

Montevallo *Historical* Times

Vol. 9 No. 1

Newsletter of the Montevallo Historical Society

Winter 2025

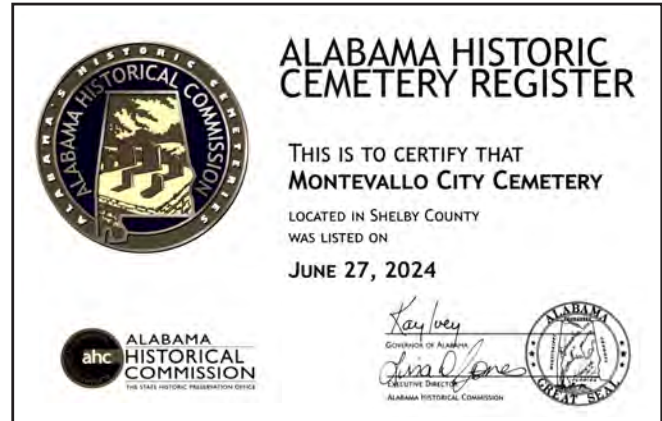
Montevallo City Cemetery Listed in Historic Register

The Montevallo Historical Society was notified in June of 2024 that our application to the Alabama Historical Commission for a listing in their Alabama Historic Cemetery Register had been approved.

Our cemetery committee decided last year that the significant historical nature of Montevallo City Cemetery should certainly qualify it for formal historical recognition by the state commission. So they took on the labor intensive task of collecting pertinent information about the cemetery and providing it by way of completing a lengthy application and submitting it to the commission.

You can see on this page a copy of the certificate sent to the committee certifying approval for listing. The decision by the state commission also qualified the cemetery for the creation and installation of a state approved historical marker at the cemetery.

At this point, a text narrative for the marker has been drafted, approved by both the MHS board of directors and the Montevallo City Council, and blessed by Cemetery Register officials. While the marker will be paid



for with MHS funds, for consistency the Historical Commission coordinates the procurement of the marker and will have it shipped to Montevallo.

A spot for the marker near the main entrance to the cemetery has been selected and approved by Montevallo Public Works director Kirk Hamby. Kirk's city crew will handle installation once it has been received.

MHS members will be notified about a cemetery dedication ceremony for the marker once it is in place and ready for examination by the public.



The Montevallo Historical Society pitched a tent, put up a sign, and set up to greet visitors strolling by during the town's annual National Night Out sundown gathering in October. (L-R) Chris Duda, Jim Donoho, Judy Duda, John McCulley, and Marilyn Donoho staked out a prime spot for promoting MHS and our December Wreaths Across America event.

Next MHS General Membership Meeting

Sunday January 26, 2025 • Parnell Library • 2:00 pm

MHS Directors Jim Brown and Clay Nordan will tag-team to present a program on **Alabama Coaches Company**, the bus line that once operated from its base station in Montevallo. The company was founded by Jim's grandfather, W.L. Brown and Jim's father, Wyman Brown, was President.



President's Letter

Dear Friends:

Much of what you will find in this issue of the *Montevallo Historical Times* relates directly, but in different ways, to the Montevallo City Cemetery.

Most of us understand that this large piece of city property on the south side of town serves the community primarily as a final resting place for generations of deceased members of local families. This statement is plainly true.

But an unappreciated role that the cemetery plays is as the richest record we have of local history and those who went before us. I invite you to find the time to roam through its burial plots and discover what I am talking about.

You'll see handsome and surprisingly ornate stone markers with familiar family names chisled into them. In the older section of the cemetery there are markers showing burial dates going as far back as 1820.

Some markers are so old and weather-beaten that their inscriptions are unreadable and appear to be melting into the earth. And the cemetery has welcomed burial for members of all races and ethnicities from as far back as anyone can remember.

So, I want to congratulate our cemetery committee, Marilyn Donoho, Judy Duda, and Clay Nordan for spearheading the effort this past year to apply and ultimately receive from the Alabama Historical Commission approval for formal listing of Montevallo City Cemetery in their Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

In addition, the cemetery committee of the Montevallo Historical Society was involved with two significant events that took place at the cemetery in 2024.

The first was a rededication of the recently restored 159 year old Kroell / Jennett plot, which was established in 1865 with the burial of 16 year old Christopher Jennett. In 2022, three descendants of the two families were our guests for a fall weekend and a visit to the family plot was on the itinerary. The visitors were dismayed by the darkened appearance of the plot's twenty-two stone markers as well as

the condition of the wrought-iron fence on its perimeter.

Following the cemetery inspection, our visitors sought out our advice and assistance with starting a project to return the markers and fence to their former glory.

