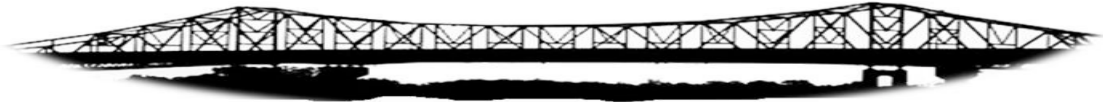


Historic Decatur Association



Letter from Your President

October 15, 2020

Greetings Neighbors,

As I reflect on 2020 and its challenges, I am reminded of the reasons my spouse and I chose Decatur to be our hometown. Eleven years ago, we chose Decatur because of its wonderfully preserved historic districts and its residents who possessed a sincere and unique sense of caring about their community. Residents participated in social events. Neighbors made it a point to get to know and help each other, and folks routinely volunteered within the community.

Some of my fondest memories here surround past Christmas seasons. One memory particularly stands out: No one prompted him. No one reminded him. No one needed to. For as long as his health allowed, John Black faithfully hung Christmas Wreaths on every street sign in Old Decatur. As I recall, when John hung the wreath on my Lafayette Street sign, it was my signal to decorate my Old Decatur home with garlands and bows, bringing it to life with Christmas cheer. For me, John's wreath-hanging symbolized the beginning of a magical time— Christmas in Historic Decatur! John passed away a few weeks ago. As a pillar of our community, he will be missed by everyone who knew him.

Despite the pandemic, this year's Christmas Tour will go on! Chairperson Harriette Mathews will share the details in this newsletter. Stay tuned!

In a dedication ceremony at Walden Oaks Park on August 6, the Decatur Historic Association proudly announced the completion of our Wayfinding Entrance Signage project. The first four signs were placed in April 2019, and the final four were installed in early August. This project was made possible through the financial support of HDA members, Decatur-Morgan Tourism, and Alabama's Mountains Rivers and Valleys RC&D Council. Thank you, McComm Group, Decatur Parks and Recreation, Senator Arthur Orr, Mayor Tab Bowling and the Decatur City Council, for supporting our organization through to completion of this project.

Over the summer, our tree committee worked on the fall planting plans. We are happy to report the schedule has been finalized, and planting should be concluded within the next few weeks.

If you would like to share information with Historic Decatur neighbors, please pass along your feedback to a board member. Our goal is to encourage community involvement to the end of making a positive difference in our beloved historic districts. We also encourage you to become a board member and help us make those decisions toward the enhancement of our districts. A board member interest form is included in this newsletter.

Lastly, we enclose a membership form as well. If you are new to Albany or Old Decatur, we invite you to join our organization. If you are a member but haven't paid your 2020 dues, we ask that you do so.

Brenda Henson
HDA President 2020

Historic Decatur Association 2020 Officers / Board Members

Brenda Henson, President	Email: bhenson4@wm.com	Telephone: 251-233-7003
Harriette Mathews, Vice Pres	Email: harriettepmathews@gmail.com	Telephone: 334-379-5350
Mike Meely, Treasurer	Email: mmeely@aol.com	Telephone: 334-477-3978
Cindy Upton, Secretary	Email: cindyupton@bellsouth.net	Telephone: 256-566-3344
Tyler Davis	Email: tylerdavis35802@gmail.com	Telephone: 256-665-0519
Astrid McIntosh	Email: armcinto645@yahoo.com	Telephone: 256-466-6523
Sue Powell	Email: suegpowell@gmail.com	Telephone: 251-622-3221
Nancy Greenleaf	Email: nancyteacher25@gmail.com	Telephone: 334-750-6571
Marsha Pope	Email: ercegovic@juno.com	Telephone: 504-606-4253
Darcy Hopkins	Email: darcynaylor@gmail.com	Telephone: 850-258-6584
Judge David Breland	Email: dbreland@decaturn-al.gov	Telephone: 256-565-3788
Canitha Thomas	Email: coachtgirl@gmail.com	Telephone: 256-654-9898
Kevin Malcolm	Email: dive4dlr@aol.com	Telephone: 256-566-4604

2020 Christmas Downtown

The Downtown Decatur Merchants and Business Association will hold its annual holiday shopping event in Historic Downtown Decatur on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in mid-November. Come to Second Avenue and Bank Street for in-store promotions, food trucks, merchant specials and live music events during extended business hours.

Shops and restaurants will stay open until 7pm November 12 & 13, and until 5pm November 14.

Festive Fabulous

The Christmas Tour will launch on our website December 12, 2020. Homes on the virtual tour are: Old Decatur's Echols-Chenault House, 417 Line Street, and Albany's Gunter-Hutchings House, 643 Jackson Street.

We are also excited to offer a glimpse into a Preservation in Progress with a slideshow about the Gray House, 1038 Jackson Street, in Albany. This home is slated to be on the walk-through Christmas Tour in 2021.

