

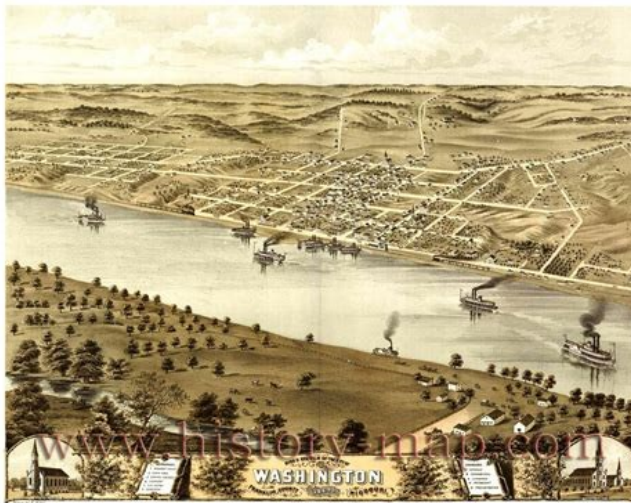
Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

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

Volume 42, Nos. 1-2

Spring 2018

Getting Ready for Washington



Co-presidents Annie Fuller and Meredith Rau are lining things up for the Washington meeting. Set aside November 1-3, and start planning your paper, presentation, demonstration, storytelling or remembrance session now. Panels are welcome. See minutes from the May board meeting in Columbia (end of this newsletter) for more details. Go ahead and send your suggestions and ideas to Meredith.rau@gmail.com or bluecatahoula@gmail.com



The stepped gable is a distinctively German architectural feature.



This is where they all come from! Fans of the corncob pipe include General MacArthur, Popeye the Sailor, Frosty the Snowman, Mark Twain and your newsletter editor.



We'll have a chance to visit this historic church:

St. Francis Borgia Church (1869) was designed by Brother Adrian, as discussed by our late and much missed friend, Fr. Phil Hoebing:

Missouri Folklore Society
 Columbia, MO
 May 5, 2018
 Financial Statement Jan.1 to Dec. 31, 2017

INCOME		
	2016	2017
Membership Dues	\$1,355.00	\$855.00
Annual Meeting	\$6,519.50	\$3,469.00
Donations, Grants	\$18.00	\$300.00
Sales	\$690.00	\$50.00
Interest	\$50.43	\$55.69
Miscellaneous Refund		
Total	\$8,612.93	\$4,730.69

EXPENSES		
Journal Printing	\$4,869.71	\$2,551.11
Newsletter Printing		
Annual Meeting Refunds	\$5,446.39	\$5,110.60
Postage	\$639.17	\$539.43
Awards		\$125.00
Supplies		
Miscellaneous		\$26.25
Total	\$10,955.27	\$8,352.39

Checking Account Balance 12-31-2016	\$19,984.21
CD 12-31-2016	\$18,950.31
Schroeder Endowment Fund CD	\$14,640.94
Total Account Balance 12-31-2016	\$53,575.46

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Para



Dave Para writes from Big Muddy: “The steamboat pilot’s wheel on our stage, 74 inches in diameter, was donated to the Friends of Historic Boonville by Dorothy and David Grimes, of Columbia, in honor of Big Muddy and Boonville bard, Bob Dyer.” [that’s David on the right]

Eventually it will be on display at the River, Rails and Trails Museum at the visitor center at the Katy Trail. Its previous owner, David McRobert, of Memphis, Mo., helped with the donation. Its earlier history is unclear at this writing.

Subsequent communication with a river historian in Cincinnati brought the observation that it would be a modern built wheel, and its earlier location suggests boats built in Dubuque in the 1950s or 60s, and a possibility of the Memphis Queen II, which is in Memphis. Emailing folks there hasn't brought a response yet. Mike Watowa suggested this would be a great project for a student.”



Longtime member from Old Mines, Kent Bone, transcribed the following article regarding the research of Joseph Carriere (1902-70) among the French speakers of Potosi MO, taken from the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*; the original dateline is Evanston IL. There are three columns of newsprint. Notes in [brackets] are by Beaulne. There is no year on the photocopy but the book in which it was reprinted has a copyright of 1937.