Inspired by MHS member and Kroell descendant, Patty DeBardeleben of Selma, committee members sprang into action and began work on cleaning markers and finding someone to either restore or replace the decrepit fence.

It was not long before Marilyn, Judy, and Clay experimented with a stone cleaning solution they discovered that ultimately proved to be incredibly effective in killing algae covering the stones and causing severe discoloration. Multiple treatments over the next two years revealed that nearly every marker in the plot was made from pure white marble. Today they truly gleam in the mid-day sun.

Then, after months of searching, Ensley Iron, LLC, from Birmingham was enlisted to evaluate the condition of the fence and put together a game-plan for its restoration.

The condition of the original fence was so poor that complete replacement was the only option. Fortunately, a new fence could be fabricated by Ensley that was a nearly perfect match, but it would not come cheap.

Ultimately, the Kroell / Jennett descendants became so intent on giving the old plot a new lease on life that, led by Patty, they raised more than enough funds among themselves to cover all expenses involved. Turn to page 12 to see the rededication event we hosted for them on October 27.

And finally, on December 14, our third annual laying of 400+ Wreaths Across America holiday wreaths in Montevallo City Cemetery took place at noon. The ceremony associated with the wreath laying was as inspiring as ever, with former members of the military on hand to honor the various branches of service. Turn to page 6 to see our volunteers in action.



Officers

John E. McCulley
President

Bill Nathews
Vice-President

Judy Duda
Secretary

Clay Nordan
Treasurer

Montevallo

Historical Society

Opening the Portals of Our Heritage



P.O. Box 411
Montevallo, AL 35115

www.historicmontevallo.org

email: montevallo1817@gmail.com

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Directors

Jim Brown
Tara Brantley
Marilynn Donoho
Martha Eisenberg
Billy Mack Lee
Melinda Nix
James Salter
Anne Thomas
Sherry L. Vallides
Anita Williams

FOUNDING DIRECTORS:

Dr. James S. Day • Kenneth Dukes • Marty Everse • Mae Glosson • William Glosson • Susan Godwin • Dr. S.M. Mahan, Jr. (1934 – 2018)
John McCulley • Norman McMillan • Melinda Nix • Clay Nordan • Debbie Pendleton • Janice Seaman • Anne Thomas • Sherry Vallides

Montevallo Historical Society Roster of Active Members – January 2025

KROELL BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS (\$250)

C&V Painting, Inc.
Sherry Vallides
Central State Bank
Mitt Schroeder
JP Building Company
Jason Picklesimer
Smitherman's Pharmacy
Sammy Shunnarah

JESSE WILSON SOCIETY (\$250)

Frank T. Baker

Ed Czeskleba
Karen Czeskleba
Bill Denson
Lois Doyle
Robert Doyle
Judy Lien Duda
Helon Everse
Marty Everse
Catherine Griffin
Clay Nordan
Sally Sears
Adelle Simpson
Danny Wyatt
Rose Mary Wyatt

PATRON LEVEL (\$100)

Richard Anderson
Sharon Anderson
David Bennett
Patricia Bennett
Charlie Binion
Laurie Binion
Beth Jeter Bishop
Randy Bodine
Jim Brown
Linda Cicero
John Cox
James Day
Renè Day
Patty DeBardleben
Marilynn Donoho
Paul Doran
Yvonne Kroell Graham
Cecily Orr Hullett
Margie Scott Jones
Bill Keller
Jeanetta Keller
Missy Ketchum

