



Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1757, Columbia, MO, 65202
<http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu/>

Volume 31, Nos. 1-2

Spring 2007

MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING Jefferson City, November 8-10, 2007

Message from the President, Roger L. Jungmeyer

I wish to invite you to the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Folklore Society. The meeting will be held November 8-10, in Jefferson City at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center (formerly Ramada Inn) with the Saturday sessions and annual meeting on the Campus of Lincoln University.

As many of you know, 2007 marks the 30th year since the reactivation of the Society in 1977. Those playing a role in renewing and perpetuating the activities of the Society since that time remain important to our continuing work.

The meeting activities will begin with the business meeting at noon on Thursday, November 8. It is planned (depending upon the number of proposals received) for there to be concurrent afternoon sessions as well as tours of selected sites in Jefferson City.

Our annual meeting is an excellent place to discover what others are doing in preserving our heritage of folklore. It is an opportunity to strengthen and develop further our existing Missouri Folklore Society. Also, it provides the forum to celebrate the research and achievements of student participants and those who are seasoned folklorists.

The success of each Annual Meeting, and the *MFS Journal*, are the result of the tireless work of volunteer members like you. By soliciting paper sessions from students as well as potential new members, we will both enhance our program offerings and perhaps generate enough enthusiasm that they will wish to join us. In these ways we may all be engaged in making the Society stronger.

Each of you is encouraged to promote the Society through recruiting new members, every organization's challenge. I would like to challenge each of you to recruit one new member for MFS. ONE. This is possible. Yes, I will do the same. Should you accomplish

**Mark Your
Calendars
MFS Annual
Meeting
Thurs. Nov. 8 -
Sat. Nov. 10**

Con't. on page 2

The Call for Papers for the 2007 Annual Meeting is included in this newsletter.

2007

*Annual Meeting
pages 1-2*

*AFS Conferences
pages 2*

*2006 Annual
Meeting Highlights
pages 3-5*

*MFS News &
Announcements
pages 6-8*

*Events
pages 9-10*

*Recent Releases
page 10-11*

*MFS Member News
pages 12-16*

*Laura Cansler
Remembers Loman
pages 17-18*

*In Memory
pages 19--20*

*Upcoming Events
Calendar
pages 21-23*

*Membership
Form
page 24*

this, the new members and their sponsor will be recognized at the business/luncheon meeting on Saturday, November 10. Current members should also consider a LIFE membership in the Society.

A special note to all receiving this *Newsletter*: Please take a moment to check the date immediately following your name on the mailing label. You should see, for example '04, '05, etc. which indicates the most recent year for your paid membership. If this number is not '07 or higher, your membership is not current. If yours is not current please consider renewing at this time. As the costs for printing and postage continue to increase, we must mail only to current, paid members. Please use the membership form in this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Annual Meeting this year in Jefferson City. If we have not met, please introduce yourself and permit me to welcome you to our Meeting and city.

Roger L. Jungmeyer, President
Missouri Folklore Society
rjung@lincolnu.edu

The Call for Papers for the 2007 Annual Meeting is included in this newsletter.

Hotel Information MFS Annual Meeting 2007



*Truman Hotel
and Conference Center*

A block of rooms has been reserved at a Conference rate of \$60.00 plus tax for Missouri Folklore Society participants at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center (formerly the Ramada Inn). [Note: For those staying at the Truman, a breakfast buffet is complimentary Monday through Friday.]

The hotel is located at 1510 Jefferson Street. Driving directions to the Hotel will be included in the Fall *MFS Newsletter*. Meeting sessions and meals will be in the hotel facilities on Thursday and Friday. On Saturday November 10, the meeting will conclude on the campus of Lincoln University at the Page Library.

In order to receive the special rate, hotel reservations must be made by October 25, 2007. To contact the Truman Hotel and Conference Center (1510 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109), phone 573-635-7171 or Missouri calls only (1-800-392-0202).

AFS Annual Meeting 2007 Call for Participation

The American Folklore Society (AFS) and the Folklore Studies Association of Canada (FSAC) will hold a joint annual meeting in 2007. "The Politics and Practices of Intangible Cultural Heritage" is the theme for this meeting, to be held at the Hilton Québec in Québec, Canada, on October 17 through 21.

The politics of intangible cultural heritage has in recent years stirred up lively discussion and debate in Canada, in the United States, and in many other countries of the world. Intangible heritage, the patrimony of the people, is made up of rituals, beliefs, customs, music, festivals, storytelling, cuisine and traditional knowledge, often expressed through material objects and cultural landscapes. It has attracted growing attention among intellectuals and political stakeholders in third world countries who possess rich and diverse ethnic traditions. It is also gaining recognition in Western countries, where there is an increasing concern for the preservation and the promotion of the living cultural heritage of the people as a means of safeguarding cultural diversity.

You may still register for the meeting at pre-meeting rates until August 31, 2007, and at higher rates during the meeting itself. Visit <http://www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm?languagepreference=en>.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM MFS 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2006 President of MFS, Elaine Lawless, and the Program Director, Shelley Ingram, would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2006 MFS Centennial Meeting on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia. You were the ones who made it a great success. We thank all the members of the MU Student Folklore Society for their hard work to make the local arrangements, room management, and registration a success.



*Becky & Dolf Schroeder
Hard At Work--As Usual*

We also especially want to thank Rebecca Schroeder for all her work to invite the special speakers we had for this meeting, her good ideas about programming, and her encouragement of many other MFS

members to come and give memorable presentations.

After the business meeting on Wednesday night, we got started bright and early on Thursday morning with

a welcome by MU Chancellor Brady Deaton, in which he acknowledged the important role that programs such as the Missouri Folklore Society play on both a state and University level.

Chancellor Deaton was presented with a commemorative MFS poster, after which we adjourned and headed over to the South Side of Memorial Union to begin panel presentations.

We were pleased to have presentations from the Western Historical Manuscript Collection panel, chaired by David Moore, as well as from several MU graduate students and students from around the state. MFS members seemed to particularly enjoy the panel by the graduate students that included discussions of rap, practical jokes, and transgressive humor. These conversations seemed to filter through all the lunch conversations that took place in the union cafeteria during our free time between panels.

Thursday afternoon offered more student presentations on teaching and technology. We were all ready for the wonderful reception that WHMC hosted for storyteller Gladys Cogswell. In the evening we were all pleased with the University catering at Stotler Lounge in Memorial Union. The perfect end to this day was to hear our keynote speaker, Joe Hickerson, talk about "Fifty-Plus Years of Folk Music," such an appropriate talk for so many of our musically inclined MFS members. Joe was genuinely pleased to be asked to come to Missouri, as he treasures all the friendships he has in Missouri.

Friday's MFS fare was equally as interesting as Thursday's, as members were treated to panels on



*Gladys at the
Thursday Afternoon
Reception In Her
Honor*



A Quilt Made in Honor of Gladys' Work



Joe Hickerson at His Best

Missouri folk music, art and legend, cultural identity, and narrative. It was great to have Rachel Gholson, last year's MFS President, chair a panel on Mormon spirit child narratives, legend tripping, and deaf counter-cinema.

Lunch on Friday was accompanied by a plenary address by Professor Anand Prahlad, invited by the MU Student Folklore Society. Dr. Prahlad's provocative address left all of us with much to ponder as we continue to envision the future of MFS and how we bring diversity to our group and encourage the participation of all Missouri residents.

Friday afternoon's panels included papers on midwestern immigrants, foodways and culture, and folklore and nostalgia. We also were able to offer several "memory sessions" that dealt with the Orphan Train Movement and the Chez Coffee House.

We appreciate all the work Lyn Wolz, Dave Para, and Cathy Barton-Para did to make this a memorable event, both at the

meeting and at the Chez reunion. Appropriately, these sessions were followed by special music provided by Howard Marshall and his fiddling friends.

In the evening, the lively auction brought every member back to Stotler lounge for food and fun.



The Auction Holds Members Spell Bound

Thanks to Judy Dohemy for her yearly contribution to our MFS auction. Hopefully the coffers of MFS swelled with the proceeds of the auction. We had the most fun in the back of the room just checking out what everyone had brought!



Rusty Jamming

MFS continued to meet and converse on Saturday, Nov. 4, beginning with the MFS annual meeting in Ellis Auditorium. The day also provided the opportunity to visit the WHMC again with exhibits and special guests, Laura Cansler and Joan Christeson Farrell. From 10:15-11:30, members were happy to sit in Ellis Auditorium and listen to the wonderful "Tribute to Missouri Folklore Society Founders and Collectors," another of Becky's contributions to the success of the Centennial meeting.



