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“Work and Play at Bell Factory”

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President's Note

Sometimes I look at the calendar and catch myself wondering, “Where have the last 200 years *gone*?” As students of Huntsville and Madison County history, I know you wonder the same thing! Our history is so interesting and rich, and yet we are constantly finding out new facts about those early years. We tend to look at the far past with curiosity and perhaps a critical eye, and study our pioneer ancestors’ decisions in the context of their era as well as our own. We forget, in the process, that the era we live in today will be studied by future generations with the same wonderment.

On occasions when I have the privilege of speaking to a group of students, I remind them that their lives and their actions will be consigned to the history books one day. I tell them to make the most of their opportunities and live their lives so history will be kind to their memory. And so the same should be said to the rest of us with our graying hair and fading memories. Write your story down or the stories that interest you for the world to enjoy.

On another note, we are happy to have our newest publication, “King Cotton to Space Capital – the Huntsville-Madison County Story.” This hardbound book sells for \$40 to non-members, and \$20 to members. You will also be pleased to know that all proceeds go directly to the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society. Contact me at jacquereeves@avalontours.net if you would like to buy one.

Jacque Reeves
President

Editor's Note

I am very excited to introduce the next generation of historians with a passion for local history in this issue of the *Huntsville Historical Review*. Anna Grace, Whitney Snow, and Chase Tate have maintained the long legacy created by past historians who have contributed to the *Review*. In this issue Anna Grace, an award winning UAH History student, examines one local family's connection to Nazi Germany and provides a moving account of how the world and Huntsville changed during the 1930s. Dr. Whitney Snow, an assistant professor at Midwestern State University, explores the early cotton mill movement in Madison County and how these mills created the foundation for future industrial endeavors in the area. Chase Tate, a technician working with Tennessee Valley Archaeology and Redstone Arsenal, looks at how the Broad River Group from Georgia influenced the developing frontier in early nineteenth-century Madison County. All three articles highlight different elements of local history but provide different lens from which to view our shared past. I hope you enjoy the research and writing of these three new authors and continue to support the Huntsville/Madison County Historical Society. As always please feel free to contact me at john.kvach@uah.edu if you have any article ideas or want to submit a manuscript.

John F. Kvach, Ph.D.
Editor

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