



Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1757, Columbia MO 65202

<http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu>

Volume 43, Nos. 3-4

Fall 2019



Society Meets in Marshall

Ably organized by Dr. Barbara Price, the 2019 meeting was held in the Martin Community Center and Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum. We met October 10-12, a good three weeks in advance of our usual schedule, in order to take advantage of a window of availability for the busy venue, and to coordinate our visit with a number of local events. As always there was a rich array of talks — presentations, papers, remembrance sessions — and fellowship over music and food. Rolla's Kitchen cated one of our meals, as did Lori Godsey, and our Saturday morning was warmed by treats from the Slavadoran Bakery. We sorrowed over, and celebrated, Cathy Barton Para and Clyde Faries. We learned too late of the passing of Alex Usher to include her in the session (see the obituary in this issue).

At the end of the meeting, Barb handed the gavel over to Andrea Davis. The Davises will be organizing the 2020 meeting (November 5-7, in Hannibal).





ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY

Show-Me Wonders

Martin Community Center and Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum
1985 South Odell Street
Marshall, Missouri 65340
660-886-2630

October 10-12, 2019

Thursday, October 10

3:00 Registration opens

Room A

4:00 Board meeting – all are welcome

5:30 Maryellen McVicker, Moberly Area Community College
“Barn Quilts of the Boonslick”

Room B

6:30 Dinner catered by Rolla’s Kitchen

7:00 Kristofor Husted, host of NPR station KBIA’s “Show-Me Missouri” podcast
“The ‘Show-Me Missouri’ Project and Plans for the Future”

7:30 Julie Henigan
“The Narrative Appeal of Ozarks Ballads”

8:00 Judy Domeny Bowen

Instrumental and vocal folk songs and music jam

Session dedicated to Cathy Barton Para

Please come with a song you’ve written in memory of Cathy, a song you loved hearing Cathy sing, maybe even a song you know Cathy hated playing (but always with a smile)!

Friday, October 11

8:15 Registration opens

8:45-9:45

Room A – Chair, Neal Delmonico

Phil Howerton, “Two Centuries of Ozarks Literature”

Room B – Chair, Andrea Davis

Jocelin Linares and Claire Schmidt, “Narrative Humor in Mental Health Work”

Rachel Gholson, “The Roots of a Cultural History: Ferguson, Berkley, and Kinloch, MO 1937-1975”

10:00 Room B: Fresh fruit snack

10:15-11:45

Room A – Chair, Katie Holtmeyer

Grace Fodor, “Outlaws, Oilmen, and Oral Myth: How They All Came Together through Frank Phillips’ Woolaroc”

David Roberts, “Cowboy Folklore, Myths, and Humor”

Room B – Chair, Mark Livengood

Jim Vandergriff, “Memories of the Old Cannon Trail”

Jenny McCarty and Mark Morgan, “Painters in Them Thar Hills”

Room B

12:00 Lunch, catered by Lori Godsey

12:30 Bryan Berlin, Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum

“Marshall’s Role in Early Aviation History”

1:00-2:00

Group 1: Guided Tour, Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum

Room A – Chair, Sarah Muir

Adam Davis, “Transgressive Alice, Puff the Magic Reefer: Legends of the Dark Side of Children’s Lore”

Gladys Caines-Coggsell, “Adeline”

2:00-3:00

Group 2: Guided tour, Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum

Room A – Chair, Mark Livengood

Andrea Davis, “The German Indian in Karl May’s Frontier Novels”

Rachel Spillars, “I Fought the Law and the Law Was Confused: Intersections between Folklore and the Court”

3:15-3:45

Room A

Phil Howerton, “Poetry and Photography of Rural Missouri”

Assorted cookies

4:00-5:30

Room A – Chair, Grace Fodor

Rowen Coney, “The Boy Who Cried Yelp: Negative Restaurant Reviews as the Archetypal Cautionary Tale

Sarah Muir, “Tall Tales of Too Talls”

Noah Rogers, “Rediscovering Charles Galloway: The Life and Music of a St. Louis Organist”

Room B

“Remembering Absent Friends”

Share reminiscences of members we’ve recently lost, including Cathy Barton and Clyde Faries, as well as others fondly remembered. Photos, memorabilia, stories, songs, and jokes are welcomed.

