

# footnotes<sup>1</sup>

Volume XLIV

Summer 2015

## History Major First to Be Accepted into Accelerated Law Program



**H**istory major Holly Howell has been admitted to the Cumberland School of Law as one of the first students to participate in its accelerated law degree program (3+3). This program allows Samford students to earn B.S. or B.A. degrees and a law degree in six years rather than seven.

Students who have three-fourths of their work

completed for a bachelor's degree may be admitted to Cumberland. After successful completion of the first year of law classes, students are awarded a bachelor's degree in their undergraduate major.

"For your first year of law school, you get to use all of the undergraduate scholarships," Howell said. "Not only will I be missing out on paying for that fourth year of undergrad, but

I'll have a pretty substantial portion of my first year of law school paid for. It's hard to pass up."

Howell looks forward to living her longtime dream of going to law school. "I'm thrilled about it, because I'm one of those people who actually knew what they wanted to do," Howell said. Her interest in law was sparked through experience in her high school's law academy, mock trial, and debate team.

"It will be bittersweet to leave the history department," Howell said. "It was so hard to leave my second family here, working in the office and being in classes. I've had classes with pretty much every professor in the department and the thought of speeding up this process and cutting off a year with people that I'd gotten so close to, that was the only sticking point."

"There are a lot of places where you could go to school where I would be considered a number, but it was never like that," Howell said. "It was a situation where I didn't have to worry about upsetting anybody because my happiness made them happy. It's been nothing but support from everybody I've talked to."

## New Concentration, Scholarship Program Announced

**A** new concentration in legal studies is now available in partnership with Cumberland School of Law. History students preparing to participate in Samford's 3+3 program are strongly encouraged to concentrate in legal studies.

The concentration, which will focus on humanities-based study, will help students develop the important skills and values that will provide a sound foundation for a legal education and subsequent careers.

Students will work with an advisor in the history department to select general education courses, major courses, and electives. Requirements include completing a legal studies internship and participating in the department's legal mentoring program.

This fall, the department of history will welcome the first cadre of students to the new Legal Studies Scholarship Program. The new program provides an enriched undergraduate experience for history majors with a concentration in legal studies. In addition to completing coursework for the concentration, scholarship recipients have the opportunity to receive mentoring by faculty, current law students and alumni lawyers; participate in special events at Cumberland School of Law; and gain experience through legal internships.

Each scholarship is renewable for up to four years. To be considered, students must complete an online application, write an essay and submit a letter of recommendation.

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# Folklore ... More Than a Class

Dr. Jim Brown often quips, only half-jokingly, that folklore is as much a class as it is a lifestyle. For students, this lifestyle of weaving, fishing, singing, and canoeing lasts for a semester. For Dr. Brown, it has been a lifestyle for over 40 years. Since 1973, Dr. Brown has shaped a course that communicates his love for the people and places of the South through experiential learning that focuses on folk orature/literature, material culture, and music.

The study of traditional folkways was not always an interest for Dr. Brown. He says that “as a teenager, I was running away from that as fast as I could run . . . I just didn't move in those circles. I was heading toward the big city . . . It was kind of quaint and interesting but I was not going that direction at all.”

In college, the study of history drew Dr. Brown away from engineering because he “was trying to get some perspective on the craziness of American life in the Sixties.” Though Brown specialized in Russian history, Alabama folkways captured his attention soon after he arrived at Samford in December of 1970.

As Dr. Brown and his wife travelled from east Tennessee to Birmingham, he was skeptical about the flat terrain of north Alabama. Brown says we “hit the floodplain across Decatur and Athens, we thought that was too flat, too much sky, we can't live down here,” but as the plains turned into the rolling hills of central Alabama, Dr. Brown began to feel more at ease. The plains of north Alabama were not the only thing that made Brown uneasy about moving to this state. Brown came to Alabama “scared to death of George Wallace,” but eventually “got to know Alabama . . . below the level of state politics. I got out in the countryside.” This was a place he could live. Even more, this was a place he could love and study.



c. 1974—Three history faculty members demonstrate Southern folkways. L to R, Leah Atkins, Jim Brown, and Wayne Flynt.

redhorse (*Moxostoma carinatum*); and, Rose Bryan, who welcomed Brown into her traditional country store in Freeny, Mississippi. All of these individuals had a unique relationship to their natural environment and community that Dr. Brown sought to communicate to his students.



