

HMPS ANNUAL REPORT 2019



THE PEOPLE BEHIND HMPS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Herndon Inge III, HMPS President

Robert Allen, Secretary

Edward Flotte

Tom McGehee

Greg Reynolds

CURRENT STAFF

Marye Newman, Museum Manager

Brooke Allen, Oakleigh Belle Coordinator

Julie Mitchell, Oakleigh Docent

Olivia Vacalis, Oakleigh Docent

Mary Catherine Watson, Oakleigh Docent

HMPS'S SCHEDULED VOLUNTEERS

Robert Peck III - Volunteer Archivist

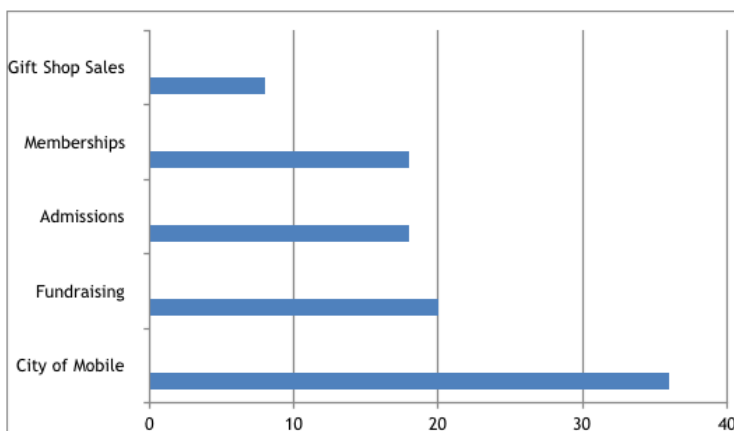
Mike Gewin - Oakleigh Volunteer Docent, Fridays

Melanie New - Oakleigh Volunteer Docent, First Monday of the Month

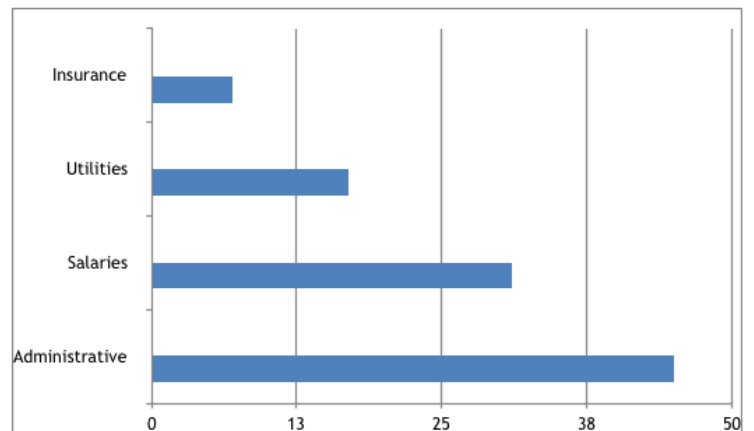
David Wancowicz - Oakleigh Docent, Mondays

FINANCIAL REPORT

Receipts of approximately \$107,600 from the following sources (as percentages of receipts):



Expenses of approximately \$96,600 were incurred as follows (as a percentage of expenses):



In addition to these income and expense items, the Historic Society also received grants for specific purposes and programs totaling approximately \$18,000, of which approximately \$12,000 was spent. Purpose and program grant expenditures included archives projects and repairs to the Cox-Deasy Cottage.

The Oakleigh Belles program sponsored by the Historic Society had receipts of approximately \$7,900 and expenses of approximately \$4,500.

PRESERVATION

2019 PRESERVATION PRIORITIES



Chinaberry House
Old Shell Road

Church Street Graveyard
Government Street

Chigahizola House
South Franklin Street



Del Barco House
Springhill Avenue

Irvin Grodsky House
Hamilton Street

Outlaw House
North Mobile County

Searcy Hospital
Mt. Vernon

Southern Bldg
Beauregard Street

962 Government Street
Government Street

Periodically, HMPS publishes a Preservation Priority list that is intended to highlight historic properties that face some danger or that need attention. The purpose of the Preservation Priority list is to ensure that we do not lose any additional historic properties through neglect.

