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From the Editor...

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From the Editor...

This issue of the *Quarterly* follows Roberts Rules of Order. First, it addresses old business — World War II. Then, it takes up new business with the introduction of a series of articles about Huntsville's Artists' Renderings. It concludes with a brief visit to Village Antiques followed by a mystery photo.

More about the front cover. The watercolor by Louise Marsh was given to Margaret Belle Mahoney Crow by a friend. It called up the memories of her childhood, as she lived on Bank Street, up the hill behind the maple tree, next door to Miss Molly Hutchens (house on the right). The Big Spring and the lagoon were her playground. She especially loved running up the steps leading to Cotton Row and getting in boxes to slide down the grassy hill. A favorite game was playing Jesse James Gang at the Big Spring. The kids caught crawdads in the canal and tested their nerve by trying to walk across the mossy, slippery dam without getting caught by the authorities in the pumphouse.

Louise Marsh's delightful watercolor incorporated Margaret Belle's world. The resounding bells of the Church of the Nativity beckoned her on Sundays, while the clock in the old Courthouse tower called her home in the evenings. From the ducks to the good things she could buy at the Curb Market, her life was filled with the joys of a Huntsville childhood.

I am reminded of a book review in the July/August issue of Historic Preservation which concluded with this optimistic assessment: "Chances are we will successfully continue to recover and transform our history in order to make us what we want to be — especially on the local level, where memory is at its most tenacious." Margaret Belle Crow has done us all a favor. Perhaps she will agree to write her vivid recollections down for future *Quarterlies*.

Please note that History Day is scheduled for September 12th, in conjunction with Trade Day on the Square. This *Quarterly*, as well as future ones, contains contributions such as letters, photographs, old newspapers, etc. Please make a History Day visit to the Courthouse and add to the area's great store of knowledge and recollections. See you there!