Sacred Harp singing



Folklore began as an experimental course taught during Jan Term of 1973. This first class focused on German folklore from the Grimm brothers to Hitler. Folklore began to morph in the first decade of Dr. Brown's arrival at Samford. Nearly every major component of the class emerged within his first ten years in Alabama as he built relationships with the people and places of the South. For Brown, people and place, and the interaction between the two, form the backbone of this course stating, “one of the tenets of the course is how removed we moderns are from direct connection with the natural world.”

As Dr. Brown traversed the countryside of the South, he met Henry Upchurch, who first introduced him to basket making using Alabama's native white oak; Carol Welch, one of Cherokee's most accomplished basket makers, who taught Brown how to weave a traditional basket using river cane; Mott and Morgan Lovejoy, who took Brown fishing on the Cahaba River for river

What also makes Folklore so unique is Dr. Brown's approach to education. He says that “the best, most lasting education comes from experiencing things.” Weaving river cane baskets, canoeing down the Cahaba River, fishing for redhorse, and singing Sacred Harp in a country church will linger in students' minds long after graduation. By experiencing various cultures through their folkways, “you see the culture more from the inside . . . You sort of walk a mile in their shoes.”



Rose Bryan





Some of this year's Folklore class members with their baskets: Kneeling L-R: Trevor Waldrop, Amelia Hagler, Breonna Scott, Morgan Ramsey, Demi Kampakis. Middle Row: Grace Peach, Franklin Lowe, Michelle Little. Top Row: James Brimm, Mark Turquitt, and Ryan Neck.



Dr. Brown and students watch basket maker Eleanor Chickaway on Spring semester trip to Choctaw, Mississippi. L-R: Dr. Brown, James Brimm, Mark Turquitt, Franklin Lowe, Keely Smith, Audrey Ward, Biology professor Malia Fincher, Nick Kromann and Morgan Ramsey. ►

*footnotes*<sup>1</sup>

is written and produced by

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**Special Thanks**

To all the professors in the department who helped in various aspects of this newsletter and to all of those who provided updates and contributed articles to be published, especially Chase Trautwein, Evan Musgraves and Michelle Little.

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# faculty notes

**Carlos Alemán** was awarded a Faculty Development Grant to conduct archival research and prepare a study abroad trip in Nicaragua this summer. He also presented at three conferences this past academic year. In October, he gave a paper titled, “The Etowah Seven: The Anatomy of a Direct Action,” at the University of Florida, Gainesville, for the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference on Immigration to the U.S. South. In November, he presented “A Violent Dictatorship: Somoza and the Nicaraguan Exile Movement, 1936-1948,” in Atlanta for the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association annual meeting. In May, he traveled to Puerto Rico and discussed “In the Shadows of the Second Republic: Nicaraguans in Post-Civil War Costa Rica, 1948-1956,” for the Latin American Studies Association Congress.

Alemán organized a city-wide event, “Ayotzinapa: State Violence in Mexico,” featuring relatives of the disappeared students to speak at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Samford University, and across various media outlets. He served as the director of the Latin American Studies Scholars Program, faculty advisor for the newly established Latino Student Organization, and as a member on the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee. He also serves on the boards of community non-profits, the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama and Greater Birmingham Ministries. Alemán secured a \$10,000 donation from Fiesta! for Latino student scholarships at Samford in Fall 2014. He also organized volunteer opportunities for Samford students to participate in a Hispanic voter registration drive.

Alemán chaired a session for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Latin American Studies Symposium, held at Birmingham-Southern College in April. Latin American Studies Scholars Kloe Freeman, Ella Oxley, Hope Wendel, and Emilianne Wheeler read papers at the undergraduate conference. History major and Samford Football player Jordan Boatright honored Alemán as a “Bulldog Professor of the Game” in Fall 2014.

