

# THE PALS PRINTS

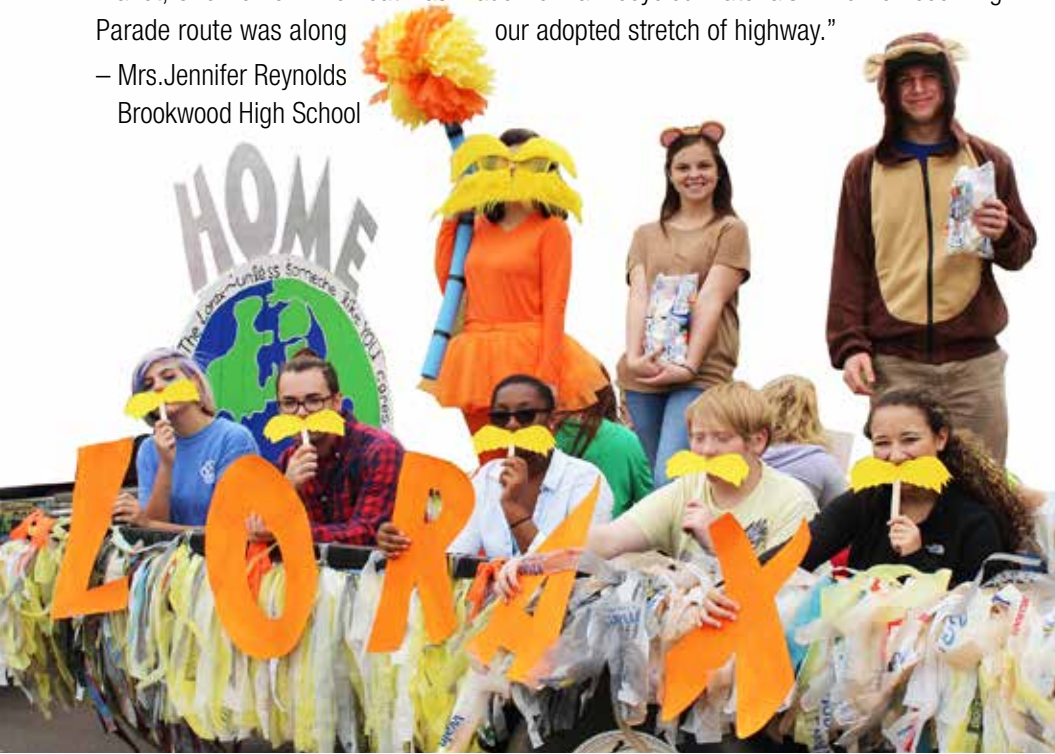
THE NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA PALS AND THE ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PROGRAM

WINTER QUARTER 2015 • VOLUME 36

## THE ALABAMA ADOPT A MILE PROGRAM

“Every Earth Day, Green Team-er’s get decked out in Super Hero costumes and do various environmental service projects in the Brookwood community. One of our service projects that day was to pick up trash along our adopted stretch of highway. The theme to homecoming was “There’s No Place Like Home.” Most groups did the obvious Wizard of Oz themes for their float, but the Green Team went with a Lorax theme that focused on “One Planet, One Home.” The float was made from all recycled materials. The Homecoming Parade route was along our adopted stretch of highway.”

– Mrs. Jennifer Reynolds  
Brookwood High School



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

BY SPENCER RYAN:

### Investing in the Future

As we begin 2016, PALS is looking forward to continuing to invest our time, resources, staff, board of directors and thousands of statewide volunteers, as we continue to provide statewide programs that are making a difference all over our great state. The hard work and dedication demonstrated by groups, individuals, businesses, cities and counties, agencies, teachers and volunteers from all across Alabama is an investment that is paying great dividends, not only for all Alabamians, but for future generations to come. I know that each of us would welcome this kind of dividend on all of our investments.

Other PALS investments for 2016 will bring new opportunities and new ideas that will make this wonderful organization even better for the future. PALS is currently improving our current data base, newsletter and web page, and all applications for all PALS programs will be in a format to be electronically submitted to the PALS office. We will also be exploring and using a PALS e-newsletter, electronic membership forms, and have begun a PALS Facebook page that will allow us to quickly update PALS information for volunteers statewide. So, as the expression goes “Like Us On Facebook” at [www.facebook.com/alabamapals](http://www.facebook.com/alabamapals). Also, please take time to update your membership information on the membership form inside this newsletter. Please add your email address along with any other changes that might be relevant.

As each of us knows all too well, growing comes with a cost, and the

*Continued on page 3*

## THE 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S OF ALABAMA PALS

**Jeff Helms**  
*Chairman*

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*Vice Chairman*

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### THE STAFF OF ALABAMA PALS

**Spencer Ryan**  
*Executive Vice President*

**Margaret McElroy**  
*Executive Assistant*  
*State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator*

**Jamie Mitchell**  
*Clean Campus State Coordinator*

**Jeannine Wilder**  
*Chapter Development*

Phone: 334-263-7737 or  
In-State Watts 800-ALA-PALS  
Fax # 334-832-9400  
NEW Email: [www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)  
340 North Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

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### ALABAMA PALS MISSION STATEMENT

*"Alabama Communities Working  
Together for A Cleaner and  
More Beautiful Alabama"*

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

BY JEFF HELMS, CHAIRMAN, ALABAMA PALS

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The Bible teaches "it is more blessed to give than receive," and no group demonstrates this more than Alabama PALS volunteers.