Kent Beaulne dit Bone, a la Vieille Mine au Missouri, la haute Louisiane.

INDEPENDENT JOURNAL, POTOSI MISSOURI, JUN [E rest of header is missing.]
MISSOURI VILLAGE KEEPS ITS EARLY FRENCH CUSTOMS

Evanston Ill. June 4 [no year] The village of Old Mines, Mo is the last remnant of French culture in the upper Mississippi Valley, once a center of the colonial empire of France in the United States. The village is situated in the foothills of the Ozarks, 65 miles from St Louis. Its 600 inhabitants, isolated from the outside world, retain the language, traditions and customs of their French ancestors of 200 years ago. The country around Old Mines was explored for minerals of French Canadians as early as 1723.

Prof. Joseph Carriere of the Romance Language Department of Northwestern University chanced on the village when conducting research into survivals of French influence in the Mississippi Valley. He lived in the village, studied the manners of the people and came out with a collection of folk tales, 73 of which have been published recently in book form by the university under the title "Tales From the French Folk-lore of Missouri". The tales appear in the French dialect in which they were spoken, and each is accompanied by a brief summary in English.

"The habits and customs of the villagers," he said, "have changed but little since their forefathers formed the community in the eighteenth century. Paved roads, the automobile, radio and motion pictures have begun however to undermine the old French culture, and the language and traditions are beginning to lose their hold upon the people."



Etienne and Louise LaMarque house, built in 1810 in typical French style, is still a private home.

The professor said that on his journeys through the territory he encountered numerous descendants of early French colonists, but that the Ozark village was the only place where French was still the language of the inhabitants, and where the encroachment of modern civilization were hardly noticeable.

“The villagers” Carriere continued, “are descendants of Canadians who settled in Southern Illinois early in the eighteenth century and later migrated to Missouri to work the lead and salt mines. From an examination of the parish records [St Joachim], I found that few families moved to the village after it was first settled.”

“Many old French customs still exist, but it is my opinion they will disappear within the next 25 years. [Which would be 1960. At that time, there were still hundreds of Francophones.]

The most picturesque tradition to survive is that of the *Guillonée*. On New Year’s eve, a group of men and youths, clad in eccentric costumes and with blackened faces, passes the evening going from house to house singing the carol of the *Guillonée*. “The creoles of the region had a rich treasure of songs and tales to relieve the monotony of life in the small communities isolated in the mountains. These have been passed down from generation to generation, usually by word of mouth.

Most of the stories in Prof. Carriere’s collection belong to the traditional stock of continental French folk lore. Several belong to Negro folk lore and were introduced into the upper Mississippi Valley by slaves from Louisiana.

The language, Carriere said, was similar to the Canadian-French of the present day, but since the village is removed from all outside influences, the dialect has degenerated into the merest rudiments of the original. [Judging the French speakers of the 1980s and 90s, I don’t believe this to be so true]

Religion plays a vital part in the village life. The walls of the homes are adorned with sacred pictures, and each home has a small altar with candles, palms, statues and holy water.

The only all-community assemblies are the church, picnics at which fried chicken and fried fish are served. The villagers travel in wagons to the picnics, which Carriere said were survivals of the church affairs, an old French custom. [The St Joachim picnic at Old Mines was held on the 4th of July until the 1960s.]

Another typically French survival, he disclosed was a fondness for nicknames, which were handed down through the generations. He went on: Frequently a nickname is carried by a person to whom it does not apply at all, but it is used simply because it was the nickname of his grandfather. The nicknames, which are usually very descriptive, often take the place of the person's real name.

Charivaris are still held when a widower remarries. Children and adults gather outside the house where the marriage ceremony is being performed and beat old pans until they are served with food. [What he meant here is not the marriage ceremony, but the first copulation of the new marriage.]

“In spite of their atavistic inertia,” Carriere said, “the inhabitants of Old Mines have kept to this very day sterling qualities which tend to disappear elsewhere.

Family and community ties are very strong among them. The little they have they are most willing to share with their kin and neighbors.

“Their joyful acceptance of the simple pleasures of life; their unqualified resignation to its necessary hardships; the essential sturdiness and wholesomeness of their views have a heroic touch which win for these simply folk the lasting sympathy and esteem of the visitor who has become intimately acquainted.