**Jim Brown’s** modern world history textbook, *Fairy Tales, Patriotism and the Nation-State: The Rise of the Modern West and the Response of the World* (with parallel Google Earth folder for each chapter), was published by Kendall/Hunt in August 2014. It is the first history survey text at any level to fully integrate GIS; footnotes in the text have matching Google Earth layer numbers on folders available on Google Earth Community. Brown used the text in his Global Perspectives classes in Fall 2014 and Spring 2015, fine-tuning the Google Earth layers and working up chapter study guides. He gave presentations on the approach at several meetings of the World History Association: the New England regional meeting in Lowell, Massachusetts, this past November, and at the joint California - Northwest regional meeting in Seattle, Washington this past February. He was featured in an “Author’s Hour” at the general meeting of the World History Association in Savannah, Georgia, in June.

Brown is working with the Alabama Bicentennial Commission to help teachers integrate GIS into their teaching,

based on work he has done with the Old Federal Road and other state subjects.

**Ginger Frost** (University Research Professor of History) had several publications in 2014-15. In addition to two book reviews, she published two articles: “Your Mother has Never Forgotten You: Illegitimacy, Motherhood, and the London Foundling Hospital,” in the French journal *Annales de Demographie Historique* (vol. 1, 2014); and “As if She Was My Own Child’: Cohabitation, Community, and the English Criminal Courts, 1855-1900,” in the *History of the Family*. Her fourth book, *Illegitimacy in English Law and Society, 1860-1930*, should be published in the next two years.

Frost remains on the editorial board of the *Journal of Victorian Culture*, overseeing the publication of historical articles for the journal. In June of 2014, she gave a paper at a conference on Crime and Deviance in Twentieth-Century England at Lincoln University in England, centering on two cases of child murder. In November, she spoke at the North American Conference on British Studies in Minneapolis on the topic “Child Migration and Illegitimacy, 1800-1930.” In May 2015, she was one of only 20 speakers at a symposium at the University of Minnesota on Gender and Global Warfare, sponsored by the journal *Gender and History*. Her topic was “Masculinity on Trial: World War I Veterans and Murder.” She recently returned from England where she was researching her next book, a study of mixed marriages in Britain, 1837-1939.

**Erin Mauldin** recently received a Mellon Research Fellowship from the Virginia Historical Society to continue her research on Reconstruction-era U.S. environmental history. She was also honored as an “Emerging Scholar” in Civil War history by the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center at Penn State University, and was invited to share her research on ex-slaves’ geographic mobility and its relation to changing agricultural practices at a workshop there in April. She has had four book reviews published this year in journals ranging from



Dr. Mauldin, fourth from left, with other emerging scholars in Civil War history honored at Richards Center.



*Civil War History* to the *Journal of Southern History*.

She served as chair and commenter for two conference panels this year, one at the University of Alabama's Graduate History Conference and one at the Agricultural History Society's Annual Meeting. She delivered three conference paper presentations on topics such as agricultural "self-sufficiency" in the postbellum South, the ecology of emancipation, and livestock diseases during the Civil War era at the Southern Forum for Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History; the Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting; and, the St. George Tucker Society (upcoming).

**John Mayfield**, in addition to his regular schedule of teaching, has been at work this year collecting and editing essays for a volume on Southern honor tentatively entitled "Matters of Honor: Southern Character and American Identity." The volume includes essays on the many expressions of Southern honor in literature, dueling, slavery, women's lives, the law, and more. It includes essays by such notable authors as Robert Levine, David Moltke-Hansen, Sarah Gardner, Dickson Bruce, and Samford alumnus Jeffrey Anderson (who wrote an essay on honor and voodoo), plus one by Mayfield himself. Mayfield's co-editor is Todd Hagstette of the University of South Carolina. The volume is being published by USC Press and should be out next year. Beyond that, his wife Sarah teaches at Miles College and his daughter Whitney does modern dance for the Bosoma dance company in Boston. Sophie Superdog has stopped eating furniture.