Room A

5:45 Larry Arrowwood, Jim the Wonder Dog Museum

“Meet Jim the Wonder Dog”

Room B

6:30 Dinner, catered by Lori Godsey

Benefit Auction and jam session

Jam session dedicated to Cathy Barton Para

Saturday, October 12

8:15 Registration opens

9:00-10:15

Room A

Carol Fisher, "The Raisinets vs The Milk Duds: Movie and TV Lore Trivia Games"

Room B – Chair, Betsy Delmonico

John Fisher, "Missouri Bootheel Weather Lore"

Lonnie Thiele, "Farm to War: A World War I Mule Story"

10:30 Room B – snacks from El Salvador Magico Bakery

10:45-11:45

Room B – Chair, Emmy Nixon

Eric and Kelley Fuemmeler, "Hipster Heritage Skills: Connecting to the Past through Fermentation"

12:00 Room A

Members' meeting – all are welcome!

We wish you safe travels on your way home. Don't forget the Heritage Crafts Festival this afternoon in historic Arrow Rock, just 15 miles or so away.



(due to data loss, minutes are somewhat sketchily reconstructed from memory; regrets! AD)

Missouri Folklore Society

Board Meeting

Thursday October 10, 2019 4pm:

Martin Community Center and Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum

1985 South Odell Street

Marshall MO 65340

660.886.2630

Call to order: Barb Price

Reports of Secretary and Treasurer (Davis and Para)

Announcements regarding Marshall meeting

Schroeder contest: agree to increase the amount to \$300

Plans for meetings in 2020 (Hannibal) and 2021 (?)

Hannibal meeting to be November 5-7; we want to avoid overlap with deer season (begins 11-16 in 2019) and AFS (2020: October 14-17, Tulsa, Oklahoma (Hyatt Regency Tulsa)

Question whether a Friday after-dinner speaker is needed;

We need to be more explicit about inviting presenters to participate again the following year;

Note – the 2021 meeting should come back to the central portion of the state

Publications reports

- a) MFS Journal (Wolz, Davis, Betsy & Neal Delmonico)
- b) Newsletter (Davis)
- c) MFS website

Committee Reports: who **is** the communications committee?

New Business

Joe Slama and Evelyn Rogers added to board

Spring meeting tentatively scheduled for April 18; Dave Para will reserve

Adjourn

Missouri Folklore Society

General Meeting

Saturday October 12, 2019

12 noon

Martin Community Center and Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum

1985 South Odell Street

Marshall MO 65340

660.886.2630

Call to order 12:20 Present: Barb Price, Adam Davis, Brett Rogers, Judy Domeny Bowen, Jon Fisher, Carol Fisher, Betsy Delmonico, Neal Delmonico, Joe Slama, Austin Krueger, Gladys Coggsell, Betty Craker Henderson, Julie Hendricks, H.D. Caballa, Rachel Gholson, Sharon Brock

Reports

Treasurer reports on meeting: 60 registered attendees (18 of them students or recent graduates). We had ten guests (some with spouses). Revenue was about \$2300 in registration and \$650 from the auction. The facility rental was \$950; the first day's catering was \$1k and the second \$1.4k (2 meals, cooks, cupcakes, beverages, all delicious and served up with real china and glassware) The group affirms this as a good value. We end in the red, but not by much.

The students were subsidized on registration, membership and meals – whether they present or not. Probably cost about \$750-1000, and we are agreed that this is a good investment.

We have about \$52,000 on hand; the Schroeder endowment at \$15k and \$20k each in CD and checking.

Publications: Volume 37 (Heritage Studies volume edited by Gregory Hansen & Michelle Stefano, nominal date 2015) was released at the meeting, and will be mailed to those not attending.