Kent has written in the past about the wrought iron crosses typical of the area:
<http://missourifolkloresociety2.truman.edu/home/folk-links/beaulnecrosses/>

Missouri State Welcomes Simon Bronner

Prominent folklorist Simon Bronner will begin a visting professorship at Missouri University of Science and Technology this fall. Bronner comes to Rolla from the Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg, where he has taught since 1981 — and where he became Distinguished University Professor in 1991. His scholarly production is vast and difficult to characterize, except as a deep and extended reflection on tradition and creativity. He has written books on children's lore, campus lore and Jewish American communities. His latest, is *Folklore: The Basics* (New York: Routledge, 2017). The Society welcomes him.



As reported on his Facebook page:

Simon J. Bronner

April 25 at 5:05pm ·

I just signed my offer letter, so it's official. Beginning September 1, 2018, I will be the Maxwell C. Weiner Visiting Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly the University of Missouri, Rolla), part of the University of Missouri system. My primary duty will be conducting research, teaching one undergraduate course, and leading a seminar for early-career faculty in the humanities. I have appointments in three departments: arts, languages, and philosophy; history and political science; and English & communication. I also have an affiliation with the Center for Science, Technology, and Society related to my work in material and technical culture. The university touts Missouri S&T as one of the nation's leading research universities. Missouri S&T offers degrees in engineering, the sciences, liberal arts, humanities and business, with master's and Ph.D. programs available in many of the science and engineering programs and master's degrees in biological sciences, business administration and technical communication. For my correspondents, please note that I will continue to use my Penn State email.

Chain Carvers

Old Men Crafting Meaning

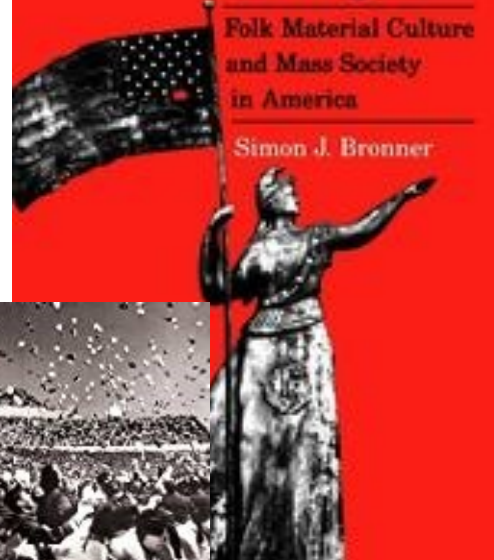
SIMON J. BRONNER



Grasping Things

Folk Material Culture and Mass Society in America

Simon J. Bronner



CAMPUS

Folklore from the Old-Time College to the Modern Mega-University

TRADITIONS

Popularizing Pennsylvania

Henry W. Shoemaker and the Progressive Uses of Folklore and History



Simon J. Bronner



Simon J. Bronner

THE PEAKS OF CAMPUS LIFE PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER



Legends, Beliefs, Songs, Games, Jokes, Festivals, Song, Ghost Stories and Other Traditions from American Colleges and Universities

SIMON J. BRONNER

In Memoriam: Peter Ward Nichols PhD

Born: March 31, 1931 in Wichita Falls, Texas to Alice Thayer Welty Ward and William Byron Ward. Peter died February 10, 2018 in Austin, Texas. Peter attended schools in Austin Texas (UT nursery school), the Elementary School at Columbia University, New York City; Canyon Texas Elementary; and schools in Denver, Colorado. His high school diploma was from Burriss High School in Muncie Indiana. He attended college at Colorado A and M, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Arizona, and the University of Colorado. He received a BA from the University of Texas at Austin and Master of Arts, University of Texas at Austin and PhD from the University of Colorado.



Peter taught at St. Stephens Episcopal School in Austin, Texas; Central Missouri State University; Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri; Drury University; ACC in Austin, Texas; and Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Missouri and other colleges and schools.

He was a member of the Texas Archeology Society, Missouri Native Plant Society, past president of the Missouri Folklore Society, member of the Missouri Mycological Society, Missouri Archeological Society, and other organizations. He was a member of Friends Meeting of Austin.