Claude Barton with Two Beauties, Cathy, His Daughter, & Judy Domney-Bowen



The Chez Reunion

Acknowledgements for MFS 2006

Amy, Ray, and Stephanie Brassieur, who came all the way from Lafayette, Louisiana to participate in the Centennial meeting. Ray was President of the Society in 1996.

Bob Cochran, who rushed up between meetings in Arkansas to talk about H.M. Belden, Louise Pound, and Vance Randolph.

Elaine Lawless for planning the program and the birthday cake.

Michael Luster, who drove from Couch, Missouri, to Columbia to introduce his former teacher, Bob Cochran.

Pam Stokes and Annett Richter, who at their first meeting of the Society presented papers that earned high praise on the audience evaluations.

Becky and Dolf Schroeder for making us all feel welcomed and “at home” and bringing out the best in each of us during a very hectic schedule.

Donna and Jim for making the exhibit room a popular place to be. They sold more than \$400 worth of books for the UM Press alone.

Sam Griffin, who handled the sound and recording the event, had a big job working recording at the Union and Ellis.

Lynn Wolz and Susan Bryson for taking the photos of the meeting and sharing them with us.

Recognition of Supporters of MFS 2006

The Missouri Folklore Society Centennial meeting was held in cooperation with the Missouri Humanities Council and with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Missouri Humanities Council is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington, D.C. Its mission is “to help the people of Missouri learn about our history, our literature, and the ideas that shape our democracy.” Information about the Council is available on their website at www.mohumanities.org. or by calling 1-800-357-0909.

The grant from MHC provided travel assistance for keynote speaker Joseph C. Hickerson, and speakers C. Ray Brassieur and Robert C. Cochran, and for Laura Cansler and Joan Christeson Farrell, who spoke informally with attendees interested in the Cansler and Christeson collections. It also provided assistance for recording the program.

The Missouri Humanities Council has partnered with the Missouri Folklore Society for many of its programs in the past, most notably the 2002 meeting in Potosi. It has also partnered with institutions sponsoring MFS meetings.

We are also grateful for assistance from the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and from the University of Missouri Black Studies Program, Center for Arts and Humanities, English Department, College of Arts and Science, Office of Research, Provost’s Office, Student Folklore Society, and Western Historical Manuscript Collection.



The Jam Session at the Hotel



MFS NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missouri History Speakers' Bureau

The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia has established "The Missouri History Speakers' Bureau" to provide speakers to not-for-profit organizations throughout the state. Groups can request up to two speakers each calendar year. The list of more than thirty speakers available includes MFS members Robyn Burnett, John C. Fisher, Patrick Huber, Ken Luebbering, Walter Schroeder, and Dick Steward. A list of the speakers and their subjects is available at the Society's website: <http://www.umsystem.edu/shs/speakersbureau/speakers.shtml>

Representatives of organizations interested in scheduling a speaker should contact Todd Christine at christinec@umsystem.edu.

Gifts To The MFS

***Border Speech*, a gift from Patrick Brophy**

Patrick Brophy, Nevada, Missouri, has sent the Society a copy of *Border Speech*, a compilation of "Words and Phrases of the Western Border in the Light of its History." Mr. Brophy, curator of the Bushwhacker Museum of the Vernon County Historical Society and author of *Bushwhackers of the Border*, notes in a revised edition in 2000 that his collection was compiled in the field from 1950-1973, and corroborated and supplemented from historical and literary sources. Deciding that the linguistic study, started for his own amusement, was "worth preserving," he had 20 copies printed to be distributed at his own expense to university libraries and other institutions likely to be interested. We are very grateful to have received a copy for the Missouri Folklore Society papers in the University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection in Columbia. A preliminary version of Mr. Brophy's study has been cited in the *Dictionary of American Regional Speech*.



Bushwacker Museum

Loman Portrait, a gift from Laura Cansler

Laura Cansler, Kansas City, Missouri, who wrote her remembrance of Loman Cansler for this edition of the *MFS Newsletter*, has donated her striking portrait of Loman to the State Historical Society of Missouri. Delivered by her son Joel on Homecoming weekend last fall, the portrait was on display in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection Reading Room across from Ellis Auditorium on Saturday, November 4, during the final morning of the 2006 MFS meeting. A gifted artist, Laura had an exhibit of her work at Stephens College several years ago. The State Historical Society has three additional Laura Cansler paintings in its collection, and we are very pleased to have her portrait of Loman and his beloved guitar in Columbia.

We had time for only one song from Loman's collection at the "Tribute to Missouri Folklore Society Founders and Collectors," but more of his songs are available from the Smithsonian Institution Folkways Cassette Series. *Folksongs of Missouri*, sung by Loman Cansler and *Folksongs of the Midwest* may be ordered from Folkways Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies. Write the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, 750 9th Street NW, Suite 4100, Washington, D.C. 20560-0953 for further information.

Of course, as Laura wrote, the Loman Cansler collection is preserved in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, and recordings of several of his presentations at MFS meetings in Columbia are in the Missouri Folklore Society collection at WHMC. Students and other researchers may listen to recordings in 23 Ellis Library.

Donations to University of Missouri

Joan Christeson Farrell of Lafayette, Indiana, donated two unique gifts to the University of Missouri while she was in Columbia for the 2006 MFS meeting. To the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, she presented the original of *Mr. and Mrs. R.P. Christeson's Silver Wedding Anniversary Reel*, music composed and signed by John Hartford, and to the University of Missouri Historic Clothing and Textile Collection, she gave the baby shoes and stockings worn by Mr. Christeson, who was born in Dixon, Missouri, in 1911.

Earlier Joan had arranged to have many papers relating to the Christeson field recordings of fiddle tunes, which he began in 1947, and to his books, *The Old-Time Fiddler's Repertory* and *The Old-Time Fiddler's Repertory, Volume 2*, which were published by the University of Missouri Press in 1973 and 1984; the recordings themselves; and other documents relating to fiddlers and the history of fiddling in Missouri deposited in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection for the benefit of future students and researchers.

A particularly significant aspect of Mr. Christeson's work was his research relating to famed black fiddler William A. (Bill) Driver, born in Eldridge in Laclede County, who won many contests and gained national fame when he played over WOS in Jefferson City. The R. P. Christeson collection is of immense value to future students and researchers interested in fiddle music and the cultural and musical history of Missouri.

Free Folklore Newsletters Available

The *American Folklife Center Newsletter* may be requested from the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20540-4610. It publishes articles on the programs and activities of the American Folklife Center as well as other articles on traditional expressive culture. The latest issue has articles on the history and tradition of cowboy poetry, from its beginnings to the great cattle drives of the 1880s to today's National Cowboy Poetry Gathering; an update on collections of cowboy lore and recordings of cowboy songs sung by cowboy music pioneer Romaine Lowdermilk; and the website presentations on the songs of Captain Pearl Nye, the canal boat captain on the Ohio and Erie Canal.

Talk Story may be ordered from the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, 750 9th Street, Suite 4100, Washington, D.C. 20560-0953. The latest issue reports on a Festival Concert sponsored by the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage on musical traditions of New Orleans; plans for the 40th annual Folklife Festival, in which the National Museum of African American History and Culture will participate with a program on "Roots of Virginia's Culture, and information about Smithsonian Folkways recordings. Sad notes were reports on the passing of Joe Glazer, "Labor's Troubadour" and Natalie "Junior" Tirado, a master drummer and drum maker, who participated in the 1976 African Diaspora Folklife Festival.

Folklore at Truman State

Thanks to Betsy Delmonico, we have copies of a striking poster for the Folklore Studies Program at Truman State University in Kirksville, an important contribution to the MFS Papers at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri maintained by MFS board member Sharon Brock. The Interdisciplinary Folklore Minor Committee at Truman includes representatives from Religious Studies, Anthropology, History, and Music, as well as MFS member and former president Adam Davis, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Betsy Delmonico, English, MFS board member.

The Spring 2007 Folklore Colloquia at Truman State included presentations on "Sicilian Folklore," by Matt Tornatore and "Reading African American Architecture," by MFS member Brett Rogers in January and February of 2007.

"Passover Folklore Around the World," by Daniel and Barbara Mandell, was presented in March. Daniel Mandell is Associate Professor of History at Truman and advisor of Hillel, the Jewish student group. Barbara Smith-Mandell, editor at the Truman State University Press, has "been 'making Passover' for many years." The Mandells "have hosted up to 30 people for seders in their home, and keep hoping Elijah will drop in one year," according to the poster.