By giving their time, PALS cleanup teams build relationships that last a lifetime. When PALS shares lessons about stewardship with Clean Campus students, we secure a brighter future. And when our members and sponsors donate to support PALS, they are investing in a cleaner environment, healthier communities and more vibrant economy.

During this season of giving, the PALS board of directors thanks you for all the ways you give. Although the time, money and passion you invest in PALS certainly pays dividends – both personally and for our society – you are not motivated by what you receive.

That's the beauty of PALS. While other anti-littering programs rely on hefty fees and government employees, PALS is a true grassroots organization. Each year, volunteers collect thousands of tons of trash, saving the state millions of dollars in litter control. Membership fees are nominal and, thanks to generous corporate support, materials are provided free of charge.

This was the vision of our founders 27 years ago. They sought to create an all-volunteer organization with no political agenda or self-serving motives. PALS brings together private landowners, educators, law enforcement, conservation agencies, environmental watchdogs and businesses for a common goal — to give future generations a cleaner state.

The appeal of the PALS' mission continues to fuel expansion of our programs. In 2015, dozens of schools joined the Clean Campus Program,

and long stretches of highway were added to the Adopt-A-Mile Program, including every mile between Selma and Montgomery along the route of Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic Civil Rights March.

The growth of these programs has challenged our board of directors and staff to engage additional corporate sponsors in the PALS' mission. We've already received a generous, five-year commitment from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians as presenting sponsor for the Coastal Cleanup, and other meetings with potential donors are scheduled. However, we also could use your help.

If you know of a business, individual or foundation that would be interested in supporting Alabama PALS' ability to provide anti-littering materials, support and education free of charge, please contact Spencer at [spencer@alpals.org](mailto:spencer@alpals.org). You may also make a tax-deductible, end-of-year gift by sending your check with the form in this newsletter to the PALS office.

Thank you for giving your time, energy and enthusiasm to help keep Alabama beautiful. Every aluminum can, plastic bag or used tire we collect — or prevent being dumped — is a gift to future generations. But, it's also a blessing to us, as we grow in service and stewardship.

– Jeff



# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*Continued from page 1*

programs of PALS are no different. With the constant reality of the cost of growth and success comes an investment. PALS has made that commitment and investment and we are certain that these investments will not only afford us the opportunity to continue to offer all PALS programs to all Alabama communities, but will afford us the opportunities to do it in a more effective and efficient manner. PALS needs your partnership and financial support as we continue this investment in a cleaner and more beautiful Alabama. Inside this newsletter you will find the 2016 PALS Membership Form and return envelope. If you, your family, business, school, civic organization, agency, city, county or volunteer group would like to be a part of this investment, please take time to make that commitment now. We will highlight all of our members and donors in each PALS Newsletter. Thank you for your generosity as we invest together and continue to provide the dividends for the future.

The 2016 "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Statewide Spring Cleanup will be held on April 16-23. The 2015 cleanup effort netted over 380 tons of litter removed from neighborhoods, city streets, State and Federal highways, streams and lakes and other areas statewide. PALS will provide all materials and supplies for the statewide cleanup. Now THAT is an investment that pays dividends! Thank you to each of you that make this annual cleanup effort a huge success.

Final totals are in from the 2015 Alabama Coastal Cleanup. Over 5,400 volunteers participated in the 2015 coastal cleanup effort, making Alabama one of the most successful coastal cleanup efforts in the country. With 31 zones, 5,400 volunteers, scuba diving teams, kayaks and boats, and blessed with beautiful weather, the 2015 Alabama Coastal Cleanup will be

remembered as one of the most successful in cleanup history. Thank you to our Coastal Cleanup Sponsors that make this annual cleanup effort possible (see inside page). Thanks to the ADCNR/State Lands Coastal Section for this wonderful and successful partnership!

On February 19, 2016, PALS will partner with PALS of the Shoals as we hold our bi-annual Litter Law Enforcement Conference. This conference is always the highlight of the PALS year and is attended by law enforcement officers from every corner of Alabama. Please contact your local law enforcement agencies and encourage them to send a representative from their agency. The agenda, list of speakers and all information can be found inside this newsletter, as well as the PALS web page at [alpals.org](http://alpals.org).

The PALS Governors Awards Program was held on November 11th and it was an honor to celebrate our United States Veterans, while honoring those that have given of their time and service to the many PALS programs statewide. Over 250 were in attendance as PALS presented awards in 15 categories, plus awards for the State Winners from the Alabama Clean Campus Program.

