

Sacrificial Living
From the Chaplain's Heart
August is National Eye
Exam Month
Fundraising
Centennial Celebration

Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society Est. 1922 A 501c(3) Charitable Organization



Cotton Times

The President's Corner

Sacrificial Living!

Scholarships
Membership
Sponsors
Ida's Recipe Board

Next Meeting is
September 17,2022
@1:00PM
1 617 691 8908

The Centennial Celebration

The Centennial Celebration or Annual Day is thirty-four days away! It is scheduled for September 24th and 25th 2022 at Knoxville Volunteer Fire Department on 3080 County Road 217 in Knoxville Alabama. This will be the first Annual Celebration since 2018 as Covid 19 entered our world in late 2019.

All CDC guidelines will be mandated, and masks are required. Sanitizer will be available and stationed in various places.



MPHPS

A 501(c)3 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

 Cash App \$**mphps**

 PayPal mphpsociety@gmail.com

Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society

Post Office Box 96
Ralph, Alabama 35480

Email: mphpsociety@gmail.com
Website: <http://mphpsociety.org>

Often, whenever I tell people about the Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society, the questions they ask are all the same. Who are you and what are you all about? What do you do? I find my answers are always the same. We are a Society that began some one hundred years ago back in 1922. It began as an urgent need for our ancestors to provide a respectful and dignified way to bury their deceased loved ones.

Today, this is literally taken for granted, but back in the 1800's and early 1900's this basic human right was not bestowed upon the African American population. There was no respect or dignity in life or death for people of color. We were merely regarded as a property or inventory investment. Our lives were esteemed only as great as our ability to be productive or to work hard. Our Ancestors were housed and made to live sometimes in substandard conditions where the care of the livestock was regarded higher. Imagine today, your loved one, your friends and relatives being treated in such a manner? To be buried in the soil of the swamp land in just a hole dug in the ground. Wouldn't you try to do something? This very idea is heartfelt and hurtful.

This called for an urgent response as our people grew tired of being ill-treated. Yes, the Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society was created as an act of love! The men and women joined together to create a united stand together of we will overcome this indignation. We will work together! This is our Fight! After working the cotton fields, cooking, washing, ironing, and cleaning for both their employers and their families, they worked a cotton field to earn money to provide the dignity they were denied in life to be able offer it in death for their loved ones.

I can imagine that they could not have envisioned this society lasting more than 100 years because they only saw the immediate need as it was an immediate response. Today, we provide burial assistance to the elected beneficiary of the deceased member. This is about one tenth of the average funeral cost in 2022. This would be equivalent to 17 years of paid dues of sixty dollars a year. We are a charitable organization that makes a yearly monetary donation to either a local or national cause or foundation. Each year we provide an educational scholarship opportunity to a qualifying high school applicant. Our mission is clear that we must help one another! All funds are received either by member's donations, sponsorships, or fundraising. It is through benevolent acts during challenging times, we assist and support our members or or community. We hope in the future to be able to provide greater burial support for our members. Thus, increasing our beneficiary payout to twenty five percent of the average cost of a funeral. Our goal is to increase in numbers to be able to increase our chance of sustainability. We are the living legacy of many people. As President, I feel it is a call to sacrificial living where the greatest sacrifice is time and dedication. I'd like to have our society become a historical society as part of preservation of our history. My goal is to ensure that their story is shared on black history platforms, as well as included academically in schools and added to African American History textbooks. Not only those in the Blackbelt area but globally the story must go forth. We must never forget the efforts and sacrifices that was made by our forefathers.

Patsy Edwards, President, and Newsletter Editor

>>> *From the Chaplain's Heart*

3 For everything there is a season, and ¹a time for every matter under heaven: Ecclesiastes 3:1 KJV



Many theologicians argue that man’s destiny is predetermined . Their writings express that everything that a man does he is predestined to do as part of our Holy Creators design. That one’s circumstances are a part of man’s destiny and not by surprise or accident. God already knows what we will do or what will happen before it does. He has total control of our lives and circumstances. He allows us to go through things to give him the praise for bringing us out of it.

In Ecclesiastes 3:1 the writer tells us that there is time for everything under the heavens. In 1922 this great society began because it was time for our people to respond to what was happening to their loved ones. It was time to stop the injustic for the deceased. It was difficult to bury their loved one in the hills or swamp land. They were put directly into the ground with no embalming or markers. They deserved to be buried in a dignified manner just as the white people buried their’s. On that they took a stand! It was time!



So, for the next one hundred years has been time to maintain and to keep their vision alive,to stand in unity and to help each other in the time of need, now it is a time to rejuvenate and to restore the love and the zeal that they put forth . Therefore my brothers and sisters I urge you to get up , roll your sleeves up and lets carry in unity to ensure that their story goes forth for future generations to come.