**John Mitcham** chaired a panel on "Race and the Pacific" at the International Britain and the World Conference in Austin, Texas in April. He also presented a paper entitled "The Admiralty and International Maritime Law" at the annual meeting of the Society of Military History in Montgomery, Alabama. He spoke at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in New York City in January. He participated in a panel on transnational youth movements and delivered a paper entitled "Race, the Boy Scouts and the British Empire." Mitcham presented at two academic conferences in November. He delivered "Between Empire and Nation: Imperial Responses to War in the Fall of 2014" at the Great War: 100 Years On at Georgia Gwinnett College. He presented "Australia, Britain, and the Sudan, 1885" at the Southern Conference on British Studies in Atlanta, Georgia. He was one of 18 experts, and one of two Americans, invited to lecture at a July 2014 symposium at the National Museum of the Royal Navy in Portsmouth, U.K. observing the centenary of World War I. His book *Race and Imperial Defence in the British World, 1870-1914* is scheduled to be released by Cambridge University Press later this year.

**Marlene Hunt Rikard** (Professor Emeritus) conducted an oral history workshop for the Hoover Historical Society in March to prepare volunteers who are doing interviews as part of the research for an upcoming anniversary publication for Hoover's 50th Anniversary in 2017. At the AHA 2015 annual meeting, she presented "Depicting Alabama History: Roderick MacKenzie and the Capitol Murals." Continuing her research on this Alabama artist, she wrote the foreword for the book by Scotty Kirkland which accompanies the Ark of India exhibition at the History Museum of Mobile.

**Delane Tew** received the W.O. Carver Distinguished Service Award from the Baptist History and Heritage Society at its annual meeting in April. The award recognizes and pays tribute to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the cause of Baptist history. She was also awarded a Lynn E. May Study Grant from the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in Nashville in April. Tew published a review of the book *Torches in the Corridor: 125 years of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union* by Melody Maxwell in the spring 2015 issue of the *Baptist History and Heritage Journal*.



**Elizabeth Wells** (Special Collection and Archives) was awarded the Virginia Hamilton Award by the Alabama Historical Association at its annual meeting in April. The award is presented to honor contributions that promote appreciation and better understanding of Alabama history among the general public. The award is named for the historian and author of

biographies of Hugo Black, former member of the U.S. Supreme Court from Alabama, and Lister Hill, longtime senator from the state. Last June, Wells received the Carolyn Blevins Meritorious Service Award from the Baptist History and Heritage Society and the Betty Hurtt Meritorious Service Award from the Association of Librarians and Archivists in Baptist Institutions. The awards recognize exemplary service and significant contributions to the preservation and promotion of Baptist records and manuscripts. They were presented at the Baptist History and Heritage Society annual conference in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



**Don Wilson** (Professor Emeritus) recently had a book signing in Birmingham for the newly released 70th Anniversary Memorial Edition of his book *Alabama Bomber Boys*. The revised and expanded edition coincides with a projected 10-segment special on the Eighth Air Force, and marks the anniversary of V-E Day (May 8, 1945). Part of the proceeds of this book will be donated to the Mighty Eighth Air Force

Museum. Wilson has also added a new chapter to his book, *A Field of Honor*, to tell the story of the Eighth Air Force operations from East Anglia. It will include much of what he learned from trips into the area, and many pictures related to the air bases he visited there.

# 2015 Department Awards Banquet



**1.** 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, Marlene Rikard ('71), left, and Betty Mullins ('70), right, with department chair, Jonathan Bass.

**2.** Dr. Bass presents Dr. Delane Tew ('78) with the 2015 Distinguished Alumnus Award.



**3.** Dr. Jim Brown presents Thomas Jenkins with Folklore class "purple heart" award.

**4.** Department chairs, past and present, Don Wilson, John Mayfield and Jonathan Bass, with this year's recipient of the Mitchell B. Garrett Alumni Award, Nicole Poland.

**5.** Alumnus ChriSS Doss ('57) discusses history of Samford's campus with students.

**6.** Ronnie Mosley with Christina Mosley Award winner Morgan Ramsey.

**7.** Dr. Jason Wallace with alumnus Lauren Ziemer ('13).

**8.** Dr. Marlene Rikard with Holly Howell, recipient of the award in her name.

**9.** Dr. Carlos Alemán with Blakely Lloyd, recipient of the William Pratt Dale Award.



# Students Honored for Colonial Dames Essays



**Front Row:** Madeline Ingram, Morgan Roettele, Amber Hammond, Sarah McGhee, Elizabeth Clayton Jones, Madeline Perkins, Hannah Johnston, and Sarah Marriott. **Back Row:** James Brimm, Jack Kawell, Austin Mohlenbrot, Josh Lay, Franklin Lowe, Bobby McNeill, Thomas Jenkins, and Ryan Lally

by Mary Wimberley

Sixteen Samford University students recently received cash awards from the Birmingham Center of Colonial Dames of America for outstanding papers written in Samford classes. The papers were submitted in the annual Colonial Dames' American Independence essay contest.