Peter was an anthropologist/archeologist. A great writer, poet, father, stepfather, grandfather, teacher, friend, husband, lover of plants and animals, dogs, Sacred Harp Singing, farming, libraries, parks, Peace, bluegrass, folk music, amateur wrestling, traveling, rocks, Texas, people, Prince Valiant, and books.

He is survived by his wife, Belia Nichols, his children, Jeb Loy Nichols (wife Lorraine) of Wales, Thayer Nichols (husband Bill Huffines) of Mt. Vernon, Missouri, Tad Nichols (wife Shirley) of Austin, Texas. Stepchildren: John Charles Greek of New York City, Laura Greek-Clark (husband Charles (Chuck), San Marcos, Texas, William Greek (wife Marteen) of Tampa, Florida. Grand children Will and Eli Nichols of Austin, Texas and Evan Greek of Tampa, Florida and many cousins and friends.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to People's Community Clinic, 1101 Camino La Costa, Austin, TX 78752 or the charity of your choice. The family wishes to give special thanks to the nurses and caregivers at Retirement and Nursing Center, Austin Texas, especially Michael, Brenda and Flor.

A memorial will be held at FRIENDS MEETING OF AUSTIN (Quakers), 3701 E. MLK BLVD, AUSTIN, TEXAS, 78721 on MARCH 31, 2018 at 2:00 PM. This date would have been his 87th birthday! Please check Peter's Facebook page.

Volunteers Needed to Index Tapes of Past Meetings and Performances

Would you like to listen to performances from past MFS meetings while helping the society?

You can....AND help us accomplish our long-term goals for two projects: indexing performances and producing a CD of MFS performers.

For years we've been talking about producing a CD of performances from past MFS meetings, but couldn't figure out how to make it work -- the cassette and reel-to-reel tapes from 1977 through 2003 are on deposit in the MFS collection at the State Historical Society of Missouri research center in Columbia, but none of us have been able to spend enough time there to listen to even a small fraction of them and they are not indexed so no one knows what's on them.

So, recently, we've been in contact with the archive staff about this. Heather Richmond, the archivist now in charge of the collection, generously used some of her valuable time to digitize six years' worth of meeting jam sessions and other performances and copy them onto CDs. Susan Bryson donated her time to do the technical things needed to make all thirteen of those CDs available on one flash drive, which has allowed us to undertake a "crowd-sourcing" approach to indexing these recordings.

If you would like to participate in this effort, please email Lyn Wolz at: lwolz@ku.edu. She'll send you a flash drive containing the performances and a form you can print out to keep track of all the information you glean by listening to the recordings. She will also send you a few instructions so we can keep the various types of information in a somewhat standardized format.

Thanks in advance to all of you who volunteer!

Céilí at Truman

Eimear Arkins played to cap the year for the Folklore Minor program in Kirksville. The award-winning traditional fiddler played, sang and talked about the music of her homeland. There followed a demonstration of traditional dance and beginners' instruction, led by Truman faculty member Dr. Christine Harker.

Eimear Arkins is a multi-instrumentalist, singer and dancer from Ruan in County Clare. She holds eleven solo All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil titles and has competed in all Ireland, European and World Dancing Championships. Eimear has toured extensively with Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann on concert tours throughout Ireland, Britain, North America and Canada. She has represented Ireland in France as a performer at Rennes Expo and in Spain as a participant in La Noche Negra a cultural collaboration and exchange between the Mid-West of Ireland and the province of Asturias.

In 2014 Eimear was selected to be part of the Comhaltas National Folk Orchestra of Ireland, which was put together to perform the Boróimhe Suite, a newly composed suite of music, written and directed by Michael Rooney, commemorating the life of Brian Ború.

For the past seven summers, Eimear has performed with the internationally renowned show Brú Ború and was part of the troupe that represented Ireland at World Expo 2010 in Shanghai, China. In August 2015, Eimear traveled to World Expo 2015, in Milan with St. Louis Irish Arts where she promoted not only Irish culture but the expression of Irish culture worldwide.