Additional volumes in process: "Hell's Holler," the folklore-based novel Ruth Ann Musick wrote for her Iowa dissertation in 1944, is in edit. At least a double issue.

Lyn Wolz and Barb Price are moving forward on a book showcasing Homer McCollum's toys.

There are two miscellanies in edit – one a collection of student work, another of senior scholars.

Brett Rogers is working on a photographic collection on material culture of Black Missouri.

A reprint of the Henry Belden Folksongs of Missouri volume remains possible; scanning is complete. But what could we bring to actually renew it?

Announcements

Plans for future meetings

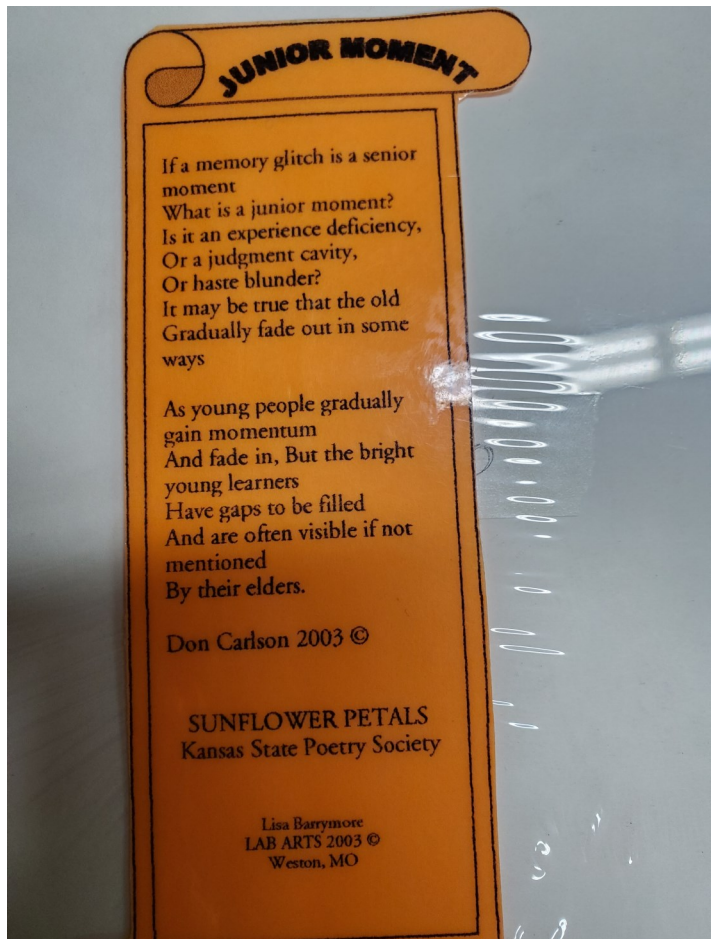
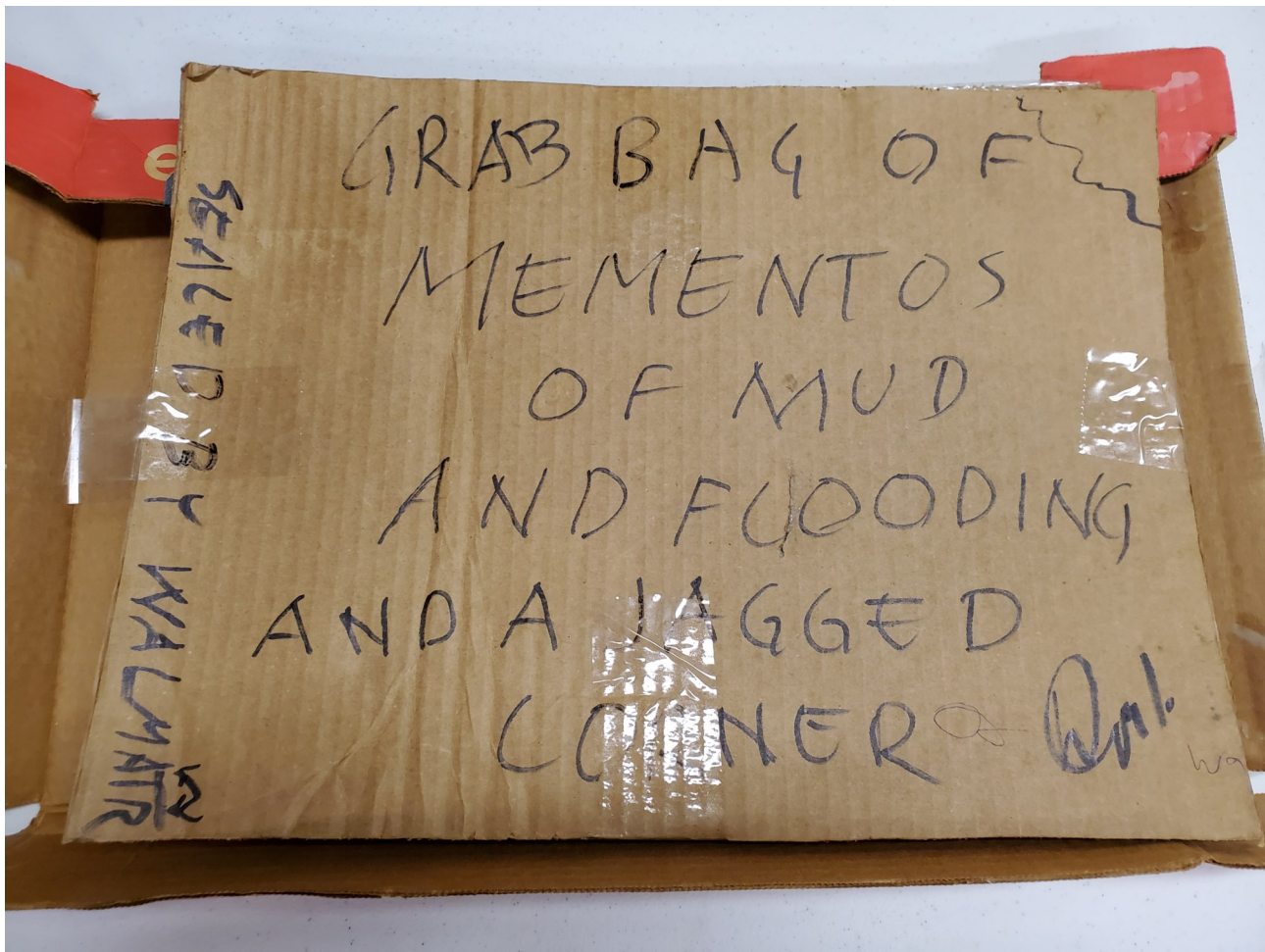
New Business

