

Wilcox Historical Society

Fall 2007 Newsletter

Edition No. 24

October 1, 2007

Upcoming Events

Dinner Meeting

The next Wilcox Historical Society meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 18, 2007 starting at 5:00 P.M.** at the home of Jeannie and Leo Hollinger on Highway 41 South (see map). The meal will be supplied by the American Legion organization or by a local caterer. The cost per plate will be \$12.00. **Please make reservations by calling Sheliah Jones at Jones Real Estate - 682-9293.**

Peyton Burford will reminisce on early memories of Camden and Wilcox County, including his involvement with numerous church and civic organizations.

Blake and Bettie Field Receive Historic Preservation Award

Blake and Bettie Field received the prestigious statewide Award for Historic Preservation from the Alabama Trust at the annual meeting in Huntsville on September 21. They were nominated for their ongoing restoration and preservation efforts of the homes located on Broad Street in Camden. Garland Smith accepted the award on behalf of the family.

Roberts Cabin Project

The Town of Pine Apple agreed to accept the cabin, and it has been relocated to the Pine Apple town park. The Wilcox Historical Society assisted in coordinating the project, with the formal contract between the Roberts family and the Town of Pine Apple. Funding for the project was provided by the Roberts Family, the Town of Pine Apple, and the Wilcox Historical Society. The Society made a \$2,000 donation to the project in honor of Don and Mary Charles Donald. Harold Grimes donated the new lumber required for the flooring, roof joists, and end siding. Joe Harris performed the move and erection at the new site. The remaining work as

of this date is the erection of the chimney by Michael Phelps using the original limestone rocks and "chinking" between the logs. A historical plaque will be placed at the site denoting the history of the cabin. Pine Apple Promotions will help with the funding for this final phase of the project, but private donations are also needed. If interested in making a donation, please make your check payable to the Town of Pine Apple noting "Roberts Cabin Project". You can mail to our Society address and we will relay to the town. When in Pine Apple, be sure to go by and visit this cabin. **It will be featured at the annual Hunter Appreciation Day on November 28, 2007.** A special thanks is extended to the Roberts Family for the donation of this historic structure.

Wilcox True Blues Flag Restoration Complete

The flag restoration process in Maryland has been completed and the flag has been returned to the Department of Archives and History in Montgomery, and is on display there. It will also be available for display at our local historical events.

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is one of best facilities in America. The Friends of the Archives is a vital part of the ADAH, and you are encouraged to join this group. Please contact Garland Smith or Don Donald, current Directors of the Friends of the Archives, for more information.

Wilcox Historical Society 2007 Spring Pilgrimage Held May 12

A special thank you is issued to the home owners, Black Belt Treasures, and the volunteers who worked diligently for the 2007 event. The ticket sales were down substantially from 2005, with 175 tickets sold. However, many persons commented that this was one of the most enjoyable pilgrimages that they had attended.

McIntosh Garden Project

Roy McIntosh made a very generous bequest to the Society through his will. His brother Bit McIntosh has given permission to photograph and document Roy's garden. This garden was a very important part of Roy's life, and we feel that this project is a very good way to remember and honor him for his many years of service as a faithful member of the Wilcox Historical Society. A master gardener from the Alabama Trust's Garden Interest Group has expressed interest in this project.

Society History and Contacts

The Wilcox Historical Society was founded in the late 1960's with the initial goal to save and restore the Wilcox Female Institute. The primary goal of the Society continues to be to preserve the history of this region and to act as a clearing house and reference source to people searching for genealogical information. Our local Wilcox County Public Library is the best source of genealogical information and features one of the best genealogical rooms to be found anywhere. The library staff can be reached at 334-682-4355, 100 Broad Street, Camden, AL 36726, e-mail wilcoxgen@frontiernet.net. *If research is needed, they can refer you to a local historian who can perform the research for a nominal fee.*

The Wilcox Historical Society may be contacted at P.O. Box 464, Camden, AL 36726. You can also e-mail us at grsouth@frontiernet.net. Our web site link may be accessed through www.wilcoxwebworks.com. The cost to join the society is \$10 per person, or \$15 per couple annually. *Payment of dues is due by January 1 of each year.*

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, formerly known as the Alabama Preservation Alliance, is a leader in the identification and preservation of historic structures and sites throughout Alabama. It is presently in the process of forming member interest groups. These statewide members with similar interests will meet periodically to socialize and plan activities that focus on specific historic topics. This organization may be reached at www.alabamatrust.info.

The current Wilcox Historical Society Officers:

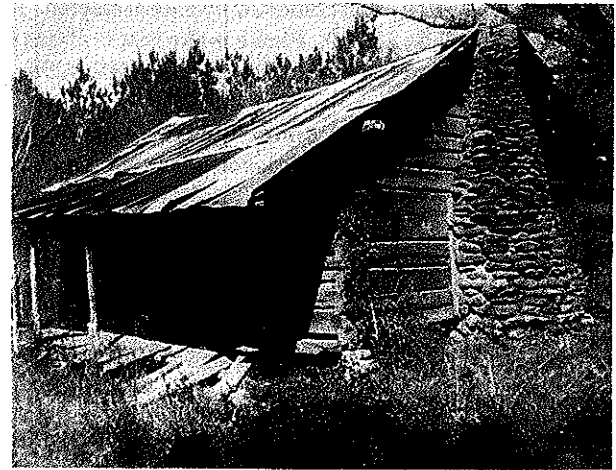
Jeannie Hollinger, President
Garland Cook Smith, V.P./Program Chairperson
Jane Shelton Dale, Secretary
Mary Charles Donald, Treasurer

Sheliah Jones, Membership Chairperson
Gail Tait, Curator
Don Donald, Publicity
William Malone, WebMaster

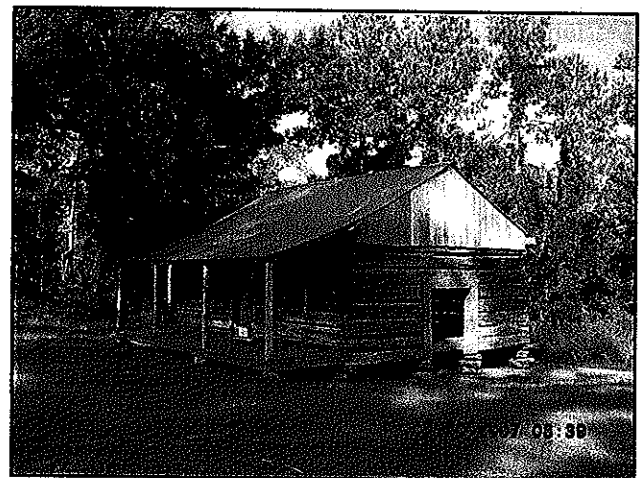
Membership Application/Payment Card

Name(s): _____

Address: _____



Old Photograph of Roberts Cabin



Current Photograph of Roberts Cabin