

# Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

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

Volume 42, Nos. 3-4

Fall/Winter 2018

## Meeting In Washington

The Society held its annual meeting for 2018 in Washington Missouri. Organized by Meredith Rau and Annie Fuller, the November 1-3 event included the usual mix of scholarship, celebration, remembrance and fellowship. The well-preserved brick architecture of this prosperous river town was in full fall color as members listened to presentations on foodways, history, and architecture .



Co-presidents Meredith Rau and Annie Fuller hand off the gavel to incoming president Barb Price.

Planning has already begun for the 2019 meeting to be held in Marshall, Missouri — PLEASE NOTE: the dates will be shifted next year only, to October 10-12. An early center of aviation, and home of Jim the Wonder Dog.



The 2020 meeting is being planned for Hannibal, October 10-12. NOTE THE CHANGE OF FROM OUR USUAL WEEKEND.



Highlights of the meeting included celebratory remembrance of Becky Schroeder; longtime friends shared memories of her dedication to the Society and devotion to those she loved. The following tribute appears courtesy of the *Columbia Daily Missourian*.



Becky and Dolph Schroeder, surrounded by a few of their many friends. Dolph died March 29, 2013 at the age of 97.

## **Rebecca Schroeder used literature to preserve Missouri's history**

By Emma Veidt  
Oct 3, 2018

Rebecca Boies Schroeder grew up without many books. She lived on a farm in north Louisiana, in an isolated area at that time, where she developed a hunger for reading.

She spent the rest of her life feeding that hunger. She died on Sept. 14 at 97 years old.

Schroeder studied literature under author Robert Penn Warren and worked in the library at Louisiana State University. She met a German-American graduate student who was doing research there for his master's work. They clicked immediately and married in May 1942, embarking on a lifelong academic vice scholastic partnership, said their son, Richard.

Shortly after their wedding, Schroeder's husband, Dr. Adolf Schroeder, was drafted into the U.S. Army. He was mostly stationed in the U.S., and Schroeder followed him to Florida and West Virginia but returned to her childhood home in Louisiana when she was pregnant with Richard. Toward the end of the war, he was stationed in France and used his native language to supervise German prisoners of war.

Unlike his mother, Richard grew up with plenty of books.

“I could remember going to my friends’ houses to play, and I’d go in there and look around and say, ‘Where are all the books?’” he said. “None of my friends would have books in their houses, and we always did.”

Between leaving Columbia in 1948 and their return in 1969, Schroeder and her family moved to Ohio, Massachusetts and Louisiana in order to teach or earn graduate degrees. Schroeder earned her master’s of library science from Ohio’s Kent State University. Back in Missouri, she used her interest in folklore, literature and the immigrant experience to serve the state.

At age 70, Schroeder volunteered to teach an adult literacy program, but she realized most books for new readers were catered to young children. She decided to use her interest in folklore, literature and the immigrant experience to encourage authors to write books for new, adult readers.

She partnered with the University of Missouri Press to create the Missouri Heritage Readers series. One book in the series was written by her son, Richard.

She volunteered as general editor of the series for two decades. Like many academic wives, Schroeder was already a practiced editor from frequently reviewing her husband’s writing, Richard said. Adolf was born in the U.S. but lived in Germany for most of his childhood. When he returned to the U.S., he had to relearn English, so Schroeder helped make his writing more “accessible” because it was “overly academic and Germanic,” Richard said.

As editor, Schroeder was the spine of the heritage series. She and her husband verified information themselves, drove to towns like Westphalia and Hermann to research and take photos, and sometimes personally paid for the rights to use photographs if grants didn’t cover it, Richard said.

Her Missouri Heritage Readers series was one of the University of Missouri Press’ more important series published, said Deanna Davis, a marketing coordinator for the press. It covered topics such as influential women, African-American heritage and the Trail of Tears.

Once the series gained popularity, Schroeder spent the rest of her life helping people write and publish books. People would come to her with a book idea or draft, and she would encourage her friends at the university press, like former director Beverly Jarrett and former editor-in-chief Clair Willcox, to get them published, Richard said.