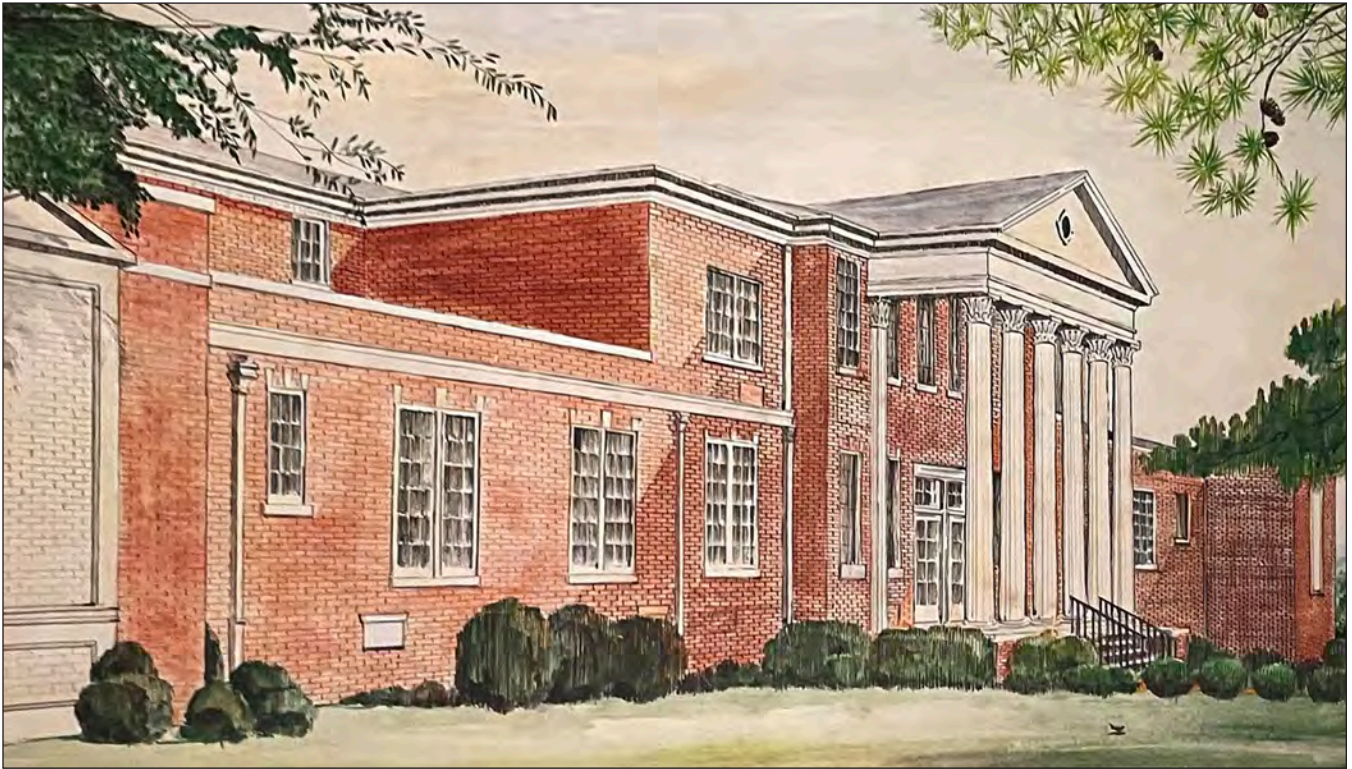
Charles Kaiden Kroell
Marijean Kroell
Bob Lightfoot
Gene Lightfoot
Michael E. Malone
Guy Milford
Jack Moran
Lynn Rotenberry Moran
Barbara Morris Nabors
Melinda Nix
Rusty Nix
Laurie Gene Orr
Mildred Bolton Orr
Sara Pankaskie
Debbie Pendleton
Douglas Rodgers
Libby Rodgers
Randie Sears Rosenberg
Molly Sears Rosenberg
Andrew J. Rosenberg
Sandra Scott Small
Anne Thomas
David Thomas
Daniel Thornton
Jonne C. Thornton
Becky B. Thornton
Barbara Vance
Clare Vance
Sid Vance
Barry Woodham
Dee Woodham
Peggy Davis Woods

SINGLE & FAMILY LEVEL (\$25 OR \$40)

Ron Albright
Deanna Anderson
Ellen Andrews
Mary Arledge
Steve Arledge
Phyllis Bailey
Cathy Barber
Brenda Bates
Rebecca Beaty
Gary Bell
Courtney Bennett
Lee Binion
Cheryl McClure Blackmon
Becky Holcombe Bolton
Tara Brantley
Becky Brown
Jane Watson Bullock

Janet Rotenberry Burnett
Tad Cairns
Glenda Terrell-Cairns
Pam Campbell
Pat Clark
Martha Eisenberg
Judy Robinson Feagin
Barclay Fisher
Priscilla Fisher
Bryan Fowler
Nancy Fowler
Randy Fowler
Bruce Fraser
Danny Gamble
Sarah Garcia
Sharon W. Garrett
Mae Glosson
William Glosson
Margie Hardin
Carey Heatherly
Jim Hermecz
Barry Hocutt
Clark Hultquist
Cathy W. Hyer
Ben Ingram
Debbie Ingram
Kitty Keener
Karen Kelly
Peggy Hurt Kent
Kathy King
John Kirby
Carolyn Kirby
Jimmy Lawley
Linda Lawley
Susan Ledbetter
Billy Lee
Brenda Lewis
Carol Lightfoot
Kirk Lightfoot
Eddie Lovelady
Kathleen Lovelady
Luci Lovelady
Elizabeth Chism Ludwig
Scott Martin
Bruce McClanahan
Jane McClanahan
John McCulley
Mary McCulley
Jerry McGaughy
Larry McGaughy
Nancy McGaughy
Susie McGaughy

