



**December 2012**  
**Volume 2, Issue 12**

## **ALERTS**

### **Elect New Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation Board Members**

Breaking new ground for preservation, members of the ATHP have the opportunity to elect officers and new board members for 2013 by voting online December 10 - 15. Ballots can be cast (only one per ATHP member, please) at [www.alabamatrust.info/](http://www.alabamatrust.info/).

### **NEA Grant Opportunity for Historic Venues Promoting the Arts**

January 14<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for proposals requesting funding for projects revitalizing the nation's towns and cities for projects that promote the arts. For preservation efforts or projects to revitalize historic downtowns with historic spaces re-adapted for arts venues, an opportunity exists under this grant program of the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information, visit the National Endowment for the Arts "Our Town" grant program at [www.arts.org/grantcenter/funding-topic/arts-and-humanities/our-town?utm\\_source=November+12+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=November+2012+Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.arts.org/grantcenter/funding-topic/arts-and-humanities/our-town?utm_source=November+12+Newsletter&utm_campaign=November+2012+Newsletter&utm_medium=email).

### **Share the Spirit of Giving – Preserve Alabama's Historic Treasures**

Share the spirit of giving with a holiday gift to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. To make a contribution in support of preservation, call 205-652-3497 or donate online at [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

## **EVENTS**

### ***Chambers County***

#### **Sunday, December 2 – Monday, December 24 – Christmas Merry-Go-Round**

A local holiday event, the Merry-Go-Round started as a holiday gift to mill workers and their families from benefactor West Point Pepperell Manufacturing Company. Today, the 60+ year community tradition continues as the City of Valley's Cotton Mill Christmas. Location: 6000 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Historic Langdale Mill. Hours: Mondays – Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.; Sundays, 1:00 – 5:00. Christmas Eve: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission: Free, donations welcomed. Sponsor: City of Valley. For more information, call 334-756-5290 or 334-756-5220.

### ***Colbert County***

#### **Sunday, December 9, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Homes and Trolley Tours**

Take a ride on Tuscumbia's trolley and also visit some of the city's beautiful historic homes decorated for the holiday season. Self-guided tours begin at 1:00 p.m. Trolley tours run from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Location: Historic Tuscumbia. Purchase admission tickets at Coldwater Books, corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Main

Street, Downtown Tuscumbia. Sponsor: Colbert County Historical Landmark. For more information, call 256-383-0783.

## ***Dallas County***

### **Thursday, December 6 – Friday, December 7, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. - Sturdivant Hall Christmas Open House**

Deck the halls for the holiday. Don't miss historic Sturdivant Hall's holiday open house. Location: Sturdivant Museum, 713 Mabry Street, Selma. Admission: \$5 for guided tour; free for self-guided tour. Proceeds benefit Historic Sturdivant Hall Museum. For more information, call 334-872-5626 or visit [www.sturdivanthall.com](http://www.sturdivanthall.com).

## ***Hale County***

### **Sunday, December 9, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Greensboro Porches and Parlors Holiday Tour**

Experience Christmas in the Black Belt with visits to some of the regions finest historic homes. Tour includes the historic Magnolia Grove House Museum (circa 1840), Noel-Ramsey House (circa 1822), Ryan-Luker House (circa 1885), Benner-Leiser-Shaner House (circa mid-19<sup>th</sup> century), Muckle House (circa 1906) and Sunset Hill House (circa early 20<sup>th</sup> century). Ticket Location: Intersection of Hwy. 14 and Main Street, Greensboro. Admission: Adult, \$20; 12 and younger, \$5. Sponsors: Greensboro Area Business and Tourism Association, Hale County Historical Society and Historic Magnolia Grove Plantation. For more information, call 334-624-8618.

## ***Houston County***

### **Friday, December 1 – Tuesday, January 15 – Alabama Folklife Exhibition**

Don't miss *Alabama In the Making: Traditional Arts of People in Places*. Exhibition includes artifacts from the Alabama Center for Tradition and Culture, photographic collections, audio interviews, and video. Location: Landmarks Park, Hwy 431 N, Dothan. Sponsors: Alabama Folklife Association, Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama State Council on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Landmarks Park. For more information, call 334-794-3451 or visit [www.alabamainthemaking.com](http://www.alabamainthemaking.com).