“Writing about Moonshine” by Matt Rowley was scheduled in April. Matt Rowley, a foodways expert, was the keynote speaker at the English Senior Seminar. His book, *Joy of Moonshine: Recipes, Tall Tales, Drinking Songs, Historical Stuff, Knee-Slappers, How to Make It, How to Drink It, Pleasin’ the Law, Recoverin’ the Next Day* came out in April.

We are grateful to the faculty and students of Truman State University who have contributed so much to our meetings, even making their way in 2002 from Kirksville to faraway Potosi where Liz and Clyde Faries and friends arranged what many consider the best meeting MFS ever had.

Missouri Foodways: A Wealth of Traditions

Madeline Matson, editor of the book on Missouri food and food traditions that the Missouri Folklore Society planned to commemorate the centennial of its founding, has now completed the manuscript. It includes nine essays on urban food traditions and thirty-two related to rural foodways. Five poems on food, a miscellany with four selections, and a gathering of recipes round out this intriguing overview of what Missourians like to eat. More than thirty illustrations relating to food in Missouri were selected to complement the essays, which were chosen to represent the food traditions of Missouri’s different cultural groups, including both early and more recent immigrants: African American, Austrian, Bosnian, Croatian, French, German, Italian, and others. The collection provides a wealth of information about different family and community traditions related to food.

More than twenty members of the Missouri Folklore Society submitted essays for the book, joined by other Missourians interested in food traditions. Two members of the Society, both with essays in the book, Adam Davis and Carol Fisher, will read the manuscript and offer suggestions before it is finally submitted to the publisher. John T. Edge, of the Southern Foodways Alliance at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, who edited *Cornbread Nation*, believes the book will be of interest to readers interested in cultural history.

Madeline, a long time member of the Missouri Folklore Society, wrote *Food in Missouri: A Cultural Stew*, published by the University of Missouri Press in 1994.

The Ozarks Mountaineer

Fred Pfister, editor of *The Ozarks Mountaineer*, says the magazine continues to publish a number of articles about the culture and folklore of the Ozarks and to bring that information to the general reading public. Recently, there was an article about a trip with a group of Elderhostel participants to Jolly Mill (January-February 2007) and an article by Clyde Beal about the restoration of Britain Mill on Turnback Creek (March-April 2007).

Check out the *Mountaineer* website: www.ozarksmountaineer.com

Roud Folk Song Index and Broadside Index Now Available Online

(Lynn Wolz)

Those of you who do research on the occurrence of folk songs in books, journal articles, and manuscript library collections will be happy to know that another tool has been added to your online arsenal. The Folk Song Index and the Broadside Index, both compiled by English librarian and folk culture expert Steve Roud, are now available for free on the website of the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library at <http://www.efds.org/library.htm>. Click on “Vaughan Williams Memorial Library ONLINE,” then on “Search Indexes,” then on “Folk Song Indexes.” You can search by song title, performer, place, and date or by any combination of those fields using the “Multiple Field Search” feature. Once you have found a version of the song you’re interested in, you can use the “Roud Number” to find all other versions of the same song, even if they all have different titles. You can also search the Folk Song Index and the Broadside Index at the same time by using the “Cross Search” feature.



EVENTS

Work Is Art and Art Is Work: The Art of Hand-Crafted Instruments

One of the most integral art forms central to musical expression is the visual and aural art of luthiery—a term which refers to the intricate craft, repair and restoration of stringed instruments. In May 2007, the Missouri Arts Council in partnership with the Missouri Folk Arts Program opens a traveling exhibition entitled *Work is Art and Art is Work: The Art of Hand-Crafted Instruments*, an American Masterpieces project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.



American Masterpieces is the Endowment's coordinated effort to present "acknowledged masterpieces selected from a wide variety of art forms" in all fifty states. With assistance from ExhibitsUSA, seven venues in rural Missouri will host the exhibition and coordinate illuminating performances and school programs.

The West Plains Council on the Arts kicked off the exhibit tour on May 11, as a central feature of its 13th Annual Old Time Music and Ozark Heritage Festival. The exhibit will be open until June 20.

Between Fences

Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street Exhibition

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home and Museum and the city of Mansfield are proud to host Museum on Main Street exhibition of *Between Fences*, made possible by the Smithsonian Institution and the Missouri Humanities Council. The exhibit is free and open to the public. It will be on display at the Mansfield Community Center, located at 205 North Missouri Avenue in Mansfield through June 23, 2007. The exhibition hours are Monday through Saturday 10 am - 6 pm and on Sundays from 2 pm until 6 pm.

Fences have become a part of our national landscape. Although we may not realize it, we are surrounded by fences, both physical and virtual. Fences have defined our nation by outlining boundaries, securing animals and property, and providing direction as to what or who "belongs" on a particular side of a fence.

In our area of the Ozarks, noted for its rocky hills and hollows, people have for generations utilized the natural resources available for building and fencing materials, and the rock fences we often see are a testament to their hard work and dedication. These fences may be found scattered throughout the countryside, some only giving a hint at their past use and the skill and craftsmanship that went into each one.

Celebrate the Powers Museum's 19th Anniversary

Celebrate the Powers Museum's 19th Anniversary on Saturday, June 16, from 10:00 to 5:00 and Sunday, June 17, from 1:00 to 5:00 with refreshments, music, special video presentations, and you can register for door prizes given on the hour. Every 19th visitor during the weekend gets a special souvenir. You can also view a special Mid-American Art Alliance/Ozarks Plateau traveling photographic exhibit "Grand Ole Opry" while at the museum. Co-sponsors of the MAAA exhibit are the Carthage Council on the Arts, Community Foundation of Southwest Missouri, Community Foundation of the Ozarks, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

A special Education Program at the Powers Museum on June 16, at 1:30 features "High C Diva" Colleen Mallette. Colleen will present a 45 minute interactive performance for children featuring our national folk music

with a little opera thrown in for garnish. This presentation is being sponsored by the Powers Museum, Carthage Arts Council and the various sponsors of the "The Grand Ole Opry" exhibit cited above. This activity is free.

Also, the Carthage Council on the Arts will present Ms. Mallette in a free concert Saturday evening at 7:00 pm at the First Methodist Church, 617 South Main Street. Ms. Mallette encourages attendees to bring mouth harps, guitars, etc., in order to join in with her and her music.



RECENT RELEASES

Review of *Wildwood Days* by Jim Vandergriff

Wildwood Days, a memoir by Francesca Wright, who was born and raised in the vicinity of Glover's Chapel in Camden County, Missouri, is a wonderful book in many ways. I heartily recommend it to anyone interested in the Richland, Brumley, Toronto, Glaize City portion of

south central Missouri in the early 1900s – the Camden and Miller county area.

Wright was born in 1911, as the book says, in abject poverty, and died in 2007 a renowned artist living in New Mexico. Much of the book details her life up until about 1927 when her father moved her – at age 16 – to Eugene, Missouri, in Cole

County, to begin high school. So the book is full of details of flora, fauna, language, customs and even family and place names familiar to those of us who are native to the area: George's School, Glover Chapel, Dean's Creek, Toronto, the Wright and Pemberton family names, and so on.

Her descriptions of the country-side are delightful. As she tells us, her father, also an artist, taught her how

to see with an artist's eye. Though perhaps she decorates it a bit more than it deserves sometimes, her descriptions are generally so accurate that they make me homesick for the limestone glades and wild plum thickets I grew up with. I'm a bit confused about some of the geography, though. For instance, there is a large cave on the Glaize that plays a rather large role in the story, but which I can't for the life of me locate. The closest I can come up with is the Carroll Cave, but I then have to assume that the hundred foot bluff she places it in is simply faulty memory. I don't believe there is a hundred foot bluff anywhere on the Glaize creek. Maybe she's referring to Joe's Cave, which is 15 or so feet above the road, but it isn't, in my opinion, a very hospitable environment for the activities she describes as occurring there. So, I'm not sure where she means. That's a bit frustrating. (See my article in vol. 15-16, pp. 29-50, of *MFSJ* for more on Joe's Cave.)