In closing, I want to take time to thank our PALS Sustaining Partners ALDOT, ALFA, Vulcan Materials Company, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama and Alabama Farmers Cooperative for their generous support, dedication and friendship. I appreciate the sincere investment that they make to ensure that all Alabamians can enjoy a clean and beautiful Alabama for years to come.

I wish each of you and your families a wonderful and blessed 2016. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way.



## PALS SUSTAINING CORPORATE SPONSORS



**HONDA**

**Vulcan**  
Materials Company

**The "Don't Drop It On Alabama" Spring Cleanup**

**The Alabama Clean Campus Program**

**Adopt-A-Mile**

**Adopt-A-Stream**

**Alabama Coastal Cleanup**

**Adopt-An-Area**

**Adopt-A-Beach**

**Litter Education Curriculum**

**Annual Governor's Awards**

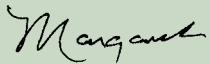
**Statewide Chapter Network**

## MESSAGE FROM:

MARGARET McELROY  
*State Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator*

As we look to 2016 with great anticipation, and a continued dedication to making the Alabama Adopt-a-Mile Program the best and most effective "adopta" program in the country, I want to thank each of you that give so freely of your time and resources to the Alabama Adopt-a-Mile Program. Your many hours of service and hard work continues to make Alabama's county, state and federal highways cleaner and safer for all Alabamians, as well as the countless number of visitors that travel our roads annually.

I want to thank each individual, group or business that is a part of the Alabama Adopt-a-Mile family, and I look forward to working with you in 2016. Please let me know how I can best work with you in 2016.



## ALDOT REGIONAL ENGINEERS AND AREA OFFICES

### JOHNNY HARRIS

North Regional Engineer  
256-505-6141

### DEJARVIS LEONARD

East Central Regional Engineer  
256-234-8401

### GEORGE CONNER

SE Regional Engineer  
334-353-6850

### VINCENT E. CALAMETTI

SW Regional Engineer  
251-404-8204

### JAMES D. BROWN

West Central Regional Engineer  
205-562-3100



"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"

## **We want to thank each of the dedicated groups and individuals that participate in the Alabama Adopt-A-Mile Program.**

*As we are constantly updating our data base to ensure better communication with all participants, please take time to complete the following information form. This updated information will assist us in keeping each or you informed about the Alabama Adopt-A-Mile Program, as well as all programs offered through Alabama PALS. During the recent Adopt-A-Mile Survey, over 80% of all responding participants were faithfully fulfilling their commitment to making Alabama a cleaner and safer place through their continued dedication to the program. Thank you for your dedication to making Alabama's roads and highways cleaner and safer for all Alabamians. You are making a difference!*



# ALABAMA ADOPT-A-MILE PARTICIPATION FORM

Please Complete and Return to The PALS Office  
340 North Hull Street / Montgomery, AL 36104

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Group or Individual on Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address of Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
 State Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Highway # \_\_\_\_\_ County Highway or Road # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Sign: Mile Marker# \_\_\_\_\_ to Mile Marker # \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Currently Participating  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Not Participating at This time and want sign taken down  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Participating But Sign Needs Replacing or Repaired

## Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for Highway Adoption - State/Federal

City \_\_\_\_\_  
 County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Highway section(s) you propose to adopt:  
 (minimum of one mile)  
 State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 State or U.S. Highway Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Signature of Applicant  
 Recommended for Approval:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

## County Adopt-A-Mile Program Application for County Road Adoption

County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant (Participating Organization) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Road section(s) you propose to adopt:  
 (minimum of one mile)  
 County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Road Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_ to Milepost Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized Signature of Applicant  
 Recommended Approval:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Engineer  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairman, County Commission  
 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 District Engineer, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

### Interested in "adopting"

Fill out application form and mail to:

**Alabama PALS**

340 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

## MESSAGE FROM:

*JOHN COOPER*

*Director, Alabama Department of Transportation*

I've stated before in this space that I'm fortunate to have grown up in Marshall County, just a few miles from Lake Guntersville State Park. It's one of the most spectacular areas of the beautiful state we call home.

I'm proud to have grown up around Lake Guntersville, and my family's permanent home is still in that area. I'm also proud of ALDOT's efforts to keep Alabama clean and beautiful, and our partnership with PALS. Our partnership with PALS is a model for how state government can work with non-profit groups and volunteers to make our state better.

Litter poses a serious threat to Alabama's natural beauty. That's why our partnership with PALS is important. Together, we are making this program a huge success, removing hundreds of tons of litter from highways and natural areas annually. This effort helps keep our state beautiful and saves Alabama taxpayers millions of dollars in clean-up costs. This is only possible with the dedicated volunteers who work diligently to ensure our roadways are clean. As citizens, it's our responsibility to protect the environment in every way we can. This includes serving as an example for young people and teaching them to properly dispose of trash, as well as being a model of volunteerism by lending a hand with clean-up efforts.

On behalf of ALDOT, thank you for your commitment to our ongoing battle against litter. Together, we're making a difference!