“She was a really fierce advocate for her authors,” her son said. “She was spreading not only the story of Missouri, but she was giving people who wouldn’t have written books their voice.”

Schroeder was a founding member of the Missouri Folklore Society when it was revived in 1977 to research and preserve Missouri’s folk culture.

Dave Para and Cathy Barton, who perform folk music throughout the U.S. and Europe, are also members of the society and were friends with Schroeder since the 1970s. Barton said she was the perfect teacher. “Her breadth of knowledge was so big,” Barton said. “She would always point you in the right direction if you had an issue, a problem or something you didn’t know about.”

Along with her time, Schroeder donated her own belongings to the preservation of Missouri’s folklore and history. She submitted her and her husband’s research material, folk music recordings and book collections to the State Historical Society of Missouri. In 1992, the society awarded Schroeder and her husband the Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor.

“She was mindful of getting it (her collections) in the right hands,” Barton said. “The very best thing we can do in her memory is keep diligently working on folklore research topics and keep collecting folk songs and keep passing it on to younger people. I think that would be exactly what she wants us to do.”

## Homer and Mary McCollum: A Celebration of their Toys

Another big event in the 2018 meeting was a long-planned celebration of the toys created over the years by Homer and Mary McCollum. Mary was on hand to share the back stories of some of their more ingenious devices, and members were encouraged to bring in specimens they had collected over the years; the McCollums have always been generous in donating toys for the benefit of the Society.



*A special volume of MFSJ devoted to photodocumentation of the toys is in the planning stages.*

**Earl Homer McCollum**, 87, of Paris, passed away on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at the Audrain Medical Center in Mexico, MO. He was born on November 25, 1928 in Greeley, Colorado, the first of three sons of Earl and Edith Boyer McCollum of Barry County Missouri.

He grew up on the family farm there and graduated from the Seligman High School. In May of 1946 he volunteered for the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged three years later and enrolled under the G.I. Bill at Missouri University in Columbia, MO. He graduated with a Bachelors degree in Agriculture in January, 1953. He farmed for three years then worked for Carnation Company in Kentucky for three years. In 1959, he began working for the Missouri Conservation Department as an area manager. Six years later he moved to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service, first working at the Job Corps at Mingo National Refuge at Puxico, Missouri, then moving to Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge near Princeton, Minnesota. In 1974 he moved to the Klamath Basin Refuge Complex at Tulelake, California. While there he directed the waterfowl and pheasant hunting program, the largest such program in the United States, and also managed the share cropping program on the refuges. In 1988 he moved to DeSoto Refuge at Missouri Valley, Iowa, retired there in November, 1990 and moved to Paris and remained there until his death.

While at Missouri U. he met Mary Phillips of Monroe County and they were married on April 26, 1953. They had two children, Gayle McCollum of Moberly and Kevin of New Haven.

Homer is survived by Mary, his wife of sixty-three years, his daughter, son, daughter-in-law Julie, six grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Also surviving are his brothers George and wife Linda of Sedalia and his brother James of Peoria, Illinois and many nephews and nieces and their families. Homer enjoyed his work with the environment and was an early believer in the global warming concerns. His jobs on refuges were a constant delight to him. He also liked working with wood, refinishing furniture and making whimsical wooden toys and participating in folk life crafts events.

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Washington is the home of the Missouri Meerschaum Company, manufacturers of all the corn cob pipes you'll see. Members were treated to a discussion of the special cobs used to make the treasured pipes, the process and its history. Famous fans of the cob include Mark Twain, General Douglas MacArthur, Popeye and Frosty the Snowman. Below, the original factory where the pipes are still made on vintage machinery.