### **Saturday, December 8, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Holiday Tour of Homes**

Experience the holiday season in the Wiregrass. Tour some of Dothan's historic homes. Location: Dothan. Admission: \$15. Sponsor: Dothan Service League. For more information, call 334-671-7142 or visit [www.dothanserviceleague.org](http://www.dothanserviceleague.org).

## ***Jefferson and Shelby Counties***

### **Saturday, December 1– Friday, January 25, 2013 – Red Mountain Rising Exhibition**

Celebrate the opening of *Red Mountain Rising: An Oral History Collection*. Although Birmingham's Red Mountain Park mines closed in 1969, the memories and stories of the miners who worked there remain. This exhibit about miners of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company features the stories of those whose efforts made Birmingham the Southern City of Coal and Iron. Location: Vulcan Park Museum, Birmingham. Sponsor/Organizer: Red Mountain Park Greenway Commission. For more information, visit [www.visitvulcan.com](http://www.visitvulcan.com).

### **Saturday, December 8 & Sunday, December 9 – Independent Presbyterian Church Holiday House Tour**

Enjoy the 63<sup>rd</sup> year of this annual holiday tour of homes. Tour includes the historic Independent Presbyterian Church, where Holiday Tea will be served in the Great Hall. Partake of tea at the Church and end at Harpersville's historic Chancellor House and Farm (circa 1840's), the family home of Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation members Barbara and Sonny Adkins. Tour Start Location: Independent

Presbyterian Church, 3100 Highland Avenue, Highland Historic District, Birmingham. Hours: Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission: \$20. Sponsor: Independent Presbyterian Church. Proceeds benefit Children's Fresh Air Farm and missions of the Presbyterian Women. For tour and ticket information, visit [www.ipc-usa.org/](http://www.ipc-usa.org/).

### **Madison County**

#### **Saturday, December 8, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Spirit of Christmas Past and Luminaries Home Tour**

Celebrate the holiday season by twilight and starlight with a tour Huntsville's historic Twickenham homes. Tour includes five beautiful historic homes, the historic Weeden House and the First Methodist Church. Location: Twickenham Historic District, Huntsville. Tour Start Location: Historic Weeden House Museum, 300 Gates Avenue. Admission: Adults, \$15; Children 12 or younger, \$5. Sponsor: Twickenham Historic Tour Association. For more information, email [abbie.money@comcast.net](mailto:abbie.money@comcast.net).

### **Mobile County**

#### **Monday, December 10 – A Visit to the Alabama's Governor's Mansion**

Join the Historic Mobile Preservation Society (HMPS) for a day at the state capital for holiday tours. Day trip includes visits to the Museum of Alabama, First White House of the Confederacy, historic Hill House, and a *Candlelight Tour* of the Governor's Mansion. Tour departs from Historic Oakleigh Complex at 9:30 a.m. Admission: \$48 per traveler includes bus transportation and admission fee to sites. *Proceeds support the programs and services of the Mobile Historic Preservation Society.* Sponsor: Historic Mobile Preservation Society. For more information or to make reservations, call 251-432-6161.

### **Montgomery County**

#### **Monday, December 3, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Ralph D. Abernathy Civil Rights Lecture Series**

Lecture, *A Celebration of the 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott: Tired Feet But Rested* presented by the Reverend Raphael G. Warnock, Ph.D., senior pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. Location: Historic First Baptist Church, 347 N. Ripley Street, Montgomery. Sponsors: National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture at Alabama State University. For more information, call 334-229-4854.

#### **Thursday, December 20, Noon – 1:00 p.m. - Architreasts: Food for Thought Lecture**

Presentation, *Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Alabama in the Civil War* by Ben H. Severance, Associate Professor of History, Auburn University. The lecture will draw from a sampling of 230 rare photographs of Alabamians during the Civil War – images included in his book by the same title. A book signing will follow the lecture. Location: Farley Auditorium, Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery. Admission: Free. Sponsors: Friends of the Alabama Archives and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, call 334-353-4726 or visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).