Sarah A. McGhee, a freshman psychology major from Enterprise, Alabama, won the first place award and \$1,000 for her paper, "The Liar Who Created American Civic Virtue: Ethical Morality and Patriotism."

Clayton Jones, a freshman history major from Franklin, Tennessee, won second place and \$800 for her paper "Truth as an American Virtue: The Significance of the Trial of John Peter Zenger."

James Brimm, a junior history major from Gallatin, Tennessee, won third place and \$700 for his paper, "Sinners in the Hands of Religious Affections: Jonathan Edwards' Changing Understanding of the Great Awakening."

Robert McNeill, a senior history major from Clay, Alabama, won fourth place and \$600 for his paper "Abolition in Brazil and the United States: A Comparative Study."

Ryan Lally, a freshman English major from Killen, Alabama, won fifth place and \$500 for his paper, "Collegiate Literary Societies: Moral Intellect in Action."

Morgan Roettele, a sophomore history major from Naples Florida, won sixth place and \$400 for her paper, "The Life and Role of Abigail Adams in Early American Politics."

Other top 10 finalists winning \$300 each were: Thomas Jenkins, a senior history major from Atlanta, Georgia; Franklin Lowe, a junior history major from Fayetteville, Georgia; and Amber Hammond, a sophomore history major from Atlanta, Georgia. Joshua Lay, a December, 2014, history graduate from Brierfield, Alabama, who now attends New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, won a \$200 award.

Honorable Mention and \$50 prizes went to six freshman essay writers: Jack G. Kawell, an engineering physics major from Chicago, Illinois; Hannah Johnston, an international relations major from Travelers Rest, South Carolina; Madeline Ingram, a psychology major from Maryville, Tennessee; Sarah Marriott, a pre-pharmacy major from Atlanta, Georgia; Madeline Perkins, an English/political science major from Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Austin Mohlenbrot, an economics major from Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

The awards were presented by Samford history department chair S. Jonathan Bass at a luncheon at Mountain Brook Club on March 26. Winners were also recognized at the annual departmental awards banquet in April.

A collection of the winning papers was dedicated in honor of Meade Whitaker, Jr., and in memory of his mother and grandmother, the late Frances Baldwin Whitaker and the late Fannie Dunn Baldwin, both longtime members of the Alabama Dames. Meade Whitaker is a third-generation supporter of the Samford essay program.

A bound volume of the essays will be housed in the Samford library.

# Phi Alpha Theta News

The Epsilon Rho Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society, inducted 18 new members this year under the leadership of president Thomas Jenkins and vice president Emily Wood. Fall inductees included Amelia Hagler, Hannah James, Blakely Lloyd, Demi Kampakis, Grace Peach, Katie Peake, Julia Simmons, Daniel Wertz, and Will Yarborough. At the spring awards banquet, the chapter inducted Amber Hammond, Nicholas Kromann, Alan Lane, Ryan Neck, Nicole Poland, Sam Rogers, Emily Sanders, Breonna Scott, and Chris Taunton.

In November, Phi Alpha Theta sponsored a showing of the film *Amazing Grace*, which explores the efforts of William Wilberforce and other activists to end Britain's role in the Atlantic slave trade. Dr. Ginger Frost offered commentary on the film. The chapter also sponsored a tour of the Birmingham Museum of Art in the fall.

In April, Thomas Jenkins, Julia Simmons, and Franklin Lowe, represented Samford at the regional Phi Alpha Theta conference at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Jenkins and Lowe won awards for best presentations at the conference while Lowe and Simmons won awards for best papers.

