NEW FACES
Over the last few years, you've seen fewer and fewer staff faces, but soon you will start to see some new faces. We are in the process of rebuilding our staff to 39 people.
New positions will include a security guard for the research room, assistant director of administration, electronic records archivist, stock clerk at the records center, public information officer, shared assistant for Public Services and Government Records divisions, tour assistant based in the hands-on gallery (Sara Kunau) and most important to you, a volunteer coordinator (Aimee Sparks)!
Earlier this year, Kevin Nutt, audio/visual archivist, and Ryan Blocker, museum collections assistant, also became permanent faces at ADAH, even though both have been working at the Archives in different facets for some time.
We hope you are just as excited as we are to welcome these new faces into our Archives family!

TAKING OFF THE HAT
It’s been almost a year since I put on the volunteer hat. I couldn’t have made it without your support and patience. Thank you for everything you did for me that made the job easier. When I took on volunteer coordination, I anticipated statistics, schedules, enrichments, and snacks, but I never anticipated the joy of getting to know you better and sharing in your lives.
I’m still going drop by and check on you, but I feel very confident that you’re in excellent hands with our new volunteer coordinator, Aimee Sparks. I know you’ll give her the same warm welcome that you gave me.
As for me, I’m looking forward to planning and implementing programs, tours, and activities for the new museum!

NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
My name is Aimee Sparks, and I am honored to be the new Volunteer Coordinator for the Alabama Department of Archives and History.
I grew up not far from Montgomery in Columbus, Georgia. In 2005, after completing an internship at the North Carolina Office of Archives and History, I graduated from Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in Public History and Religion. In 2006, I moved to Prattville, Alabama where I have worked as an event planner. I have also served as the volunteer co-advisor for the student organization at Virginia College Montgomery.
I am the very proud mother of two children. My daughter Zoe is fourteen. She plays clarinet in the Prattville Junior High School band and is a gifted artist. My son Hugh (everyone calls him Huey) is eleven. Huey is probably too smart for his own good; he and his friends are currently plotting to rule the world.
I am so excited about this opportunity. I will work hard to support the volunteers and encourage volunteer efforts. Your contribution of time and energy is invaluable, and I will never forget that fact. My daughter says that I never meet a stranger; I enjoy speaking with and getting to know people, and I truly look forward to meeting and getting to know each and every member of the Archives family.

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Volunteer Liaisons
Staff Contacts:
Aimee Sparks 353-4745 (Volunteer Coordinator)
Sara Kunau 353-4712 (Hands-on Gallery)
Kelly Hoomes 353-4702 (Docents)
Mary Jo Scott 353-4694 (Private Records)
Alden Monroe 353-4613
Mike Breedlove 353-4614 (Government Records)
Nancy Dupree 353-4674 (Reference)
Allison Gore 353-4691 (Gift Shop)
**VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nita Pittman 12/4</td>
<td>Henry Durham 1/4</td>
<td>Paul Ernest 2/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mason Shell 12/8</td>
<td>Jennie Price 1/6</td>
<td>Caryll Carrick 2/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Rylee 12/11</td>
<td>Judy Osborne 1/13</td>
<td>Edwin Rhodes 2/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Emerson 12/12</td>
<td>Meagan Tanner 1/26</td>
<td>Judy Crow 2/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courtney Tanner 12/12</td>
<td>David Huff 1/26</td>
<td>Arthur Arnold 2/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Fowler 12/17</td>
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<td>George Willis 2/14</td>
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<td>Shirley McCready 12/23</td>
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<td>Buddy Murphy 12/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Bates 12/31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graeme DePace 12/31</td>
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**STATE HOLIDAYS**

ADAH will be closed to observe the following official state holidays:

- **November 22 and 23**: Thanksgiving
- **December 24 and 25**: Christmas
- **January 1**: New Year’s Day
- **January 21**: Martin Luther King Jr./Robert E. Lee Birthday

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: ALABAMA DAY**

Each year we celebrate Alabama’s birthday on December 14. This year we will also join us in this celebration! We will be doing Alabama-themed hands-on activities, tours with re-enactors, singing the state song, and munching on sweets.

We will need many volunteers to make this birthday a successful bash!

We need:

- 2 volunteers to help serve sweets to children
- 2 Floaters

If you are interested in helping on Friday, December 14th from 9am – 12pm please let Aimee Sparks know!

- 2 volunteers to help serve sweets to children
- 2 Floaters
**VOLUNTEERS ON THE MOVE**

Former volunteer coordinators, Genene and Patricia, greet Dr. Bridges at his retirement reception.

Dory and Hank at Dr. Bridges’ retirement reception

Abby helps students find artifacts in the Sampler Gallery

Elizabeth works on the Madera Spencer collection. Check out her organization cubbies filled with papers in the back!