August is National Eye Exam Month. Your eyes do wondrous things. While it takes some time for most parts of your body to warm up to their full potential, your eyes operate at 100%. Our eyes process around 80% of the information from our surrounding environment that reaches our brains. Our eyes also play a crucial role in deciding if what you are about to eat tastes good or not. Taste is quite a weak sense, which is why the body also relies on sight to decide if food or drink is to your liking by color recognition. Your eyes take in information and have a direct connection with your brain allowing you to visually process the world around you. Even if you don’t need corrective vision care, it is important to get eye exams.

August is National Eye Exam Month

Debra Sullivan Hundley

Purpose of eye exams

Approximately 12 million people in the United States who are forty years old and older have vision impairment. Most vision problems are avoidable or curable. Regular exams by an eye doctor are important to monitor your overall eye health and wellness and detect a variety of health issues, such as:

- Identify a need for vision correction, like glasses or contacts
- Identify eye health issues, such as glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration

Identify other health issues and help diagnose high cholesterol, high blood pressure, heart problems, diabetes, diabetic retinopathy, liver disease, arthritis, Alzheimer’s disease, low back pain, strokes, increased risks for falls, injury, depression, and even brain tumors

Other reasons to get eye exams

- any change in vision
- eye pain
- double vision
- drainage or redness of the eye
- flashes of light
- floaters (tiny specks that appear to float before your eyes) or “spider webs”
- circles (halos) around light sources or rainbows around lights
- seeing what looks like a curtain coming down over one eye
- sudden sensitivity to light and glare
-

Ways to take care of your eyes

- **Eat a healthy, balanced diet** with plenty or fruits and vegetables, especially deep yellow and green leafy vegetables. Leafy dark greens are best! Spinach, kale, and collards form a meal with an eye-loving vitamin boost. Eating fish high in omega-3 fatty acids, such as salmon and tuna, can also help your eyes.
- **Maintain a healthy body and healthy weight.** Getting the proper nutrition, maintaining a healthy body weight and regular physical activity all help your eyes stay sharp.
- **Wear sunglasses.** Sun exposure can damage your eyes and raise your risk of cataracts and age-related macular degeneration. Protect your eyes by using sunglasses that block out 99 to 100% of both UV-A and UV-B radiation.
- **Wash your hands before touching your eyes.** Keep germs away.
- **Wear protective eye wear** to prevent eye injuries when playing certain sports, working in jobs such as factory work and construction, and doing repairs or projects in your home.

August Is Make a Will Month



Avoid smoking. Smoking increases the risk of developing age-related eye diseases such as macular degeneration and cataracts and can damage the optic nerve.

Know your family medical history. Some eye diseases are inherited. Knowing your family medical history can help determine if you are at a higher risk of developing an eye disease.

Know your other risk factors. It is important to know your risk factors because you may be able to lower your risk by changing some behaviors.

Give your eyes a rest. If you spend a lot of time using a computer, you can forget to blink your eyes and your eyes can get tired. To reduce eyestrain, try the 20-20-20 rule: Every 20 minutes, look away about 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds. This will help prevent eye fatigue and could even help with other concerns such as headaches and migraines.

Taking care of your eyes may also benefit your overall health. Your eyes are an important part of your health. Just as it is important to keep your body healthy, you also need to keep your eyes healthy.



MOUNT PLEASANT HOME PROTECTION SOCIETY
A BURIAL SOCIETY STARTED BY EARLY DESCENDANTS OF SLAVES

100TH YEAR PRESENTS CELEBRATION

JOIN US!



24 SEPTEMBER 2022 1PM

**KNOXVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT | KNOXVILLE, AL
3080 COUNTY ROAD 217**

25 SEPTEMBER 2022 1PM

**KNOXVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT | KNOXVILLE, AL
3080 COUNTY ROAD 217**

Any person that desires to participate must be no younger than one (1) year old and no older than sixty-five (65) years old when joining the society. New members may join in person during the meeting or virtually once the Secretary has received the new members application, beneficiary form and paid the joining fee of 10.00. There is an annual fee of sixty dollars in which the new member pays one half the first year joined which is due by the end of the calendar year. Each member is expected to pay \$ 2.00 death due upon the death of a member.