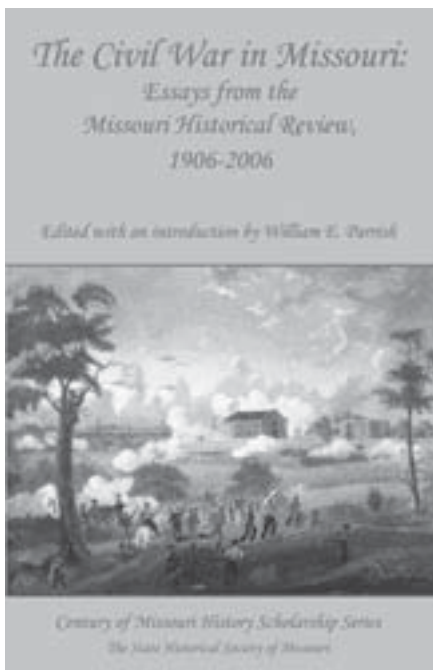
Whatever the accuracy of her geographic memories, though, Wright has done a wonderful job of capturing both the time and the place. Not only has she captured the Depression Era Ozarks, much of what she pictures is the way it still was in my early years. Anyone with an interest in that little corner of the Ozarks will thoroughly enjoy this memoir.

Wildwood Days is \$19.95 from iUniverse, Inc. (ISBN-13: 978-0-595-38959-9). or as an ebook. <http://www.ebookmall.com/ebooks/wildwood-days-wright-ebooks.htm> (ISBN-13: 978-0-595-83343-6) for \$6.00.



***The Civil War in Missouri:
Essays from the Missouri
Historical Review, 1906-2006***

To celebrate the centennial of the *Missouri Historical Review*, the State Historical Society of Missouri has published *The Civil War in Missouri: Essays from the Missouri Historical Review, 1906-2006*. This anthology contains twelve articles, previously published in the *Review*, that deal with all aspects of the Civil War in Missouri, selected by distinguished Civil War era scholar William E. Parrish.



This 260-page book would make a great gift for the Civil War enthusiast. The paperbound book is \$12.50 for SHSM members and \$25.00 for nonmembers. The clothbound book is \$30.00 for SHSM

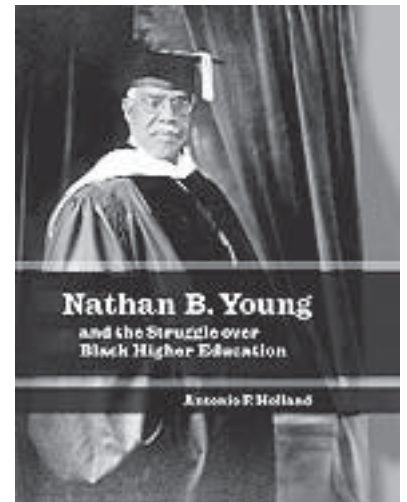
members and \$40.00 for nonmembers.

The Civil War in Missouri is the first volume in the Society's Century of Missouri History Scholarship Series. Volume editors will select previously published *Missouri Historical Review* articles focused on a topic or geographical area and provide a thoughtful introduction, describing evolving scholarship on the theme or place as demonstrated by the selections.

***Nathan B. Young
and the Struggle over
Black Higher Education***

Antonio F. Holland's latest book, *Nathan B. Young and the Struggle over Black Higher Education*, published by the University of Missouri Press in 2006, has received both national and local praise. It was described by author Alfred A. Moss as "a significant contribution to the historical literature on African American educational history, southern history, and the history of a representative member of an important segment of the African American elite."

The *Jefferson City News Tribune* published a long article on the book on November 12, 2006, noting that "At a time when others thought of black education as the study of agriculture or trades, former Lincoln University president Nathan G. Young promoted liberal arts, encouraging blacks to become teachers, doctors, or lawyers."



Born in slavery, Young studied at Talladega and Oberlin Colleges before working with Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama; teaching at Georgia State Industrial College; serving as president of Florida A & M; and accepting the presidency of Lincoln University in Missouri in 1923. The biography shows that though Nathan B. Young's "efforts to improve the schools he served were often thwarted," he "kept the vision alive in the black community."

Professor Holland, a long time member of the Missouri Folklore Society, is Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Lincoln University. He is the author of *The Soldier's Dream Continued: A Pictorial History of Lincoln University of Missouri*, and coauthor of *Missouri's Black Heritage, Revised Edition*, which was published by the University of Missouri Press.



MEMBER NEWS

MFS Members in Alabama

Michael Patrick of Fairhope, Alabama, has sent us news of recent visits by MFS members, Esther Kreek and Cecil and Ruth Williams, to beautiful Fairhope. He reports that "Esther's program . . . was excellent. She talked about her life and her husband's struggle with Alzheimer's and used humor extremely well to explain the effects of such a terrible disease. She played the autoharp, even better than I remember her playing at the MFS meetings. She also sang, a cappella, an Irish murder song." We hope Esther will come to our MFS meeting in Jefferson City and reprise her performance.

Cecil's programs were also very successful and very well received. "He played to about 90 people, who seemed to enjoy his songs and stories a great deal. Also three Fairhope women formed a trio, just for the occasion, and sang 'Esteban,' 'Buffalo Soldiers,' and 'Mary Fields' as part of the concert. Their harmony made the melody of 'Esteban' very haunting, and they did 'Mary Fields' with a good bit of humor."

"Cecil got the audience involved, so much so, that afterward people lingered for almost an hour to talk to him." Further, "Sunday morning Cecil did a program on George Washington Carver for the Unitarian Fellowship. It made a nice tie in between Missouri, where Carver was born, and Alabama, where he did most of his work."

It sounds like Fairhope was reluctant to let Cecil and Ruth come back to Missouri.

Cathy Barton & Dave Para Boonville, MO

From November 17 through 19 2006, the Missouri River musical "Gumbo Bottoms" premiered as a workshop production at Turner Hall in Boonville. Written by Meredith Ludwig with music written by Cathy Barton Para, the production is based upon stories collected by Ludwig from residents along the Missouri River. Much of the musical is about river folklife and many of the songs are based on traditional melodies from a variety of sources such as old-time fiddle tunes, play-party pieces, ragtime and blues. The musical was well-received, with full houses each night. Dave Para served as music director.

Ludwig and Barton Para hope to present this musical again in Boonville and perhaps in Columbia and other locations around Missouri.

This year Dave and Cathy hope to record another CD, this time a tribute to MFS member and singer-songwriter Bob Dyer. The recording will feature a variety of artists such as Ed Trickett, Michael Cochran, David Grimes, Dave Para and Cathy Barton Para, Lee Ruth and MFS members Paul and Win Grace.

In September of 2006, the Discovery String Band, consisting of Bob Dyer, Paul and Win Grace, Dave Para and Cathy Barton Para, received

a Legacy Award from the Missouri Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission for their CD *Most Perfect Harmony—Lewis and Clark: A Musical Journey*. Dave and Cathy accepted the award from Dr. Robert Archibald on behalf of the band at an awards ceremony on September 22 in St. Louis.

Cathy and Dave taught at the Ozark Folk School this March, directing a number of workshops on folksong, including one about Ozarks songs and collectors and one about Civil War songs. Cathy is also teaching a banjo workshop at the Folk School.

Some Barton and Para fans are suggesting that they develop a Missouri Folk School, not to compete with the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View in the spring but in the fall as a companion to the Big Muddy Folk Festival, with which they have achieved such success.

Robyn Burnett & Ken Luebbering, Tebbetts, MO

A report on "Celebrating a Folklore Centennial," published in *Mizzou*, the University of Missouri Alumni magazine for Spring 2007, had a handsome photograph of Robyn and Ken shown with a stained glass window in Calvary Episcopal Church in St. Louis, one of the more than two thousand slides they have made of stained glass windows in Missouri churches.

Robyn and Ken presented two programs at the Centennial meeting

based on research they have conducted for the books they have co-authored, *Gospels in Glass*, published by Pebble Press, and *German Settlement in Missouri: New Land, Old Ways* and *Immigrant Women in the Settlement of Missouri*, both published in the Missouri Heritage Series by the University of Missouri Press.

Robyn and Ken are among the speakers available to organizations and community groups from the State Historical Society of Missouri's Missouri History Speakers Bureau

Also the article in *Mizzou* on the MFS Annual Meeting noted the "jam sessions, films made by society members and fund raising auction where bidders could battle for donated items, such as homemade pickles, a mailbox studded with bullet holes forming a peace sign, and a sock monkey wearing a tiny plaid suit."

