

Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

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

Volume 32, Nos. 1-2

Spring 2008

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MISSOURI FOLKLORE CONFERENCE 2008 THE STORIES STARTED HERE

Hannibal, Missouri, November 6-8
Message from the President, John Schlppenbach

The 2008 Missouri Folklore Conference takes as its starting point an idea presented by the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum. It asks us to “discover how a young boy growing up in the small village of Hannibal became one of the world’s most beloved authors.” For Sam Clemens, “the stories started here,” and for the 2008 Missouri Folklore Conference it is also true that the stories start here.

Mark Twain popularized our Missouri folk culture, and America’s hometown is the starting point for many of our country’s best stories. Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn are filled with regional folklore from a confluence of three major folk traditions involved in the settlement of the United States (Yankee, Mid-Atlantic and Ozark).

These traditions are also represented in regional collections of folklore by Harry Hyatt, Vance Randolph and others. We plan to explore traditional folk culture in Missouri with sessions on regional folk culture, musical traditions, Twainiana, children’s folklore, river lore and more.

All sessions will be at the conference center hotel, but some alternative activities are planned in and around the city. We’ll have time for field trips to some of the area’s favorite attractions as well as to some less well known gems in the surrounding area. Let’s get the stories started again November 6-8 in Hannibal!

Annual Meeting Hotel Information

Hannibal Quality Inn and Suites Conference Center is located on 120 Lindsey Drive in Hannibal, Missouri, on Highway 36 (Mark Twain Ave) just East of the city. They will reserve sixty rooms (of 94) for the MFS conference until October 17th. Standard rooms are \$69.95 + tax, and Suites (2 rooms + kitchen) are \$79.95 + tax, and the rates include full hot breakfast buffet. Reservations may be made by calling the reservation number 573-221-4001 and asking for the Missouri Folklore Society rate. All conference sessions will be held on the ground floor in three adjoining conference rooms.

*Call for
Presentations
Included in This
Newsletter*

Submit Soon!



REPORT ON THE MFS 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

**Jefferson City & Lincoln University
from Roger L. Jungmeyer
2007 MFS President**

The Missouri Folklore Society held its 2007 Annual Meeting, November 8 through 10, in Jefferson City at the Truman Hotel and Conference Center and on the campus of Lincoln University. The President of MFS, Roger L. Jungmeyer, thanks all those participating in the planning of the program, presenting at sessions, and those attending.

The meeting was filled with sessions and tours



Becky Schroeder, Roger Jungmeyer, & Dr. Carolyn R. Mahoney

throughout. There were nineteen sessions and over forty different presentations. Special tours of landmarks in Jefferson City were scheduled each day of the meeting and many enjoyed learning the history of the area. There were special guest speakers for the noon lunches and the evening dinners. A record number of one hundred twenty five (125) individuals from nine states registered for the Annual Meeting. During the



Dr. Carolyn R. Mahoney & Dr. Roger Jungmeyer

course of the meeting the MFS also gained thirteen new members. For the 2007 meeting, the Society was recognized by a Proclamation from Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. In

addition a Missouri State Senate Resolution recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of the Society was sponsored by State Senator Carl Vogel.



Enjoying Thursday's Dinner

The activities began on Thursday afternoon with a Board Meeting at Das Stein Haus, a local German restaurant. At the Truman Hotel and Conference Center the remainder of the afternoon was filled with concurrent sessions on music, student presentations on contemporary lore, and women writers. There was also a tour of the Governor's Mansion and the Missouri State Capitol. The evening dinner and welcoming address was well attended. The guest speaker was Dr. Carolyn R. Mahoney, President of Lincoln University. She spoke of the importance of remembering our past and especially commented on the support of the German immigrant population for Lincoln University. Her address received many positive comments from those attending.



Mark Schreiber

The remainder of the evening was taken with a jam session by members of the MFS.

On Friday sessions were available throughout the day. The broad range of presentations included student sessions on “Folklore as Mystery and History,” and two sessions on “...Culinary Tourism in Mid-Missouri.” Other sessions ranged from language and music, Italian American folklore, African American folklife, folk history in women’s lives, Black Missourians in the Old West, auctioneering, regional folklore, African American and Islamic folklore, and folklore in life and music. The guest speaker for the noon lunch was Mr. Mark Schreiber providing an extensive power point presentation and discussion to detail the colorful history of the Old Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). The afternoon tour took in the Missouri Supreme Court Building (celebrating its 100th Anniversary), the Rozier Gallery (with an exhibit of MSP), and the Old Missouri State Penitentiary. The resident expert on the MSP, Mark Schreiber,

conducted the tour of the site. The evening guest speaker was Duane Benton, Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit. His topic was “Folklore’s Lessons for Law.” A fact filled and also humorous depiction of the law was enjoyed by the attendees.

The MFS Auction was held following the dinner and guest speaker. Judy Domeny Bowen was the auctioneer providing her usual humor and cajoling to get the most out of



Jam Session



Jam Session

MFS members for auction items. A thank you to all MFS members contributing and those eager to bid and purchase items. Their efforts made the evening a highly successful one in gaining funds for the work of the Society.

For many members the quality meals and the accessible facilities available at Das Stein Haus, Truman Hotel and Conference Center, and Lincoln University campus were the source of many positive comments. With sessions, meals, exhibits, and auction being in one facility, members found it convenient to engage in a wide variety of choices throughout the meeting.

Saturday November 10, on the Lincoln University Campus, the meeting continued with concurrent sessions on French traditions in Missouri, folk sayings and humor, the music of Blind Boone, and Native

Americans and folklore. The sessions were very well attended. After sessions were completed the Annual Business

Meeting, with lunch, was held in the Page Library Teleconference Center. Those contributing to the success of the 2007 meeting were acknowledged. Clyde and Liz Faries were also recognized for their service to the Society. After the close of the meeting there were tours of the Lincoln University Hilltop Historic Campus and Soldiers Memorial followed by a tour of historic Old Munichburg on the city's southside near the campus.



The Exhibit Room



Saturday Business Meeting

The Exhibit Room expanded this year with exhibits from the Missouri State Archives, Munichburg Association as well as space available for writers to do book signings. There was a variety of books on display for purchase or order. The room was conveniently adjacent to the Registration and session area as well as the Friday evening auction.

Members found it easy to browse at their leisure throughout the day and during the auction. Thanks to Jim Vandergriff and Adolph and Becky Schroeder for managing the Exhibit Room throughout the Meeting.

Through the contributions of many, the 2007 Annual Meeting provided something for everyone with sessions throughout, tours, exhibit room, and music from our MFS musicians. Sponsorship and support of the 2007 Meeting was provided in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council and support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Several members of the Missouri Humanities Council were in attendance at the Thursday evening dinner and activities. Lincoln University provided much support through the offices of University President Dr. Carolyn R. Mahoney, and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Annette Digby. The University provided for printing of the Meeting Program, transportation for the tours, and facilities for Saturday sessions.

Having served as your 2007 MFS President, I wish to thank all those participating in, and attending, the Annual Meeting. Through our collaborative efforts, the number of sessions, attendance, and general enthusiasm made this, the 2007 Annual Meeting a success. Thank you for your contributions and support of the Missouri Folklore Society.



Schroeder Scholarship Award Recipient

Acknowledgements for MFS Annual Meeting 2007

Roger L. Jungmeyer
2007 MFS President

2007 Program Planning Committee

Adolph and Becky Schroeder & Jim Vandergriff for managing the Exhibit Room

Sam Griffin, sound and recording

Debra Greene, securing equipment for sessions and our tour van driver

Dave and Cathy (Barton) Para for membership information, meeting minutes and jam sessions

Session chairs keeping things on schedule

Susanna Sharp, Lincoln University Graduate Student, for taking photographs throughout the Meeting

John and Carol Fisher for providing additional Meeting photographs

Antonio F. Holland, Department Chair, for his patience as preparation for the Meeting consumed much of my time the nearer the date came



MFS THANKS...

The Missouri Humanities Council for its many years of cooperation with the Missouri Folklore Society to provide programs relating to Missouri's folk arts, folklore, and folk traditions for Missourians in all areas of the state. The first grant awarded was for the annual meeting in Columbia in 1978, only a year after the Society reactivated. Among other grants were those in 1981 for the meeting in Columbia; the 1983 meeting in St. Louis, planned by Barry Bergey and Rosemary Thomas; the 1985 meeting in Cape Girardeau, planned by Erika Brady, which brought folklorist Archie Green to Missouri for the first time and later resulted in having the Peter Tamony papers deposited in the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection; the 80th and 90th anniversary meetings in Columbia in 1986 and 1996; the 2001 meeting in Independence, planned by Lyn Wolz, Virginia Scott, and Bob Hendrickson; the 2002 meeting in Potosi, planned by Liz Faries, Ellen Massey, and Sharon Brock, which made it possible to bring participants from French Canada and French Louisiana to the Old Mines Area French community; the 2003 meeting in Kirksville, which supported several programs, including participation by Jan Brunvand (who had attended the 1992 meeting in Hermann during a camping trip east) and the Flores family, who had been at the 1978 meeting; the centennial meeting of the Society in Columbia in 2006 and the latest meeting in Jefferson City in 2007, planned by Roger Jungmeyer to provide two full days of discussions, music, and tours of Missouri's historic capital city with the help of Lincoln University, the Missouri State Museum, the Department of Natural Resources and residents of Cole County who cooperated to make the 2007 meeting such a memorable event.

The Cansler family, who donated additional Loman Cansler papers and the papers and art works of Laura Cansler to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection and State Historical Society and arranged that any drawings among Laura's work not retained for its collection be donated to the Missouri Folklore Society.

William M. Clements, professor of English and Folklore at Arkansas State University, who donated copies of his book *Native American Verbal Art*, published by the University of Arizona Press, to the Society for future book exhibits and sales. Bill, who has been a member of MFS since 1977, also introduced new member Gary Buxton to us. Gary not only provided an excellent program for the 2007 meeting, but promised to participate in future meetings as well.

All the officers and members of the Society who contribute their time and talents at meetings and throughout the year, making the next meeting possible.

Becky and Dolf Schroeder, who have been tireless in their support of MFS, creative in the ways they draw so many of us together, and supportive of all our endeavors.



AWARDS

MFS Receives Missouri Arts Award as Arts Organization

The Missouri Folklore Society was among the recipients of the 2008 Missouri Arts Awards in the awards ceremony held in the Missouri State Capitol February 13, 2008, winning the Award for Arts Organizations. Roger Jungmeyer, the MFS president for 2007, accepted the award.

Recommendation for the Award

The Missouri Folklore Society is an all-volunteer not-for-profit tax-exempt organization with more than 300 individual and family members throughout the state. Originally founded in 1906 at the University of Missouri in Columbia to collect and preserve the state's heritage of traditional song, the Society became inactive about 1920 but was reactivated in 1977 in response to a renewed grass roots interest in folk arts in Missouri and nationally. Since that time the members of the Society have devoted their efforts to the documentation, preservation, and promotion of Missouri folk arts through annual meetings held in different areas of the state, the sponsorship of performances by folk artists, radio and video programs celebrating Missouri folk arts, and publications and a website promoting folk arts activities.