Jan McKinnon
John McKinnon
Joan McMillan
Norman McMillan
Laurie Middaugh
Barb Milstead
Herb Milstead
David T. Morgan
Judy Morgan
Bill Muehlbauer
Courtney Parker Murphy
Bill Nathews
Casie Nathews
Dean Nathews
Joan Pickett
Mike Pickett
Bill Plott
Atticus Plott
Sandra Albright Rogers
James A. Salter
Steve Sears
Alma Sears
Madeleine Sears
Bobby Joe Seales
Diane B. Seales
Janice Seaman
Teresa Shell
Lonnie Shell
Luke Smith
Eddie Spears
Maureen Spears
Plesia Spears
John Starks
Jackie Starks
John W. Stewart, Jr.
Kathy Stewart
Carolyn Frost Turnbull
Scott Turnbull
Marilee Turnbull
Hubert Van Tuyll
Susan Wilder-White
Bill White
Anita Williams
Bradford Williams
Andrew Wilson
Nancy Wilstach
Carol Winslett
Eddie Winslett
Bobby Wyatt
Jan Wyatt
Julia Youngblood
Gary Youngblood

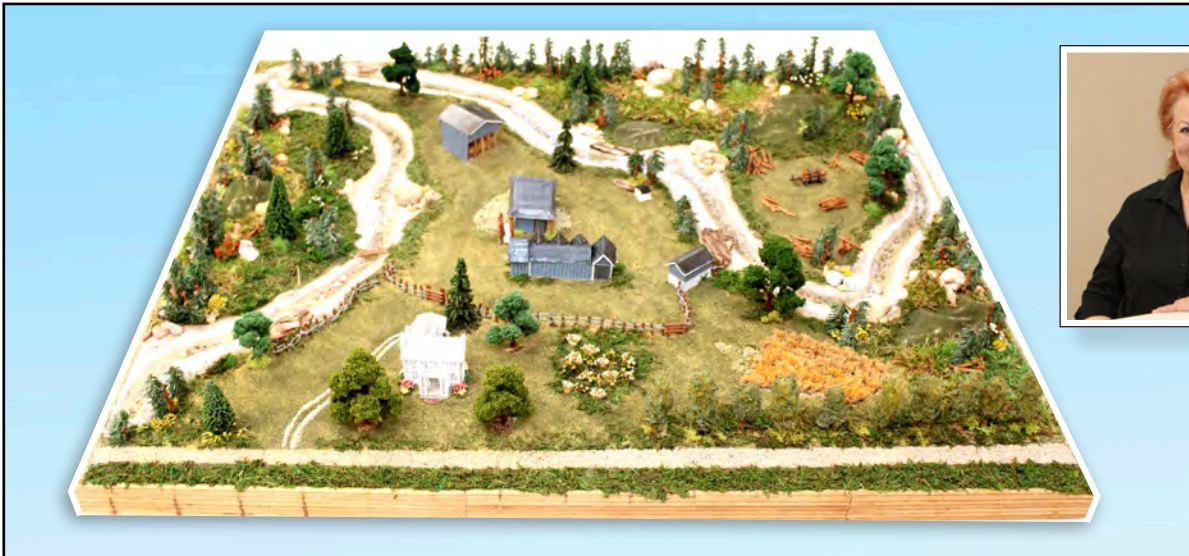


The undated color rendering you see here of the facade of the nearly 100 year-old Montevallo High School building is one of a limited series (#64 of 100) produced by the Birmingham area illustrator and commercial artist, Karl Scott. The print was donated to the Montevallo Historical Society by one of our members, Guy Milford, Jr.

Guy's father, Guy Milford, Sr., was principal of MHS in the 1950's and 1960's and his mother, Anne Milford, was the school's librarian. Guy came across the print stored in a mailing tube as he was going through docu-

ments and other material that his mother had saved. He concluded that the print belonged back in Montevallo, so it was transferred into our care recently and is now part of a collection of items properly stored and preserved within the Archives of Carmichael Library at the University of Montevallo.

Guy is a '66 graduate of Samford University. After service as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, he had a 30 year career with South Central Bell and BellSouth. He and his wife, Sandra Braman, a former professor at Texas A&M University, are retired and live in College Station.



Montevallo Historical Society director Anita Williams is a gifted artist, dollmaker, and crafts artisan. At a recent board meeting she brought this impressive diorama for her fellow directors to inspect and appreciate. The diorama depicts in great detail the layout and physical features of the former Mahler property as it looked when it was still a fully functioning farm. The property was bequeathed to the City of Montevallo by former owner, Betty Mahler. With considerable effort and investment, the city has successfully transitioned the property into the popular Shoal Creek Park.

He's a Jolly Good Fellow -----

Both students and faculty roared approval as Herby Milstead won the Hi-Y trophy last Friday. The citation read, "To the boy who best exemplifies all the qualities of good sportsmanship both on and off the athletic field and who conducts himself in a respectable manner in both victory and defeat."



