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From the Chair... Diane Ellis

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From the Chair...Diane Ellis

Home is where the hearth is, we learn in this *Quarterly*, and, 90-degree-plus weather or not, Board members have been stoking the coals and really cookin' during the last few months.

In May, we tended the fires of our community hearth by sponsoring special activities for National Preservation Week, starting with a wonderful walking tour led by Harvie Jones and Hall Bryant, Jr. on Mother's Day Sunday. On Monday, at Harrison Brothers, Mayor Hettinger issued a proclamation recognizing our sponsorship of National Preservation Week in Huntsville. Thursday brought a covered dish supper and a presentation by photographer Chip Cooper. The week's grand finale on Saturday was the biennial Moveable Feast party and fundraiser, chaired expertly by Stephanie Sherman. The Foundation netted approximately \$2,400 from the event. As if we hadn't had enough partying, the Foundation and the Harrison Brothers Management Committee hosted a picnic in June for Harrison Brothers volunteers.

It hasn't been all fun and games. New folks have joined the Board to replace the members whose tenure of office has ended. Committee responsibilities have been set for the year. A new bookmark is circulating to publicize the work of the Historic Huntsville Foundation. Suzi Bolton is getting set to produce a brochure for us. Ira Jones is becoming an expert on the use of easements in historic preservation. Lauren Martinson is leading the revolving fund effort and reviewing the National Trust's Main Street program materials for ideas we can use in downtown Huntsville. Ben Walker is making headway on negotiations concerning the freight depot. Carol Harless is keeping a determined and hard-working preservation committee on track, and ideas for workshops, conferences, fundraising and membership-building are percolating everywhere.

Trade Day, September 7th, is taking shape under the able guidance of Suzi Bolton and B. J. Robinson, and, thanks to Gayle Milberger, we'll enjoy the Annual Holiday Tea in December at Jack and Emily Burwell's house on Holmes Avenue.

So there's lots to do, and we need your help with all of it if we're to keep the home fires burning in the cause of historic preservation. Jump in and get involved in some of the hot projects we're cooking up on the Board these days. It's really the cool thing to do.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Ellis". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'D' and 'E'.