In 1977 the Society established the *Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter*, which it sends not only to its members but also to an exchange list of individual folk artists, folk art agencies, and institutions with folk arts programs. Published twice annually the newsletter provides information about upcoming and ongoing events in Missouri relating to the folk arts, achievements of folk artists, and opportunities for folk arts organizations. The *Missouri Folklore Society Journal* began publication in 1979 to provide in-depth articles about various aspects of the folk arts in Missouri—material culture, music, and traditional life and arts of different cultural groups, including African American, Native American, and the many immigrants from Europe and other parts of the world who settled in the state throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries—French, German, Hungarian, Polish, and others—bringing their arts, music, and traditions to Missouri. In March 1999, through the generosity of Truman State University, the Society was able to establish a website that provides extensive information about the Missouri folk arts scene and hosts discussions on aspects of Missouri folklore. The popularity of the website is reflected in the number of visitors it gets, some 5,000 a year and increasing.

For the past three decades the Society has worked to recognize and honor many of Missouri's folk artists, including traditional singers Loman Cansler, Max Hunter, and Anne Pittman; fiddlers, R. P. Christeson, Art Galbraith, Taylor McBaine, and Pete McMahan; storytellers Pete Boyer of Old Mines, Gladys Cogswell, and Cecil Williams.

The organization provides an annual award for the student who presents the best research project relating to Missouri folk arts at a meeting and prepares it for publication. It offers an annual award for a History Day project related to folk arts and has recently established two awards for folk arts students, one on the undergraduate and the other on the graduate level. Two governors have recognized the efforts of the Society with proclamations: Governor Ashcroft in 1989 and Governor Carnahan in 1998. The Missouri Arts Council has honored three of its members with Missouri Arts Awards: Gladys Cogswell, Max Hunter, and Gordon McCann.

The Society's annual meetings in different parts of the state are widely promoted statewide and in the locality. Programs focus on the arts of the area and include exhibits, discussions of various aspects of folk and

traditional arts, demonstrations by folk artists, musical performances, storytelling, and remembrances of traditional activities of the past. All programs are open to residents of the area in which the meeting is held and other visitors. Meetings have been held in 21 different locations: Columbia, Springfield, Rolla, Warrensburg, St. Louis, Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, St. Joseph, Point Lookout, Hannibal, Flat River, Hermann, Kansas City, Arrow Rock, Trenton, Stockton, Sikeston, Fulton, Independence, Potosi, and Kirksville. In 2006, the Society celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding and the 30th anniversary of the first meeting of the reactivated Society in Columbia. The 2007 meeting will be held in November 8-10 in Jefferson City in cooperation with Lincoln University.

During the past three decades the Society has been instrumental in preserving major collections of traditional song and music in Missouri. Through efforts of its members, the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri in Columbia received the field collections of the state's three major collectors of traditional music: R. P. Christeson, Loman Cansler, and Max Hunter. Friends of the Society have placed documentary materials and audio recordings and videos preserving the stories and song of such major artists such as Gladys Coggsell and Ann Pittman there. We believe the Missouri Folklore Society has had and continues to have a major impact on folk arts in the state, and as it begins its fourth decade of activity, we submit this nomination of the organization for consideration for the 2008 Missouri Arts Award.

News Release Issued by the Governor's Office
Thursday, November 15, 2007
Blunt Announces 2008 Missouri Arts Awards Recipients

JEFFERSON CITY - Gov. Matt Blunt today announced that the Missouri Arts Council has selected three Missourians, one art institution, one foundation, and one community to receive 2008 Missouri Arts Awards, the state's highest honor in the arts. "I commend the 2008 Missouri Arts Awards recipients for their commitment to the arts," Gov. Blunt said. "Their work for the arts enriches the lives of all Missourians and helps us appreciate the diversity of art in our wonderful home state." The winners by category are:

Arts Education - Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, Kansas City;
Arts Organization - Missouri Folklore Society, Columbia;
Creative Community - City of St. Joseph, St. Joseph;
Individual Artist - Linda Kennedy, St. Louis;
Arts Leadership - Marc Wilson, Kansas City; and
Philanthropy - Gary Tatlow and the late Marilyn Silvey Tatlow, Columbia.

The awards will officially be presented in a ceremony at 2 p.m. on February 13 at the Capitol Rotunda in Jefferson City. "The committee had difficult decisions to make," said Cynthia Cartwright of Kansas City, chair of the Arts Awards selection committee and a Missouri Arts Council member. "There were far more worthy nominees than awards to give. We are delighted with the results and congratulate the 2008 Missouri Arts Awards recipients." Initiated in 1983, the Missouri Arts Award honors individuals and institutions that have made profound and lasting contributions to the cultural and artistic climate of the state. Each year, Missouri Arts Award nominees are reviewed by a committee of individuals from throughout the state who are knowledgeable, experienced and highly respected in the arts. A division of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Arts Council provides nearly \$6 million a year to nonprofit organizations through grants that encourage and stimulate the growth, development, and appreciation of the arts in Missouri. Missouri Arts Council provides funding to make possible quality arts programming to both large and small communities. Gov. and First Lady Melanie Blunt are strong advocates for the arts in Missouri. The governor directed funds from the Athletes and Entertainers Tax be distributed to cultural partners, including the Arts Council. Blunt's support for funding of the arts in Missouri has led to a \$7.2 million increase for the arts and is ensuring that funds from the Athletes and Entertainers tax are being spent on the purpose for which it was created. The First Lady serves as the honorary chair for Missouri Citizens for the Arts and has worked to promote arts across Missouri.



MEMBER AWARDS & HONORS

MFS Member Lynn Morrow Wins Award

The St. Charles County Historical Society is awarding its annual the Heritage Article Award, to Lynn Morrow for “A Surveyor’s Challenges: P. K. Robbins in Missouri” on April 26, 2008. The State Archives has arranged millions of judicial court records over the past few years, most never accessed by the public for research and writing about the formative decades in Missouri history. This article uses Robbins, an icon of Missouri surveying history as the professional who established the Fifth Principal Meridian, to elucidate his career in the larger context of the volatile settlement and land business in Missouri.

Amy Hall Receives Truman Leadership Award

Amy Hall, Betty Craker Henderson’s granddaughter, and until last year our youngest member, is graduating from Monett High School in May. She has been accepted as a student at Truman University in Kirksville MO and will head that way in August. Amy was astonished a few weeks ago to receive a letter awarding her the Truman Leadership Award scholarship “in recognition of exemplary co-curricular leadership experiences and your outstanding academic record” The scholarship will pay for her full tuition and on-campus room and board for the year. It is renewable for four years with a maintained grade point average. The award is one of the University’s most prestigious scholarships, established to recognize some of the most promising young leaders in Missouri and the nation. Suffice it to say, her mom, family and her grandparents are pretty proud. The family is excited that she chose to stay in the state as she had several very nice offers. Her mother and her aunt are both graduates of Northeast Missouri State, now Truman.

Westphalia Historical Society Creates

Adolf E. and Rebecca B. Schroeder Westphalia Community Heritage Award

The Westphalia Historical Society has established an Adolf E. and Rebecca B. Schroeder Westphalia Community Heritage Award for the “recognition of outstanding contributions to the awareness and appreciation of the heritage of our Westphalia community.” At the annual meeting of the society on April 9, 2008, a plaque was presented to the Schroeders for their “long standing efforts and support of the Westphalia community heritage.” In the early 1980s Dolf Schroeder translated several hundred letters written by early immigrants living in the “Westphalia Settlement” to relatives in Germany, and in 1988 the University of Missouri Press published a selection in *Hold Dear, As Always: Jette, A German Immigrant Life in Letters*, illustrated by photographs of early members of the community and the area in Germany from which they came. The book was later published in Germany and has brought many visitors from Germany to the community, leading to a continuing relationship between Westphalia in Germany and Westphalia, Missouri.

Recently, at the request of the Westphalia Historical Society, the Schroeders, with the cooperation of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri, edited the autobiography of one of the earliest women immigrants to the community (and the author of the letters in *Hold Dear, As Always*) for publication. The 76-page book, *My Life Story* by Henriette Geisberg Bruns, is dedicated to “the pioneering German immigrant women who settled on the frontier in central Missouri and to Patricia Hilkemeyer, who by her efforts as Mayor of Westphalia and founder of the Westphalia Historical Society contributed greatly to the preservation of their early histories.”

Copies of the book, which was designed and prepared for publication by Claudia Powell of WHMC, are available from the Westphalia Historical Society, P.O Box 244, Westphalia MO 65085 or from the State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia.



MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

Please Renew!

Spring--a time for renewal for some and spring cleaning for others. We have discovered that a number of people are on our membership list but have not renewed their membership in awhile (over 70 have not renewed since 2003 and another 40 have not renewed since 2004). Time does go quickly!

To help keep the organization as healthy and vibrant as it is, we need your support. Membership dues help the publication of this newsletter and the *Journal* and contribute to the annual meeting.

So, please take this moment to renew your membership. We've included a membership form with this newsletter to help you.



CONFERENCES

5th Annual Graduate English Organization Conference in conjunction with the Folklore Program

From Homer to Simpson: A Symposium of Critical, Creative, and Cultural Writings

April 4-5

Truman State University

Truman's "From Homer to Simpson: A Symposium of Critical, Creative, and Cultural Writings" is organized by Truman's Graduate English Organization and co-sponsored by the Folklore Minor and the Department of English and Linguistics.

The key events thus far are a presentation by Gladys Cogswell on Friday, April 4, at 7:30 and a workshop by Kansas City writer Debra Di Blasi on Saturday. Cogswell, a MFS member, is a nationally recognized story-teller and founder of the By Word of Mouth Storyteller Guild. For information about her go to <http://shorock.com/folk/cogswell/teller.html>. Di Blasi is a multi-media artist and author of *The Jiri*, *Drought and Say*, award-winning novellas, and much more. For information about her go to debradiblas.com.

There will be a poetry slam on April 4, some music and a barbecue on April 5, and conference papers on both days. There's a brief description of the conference online at the GEO website: <<http://gradeng.truman.edu/index.html>>. Or you can contact, Lauren Helbig, Co-President, lhelbig@truman.edu, or Meredith Heist, Co-President, mheist@truman.edu.

Missouri Conference on History

April 2-4

Columbia, MO

On April 2 through 4, the State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia will host the fiftieth annual Missouri Conference on History. More than sixty presentations by historians will be given on topics including Harry Truman, the Civil War in Missouri, the history of steamboat, rail, and air transportation, Kansas City and St. Louis, and the birth of journalism education at the University of Missouri. The world's oldest School of Journalism is celebrating its centennial this year. There will also be discussions of African American architecture and the art of Thomas Hart Benton, among other topics. All those interested in history are invited to attend to exchange ideas and promote interest in the past of the state and nation. For more information or to register, visit shs.umsystem.edu/mch or contact Laura Wilson at: (573) 884-7904 or WilsonLO@umsystem.edu. (From *Missouri Times*, February 2008, published by the State Historical Society of Missouri & and the Western Historical Manuscript Collection)

French Heritage Seminar and Annual Meeting

April 5-6

St. Michael's House, Fertile, MO

On April 5 and 6, the 2008 French Heritage Seminar and Annual Meeting of the Old Mines Area Historical Society will be held at St. Michael's House in Fertile, Missouri, beginning with registration on Saturday, April 5 at 8 a.m. Saturday morning presentations, beginning at 8:45, include Father Phil Hoebing discussing "Snakes in Folklore." John Schleppenbach will also participate in the program. Jeff Seitz is scheduled to speak on "Construction and Playing the Violin" and Jim Duncan will discuss "Early French-Indian Relations in Upper Louisiana." Duncan, a historian, is currently teaching "Frontier Skills" at Lindenwood University. Afternoon sessions include Gabrielle Everett speaking on "Wars in Europe and their Influence on Missouri," and Sally Borgerson on "History of the Fleur de Lis." Debbie Baker will conclude the program with a discussion on "Herbal Lore."