MR. GUY MILFORD, principal, presents Hi-Y trophy to Herby Milstead.

Herby, son of Mrs. H. O. Milstead, has performed many duties at MHS.

Selected this year by classmates as "friendliest," he served as chief fire marshal and held the purse strings for the seniors.

Herby took part in all three major sports. This fall poor health forced him to give up football, but this hard worker couldn't sit idly by.

He took the job as manager and received praise from all three coaches, who agreed he was one of the best managers they'd ever worked with.

Coach Fisher summed it up with, "I can't remember a time we ever had to call Herby down for anything-- on or off the field."

Officers and Directors of the Montevallo Historical Society were saddened to learn of the recent passing of one of our dedicated members, Montevallo native Herb Milstead. Herb and his wife Barbara have been loyal and active members since 2017, the year we first came together as an organization devoted to local history. We will miss Herb, as will all Montevallo citizens, and his life-long commitment to community service.



Herb Milstead (left) with his "lifetime brother" and fellow "Vadocker" neighbor, Wayne Smitherman, at the multi-class Montevallo High School reunion held at Montevallo First Baptist in July of 2023. Herb assumed the role of primary organizer for the event, which attracted many Bulldog alumni and was a most enjoyable and memorable get together for everyone.

Herbert Otis Milstead, Jr. 1945 – 2024

Herbert Otis Milstead, born on July 2, 1945, entered eternal rest on December 17, 2024, at his home in Montevallo, Alabama, at the age of 79.

Herby was a devoted husband to his beloved wife of 56 years, Barbara Farnell Milstead. Together, they built a loving family that includes their son Stephen Milstead (Terri), daughter Beth Wilson (Andy), and five cherished grandchildren: Maurry Milstead, Lizzie Milstead, Alissa Wilson, Janie Wilson, and Raley Wilson. Herbert is also survived by his sister Betty Savage (Billy), sisters-in-law Beth Grover and Patricia Clark, brother-in-law Doug Farnell (Jane), lifetime "brother" Wayne Smitherman (Karen), and many loving nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Herbert Otis Milstead Sr. and Florence Thurman Milstead, as well as his sister Mary "Detsy" Kiker.

A man of deep faith and tireless service, Herby was an active member of Montevallo First United Methodist Church, where he served as a Trustee, Property Maintenance Chairman, UMYF Counselor, and participated in the Men's Club, Administrative Council, and Prayer Paracletes. His commitment to his community was evident through decades of involvement. Herby worked as a U.S. Letter Carrier for 36 years and later as a couri-

er for People's Bank. He also dedicated himself to civic service as a volunteer firefighter for 16 years, two-term Montevallo City Councilman, and Chairman of both the Parks and Recreation Board and the Planning and Zoning Board. He also served as president of the Montevallo Lions Club.

Herby's contributions extended to youth programs as a Scoutmaster, Cub Scout leader, and coach for T-ball, baseball, and youth football. A graduate of Montevallo High School (Class of 1963) and a student at the University of Montevallo, he supported local schools as President of the Montevallo High School Troubadours Band Boosters, an announcer for MHS football games, and a member of the MHS Bench Warmers Club. Among his many honors were being named Montevallo's Outstanding Citizen of the Year in 1982 and a Montevallo Home-town Hero in 2018. In 2019, he received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award from Meals on Wheels.

Visitation will take place on Saturday, December 28, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Montevallo First United Methodist Church (861 Middle Street, Montevallo), with a memorial service to follow at noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heritage Fund at Montevallo First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 72, Montevallo, AL 35115.

Herby's life was a shining example of faith, love, and selfless dedication to others. May his memory bring peace to those who mourn him and inspire all who knew him to live with purpose and compassion.



Photography by Art Meripol

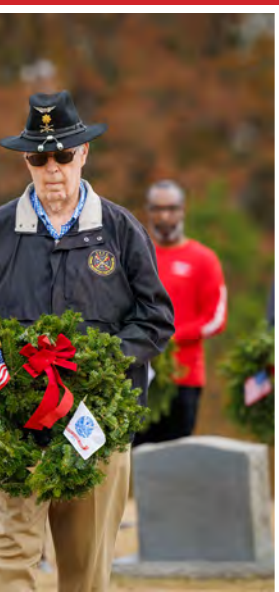


(Left to right) Major Lauren McAnally, United States Army, retired; Corporal Wendy Urbancic Wright, United States Marine Corps; Chief Petty Officer, Alan Broadhead, United States Navy; Staff Sergeant David Thomas, United States Air Force;





Senior Airman, Tiwynn Dove, United States Air Force; Colonel Tommy Baker, United States Army, retired; Master Sergeant Joseph Elliott, U.S. Air Force, retired; Sergeant Rosario Thomas, U.S. Army.