There was some discussion of who constitutes the "communications committee"; if memory serves, it was more or less ad hoc.

Question also as to who takes up the archivist position which Becky Schroeder filled so long and ably. Lyn Wolz, Rachel Gholson, Meredith Rau and Annie Fuller seem to be on it.

Discussion of whether to continue book reviews, and how to get list of available titles to the membership.

Adjourn 1:45



Missouri Folklore Society
 Columbia, MO
 April 13, 2019
 Financial Statement Jan.1 to Dec. 31, 2018

	INCOME	
	2018	2019
Membership Dues	\$900.00	\$125.00
Annual Meeting	\$3,034.00	\$727.00
Donations, Grants	\$5,325.00	\$275.00
Sales	\$213.12	
Interest	\$237.86	
Miscellaneous Refund		
Total	\$9,472.12	\$1,127.00

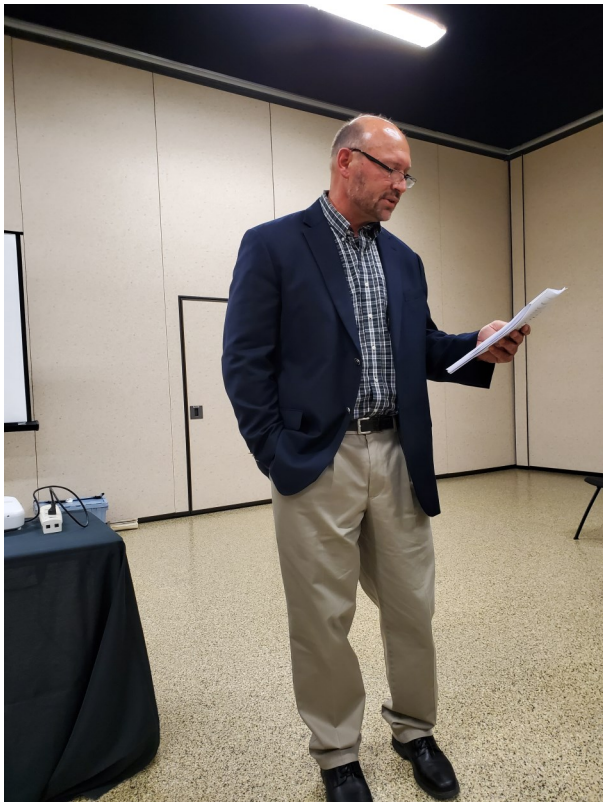
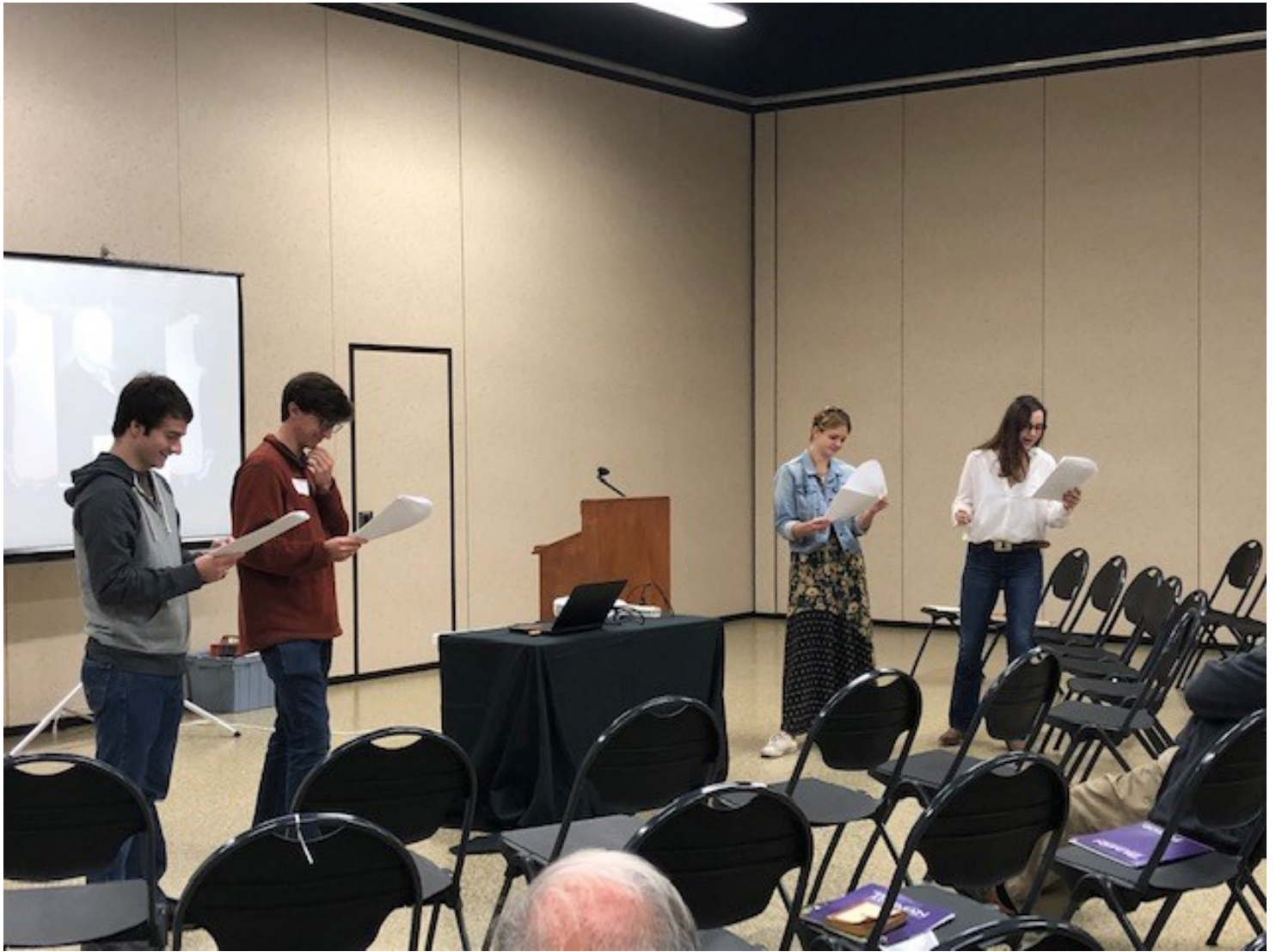
	EXPENSES	
Journal Printing	\$36.48	\$15.00
Newsletter Printing		
Annual Meeting Refunds	\$2,086.75	\$285.28
Postage	\$91.12	
Awards	\$125.00	
Supplies Miscellaneous		
Total	\$2,339.35	\$300.28