On Sunday, April 6, a walking tour of Richwoods, Missouri, is scheduled. Mass will be celebrated at St. Stephens in Richwoods at 10 a.m. and the Villmer Family Presentation to the Old Mines Area Historical Society in memory of Walter and Dorothy Villmer will be made. Father Liss will conduct the tour of Richwoods.

The Registration cost of \$40 covers continental breakfast, lunch, beverages, and snacks. To register, make a check payable to OMAHS, and send to Vicki Puronen, 148 Cascade Terrace Drive, Ballwin, MO, 63021. You may also register at the door. The address of the Old Mines Area Historical Society, Inc. is 19065, Highway 21 North, Cadet, MO 63630. Take Highway 21 to Washington State Park and turn south on Cannon Mines Road. St. Michael's House will be on your right.

The Center for French Colonial Studies

25th Anniversary Conference and Annual Meeting

October 24 & 25

Lafayette, LA

The 25th Anniversary Conference and Annual Meeting of the Center for French Colonial Studies will be held in Lafayette, Louisiana. October is a wonderful time to be in Louisiana. Plus, Ray Brassieur now lives in Lafayette, so MFS

members may want to plan ahead for this event. The Center for French Colonial Studies, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, is located at North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, and publishes a newsletter. The most recent issue has articles on Native American Mimeticism of French manners and the French Presence in Chicago, 1673-1835 as well as announcements. Many issues also have book reviews. The Center has published several books including *History as They Lived It: A Social History of Prairie du Rocher, Illinois*, and *Code Noir: The Colonial Slave Laws of French Mid-America*.

For further information contact the Secretary-Treasurer, Marcia Lebeau, History Department CM 321, North Central College, 30 North Brainard Street, Naperville, IL 60540-4690.

AFS Annual Meeting 2008 Call for Participation

October 22-26

Louisville, Kentucky: Invitation for Participation

The Commons and the Commonwealth is the theme for the American Folklore Society's 120th annual meeting, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, from October 22-26, 2008. Since the designation of Kentucky as a "commonwealth" in 1785, Kentuckians have struggled over control of their common wealth: as a border state during the Civil War; through coals wars, labor wars and tobacco wars and attempts by outsiders and insiders alike to define and exploit an "authentic" folk culture. Inherent in the idea of commonwealth is the notion of the general good and shared potential. This year's meeting in the Commonwealth of Kentucky is a time to consider anew the politics of advocacy in public welfare. From diverse issues ranging from mountaintop removal to the transformation of agriculture to mass-mediated cultural homogenization, Kentucky's geopolitical landscape reflects broader tensions between economic change and cultural conservation. This year's theme is devoted to reevaluating folklorists' professional role in generating and maintaining a common interest in the common good.

Folklorists have often seen themselves as defenders of community and tradition, especially among the marginal and powerless. In filling this role, we have sometimes walked a fine line between community empowerment and cultural imperialism. Globalization represents a particular challenge to folklorists, as we seek to defend the commons by using communicative forms opened to us by new technology. As a discipline that focuses on local knowledge, vernacular aesthetics, and insider/outsider collaboration, folklorists can take a key role in the struggle to link natural and cultural resources in ways that support diversity, renewability and the local. In this, we share common interests with scientists, activists, artists and others who value diversity. The idea of the "commons" returns us to the notion that some forms of wealth belong to us all, and cannot be reduced to marketplace commodities without disastrous results.

For the 2008 annual meeting in Louisville, the Annual Meeting Committee especially encourages panels, forums, poster sessions and other activities that focus on the idea of the commons, and highlight the connection between cultural and natural environments, or between local and global culture. Submissions can encompass a wide variety of topics, from community aesthetics and local understandings of environment, to electronic forms of community, international copyright laws or global climate change.

The deadline for submission of all registrations, fee payments, and proposals for the AFS 2008 annual meeting is March 31, 2008. We will reject submissions not received online or postmarked by the deadline, as well as those that do not contain all necessary materials at the time of the deadline.

If you plan to attend the annual meeting but will not make a presentation, you may register any time between now and the pre-registration deadline of August 31, 2008, or you can register on site at higher fees.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NHDMO State Contest: Come One, Come All! Judges and Volunteers Needed

from David Moore

The State Historical Society and Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Columbia will sponsor the National History Day in Missouri state contest again this year. Approximately five hundred students in grades 6-12 from all over the state will converge upon the UMC campus on April 12 to display their historical research projects in various formats such as multimedia documentaries, original dramatic performances, museum-style exhibits, and websites, as well as traditional research papers. The students have worked all year on their projects and have already succeeded at local and regional contests to get here. Those who win at the state level will move on to the national competition in Maryland in June.

A number of prizes are available for History Day Awards, and thanks to the generosity of Laura Cansler, a Folklore Prize in remembrance of Loman Cansler has been available each year since Loman's death in 1992. The Missouri Folklore Society provides a second-place Folklore prize each year, and a good number of awardees of the Cansler and MFS prizes have been chosen to take their projects to National History Day in College Park, Maryland. David Moore, Associate Director of WHMC, has served as judge for the projects relating to folklore.

In order to run the state contest, the NHDMO staff must come up with almost 100 judges and about 30 other volunteers to help out for all or part of the day. Judges should have knowledge of history and/or education, or a familiarity with one of the presentation formats, such as drama, speech, communications, video or website production, etc. Judges are placed in teams that balance history with other talents. Other volunteers can help with registration, selling t-shirts, serving the food, or "guarding" the doors while judging is going on, etc. It is so much fun to see the excitement of these young people that many of our volunteers come back year after year!

For more information, please contact Deborah Luchenbill at 573-882-0189 or HistoryDay@umsystem.edu.

New Web Site Category

National History Day will institute a fifth presentation category – Web Sites – at the 2008 national contest, allowing students the opportunity to work with a totally different kind of presentation form to showcase their historical research. Many states, including Missouri, tested the web site category at regional and state competitions in previous years, but this is the first year the winners will be able to advance to the national contest.

Judging of web sites at the state level will be similar to the papers category. The deadline for submission will be about 3 weeks before the contest, allowing the judges the opportunity to review the entries prior to contest day. Individual students and groups of up to five students will compete together in the web sites category, and only web site finalists will be interviewed at the state contest.

Upcoming 2008 NHDMO Regional Contest Dates

April 12

NHDMO State Contest: University of Missouri-Columbia

June 14-19, 2008

NHD National Contest: University of Maryland-College Park

Reminder

If you would like to judge or help out in other ways at any of the History Day contests, please contact Deborah Luchenbill, historyday@umsystem.edu or at 573-882-0189.

Request for Help

Sue Thomas

I am seeking old poems that tell daily events in the lives of earliest Missouri settlers. Newspapers in the 1800s often printed poems, both good and bad, written by a local resident showing the behavior and customs of folks in their raw frontier community. Examples include weather conditions, livestock, wild animals, steamboats, Mexican and Civil War conflicts, politicians running for office, California gold fever, church and barn raisings, grain mills, crops, local indians, sleigh rides, fiddler contests, bee tree hunters, schools, and a grasshopper plague.

A variety of poems such as a head-butting contest between a goat and a man, a poem written on a cave wall by an early explorer, and an easterner returning East because of howling wolves in the night and his fright of timber rattlers will show everyday hardships along with the accomplishments of our pioneer families. These poems are found in county history books and in library microfilm collections of local newspapers. I am the author of *The Poetry Pad* for teachers; *Secesh*, a historical fiction novel for preteens; and *A Second Home: Missouri's Early Schools* written for The Missouri Heritage Readers Series. I also published an article "Noah Webster's Blue-Backed Speller," in Vol. 24 of the *Missouri Folklore Society Journal*.

Please mail photocopied poems including the source information to Sue Thomas, 5600 N.E. Doniphan Lane, Kansas City, MO, 64118. Thank you!

Truman State University: Active Folklore Schedule

The Folklore Minor at Truman State University continues to be active promoting folklore through its colloquia. Here are the highlights from the most recent:

- * Jason Offutt, author of *Haunted Missouri*, on collecting ghost stories;
- * Adam Davis (Truman's new Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and MFS member) on taxonomies of folk sayings;
- * Steve and Kit Hadwiger, nursing professors, on Filipino folkmedicine;
- * Antonio Scuderi, Italian professor, on the political farces of Dario Fo;
- * Charlie Parr, folk and country blues musician from Duluth, on his traditions; and
- * Thomas Stewart, English and Linguistics professor, on "The Graphic Novel as Folklore."

You can attend their Symposium on April 4 and 5. Check in the Conference section for more information.

Veterans History Project

Illinois Veterans Home and

Quincy University Communication Program

The Veterans History Project is a federal project that calls upon the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories, along with documentary materials, of America's war veterans and those who served in support of them (Public Law 106-380). The Illinois Veterans Home, the fifth largest veterans home in the country, has arranged to schedule interviews with selected individuals in the All Wars Museum.

Quincy University communication students, directed by Dr. John Schleppebach, are interviewing residents and videotaping the interviews according to the VHP guidelines. The archival quality video recordings are then reproduced on both DVD and VHS formats, one to be sent to the Library of Congress (DVD) and one to be retained at the All Wars Museum Library (VHS). Byron Holdiman, Director of Quincy University's *Teaching with Primary Sources* program, has placed the interviews online at: <http://www.qutps.org/QVHP.html>.

Loman and Laura Cansler Collection

from David Moore

Laura Cansler, a longtime supporter and friend of WHMC-Columbia, passed away September 25, 2007, at the age of 76. Born in Knox County, Illinois, she came to Missouri to attend Stephens College, graduating in 1951 and from the Kansas City Art Institute and School of Design in 1953. An abstract expressionist, Cansler's artwork was featured in many regional and national exhibitions. For fifteen years, Cansler taught art workshops as an artist-in-residence and painted sets for plays at Bell Road Barn Community Theatre in Parkville. Her paintings are displayed in numerous private and public locations around the Kansas City metropolitan area, where she lived since 1954.

While at Stephens College, she met her husband, Loman, who was attending the University of Missouri. Loman received a Bachelor's degree in education and Master's degree in counseling, but his lifelong passion for collecting folk songs was kindled after he discovered that books by renowned collectors H.M. Belden and Vance Randolph contained songs that he had heard and learned during his youth in Dallas County. Loman and Laura married in 1952, and they moved to Kansas City where Loman taught at North Kansas City High School. During summer breaks after their children, Philip, Joel, and Myra, were born, the Cansler family took camping trips throughout Missouri and other states to hunt for songs, stories, jokes, home remedies, and other oral traditions for their father to collect. Folkways Records issued two albums produced from Loman's collecting efforts. *Missouri Folk Songs Sung by Loman D. Cansler* and *Folksongs of the Midwest* were released in 1959 and 1973, respectively. Loman died in 1992.

The fruits of the many collecting excursions are in the Loman and Laura Cansler Collection at the WHMC-Columbia. Totaling over 17 linear feet, with hundreds of audio recordings, the collection includes personal and family correspondence, family photographs, color slides and other images of Laura's artwork, audio tapes and records, transcriptions of almost 2000 songs collected by Loman, and his song books, publications, field notes, and subject files.

Before her death, Laura donated several of her works to the State Historical Society of Missouri. Last year she gave the Society a portrait of Loman playing guitar, which was on exhibit during the 100th anniversary of the Missouri Folklore Society. Thanks to their children, additional paintings and drawings of Laura's are now in the Society's art collection.

Loman and Laura Cansler are memorialized with the Cansler Folk History Prize, which is given annually to the best entry regarding Missouri Folklore at the National History Day in Missouri competition.