***Gladys Coggsell
Frankford, MO***

The University of Missouri, the State Historical Society of Missouri, and the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Columbia honored Gladys Coggsell on November 2, 2006, at a reception to dedicate the *Gladys Coggsell Papers* she has donated to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

Held in the Ellis Library at the University of Missouri during the Centennial meeting of the Missouri Folklore Society, the event brought together many of Gladys' friends from Illinois and Missouri, her storytelling friends, and MFS friends for the program and reception, which was also attended by Lisa Higgins of the Missouri Folk Arts Program and

Joe Hickerson, former head of the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress.

Gladys has asked us to express her appreciation to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection and those who were there to honor her.

Gladys Coggsell is a nationally recognized master storyteller and a 2005 Missouri Arts Award recipient. In her talk, "Pieces of Missouri," she previewed selections from her book of interviews relating to the experiences of Missouri African Americans prior to and during integration. Founder of "By Word of Mouth Storytelling Guild" and a Master in the Missouri Folk Arts Master/Apprenticeship Program, Gladys has worked with many organizations and schools in Missouri to encourage the art of storytelling.

Gladys served as president of the Missouri Folklore Society in 1998 and arranged the excellent annual meeting in Hannibal that year.

Gladys was the featured storyteller for the Kansas City Storytelling Festival on April 25 through 28 and performed at the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, held May 3 through 6.

We hope she can be in Jefferson City for our 31st annual meeting of the reactivated Missouri Folklore Society next November.

***Judy Domeny Bowen
Springfield, MO***

Columbia friends and fans of Judy Domeny can count 2006 as a very good year.

Judy was in town for three events! In May, she presented "Musical Mayhem" for the Columbia

Public Library. In September, she gave a performance at the 29th Annual Heritage Festival and Craft Show in Historic Nifong Park, greatly enjoyed by friends from Boonville and Columbia.



Then, in November she participated in the Centennial celebration of the founding of the Folklore Society by bringing her energy and skills to the annual auction, raising what must have been a record amount, even for her, for the Society's projects.

For the "Centennial Tribute to the Founders and Collectors" on November 4, she celebrated the work of the great "Folksong Collector of the Ozarks," Max Hunter, showing, with other participants in the event, great grace under pressure caused by time limitations.

Columbians look forward to seeing Judy back in 2007. She has promised a program on May Kennedy McCord for the meeting in Jefferson City.

***Joe Hickerson
Wheaton, Maryland***

Joe Hickerson wrote that he had a splendid time at the 2006 MFS annual meeting. He enjoyed getting to know MFS members and others during the meeting and was pleased to have the opportunity to participate in the Chez Reunion, where, as he wrote, he "got to join Cathy and Dave in the song 'Only Remembered'" at the close of the reunion.

Joe, a longtime life member of MFS, can be credited with being a major inspiration for reactivating the

Society in the 1970s. On his first visit to the University of Missouri in Columbia (at which time he also performed at UM-Rolla, thanks to an invitation from Michael Patrick), he happened to notice a road sign marked Auxvasse on his way to St. Louis to return to Washington, D.C. "Auxvasse" meant R.P. Christeson to him, and Mr. Christeson, who had retired to Auxvasse and was fighting the good fight to bring recognition to Missouri's fiddlers and fiddle music, enthusiastically endorsed the tentative plan, which had been inspired by the collections of Loman Cansler and Max Hunter at the Library of Congress and by the interest of the young musicians then playing at the Chez., including Cathy Barton, Dave Para, and Lyn Wolz. Joe has been a longtime friend of the Missouri Folklore Society, as well as a life member for many years.

Joe serves as consultant at the Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, where he was Librarian and Head for 35 years, from 1963 to his retirement in 1998. For further information on his activities see:

www.joehickerson.com

***Holly Hobbs &
Robbin Williams
Columbia, MO***

Holly Hobbs and Robbin Williams have begun a new non-profit organization called New Media



Network which serves as a community development project for youth in the First Ward in Columbia.

The New Media Network held an opening reception and exhibition of student photographs on May 7th at Ragtag Cinemacafé. The photographs exhibited were a selection of student photography (students range in age from 12 through 18) that tell stories about the First Ward community. For more information on New Media Network, go to:

www.newmedianetwork.us.

***Alan Jabbour
Washington, D.C.***

Alan Jabbour taught a class for intermediate and advanced fiddlers from March 19 through 24 at the Ozark Folk School, Ozark Folk Center, Mountain View, Arkansas.

During the week following the class, he and Karen stayed at the Folk Center (a lovely place) while they are doing fieldwork on cemeteries and Decoration Day customs in the Arkansas Ozarks. (Check his website at

www.alanjabbour.com and look under "Photos" and "Projects.")

Alan spoke at the 1982 MFS meeting planned by Susan Pentlin in Warrensburg (where he and the other fiddlers are reported to have played all night). He was in Columbia for the 1986 meeting planned by Elaine Lawless.

He and Karen came to the retirement party the Department of Art History and Archaeology had for Howard Marshall when Rusty retired from the University. At that time, the

Jabbours had an opportunity to see part of the R. P. Christeson collection at Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

The best news of all is that Alan plans to be in Missouri again for the 2008 Big Muddy Folk Festival in Boonville, thanks to Cathy and Dave. He may be reminded of the dark night in 1982 when he walked out over the Missouri River Bridge to see the "Big Muddy" on the way back to Columbia from Warrensburg.

***Elaine Lawless
Columbia, MO***

The *Columbia Missourian* for February 26, 2007 announced that



Elaine Lawless had been recently elected president of the American Folklore Society. She previously served as editor of the Society's *Journal of*

American Folklore and served in 1986 and 2006 as President of the Missouri Folklore Society.

Elaine is presently director of the Center for the Arts and Humanities at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Earlier in February, columnist Bill Clark of the *Columbia Daily Tribune* reported that Elaine's "Troubling Violence Performance Project," which she and her students presented at the MFS meeting in Kirksville in 2003, has performed as many as 100 times a year for four years "from Albuquerque, N. M., to Boston, from Portland, Ore., to Boca Raton, Fla.."

Elaine has collected and written the stories of domestic

violence, and Heather Carver, a professor of Theatre at the University of Missouri, directed the student performances.

**Susan Pentlin
Warrensburg, MO**

Susan Pentlin's edition of Mary Berg's book *Warsaw Ghetto: A Diary* has been published by One World Publications in Oxford, England. Published in February 1945 and never republished in the United States, it was the first full account of the Warsaw Ghetto to appear in English and, as Susan writes, is still widely used as a source and has come out in eight or nine different languages. It can be ordered at amazon.com.uk.

Susan sent us a clipping from the Warrensburg *The Daily Star-Journal* of November 16, 2006 with a report on the Centennial meeting of the Society. Susan gave a paper on "Mrs. Frank Martin, who as Maude Williams started the whole thing," and Sandra Irlle of Warrensburg spoke on "Old Drum: The Legend." Old Drum was killed in western Johnson County in 1869 and late eulogized by his owner Senator George Vest, whose "Tribute to a Dog" was named the best speech of the millennium by William Safire in 1999.

**Authorine Phillips
Marshall, MO**

Author of *Arrow Rock: The Story of a Missouri Village*, published by the University of Missouri Press, Authorine spoke last May at Arrow Rock's Huston Tavern, the first state owned facility of the state park system, on the interviews she collected from area residents during her research on the book.

Also in May 2006, she participated in a series of programs

at Kirkwood Public Library featuring Missouri authors, and during the summer she discussed research and writing non-fiction at a meeting of the Columbia Writer's Guild. At a University of Missouri Writing Project Class meeting in Huston Tavern, she discussed writing about place, using excerpts from her book about the Tavern.

Arrow Rock: The Story of a Missouri Village, was awarded second place in the 2006 Missouri Writers' Guild non-fiction book competition.

**Walter Schroeder
Columbia, MO**

Walter Schroeder was guest curator for the exhibit, "The Stories They Tell: Understanding Missouri History through Maps," which opened January 27 at the State Historical Society in Columbia and will run through June 30. The maps, selected from the State Historical Society's collection, date from 1822 to 2002, and cover a wide range of topics, "including early statehood statistics, the 1874 locust infestations, the Civil War," and "a Capitol Addition map of Sedalia" dating from the 1890s when Sedalia hoped to get the State Capitol to move from Jefferson City.

A front page article "Mapping History," in the February 6 *Missourian* described how the exhibit "charts a path into Missouri's past" and includes a description of a scroll map shown that "was given to steamboat passengers so they could see how far they had gone on the Mississippi River."

A catalog for the exhibit is available from the State Historical Society.