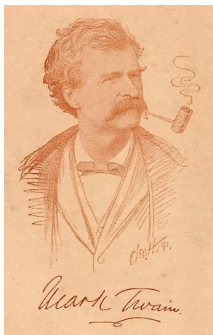


“Walt Disney & Marceline: The Story Behind the Original Main Street, USA”  
-Austin Krueger, Truman State University

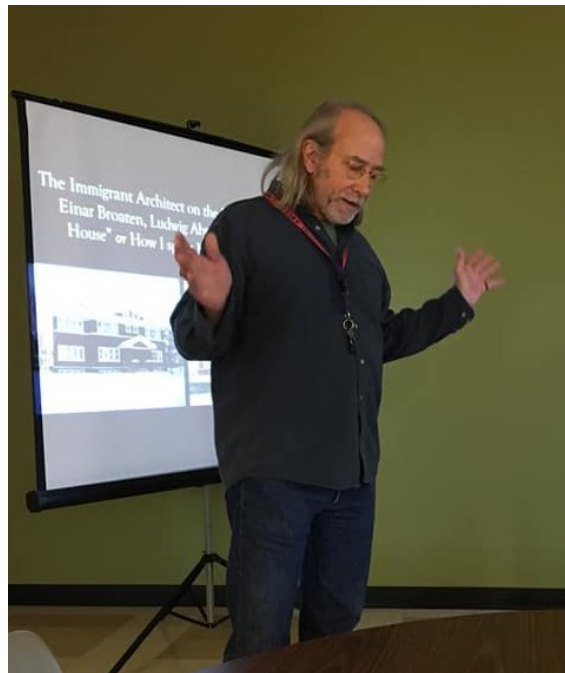


“Locating Missouri in the Twenty First Century, Or What Happened to Regional Folklore Studies?”

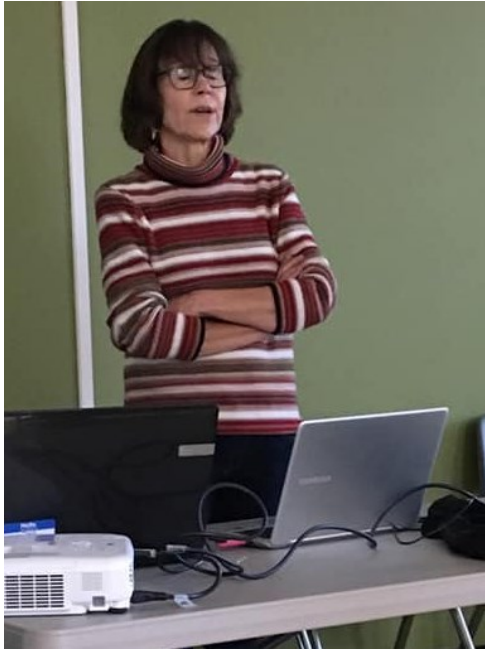
-Dr. Simon J. Bronner  
-Professor Emeritus, Pennsylvania State University  
-Distinguished Visiting Professor of Humanities, Missouri S & T



“The Ozark Kark”  
-Mark Morgan, Missouri S & T  
-Jenny McCarty, Missouri S & T



“The Immigrant Architect on the Edge of the Prairie: Einar Broaten, Ludwig Abt, and the Modern American House”  
-Brett Rogers, University of Missouri



“The Bishop, the Tower, the Apple: A Novel Excerpt”  
-Evelyn Somers, University of Missouri



Judy Domeny again auctioned off generous donations.

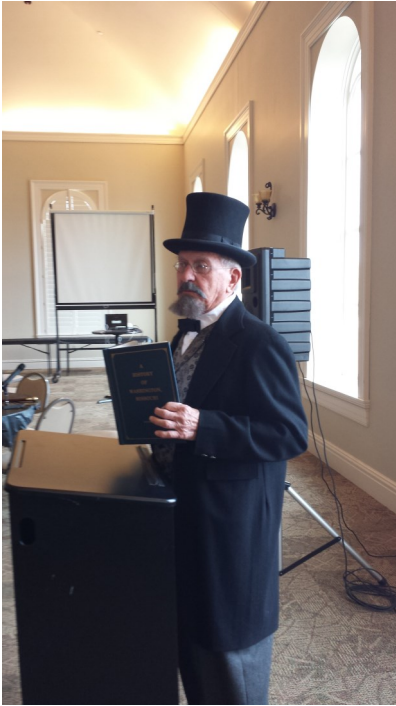
Sarah Muir (Truman State) presented “Kirksville Gothic”