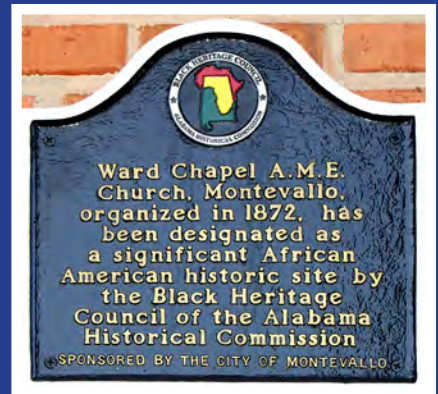
To see a video of the 2024 Wreaths Across America ceremony at Montevallo City Cemetery, be sure to visit www.historicmontevallo.org



The Mason Hall
has been designated as
a significant African
American historic site by
the Black Heritage
Council of the Alabama
Historical Commission
SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF MONTEVALLO



Shiloh Missionary Baptist
Church, Montevallo,
organized in 1899, has
been designated as
a significant African
American historic site by
the Black Heritage
Council of the Alabama
Historical Commission
SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF MONTEVALLO



Ward Chapel A.M.E.
Church, Montevallo,
organized in 1872, has
been designated as
a significant African
American historic site by
the Black Heritage
Council of the Alabama
Historical Commission
SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF MONTEVALLO

On the afternoon of Sunday, October 20, 2024, three well-attended ceremonies in Montevallo unveiled the inaugural African-American Heritage Trail historic markers you see here. The markers, sponsored by the City of Montevallo and awarded by the Alabama Historical Commission, designated The Mason Hall, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, and Ward Chapel A.M.E. Church as significant local African-American historic sites.



The Mason Hall – Montevallo, Alabama



Stone Mountain Lodge #187 PHA and Harris Pride Chapter #437 OES

(Seated) Roosevelt Cunningham, GDD Alvin Crawford, GDD Bridgette Smith, Willie B. Bolling, Evelyn Mitchell. (Standing) James Salter, Reginald Knight, Melvin Mickens, LaVann Suttles, LaFran Marks, Rev. Dwight Dillard, Bobby Pierson, Darryl Griffith, Sr., Kenneth Gooden, Sammie Baker, Antonio Melton, Carolyn Shields, Shirley Cunningham, Teresa Stafford, Deborah Staffney, Ann Fulgham, Marquette Anderson, Jahn Bolling.



Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church



Ward Chapel A.M.E. Church

A Brief History of “The Mason Hall”

By James A. Salter, W.M. • Stone Mountain Lodge #187 PHA
January 2023 • Revised December 2024

The Prince Hall affiliated lodge hall located at 160 Commerce Street, Montevallo, Alabama is affectionately known as the “Mason Hall.” The brothers of Montevallo Star Lodge #726 purchased the property for the building in 1938 from W. M. Johnson and his wife, Nettie Johnson for one hundred dollars. It is believed that Montevallo Star Lodge was chartered between 1920-1923. It is also believed that Hobert Harris was the lodge’s first Worshipful Master. The Eastern Star chapter, Harris Pride Chapter #437 was chartered in 1923. Sis. A. R. Gilmore was the first Worthy Matron and Bro. Hobert Harris, the first Worthy Patron.

The building was probably built in 1938 or shortly thereafter. It was a wooden structure until 1992 when vinyl siding was added. Numerous improvements have been made over the years. The hall has also serviced the community as a meeting place to hold different

functions. It served as one of the sites where students attended classes while Prentice High School was being finished between September 1949 through March 1950. It is also believed that it was one of the sites where the Suburban League held meetings.

The Mason Hall was home for Montevallo Star Lodge until 2005. Boothton Pride Lodge #720 also met there. In 2005, the brothers of Montevallo Star Lodge joined Stone Mountain Lodge #187 which was meeting in Calera, Alabama at that time. Stone Mountain Lodge was chartered in 1904.

In 2008, the brothers of Stone Mountain Lodge renovated the hall. It is now home for Stone Mountain and Harris Pride Chapter #437 OES.

On October 20, 2024, the lodge hall was dedicated as a historic site and became a part of the Montevallo African American Heritage Trail.