Eimear has toured and performed with numerous groups including Cherish The Ladies and Téada. She has been a regular teacher at St. Louis Irish Arts since 2011 and has given workshops at various festivals throughout the world including Catskills Irish Arts Week, New York; Viljandi Pärimusmuusika Festival, Estonia; St. Louis Tionól, St. Louis; Festival Inter-celtique de Lorient, France, Winnipeg Irish Fest, Canada and Canadian Celtic Celebration, Thunder Bay, Canada.

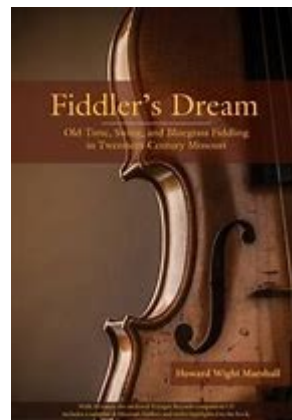


Howard Marshall's *Fiddler's Dream* Receives Multiple Awards

Howard Marshall, Professor Emeritus of Art History and Archaeology at the University of Missouri, and a native of Moberly, has received two book awards for his research and publication, *Fiddler's Dream: Old-Time, Swing, and Bluegrass Music in Twentieth-Century Missouri*, published by the University of Missouri Press in 2017. On March 16, The Missouri Conference of History presented Dr. Marshall with its book-of-the-year award at the organization's annual conference in Jefferson City, and on March 29 Marshall received the Popular Culture Association's Ray and Pat Browne book award at the society's annual conference in Indianapolis. The book, which comes with a music CD of archival recordings, is available at www.upress.missouri.edu, on the Internet, and selected local stores and organizations.

Fiddler's Dream follows up Marshall's research on fiddling in the Show-Me State, covering the years from around 1920, when recordings and radio changed the face of music, to around 1960 and the folk song revival. Illustrating his points by using biographies of Missouri fiddlers, his work covers fiddle traditions in all corners of the state. This book follows an earlier work, *Play Me Something Quick and Devilish*, which includes fiddle traditions from Missouri settlement to the dawn of recorded music, around 1920. Both books are available at www.upress.missouri.edu, on the Internet, and through selected local stores and organizations.

<https://www.amazon.com/Fiddlers-Dream-Old-Time-Bluegrass-Twentieth-Century/dp/0826221211>



Reminder – Articles from the MFS Journal are the MLA Bibliography

listed in

The articles from our Missouri Folklore Society Journal have been indexed in the MLA Bibliography since our first issue came out in 1979. As of now, they have included all of our issues (except for Vol. 25 and Vol. 32) up through the most recent one we've produced (Vols. 33-34). When using this tool, just be aware that it does not in-

Missouri Folklore Society Board Meeting
Columbia Public Library (Garth & Broadway)
May 5, 2018

Call to order 10:20, Co-presidents Annie Fuller & Meredith Rau
Present: Meredith Rau, Annie Fuller, Dave Para, Jon Fisher, Carol Fisher, Neal Delmonico, Betsy Delmonico, Cathy Barton, Richard Shewmaker, John Shewmaker, Adam Davis, Andrea Davis

We're all old friends here; introductions skipped. A number of absent friends emailed/ called/ sent greetings: Betty Craker Henderson, Lyn Wolz, Barb Price, Clyde & Liz Faries, Ken and Janelle Burch. Dave saw Sam Griffen at Big Muddy and reports that he's doing much better.

Minutes from November meeting approved. Hearty thanks extended once again to the Fishers and the Burches for their hard work on the successful meeting at Sikeston.
Treasurer's report. We're taking in a bit less, spending perhaps a bit more. Interest rates remain very low. We don't have a journal in the pipeline now, and in 2016, we printed two.
Report approved.

Plans for November 2018 (November 1-3) in Washington, MO. We have the historic Francis Borgia Hall reserved; ample parking, elevators, accessible building. We'll have a banquet hall and two meeting rooms. Best Western and Super 8 are reserving blocks. Each is at most a five minute drive from downtown and the conference location. Events in planning stages: St Louis County Library genealogists might present on German immigration. A contact at the tourist bureau has helped with leads on speakers. We hope the St. Louis Folk School will participate, as well as Driftwood Music (St. Charles).
Janelle Burch will bring the quilt attendees stitched on in Sikeston, for auction at the Washington meeting.

