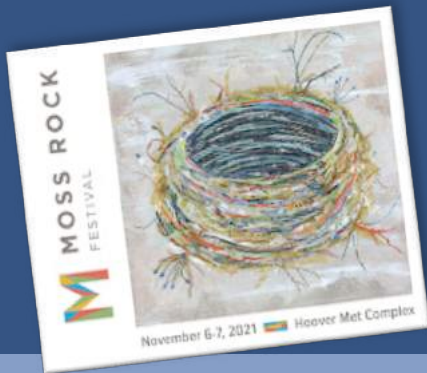


The Hoover HistoricalLog

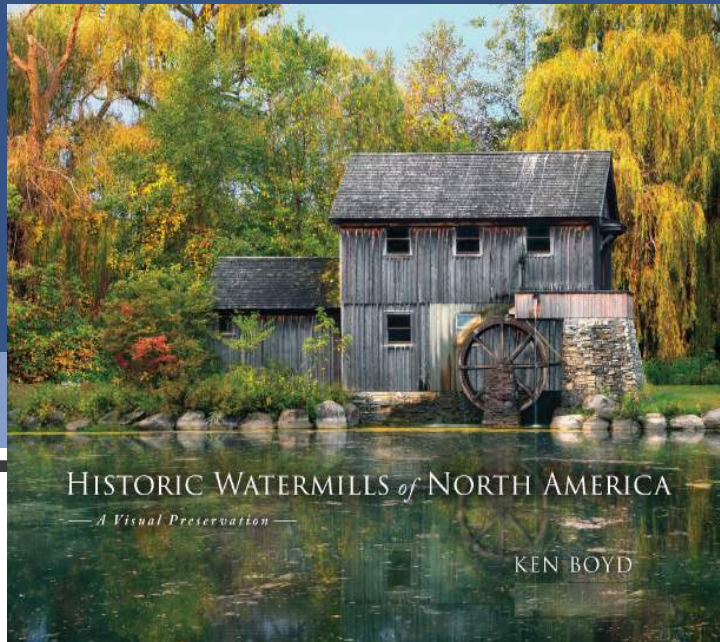


Moss Rock is coming!

Be inspired and save the Earth at the eco-friendly Moss Rock Festival at The Hoover MET in Hoover, Alabama! For 16 years, Hoover has served as the regional focus for Art + Design, SmartLIVING and nature lovers everywhere. Each year during the first weekend of November, visitors flock to the festival to see exhibiting artists, designer products, and tech exhibitions as well as demonstrations by designers, engineers, and up-cyclers. In 2020, the festival moved to the more spacious venue of the Hoover MET complex for both Covid precautions and plenty of parking.

Interactive workshops for both adults and kids will have you creating cool items from recycled materials. Dates and hours to remember: Nov. 6 & 7, 10 AM-5PM Saturday; 10AM-4PM Sunday

<https://www.facebook.com/events593475135178927>



Historic Watermills

Amazon states, "The scenic beauty of the watermill is undeniable."

In December 2020, Ken Boyd's latest book entitled *Historic Watermills of North America*, was released by the University of Alabama Press. This large-format coffee table book represents more than 40 years of Ken's research, study and photography and provides a visual preservation of these fascinating old structures along with descriptions, commentary and perspectives. Ken has previously published two very popular and internationally distributed books on historic locomotives, entitled *Historic North American Locomotives* (Published by Kalmbach Media / *Trains*, 2018) and *The Art of the Locomotive* (Published by Voyageur Press, 2014). Total sales for the locomotive books have exceeded 35,000 copies.

Continued on Page 4

November's General Meeting is scheduled for Nov. 16th at the Hoover Public Library at 1 PM. All of our programs are FREE to the public! Join us in the Shakespeare Room to hear this special author!



Jimmy's latest project—placing the syrup mill on RR ties so that it can be used in teaching how syrup is made. Note the event at Rikard's Mill on Nov. 6th; Jimmy at Moss Rock 2020.

A message from our president...

One of the greatest lessons in life is that even when we are pursuing things we want; we can focus on being thankful for what we have and what we have accomplished. Oprah Winfrey said, "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." That ties into another thought—that if we cherish getting older, we will always have something to look forward to, but if we cherish youth, we will always be disappointed.