<p>The brothers that served Montevallo Star Lodge #726 as Worshipful Master were:</p> <p>Hobert Harris 1920's Jesse Ellis Peoples..... 1920's – 1950's William Mayweather 1950's – 1960 Redgal D. DuBose 1960's Rev. Albert L. Jones..... 1970's – 1984 Henry L. Tolbert..... 1985 – 1990 James A. Salter..... 1990 – 2005</p>	<p>Some of the Worthy Matrons that have served Harris Pride Chapter besides Sis. A. R. Gilmore are:</p> <p>Sis. Mayme DuBose White Sis. Mildred Harris Sis. Shirley Cunningham Sis. Sarah Lacey Sis. Teresa Stafford</p>
<p>Some of the brothers that served as Worshipful Master for Boothton Pride Lodge #720 were:</p> <p>Clifton L. Lacey, Rev. Freddie Green, Roosevelt Cunningham Willie Brantley, Jr.</p>	<p>Some of the brothers that served as Worshipful Master for Stone Mountain Lodge #187 were:</p> <p>William A. Lacey 1904 – Arthur L. Burnice, Sr..... 1960's – 1970's Lee B. Harris..... 1970's – 1980's George Bunkley 1980's – 1990's Danny Williams..... 1990's – 1995 Rev. Rogers L. White 1996 – 2007 James A. Salter..... 2007 – 6/10/2023 Darius Foster 6/10/2023 – 7/6/2024 James A. Salter..... 7/6/2024 – present</p>

Dedicated to Endure

Kroell / Jennett Plot Restored Twenty-two Souls Blessed and Remembered

On Sunday, October 27, 2024, fourteen descendants of Montevallo's Kroell and Jennett families, from as far away as Michigan and Colorado and as close as Selma, AL were the guests of the Montevallo Historical Society for an event at Montevallo City Cemetery rededicating the burial plot where the first of their ancestors was buried 159 years ago.

The occasion was the completion of the restoration of the plot, which primarily encompassed extensive cleaning of stone grave markers and the replacement of the original wrought-iron fence that defined the perimeter of the plot.

The reason that members of two families are buried in the plot stems from the marriage of George Kroell, a mid-nineteenth century Austrian immigrant, and Mary Jennett, also an immigrant to Alabama, but from Ireland. They met in the coal mining village of Aldrich, two miles from Montevallo, where George Kroell and Mary Jennett's father, Patrick, worked in the mines.

Mary's 16 year-old brother, Christopher Jennett, died in 1865 and was the first person buried in the plot. Seven years later, George and Mary's first child, a son named John, died in infancy. He was buried next to Christopher, setting the stage for twenty more burials of members of both families (14 Kroells and 8 Jennetts) for the next 100 years. The plot is at capacity, with the last burial having occurred in 1965.

For the rededication, three tents were erected side-by-side facing the longest span of the plot's new fence. Folding chairs, frequently used for outdoor commencement exercises at the University of Montevallo were borrowed for the occasion from the UM Physical Plant Department. The chairs were arranged in much appreciated shade under the tents and MHS program chairman and member of the cemetery committee, Clay Nordan, served as MC during the program.

The first speaker was MHS president, John McCulley, who offered words of welcome to our visitors and thanks to all who had played a role in the restoration.

Adam Ducote of Ensley Iron, LLC followed John and spoke about all they encountered in replacing the fence. Clay spoke about the process he employed to reveal the gravestones' original gleaming white color. Missy Ketchum, George Kroell's great-great-great-granddaughter spoke about mining and industrial con-

ditions in central Alabama that George encountered when he came to the area in the late 1860s.

Yvonne Kroell Graham, also Georges' great-great-great-granddaughter, was next and offered a synopsis of the eight Jennett family members buried in the plot. Clay followed Yvonne with a similar synopsis for the fourteen Kroells.

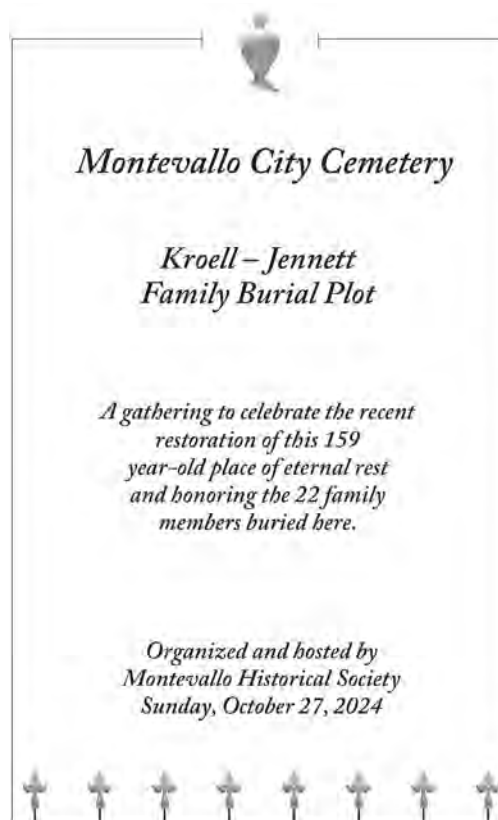
Even though George Kroell and Patrick Jennett immigrated to the U.S. from different countries, the religious heritage of both men was Roman Catholic. It seemed only appropriate that part of this rededication should include a "prayer over the place of committal" for those buried here by a Catholic priest.