— John





*The Highway 80 Adopt-a-Mile Group was awarded last week for their effort to get every mile between Selma and Montgomery adopted and cleaned up before the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.*

## GROUP HONORED FOR CLEAN-UP EFFORTS

Months of preparation went into getting ready for the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday in March, but one of the most important parts was cleaning up the 54 miles of U.S. Highway 80 that stretch between Selma and Montgomery.

The Highway 80 Adopt-a-Mile Group, who helped make sure every mile got adopted and cleaned up before thousands of people flocked to Selma for the anniversary, were awarded for their effort last week.

The group was presented with the Statewide Adopt-a-Mile Award on Nov. 11 at the 2015 Alabama PALs Governor's Awards program in Prattville.

"It was one of the largest adopt-a-mile undertakings we've ever had, so they were certainly deserving of the award," said Spencer Ryan, executive vice president for Alabama PALS (People Against a Littered State).

Ryan said the group came to Alabama PALS before the 50th anniversary about the project.

"They wanted to know if we would work with them on getting every mile adopted on the trail. Of course, it was a huge undertaking," Ryan said.

"We worked with the department of transportation and Rep. [Thad] McClammy and his group, and we ended up getting all the miles adopted, which is a great feat."

Queen Tate, who was part of the Highway 80 Adopt-a-Mile Group, helped clean the historic highway and adopted a mile herself for her organization, Lilies of the Valley.

"I knew that President Obama was coming, and he was coming in that direction for the jubilee," Tate said.

"We wanted to make sure that we impressed Obama and let him know that we can clean up our neighborhood and

have it clean enough for when he comes to Selma."

Tate said it was an honor to be awarded for the work the group did in making sure the highway that hundreds of marchers walked 50 years ago for voting rights was cleaned up.

"It was awesome to me," Tate said. "It let me know that my work is not unseen. People are acknowledging that there is someone here who cares enough to make sure that it's clean."

Tate said between two and six tons of garbage were picked up alongside U.S. Highway 80.

Published 8:38pm Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

Read more:

<http://www.selmatimesjournal.com/2015/11/17/261117/#ixzz3uPQG8T4N>

# **ALABAMA PALS 2016 SPRING CLEANUP APRIL 16-23**

***“Don't Drop It On Alabama”***

***Make Plans Now for your City,  
County, Volunteer Group,  
School or Other Groups to JOIN  
Volunteers from every Corner  
of Alabama for This Annual  
Statewide Spring Cleanup***

**All Cleanup Materials  
and Supplies Furnished  
by Alabama PALS**

**Contact for More Information:  
Alabama PALS  
334-263-7737  
Alpals.org  
[www.facebook.com/alabamapals](http://www.facebook.com/alabamapals)**



# **2016 PALS LITTER LAW ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE**

**February 19, 2016 • Colbert County Health Department  
1000 Jackson Highway, Sheffield, Alabama**

**Contact:** Patsy Thompson at 256-383-4376

**Registration Fee:** \$ 25.00 per person pre-registration  
\$ 35.00 per person day of registration

**Time:** 8:00 Registration

**Conference:** 8:30am-2:30pm

**CEU Credit Hours: 3.25**

## **FEATURED SPEAKERS**

- Jim Patrie/ Tuscaloosa County Solid Waste Officer
- Captain Rodney Gilliam/ Tuscaloosa Police Department
- Lt. Felicia Rucker / Jefferson County Sheriff's Department
- Lt. Clifton Robinson/ ADCNR Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Department
- ***And Others***

## **TOPICS**

- Identifying Highway Litter and Issuing UTC
- Identifying and Investigating Criminal Littering Cases
- Fines for Criminal Littering and Distribution of Fines
- Current State Criminal Littering Laws
- ***Other Topics to be Presented***

## **MAIL REGISTRATION FEE TO:**

***Patsy Thompson***

**PALS Litter Law Conference**

**1101 Highway 72 East, Suite 16**

**Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674**





# ALABAMA 2016

# Coastal Cleanup

**2015 Alabama Coastal Cleanup Sponsors**

**A Very Special Thank You from 5,400 Volunteers!!!**

**Presented By**

**THE POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS**

*ExxonMobil • Bebo's • Mobile Bay NEP • Alabama Power • LuLu's  
Flora-Bama • Ike's Beach Service • City of Gulf Shores • City of Orange Beach  
Riviera Utilities • Baldwin EMC • Utility Board of Gulf Shores  
The Original Oyster House • Home Depot • Evonic*

**Coastal Cleanup Partner**

*Alabama Department of Conservation • State Lands • Coastal Section*





# 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup a Success

BY ANGELA UNDERWOOD, NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNER, ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COASTAL SECTION

**T**he 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Alabama Coastal Cleanup was held on Saturday, September 19, 2015. This year, over 5,000 volunteers helped to “get the trash out of the splash” by walking, boating or scuba diving 31 different coastal and inland waterway zones across Mobile and Baldwin counties, as well as inland zones in the Blackwater and Sepulga watersheds and as far away as the Tennessee River.

Each year brings unusual finds, and this year was no exception. Along with the everyday litter such as plastic bottles and cigarette butts were couches, a television set and laptop computer. The most unusual find for the day came from the cleanup site at Fort Morgan where volunteers discovered the front end of a Nissan Pathfinder with a Texas license plate still attached!

