of Hoover* book, a package of note cards, and featured on our Website. Please join in our mission of archiving Hoover's history and providing excellent historical programming for the community!

Saving Shades Mountain – one lot at a time

As you drive along Shades Crest Road atop Shades Mountain, you notice that most of the way you can't see Shades Valley, or Red Mountain to the north, because of houses that line the street on both sides. Only once in a while is there an open lot that affords the view.

"It reminds us of the gulf beaches of Alabama, once open to the sea, and now mostly obscured by massive high-rises. Too bad there wasn't someone to preserve the glorious view of the sea," says Larry Rodick of the Friends of Shades Mountain, a 501 C (3) organization dedicated to preserving the historic sites along Shades Crest Road.

Friends of Shades Mountain has been working for 18 years to preserve and protect the steep northwest slope of Shades Mountain. This year, the group came upon an opportunity to keep one of these "for sale" lots forever open.

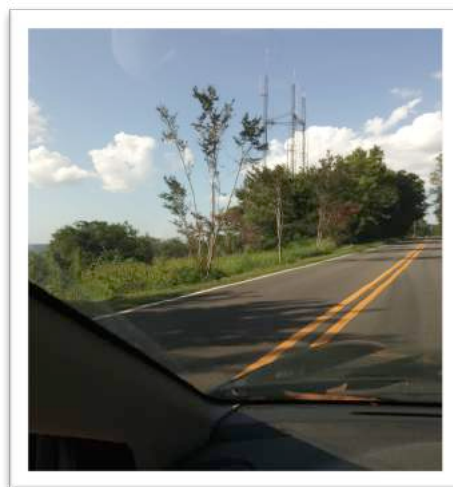
"It was an opportunity that only comes along once in many years," said group members. "But we need your help to take advantage of it."

Rodick explained. "A lot near Hale Springs, at 712 on the bluff side of Shades Crest Road, was up for sale. We made an offer, secured a loan of \$30,000, and purchased it for \$40,000. The lot will give everyone a grand view of Shades Valley and Red Mountain to the north. It is one of the very few places on Shades Mountain where you will have an open view."

Here's where the FOSM need your help—if they can raise the \$30,000 this year, they can avoid the interest, estimated at \$3,900, and pay off the loan. If 300 people give \$100 each, Friends will reach its goal! Will you help? Is it worth it to

preserve a part of Shades Mountain in perpetuity? The Friends think it is!

Dig deep and take advantage of this opportunity! To help the organization that depends solely on contributions and volunteer effort, make a gift of any amount payable to the Friends of Shades Mountain, PO Box 59651, Birmingham, AL 35259, or by Venmo to friendsofshadesmountain@gmail.com, or contact Larry S. Rodick, President friendsofshadesmountain@gmail.com or 823-7367. Your gift may be tax deductible.



Imagine enjoying a scenic view from the Friends of Shades Mountain location!



In Memory

Betty Bagby, a charter member of the HHS, passed away in June 2021. She researched, held several offices, donated items and her time to both the Stinson Ole Place and the archive/office.

She also performed the thankless job of cutting and filing obits of Hoover residents. She did everything by hand, writing in her lovely script! Rest in peace, Betty.



HOOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Membership Form

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

Make checks payable to *Hoover Historical Society*
P.O. Box 360233 Hoover, AL 35236-0233
Archive/Office 205-739-7316

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The Hoover Historical Society

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[Recipient]



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