Unfortunately, our contact at the Missouri Humanities Council has moved on; their reporting cycle doesn't mesh well with our planning and meeting schedule.

Adam & Andrea have some possible/distant contact with Washinton schools; we might be able to get some involvement by foreign language clubs there. Borgia has a German club, and if the local high school has a Spanish club it would be a good time of year for a presentation on Day of the Dead traditions, maybe a craft workshop.

There was a mention of a contact at Washington University associated with a recent pow wow who might be a good contact (can the person who mentioned this please clarify?) Lyn Wolz is taking the lead on the Mary and Homer McCollum Toys project. Barb Price: "I believe we'll send out a call to everyone who has toys with instructions for photographing them. We'll put the photos and any toys people are willing to bring together for an exhibit at the meeting. We've also talked about possibly dedicating an issue of the journal to photographs and memories." Idea was greeted with enthusiasm. Noted: Mary is increasingly frail, and if we hope to have her present, we need to move forward on this (see more below).

Adam mentioned that Irish traditional fiddler Eimear Arkins recently gave a well-received performance at Truman, and might be available for the November meeting. <https://www.eimeararkins.com/>

Cathy knows of a traditional Swedish fiddler she could contact.

John Shewmaker suggested photographer Quinta Scott living in Waterloo. Books include "The Mississippi: A Visual Biography," "Along Route 66" and "Eads Bridge: A Photographic Essay" (I just bought a copy of these two! --AD).

John Shewmaker mentioned the possibility of setting up his vintage 1925 electric train set In addition to the book room and auction, we floated the idea of a separate book sale with donated books.

Plans of 2019 (Marshall) Liz Faries reports on her longtime acquaintance who expressed willingness to help with the meeting: "Dr. Brown is in Marshall right now. Goes fairly often. If there is anything he can do while there, let me know. Am hoping to bring him up to one of the board meetings in November."

Vice President Barb Price: "For the 2019 meeting, I've been in touch with people at the Comfort Inn and Beazley Aviation Museum in Marshall (there are four meeting rooms that seem ideal for us). The weekends we're looking at are October 31-Nov 2 or Nov 7-9. Possible topics and activities:

Tours of the aviation museum

Display of quilts by the local quilting association

Visits to the Jim the Wonder Dog memorial and museum

Speakers on Jim the Wonder Dog, Van Meter archeology site, Arrow Rock, Santa Fe Trail, the Civil War, African American post-Civil War community

Display of quilts by the local quilting association

Optional driving tours: Arrow Rock, Van Meter, area barn quilts."

Publications:

None in the pipeline now. Adam plans to continue soliciting contributions for miscellanies, and especially for thematic collections, such as outstanding undergraduate projects, and papers from specific sections at AFS. Gregory Hansen is preparing a proceedings volume related to traditions, from the Ozarks Symposium series. We are also open to monographs. One we were considering just didn't have enough Missouri connection.

Newsletter to follow within a week of this meeting.

If you would like a bundle of brochures, get in touch with Adam (adavis@truman.edu) – I'll be having more printed. Great to leave a stack at your local library; the Fishers frequently do speaking engagements, and always hand out a few.

Lyn: "My report on current projects:

Indexing the performance recordings -- Dave and Cathy have done one session so far, but we haven't heard from anyone else. Dave reported finding some great stuff – including Thelma Conway, a self-taught African-American musician from Arrow Rock. Annie has begun a google doc that can be used to index the recordings.

Indexing the first forty years of MFS publications -- I'm making progress.

McCullum Project -- Every time we get ready to start on this project, something happens. We still want to follow through on this project, though, so we're going to schedule a weekend to meet with Mary and her son this summer. We'd also love to hear from people who own McCullum toys and would be willing to bring / send them to us for our exhibit at the meeting and/or send us photos of them.

Items from the floor/ announcements:

Dave mentions a current project, mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter: the Friends of Historic Boonville have received the gift of a riverboat's wheel, purchased from an antique shop in Memphis MO in the 1980s, thought by one expert to date from the 1950s. Dave will visit with the people at the National Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque, but also suggests the investigation would make an interesting student project.

Meeting adjourned 11:08

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Davis