Thank you to all those who supported the cleanup this year. This huge event



would not be successful without the hard work of our volunteers and the generous support from our sponsors: 2015 Presenting Sponsor - The Poarch Band of

Creek Indian, ADCNR Coastal Section, AL PALS, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Bebo’s, ExxonMobil, Alabama Power Company, Alabama Department of Transportation, Baldwin EMC, City of Gulf Shores, City of Orange Beach, Create a Clean Water Future, Compass Media, Florida-Bama, Home Depot, Ike’s Beach Service, LuLu’s, Riviera Utilities, The Original Oyster House, Utility Board of Gulf Shores, Evonik, Ineos Phenol, Vulcan Materials Company, ALFA, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Alabama Farmer’s Cooperative, Baldwin County Commission, Gulf Shores/Orange Beach Tourism and The Ocean Conservancy.



Photo by Rhoda Vanderhart





# COASTAL CLEANUP IN DAPHNE





## CLEAN CAMPUS NOTES .....

The 2014-2015 school year was our busiest yet! I spoke to over 2,000 students at over 30 schools last school year! That means there are over 2,000 new voices helping us spread the anti-litter message throughout the state. These students take their role very seriously in helping to keep our state clean and beautiful.

The 2015-2016 school year has been off to a great start, as well! We have received a number of first-time applicants this year, and more and more schools are starting "Green Teams" and adopting their campuses through our "Adopt-An-Area" program. I have also stayed busy traveling the state to spread the word through campus visits.

I currently still have a few dates available in February, March, April and May for school visits. My 30 minute program this year covers the "lifecycle" of trash...whether it ends up as litter, recycling or in a landfill. It gets the students thinking beyond the trashcan! My program also meets "teacher standards" for environmental education.

If a school near you would like to sign up for the Clean Campus Program or would like to schedule a school visit, please give me a call at (334) 263-7737 or email at [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org).

## PALS 2016 POSTER CONTEST

### GUIDELINES:

1. Theme: "Litter is \_\_\_\_\_"
2. K-6<sup>th</sup> (Two categories K-3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)
3. Standard White Poster or Foam Board (May be split in half)
4. All mediums acceptable
5. Back of Poster Must Include: Student Name, Grade, Telephone Number of Student/Parent, Email of Student/Parent, Teacher Name, School, Telephone Number of School, & Email of Teacher/School.

### WINNERS:

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| First Place:       | \$250 & Plaque |
| Second Place:      | Plaque         |
| Third Place:       | Plaque         |
| Honorable Mention: | Plaque         |

ALL posters are **due in the office by Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

### Return to:

**Jamie Mitchell**

PALS Clean Campus Coordinator  
340 N. Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

*Please contact Jamie with any further questions at:  
(334) 263-7737 / [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org)*

## 2016 POSTER AND RECYCLED ART CONTEST

**Happy 2016!** I sincerely hope that your year is off to a wonderful start! January means it is time to begin planning the Alabama PALS Annual Poster and Recycled Art Contest! You read that right...we are changing the essay contest this year to a recycled art contest! Grades K-3 and 4-6 will still participate in the poster competition, and grades 7-12 now have the opportunity to make something cool, artistic or useful for our recycled art competition. The theme this year will be "LITTER IS \_\_\_\_\_." The kids get to decide what they think of litter and use their imagination to create their poster or art around that theme.

Each school is to hold their own competition and **send in ONLY the first place winner from each category** at each school to the PALS office for statewide judging. The entries are due in the PALS office by Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and sent to the PALS office at the following address: 340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104. Each entry submitted must have the following information listed on the back:

**Student's Name, Student's Address, Student/Parent Telephone Number, Student/Parent Email, Name of School & Point of Contact, Address of School, Telephone of School, Email of School/Contact, and County of School.** This information is extremely important, as it will allow us to properly notify and recognize each winner.

The PALS office will notify the winners and/or the county coordinators. Each of the winners will be recognized and presented with \$250 for first place in each category and a plaque for second, third, and honorable mention. These awards will be presented at the Annual Governor's Awards Luncheon in November 2016.

Feel free to call or email me with any questions at (334) 263-7737 or [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org). THANK YOU for your support of the Clean Campus Program, and GOOD LUCK with your contest!

## PALS 2016 RECYCLED ART CONTEST

### GUIDELINES:

1. 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades
2. May work in groups of 1-5
3. "Art" may be useful or just for decoration
4. Piece may be no larger than 12"x12"x12" and easily moved
5. Art must be made entirely of materials that are eligible for recycling or that would be otherwise considered trash, except for a small amount of fastening materials such as screws, bolts, wire, welding, glue, tape and twine.
6. Please include the names of all individuals working on the project, their current grade, each person's address, phone number, and email. Also, include school name, point of contact for school, and address, phone number and email for school/point of contact.