While the HMPS Advocacy Committee hopes one day to actually have funds to address some of the properties that have been identified as Preservation Priorities, for now, the work of the Advocacy Committee is to bring attention to historic properties that are in some sort of danger, to start a dialogue about the property, and hopefully find a solution to the situations that have put the property in danger of being lost. Past examples of the success with our Preservation Priorities include the Carlen House, the Kennedy House, and Mon Louis Island Schoolhouse.

The Preservation Priorities list is an important part of the HMPS advocacy efforts, and, while these efforts have been successful, the Preservation Priorities list will continue to be necessary. The HMPS Advocacy Committee welcomes suggestions for sites that should be considered for the Preservation Priorities list, and, of course, the Advocacy Committee welcomes the participation of anyone interested in its work.

2019 ARCHITECTURAL AWARD WINNERS



1857 Foundation
Kennedy House
607 Government Street

Bob Isakson
Iron Hand Brewing
206 State Street

John Peebles
Temple Lodge Lofts
558 Saint Francis Street

John Serda
Serda Brewing
600 Government Street

Keith Sherrill
Haint Blue Brewing
806 Monroe Street

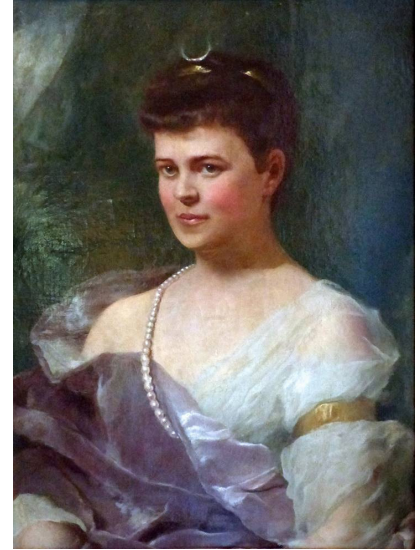
OAKLEIGH UPDATE

OAKLEIGH'S PLEDGE DRIVE

In the fall of 2019, the future of Oakleigh was uncertain. We are thrilled to announce this is no longer the case. With the assistance of Mobile's city council, the over 50 pledges for donation of Oakleigh received, and Support from our community Oakleigh has remained open to the public.

ALVA SMITH VANDERBILT BELMONT'S UP-COMING LOAN

The National Museum of Versailles Palace will be displaying this portrait of Alva Smith Vanderbilt Belmont by artist Benjamin Curtis Porter. This portrait will make the journey to France to take place in Versailles' upcoming exhibit Versailles Revival 1867 - 1937. This painting will be used to represent Alva's love of French architecture, specifically her Marble House which was modeled after Versailles. This exhibit will run November 19th, 2019 - March 15th, 2020. Come see this stunning portrait at Oakleigh before she makes the journey across the Atlantic Ocean.



OAKLEIGH'S NEW HOURS OF OPERATION

Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



HISTORIC MOBILE PRESERVATION SOCIETY'S 2018-2019 INTERN

SHELBY CULLUM

Shelby is a student at Springhill College majoring in History and Education who worked with Historic Oakleigh House Museum over the summer of 2018. Shelby's internship focused on researching theater in Mobile, Alabama during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in addition to locating artifacts in the HMPS collection and in the community as a whole that could be used for this exhibit.

This exhibit will be opening later year. Follow Oakleigh on Facebook or sign up for the HMPS email list for exhibit updates.



OAKLEIGH BELLES

UPDATE FROM BROOKE ALLEN, OAKLEIGH BELLE COORDINATOR

The 2018-2019 Oakleigh Belles had a fantastic year full of events, appearances, tours, and more. The Belles volunteered over 1,000 hours of their time guiding at Oakleigh, as well as assisting with HMPS lectures, working Christmas at Oakleigh, and sponsoring the Oakleigh Belle Tea Party, which raised over \$1,000. They worked numerous other events throughout the city related to tourism and history, all while promoting Oakleigh and the Historic Mobile Preservation Society. The Belles even appeared on Studio 10 twice this year to represent Oakleigh! When they weren't working, the girls enjoyed exploring Mobile through field trips to the History Museum, Cammie's Old Dutch, the Bienville Bites Food Tour, and more.



Interviews for the 2019-2020 Oakleigh Belle Leadership Program were held in February, and over 60 outstanding young women applied. We are proud to announce the newest Oakleigh Belles: Emily Diep, Hannah Hyland, Baileigh Jay, Ousley Langworthy, Maia Leonard, Molleigh Martin, Virginia Grace Merrick, Isabella Normand, Isabelle Reimer, Taylor Smith, Sofia Swann, Anna Sweet, and Hannah Walker.

