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From the HHF Board Chairman

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From the HHF Board Chairman,

Dear Fellow Foundation Members:

It was with much reluctance that I accepted the position of your HHF Chairman. Reflecting on the caliber of those individuals who had succeeded me in the job was very intimidating. I finally overcame my hesitation by realizing what a marvelous resource pool of knowledge and ability they would be for me. And believe me ... I have tapped into the pool continuously. The months since May 1991 have been filled with activity.

Work toward "Old-Fashioned Trade Day on the Square" filled most of the summer. All the hard work of our HHF volunteers, under the skilled guidance of Wanda Carlen, resulted in this year's edition (the third) being the biggest and best to date! "History Day" took place for the first time as part of the "Trade Day" activities and received an enthusiastic endorsement from the public. As a part of this effort, HHF presented its first "Honored Citizen Award" to Mr. Cecil Fain for a lifetime of enhancing the history of life in our community.

By the publication date of this *Quarterly*, HHF will have co-hosted the "Autumn Feast" with Constitution Hall Village. Proceeds from this fundraiser go toward costs of moving the Humphreys-Rodgers House to its new home in the Village.

Continuing our preservation efforts, HHF actively participated in negotiations to save the Norfolk-Southern Freight Depot, the oldest continuously-operating railroad freight depot in the United States. It now appears that the depot will indeed be saved.

Late spring 1992 will be the time for our biennial fundraiser, the "Movable Feast." There will be many opportunities for hard-working volunteers. Increasing participation

from more of our membership is a personal goal of my chairmanship. Memberships in HHF stand at approximately 800, with individual members reaching approximately 1,300. If you have the time and the desire to actively participate in your organization, please don't be shy. Make yourself and your talents known! Whether it's at Harrison Bros. Hardware or in the myriad of activities that always seem to be going on, your time and talents are invaluable.

My other primary goal is seeing our school education program actively reestablished. In the past, we have taken our slide presentation and program into the public schools to acquaint our youth with the value of preserving our past. Required fundraising activities and preservation efforts of recent years have necessitated that the program take a back seat. Now is the time to change that. New Board member Hope Kirkpatrick has volunteered to chair this project for HHF and 1992 should see work well underway.

As I think you can see, my term thus far has been exciting and BUSY — never dull, I can assure you. You never know what the next letter or phone call will bring — whether it's for advice on a wedding in an antebellum mansion or a call from the BBC in London! Again, thank heavens for that resource pool!

With your continued support, all signs point to another great year for Historic Huntsville Foundation.

Gerald W. Patterson