EVENTS

The Big Muddy

April 4 & 5

Boonville, MO

The Big Muddy Folk Festival Committee announces the artistic lineup for its 17th annual event, April 4-5 to present excellent performers of traditional and contemporary folk music showcasing the long continuum in our culture. The artists range from young to senior, and the repertoire from freshly composed to hundreds of years old; though the age of the artist doesn't necessarily correlate with the age of the music. We bring together friends old and new and invite all to take an active part in celebrating song, story, tune and dance. Evening concerts are scheduled for Friday and Saturday at Thespian Hall, and daytime sessions will be at Thespian Hall, First Presbyterian and Christ Episcopal churches.

Friday's concert will open with a special, though brief visit from a celebrated singer of traditional Irish songs, Len Graham, who is visiting the States this year from Northern Ireland. Len won the famously arduous All-Ireland Competition for singing more than 30 years ago, and has been a valuable source of songs for many current performers in the Irish scene. We'll also be glad to welcome back Leela and Ellie Grace, who have grown up in the Central Missouri music community and most recently moved on to different ends of the country for new challenges. They released a new album this winter and are on tour in the area featuring their instrumental prowess, harmony singing, original songs and step dancing. Festival organizers Cathy Barton and Dave Para will be on hand for a mix of traditional tunes and songs; the duo have played every year to generous audiences. Also featured will be a fine band from North Carolina, Big Medicine, a quartet with some Missouri connections and a sound that combines the instrumental drive of an old-time string band with some of the crisper attention to vocal harmonies



Len Graham

more associated with bluegrass style. A dance will follow the evening concert at Turner Hall led by local caller Jim Thaxter.



Joel Mabus

Saturday's evening concert will welcome Joel Mabus, a multi-instrumental master from Michigan with a broad range of traditional American musical styles and a keen wit that makes for an entertaining rapport as well as some clever original songs. Fiddling giant Alan Jabbour, former director of the American Folklife Center in Washington D.C., will be joined by melodic clawhammer expert Ken Perlman for some traditional American tunes. Alan's research and love of fiddling probably has had a greater impact on fiddle music in America than anyone else who has ever played our festival. The Cantrells, from Nashville, are a talented and creative duo featuring fine original songs and old swing styles representing some of the best in contemporary acoustic music in America. The WIYOS are a bunch of boys from New York who play old blues and hokum tunes with a stage act that their great-grandparents would have enjoyed.

The 2008 lineup features perhaps the finest collection of instrumentalists the festival has presented, so workshops on Saturday will offer some close-up sessions with masters of the banjo, fiddle and guitar, as well as songwriting and step-dancing. The Missouri Folk Arts Program will showcase some of their master artists, and some special crafts will be on display at Turner Hall. Master bead artist Judy Walker of Monrovia, Calif., is offering a beading workshop for kids, (with parental help) a Rainbow Suncatcher. Terry Smith's Big Muddy BBQ will make the ambience more aromatic as always.

Tickets are \$20 for each evening and \$35 for both nights. Admission to all Saturday daytime sessions is only \$5. Tickets sales have been going well and the Friends urge you to call soon to have the best possible seats. Tickets for the festival are now available online at: <http://www.friendsofhistoricboonville.org>.

Sponsored by the Friends of Historic Boonville, with generous support by the Missouri Arts Council, the Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino and the City of Boonville Tourism Commission. For more information, call 660-882-7977, 888-588-1477, or write P.O. Box 1776, Boonville MO 65233, or check out the website at www.bigmuddy.org.

Missouri Humanities Council's "That's Entertainment!" Chautauqua

June 25–30

Chautauqua is a program format that exemplifies experiential, interactive learning for the whole family. Although the Missouri Chautauqua has taken place only in June, and always under a tent, the outdoor setting, the season of the year, and the tent are not things that define the Chautauqua learning experience.

Chautauqua is uniquely powerful because it combines the "suspension of disbelief" of theatrical experience with interaction between the audience and the performer. A skilled Chautauqua performer takes you out of the present and into a previous era. Yet no matter how alien or strange the subject matter, you are able to connect with it because you engage in discussion with the person from the past.

In 2008 MHC will support a touring Chautauqua on the theme of "That's Entertainment." From circus acts to movies, and popular fiction to popular music, "That's Entertainment!" spotlights a broad range of mass entertainment by portraying innovative figures that helped democratize this field. Far from the highbrow, these figures brought often-inexpensive entertainment to new kinds of audiences. Hosts for the 2008 Chautauqua tour are Carthage & Webb City (Co-sponsored by Co-sponsored by the Powers Museum, Carthage Public Library, Friends of the Carthage Public Library, and Friends of the Webb City Public Library), Kirkwood Public Library, Community of Osage Beach, and Pike County.

Locally-Designed Chautauquas

MHC welcomes grant proposals to implement additional Chautauqua programs that are designed locally. This opportunity opened up in 2007 and resulted in new Chautauqua programs in Cedar Hill and Warrensburg. Towns may develop Chautauqua programs on a variety of models. For example:

- * A Chautauqua festival entails at least three historical figures, but it may include more than five.
- * Programs may be scheduled in any public venue. A tent is not required.
- * Programs may be scheduled in any season.
- * Programs may be scheduled up to a month apart, or as tightly as three programs in a single day.
- * Programs need to be tied into a unifying theme.

(from: <http://www.mohumanities.org/programs/chautauqua/index.htm>)

Schedule

June 25 (Wednesday) – 2 pm

“Mickey Mouse – From Kansas City to Hollywood...With Love” by William Worley

Carthage Public Library, 6th & Garrison, Carthage, Missouri

Walt Disney learned his animating skills in Kansas City. Mickey Mouse may have been born aboard a Santa Fe train in 1928, but part of the inspiration for him came from Walt's “lean days” at Laugh-A-Gram Studios in Kansas City. Mickey evolved from a scamp in “Steamboat Willie” to the disobedient, but ultimately dutiful “Sorcerer's Apprentice” and finally to icon status at Disneyland and Disney World. Learn about the 1930s Mickey Mouse Clubs, about Walt's identification with his character [or vice versa], and much more. This program will include video of the first sound Mickey cartoon. Presentation intended for all ages.

June 26 (Thursday) – 10 am
“The ‘Disney Version’ of Fairy Tales” by William Worley
sponsored by Webb City Historical Society

Webb City Public Library, 101 South Liberty, Webb City, Missouri

Learn how Walt Disney and his staff developed full length feature films from “fairy stories” that could be read in five minutes in their original Brothers Grimm or the Green Fairy Book [source of the “The Three Little Pigs”]. From Snow White to Pinocchio, Cinderella and Alice in Wonderland (not really a fairy tale at all), Walt Disney the storyteller wove magic through character development, musical highlights, and some of the most remarkable animation drawings ever accomplished. This illustrated talk will include comparison of original tales with what made it to the screen. Intended for adults and children.

June 26 (Thursday) – 2 pm
“Carthage Chautauqua Assembly One Hundred Years Ago” by Michele Hansford
Powers Museum, 1617 West Oak, Carthage, Missouri

Come learn about what Chautauqua was like over a hundred years ago and where it was held and who came and spoke. Some of the most important people of the late 19th and early 20th century visited Carthage as Chautauqua speakers and this program will highlight a few of them. Special display of old Chautauqua programs will also be on hand from the museum’s archives.

June 26 (Thursday) – 7 pm
William Worley as “Walt Disney”
the Carthage High School Auditorium, 7th and South Main Street, Carthage, Missouri
Special Program Entertainment : Susan Cordell, Ragtime Pianist

June 27 (Friday) – 2 pm
“American Spectacles” by Jeffery Smith
the Carthage Public Library, 6th & Garrison, Carthage, Missouri

Perhaps no one in the nineteenth century understood human nature quite the way Barnum did. His traveling shows of both bogus and legitimate acts were nothing new in nineteenth-century America; it was his way of creating excitement and attention—“buzz,” in modern parlance—that revolutionized modern advertising and entertainment. This program will discuss not only the spectacles but also the ways Barnum shaped modern advertising and entertainment. Presentation intended for adults.

June 27 (Friday) – 3 pm
“Disneyland: The Happiest Place on Earth” by William Worley
the Newton County Historical Park downtown, Neosho, Missouri

Learn how the “granddaddy” of all modern theme parks came about. Walt Disney came up with the idea when he could not find suitable Sunday afternoon diversions for his daughters. See how Disneyland got an unexpected boost when the Davy Crockett miniseries on “Disneyland” television created a national coonskin cap phenomenon. See the difference between “Sleeping Beauty’s Castle” and “Cinderella’s Castle.” Learn how the Disneyland Santa Fe Railroad grew from Walt’s backyard model railroad that was big enough for him to ride. Presentation for all ages.

June 27 (Friday) – 7 pm
Jeffery Smith as “P. T. Barnum”
Carthage High School Auditorium, 7th & Main, Carthage, Missouri
Program Entertainment: Baled Green & Wired Tight, traditional and bluegrass band

June 28 (Saturday) – 10 am
“American Spectacles” by Jeffery Smith
Webb City Public Library, 101 Liberty, Webb City, Missouri
Program description: See June 27

June 28 (Saturday) – 2 pm
“Humbugs” by Jeffery Smith
the Powers Museum, 1617 West Oak, Carthage, Missouri

Barnum’s name was so synonymous with humbugs that he even wrote a book about famous ones he’d known. In this interactive program, audiences will explore the nature of such absurdities, while placing them into the longer historical perspective. Presentation intended for family audiences and adults.

June 28 (Saturday) – 2 pm
Afternoon Free Movie
Route 66 Theatre, 24 South Main, Webb City, Missouri

June 28 (Saturday) – 7 pm
Hank Fincken as “Thomas Edison”
Carthage High School Auditorium, 7th & Main, Carthage, Missouri
Tentative Program Entertainment: Heartland Band (adult musicians from across southwest Missouri make up this community band)

June 29 (Sunday) – 1:30 pm
Debra Conner as “Margaret Mitchell”
Route 66 Theatre, 24 South Main, Webb City, Missouri
A special surprise will follow Ms. Conner’s presentation.

June 30 (Monday)
Chautauqua Activity/Program schedule to be announced.

**Traditional singer Judy Cook of Laurel, Maryland
September 20
The Focal Point, Maple Wood, MO**

Traditional singer Judy Cook of Laurel, Maryland will be touring in the Midwest during September and will appear at The Focal Point, 2720 Sutton Blvd. Maple Wood (St. Louis) on September 20. Voted the “Best Female Vocalist in Traditional Folk” by the Washington Area Music Association and highly recommended by Cathy Barton, Judy will present “Songs of Mark Twain’s America,” a time, as she says, of “famous heroes and grand adventures...the age of steamboats on the great rivers of middle America...the turmoil of the Civil War... and the heyday of cowboys and lumberjacks.” Other programs Judy presents are: “Tenting Tonight: Songs and Stories of the Civil War,” in which she reads excerpts from her great-great grandparents’ Civil War correspondence and provides historical detail for the eleven songs included in the presentation; and “Songs of Abraham Lincoln’s America,” a selection of more than a dozen traditional and broadside songs, some of which include sing-along choruses.

For these three multi-media programs, Judy dresses in 1860s style, introduces the songs with historical detail, and accompanies the program with project images. Judy’s website is: www.JudyCook.net. Her e-mail address in Judy@judycCook.net.