Checking Account Balance 12-31-2018	\$19,962.26
CD 12-31-2018	\$19,193.60
Schroeder Endowment Fund CD	\$14,692.20
Total Account Balance 12-31-2018	\$53,848.06

Checking Account Balance 9-30-2019	\$17,779.01
CD 9-30-2019	\$19,481.05
Schroeder Endowment Fund CD	\$14,729.05
Total Account Balance 9-30-2019	\$51,989.11

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Para



Marking Local Legends

A message from Lisa Higgins, director, Missouri Folk Arts Program:

As the Pomeroy Foundation's Legends & Lore partner in Missouri, MO Folk Arts will be reviewing applications submitted by local communities to document local legends and lore with road signs.

Communities submit applications via Pomeroy's online application process, make sure the applications are complete, and then MFAP will review for clarity and appropriateness. I'd like to see Missouri add 20 sites for the bicentennial. And, I'd like to encourage some strong proposals early in the game. We have entered an agreement with Pomeroy for this work, and we will announce after I've had a chance to nudge some potential applicants.

An example I've been using is Stagger Lee's murder as a legend from which much folklore and traditional song sprang. Another example might be MOMO, our Missouri Monster (Big Foot variation) sighted first near Louisiana, Mo. Go here to apply: <https://www.wgpfoundation.org/apply-for-grant/>

Historic Marker Grants

The Pomeroy Foundation offers six different marker grant programs designed to help people celebrate their community's history and cultural heritage.

Ready to apply for a signage grant now? Click here. To learn more, visit our marker program pages:

Historic Transportation Canals Marker Grant Program

Legends & Lore® Marker Grant Program

National Register Signage Grant Program

New York State Historic Marker Grant Program

Ohio Historical Markers Grant Program

National Women's Suffrage Marker Grant Program



A North Carolina example

<https://www.wgpfoundation.org/historic-markers/naomi-wise/>



In Memoriam, Alex Usher

Alexandra Usher (nee MacNutt) married J. Richardson Usher June 11, 1949, and passed to the care of the Lord on July 11, 2019, aged 90. She was the daughter of portrait painter J. Scott MacNutt and ballerina Agnes Cady MacNutt. She attended Community School, John Burroughs School and Wellesley College, where she developed an interest in traditional folk music. She learned to play the guitar and built a repertoire of folk songs, which led to singing the National Anthem for the opening of the original Busch Memorial Stadium in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1966.