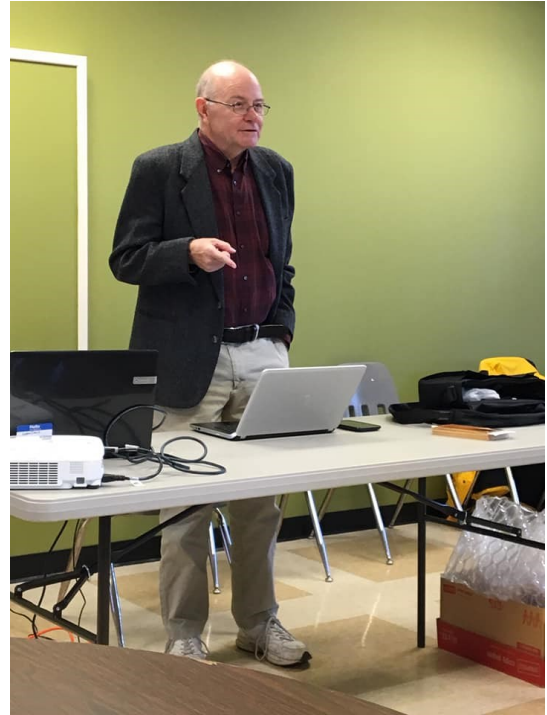
“Black Music in the Black Press:  
An Anthology of Essays from the Heartland”  
-Marc Rice, Truman State University. His  
book will appear as the next issue of *MFSJ*







(left)  
Walt Larson from the  
Washington Historical  
Society, present-  
ing as Judge Daniel  
Gale.

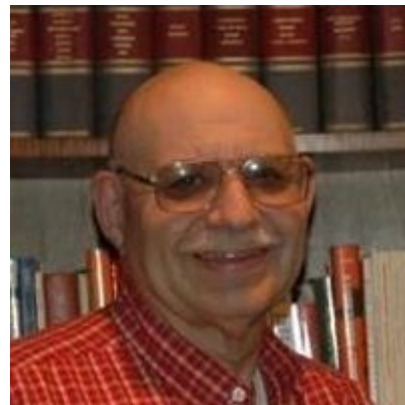


(right)  
Dr. Neal Delmonico,  
“Two Entangled:  
Twins Among An-  
cient South Asians  
and North American  
Sac & Fox”



John C. Fisher presented

“Missouri Bootheel Folklore: Chief Chil-  
liteaux & the Land of the Dividing Winds”



Adam Brooke Davis spoke on the development of Mark Twain’s stage persona

**Missouri Folklore Society**  
 Washington, MO  
 Nov. 1, 2018  
 Financial Statement Jan.1 to Oct. 31, 2018

	<b>INCOME</b>	
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Membership Dues	\$855.00	\$575.00
Annual Meeting	\$3,469.00	\$913.00
Donations, Grants	\$300.00	\$225.00
Sales	\$50.00	\$17.12
Interest	\$55.69	\$117.10
Miscellaneous Refund		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,730.69</b>	<b>\$1,847.22</b>

	<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Journal Printing	\$2,551.11	
Newsletter Printing		
Annual Meeting Refunds	\$5,110.60	\$2,025.00
Postage	\$539.43	\$91.12
Awards	\$125.00	
Supplies		
Miscellaneous	\$26.25	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,352.39</b>	<b>\$2,116.12</b>

Checking Account Balance 12-31-2017	\$14,859.81	
CD 12-31-2017	\$18,985.06	
Schroeder Endowment Fund CD	\$14,662.88	
Total Account Balance 12-31-2017	\$48,507.75	

Checking Account Balance 9-28-2017	\$13,298.26	
CD 9-28-2017	\$19,099.07	2.00% 9-25-19
Schroeder Endowment Fund CD	\$14,684.89	0.20% 3-5-19
Total Account Balance 9-28-2017	\$47,082.22	

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Para

**Missouri Folklore Society  
Board Meeting**

Thursday November 1, 2018  
Jesuit Hall: 300 Cedar St, Washington MO

Call to order 4:40 Annie Fuller & Meredith Heist  
Present: Meredith Heist, Annie Fuller, Jon Fisher, Carol Fisher, Andrea Davis, Adam Davis Betsy Delmonico, Neal Delmonico, Barb Price, Susan Bryson, Lyn Wolz, Kathy Barton, Dave Para.