At the department's award banquet in April, Dr. LeeAnn Reynolds, faculty advisor, presented Thomas Jenkins with this year's Phi Alpha Theta Award. The award is given annually to the graduating senior with the highest GPA. The award is in honor of George Vernon Irons, Sr., a founding member of the chapter.



Thomas Jenkins, Julia Simmons and Franklin Lowe at the Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference.



Dr. LeeAnn Reynolds, chapter faculty advisor, with Thomas Jenkins, recipient of the Phi Alpha Theta Award. ▶

## Did you know ...



Next year, the Epsilon Rho chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (ΦΑΘ) will celebrate 60 years at Samford University. The chapter received its charter in May 1956. Charter members included several members of the Howard College faculty, including Hugh Coleman Bailey, William Pratt Dale II, Harry Jewell Sarkiss, and George Vernon Irons, Sr. (pictured). The Phi Alpha Theta journal, *Historian*, recorded the occasion stating, "Epsilon Rho Chapter was installed at Howard College, Birmingham, Ala., on May 10, 1956. Dr. Bernard C. Weber of Beta Omicron (Alabama) was the installation officer. He was assisted by members from Beta Omicron and Dr. William Pratt Dale II, chairman of the department at Howard, who is a member of Beta Omicron."



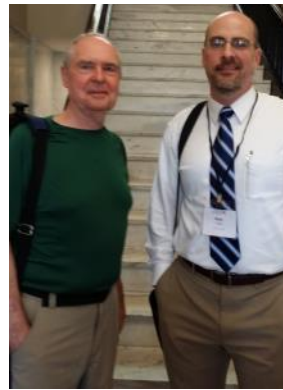




Bryan Kessler (right)



Jennifer Taylor, Donna Baker,  
David Alsobrook and Liz Wells



Hugh and Ryan Floyd



Marlene Rikard, Chris Davis and  
Liz Wells

## Samford Well-Represented at Alabama Historical Association Meeting

by Marlene Rikard

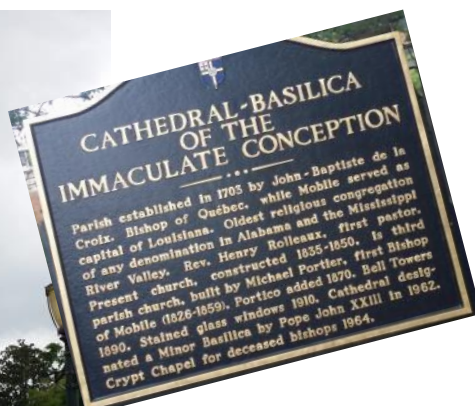
The 68th annual meeting of The Alabama Historical Association (AHA) met in Mobile, April 9-11, 2015, with significant representation and participation from the Samford community.

Bryan Kessler ('10), Ph.D. candidate at the University of Mississippi, presented "White, Black and Blue: The Battle Over Black Police, Professionalization and Police Brutality in Birmingham, Alabama, 1963-1967." Chris Davis ('04) presented "Working Together for a Common Good: Latino and White Interaction in DeKalb County, 1950-1970." Marlene Rikard ('71), professor emeritus, Samford University, gave her paper, "Depicting Alabama History: Roderick MacKenzie and the Capitol Murals." Hugh and Ryan Floyd, as well as Harriet Doss also presented papers.

Brad Creed, outgoing Provost, Samford University, chaired and presented the award for the James F. Sulzby Book Award to Dr. Matthew L. Downs, University of Mobile assistant professor of history. Elizabeth Wells, Special Collection of the Samford University Library, received the prestigious Virginia V. Hamilton Award.

Other Samford alumni, employees and former faculty in attendance included Leah Rawls Atkins, Wayne and Dartie Flynt, Jennifer Taylor, Marty and Helon Everse, Pam King, Chriss and Harriet Doss and family.

The 2015 AHA fall pilgrimage will visit Old Cahawba in Selma. The 2016 annual meeting will be in Montgomery. Information on upcoming events, awards and membership can be accessed at [www.alabamahistory.net](http://www.alabamahistory.net).



We toured the Cathedral-Basilica of the Immaculate Conception as part of Mobile's historic sites. Started in 1835 by Bishop Portier, it was designated as a Minor Basilica in 1962 because of its historical, cultural and artistic importance.