Burns and Chuck working in the Govt Records Processing Room

James and Thelma grinding corn and decorating pottery with students at Frontier Days at Fort Toulouse/Fort Jackson
**Fridge Notes**

Keep track of activities at the Archives! Put this on your refrigerator! *(Volunteer events are highlighted in yellow.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ArchiTreats: <em>Lord Remember Me: Archiving Alabama’s Folklife</em></td>
<td>November 15, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Enrichment: Holiday Tea @ Buena Vista Mansion in Prattville</td>
<td>December 3, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSVP by November 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama Day School Event</td>
<td>December 14, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArchiTreats: <em>Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Alabama in the Civil War</em></td>
<td>December 20, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampler Gallery Closes and Phase II of the Museum of Alabama Begins</td>
<td>January 1, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives Inventory</td>
<td>January 2 – 4, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Crossroads Symposium</td>
<td>January 12, 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alabama Department of Archives and History
624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36130
[www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov)

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**Friends of the Alabama Archives Membership Application**

Yes, I want to be a Friend.

- Please enter my membership with all benefits including a subscription to *ADAH News*, a 10% Gift Shop discount, and free or reduced admission to Archives-sponsored events. (Subscriber members and above receive a one-year subscription to *Alabama Heritage* magazine.)

- Name________________________
- Address_______________________
- City/State/Zip________________ Phone (______)
- E-mail________________________

Make check payable to and mail to:
FRIENDS OF THE ALABAMA ARCHIVES
624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130-0100
[www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov)
INSIDE THE ARCHIVES

Holiday cards can be found in many collections in the Archives. Take a look at these three!

From “Elvis and the Colonel and Friends” to George Wallace.

From “Ina” to “Brother.” Ina wrote on the inside, “Sending the Age-Herald and Sunday news for one month for Xmas. If you don’t have time to read it, look at the pictures.”

From T.K. Bruce to Letters from Home staff at WSFA. Letters from Home were weekly newsletters sent to Montgomery County men and women serving in armed forces during World War II.

MEET SHIRLEY MCCREEDY

By Nancy Dupree, Reference Archivist

Shirley Jones McCreedy has been an ADAH volunteer for twelve years. She works as a receptionist for the Research Room. Her duties include answering the telephone, fielding many genealogical questions and general questions from the public, and registering all new patrons on their first visit to the Research Room. The duty she takes most seriously, though, is sharing her extensive knowledge about the genealogical resources available in the Research Room with patrons who are visiting for the first time. There is little for the reference staff to do after one of Shirley’s orientations.

Shirley has a deep love for genealogy, an interest she comes by naturally. Her grandfather, Joel Desaker Jones, wrote a weekly newspaper column called “Old Times” for The Democrat-Reporter in Linden, Alabama from 1936-1942. The columns were rich with genealogical information about folks who lived in Marengo County and Alabama in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Shirley compiled and indexed a three-volume set of books of the columns for use in the Research Room. Patrons find the books especially useful, often finding nuggets of information not available in other records. Shirley retired from teaching in 1995 after teaching music and art for 23 years.

Besides her volunteer work here at the Archives, Shirley spends a good bit of time researching her ancestors. She has over 2300 surnames in her family tree.

In addition to her love of genealogy, Shirley is an avid gardener. Her beautiful yard is a testament to her green thumb. Shirley also loves to travel, and has travelled extensively through the U.S., Europe, and Great Britain. Her favorite destination is Great Britain, the country from which her ancestors came.
MEET OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS

Please join us in welcoming our new volunteers!

Thanks for your time and talents!

Burns Kennedy
Government records

Lindsay Guest
Docent

“ROCKING” IN THE CLASSROOM

Fall tour season is in full swing at the Archives. This year we not only have Montgomery County fourth-grade classes, but we have many other schools visiting the Archives for the First Alabamians and Touch of History tours.

The Touch of History tour includes three museum galleries on the second floor and The First Alabamians tour includes hands-on activities in the classroom and the First Alabamians gallery. Hands-on activities include corn grinding, decorating pottery, artifact table, and pump-drill demonstration. So now you know what all the noise and excitement is about!

We couldn’t do it without our dedicated volunteer Docents! Thank you!

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS AT SPECIAL EVENTS

A big Thank You to the following people who volunteered their time and made these events a success!

Nancy Bates
Ken & Caryll Carrick
Katherine Conely

Graeme DePace
Maeghan DePace
Doug Dillard
James Durie
Henry & Martha Durham
Allen Edwards
Tom Emerson
Thelma Ivery
Chuck Maney

Judy Osborne
Genene Nelson
Jennie Price
Harry Spinks
Patricia Sweet-Gerosolina
Juliette Wimberly
Mary Hazel Winstanley

VOLUNTEERS MAKE GOVERNMENT RECORDS AVAILABLE TO RESEARCHERS: PART II

By Mike Breedlove, Gov’t Records Archivist

“Look at this!” exclaimed Martha. As I strode over to the table where Martha Durham worked on some records of the Dept. of Education, I wondered what she had found. The answer was that she had a broadside about a barbeque at the Rosenwald school, with Booker T. Washington speaking, 1916 September 08, in the Department of Education Correspondence of the Rural School Agent, 1913-1922.

This item eventually went on display at the Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and has since returned to the Archives. Finding documents like that is certainly not an everyday occurrence. Yet finding documents worth preserving and making them accessible is what drives volunteers like Martha to help the Government Records Division to work with records.

Talented and devoted volunteers work with records so that they will be accessible for future generations of researchers. The volunteers carefully remove staples, flatten documents, and place those documents in archival folders that they then label by hand or use hand stamps.

After the volunteers perform this valuable service, finding aids are produced or updated to make these records more accessible to researchers, especially genealogists and students.