Reports of Secretary and Treasurer (Davis and Para)

Secretary: no report

Treasurer – Preliminary ... dwindling membership income. \$200 donated by Joe Hickerson in honor of Becky Schroeder. Some increase in interest income for maturing CD. We'll get a more complete picture at spring meeting. We are spending down. Space rental about \$2k for this meeting. Registration low/normal at about 53.

Announcements regarding Washington meeting

Schroeder contest: moderators need to alert students to the Dolph and Becky Schroeder contest. Also the possibility of publication. A grad paper and an undergrad paper.

Plans for meetings in 2019 and 2020.

Barb Price talking about Marshall. Difficulty is the facility, available only weekend of October 10-12. Half a dozen meeting rooms available, aviation museum a draw. Nearby folk festivals/activities: Heritage Craft Festival at Arrow Rock 15 minutes away; Blackwater also. Jim the Wonder Dog. Van Meter State park has a native american excavation underway (home of the Missouria). Jim Denny a good speaker for Arrow Rock. One good hotel, a Super 8. An Appleby's and a half dozen caterers (BBQ). We need to reserve our block of 20 rooms well in advance. Discount will give us \$99/night  
So we need a membership vote. Civic Center rentals (3 lobby-accessible rooms) \$665 total including setup.

Moved Betsy, second Cathy, passed on voice vote.

After that: Hannibal in 2020. Adam is willing to organize. Want a presentation on Steampunk. Annie volunteers.

Publications reports

a) MFS Journal (Davis, Betsy & Neal Delmonico)

Marc Rice volume on black musicians and the black press, esp Kansas City, is ready for printing. Student papers volume to be dedicated to the Schroeders ready for typesetting. Let's include possible Schroeder winners. Also a miscellany and the Greg Hansen volume on heritage studies, awaiting a few more essays. The Musick novel and the Belden volume are in technical production. Susan to be in point person for the Homer McCollum toys photoessay. Brett Rogers book on black material culture in Missouri.

b) Newsletter (Davis) forthcoming after the meeting.

c) MFS website – still in operation..Adam to apply for grant support to set up an internship to rebuild website.

Committee Reports – none.

New Business – quilt for auction delayed.

Mike Watowa suggested buying guest memberships, also proposed streaming the conference, via Skype or Twiststream...Meredith will look into this. Facebook live possible.

Need to renominate Board members. Becky Schroeder needs to be removed. Barb Price to become president, and we need a VP.

There is a person at State Historical Society assigned part time to curate the collection... we should invite her to the Marshall meeting.

Spring meeting: Columbia library, mid april to early may. 13th April possible. Dave and Cathy will be in touch.

Adjourn – 5:46

### **Missouri Folklore Society General Meeting**

Saturday November 3, 2018

11:30

Banquet Hall

Agenda:

Call to order 11:45

Reports

Treasurer reports on meeting: preliminary only; used book sale very successful. The hall was about \$1700.

Publications same as Saturday. Barb reports that we have material enough for a volume on Homer and Mary's toys.

Please send meeting photos to Adam at [adavis@truman.edu](mailto:adavis@truman.edu) Remember the facebook site as well.

Announcements

Plans for future meeting

Barb Price discussed the Marshall venue. It's definitely back in the center. Moved Judy, second Cathy, passed on voice vote.

Let's use reminder postcards, yet keep document and mailing costs down...

Slate of officers... Barb Price as president, Andrea Davis is as Vice President, rollover 2015-18 list.

Julie McCollum and Loretta Washington, Austin Krueger nominated to board...

New Business Looking into video streaming of future meetings

Question of converting the archivist position to committee

Spring meeting April 13 CoMo PL

Adjourn 11:20



**Nelda Evans (Rohr) McCrory**, 92, of Columbia passed away on Monday, July 9, 2018, at Lenoir Woods in Columbia. A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, July 14, 2018, at First Baptist Church.