Walter is author of the award-winning *Open the Ozarks*, published

by the University of Missouri Press. A native of Jefferson City, he works closely with the "Old Munichberg" association and looks forward to showing MFS members around this historic area of the capital settled by German immigrants in the 19th century.

**Alex Usher
Webster Groves, MO**

The Ushers have managed the move from their old Victorian three-story house to a two-bedroom apartment in downtown Webster Groves. Parting with a large number of books was the hardest part, but they did manage to keep Alex's music library intact.

With their rent they get continental breakfasts, Sunday brunch and four dinners weekly, which means Alex has lots of time to finish up her new book of funny songs and other stuff for Mel Bay. It should be out in August.

If any of you have a hankering to learn to play solo autoharp, Alex will be giving workshops and performances at the Gateway Dulcimer Festival August 17 through 19 in Belleville, Illinois.

**Jim Vandergriff
Galesburg, IL**

On May 12, 2007, Jim presented at the opening of the "Between Fences" exhibit at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum in Mansfield, MO – thanks to Rachel Gholson. The exhibit, which is one of the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibits that it offers to small town museums, is "a cultural history of fences and land use. It examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build." The Wilder home is where Laura

Member News Continued

Ingalls Wilder wrote the “Little House on the Prairie” books.

The topic of Jim’s presentation was on how our legends, especially historical family legends, function as fences or boundaries that both close us in and keep the “other” out. He illustrated his discussion with several legends handed down through his own family, some of whom settled in the Missouri Ozarks as early as 1832 and were intimately involved in the opening of the west.

The event was sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Missouri Council for the Humanities and hosted by the Wilder Museum and by the City of Mansfield.

In February, Jim was appointed by the president of the national Association of Teacher Educators to chair a three-year commission on The State of Indian Education in the U.S. The commission will try to find out just how well Native American students are currently faring in the educational system. Several scholars from around the country, including Donna Jurich, who have a research interest in Indian education will serve on the commission.

Jim and Donna have also fairly recently had an article, “Quality Teaching: Culturally Appropriate Teaching for Navajo Children,” accepted by the *Journal of American Indian Education*. No word yet on when it will see print. They’ve also had an article entitled “Culturally Appropriate and Place Based Practices: Pedagogy for All Students and Teachers” accepted by the on-line publication *Center Connections*. It

is slated for volume 7, which is due to appear in the fall.

Lyn Wolz Lenexa, KS

Lyn Wolz, currently director of the University of Kansas branch campus library, received a research grant from the University to support a trip to London in January for three weeks of work at the English Folk Dance and Song Society’s Vaughan Williams Memorial Library.

Wolz’s current project there involved indexing the folk song collection of Janet Heatley Blunt, a woman who collected folk songs and Morris dances, mostly in the county of Oxfordshire between 1907 and 1919. Lyn has produced a database listing the singer/dancer/musician Blunt collected the song from, the place and date it was collected, whether or not there is a tune/words/dance instructions for each item, etc. The information will soon be added to the Library’s website at <http://www.efdss.org/library.htm>. (You will need to click on “Vaughan Williams Memorial Library ONLINE,” then on “Search Indexes,” then on “Collectors Indexes.”)

Wolz is writing an article on Janet Blunt and her folk song

collection for the Society’s *Folk Music Journal* which will be similar to the article she had published in the 2005 issue of that journal about another collector, Anne Geddes Gilchrist.

DIDN'T SEE YOUR NAME IN “MEMBER NEWS”?

You are the best reporter of your own life, so submit an update on yourself with or without a photograph. Feel free to toot your own horn.

If you have not received an email requesting information, that means we do not have a current e-mail address for you.

*Please send me your **current** e-mail address so that I can include you on the e-mail list.*

*Send your e-mail to:
djurich@knox.edu*

Thanks!

Donna Jurich, Newsletter Editor

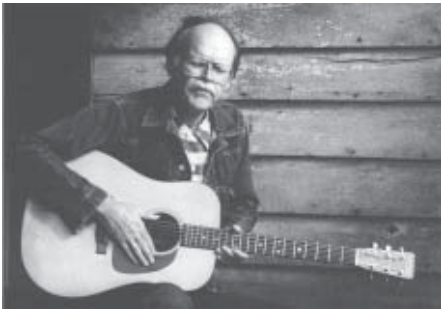




LAURA CANSLER REMEMBERS LOMAN

Loman was born in 1924 on a farm several miles from Long Lane, Missouri. As a student in a one-room country school, he heard an older girl sing “Little Mohea” and he asked her to write the words down for him, which she did, on a Big Chief tablet. That was most likely his first collecting experience! His parents had a pump organ in the home and they both chorded and sang the old songs, to include religious songs. His mother’s parents played no instruments, but they sang old English and Child ballads a cappella — music truly was part of his heritage!

When it was time for Loman to attend high school his mother was pregnant with her seventh baby, so he decided it was better that he stay home to help get the others off to school and do the farm chores—chopping wood, washing clothes, cooking, etc. During those years he regularly visited with a neighbor who could neither read nor write, but played a nice guitar. It was then that Loman picked up his beautiful guitar-playing style and spent hours practicing at home.



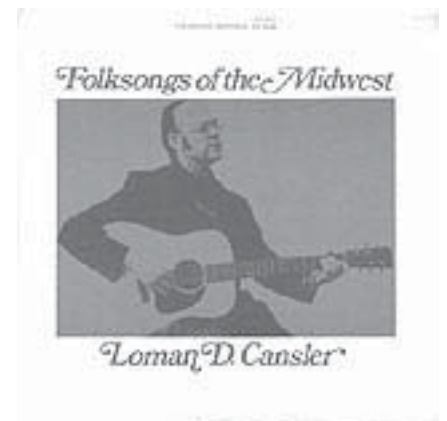
Loman was the third child of seven brothers and sisters. When World War II came along, his two older brothers joined up. Loman went to St. Louis and joined up too—before he told his parents. He joined the Navy and was a morse code operator on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific for three years. He took some correspondence courses while in the Navy. When he returned home

at the end of the war in 1946, his eldest brother convinced him to take the G.E.D. test and attend college at Missouri University in Columbia. He did so. But he didn’t stop there, as he went on to get his Master’s degree in counselling right after he was awarded his Bachelor of Science in Education. It was during this time that he was in the M.U. library and ran across books by Belden and Randolph that contained songs that he knew! This piqued his interest, and it was then that he started folk collecting in earnest and being proud of his upbringing.

Loman and I met in Columbia, Missouri, when I was attending Stephens College. I was born and raised on a farm in Illinois. We got married in 1952 — before our marriage our first purchase together was a reel-to-reel Pentron tape recorder. We did not have a car! Soon after we were married Loman and I spent a summer in Boulder, Colorado where he attended summer school. While there, he met a student whose mother lived in northern Missouri and played the fiddle. When we got home from Colorado, Loman caught a Greyhound bus and traveled to northern Missouri to meet her. He carried his tape recorder on the trip, and even had to tie it to the back of the bus because the bus was so crowded!

By this time, Loman was teaching at North Kansas City High School and was in constant correspondence with people he knew, and other leads, inquiring about songs. When it was time for our first child, we purchased a car and made trips to his folks and people he knew in Dallas County, Missouri, as well as to my childhood home near Galesburg, Illinois. Through the years, every time we visited Dallas County Loman collected from Walter Dibben. He also always visited Charlie Scott near Bennett Spring. Year after year he built on his collection. He also collected several other genres of folklore to include jokes, poems, riddles, jump-rope rhymes, and home remedies in his collection. A good folk collector nurtures friendships over a long period of time, and people who had recorded dozens of songs for Loman previously would continue to think of songs that they had never sung for him before.

Our family consisted of three children, spaced very close together (1953-56). We bought a tent, an iron skillet, a collapsible bucket for carrying water, etc., and during Loman’s summer hiatus from schoolteaching and





The Canseler Family

counselling, we went on long folklore collecting trips. The children were very young when we started. We usually stayed in parks, but sometimes we camped in people's pastures. Loman always had a referral from someone, and the people he was to visit knew he was coming. While he collected, the children and I would stay at our campsite. Usually people invited all of us back in the evening to visit after the recorder was put away. As the children got older Loman taught them a few songs, and sometimes he and the children would sing "Diamonds in the Rough" or something he had taught them.

One of my favorite campsites was the Sam A. Baker State Park. One evening we visited this woman who lived back in the hills in a very simple log cabin. We sat on the porch and she sang for us. A beautiful woman with black knotted hair sitting there with her powerful

voice echoing through the valley — that I will never forget.