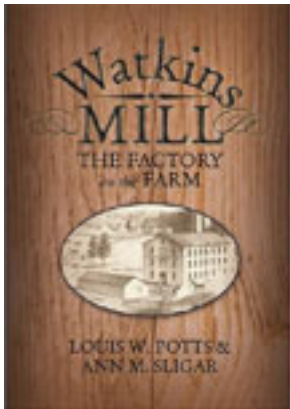
RECENT RELEASES & REVIEW

From Truman University Press

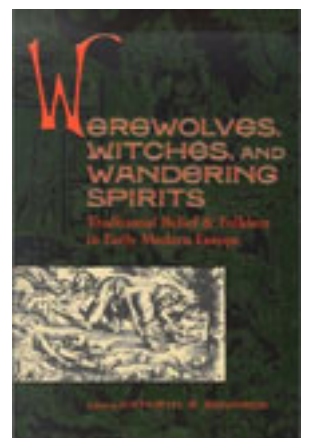
Haunted Missouri, by Jason Offutt, is “A Ghostly Guide to the Show-Me State’s Most Spirited Spots.” Offutt teaches journalism at Northwest State University in Maryville Missouri and is a syndicated humor and paranormal columnist. He has been a newspaper editor, reporter, photographer, and consultant, as well as a farmer and mayor of a small midwestern town, and he has learned to get along with ghosts and others who have seen ghosts. Thirty-two sites are described in his book, and, as the publisher notes, “brings together history, folklore, and just enough mystery to intrigue the skeptics and delight the believers.” Paperback, \$19.95.



Watkins Mill: The Factory on the Farm, by Louis W. Potts & Ann M. Sligar, is a study of the woolen mill that was developed by Waltus Watkins on his rural farm in western Missouri in the late 1850s in a “conscious decision to blend agriculture and industry,” according to the authors. Full-color photos of the mill buildings, machines, documents and textiles are included as well as black and white images. Watkins Mill is now a State Historic Site, located at 26600 Park Road, Lawson, Missouri. According to “Missouri’s Masterpieces: State Parks and State Historic Sites,” published by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the factory is the only 19th century American woolen mill with its original machinery still intact and is a National Historic Landmark. The owner’s house and outbuildings, the woolen factory and gristmill, and the nearby church and octagonal school have been restored. Paperback, \$29.95.



Werewolves, Witches, and Wandering Spirits, edited by Kathryn A. Edwards, is a collection of essays about “Traditional Belief and Folklore in Early Modern Europe” by European, American, and Australian scholars. According to the publisher’s note, the book “explores the more fantastic elements of popular religious beliefs: ghosts, werewolves, spiritualism, animism, and of course witchcraft.” *The Catholic Historic Review* noted, “This collection of articles is a good read and a useful tool...well written, well edited, and very informative.” Hard cover, \$44.95. Paperback, \$34.95.



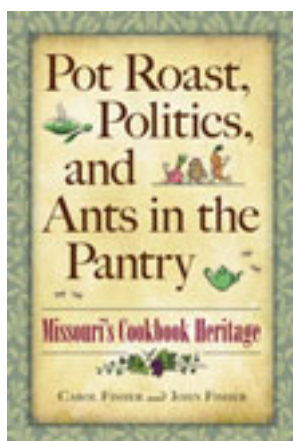
Check tsup.truman.edu for further information about these and other books published by the Truman State University Press.

From the University of Missouri Press

Missouri Caves in History and Legend, by H. Dwight Weaver, “is an overview of cave resources in twelve regions...as well as a superb selection of photos from the author’s extensive collection depicting the history and natural features of these underground wonders.” It is also a wonderful collection of stories of mythical hidden treasure and real treasure and of the many people who have discovered, explored, and sometimes exploited the “underground wonders” in caves. Weaver’s introduction to Missouri caves came when he visited the Mark Twain Cave in 1945 when he was seven years old with his father and later explored its undeveloped areas. “To say that I became hooked as a result of these adventures would be an understatement,” he wrote. They “filled me with a passion for cave exploration and study that became a large part of my life for the next fifty-five years.” He shares his extensive knowledge of caves in Missouri and their history from the Ice Age to the present with story after story of bear hunters, moonshiners, and outlaws, as well as archaeologists, preservationists, and show cave operators who have worked to preserve and protect Missouri’s caves.



Missouri Caves in History and Legend was published in the Missouri Heritage Readers Series. Weaver is scheduled to speak about Missouri’s caves at the State Historical Society of Missouri on May 6. Check the SHS website for details. Paperback, \$14.95.



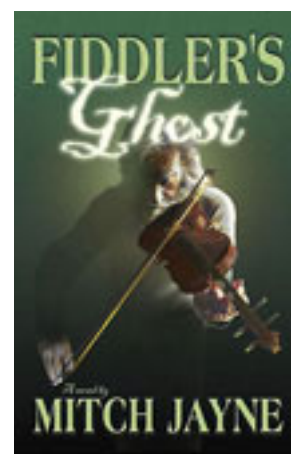
Pot Roast, Politics, and Ants in the Pantry: Missouri’s Cookbook Heritage, by Carol and John Fisher, demonstrates that a cookbook can be “more than just a cookbook,” according to reviewers, but can be “a gateway to our culinary heritage.” In this chronological study of well over 150 Missouri cookbooks, beginning with manuscripts from 1821 St. Louis and continuing to the age of online recipes, the Fishers have captured the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Show Me state in their history of its cookbooks.

MFS members who were at the 2004 meeting in Cape Girardeau had the opportunity to sample Carol’s Vinegar Pie and learn the recipe for “How to Cook a Husband.” Now they and other readers can learn much more about Missouri’s culinary heritage in this entertaining look at Missouri’s cookbook heritage.

Carol is the author of *The American Cookbook: A History*, which won the Missouri Writer’s Guild Walter Williams Major Work Award. John Fisher wrote *Catfish, Fiddles, Mules and More: Missouri’s State Symbols* published by the University of Missouri Press. Paperback, \$19.95.

From Wildstone Media

A review of Mitch Jayne’s new novel, *Fiddler’s Ghost*, appeared in the Fall MFS Newsletter, but since then it has gained high praise from other readers and reviewers as well. Martin Northway, writing for the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* calls it a “good-hearted, rambunctiously witty novel,” which “becomes a reflection on the eternal sources of the gift of art, and on the motives of those who would stifle it.” Jane Henderson, *Post-Dispatch* book critic named it one of the outstanding books of 2007. Kevin Cook of McDonough, Georgia, “who has a scholarly interest in the music of the Dillardards and the writings of Mitch Jayne,” published a two-part interview with Mitch in *Fiddler’s Magazine*. And the praise keeps coming. To order a copy of *Fiddler’s Ghost*, send check or money order for \$15 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling (\$18.50) to Wildstone Media, PO Box 270238, St. Louis, MO, 63127, or call 800-296-1918 during business hours to order with Master Card or Visa.



Folklore from Adams County, Illinois: An Old Favorite in a New Form

Justice Publications is pleased to offer an Adobe Acrobat version of the classic 1965 edition of *Folklore from Adams County, Illinois* by Harry Middleton Hyatt, here provided as a free electronic book in this format only under copyright held by Editor John Schleppebach of Quincy University. We hope you enjoy reading this e-book, the largest regional collection of folklore ever published. The book may be found at www.justicepublications.com or at www.quincynet.com. Click on the title to find sayings about weather, luck, dreams, household activities, ghosts and the spirit world recorded from the good old days.

Review and Personal View of *Cousin Emmy and Her Kinfolks –1939-1947* Bear Family Records – BCD 16853 AR

by Cathy Barton

The late Louis Marshall “Grandpa” Jones, of “Hee-Haw” and “Grand Ole Opry” fame, considered radio star Cousin Emmy a big influence on his music career, crediting her with being his first old-time drop thumb style banjo instructor. When I worked with the Jones family in Arkansas in the 1970s and 1980s, Grandpa often spoke to me about Cousin Emmy, strongly advising me to listen well to her banjo playing and to learn some of her songs. So it was with great pleasure that I received this Bear Family CD *Cousin Emmy and Her Kinfolks* from Jim Nelson, MFS member and re-issue co-producer. The recording and accompanying 50 page booklet is an aural and visual delight.

Born Cynthia May Carver in Kentucky, Cousin Emmy made her mark as a flamboyant radio personality who performed on an impressive array of instruments, including the banjo, guitar, fiddle, jaw harp, harmonica, musical saw, ukulele, piano and even a rubber glove. Her career on radio and stage was a lengthy one, from the mid-1930s all the way into the 1970s, and at the height of her fame in the 1940s she was in fact one of the most popular performers in country music. Emmy and her band, the Kinfolks, became stars on several major radio stations, from WHAS in Louisville, KY, to KMOX in St. Louis, known for delivering fast-paced shows that included hymns, fiddle tunes, ballads, comedy, dancing and novelty tunes. That Cousin Emmy ended up becoming a footnote in country music history is both sad and curious, but now, thanks to producers Jim Nelson, Mike Seeger and Perry Botkin, we now have a fitting tribute to this dynamic female pioneer entertainer. The album is a beautifully packaged recording with complete biographical notes written by Jim Nelson, photographs, discography, recorded songs and tunes that span the length of her long career, and even a few selections that were never released during her lifetime. A real highlight to this project is the inclusion of audition transcriptions made for radio station WHAS in 1939 and 1940, for this gives the listener a real idea of what her actual radio shows were like — fast, full of variety, and breathless energy. One can easily understand why she became such a favorite of all audiences, particularly children and the elderly, to whom she directly spoke.

The booklet accompanying this CD is impressive, with photos of Emmy over the years and biographies of not only the artist herself but of her various band members, as well as observations from Seeger about meeting Emmy for the first time at Disneyland in 1961. There are numerous quotes from Emmy, from her band members, from Grandpa Jones and others, and all help to bring her career to light and life.

Another highlight of this recording is the CD packaging itself, with reproductions of covers from her 1948 Decca album *Kentucky Mountain Ballads*.

The best feature of the CD is, of course, the music. Although some of the radio shows featured here move at a speed that may seem too frenetic to some listeners, and although these segments contain some repeated songs, it is here that one can really sense Emmy’s flair at performing, and it is a real pleasure to hear her speak to “all the little children out there.” The re-issued recordings are also enjoyable to listen to, as the scratchy sound characteristic of old recordings has been cleaned up considerably.

As a banjo player, I can attest to Cousin Emmy’s artistry and drive on that instrument; her spirited renditions of “Johnny Booker” and “Free Little Bird” are some of the finest banjo performances I’ve ever heard. But equally

listenable are the ballads and lyric songs such as “Pretty Little Miss Out in the Garden” and “Come All You Virginia Gals.”

Mike Seeger wrote that Cousin Emmy was a driving and highly entertaining performer, and that if she were alive today “she’d have been a Bette Midler or Madonna.” Thanks to Bear Family, a German recording company known for extensive collections of high quality, we certainly can hear and feel her exuberance and energy, and understand why she was such a beloved and popular artist. Hopefully Cousin Emmy will no longer be considered a mere footnote in country music history, but will take her place as one of the “greats” of country music along with legends such as Stringbean, Uncle Dave Macon and Grandpa Jones.



MEMBER NEWS

Robyn Burnett & Ken Luebbering

Robyn and Ken have moved from Tebbetts to Jefferson City, and Robyn is working in the Reference area of the Missouri State Archives. Their essay “For the Sake of the Children: Missouri’s Immigrant History” is featured in the 2007-2008 *Official Manual*, published by the Secretary of State’s Office. Long known as “The Blue Book” (even during the years when Secretary of State James Kirkpatrick changed the cover from blue to green) the Missouri *Official Manual* contains a wealth of information about Missouri, including an annual essay on a topic relating to Missouri history, a section of historic photographs submitted by Missourians, and information on state agencies, state symbols, and other Missouri subjects of interest.

