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From the Chair

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From the Chair:

Dear Foundation Members:

The privilege and responsibility of serving as Chair of Historic Huntsville Foundation has been mine for two months now. We have had our first meeting with the new Board of Directors and committees are being formed. There is much to accomplish as an organization, and I am excited to be working with the Foundation and its members in the challenging task of preservation in Huntsville and Madison County.

B. J. Robinson and Pat Ryan and their committees are busy planning HHF's 7th Annual Trade Day on the Square. This family-oriented event, to be held Saturday, September 9, has gained popularity each year and last year drew an estimated 20,000 from surrounding cities and states.

The Foundation is sponsoring the return of the Little Lion to the newly renovated Big Spring Park. Research has been conducted to try to learn the exact date of the Little Lion's first appearance in Big Spring Park, but our sleuths have been unsuccessful in establishing his origin and we still do not know when he came to the park. Search your memories—or those of your grandparents—and call me at 830-9962 if you have any information about this little guy.

Interest in the lion has been sparked by memories of those who, as children, were photographed astride and beside him. After years of storage, he has now been spruced up and a concrete pad has been installed in the park awaiting his return. HHF extends our special thanks to city engineer, Mark Seeley, who has gone to extraordinary lengths to assure the accuracy of the lion's renovation and reinstallation. HHF will celebrate the lion's return to the park with a special ceremony on Trade Day. Don't miss this mini-attraction that day!

Historic Huntsville Foundation is your organization. Several committees work to assure the accomplishment of our goals. Among them are Awards, Education/Speaker's Bureau, Long-Range Planning, Preservation, Programs & Meetings, Publications, and Publicity. Committee membership is not limited to the Board of Directors. If you would like to serve on any of these committees, please let me know. I will need a great deal of help from each of you and urge you to contact me if you can serve on any committee or if you have suggestions or questions of any kind.

I wish to thank Suzanne O'Connor for the fine job she did as HHF Chair for the past two years. Her direction and suggestions have been invaluable to me, and I know she will continue to serve the Foundation in a variety of ways.



Suzi Solton