In those days few homes in the Ozarks had electricity. So Loman would drive the people to some place where he could plug in the tape recorder. He carried that heavy recorder many a mile! Some homes had only openings for windows and doors — and the house would be full of flies. Air-conditioning was unheard of. They were happy with their life style — like Loman said, "When I grew up, we didn't think of ourselves as poor — because everyone lived like we did." After WW II Loman helped build his parents a house with electricity. The indoor bathroom came years later.

We visited Vance Randolph and Mary Parler several times. Vance was always cordial and happy to visit with Loman. The last time we saw him he was in a nursing home, but still happy to visit with us.

During the children's grade school years, we spent our summers traveling to contacts in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Arkansas and Missouri. We made one trip west to Montana. As the children got older, the boys wanted to stay home and play Little League baseball in the summer time. I was also the set designer for a local summer theatre which prevented many trips too. As I reflect back, I realize the demands of a family put constraints on Loman's collecting.

And yet, his determination ensured that he never give up. In the 1980's, thanks in big part to Dolf and Becky Schroeder, Loman received a grant that permitted him the time to get his life-long folklore collection in shape. He then donated it in its entirety to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri in Columbia. I am so thankful he completed that before his untimely death of lung cancer at the age of 68. I could not have handled that alone.

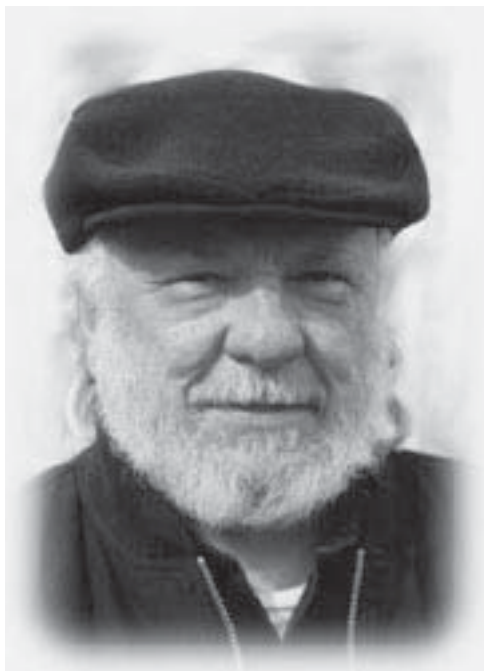
We made lifelong friends and met wonderful people. A blind lady in her 90's asked if she could feel my face so she could know what I looked like. Her daughter fixed dinner for the five of us — maybe more than once. We always went back just to visit whenever we were near Thayer, Missouri. Her place is now underwater. We did so with many of the families. Loman learned over 1,000 songs. He would sing them while driving during our trips in the car, and memorize the words that way. I would have the words in front of me if he ever needed prompting.

Loman truly loved collecting the music of his heritage and sharing it through song with others.

In Memoriam

Robert Dyer

Robert Dyer, longtime member of the Missouri Folklore Society, passed away on April 11 2007, two days before the Boonville Missouri annual Big Muddy Folk Festival. Bob was a founding member of the festival committee and a performer and emcee at every festival. This year's event paid tribute to the beloved "Bard of Boonville" with several artists singing his songs during the evening concerts, and with a Bob Dyer "singaround" hosted by MFS member Win Grace held before a capacity crowd at the Presbyterian Church. Bob's wife, Sharon, held an open house at the home to accommodate many friends in town for the festival.



Though Bob was perhaps best known for his songwriting, he was a consummate historian and teacher. His books include the beautiful *Boonville: An Illustrated History*, a history of Jesse James that was the most popular book of the New Adult Reader's series by the University of Missouri Press, a poetry cycle on the I Ching, *The Oracle of the Turtle*, a collaborative effort on the history of Duke Paul of Wurtemberg's voyages up the Missouri River in the 19th century, and he edited a book of poetry relating to the 1993 flood, *Rising Waters*.

Like his mentor, John Neihardt, Bob had the elevated perspective that combined both poet and historian. For the MFS annual meeting in Arrow Rock, Bob conducted a remembrance session of his mentor with a number of Neihardt's former students who had become poets. He produced three albums of his own songs, and collaborating with Cathy Barton and Dave Para produced albums of the music of the Civil War in the West and of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The trio developed and presented school assemblies on Missouri cultural and history for over twenty-two years, and Bob conducted several artist residencies in schools for the Missouri Arts Council statewide. He lent his talents to countless historical and preservation projects in his hometown of Boonville and served as president and newsletter editor for the Boonslick Historical Society. Bob was also a filmmaker and a furniture maker. He sang the song of this region, and he sang it well. His was splendid company to keep.

Cathy and Dave are currently at work producing a tribute album for Bob's Big Canoe Record company, consisting several artists singing his songs.

Thelma L. Conway

Thelma L. Conway, a longtime resident of Arrow Rock, died December 20, 2006, in Liberty, Missouri. Funeral Services were held at Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist church in Marshall, Missouri, and burial was in Sappington Cemetery in Arrow Rock.

Thelma Conway was born February 13, 1916, in St. Louis, the daughter of Rufus and Rosa Banks Huff. She was a member of Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church of Marshall, where for many years she was

the church pianist. She is survived by one daughter, Theresa Habernal of Liberty; two sons, James Van Buren of Denver, Colorado and Bobby Van Buren of Wichita, Kansas; and several grandchildren.

During the 1980s Thelma Conway, her daughter Theresa, and granddaughter Tiffany performed several times at Missouri Folklore Society meetings in Columbia. Recordings of these performances and a video made in the early 1980s are preserved in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Thelma was also featured in a nine-part series on Missouri Folksong broadcast by KBIA in a special half-hour program hosted by Cathy Barton. For a number of years she arranged "Choir Days" to benefit Brown's Chapel in Arrow Rock, events very well attended by area church choirs and greatly enjoyed by audiences.

Contributions in Thelma Conway's memory may be made to Sappington Cemetery in Arrow Rock, in care of Friends of Arrow Rock, Inc., Box 124, Arrow Rock, Missouri 65320.

Theodore Roosevelt Garrison

Born January 14, 1913, in Martin Box Community near Marshall, Arkansas, Theodore Garrison was the son of the late William Samuel Garrison and Bessie Myrtle (Beavers) Garrison. He married LaVesta Belle Bartlett on July 13, 1935. They were married 65 years, and she preceded him in death on March 23, 2001. Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jack Bartlett and Kerri Garrison of Kearney, Nebraska; two daughters and a son-in-law, Cynthia Stiffler of Macomb, Martha Ellen and David Dannels of Lake Villa, Illinois; six grandchildren, Derek Garrison of Denton, Texas; Jessica Stiffler of Bloomington, Illinois; Nathan Stiffler of El Cerrito, California; Matthew Daniels of Lake Villa, Illinois; Taylor and Connor Garrison of Kearney, Nebraska; and one step-great-grandchild, Justin Smith of Denton, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

Also surviving are a brother, Preston of Harrison, Arkansas; three sisters, Clara Head of Marshall, Arkansas; Reba McInturff Thevenet of Little Rock, Arkansas; and Retha Nelle Ferguson of Vicksburg, Mississippi. He is preceded in death by two brothers.

He was educated in Marshall public school, Arkansas Polytechnic College (now Arkansas Tech University), and received a bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist College in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in 1937. He taught in several rural Arkansas public schools after graduation. He was a veteran of World War II, serving as a radar specialist in the United States Navy.

After the war, he received a master's degree from the University of Arkansas in 1944. For his master's thesis, he and his wife collected folk songs of northern Arkansas, which he later published. He joined the faculty of Arkansas Polytechnic College in 1948. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1960 and then joined the English Department at Western Illinois University in 1960. He retired from WIU in 1980. He taught at the American University in Iran as a Fulbright scholar from 1966 to 1967. He was an active member of the American Association of University Professors.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Through June 30, 2007

The Stories They Tell:

Understanding Missouri History through Maps

State Historical Society of Missouri

1020 Lowry Street, Columbia

573-882-7083

www.umssystem.edu/shs

An exhibit of over thirty maps organized by Walter Schroeder, associate professor emeritus at the University of Missouri-Columbia, will be on display in the Main Gallery. The maps, which date from 1822 to 2002, cover a wide range of topics, including early statehood statistics, the 1874 locust infestations, the Civil War, and a potential site for the Missouri state capitol in Sedalia.

