

Hattiesburg Area Historical Society

HAHS MUSEUM
HATTIESBURG
CULTURAL CENTER
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HATTIESBURG MS
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HAHS *is active* . . .

I am sorry for the delay in getting out this newsletter, but with the move and Jacq's illness, we have been busy just trying to stay ahead. I hope you will enjoy it, even if it is late!

It is hard to believe, but it has finally happened. Hattiesburg Area Historical Society and HAHS Museum have a home... and a good home. If you have not taken the time to come see our facilities and share our excitement, please make plans to do so soon. Our volunteers are working hard to maintain constant hours.

We had a great turn out for the grand gala on both Friday night and Sunday afternoon. We have also had request to open the Museum for different functions being held in the Center. We have

been able to accommodate most of these requests and have had wonderful feedback from visitors.

We are operating fully in our new location, while still trying to find a place for everything. I guess there will always be a box of some kind to sort through. We have gotten most of our things from the old Hattiesburg High School building.

We now have on display all the old HHS composites that were formerly housed there. These have been quite a draw for us.

The History of Forrest County is still selling well. We also have Andrew English's book and several other items for sell in the museum.

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On Display at the museum

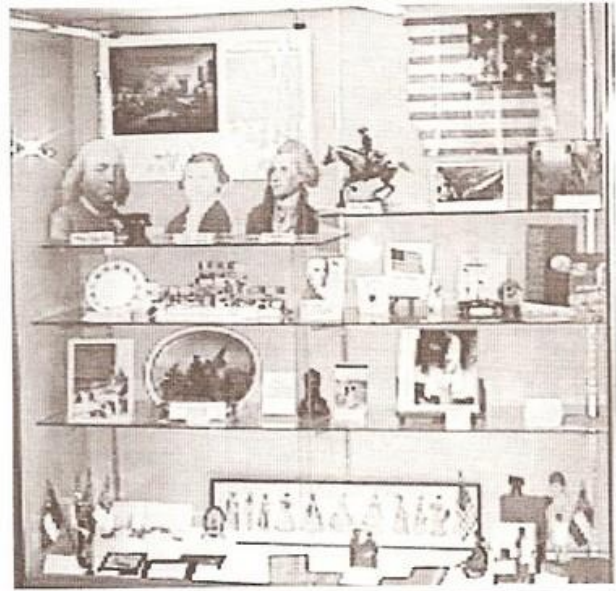
Soapbox Race cars



I am sure that all of you know by now that we have lost our beloved "leader". Jacq Jones, died June 10, 2001, after a brief battle with Leukemia. Jacq has been (and will always to be) the driving force behind HAHS, since it's inception. We will all miss her terribly! Jacq did so many of the day to day functions of the Society, most without a thought of how or why. Now we are all learning together; and learn together, we must. It will take everyone to keep this dream alive. While the function of the Society is to promote education, patriotism and entertainment, those of you who knew Jacq, at all, knew that having a museum for the children of this area was must a for her. And we all know that she expects us to keep going.

On May 22, 2001, the Mayor of Hattiesburg presented her family with a proclamation in her honor for her dedication to preserving the history of the area. One of her early ventures was to get historical markers located where needed. She saw the museum move from home to temporary home, until it finally found a real place in the Hattiesburg Cultural Center.

Contributions on her behalf can be made to HAHS Endowment Fund.



The Price of Freedom Display

The Hattiesburg Area Historical Society's exhibit, "The Price of Freedom," has won second place nationally in the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Week Display Contest.

The honor was received April, 2001 at Continental Congress held in Washington, DC and was a joint effort by the Norvell Robertson and Twentieth Star Chapters.

The display placed first in the state and first in the southeastern division before winning second in the nation.

September 17 -23 was designated Constitution Week by the DAR in April, 1955. President Eisenhower issued his proclamation on August 19, 1955, and it has been observed annually since August 2, 1956 when it was signed into law.

The exhibit will be on display for a limited time at the Hattiesburg Area Historical Society Museum located in the Hattiesburg Cultural Center.