### WINNERS:

First Place:	\$250 (to be divided if working in groups) & Plaque
Second Place:	Plaque
Third Place:	Plaque
Honorable Mention:	Plaque

ALL Recycled Art projects are **due in the office by Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

Return to:

**Jamie Mitchell**

PALS Clean Campus Coordinator  
340 N. Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

*Please contact Jamie with any further questions at:*  
(334) 263-7737 / [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org)

# Reuse It

## Washington Co. elementary schools make great progress in first year of PALS program.

by *Jamie Mitchell*

Last year I wrote an article after visiting all five of the elementary schools located in Washington County. I was invited back to visit the schools again this year, so I jumped at the opportunity to see how things had changed. The schools included in my visit were McIntosh, Chatom, Millry, Leroy and Fruitdale.

What a difference a year makes!! Melanie Stokley, a retired school teacher and member of the local

Students from three of Washington County schools enjoy a program from PALS campus coordinator Jamie Mitchell. Top to bottom are students from McIntosh, Millry and (opposite) Chatom.

Alfa Women's Committee, created a "Reuse It" competition after my last visit. All schools held a competition to see who could make the most creative items from recycled

materials. The winning students received a monetary prize from the Alfa Women's Committee. Stokley also encouraged the schools to participate in the PALS' Annual Poster







**MEMBER**  
**CLEAN CAMPUS**  
**ALABAMA**  
**PROGRAM**

Sponsored by



Funding by



competition. Sarah Morris from Chatom Elementary even received a Statewide Honorable Mention award for her poster!

There has been great strides made in Washington County this past year, but the work continues. Stokley's next mission is to work to bring recycling to Washington County. She is in the process of finding grant money and other resources that will allow these schools to start recycling programs. She plans to build on the success of the "Reuse It" competition as well as have the schools participate in the poster competition again.

Can a school near you use information on keeping Alabama more beautiful? I would love to provide your local schools with more information on the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program. I can personally help them get a program started! Just have them give me a call at 334-263-7737 or send me an email at [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org). ■

*Jamie Mitchell is the PALS State Clean Campus Coordinator.*

**NOTICE**

*Cooperative Farming News*  
 Advertisers:

**AD**  
**DEADLINE**

for January 2016 issue  
 is December 1  
 Call Wendy McFarland  
 (334) 652-9080  
 or email

[McFarlandAdVantage@gmail.com](mailto:McFarlandAdVantage@gmail.com)

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November 2015 81





# Looking Good

Hokes Bluff Middle School repurposes recycled products to use in art projects.

by *Jamie Mitchell*

**H**okes Bluff Middle School is partnering with PALS to keep their campus and community looking good! Seventh-grade

science teacher Nicki Busch recently invited me to Hokes Bluff Middle School to kick off their 2015 Clean Campus Program.

I met with a seventh-grade “interest” class to inspire them to look for more ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. The students heard my 30-minute program on the “lifecycle” of a piece of trash, and we spent another 20 minutes answering questions and hearing personal stories of recycling and litter pickup.

The students at Hokes Bluff have recently been working on several recycled art projects including making flowers from plastic bottles and decorative pumpkins from old books.

The students were excited to show me all of the projects on which they had been working! Their next goal is to partner with the local recycling facility to begin recycling paper and cardboard. Busch is constantly looking for more ways that the students of Hokes Bluff can make a difference.

If a school near you would like to hear more about the Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program, I would love to provide them with more information. I can come personally to help them get a program started! Just have them give me a call at 334-263-7737 or send me an email at [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org). ■

*Jamie Mitchell is the PALS State Clean Campus Coordinator.*

**MEMBER**

**CLEAN CAMPUS**

**ALABAMA**

**PROGRAM**

Sponsored by **ALABAMA PALS** PEOPLE AGAINST A LITTERED STATE "Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"

Funding by **ALFA INSURANCE**

**QUALITY CO-OP PRODUCTS**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

from your local **QUALITY CO-OP**





# Waste Less - Recycle More

Autaugaville Elementary kicks off the school year by partnering with Alabama PALS Clean Campus Program.

by *Jamie Mitchell*

**A**utaugaville Elementary is kicking off this school year by partnering with Alabama PALS' Clean Campus Program! The school has already been participating in a new countywide recycling program and has contributed several tons of material to be recycled. Each year we will look forward to seeing this number grow as the students and faculty reduce waste and recycle more!

The students were very attentive as Autauga County's Solid Waste Officer John Paul O'Driscoll informed them about exactly where their recycled materials go. After being sorted at the Correctional Facility, the materials are baled and sold to paper mills and plastic manufacturers. Many of the materials stay right here in Alabama and get a new life

as a new product instead of ending up in a landfill.

After O'Driscoll did his report to the students, I gave my presentation on the lifecycle of a piece of trash. They learned that a plastic bottle can end up in a landfill, at a recycling facility or as a piece of litter. We discussed how long it takes a plastic bottle to biodegrade on its own and how littering is the worst possible outcome for a piece of trash. Autaugaville's Principal Lesia Robinson also spoke and encouraged the children to continue their good work with their recycling program.

Great work on Autaugaville Elementary for their commitment to being a Clean Campus School!