Robyn and Ken are authors of *German Settlement in Missouri: New Land, Old Ways* and *Immigrant Women in the Settlement of Missouri*, both published by the University of Missouri Press in its Missouri Heritage Readers series. Pebble Press in Rocheport published their beautifully illustrated *Gospels in Glass: Stained Glass Windows in*

Missouri Churches. They have discussed their work throughout the state for the Missouri Humanities Council Speakers Bureau and the speakers program now administered by the State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia. Ken is available to speak this year on two topics: “Gospels in Glass” and “I Goes to Fight mit Sigel,” the latter a title taken from a broadside song dating from the Civil War. (If you would like to hear this song, Dave Para has been known to sing it.)

Further information about speakers available through the State Historical Society of Missouri is available on its website: www.umsystem.edu/shs or write to State Historical Society of Missouri, 1020 Lowry Street, Columbia, MO 65201-7298.

Paul & Win Grace

Paul and Win Grace are currently on sabbatical from the music business. They are both greatly enjoying this respite. However, Paul had to get a job to make the sabbatical possible! (No sabbatical salary and benefits for folk musicians!) He is a Home Coordinator at Woodhaven Learning

Center in Columbia. He has 6 developmentally disabled adult clients who live in their own apartments, and has a staff to help make this amazing program possible. This is called Individualized Supported Living. The learning curve has been steep, but he is finding the work rewarding, though he isn’t too excited about carrying a pager 24/7. The steady paycheck and paid vacation have provided a kind of freedom that neither Paul nor Win had expected.

In 2007, Paul and Win recorded Bob Dyer’s song “Here I Go” for the tribute CD that Cathy Barton and Dave Para are putting together. It should be out soon!

Win is keeping the web site up (Yes, Friends! You can’t see them perform, but their CDs are available at www.GraceFamilyMusic.com!), working part-time for an accountant, and enjoying this new life. She retreated with Vietnamese poet, author, and monk Thich Nhat Hanh in August of 2007, and was given the name Wondrous Music of the Heart, which she loves. In January of this year, both Paul and Win journeyed to Plum Village near Bordeaux, France, to spend two weeks during

the time of 3 1/2 month Winter Retreat with Thich Nhat Hanh, Sister Chan Khong, other lay retreatants, monks and nuns.

Antonio F. Holland

Antonio F. Holland was part of symposium at Michigan State University on the new book, *The Early Black History Movement, Carter G. Woodson, and Lorenzo Johnson Greene* by Pero G. Dagbovie on February 27, 2008. Other speakers for the symposium were Dr. Arvarh E. Strickland, Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri at Columbia in the Department of History and Dr. Darlene Clark Hine, the John A. Hannah Professor of History at Michigan State University and Board of Trustees Professor of History at Northwestern University.

Also on March 16, 2008, Tony Holland made a presentation on his new book, *Nathan B. Young and the Struggle over Black Higher Education*, at the main branch of the Kansas City Public Library.

Rosemary Hyde (Thomas)

Rosemary lived in Berkeley, CA, from 1998 to 2006, and during that time taught writing and also a folklore class for the University of California Extension in Berkeley. She also studied during that time, and qualified in 1995 as a nationally certified classical homeopath. She has now moved to Chapel Hill, NC, to live near her daughter, who has two young sons, aged 1 and 4. In Chapel Hill, she continues her practice as a classical homeopath and is starting an oral history project to help create a sense of place in an older suburban development. The project is part of establishing the option of "Aging in

Community" for older residents, as an alternative to institutional living.

Madeline Matson

Madeline's book *Food in Missouri: A Cultural Stew* was featured in a book discussion series at the Kirkwood Public Library on February 27. Elizabeth Cowie, Professor of Nutrition at Fontbonne University, presented the talk on the book, and is planning to use it in one of her classes. Books featured in upcoming talks in the series are *Julia Child* by Laura Shapiro on March 26 and *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. For further information on programs at Kirkwood Public Library, call 314-821-5770.

Madeline is now revising the manuscript of the collection of articles relating to food traditions in Missouri sponsored by the Missouri Folklore Society. We still need an article on Missouri wine. Please let us know if you know of someone interested in writing on wines in Missouri.

Dianne Moran

Dianne Moran has been busy performing lots of school programs and researching new programs. A lot of her time is spent in preparing for programs, whether it's gathering period clothing, obtaining new animals, making puppets or collecting relics or reproductions for program displays. A friend once said, "If you're going to be self employed, you'd better do as someone living off the land...do as many different things as you can to survive!" Dianne took his advice and performs living history, folklore, naturalist programs and now, puppets. Somewhere in that

job list, she ought to be able to make a living. Living off the land, that's another story, someday she'll tell us all about it.

Dianne will be presenting at the "World's Fair of 1904" April 17th for the Cahokia, IL Library at 5:00 p.m.; "Ozark Woman" June 6 and 7 at Van Buren, MO, Big Springs St. Park Heritage Days; "Earth Woman Animals and Stories", Vandalia, IL's Grand Levee on June 14 and 15; "Earth Woman Stories" June 21 at Innsbrook Resort for Native American Day; and "Zerelda James", mother of Frank and Jesse, March 9 at the Cape Girardeau Library 2:00 PM and at the Frontier Trails Museum in Independence, MO on July 23.

Greg Olson

Greg has completed his book on the Ioway Indians in Missouri, which will be published by the University of Missouri Press in its Missouri Heritage Readers Series. A longtime member of MFS, Greg has worked closely with the Missouri Humanities Council to develop exhibits and accompanying materials on the Native Tribes in Missouri at the time of the Lewis and Clark expedition, and his exhibit on the Sak and the Fox has drawn many viewers in the Midwest and will be on exhibit at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington.

A reviewer of the Olson book on the Ioway wrote of the manuscript, "First I should state that I read the entire manuscript in one sitting, all hundred plus pages of it. I can't remember ever doing that. I say this to point out that Olson has produced not only an interesting overview of the Ioway but also a highly readable account." The Ioway are also the

Member News Continued

subject of a newly completed film, *Lost Nation: The Ioway*, explores the struggle of two Ioway leaders to “save their people from inevitable American conquest” and of the present-day fight of the Ioway “to maintain and reclaim their unique history and culture.”

Now that the book on the Ioway is finished, Greg is researching the work of Mary Alicia Owen of St. Joseph, who served as MFS president from 1908 until her death in 1935.

Alex Usher

Alex’s fourth Mel Bay book *Side Splitters* will be released April 8. The illustrated collection includes the melodies, lyrics and suggested accompaniment chords for more than 125 funny songs including “Send Me To Glory In a Glad Bag” which was written by MFS members Don and Mim Carlson and Steve Mason. In addition there are parodies, readings, jokes, and other rib ticklers. You can get a copy at your local music store or from me for \$18 postpaid: Alex Usher, 330 W. Lockwood, Apt. 204, Webster Groves. MO 63119.

Alex will be giving autoharp workshops and a performance at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View AR from June 9-12, as well as a workshop at the Music Folk in Webster Groves, MO, on July 20 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Jim Vandergriff & Donna Jurich

Jim and Donna have been busy with their research on Native American education. They traveled to New Orleans in February, where they

reported on their research at the annual meeting of the Association of Teacher Educators. Jim also chaired a business meeting of the ATE Commission on the State of American Indian Education, while Donna attended an Executive Board meeting of the Illinois Association of Teacher Educators, of which she is President-elect.

***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

In Memoriam
Rosemary N. Killam
1939 – 2007

Many of her friends in the Missouri Folklore Society were saddened to learn of Rosemary's passing on Thursday, May 3rd, 2007. Rosemary was a member of MFS for a number of years and a good friend to many of us. She is survived by her children Walter Edwin and Frances Marie. Her wish was to be cremated and to have her ashes scattered over the St. Francis River in Missouri.

For those readers who don't know, Rosemary was a Professor Emeritus of Music Theory at North Texas State in Denton, TX. She held a B.M. in Music Theory from the Eastman School of Music, an M.A. in Music Theory from George Washington University, and a D.M.A. in Music Education from Stanford University. She was widely published in professional books and journals over the length of her career and made great contributions to the field of Feminist Theory and Music, as well as many other fields, including Folk Music. Of particular interest to MFS members - and folklorists in general - are the materials she donated to the American Folklife Center.

Archived Materials, Library of Congress, American Folklife Center

1994: Killam donated her field recordings of folk music of north-central Texas in 1971 (70 hours)

1998: Killam donated her field recordings of folk music of southeast Missouri in 1983-85 (80 hours)

2003: Killam donated her ballad book manuscript of Liddie Hubark (1926) augmented by transcription of manuscript and audio tape of songs

Killam did the research to document folk music performance in these areas with particular attention to ensemble repertoire, modality, and harmonies. She recorded both music and interviews with performers at fiddlers' conventions, community gatherings, and jam sessions in private homes.

Memorial donations may be made to Eastman School of Music Unrestricted Fund. Please indicate your gift is to be donated in the name of Rosemary N. Killam. Mail your check to the following address:

Eastman School of Music Development Office
26 Gibbs Street
Rochester, NY 14604
Attn: Eric Reuscher.

Donations can also be made to the Marie Myers Memorial Trust Scholarship Foundation. Some years ago, Rosemary established this fund in her mothers maiden name, Marie Myers. Currently the fund is still being capitalized. Once a particular amount has been reached such that the annual interest is at least \$200.00, a yearly scholarship will be awarded to a college-bound high school senior living in or around Coldwater, MO, where her mother grew up. Checks should be made out to: Marie Myers Memorial Trust Scholarship Foundation. Please indicate your gift is to be donated in the name of Rosemary N. Killam, and mail your check to the following address:

Sun Security Bank
100 Pine Castle Escape Blvd.
Fredericktown, MO 63645
Attn: Carolyn Falls.



REMEMBERING BOB DYER

Members have mourned the loss of Bob Dyer. In this issue, we are fortunate to have a preview of the Bob Dyer tribute CD.

From Dave Para

The Bob Dyer tribute CD has been in the works for more than a year and has spanned quite an emotional journey for Cathy and me. His influence on us was mighty, and his friendship very much treasured. Below are the song titles and credits for each cut. The first person (or group) listed is the person credited with the cut, with the exception of Cathy and me and Paul and Win. Four of the cuts have not been recorded previously, one of Bob's objectives for the album. Bob originally wanted to sing a different song, but was never able to get into the studio. Fortunately, Steve Donofrio had the live recording of Bob's "Sitting Bull" song, and he had done it great.

There's some diversity here, one of my objectives for the album. Cut 2 is a delta blues take on Bob's original, very different from how Bob sang it. The choral version of "River of Big Canoes" is very nice. The title cut, # 5 is a bossa nova arrangement, something Bob never played. Two of the songs are done by rock bands, #8 and # 16. A string band arrangement is # 18. I wanted to avoid having too many cuts of one guy and one guitar, and there is still a fair number of those. Bob was a solo kind of musician.

I produced this album for Big Canoe Records which was owned by the late Bob Dyer and is now owned by his wife, Sharon, and his daughter, Amber. The songs on the album were all written by Bob and they were recorded by several different friends and colleagues of his as a tribute to Bob and a benefit for him and his family. Bob was in on the planning of the album and died before very much of it was recorded. The Turner Hall River Rats for the Arts, a local group in Boonville, of which Bob was a member, raised the funds for the project.

The album should be available in three to four weeks. I'm sure it will cost \$15 plus \$2.50 shipping.

