

PRESS RELEASE

Alabama Humanities Foundation



1100 Ireland Way · Suite 101 · Birmingham, Alabama 35205-7001 · (205) 558-3980 · Fax (205) 558-3980

Contact: Jennifer Dome
AHF Public Relations Manager
Ph: (205) 558-3991
Email: jdome@ahf.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDGAR WELDEN ACCEPTS ALABAMA HUMANITIES AWARD AT AHF LUNCHEON

The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) was pleased to present the 2010 Alabama Humanities Award to **Edgar Welden** at its annual awards luncheon on Monday, Sept. 13, 2010, in **Birmingham** at the **Wynfrey Hotel** from **12-1:30 p.m.** There were about 450 guests in attendance.

Elmer Harris, retired president of Alabama Power and an advisory committee member of the Robert R. Meyer Foundation, accepted the 2010 Charitable Organization in the Humanities Award on behalf of the **Robert R. Meyer Foundation**. Sephira Shuttlesworth accepted a special resolution in honor of her husband, **The Rev. Fred Lee Shuttlesworth**, at the luncheon as well. Author and Alabama native **Jan Crawford**, chief legal correspondent for CBS News, delivered the keynote address.

Prior to the luncheon at a special reception, members of the Riley family, including Minda Riley Campbell, Rob Riley and Patsy Riley, presented the 2010 Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarships. The scholarships were presented to the following elementary school teachers:

- **Takisha Durm**, a sixth-grade teacher at PACE Alternative Education in Huntsville
- **Cheryl Evans Hall**, a third-grade teacher at Lacey's Spring School
- **Diane Henderson**, a fourth-grade teacher at East Lawrence Middle School in Trinity
- **Mary Elizabeth Lee**, a sixth-grade teacher at New Market Elementary School
- **Gerri McDonald**, gifted programs at Perdido Elementary/Middle School
- **Beverly Robinson**, a fourth-grade teacher at Crossville Elementary School

This scholarship will support their professional development and classroom enhancements in history and civics. Generously funded by Edgar and Louise Welden of Birmingham, the scholarships honor the memory of Jenice Riley, the late daughter of Gov. Bob Riley and his wife Patsy, whose dedicated passion for teaching and devotion to community helped ensure a quality education for our state's youth.

Among the guests present were: retired vice president of U.S. Pipe **Robert Aycock**; Judge **Sharon Blackburn**; director of Alabama Department of Archives and History **Edwin C. Bridges**; retired vice president of U.S. Steel **Bill Copeland** and **Betty Copeland**; first executive director of the Alabama Humanities Foundation **Walter Cox**; athletic director of Birmingham-Southern College **Joe Dean**; Alabama Representative **Paul DeMarco**; former U.S. Attorney **Frank Donaldson**; author **Wayne Greenhaw** and **Sally Greenhaw**; Montgomery-based AHF Board member **Reginald T. Hamner**; Troy University chancellor **Jack Hawkins** and **Janice Hawkins**; Judge **J. Gorman Houston** and **Martha Houston**; **Mike Krawcheck** of the Hoover Library Board; Alabama Department of Transportation Director **Joseph McInnes**; **John J. McMahan**; **Scott Myers** with the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame; author and Birmingham-based AHF Board member **James L. Noles**; Hoover **Mayor Tony Petelos**; **Lawrence Pijaux** of the BCRI; Alabama Representative **Cam Ward**; AHF Chair **Bob Whetstone**.

About Edgar Welden

Edgar Welden initiated and has personally funded the Jenice Riley Memorial Scholarships benefitting current kindergarten through sixth-grade teachers in social studies projects. He is the current chair of the Alabama Sports Hall Of Fame and Museum and president of the Bryant-Jordan Student Athlete Foundation, which provides more than 100 scholarships annually to Alabama high school seniors.

About the Robert R. Meyer Foundation

For 68 years, the Robert R. Meyer Foundation has helped provide support to many charitable organizations in central Alabama. Since its inception, the Meyer Foundation has given away more than \$54 million to 350 different charitable organizations. AHF has received funding from the Meyer Foundation for 20 years to help ensure the present and future success of the organization.

About Jan Crawford

Jan Crawford is the chief legal correspondent for CBS News and a recognized authority on the Supreme Court. Her 2007 book, *Supreme Conflict: The Inside Story of the Struggle for Control of the United States Supreme Court*, gained critical acclaim and became an instant New York Times Best Seller.

Jan Crawford began her journalism career at the Chicago Tribune in 1987, joining the legal affairs beat in 1993 after graduating from the University of Chicago Law School. The newspaper awarded her its highest award in 2001 for her role on a team of reporters covering the presidential election of 2000 and the legal battles over the White House. She won the same prize for her 13-part series on the post-civil rights South, a project that brought her back to her native Alabama.

Crawford graduated from the University of Alabama in 1987. She frequently speaks about the court to universities, law schools, legal organizations and civic groups across the country. She is a member of the New York Bar. She and her family live in Washington, D.C.

About the Alabama Humanities Foundation

The Alabama Humanities Foundation is a nonprofit organization funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, of which AHF is the state affiliate, as well as by corporate and individual donors. AHF is dedicated to the promotion and celebration of the humanities throughout the state of Alabama and, to that end, conducts its own statewide programs and awards grants, on a competitive basis, to nonprofit organizations for humanities projects. For more information on AHF programs, please call (205) 558-3980, or visit ahf.net.

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