MINNIE MITCHELL ARCHIVES

UPDATE BY BOB PECK, VOLUNTEER ARCHIVIST

The Minnie Mitchell Archives continues its mission of providing our community, as well as, researchers, scholars, authors, journalists and historians with access to historical records and information. In this role we join with the History Museum of Mobile, The McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library at the University of South Alabama, Local History and Genealogy Services of the Mobile Public Library, the Mobile County Probate Court, and the City of Mobile Archives as caretakers of Mobile's history. The HMPS collection contains photographs, postcards, books, newspapers, periodicals, maps, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, journals, letters and diaries. The major collections in the archives include, William E. Wilson photographs 1894-1907, Norman Nicholson Battle of Blakeley Collection, Barton Academy, Irwin Family, George Rogers Architectural Library and Kenneth R. Giddens Architectural Collection, and the Mobile Mardi Gras Collection. In addition, the personal narratives, diaries and journals contained in the original documents folders are of particular interest to researchers.

Using Pastperfect Museum software we have catalogued nearly 8000 items in the collection. Most of these materials have been digitized. Happily, much remains to be done. During the past year the Archives Index posted on the HMPS website was updated and expanded to provide more detail and include recently catalogued materials.

Two projects currently underway involve the Mardi Gras materials and William Mayton's photographs. Eddie Wolfe, Mardi Gras Historian, is currently organizing, and cataloguing the materials in the Mardi Gras collection, including invitations, programs, photographs, newspaper clippings, personal narratives, and artifacts. In addition, William T. Mayton's photographic collection consisting of hundreds of prints, negatives and slides taken during the 1960s and 70s is being digitized and catalogued.



Among the recent contributions to the collection were the handwritten minute books of the Parliamentary Practice Club covering the period from April 1933 until May 1967 when the club marked its 102nd annual meeting. The club was formed to promote the study and application of the principals of parliamentary law and interest in the proper conduct of business meetings.

2018-2019: A YEAR IN ACTION

2019 DOUBLOON SWAP AND ROAD SHOW

HMPS's 2019 Doubloon Swap and Road Show was a rousing success as we brought this beloved tradition back to Mobile.



CHRISTMAS AT OAKLEIGH

Oakleigh hosted 450 people at this year's Christmas celebration on December 22nd, 2018.

HMPS would like to thank Pam Dykes, Greg Hunt, Will Speed, and Shirley Harris for all their help with our 2018 Christmas Decorations.

CHURCH STREET CEMETERY TOURS

HMPS has continued our tours of the Church Street Graveyard. The proceeds of these tours go towards the preservation of the Graveyard.

LECTURE SERIES

Over the course of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, HMPS hosted:

Paul Brueske with Tidbits with the 1865 Mobile Campaign

Richard Hutto with A Poisoned Life

Paula Webb with Octavia Walton LeVert: The Civil War Years

Russell Blount with Wilson's Raid: The Final Blow to the Confederacy

Johnathan Putnam with Final Resting Place

Dick Wall with Mr. Owita's Guide to Gardening

Meg McCrummen Fowler with Notre Dame: Past, Present, and a Hopeful Future

MARDI GRAS LAWN PARTY & MOON PIE COOK OFF

Lawn parties are a beloved tradition at Historic Oakleigh House Museum, and this year we choose to combine the celebrations with Mardi Gras!



OAKLEIGH BELLE TEA PARTY

We are proud to have reintroduced this beloved Oakleigh tradition and fundraising event for Historic Oakleigh House Museum by our Oakleigh Belles. This year's tea took place Mother's Day Weekend to help us celebrate Mobile's mothers in style.

OAKLEIGH LAWN CLEAN UP

In May of 2019, HMPS's neighbors came out to help us keep the lawn of the Historic Oakleigh Complex beautiful.

THE REAL STORY BEHIND MOBILE'S MOST FAMOUS ANTEBELLUM HOME

This one-time specialty tour of Oakleigh included never before shared with the public pieces of Oakleigh's history, new research and discoveries, and artifacts from the Historic Mobile Preservation Society's collection not typically on display. The tour was led by Museum Manager with assistance from HMPS Board Member Robert Allen.