

Friends of the Shoppach House

A Newsletter of the Saline County Art League (SCAL)

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716 Greenhill Road
Benton, Arkansas 72019

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A Few Words From The President

Every year some things become more challenging and every year some things get better.

We still have a tote sack full of issues that need fixing. Most prominent among those are window repairs and brick work.

Currently, that problem lingers **mainly** because we haven't found skilled artisans who know how to do that work.

ANY help the membership can give in locating someone with those skill sets would be appreciated.

In past decades, most major projects were not taken on. I'm not pointing fingers, that's just the way it was. They didn't have a lot of money to work with and were afraid to spend what little they had, because it might not be replaced.

Today, we are in a different and better place. We are able to address problem areas like a new roof and strong foundation, because we have members who want our history preserved. We have a Board that is willing to step out on faith. And, we also have businesses who think what we do is important.

Just to name a few: Kentucky Fried Chicken of Benton, Ma Ma B's Tea & Coffee, Everett Buick & GMC, Total Care Roofing, Jedidah Sawyer Tree Service, Benton Chamber of Commerce and numerous Chamber Partners.

As you are out and about, remember these are some of the local businesses who care about preserving your Historic House. We need to support them also. A Thank You wouldn't hurt.

Harold D. Pelton, SCAL President

We Have A New Metal Roof



And due to our Super Members and Wonderful Donors,
It's Already.



Thank You One and All

(now on to the next project)



What will our next project be?

The list is long, but our most needed projects, at this time, are windows and brick work.

Our windows are in sad shape. Dry rot is a serious problem. Window glass is falling out. Entire cases are turning to dust. Caulking has dried out. We've got to keep water out.



Brick and mortar issues are something we've lived with for too long, also. And not just any brick mason can work with our home fired brick and period mortar.



Our main issues may come as a surprise. We can't just "call somebody to fix it." Finding craftsmen with the proper skills **is** the challenge. For instance, mortar used originally on the House is entirely different from modern mortar. And modern mortar causes problems. You can't call a local window replacement company. Our windows don't need replacing, they need rebuilding. Few people have these lost skills. You don't replace historic wooden windows with vinyl and e-glass.

We need Craftsmen.....Do You Know Any?
Call me at 501-840-5873 President, Harold Pelton.

PEOPLE

**We need more than just structural repairs
We need People
Namely, Board Positions**

**You may think you would not make a good Board of Director person.
“I don’t have any special skills”**

We do need ‘special skill’ individuals:

- **Engineers**
- **Construction people**
- **Grant Writers**
- **People with lost building skills**
- **People to do historic research**

We also need:

- **People willing to dust, sweep and clean**
- **People to do lawn maintenance**
- **People who can use a paint brush**
- **People who can work with computers**
- **People to serve as docents**

Our goal is to save these structures on our property, preserve their history and genealogy, and get to a place where we can have the house open on a regular basis.

In other words, we need YOU!

If you are interested in helping, please give me a call (or note it on your membership return envelope) and I will let you know when and where our next Board Meeting will be held. The next one will be after the first of the year. Probably at the Benton Chamber of Commerce building. You could come and check out where you might fit in.

**Thank you,
Harold Pelton, current President, SCAL. 501-840-5873**

Current Membership**Extra Donations**

Mrs. Marlo B. Krueger
Cybergrants (matching)
Everett GMC, Dwight Everett
Joe C. Hardin
KFC of Benton, Mark Fikes
Ma Ma B's Tea & Coffee
Wilson & Virginia DuVall
Peggy T. Roberson
Sawyer Tree Service
Congo Masonic Lodge #743

Sustaining

Baxley-Penfield-Moudy
Realtors
Burrow, Clint & Kelly
Duvall, Wilson & Virginia
Eaves, Ed & Ina I.
Edwards, Robert & JoAnn
Fikes, Mark & Carol
Gattin, Leroy A. & Martha A.
Green, Lyndon & Deborah
Guffey, Dr James & Dr Marsha
Hardin, Joe C. & Sharon
Holland, Rick & Cindy
Jackson, Nancy
Levart, Russell & Shirlene
Pelton, Harold & Paula
Rener, Dr Lawson S. & Tricia
Roberson, Peggy
Shoppach, Jonathan & Andrea
Shoppach, Michelle
Shoppach, Mike & Daphne
Stilwell, Laura
Thomas, Scott & Stacy
(STS Homes)

Individual & Family

Ashby, Bob & Carol
Atkins, George M.
Baxley, John & Betty
Baxley, Tom & Kie
Blackburn, Gail
Buchanan, Bogue 'Wes & Joy
Burks, Lois A.
Burrow, Clint & Kelly
Carlisle, Jenny
Chenault, Linda Jo
Crawford, Richard & Donna
Daugherty, Phil & Sharon
Dodd, Jerry
Duval, Wilson & Virginia
Eaves, Ed & Ina I.
Edwards, Robert & JoAnn
Eldridge, Bill & Kelley
Emerson, Kristin & Michael
Felks, Chris
Fikes, Mark & Carol
Gattin, Leroy & Martha
Green, Lyndon & Deborah
Green, Morgan & Corey
Guffey, Dr James & Dr Marsha
Hardin, Joe C. & Sharon
Henry, Billie
Herzfield, Margaret & James
Hodges, Alyssa
Hodges, Blake
Holland, Rick & Cindy
Homan, Jack & Jacquelyn
Jackson, Nancy
Kane, Jim & Barbara
King, Al & Sherry