General Meetings are held bi-monthly. The bi-monthly meetings will be held the **fourth Saturday of January, March, May, July, and September**. The annual day will be held in the fall season and will be the last meeting of the calendar year. Special call meetings may be called by the President when deemed necessary. The executive board shall meet at least once per quarter to transact the business of the Society. **Dues may be paid** in person or by mail to MPHPS, Post Office Box 96, Ralph Alabama 35480.

by **Paypal**
mphpsociety@gmail.com or

Mama's Lemon Squares

- 1 Bx Lemon Cake Mix
- 1 Bx Lemon Pudding Mix(instant)
- 4 Eggs
- 2 tbsp flour
- 1 cup oil
- 2/3 c water with lemon juice
- Blend and cook at 325 until done. Poke holes in cake with a fork .

- Glaze**
- ½ Stick of Butter(melted)
 - ¼ c. lemon juice
 - 1 bx powdered sugar
 - Mix well (if thick add more lemon juice and butter)and pour over cake and return to oven for 3-4 minutes.

Ida Sullivan &Elizabeth Little



Members, please wear colors of Black and White at the Celebration
Committees that need help: Logistics and Hospitality

Fundraising



As a 501c (3) Charitable Organization, fundraising is the key element of its survival. The question is, is this something new to MPHPS? Absolutely not! This is exactly what the Ancestors did year after year. From Cake Walks to Plate Sales and King and Queen Galas it was all fundraising. This is parallel to current efforts today.

We have an ongoing fish fry fundraiser each month on the first Friday. During the month of July there was a Gas Card Raffle where 60 tickets were sold, bringing in 90% profit to the bottom line. Thus far, thousands of dollars have been raised. Some upcoming fund raisers will include Virtual Bingo, Candy sells, fundraising in a box with Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, name your price by marking your calendars, and Popping in the Cotton with Holiday Popcorn Sells.

Our fundraising efforts have been successful, and monies have been raised.

This proves that the module of the Ancestors works,

Faith+ Effort+Dedication xWorks=Success. Our goal of 2022 is to raise 10,000 that will fund our scholarship to a qualifying high school senior, provide care packages to local jails, nursing home and care facilities and Shelters, support cancer research and sponsorship for a cancer patient undergoing treatments and support our community in a crisis.

We are thankful for our ambassadors, JoAnn Davis, Marilyn Archibald, Tamala Graham, Lue BIRTHA Crawford, Daisy Hicks, Lisa Fuller, Georgia Leatherwood, Vanessa Guyton, Sherry A Fitch and Patricia Bolling. If you would like to become an ambassador for fundraising, please let us know by contacting Marilyn Archibald, 205-792-7534, chair of Fundraising or Patsy Edwards 205-514-9591 or any of the above.

If you would like to support or participate in the fish fry, please let us know.



\$100 Gas Card Raffle

Michelle Fagin won the \$100 Gas Card Raffle. Her ticket was purchased from Daisy Hicks. The drawing was held live on Zoom on August 1, 2022, at 5:30PM. The drawing was pulled by fourteen-month-old Karleigh Long. She is the great granddaughter of Georgia Leatherwood.

The Society in Action on Funday



Welcome New Members

*Tommy Cooper
Charles Cooper
Jean Claude Kouassi
Ya Sirah Kouassi
Jada Kouassi
Joseph Kouassi
James Sullivan
Jaylynn Sullivan*




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Entertainment & Sports Law Section | Elections Closed

Section Members:
Voting for new Entertainment & Sports Law Section Officers is now closed! Thank you to everyone who participated. Congratulations to Shade' A. Dixon of Tyree Hyche & Dixon LLC as the Section's new Member.



Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist
1448 Hwy 11, Knoxville Alabama
Pastor Robert Ellis, Sr

NAKIA F. HUNDLEY
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HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35801
PHONE: (256) 539-6009**

No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Does a Scholarship Interest You?

The Robert Kirk Memorial Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Robert Kirk Memorial Scholarship will be awarded based primarily on excellence, leadership, perseverance and financial need.

One scholarship is granted for one academic year in the amount of \$1000.00 and maybe renewable for one year based on academic good standing.

Scholarship is awarded for one academic year in the amount of \$500.00 (August) and \$500.00 in (January) upon proof of active school enrollment.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- 1. Complete the scholarship application form.**
- 2. Write an essay addressing the questions listed in the award criteria.**
- 3. Request an official copy of transcript and include with your scholarship application.**
- 4. Submit your entire scholarship application package to the Robert Kirk Memorial Scholarship in one envelope. A completed package must include:**
 - a. Completed, signed application form.**
 - b. Essay (typed, 250 words).**
 - c. 1 -2 letters of recommendation.**
 - d. Official high school transcript or college transcript.**
 - e. Copy of your college acceptance letter.**
- 5. Mail to Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society Attn: Robert Kirk Memorial Scholarship, PO Box 96, Ralph, AL 35480. All packages must be postmarked no later than March 30.**