Chriss Doss displaying the walking stick he had with him when he visited President Bill Clinton. The secret service stopped him until he explained his need for the walking stick and that he had an appointment to discuss church/state relations with the president.

# alumni notes

**George Frey '64** of Sanford, Fla., celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with wife Judith in December 2013. They are retired and enjoy traveling. They have two daughters and seven grandchildren.

**Bob England '70** has retired after 28+ years at Northwest Shoals Community College, where he led the history department and was director of the Outdoor Leadership Program. He will probably still be active in the AAH, in which he served in many leadership roles, but may be seen more often on his sailboat with wife Tiffany on the Tennessee River, or perhaps in area libraries at work on his historical novel.

**Richard B. Neely '76** of Birmingham, a history teacher at Indian Springs School, was the featured speaker at the Alabama Historical Association meeting in Scottsboro, Alabama, in July 2014. The former Samford history professor received the Buchanan Teaching Award in 1995.

**Jay C. Hogewood '92** is senior pastor of St. John's United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He earned a master of divinity at Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible/theological hermeneutics at Texas Christian University's Brite Divinity School.

**Matt Cook '93** was named moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in June. He is pastor of First Baptist Church, Wilmington, North Carolina.

**Will Allen '96** is an attorney in Brookhaven, Mississippi and serves on the Howard College of Arts and Sciences advisory board.

**Jamie Lynn (Minton) Garrett '98** lives in Atlanta with husband Rob and dog Hank. She is finishing comps for her Ph.D. in Personal Financial Planning. She was Director of the Financial Planning Program at Southern Mississippi University, and still teaches their summer London courses. She also teaches at the University of Georgia.

**David P. King '01** is the Karen Lake Buttrey Director of Lake Institute on Faith and Giving at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. He is also an Assistant Professor of Philanthropic Studies within the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. He is currently working on the book *Seeking to Save the World: The Evolution of World Vision, American Evangelicalism, and Global Humanitarianism*. He has been named one of ten Young Scholars in American Religion by the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture.

**Maggie Jensen Edmonds '03** is an adjunct instructor for the Graduate Degree Program for Teaching ESL at UAB. She is the lead ESL teacher for the Vestavia Hills City School system and serves the EL populations at Liberty Park Elementary and Liberty Park Middle schools.

**Josh Bearden '04** is an assistant professor of history at Los Medanos College near San Francisco. He is still working on his Ph.D. in Atlantic history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and expects to defend his dissertation by December.

**Dusty Folds '04** is Assistant Professor/Information Literacy and Digital Learning Librarian at the University of Montevallo.



Dr. Ginger Frost, Josh Bearden, Dusty Folds and Dr. Marlene Rikard

**Christopher Davis '04** is an assistant professor at Sul Ross State University-Rio Grande College (RGC). He will be serving RGC's four locations in person and via teleconference. The school focuses on junior-, senior- and master's-level classes. They brought Chris on to expand their

master's offerings. He will be creating six new classes over several semesters.

**Sarah Jean (Azinger) Collins '08** has worked for two non-profits, one of them a school for at-risk girls, and currently is finishing an AS degree in graphic design as she also cares for her 22-month-old daughter Campbell with husband Tim.

**Chris Fite '11** is an M.A. candidate in Public History and Master of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina, where he is a graduate assistant at South Carolina Political Collections and the McKissick Museum. He plans on pursuing a career as an archivist. In 2014, he was one of 16 undergraduate and graduate students who came together to continue to research and document the buildings and grounds of the former campus of the South Carolina State Hospital in Columbia (<http://www.digitizingbullstreet.com>).

**Faye Doss '12** earned the Juris Doctor degree from Cumberland School of Law in May. She was also nominated by the law faculty for inclusion in the 2014-15 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

**Chase Trautwein '13** who has been working as a research assistant with the Office of the University Historian at Samford, will be entering the German Master's program at the University of Alabama in August.

**Justine McCarty '13** is an international student adviser at the University of Missouri International Center. She has participated in humanitarian projects in Mozambique, Africa, China and France.