We are pleased to offer the following outdoor sites for your strolling and driving pleasure: Bank Street Green, the City Cemetery (pending Covid-19 restriction-relief), Delano Park Rose Garden and Frazier Park.

The HDA is not soliciting sponsorships this year to provide relief to our faithful sponsors from



HISTORIC DECATUR
Christmas Tour
ALABAMA

years past. Donations, however, will be accepted on our website, decaturchristmastour.com.

Outdoor Christmas decor judging in Albany and Old Decatur and the two downtown business districts of Bank Street and Second Avenue will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 8, starting at 3 pm. Out-of-town, unbiased judges will drive by each home during the day AND the night to judge exterior décor and lighting.

Dear neighbors, please help us reach 100% participation in exterior decorating this year.

This is the time to "wow" all visitors to our historic residential and downtown districts.

Let's go over the top in 2020!

Enclosed, you'll find a greenery order form to help decorate your home in true Christmas class. Orders are due by October 25.

www.decaturchristmastour.com

Facebook: HistoricDecaturChristmasTour

Instagram: decaturchristmastour

Historic Decatur Association 2021 Board Member Interest Form

I, _____, am interested in serving as a board member for Historic Decatur Association in 2020.

___ I am available to attend monthly board meetings (last Tuesday of every month except December).
(yes or no)

___ I am available to assist with fundraisers. (yes or no)

___ I am available to attend neighborhood socials. (yes or no)

___ I am available to attend the annual meeting in January 2021 and 2022.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please email your interest form to Brenda Henson at bhenson4@wm.com or mail to Brenda Henson, President HDA, 305 Lafayette Street NE, Decatur, AL 35601 no later than end of day, November 10th, 2020. Upon receipt of your interest form, it will be submitted to the Historic Decatur Association's nominating committee for consideration. Thank you for your involvement and willingness to serve our community.

Sincerely,

Brenda Henson, President, 2020

Welcome New Neighbors!

We would like to take a moment to **welcome new residents** to our historic neighborhoods. If you are a new resident, we would love to hear from you! We invite you to join the HDA. A great way to keep up to date on events is through our website historicdecatur.org, our Facebook group, *Historic Decatur Association*, and on Nextdoor. If you have not yet joined or would like more information on the HDA, please contact any member of the HDA board or email me at bhenson4@wm.com for help. We would love to get to know you and your family. A membership form is here for your convenience:

HDA Membership/Change Form

Print clearly & complete in full.

Mail To:

Brenda Henson
305 Lafayette Street NE
Decatur, AL 35601

Annual Dues:

\$25.00 Per Household
Make checks payable to:
Historic Decatur Association

Adults (will be alphabetized by last name in Directory)

_____	_____	_____
Last Name	1. First Name	2. First Name
(Names will be listed in above order)		

Others in household (include other adults and/or children)

_____	_____
First & Last Name	First & Last Name

_____	_____
First & Last Name	First & Last Name

Address

_____	_____
House or Apartment Number	Street

_____	_____
Home Phone	Work Phone

First Name: _____ **Cell:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Second Name: _____ **Cell:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

(All contributions above dues payment are tax deductible)

If you are completing this form as a change in your personal information only, please circle the following: <i>This is a Change of Personal Information Only.</i>
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Thank You!

Note: The information on this form may be used for publication of a new HDA directory. Please highlight any information you wish to be excluded from the directory.



HISTORIC DECATUR
Christmas Tour
 ALABAMA

2020 Christmas Greenery Order Form

WREATHS

(measurements are outside diameter)

	Balsam	Balsam/White Pine Mix	Total
25"	_____@\$20.00	_____@\$24.50	\$_____
30"	_____@\$26.00	_____@\$30.00	\$_____
36"	_____@\$38.50		\$_____

GARLAND

	Balsam	Balsam/White Pine Mix	
25'	_____@\$38.00	_____@\$45.50	\$_____
50'	_____@\$65.50	_____@\$80.50	\$_____

SWAGS

Mixed Balsam Swag		
_____	@\$20.50 (undecorated)	\$_____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$_____

- The absolute deadline for placing your order to have the shipment in time for the Christmas Tour is **October 25, 2020**. No exceptions will be made.
- Your greenery should arrive the week of Thanksgiving.
- You will be called when your order is ready for pick-up. Please pick up your order as soon as possible after being notified that it is ready.
- **Old Decatur Residents:** Greenery must be picked up at the Chenault's driveway (Cherry Street side).
- **Albany Residents:** Pickup will be at 649 Jackson Street and will be coordinated by Canitha Thomas and Kelly Hutchings.

Please make your selections and return the order form with payment to:

Carol Chenault
 417 Line Street NE

Make your check payable to Historic Decatur Association.
 You may place it in the mail slot in the front door.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

These prices are available only to those who have paid 2020 dues for DHA. If you have not paid your dues, there will be a \$25 courtesy charge. You may include your dues, made payable to Decatur Historic Association, in a separate check.