Big Canoe Records

513 High St., Boonville MO 65233

email: rdyer@classicnet.net or moodiedyer@hotmail.com. Visit www.bigcanoerecords.com

Song Titles and Credits

1. Talking Waters

Leela Grace, guitars and vocals

2. Flood Song

Jerry Foster, vocal and guitar

3. River of the Big Canoes

Central Methodist A Cappella Choir - Paul Drummond, director; with guest vocalists Dave Para, 12-string, Cathy Barton, banjo; Lee Ruth, guitar and Violet Vonder Haar; Dr. Barbara Hamel, piano; Choir: SOPRANO ALTO: Savannah Byrd, Becca Bales, Becca Campbell, Maria Clark, Cortney Campos, Cassie Coleman, Kathleen Earl, Katie Cummings, Katie Haffer, Maggie Damisch, Lauren Hardcastle, Rachel Dorson, Jordan Held, Traci Earl, Veronica Herman, Cathleen Fullerton, Jenna Long, Mara Guilford, Sarah Lucas, Katie Harris, Rebecca Morton, Mallory James, Lindsey Moum, Amanda Reed, Mallory Sandrock, Sarah Smith, Molly Teague, Elaine Stevenson, Katie Vestal, Stephanie Terry, Violet Vonder Haar, Kelsy Whitacre, Jamie Wells; TENOR BASS: Josh Atkins, Paul Blanchard, Justin Gillis, Todd Borgmann, Dustin McKinney, David Hutchison, Todd Oberlin, Daniel Martin, Mason Rivers, Kyle McClain, Brandon Wieland, Josh Reed, Shawn Thompson, Church Zumwalt Recorded by Ron L. Shroyer at Linn Memorial Chapel; guest vocals recorded by Pete Szkolka.

4. *Bingham's Song* - Cathy and Dave

Dave Para, vocal and guitar; Cathy Barton, vocal and piano; Steve Litwiller, clarinet

5. *The Wandering Fool* - David Lynn Grimes

David Lynn Grimes, guitar and vocal

Recorded by Stephen Gardner at the Music House, Columbia, Mo.

6. *Huckleberry Finn* - Rocket Kirchner

Rocket Kirchner and Mark Risch, guitars and vocals

7. *Gooch's Mill* –

David Wilson, violin

8. *The Last Man to Hang in Missouri*

SRE: John Schneller vocal and guitar; Jesse James, drums; Rob Lampe, electric guitar; Mike Robertson, bass; Jim Hellman; keyboards

9. *Jim the Wonder Dog*

Bartholomew Bean, guitar and vocal; Lee Ruth, banjo; Dave Para, guitar

10. *On a Day Like Today*

Violet Vonder Haar, piano and vocals; David Wilson, violins and cellos

11. *The Death of Sitting Bull*

Bob Dyer, Guitar and vocal; Cathy Barton Para, drum. Recorded at Thespian Hall, Boonville, by Bill Adams, Steve Donofrio, Sam Griffin, Matt Griffin, Bill Lacey, Pippa Letsky, Kerby Mitchell; Radio Ranger, producer.

12. *Mike Fink*

Michael Cochran, vocal and guitar; David Wilson, fiddle and mandolin; Nick Sibley, banjo, bass, piano and tambourine; Randy Ebrite, harmonica; Steve Donofrio and Dave Para, effects. Recorded by Nick Sibley at Ozark Sound, Springfield, Mo.; mixed at Pete Szkolka's.

13. *From a Star*

Lee Ruth, guitar and vocal; David Wilson, violin

14. *Here I Go*

Paul Grace, vocals, guitar and fiddle; Win Grace, vocal and accordion

15. *Gooch's Mill Reprise*

David Wilson, violin

16. *Phantom Black Carriage*

Rick Hocks vocals and guitars, Jake Hansleman, drums; David Bradley, keyboards; Kevin Hennessy, bass; Will Hocks, vocals. Recorded by Adam Roehlke and Bruce Barcalew at Mansion Studio, Jamestown, Mo.

17. *Dry Waltz*

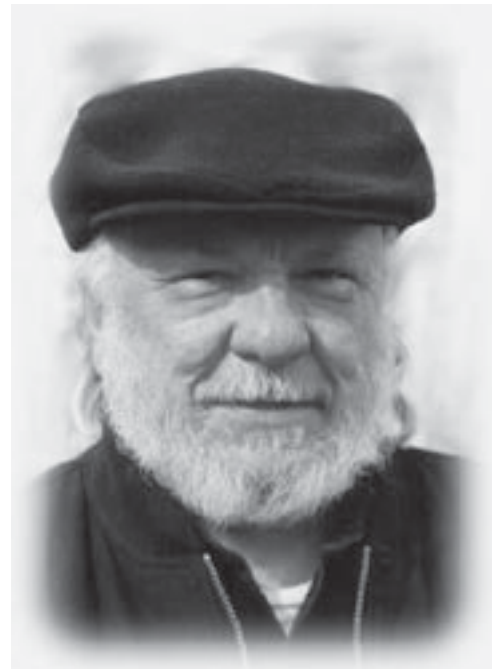
Don Cooper, vocals and guitar; Dan Tressler, fiddle. Recorded by Dan Tressler at Tressler's Barn, Easton, Conn.

18. *When the Rains Come Down*

Big Medicine: Joe Newberry, lead vocal and banjo; Jim Collier, harmony vocal and mandolin; Bobb Head, harmony vocal and bass; Kenny Jackson, fiddle. Recorded live into one microphone at home in Chapel Hill, N.C.

19. *One Last Time*

Ed Trickett, 12-string guitar and vocals; Cathy Barton, banjo and vocals; Dave Para, guitar and vocal; One Last Time Chorus: Jim and Tia Higbie, Sharon Dyer, Brenda Hanson, Bill Lacy, Ed and Judy Scrivner, Lesley and David Oswald, Jim and Sue Denny, Knox McCrory, Kathy Gordon, Margaret Waddell, Larry and Rita Sanders, Doireann O'Brien, Violet Vonder Haar, Ken and Linda Askren, Lee and Rena Ruth, Ron Morris, Diane Huneke, Ken Stroker, David Owens, Paul and Win Grace, Carolyn Mathews, Pippa Letsky and Doug Elley



Producers' Note

Dave Para

For quite some time, many of Bob Dyer's friends and fellow musicians have wanted to express their appreciation of his work in a tribute album. After talking to many people, in the fall of 2006 Cathy and I became convinced that the project had to be brought to fruition. Bob approved of our plans and began compiling a list of prospective artists and songs, most of which appear on this album. During his last months, we talked about some of our intentions and hopes for the project but not in great detail, and he heard the beginning tracks of only two cuts. (One of those, however, was by David Grimes, and Bob told me, "I'm thinking of calling the album, 'The Wandering Fool.'") Primarily, we wanted the album to give flight to Bob's songs in the voices, playing, and imaginations of many artists, and we hoped to employ diversity in sound, styles and arrangements. It was the highest spiritual tribute we could pay Bob and his music. We were happy to return to Pete Szkolka's studio in Columbia, Mo., for the recording of most of the songs. Cathy and I very much enjoyed working with Pete and with Steve Donofrio on the mixing of the many tracks and performances, employing their excellent ears and studio skills. We credit their help and expertise for the high quality of the sound. In addition, the artists who played for this album not only donated their own time and creativity; most of them generously covered the expenses of their recording time. Turner Hall River Rats for the Arts, of which Bob was a member, raised funds for the project as well. Bob was very open to diverse approaches to his songs and warmly accepted musical interpretations that differed from his own. He wrote to Michael Cochran about his "Mike Fink" arrangement, "Feel free to do whatever you want to do with the song. To me that's the joy of having other people do my songs. I'm always interested to see what they come up with." Bob would no doubt have enjoyed this album a lot. Working on it has done our hearts a great deal of good, as does the immeasurable gratitude we owe to the many fine people who gave of themselves for the sake of our friend and his memory.

An Excerpt from Win Grace's Rememberance

Through the years, we learned more than 30 of Bob's songs and performed them all over North America. We recorded a Bob Dyer song on every album we made. His songs draw a beautiful picture of our home state and its people, and so when we were performing far away from home, they helped us bring home with us onto the stage. The unique story-telling style of his songs always went over like gang-busters with children and in schools. However, Bob's historical songs were our real bread and butter. Dry history they were NOT! They truly brought history alive. And it was simply not possible to do a River Song Workshop at a folk festival without at least a couple of Bob's songs.

His songs spread far and wide, and almost became traditional! In 1988, we were performing at a festival in northern Michigan, and were listening to an open stage show when the singer said, "Here's an old traditional song," and proceeded to sing Bob's *River of the Big Canoes!* When we told Bob about it, after setting her straight of course, he was quite amused, but always the pragmatist, wanted to follow up on the royalty situation with her. He was unique in that he had a free-flow of inspired creativity in so many mediums, and yet was able to be pragmatic enough to bring it into reality.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Through May 11, 2008

Beautiful to Look at, Beautiful to Hold: Blown and Pressed Glass from the Permanent Collection

Historic Arkansas Museum
200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-9351 or
email info@historicarkansas.org or
www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

May 10 through August 2, 2008

Student Life, circa 1912: The University of Missouri School of Journalism Scrapbooks

North-South Corridor Gallery
The State Historical Society of Missouri
1020 Lowry Street,
Columbia, Missouri 65201
<http://shs.umsystem.edu/outreach/events/>

See the playful antics of students in the first graduating class of the University of Missouri School of Journalism (1909-1912). This exhibition of scrapbook images reveals university life, both on and off campus, as students attended class, lived in dormitories, participated in athletics and homecoming activities, and brought their own brand of fun to special events.

March thru October 2008

Step Back Saturdays

Times: 10:45, 11:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45.
Historic Arkansas Museum
200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-9351 or
email info@historicarkansas.org or
www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

The theme for April is “At the Forge” and for May “Pioneer Toys.” The half-hour presentations are open to the public free of charge, or can be seen as part of a historic house tour at no additional cost.

Friday, April 11, 2008

Sitting Pretty, Sitting Plain: Seating Furniture from the Permanent Collection

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Historic Arkansas Museum
200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-9351 or
email info@historicarkansas.org or
www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

Enjoy a great night of art and history on the second Friday of each month. April Art Night serves as an opening reception for *Sitting Pretty, Sitting Plain: Seating Furniture from the Permanent Collection*. Historic Arkansas Museum is one of several downtown locations that will keep its doors open to the public until 8 p.m. for an evening of culture, entertainment and shopping. Visitors can start at Historic Arkansas where there is plenty of free parking, and later catch the trolley to visit other participating venues. The Museum Store, featuring the best of Arkansas-made arts and crafts, will be open.

April 12, 2008

“Prelude to Chautauqua” Program in Carthage

2:00 pm

Carthage Public Library

6th & Garrison

Carthage, MO;

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

April 18 - 20, 2008

2008 Arkansas Folk Festival

10:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

April 24 - 26, 2008

Dulcimer Jamboree: A Traditional Music Event

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

April 27, 2008

State of Missouri – Facts, Figures & Trivia

2:00 pm

Museum doors open at 1:30 pm, close at 4:30 pm

Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO;

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

May 3, 2008

“Prelude to Chautauqua” Program

1:30 pm.

Webb City Public Library

100 South Liberty, Webb City, MO

Sponsored by Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO;

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

“Minnie Pearl” will be presented by Marlene Katz of the Kansas City area. This is the second of three programs to introduce local residents to the “first-person” interpretation style used by history scholars in the Chautauqua programs coming this June. Minnie Pearl performed in this area early in her career and it is believed one performance stop included Memorial Hall here in town. If you missed her then, come meet her now. Free admission.