Through July 15, 2007

Women Artists in Arkansas

Historic Arkansas Museum

200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

501-324-9351 or

email info@historicarkansas.org or

www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

Women Artists in Arkansas showcases the contribution of women who have created art in Arkansas during the past one hundred years. This exhibit celebrates the myriad ways in which the spirit and contributions of women artists working in Arkansas have added to the richness and diversity of the American art scene. The four primary artists represented in the museum's permanent collection are: Jenny Delony, Maud Holt, Elsie Freund and Josephine Graham. The exhibit is organized along medium and subject matter—with modern portraits alongside 19th-century portraits, and modern drawings alongside 19th-century drawings, and so on—making for an interesting study of contrasts and similarities over the years.

June 7 - 9, 2007

Autoharp Jamboree

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

Students may enroll for the full jamboree or by the day for classes and events. The public is invited to all concerts and contests. Workshops are offered at all levels of play. Contact the park for further details or reservations.

June 10 - 15, 2007 or June 24 - 29, 2007

Elderhostel - An Ozark Experience

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

Immerse yourself in tradition as you take an unhurried view of the beautiful Ozark Mountain region. Take a good look as you raft the lazy White River. Enjoy a relaxing “walk into the past” in the Ozark National Forest. Identify plants and explore the site of a water driven gristmill and cotton gin. Become part of this way of life listening to songs and stories descended from the British Isles. Visit with the Center's artisans and discover their creative talents. You'll be able to feel the struggles and joy of life in the Ozarks as you are drawn into the Living History presentations. You'll not forget this area after you've

July 4, 2007

4th of July Celebration

The Ozark Folk Center,
The Ozark Folk Center State Park
Mountain View, AR
870-269-3851
www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

July 4, 2006

Cajun Arts, Crafts, Music Festival

Grove Civic Center and Snider's Camp
Grove, OK
www.grandlakefestivals.com

July 6 - 7, 2007

4th Annual National Shape Note Gathering: A Traditional Music Event

The Ozark Folk Center,
The Ozark Folk Center State Park
Mountain View, AR
870-269-3851
www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

July 11, 18, & 25, 2007

Summer Story Hour at the Museum

All presentations at 11 am
Powers Museum
1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO
417-358-2667
www.powersmuseum.com

July 11-15, 2007

9th Annual Woody Guthrie Folk Festival

Okemah, OK
www.woodyguthrie.com

picnicked by a clear flowing stream or discovered the unrivaled beauty of Blanchard Cave; memories await you. The Folk Center Craft Grounds will be open 4th of July with over 20 pioneer craft demonstrations, traditional music performances and a living history presentation at noon, sack races, egg carries, apple bobbing, and lots of good old-fashioned family fun. Ice-cold watermelon will be served at the end of the activities. Admission: \$9 adults; \$6 children 6-12

One doesn't have to travel deep into the heart of Cajun Country of Louisiana to find good food, good times and good music. In fact, it can be found in Grove at the Grove Civic Center on 4th of July with authentic Cajun music, Cajun food and many other entertainers. This event is hosted by Jana Jae, Grove's own queen of country fiddle, and the non-profit organization, Grand Lake Festivals, Inc. with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. Free admission. Maps available at the website.

Come and participate or just enjoy the sounds. Whether you grew up attending Sacred Harp singings, learned to sight read by using a seven-shape system, or are simply curious about what's behind that unusual, appealing shape-note sound, join us. Shape-note singers from different styles, repertoires, and traditions—along with people who have never sung by shapes—will come together for a general session. Contact the park for further details.

Come listen to a story from one of Marian Powers' storybooks (1905–1915) and see a special toy or plaything from the collections.

- July 11: Story hour will focus on teddy bears and you will meet Toots' special teddy. Bring your teddy to storyhour and he/she just might win a prize!
- July 18: Story hour will spotlight Robert Williams Wood's nature analogues on flowers, birds and other animals. Coloring sheets adapted from his books will be available to all attending.
- July 25: Story hour will revolve around play cooking and the "Mary Frances" books. A special recipe will be given to all participants.

The web site is an excellent source of information for this festival. It provides a daily schedule as well as reviews from previous years.

July 28, 2007

Citywide Sale-a-bration!

9:00-3:00 pm

Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

July 24, 2006 – March 4, 2007

The Purse and the Person

Historic Arkansas Museum

200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

Contact 501-324-9351 or email

info@historicarkansas.org or

www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

August 31- September 2, 2007

10th Annual Jana Jae Fiddle Camp and Music Festival

Grove Civic Center and Snider's Camp

Grove, OK

Contact www.grandlakefestivals.com

September 12-17, 2007

Walnut Valley Festival

Winfield, KS

Contact www.wvfest.com or

620-221-3250 or email hq@wvfest.com

September 15 & 16, 2007

30th Annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show

10 am - 5 pm

Historic Nifong Park;

Columbia, MO;

573.874.7460;

www.gocolumbiamo.com

Citywide Sale-a-bration! is sponsored by Carthage Chamber of Commerce. The inside and outside sale includes odds and ends from museum gift shop, hurt books, ex-library books/magazines, and white elephant items (rummage) from past programs and exhibits (i.e. fabric, paper supplies, signage materials) and possibly some used office furniture and who know what else.

The Purse and the Person brings together life stories buried right under our noses— in the purses carried by our mothers and grandmothers. This exhibition looks at purses from the inside out, examining day-to-day life reflected in a very personal, very female artifact. Glimpse into the lives of Edwardian matrons, flappers, wartime Rosie the Riveters, suburban housewives, hippies, businesswomen and more. The women of the 20th century reveal their personalities, their fashion sense, and their day-to-day concerns brought out in the mysterious depths of their purse. Arkansan Anita Davis has been collecting purses and the things that women put into them for more than a decade. Her still-growing collection of more than 3,000 purses and accessories focuses on handbags carried by a broad spectrum of American women.

There are a contest, bluegrass, swing, and more at the 10th Annual Jana Jae Fiddle Camp and Music Festival. Enjoy Oklahoma's beautiful fall weather on Grand Lake O' the Cherokees

The Winfield Kansas Walnut Valley Festival will be featuring some of the nation's top performers of acoustic music as well as numerous contests.

Visitors will be taken back to the traditions of the past. Listen, learn, and see history as it comes alive. See artisans and tradesmen dressed in 19th century attire demonstrating their trades and selling their wares. Visit a Lewis and Clark replica campsite and an 1859 town with shopkeepers and townspeople. See cowboys with their chuck wagons. A large contemporary handmade craft area will also be featured. Enjoy entertainment on three stages including music, dancing and storytelling. Saturday Evening Ghost Stories (8-9:30 pm) are sponsored by the Mid-Missouri Organization Storytellers.

MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY

P. O. Box 1757

Columbia, Missouri 65205-1757

<http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu/>

MEMBERSHIP FORM (2005)

The purpose of this Society is to encourage the collection, preservation, and study of folklore in the widest sense, including customs, institutions, beliefs, signs, legends, language, literature, musical arts, and folk arts and crafts of all ethnic groups throughout the State of Missouri. (MFS Constitution, 1977)

ANNUAL DUES

\$ 15 _____ Individual Membership

\$ 25 _____ Institutional Membership

\$ 25 _____ Family Membership

\$ 50 _____ Sustaining Membership

\$ 10 _____ Student Membership

\$200 _____ Life Membership

_____ Rebecca B. & Adolf E. Schroeder Endowment Fund

_____ Gift to the Society

Renewal _____ New Member _____ Gift Membership _____

(The Missouri Folklore Society is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization; contributions to the Society are tax-deductible.)

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Area(s) of Interest: _____

I do ___ / do not ___ give permission for my name and address to be included in the Missouri Folklore Society Directory of Members (which is given to members but is not given or sold to anyone else).

Check your address label and note the number after your name which indicates the year through which your membership is paid. Use the membership form in this newsletter to renew or extend your membership.

The Missouri Folklore Society was founded in 1906 by Henry M. Belden, Professor of English at the University of Missouri. It was reactivated in the spring of 1977 and has met annually since then. The Society publishes a quarterly *Newsletter* and the annual *Missouri Folklore Society Journal*. Members automatically receive both of these publications.

The annual meeting, generally held in October or November, includes displays of folk arts and crafts, publications, recordings, and artifacts; papers on general and specialized topics relating to Missouri Folklore; performances of traditional music; and other events in keeping with the purpose of the Society. All persons interested in Missouri's cultural life and heritage are invited to join the Society and to attend the annual meetings.