Scholarship Award Criteria

- 1. Must be a high school senior graduating in good standing**
- 2. Must have exhibited leadership qualities in high school, church and community activities.**
- 3. Provide at least two letters of recommendation from high school teacher or counselor and community leader or pastor, etc.**
- 4. Must submit a typed essay (250-500 words maximum) outlining future goals and briefly state why you should be awarded the scholarship.**
- 5. Must submit a copy of acceptance letter from the post-secondary school that you will attend.**
- 6. Must maintain at least 3.0 GPA for the renewable award the second year.**

Conviction vs Commitment

As part of preparations for our Centennial Celebration we are sending out a countless number of letters and making phone calls try to convict others on who we are and what we represent. It is exhilarating to see people get excited about our society! Some ask questions and others commend our continued existence. Our new website has a web score of 76% with 99 visits. That means people are looking at us. This is vital for our continued growth and success! I get greater response from the strangers than I get from our members. Please let's stop the tradition of late with Empty Vows! We need commitment from our members far greater than conviction from others. There are seven committees in which to join to be a part of planning this grand celebration.

Centennial Committees:

Program – Debra Hundley, Chair

Hospitality- Georgia Leatherwood, Chair

Decoration- Maria Dunn Brown, Chair

Publicity-Kirsten Green & Atty. Ida Tyree Hyche -Hill, Chairs

Logistics- John Smith & Tommy Cooper, Chair

Sponsorship- Marilyn Archibald, Chair



The Application...

**If you are interested in an application, please email; mpphpsociety19@gmail.com
Request a Scholarship Packet. Include Your mailing address, city, state, and zip,**

The Scholarship Committee

Marilyn Archibald

Georgia Leatherwood

Ida B Sullivan

If you are interested in joining this committee, please make it known by contacting

Marilyn Archibald 205 792 7534. Or
emailing mphpsociety19@gmail.com



We need your Ads for Memorial, Business, Congratulations, Anniversaries, and Shout Outs to make our program Booklet Successful. The Deadlines have been extended.

Mount Pleasant Home Protection
Society

CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION

September 24 and 25, 2022

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SOUVENIR JOURNAL

Journal size will be 8 1/2 x 11

Full page \$125

½ Half page \$75

¼ Quarter page \$50

Back inside cover \$150

Back outside cover \$200

Patrons \$20

All advertisements must be paid in full when submitted no later than August 1 to be included in the final journal before production.

Advertisement must be submitted as desired for publicity. Photos should be submitted in JPEG or TIF format.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Check Enclosed

Payable to: Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society

- Cash App \$MPHPS
- PAYPAL MPHPSociety@gmail.com

Dues for 2022 are current and payable through March 31,2023

Members are asked to pay \$25 at the Centennial Celebration

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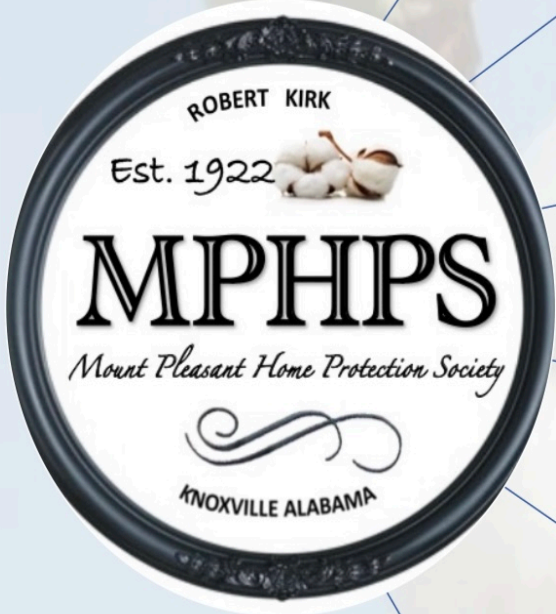
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MOUNT PLEASANT HOME PROTECTION SOCIETY

OFFICERS
2022-2023



• Patsy Edwards
• *President*



• Marilyn Archibald
• *Vice President*



• Willie Edwards
• *Interim Secretary*



Michelle Fagin
Treasurer



Georgia Leatherwood
Financial Secretary



Lue Birtha Crawford
Chaplain

Post Office Box 96
Ralph, Alabama
35480

Website: <http://mphpsociety.org> Email: mphpsociety@gmail.com

The Cotton Times is a quarterly newsletter that is published January, April, August, and December. To have your business showcased, or to congratulate your family members or friends on accomplishments, public announcements or other events please have information submitted the month before publication. Send to Patsy Edwards 205 514 9591 or mphpsociety19@gmail.com



Mount Pleasant Home Protection Society
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Ralph, Alabama 35480