As I grow older, I realize that life experiences and decisions have brought me to where I am today. However, it is thankfulness that opened many of the blessings, activities, and unique experiences that I treasure most. I am grateful for parents who raised me with values and appreciation for hard work, loyalty, and honesty. I'm grateful for the teachers and

mentors who encouraged me along the way. I'm grateful for my wife and family who give substance to my life. I am grateful for the blessing of being an American where I can experience freedom, pursue prosperity, and live my faith.

I am extremely thankful for the HHS Team for a great job this year. Even as COVID and other challenges were upon us, our dedicated volunteers kept the ball rolling. Debbie Burtnett was particularly noteworthy as she juggled many responsibilities. Carolyn Kolar also wore multiple hats as Vice President for Programs and Head Archivist. Linda Joseph is our Vice President for Membership and Pam Thompson is our Publicity Director and Special Event Coordinator. Edna McWilliams is our very capable Treasurer. We were very saddened to lose Arnold Singer who was Assistant Treasurer, but also a former President and renowned city Activist who passed this past

year. Gene Fuller directed our activities at the Folklore Center supported by his wife Sandra Fuller. Lisa McClung planned our annual tea. Wallace Miskimon was Chair of Ways and Means. Gilbert Douglas was Sergeant-at-Arms. We welcome new members, Ginny Peterson, Recording Secretary; Beverly Sublette, Corresponding Secretary; Mark Swindall, Assistant Treasurer; and Becky Swindall as Hospitality Chair. We want to say a grateful thank you to our City of Hoover Liaison, Councilman Casey Middlebrooks.

We look forward to planning interesting speakers and activities for the public, in line with our mission of encouraging the study of history, both local and national, as well as studying the past to inform our future.

Best wishes and Happy Thanksgiving!

Jimmy Langley



Tony & Tina Garcia at *Celebrate!* Hoover



Family Day for veterans and families was held at Veterans Park Sept. 26th. Veterans of all ages visited with each other, relaxed, had fun, and gained information from representatives of service organizations. Here, the niece of Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers Jr., enjoys the day.

By Tina Garcia

Support Our Soldiers of Alabama is a nonprofit organization 501(C) 3 created in the memory of Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. He was a Marine KIA in Afghanistan April 28, 2010, by an IED while on patrol. He graduated from Briarwood Christian School. His mother, Charon Rivers, and sister Rachel decided to keep his memory alive by continuing to send care packages to the troops with whom he was deployed even after his death. This 'snowballed' and they ended up sending packages to several different branches of our military around the globe. Mrs. Rivers continued working from her basement at home in the Hoover area for ten years, sending out items with the help of donations and volunteers. My husband is a member of the VFW post named in memory of LCPL Rivers in Alabaster. LCPL Thomas E Rivers Jr.

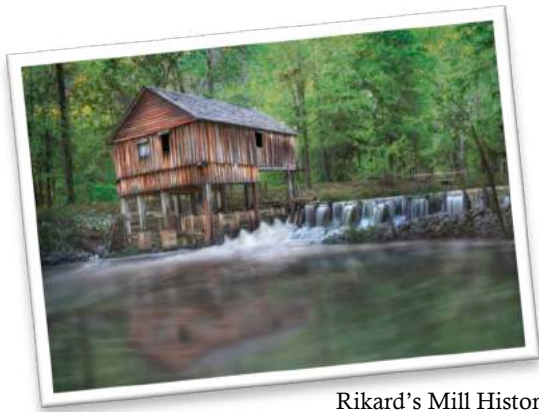
Mrs. Rivers was ready to hand the baton off to someone else and chose me and my husband (Tony Garcia) along with Mark Davis of *Vettes4Vets* and the Alabama Fallen Warrior Project. We chose to carry on this amazing opportunity in Thomas's name and memory. We are now located and have an office in the Alabaster area, close to where the VFW meets on the first Saturday of each month, and just across the street from the new Alabaster Veterans Center. Our purpose is to send out care packages to deployed troops to let them know that they have not been forgotten and that we here at home are thankful for their sacrifice. These packages include items that they may not be able to pick up locally such as baby wipes; chap stick; beef jerky and various other protein items; a variety of snacks; flavored drink packets to add to water; puzzle books; hygiene items; and so much more! We also include a small Bible and the booklet that tells Thomas' story and testimony. We have had several people email us and thank us for

what we do because they received a care package and how much it means to them to know they have not been forgotten. Everything we do is on a voluntary basis and everything we send is donated or purchased with the monetary donations we receive. To date in 2021, we have sent 600 care packages to Korea, Afghanistan, and the Arctic Circle. We've sent out several individual birthday boxes to several different locations. We plan on sending out another 600 from now through Christmas. We also help local Veteran's and their families in any way we can.