Continued

Krueger, Marlo Bush
Kuhn, Warren
Levart, Shirlene & Russell
Marhanka, Judy
Monroe, Richard
Pelton, Eric
Pelton, Greg & Robin
Pelton, Harold & Paula
Pelton, Rex & Brenda
Purdue, Steve
Poole, Shelly
Poole, Thelma
Reed, Randy & Michelle
Rener, Dr. Lawson S. & Tricia
Roberson, Peggy
Sanders, Angela & Todd
Sawyer, Jedidiah
Shoppach, Jonathan & Andrea
Shoppach, Michelle
Shoppach, Mike & Daphne
Shoppach, Todd
Stilwell, Laura
Tollett, Joe
Tucker, Scott & Shelly
Tucker, Sue H.
Ward, Chuck & Mary
Wise, Bob & Carolyn
Wray, Mary L.
Wright, Martha M.
Zylma, John H. & Janis L.

All members are important. If one is omitted, I apologize. Please contact me at 501-840-5873

Membership Information

Membership is on a calendar year basis, from January 1 through December 31. The Saline County Art League is a non-profit organization organized under IRS guidelines for section 501(c)(3), and all contributions are fully tax-deductible. Membership dues do not entitle the donor to any goods or services in exchange for the contribution. We do however try to make this newsletter available to any interested individuals and we consider members as interested.

Annual dues are as follows:

Individual.....	\$ 20.00	Heritage.....	\$ 500.00 minimum
Family.....	\$ 30.00	Memorial or Honor.....	\$1,000.00 minimum
Sustaining Individual or Business....	\$150.00	Benefactor.....	\$5,000.00 minimum

(Note: The Board of Directors reserve the right to refuse any name deemed inappropriate for the plaque)

Saline County Art League**Officers**

President.....Harold D. Pelton
 Immediate Past President.....Robert A. Edwards
 Vice President.....Daphne Shoppach
 Treasurer.....Robert A. Edwards
 Secretary.....Michelle Shoppach
 Historian.....Robert A. Edwards
 Editor.....Harold D. Pelton
 Founder.....Patrick E. Dunnahoo

Board of Directors:

Robert A. Edwards.....Daphne Shoppach
 Michelle Shoppach.....Mike Shoppach
 Stacy Thomas.....Harold Pelton
 Joe Tollett.....Eric Pelton
 Lyndon Green

*I want to become a**Friend of the Shoppach House*

Mail to: Saline County Art League (SCAL)
 716 Greenhill Road, Benton, Arkansas 72019,

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Membership Category: _____

Calendar year joining for: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Additional donation: _____

**Publication Information**

The *Friends of the Shoppach House Newsletter* is a publication of the Saline County Art League. The newsletter contains news about our efforts to preserve the Shoppach House and adjoining grounds, as well as items of historical interest regarding the house and site. If you have information related to the house and/or site that you feel would be interesting for our readers, please feel free to submit it to the editor for consideration for publication. If you have questions, please submit them and we will strive to get you answers. If you find something interesting, we are sure others will also.

We strive to publish semi-annual.

Printed at Benton, Arkansas and postage paid at Benton, Arkansas and other mailing offices.

(continued from Volume 13, No. 1, Spring 2024)



We hope you have enjoyed the Thanksgiving Season with family and friends, for that is what SCAL is at its base. We are a collection of families and friends, connected through this piece of ground, this structure, this history and this genealogy. And we are all trying to preserve it.



We include Saline County family names like Shoppach, Pelton, Turner, Praytor, Bush, Watson, Broyles, Wright, White, Steele, Thompson, Ray, Burchfield, Williams, Allred, Marcus, Shepard, Langley, Cloud, and the list goes on-and-on touching more than half of Saline County surnames. Those who aren't blood connected are close friends. We hope you all have enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving like the one you have given us. Please accept our humble appreciation for all you do.



As our thoughts turn toward Christmas and the new year, I can't help but wonder what Christmas would have been like at the Shoppach House in the middle 1800's. Mr. Shoppach being an educated man and a prominent public servant there would have been business associates visiting the home. Friends would have been dropping by. And there were children everywhere. Did they have a tree? Maybe standing in the hallway?



A tree inside the house is a tradition brought to America from Germany about the time Mr. Shoppach arrived in Arkansas. I wonder if he and Sibby helped establish the tradition in Benton by decorating their recently built, brick home? There might have been boughs of holly over the doorways, pinecones on the mantels, and a tree welcoming visitors as they entered the house. Imagine the earthy freshness of evergreen permeating the air? In my mind, it would have been wonderful.

Imagine vinegar pies and dried apple pies weighing down the dining table. The smell of baked beans with salt pork and molasses wafting from the kitchen. Would the children have found peppermint candy or a new penny in their stockings?

No matter the season, every time I enter the House, my mind wanders. What would it have been like.
Never more so than at this time of year.

From Your Board of Directors. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Saline County Art League

A Non-Profit Organization
716 Greenhill Road
Benton, Arkansas 72019

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to:

Saline County Art League
716 Greenhill Road
Benton, Arkansas 72019

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The Shoppach House, 503 N. Main Street, Benton, Arkansas
Proud member of Benton Chamber of Commerce