During the 2008 Arkansas Folk Festival, there is free admission into the Ozark Folk Center’s Craft Village. See demonstrations of traditional pioneer crafts such as blacksmithing, woodcarving, pottery, soap making, quilting and many more. Admission is free.

Whether you are a player of one of these traditional instruments or just curious about them, you will enjoy this fun, musical event. The event includes workshops, jam sessions and concerts and is 3 days. Students may enroll for 3 days or 1 day of classes. Admission is TBA.

This special Sunday opening includes Vern Feaster’s presentation “State of Missouri – Facts, Figures & Trivia.” Admission is free.

“Thomas Hart Benton” will be presented by Dr. William S. Worley, at the Webb City Public Library. This is the third of three programs to introduce local residents to the “first-person” interpretation style used by history scholars in the Chautauqua programs coming this June. Benton was southwest Missouri-born and bred. While he left as a teenager to seek his future in art, Neosho and its southwest Missouri environs were never far from his heart. This probably proved most notable in his striking Joplin Mural that now graces a prominent wall in their new city hall (the former Newman Department Store Building on Main Street).

Tom Benton was a storyteller – in life and in his paintings. Join us for an afternoon with the artist as he tells the story of the famous Missouri Statehouse mural, of the Joplin mural and of Benton’s uproarious homecoming to Neosho in 1962 accompanied by none other than President Harry S. Truman for whom Benton had earlier completed a mural in the Truman Library. Admission is free.

You will find odds and ends from former exhibits (left-over supplies), miscellaneous household and holiday items no longer needed by the Museum, old-fashioned "white elephants" and "hurt" and culled books from the gift shop and reference library. Plus, you never know what else might turn up – come and find out. Ozarks Gateway Master Gardeners’ Annual Plant Sale will be held on the grounds of the Powers Museum. Open to the public and great variety plus lots of expert advice for the asking! (Museum opens at 8:00 am today only.)

Mudding of the Doyen-Mundy log cabin, “an old fashioned barn raising with pot luck and lots of work” is scheduled. A “hold harmless release” will be required, but participants can learn how to “mud” a log cabin. All are welcome, rain or shine.

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 water driven gristmill and cotton gin. Become part of this way of life listening to songs and stories descended from the British Isles. 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 picnicked by a clear flowing stream or discovered the unrivaled beauty of Blanchard Cave; memories await you. Admission is TBA.

Despite being cold, dark, and filled with mysterious creatures, caves fascinate us! Missouri has more than six thousand caves and is well known for this geological formation both in fact and folklore. Join H. Dwight Weaver for this discussion based on his new book, *Missouri Caves in History and Legend*.

May 3, 2008
**Citywide Rummage Day Sale &
Gateway Master Gardners’ Annual Plant Sale**
9:00-3:00 pm
Powers Museum
1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO
417-358-2667
www.powersmuseum.com

May 3-4, 2008
Mudding Days in Old Mines

May 4 - 9 or May 18 - 23 or June 8 - 13, 2008
Elderhostel — An Ozark Experience
The Ozark Folk Center,
The Ozark Folk Center State Park
Mountain View, AR
870-269-3851
www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

May 6, 2008
**“Venturing Beyond the Twilight Zone—
Exploring the Legacy of Missouri’s Historic Caves”**
5:30 pm
The State Historical Society of Missouri
1020 Lowry Street,
Columbia, Missouri 65201
<http://shs.umssystem.edu/outreach/events/>

May 6, 2008

Music Roots Concert

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

May 9, 2008

Mid-Southern Watercolorist Annual Exhibition

2nd Friday Art Night
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Historic Arkansas Museum
200 E. Third Street, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-9351 or
email info@historicarkansas.org or
www.historicarkansas.org/calendar

May 10, 2008

An Anniversary Celebration

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

May 18, 2008

**The Industrial and Geological Heritage of Jasper
County Missouri, 1865–1985**

2:00 pm
Museum doors open at 1:30 pm, close at 4:30 pm
Powers Museum
1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO
417-358-2667
www.powersmuseum.com

Music presented by the students and instructors of the Music Roots program in the Mountain View School system. Admission is free.

Enjoy a great night of art and history on the second Friday of each month. May Art Night serves as the opening reception for Mid-Southern Watercolorist Annual Exhibition. Historic Arkansas Museum is one of several downtown locations that will keep its doors open to the public until 8 pm. for an evening of culture, entertainment and shopping. Visitors can start at Historic Arkansas where there is plenty of free parking, and later catch the trolley to visit other participating venues. The Museum Store, featuring the best of Arkansas-made arts and crafts, will be open.

This year, Arkansas State Parks will be 75 years old, and the Ozark Folk Center State Park will be 35 years old. In honor of these two birthdays, the Folk Center will have a party. There will be music and musicians (or their representative family members), artisans and their work, from as early as our first year of operation, 1973! It's our plan to invite folks from these first years to come on back to their Park and bring some of their work and their music. During the day, we will host guest artisans in the Craft Area, and in the evening, we will present the songs, tunes and dances of our early year performers. There will also be a reception honoring the music, dance and art of the Ozark Folk Center "old timers" at 4 pm. in the Administration Building Lobby. We are proud of our Park and hope you will come and help us celebrate. There will be regular park and music admission fees.

Michele Hansford, Powers Museum Director/Curator, will discuss the new online exhibit "The Industrial and Geological Heritage of Jasper County Missouri, 1865–1985" created by the Joplin Museum Complex, Powers Museum, Special Collections/MSSU Spiva Library and Western Historical Manuscripts Collection-Rolla.

June 13 & 14, 2008

Carthage Acoustic Music Festival

June 13

Carthage High School Auditorium

710 South Main Street

South of Carthage courthouse two blocks

or two blocks east of Central Park/ Garrison Avenue

7:00 p.m.

June 14

Historic Carthage Courthouse Square

The Carthage Acoustic Music Festival is funded by the Helen Boylan Foundation. Among the confirmed featured festival performers are the Farris Family and Alferd Packer Memorial String Band.

On Friday, June 13 at 7 pm, there will be an Evening Concert with Farris Family and others to open the Carthage Acoustic Music Festival at the Carthage High School Auditorium. The ticket price is \$7.00 for most and under 12 are free. Tickets are available at Powers Museum, Carthage Chamber of Commerce/CCVB office, and Oldies & Oddities (westside of square) during normal business hours of each business.

Saturday, June 14, is at the Historic Carthage Courthouse Square. The Festival feature some of the best acoustic music heard anywhere. This is absolutely free to the public. It is sponsored by the Powers Museum with funding assistance from the Helen S. Boylan Foundation. Other considerations provided by the City of Carthage, the Jasper County Commission, Carthage Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Mornin' Mail. Local accomodations information can be had at info@visit-carthage.com. Note: All visitors should bring chairs for their seating!

The Rain Site is Carthage High School Auditorium (see directions for Friday night).

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.

July 4, 2008

Cajun Arts, Crafts, Music Festival

Grove Civic Center and Snider's Camp

Grove, OK

www.grandlakefestivals.com

July 11 - 12, 2008

5th 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, 2008

Summer Story Hour at the Museum

All presentations at 11 am

Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

Summer Storyhour at the Museum is a repeat of last year's popular program.

- July 11 storyhour 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 storyhour 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 storyhour will revolve around play cooking and the "Mary Frances" books. A special recipe will be given to all participants.

July 9-13, 2008

Annual Woody Guthrie Folk Festival

Okemah, OK

www.woodyguthrie.com

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 17 - 19, 2008

Great Smoky Mountain Cloggers

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

The celebrated Great Smoky Mountain Cloggers return to the Folk Center theater for three nights of traditional old-time clog dancing. The Great Smoky Mountain Cloggers are from the mountains of North Carolina, the birthplace of clogging and have performed before the Queen of England and many other important venues. Tickets available at the door. The regular music admission fee will be charged.

July 26, 2008

The Women of Mountain Music: A Traditional Music Event

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

This concert, featuring women who regularly sing at the Park and work in other areas of the Folk Center. This music program has the reputation of being one of the best of the season. The regular music admission fee will be charged.

July 26, 2008

Citywide Sale-a-bration!

9 am to 3 pm only

Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

This inside and outside sale includes surplus equipment, materials, and staff mini-rummage sales on-site. A percentage of staff rummage sales will be donated to a special fund-raising campaign the museum is conducting this summer. This event is sponsored by the Carthage Chamber of Commerce.

August 5, 12, 19, 26

Dog Days of Summer Puzzle Challenge

Powers Museum

1617 West Oak, Carthage, MO

417-358-2667

www.powersmuseum.com

On these days, come try your hand at a puzzle from history including locally-made “Topsy Turvy” jig-saw puzzles from the Depression years or even earlier examples made by the Parker Brothers Company. All puzzles are from the Powers Museum collections. This is an informal, come and go activity for any age. If you can not join us on these days and you like to work puzzles, did you know the Powers Museum has a lending library of contemporary puzzles? This lending library is based on a similar one organized by Ramsay’s Department Store during the 1930s here in Carthage.

August 8 - 9, 2008

Cowboy Gathering and Folk Humor & Storytelling Weekend

The Ozark Folk Center,

The Ozark Folk Center State Park

Mountain View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

Celebrate the past and present history of America’s western culture. These are full day of music, storytelling and poetry recitations by working cowboys. Concerts Friday and Saturday evening feature award winning guest performers. Admission to be determined.

August 29-31, 2008

10th Annual Jana Jae Fiddle Camp and Music Festival

Grove Civic Center and Snider's Camp

Grove, OK

Contact www.grandlakefestivals.com

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

September 17-21, 2008

Walnut Valley Festival

Winfield, KS

Contact www.wvfest.com or

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

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

September 20-21, 2008

30th Annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show

10 am - 5 pm

Historic Nifong Park

Columbia, MO

573-874-7460

www.gocolumbiamo.com

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.

September 22-25, 2008

**13th Annual Trail of Tears Association
Conference & Symposium**

Double Tree Hotel

Little Rock, Arkansas

<http://www.nationaltota.org/general-info/conf-info/>

October 5, 2008

Annual Fete de 'l'Automne

St. Michael House

Old Mines Area Historical Society

19065 Highway 21 North

Old Mines, MO. 63630

www.rootsweb.com/~moomahs

Each year a national conference is hosted by the Trail of Tears Association in conjunction with one of the nine state chapters. At these conferences, attendees have the opportunity to learn about new discoveries and current research along the Trail, as well as experience cultural activities, through lectures and tours.

French food, French music, French fun. Check for information about the Society's 30th anniversary celebration and other events.

Saturday, October 11 - Saturday, October 18, 2008

42nd Annual Maple Leaf Festival

Carthage, MO

<http://www.carthagechamber.com/coe.html>

This week-long celebration features a variety of events ranging from the Annual Queen Pageant to the Three Minutes of Fame Lip-Sync Competition. The festival concludes with a finale on Saturday the 20th which begins with the largest parade in Southwest Missouri at 9:00 am followed by a variety of special events centered around the 80+ craft booths and food vendors set-up on the historic Carthage square.

One Last Time - Please Renew!

Spring--a time for renewal for some and spring cleaning for others. We have discovered that a number of people are on our membership list but have not renewed their membership in awhile (over 70 have not renewed since 2003 and another 40 have not renewed since 2004). Time does go quickly!

To help keep the organization as healthy and vibrant as it is, we need your support. Membership dues help the publication of this newsletter and the *Journal* and contribute to the annual meeting.

So, please take this moment to renew your membership. We've included a membership form with this newsletter to help you.