Our Mission:
"Supporting those who serve, who have served, and honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice."

Facebook: [supportoursoldiersofalabama](https://www.facebook.com/supportoursoldiersofalabama);
Instagram: [asosalabama12185](https://www.instagram.com/asosalabama12185);
Website: [support our soldiers of Alabama](http://supportoursoldiersofalabama.com) and
email sosalabama12185@gmail.com

Address: 106 1st ST SW, Alabaster, AL 35114 Office: 205-624-2266



Rikard's Mill Historical Park (left) is a restored water-powered gristmill. Right: Our speaker Ken Boyd, historian/author of *Historic Watermills of North America*.

Photographer to present *Historic Watermills of North America*



As a 25-year veteran photography instructor at Samford University and The University of Alabama at Birmingham, his work, techniques and reviews have been published in numerous magazines and journals, including *Camera and Darkroom*, *View Camera*, *Birmingham*, *Portico*, *Shutterbug*, *Shelby Living*, *Garden Railways*, *Hoover Sun*, *Over the Mountain Journal*, *Alabama Heritage*, and technical and trade publications and journals, such as *Power*, *Power Engineering*, *Industrial Hygiene*, and *Environmental Management*. He is currently the editor for a historical newsletter, entitled the *Mid-South Flyer*, a bimonthly publication of the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society.

In 2020, *Alabama Heritage* magazine published two feature research articles and photo essays prepared by Ken entitled:

- *Industrial Revolution - The Locomotive Comes to Alabama* (Number 137, Summer 2020).
- *Kymulga Grist Mill: An Operating Mid-Nineteenth-Century Alabama Watermill* (Number 138, Fall 2020).

He has recently signed a contract to provide a similar feature on the subject of preserving historic fire protection equipment in Alabama (Summer 2022). In addition, Ken's watermill work will be featured in the upcoming November – December holiday issue of *Alabama Magazine*.

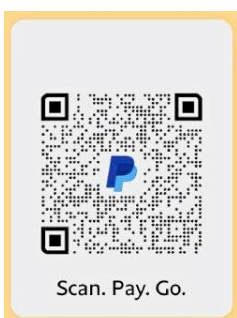
He is a graduate of Jacksonville State University and The University of Alabama at Birmingham and retired from a 37-year research and environmental affairs career at Southern Company.

Ken's program is featured at our November General Meeting, scheduled to meet at the Hoover Public Library in the Shakespeare Room (across from the theatre) at 1 PM.

What is a QR?

It is a 'Quick Response' code that accesses encoded information instantly!

Here are two you might like to try—one is to donate to Support Our Soldiers and the other is information about our Folklore Center!



The Folklore Center hosts home-schooled group...

The Folklore Center welcomed 30+ students and parents homeschool group in October. The group, affiliated with Our Lady of Good Counsel, ranged in ages from K through 12.

Beverly Williamson taught about quilting; Sandra Fuller and Ginny Peterson discussed the first and second floors of the cabin; Marjo Gann demonstrated children’s toys from the 1840’s era while Jim and Ann Langley described the operation of the Syrup mill and served up a taste of sorghum butter. New to the docent staff was Bob Kolar who built the fire for the wash pot. A washday demo was led by Debbie Burnett.

The next guests at the Stinson Ole Place will be Bluff Park Elementary School’s fourth graders—a total of 100+ students and teachers. Five folklore demonstrations are scheduled plus the station in the cabin. This will be the first visit by BPES since the Pandemic began in March 2020. Folklore Director Gene Fuller said, “This will be a big event that the students and teachers have been looking forward to for many months. We are hoping for good weather on November 5th.”

Our Lady of Good Counsel Home School is shown at right.

HOOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1988

A COOPERATIVE EFFORT - HOOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY -
ARLINGTON BIRMINGHAM

Arlington
Historic Home and Gardens
Birmingham, Alabama

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John Archibald
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The Hoover Historical Society invites you to a talk given by John Archibald on December 9th at Arlington House. John will discuss his father who was a Methodist minister during the Civil Rights era. Reservations are limited!





HOOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Membership Form

Make checks payable to Hoover Historical Society
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Sustaining	\$50
Patron	\$100
Corporate	\$150

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