

HUNTSVILLE- MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESERVING THE PAST TO ENRICH THE FUTURE

June 2015

Did you know that Huntsville's first four-legged police officer was a German Shepherd named King? He joined the department in 1963 and won the hearts of everyone who knew him. Sadly, King ran himself to death while chasing a criminal; the entire department was devastated. In King's honor, every K9 radio call begins with the word "King."

Join the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society on ***Sunday, June 14 at 2 p.m.*** at the Huntsville Public Library for a very special program. K9 Unit Supervisor Sgt. Joe Jenkins and Officer Cory Upton of the Huntsville Police Department will bring Gunner, a specially trained member of the K9 unit, to show off unique training exercises. In addition, we will hear the history of this unit as well as some hilarious stories of how our fourlegged officers have captured local criminals. We are especially proud that this unit has won a number of citations and awards, and in 2014, the K9 unit captured 44 felons and

over \$700,000 in stolen property was returned to the owners.

This meeting of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society is free and open to the public. This is our annual duespaying meeting. In addition, we will elect new officers for the next two years and enjoy fine refreshments, compliments of your board members. For more information, call Jacque Reeves at **(256) 509-3940**.



We are happy to announce that two cemeteries have been added to the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register. The Freeman-Mitchell Cemetery near Opp Reynolds Road and Carter Grove Road, as well as the Saint James Chapel Cemetery located at 2950 Jeff Road in Harvest have been deemed worthy of preservation. These two cemeteries bring the total in Madison County to 18. See www.preserveala.org for more information on this program as well as other programs offered by the Alabama Historical Commission.

This letter marks the end of my term as President of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society. The support of our members and officers has been tremendous, and I thank you! My focus has been to increase publicity and send out timely meeting notices. As a result, our attendance has consistently been near 100. I'm proud to see so many people come out to hear our great speakers and show off your hospitality. I know our next slate of officers will be enthusiastic, and with your smiling faces and interest in preserving and promoting our history, we can count on at least another 50 years of a vibrant historical society.

Enough of that! It is June and you know what that means? ***Time to renew your membership*** and I ask you to consider sending a gift membership to a friend or family member. Right now we are focusing on repainting, repairing, and replacing our historic markers ravaged by time and weather. Well cared for historic markers convey a sense of pride in our history/community as well as the appearance of our city.

Please fill out the enclosed membership card (you can use a return address label) and remember your e-mail address as well. Thank you for your continued support of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society. See you on Sunday, June 14 at 2 p.m.!

- Jacque Reeves

To renew your membership for 2015-2016

send a check for \$25 to:

**HMCHS
P.O. Box 666
Huntsville, AL 35804**

Please include your e-mail address.

***Thank you for your continued support of the
Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society.***

WWW.HMCHS.ORG



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