### **Sumter County**

#### **Friday, December 15, 7:00 p.m. – Surcarnochee Revue: A Joyful Christmas**

Enjoy this live performance of blues, bluegrass, country, and gospel musical traditions rooted in the history and legacy of the Black Belt. A syndicated radio and television show, the *Sucarnochee Revue* is taped live at the University of West Alabama. Location: Bibb Graves Hall, University of West Alabama, Livingston. Admission: \$8 Sponsor: Center for the Study of the Black Belt. For more information, call 205-652-3828. *Also, watch the 2011 documentary Sucarnochee: A Revue of Alabama Music produced by Alabama Public Television on APT, Monday, December 10, at 10:00 p.m.*

## **Wilcox County**

### **Friday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. – *Telling Tales of Alabama***

The storytelling tradition of Alabama's legendary and nationally renowned Kathryn Tucker Windham continues. Tell a family or community tale, or just listen, to the oral tradition of storytelling and experience the indigenous history of Alabama's towns, peoples, and events. Location: Packers Bend Fire Station, 5701 County Road 49, Lower Peach Tree. Sponsor: ArtsRevive. For more information, call 334-637-3146.

## **NEWS**

*The winter holiday season is a time when preservation organizations across the state dust-off and light-up their historic treasures with tours of historic buildings and festive events to benefit preservation efforts in their communities. Among the many such events in Alabama, are some new twists on some traditional themes.*

### **Historic Mooresville Holiday Fundraiser Sold Out**

Alabama's oldest continuing municipality, the Town of Mooresville, annually hosts its Holiday Progressive Dinner to benefit preservation efforts in the circa 1805 town. To the delight of visitors, traditional fresh greenery, berries, and fruit decorate the historic homes of Mooresville. Increasingly popular, this holiday fundraiser sold out this year before the first house was visited or forkful of food graced a palette. This year, the proceeds from the Holiday Progressive Dinner and Tour will benefit the preservation of Mooresville's historic Post Office, Stagecoach and Brick Church buildings. For more information about this successful fundraiser for preservation, visit [www.mooresvillealabama.com/xmas.htm](http://www.mooresvillealabama.com/xmas.htm).

### **Mobile Historic Preservation Society Converts Cheese Straws to Dollars for Preservation**

Capitalizing on Southerners' love of the traditional cheese straws, the Mobile Historic Preservation Society successfully converted this historic culinary passion into dollars for the preservation and restoration of MHPS's Cook's House, the last remaining detached kitchen and servant's living quarters in Mobile. When restored and opened to the public, the Cook's House, a part of the Oakleigh Historic Complex, will be Mobile's first African-American house museum. For more information about MHPS's successful, over-the-top cheese straw challenge and fundraiser, call 251-432-6161 or email [hmeps@bellsouth.net](mailto:hmeps@bellsouth.net) (after the holidays, please).

## **NOTICES**

### **ATHP Office Holiday Schedule**

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation office, located on the University of West Alabama campus in Livingston, will be closed from Tuesday, December 18 through Monday, January 7, 2013. The office will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Correspondence during the office closure can be sent via email to [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org).

### **Rikards Grist Mill Closed for the Winter**

Rikard's Mill Historical Park, located in Beatrice, is closed for the winter following its annual Cane Syrup Makin' Day. Holiday gifts of syrup, grits and cornmeal are available at the Bird's Nest Gift Shop, Old Courthouse Museum on the Square in Monroeville. For additional information, contact the Monroe County Heritage Museum at 251-575-7433 or [mchm@frontiernet.net](mailto:mchm@frontiernet.net).

## SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

### **Send Event Information and News Stories to the ATHP**

For the ATHP's *Preservation e-Newsletter*, send submissions by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for publication in the next month's issue to [\*\*alabamatrust@athp.org\*\*](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org).