We are most grateful to Rev. Ray Dunmyer, for offering the prayer and re-sanctifying this unique burial ground. Father

Dunmyer previously served as priest at Montevallo's St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church for 13 years.

Following the special day for both families at Montevallo City Cemetery, one of our visitors, John Murfee from Nashville, son of Patty DeBardeleben, sent the following note with his thanks:

"The weekend was revelatory for me as it brought to life many stories I've heard all my life. I left after only a brief visit with a MUCH deeper understanding of my own family. It all made deeper sense and my sister Missy and I both had the same "ah ha" conclusion. We're so glad we came."



To see a video of the October 27, 2024 cemetery plot rededication visit www.historicmontevallo.org



(Standing, left to right) Kim Essig, Niceville, FL; Jan Haggard, Gulf Shores, AL; Stacy Holston, Prattville, AL; Tim Haile, Alpharetta, GA; Karen Montgomery, Prattville, AL; Elise Griffin, Memphis, TN; Russell Kroell, Memphis, TN; Russ Griffin, Denver, CO; Patty DeBardeleben, Selma, AL; Will Griffin, Memphis, TN; Gretchen Shine, Woodstock, GA; John Murfee, Nashville, TN. (Kneeling left to right) Yvonne Kroell Graham, Twining, MI; Missy Ketchum, Jacksonville, FL.



John McCulley



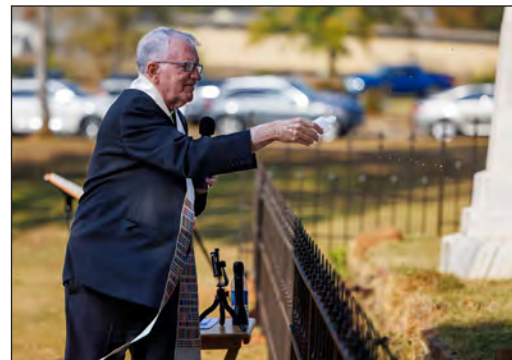
Adam Ducote



Missy Ketchum



Yvonne Kroell Graham



Father Ray Dunmyer





Before and after treatment with D2 solution.



Primary Photography by Art Meripol • Supplemental Photography by Yvonne Kroell Graham & Clay Nordan



KROELL – JENNETT

Ancestors and descendants of George Kroell and Mary Jennett Kroell are buried within this enclosure.

Restored by descendants of their son Patrick Jennett Kroell and wife Frances Collier Kroell, 2024.

The family thanks the Montevallo Historical Society and Ensley Iron LLC for their support and assistance.

FAMILY MEMBERS BURIED IN THIS PLOT

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| George Kroell (1843 - 1925) | M. J. Kaiden Kroell (1899 - 1918) |
| Mary Jennett Kroell (1844 - 1916) | George F. Kroell (1906 - 1940) |
| Frank Kroell (1868 - 1912) | |
| John Kroell (1872 - 1872) | |
| Mary Kroell Creagh (1873 - 1965) | Patrick Jennett (1820 - 1890) |
| George Kroell, Jr. (1875 - 1878) | Ann King Jennett (1822 - 1902) |
| John K. Kroell (1877 - 1912) | Christopher Jennett (1848 - 1865) |
| Kate Kroell (1879 - 1962) | Samuel Jennett (1855 - 1901) |
| Mattie Scott Kroell (1881 - 1921) | Christina Jennett (1855 - 1928) |
| Georgia Kroell (1894 - 1912) | Lucy Jennett (1865 - 1944) |
| Margaret E. Kroell (1896 - 1897) | Agnes E. Jennett (1883 - 1898) |
| Patrick J. Kroell, Jr. (1898 - 1898) | Patrick E. Jennett (1887 - 1896) |

(Patrick Jennett Kroell and Frances Collier Kroell are buried in a separate section of Montevallo City Cemetery)



Two large trees bordering the plot had grown into sections of the old fence. Ensley Iron expanded the footprint of the plot with the new fence allowing the sections "eaten by the trees" to be left intact as an artifact from the past.



(Left) To the surprise of many, the sturdy original iron corner posts could be restored and re-used in the new configuration. (Right) A brass gate latch handle, with a patina of "verdigris" was resurrected by Ensley Iron and reused.



A compact motorized auger needed some pressure from the three man team but it did a fine job of "punching" holes for the fence posts in the rock-hard ground of Montevallo City Cemetery.



The Ensley Iron, LLC crew during installation of the new wrought iron fence. (L-R) Adam Ducote, Alex Little, Mathew McCurry.

Montevallo Historical Society
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Birmingham, AL 35223-1253



Jason Picklesimer

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jpbuildingcompany@gmail.com

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