If you think a school near you would be interested in joining the Clean Campus Program or might like to have me present the 30-minute program on keeping Alabama more

beautiful, just have them give me a call at 334-263-7737 or send me an email at [Jamie@alpals.org](mailto:Jamie@alpals.org). ■

*Jamie Mitchell is the PALS State Clean Campus Coordinator.*


**MEMBER**

**CLEAN CAMPUS**

**ALABAMA**

**PROGRAM**

Sponsored by **ALABAMA PALS** PEOPLE AGAINST A LITTERED STATE  
Working Together for an Litter-Free Alabama

Funding by **ALFA** INSURANCE 



Alabama People Against A Littered State (PALS) is dedicated to making our state more beautiful by sponsoring programs focused on cleaning up litter in Alabama's, streets, streams, campuses and coastlines. Below is the impact of that effort.

**\$ 7.6 MILLION**

**TAXPAYER DOLLARS SAVED BY PALS IN LITTER CONTROL**

'DON'T DROP IT ON ALABAMA' SPRING CLEANUP



COUNTIES INVOLVED



LITTER COLLECTED IN 2014



LITTER BAGS USED



GROUPS ACROSS ALABAMA

**ADOPT-A-MILE PROGRAM**



SPONSORS 807

LOCATIONS 793

MILES ADOPTED 912

'DON'T DROP IT ON ALABAMA' COASTAL CLEANUP



YEARS & GROWING

**CLEAN CAMPUS PROGRAM**



SCHOOLS ENROLLED

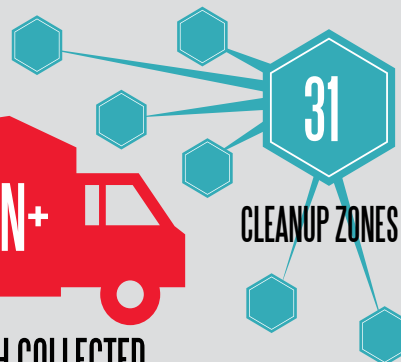
30 NEW SCHOOLS IN 2014-15



ENERGIZED VOLUNTEERS



POUNDS OF TRASH COLLECTED



CLEANUP ZONES

**314** STREAMS PROTECTED

**ADOPT-A-STREAM PROGRAM**

# THE 2015 ALABAMA PALS GOVERNOR'S AWARDS WINNERS

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## **Adopt a Mile**

Highway 80 Adopt a Mile Group

## **Special Category**

Rose Cantor – Jefferson

Royce and Joyce Minor – Autauga

Guntersville High School Wildcats/Work for  
Students and Earth – Marshall

Coleta Valley Fire Department – Clay

City of Foley Public Works Department – Baldwin

## **Coastal Cleanup**

Theodore Industrial Canal Zone – Mobile

Daphne Zone – Baldwin

## **City**

City of Guntersville Public Works

Litter Crew – Marshall

City of Cullman Sanitation Department – Cullman

## **County Commission Award**

Marshall County Commission

## **County**

Jefferson County Roads and  
Transportation Department

## **Law Enforcement**

Officer Jeff Shaw – Sumter

Officer Shawn Nixon – Shelby

Marshall County Sheriff's Department

Jefferson County Sheriff's Department

## **Education**

Oak Grove High School – Jefferson

## **PALS Special Award of Merit**

Janice Castleberry – Covington

## **Honda Manufacturing of Alabama Spring Cleanup Award**

Scott Gilchrist – Jefferson

Cullman County PALS

## **Vulcan Volunteer of the Year**

Keith Golden – Jefferson

## **Don Hines Memorial Award**

Jefferson County Storm Water  
Management Team

## **2014-15 Alabama Clean**

### **Campus Awards**

**First Place:** Lakewood Elementary – Russell

**Second Place:** Parkside High School – Cullman

**Third Place:** Cullman City Primary  
School – Cullman

### **Honorable Mention:**

East Elementary School – Cullman

Prattville Intermediate School – Autauga

Welti Elementary School – Cullman

# ALABAMA PA



Education Winners – Oak Grove High School



L to R: Jeff Helms, Jack Lakey – 1st, Cadence Bennett – 3rd, Addison Grimes – JM, Jack Adams – HM, Sarah Morris – HM, and not pictured, Luke Johnson – 2nd



Clean Campus Runner Up – Prattville Intermediate School



Coastal Cleanup – Theodore Industrial Canal Zone



Jefferson Co. Roads and Transportation Dept.



L to R: Abbi Stockman – 1st, Emma Stidham – 2nd, Jalyyn Pryor – 3rd, Landen Fendley – HM, Arris LeMaire – HM, and Chayce McCaleb – HM.