She was born on August 8, 1925, in Ralls County, Missouri, the daughter of Chester Arthur and Beulah Ethel (Evans) Rohr, both of whom preceded her in death. She was married on July 14, 1950, at Spencer Creek Baptist Church in Ralls County near Vandalia, to John Knox McCrory, Sr., who preceded her in death in 2009.

Nelda rode a pony to a one-room school for eight years, later graduating from Vandalia High School. While teaching children in a one-room country school, she began taking courses at Hannibal-LaGrange College and University of Missouri -Columbia. After graduating in 1949 from MU, Nelda taught elementary school children in Brentwood, MO and Columbia Public Schools. Later, she was Box Office Manager for the UMC Concert Series until her retirement in 1985. Nelda was an industrious homemaker, tending large flower and vegetable gardens, and canning 200 jars of produce in earlier years. She knitted afghan throws while she and Knox wintered in Rio Grande Valley, Texas. During their 58-year marriage, Knox and Nelda extensively traveled, visiting 45 states. Volunteerism through organizations played an important part in Nelda's life, including service in Heimwig Garden Club, Audubon Society Westerners, D.A.R., Genealogical Society, Meals on Wheels, and Boone County Historical Society.

She is survived by: her children: John Knox McCrory, Jr. of Columbia, Sally (Jim) Allen of Wildwood, MO, Jim (MaeLynn) McCrory of Barrington, IL, and Nancy (Rob) Nelson of Leawood, KS; grandchildren: Sarah Nelson, Rachel (Ross) Boden, David Nelson, Britt Skaathun, Tory Skaathun, Lindsay (Brian) Dilger, and Brian (Amanda) Allen; great grandchildren: Clark Dilger, Finnian Allen and Emmeline Allen; two nephews: Cary (Judy) Rohr and Kerwin (Barb) Rohr. Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one brother, Eugene Mitchell Rohr.



Correspondence: researching family history

Cabin at Glencoe MO

Hi, I recently saw your collection of Missouri cabins online [ <http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu/mocabins.html> ] and have a nice one to share (if you're still collecting) These are 2 of my great great grandparents and family including my great grandmother, Maggie. photo: 1892; cabin circa 1875

Glencoe, MO

Standing: Jennie McQuiban Pauls, Margaret 'Maggie' Cumming McQuiban Fridley, (cousin Anderson visiting from Scotland?) Seated: Margaret McIntosh McQuiban, William McQuiban (both Scottish immigrants) On ground: Ella (Luella?) McQuiban McKenzie, Mary McQuiban Rhea. William McQuiban came to the US ca1868, married Margaret McIntosh, moved to Labadie, MO in 1872, and moved (in 1875) to this cabin built by William McQuiban in Glencoe. If you're standing at great flags and you look up the hill behind it, that's about where they lived. (see plat also attached)

BACK ROW - A. Jenny (PAULS) 11-12-1882 PHOTO  
 MARGARET (FRIDLEY) 2-25-1876 C.A. 189.  
 COUSIN ANDERSON (FROM SCOTLAND)  
 MIDDLE ROW - MARGARET McQUIGON + WM Mc Q.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> ROW <sup>ELLA</sup> A. Mc ~~PAULS~~ 11-10-1895 (McKERRIE)  
~~A. Mc~~ 2-23-1890 (RHEA)  
 MARY  
 JOHN LOIED YOUNG)  
 W Mc. Q. (1842) came to U.S 1868 m. Margaret  
 McINTOSH (10-32-1872 came to LABADIE, MO.  
 moved to this LOG CABIN - built by Wm. Mc Q.  
 in GLENCOE, MO in 1875  
 LOG CABIN WAS NEAR N. BORDER OF SIX-FLA  
 MIS ON THE WALNUT SIDE CHAIR AT P+S. THE B-EYE MAPLE  
 Wm. SISTER MARY M. J. AND. who ROCKER USED FOR HER  
 BABIES



His land is near  
 the bottom center  
 of the map.