I have been challenged by Captain Andrew English to do something with the keel boat.

Now, understand that I have heard Jacq mention the boat many, many times. She talked about how it is homeless and sitting out in the elements. While being relatively new to HAHS, I was sure that there were more pressing things.

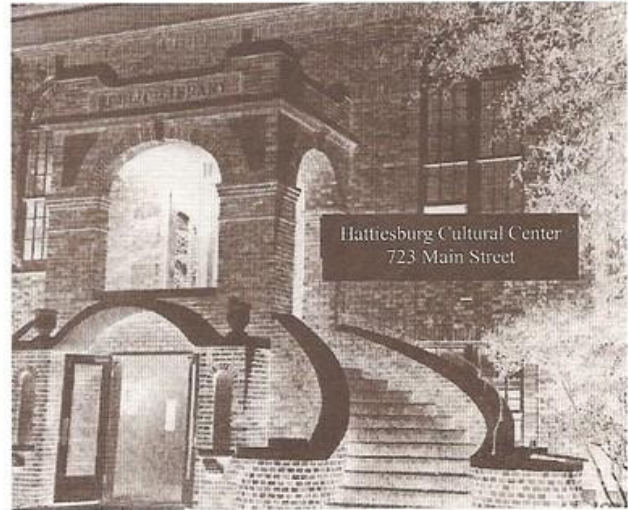
After spending about an hour with Capt. English, I have a whole new respect for our keel boat. He tells me that this is possibly the only one in the country. We really have a tourist attraction on our hands. He also shared with me that he has enough of this era memorabilia that he will donate to make a full scale display. He has been in communication with a gentleman at East Carolina in regards to restoring the boat.

There are several of this type exhibit in the country, one in Georgia, the Cairo in Vicksburg. I am told that this would draw national visitors. How nice it would be for Hattiesburg to have an exhibit of this caliber!

From what I have read in the History of Forrest County written by Richard Roman, the boat and its owner might have been quite notorious. In 1990 this 1830 keel boat was found sunk in the Leaf River in Perry County. The boat was raised and donated to HAHS. It has since been sitting exposed to all elements and must be moved, even to a temporary home.

Before it can be moved, it must be coated to keep it from falling apart. I have contacted USM to see if the coatings department can come up with something. If they can, then we will need a crane to move it and temporary storage for it. If we can get these things accomplished, then we can look for restoration grants, etc. If you can help the keel, please contact us!

Paula Harvey



The **HAHS Museum** has finally found a real home
Pictured above are the drawing from our coloring book,
and a photograph of the building today.

Volunteers, what would the world do with out them?? I am sure that I don't want to know. I know what **HAHS** would have done without ours. I want to thank everyone who has pulled together to keep the museum opened.

Laurie Crowson
Barbara Curry
Eloise Jones
Earline Roseberry
Jeanne Herring
Tat Ott
Davie Griffith
Bernie King

These ladies are taking shifts to keep the museum and office area open. We are currently open 2-5 on Mon., Tues., and Thursday and 9-12 on Wednesdays. If you would be interested in volunteering your time, please contact the museum. There are so many "jobs" to do. Even if you can't commit to a regular schedule, we will find something for you to do when you have the time. It will take all of us to keep things going.

Also, thanks to Walt Cartier. We have found out that Walt has many, many talents. Walt has done so many things during and since our move, they are too numerous to mention.

And to Ursula Jones for heading up and coordinating our move to the Cultural Center.


If I have left out someone, please forgive me. Everyone counts!

HAHS will hold a
general membership meeting
On Thursday, August 16, 2001
5:30 p.m.
at
The HAHS Museum
723 Main Street
in the Hattiesburg Cultural Center

Make plans now to attend

Meet the officers and board members
See the museum

Help us plan for the future of
HAHS

Do you have any old school memorabilia just lying around without a good home??  HAHS would love to have it. We are looking for any old annuals, sports pictures, class pictures, etc.