**Maggie (Johnson) Blow '14** is working on her Master's degree in history at UAB. She has worked as an assistant to curators at Knoxville's McClung Museum and in the education department at the Atlanta History Center. She interned with Vulcan Museum last spring and began working as Educational Program Coordinator there in August. She and **Caleb Blow ('13)** were married in May.



# Estes Named Samford Young Alumnus of Year

by Mary Wimberley



**H**ouston Estes has a rewarding job that keeps him connected with interesting people, but the Nashville, Tenn., resident knew his social sphere lacked something.

"I missed being around Samford people," admitted the 2004 graduate, who about a year ago did something about it. At the behest of the Samford alumni office, Estes helped organize a Nashville alumni chapter, which he now serves as president.

The group has met three times since

its August 2013 launch, and more than 100 Samford graduates have enjoyed reconnecting with one another. "It is sustained involvement on a healthy scale," Estes said of the interest shown by alumni in the Nashville area, which has Samford's third-largest alumni base after Birmingham and Atlanta, Ga.

Alumni of all ages are involved in the new chapter, but Estes acknowledges that "young people, especially, want to get together."

Estes received the 2014 Outstanding Young Alumnus award during homecoming weekend in October. He joins a long line of history alumni who have been named Samford Alumni of the Year, including: James Huskey ('69), Mary Ann Buffington Moon ('76), Kitty Brown ('01), Barry Large ('00), Sigurd F. Bryan ('46), George Irons, Jr. ('52), Pat M. Courington, Sr. ('46), William J. Ward ('49), J. Wayne Flynt ('61), the Honorable Janie L. Shores ('68), and Harold E. Martin ('54). These individuals have been distinguished in their professional careers, community and church involvement, and in their ongoing service to and financial support of Samford.

The honor, said Estes, came as a total surprise. "I have been overwhelmed and touched by Samford's appreciation of my small effort to be involved with my time and financial contributions."

He supports the history department, where he earned his degree, and other campus projects, including a pledge to the new Brock School of Business building fund.

As a complex property claims adjuster for Fireman's Fund Insurance Co., Estes strives to do right by both company and policy holder. Complex property, he explains, means residential or commercial property losses in excess of \$10,000.

He is liaison and personal adjuster for a high-profile roster of entertainers, musicians, celebrities, athletes and politicians. "Whatever we insure in Tennessee," he says.

Prior to joining Fireman's almost four years ago, he was a personal banker at First Tennessee Bank and a property claims adjuster at Grange Insurance. He holds associate in claims and associate in general insurance designations from the Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters Institute.

His senior year at Samford, Estes penned a satire column for the *Crimson* student newspaper. "I wrote about whatever topic the students were wound up about. It loosened things up a bit and got people interested in reading the *Crimson*," said Estes,

admitting that he wrote from a nonjournalism background. "The first column got such a big response that the editor asked me to write another one, and then another. I ended up writing 10 or 12."

He also represented Howard College of Arts and Sciences on the student senate.

On the academic side, the member of Phi Alpha Theta history honor society particularly enjoyed professor Marjorie A. Walker's Asian history courses, and spent a Jan Term in England at Samford's London Study Center.

Of his Samford experiences, however, one of the most lasting is the impact the school had on his spiritual life.

Having grown up in a family that was religious but not in church every Sunday, Estes said he was surprised to find so many people at Samford who had grown up in church-going homes. "Samford gave me a great respect for people of faith," he said.

"At Samford, I was challenged to find out what I believed, and Samford gives you an opportunity to make up your own mind," said Estes, adding that his Samford experience made him a more confident believer with a better ability to deal with assaults on faith when they arise.

The graduate of Nashville's Franklin Road Academy had chosen Samford with little hesitation. "I watched a cassette tape and saw Dr. Cortis (then Samford president) talk about Samford. Then I came on a campus tour, and both of my parents were pleased," said Estes, recalling that his father, who died before Estes' senior year at Samford, gave it an immediate positive. "After that, I never looked anywhere else."

In addition to the Samford alumni chapter, Estes is involved with Nashville's Country Music Association and Country Music Hall of Fame.

*footnotes*<sup>1</sup>

**Wants to hear from you!**

Write us at:

**Footnotes**

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