# PALS AWARDS



1st Place CCP Award – Lakewood Elementary



Coastal Clean Up – Daphne Zone



City Award – Guntersville Public Works Litter Crew



Guntersville High School Wildcats



Highway 80 Adopt-A-Mile Group



# ALABAMA PA



*Honda Manufacturing Spring Clean Up Award –  
Scott Gilchrist*



*Merit Award accepted on behalf of Janice Castleberry –  
Covington County PALS*



*Clean Campus 2nd Place –  
Cullman City Primary School*



*CCP Runner Up – Welti Elementary*



*Marshall County Sheriff's Office*



*Officer Jeff Shaw*



*Jeff Helms and Kately Dunavent*



*Clean Campus Runner Up – East Elementary*



*Jeff Helms and Mickey Hunt – Marshall County PALS*



# PALS AWARDS



*Vulcan Volunteer of the Year Award – L to R: Barbara Jones and Master Sergeant Keith Golden*



*Special Category Winner – Rose Cantor*



*Walmart Distribution Center 6016 – Cullman*



*Officer Shawn Nixon*



*CCP 2nd Place – Parkside School*



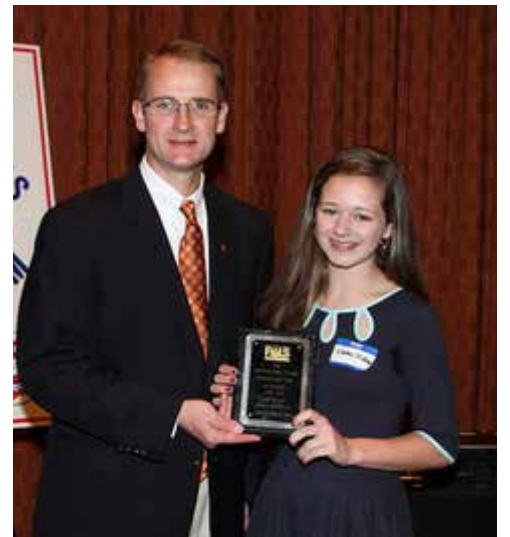
*Jeff Helms and Alex Finch*



*City of Foley Public Works Department*



*Jefferson County Sheriff's Office*



*Jeff Helms and Emma Stidham*



# ALABAMA PA



*L to R: Jeff Helms, Jeff Finch, Colby Staton and Katelyn Dunavent*



*L to R: Jamie Mitchell, Sarah Morris and Melanie Stokley*



*Coleta Valley Volunteer Fire Department*



*Jefferson County Storm Water Management Team*



*Honda Manufacturing Spring Clean Up Award – Cullman County PALS*



*Special Category – Royce and Joyce Minor*



# LS AWARDS



*Jeff Helms and Landen Fendley*



*Jeff Helms and Colby Staton*



*Jeff Helms and Arris LeMaire*



*Jeff Helms and Chayce McCaleb*



*Jeff Helms and Cadence Bennett*



*Jeff Helms and Jack Adams*



*Jeff Helms and Jalyn Pryor*



*Jeff Helms and Abbi Stockman*



*Jeff Helms and Addison Grimes*

# THE ADOPT-A-STREAM PROGRAM

## Adopt-A-Stream Application Form

Name of Participating Group \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Proposed Stream Crossing: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Location for Adopt-A-Stream Signs (Hwy #'s, Mile Markers, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send Applications to Alabama PALS, 340 N. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

# THE ALABAMA ADOPT-A-BEACH PROGRAM

## An Alabama PALS/ADCNR Coastal Program Partnership

### Alabama Adopt-A-Beach Program Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization/Group \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Beach Area To Be Adopted (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADOPTION AREA PREFERRED**  Mobile County  Baldwin County

ADCNR/State Lands/Coastal Section • 3115 Five Rivers Blvd. • Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Alabama PALS • 340 North Hull Street • Montgomery, Alabama 36104



# Dates to Remember.....

- ✓ **January** – All Spring Cleanup Materials Ordered  
**January** – PALS Newsletter Mailed
- ✓ **February 19th** – PALS Litter Law Enforcement Conference
- ✓ **March 9th** – 9:00am PALS Audit Committee  
**March 9th** – 10:00am PALS Board of Directors Meeting  
**March 10th** – Spring Cleanup Supplies Ready for Pick up
- ✓ **April 16-23** – 2016 “Don’t Drop It On Alabama” Statewide Cleanup
- ✓ **May 9th** – Poster and Recycled Art Contest Entries Due in PALS Office
- ✓ **July** – PALS Audit Committee and Board of Directors Meeting
- ✓ **September 17** – Alabama Coastal Cleanup
- ✓ **October 20th** – PALS Governors Awards Nominations Due in PALS Office
- ✓ **November** – PALS Governors wards Program

## 2016 PALS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Sustaining Partner: \$500    Sustaining Steward: \$ 250    Litter Free Leader: \$100  
PALS Advocate: \$50    PALS Partner: \$25

(Membership Dues are paid Annually )

Alabama PALS is a 501C3 non-profit organization.

Your contribution to Alabama PALS is tax deductible

Please Make Checks Payable to: Alabama PALS

340 North Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36106





*"Working Together for an Unlittered Alabama"*

**Alabama PALS Newsletter**

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# ALABAMA PALS 2016 SPRING CLEANUP - APRIL 16-23

*"Don't Drop It On Alabama"*

