



Ben Russell
Russell Lands, Inc.
Chairman and CEO



Ben Russell started his working career with summer jobs at Russell Corporation, a large textile firm founded in 1902 by his grandfather. After college and active duty training in the Air National Guard, he was employed by Russell Corporation as a management trainee.

In 1970, he became president of Russell Lands, Inc., a private company owned by the Russell family. Russell Lands, Inc. had previously been a land and timber company, but has since become a diverse organization with more than 500 employees and is recognized as Alabama's largest recreational development company. Today, Mr. Russell is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Russell Lands, Inc., a position he assumed in 1973.

Education: Mercer University; University of Alabama

Military Service: Air National Guard – 280th ANG, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

Civic, Church and Social Organizations: Business Council of Alabama; Alexander City Area Chamber of Commerce; First United Methodist Church; Willow Point Golf and Country Club

Board Memberships: Russell Lands, Inc.; Russell Medical Center; Benjamin and Roberta Russell Foundation; Children's Harbor; Children's Hospital; Lake Martin Resource Association; ARISE; Willow Point Golf and Country Club

Humanitarian Interests: In 1987, founded and still chairs the first-ever statewide fundraising campaign for CARE, the world's largest private relief and development agency. The campaign, CARE Alabama, has raised in excess of \$9 million for CARE.

In 1989, Russell founded and chairs Children's Harbor, a not-for-profit childcare organization with its mission: *strengthening children and families*. The Children's Harbor campus is located 15 miles south of Alexander City on beautiful Lake Martin, where you will find picturesque New England style camping facilities. Mr. Russell also made a commitment to Children's Hospital in Birmingham resulting in the construction of the Children's Harbor wing which houses the Children's Harbor Family Center, an innovative child and family care center. This collaborative effort with the hospital provides counseling to chronically ill children and their families from all over Alabama. The Family Center was opened in May 2001.

Additionally, in 2008, Mr. Russell and his wife, Luanne, made the leading pledge in support of Children's Hospital. The gift, the largest in the history of Children's Hospital, was key in leading the \$100 million Capital Campaign to build a new facility on the hospital's downtown Birmingham campus. The new

hospital and campus will be named The Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children for Mr. Russell's grandfather Benjamin Russell.

Other Interests: Metalworking, Art, Poetry, Flying (airplane pilot) and Writing (In 2005 he wrote and published a book – *The Author: Nuclear Proliferation and The Terrorist.*)

Honors and Awards: The Children's Advocate Award/Margie Curry Lifetime Achievement Award – 2009; Inducted into The Alabama Business Hall of Fame – 2008; Indian Springs School's Outstanding Alumnus of the Year – 2003; CARE Philanthropist of the Year – 2000; Member, Alabama Academy of Honor – 1997; Outstanding Philanthropist in Alabama – 1994; First CARE World Humanitarian Award – 1990; Alexander City Man of the Year – 1975

Family: Married – Luanne Radney Russell; One child – Adelia (Dedie) Russell Hendrix.



Scott D. McBride
ECON
Designer/Fabricator



Scott McBride began his career with ECON in 2010 as a designer and fabricator. Prior to working with Ben Russell at ECON, Scott worked at Vulcan Engineering in Helena, Alabama as a design engineer for twenty six years. Scott worked at Hartman Industrial Products in Kansas as a designer and machinist before moving to Alabama. Scott was born and raised in South Hutchinson, Kansas and attended Hutchinson Community College where he began his love for engineering and design.

Scott and his wife Selah live in Jemison, Alabama and have two children: Shawna and Schylar. They are members of the First United Methodist Church in Calera, Alabama and are very active in their daughters' local Girl Scout troop. Since working with wood and metal are Scott's passions, he loves to spend time building and tinkering in his shop at home.



Ryan H. Robinson
ECON
Manager



Ryan Robinson began his career with ECON in 2006 as a Manager. Prior to working with Ben Russell at ECON, Ryan worked at Robinson Foundry in Alexander City, Alabama as a Manufacturing Manager. Ryan also worked at Vulcan Engineering in Helena, Alabama as a Project Manager traveling all over the world. He attended the University of Alabama and received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing in 1988.

Ryan was born in Alexander City, Alabama but moved to Shelbyville, Tennessee as a small child and graduated from Shelbyville High School. Ryan and his wife Traci have a sixteen year old daughter, Skye and now live in Alexander City, Alabama. He is a member at Flint Hill United Methodist Church and participates in annual fundraisers for Children's Harbor. In his free time, he likes to ride horses, work on his family farm and spend time on Lake Martin in the summer.



William (Jeff) J. Smith
ECON
Fabricator



Jeff Smith began his career with ECON in 2007 as a fabricator. Prior to working with Ben Russell at ECON, Jeff owned his own saw mill and logging business in Alexander City, Alabama. He owned and operated this business for eleven years. Prior to opening his own business, he worked at Russell Corporation as a shipping clerk at the distribution center in Alexander City.

Jeff graduated from Benjamin Russell High School and went on to Central Alabama Central Community College where he took classes in auto body repair. He lives in Alexander City and has three children: Cheyenne, Seven and Stihl. In his free time he continues to work in his saw mill and enjoys hanging out at his cabin he calls the "Hut" on Lake Martin.