She played the Carriage House and Laughing Buddha in Gaslight Square, and with her husband played in “The Folk Ensemble,” a group comprised of the best folksingers in St. Louis. She was a regular cast member on several Channel 9 children’s shows in the 1950s and organized several local folk festivals.

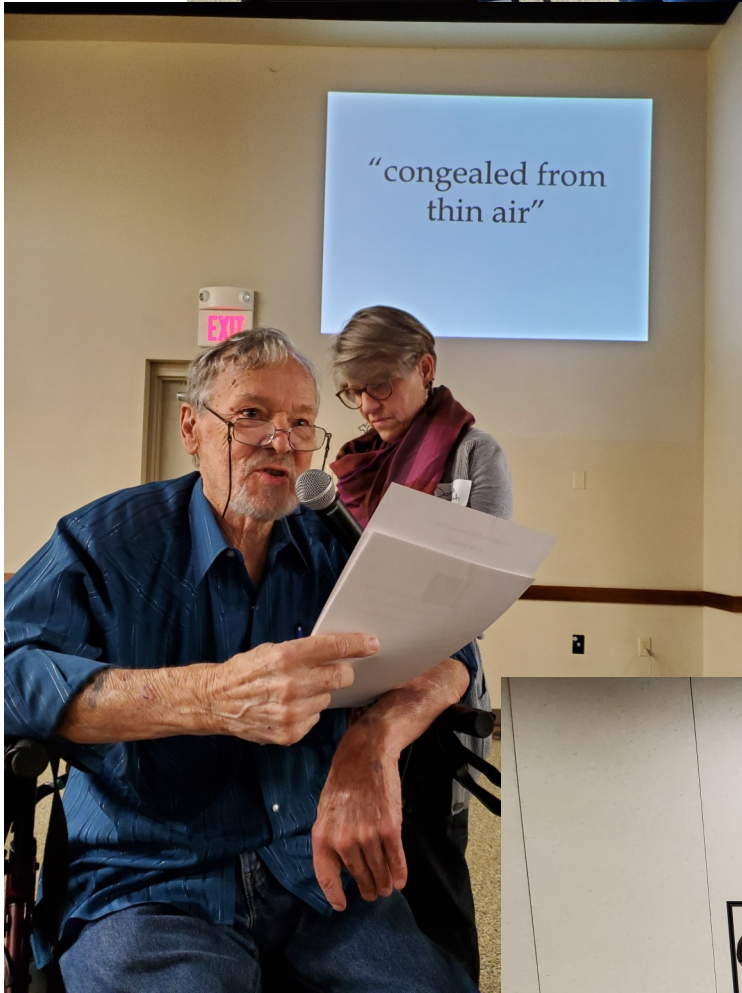
She taught herself to play solo autoharp in the 1990s, won the National Autoharp Championship in 1993, and the International Championship at Winfield, Kansas, in 2004. This led to giving workshops and performances at a number of national festivals as well as the Ozark Folk Center, Mountain View, Arkansas, in 2008, and the St. Louis Scottish Games 2001- 2007.

Her autoharp recordings include a CD of Christmas music and another of Scottish airs. She authored four Mel Bay books; two are solo autoharp music. “Children’s Song Favorites” and “Sidesplitters” are folk-song collections. She has been a regular contributor to the Autoharp Quarterly. She won best-of-show in 1999 at the Iowa State Fair for an afghan which she designed and knitted, and second place for an original baby afghan. Her other interests include writing and painting.

She was on the original board of St. Louis Irish Arts and the Webster Groves Symphony, and designed several floats for the local July 4th memorial parade. With her family, she provided the music for the evening pre-fireworks show at Memorial Field for the 1976 Bicentennial celebration. She was an Oasis volunteer mentor and began a memoir-writing group at the Rockwood Apartments retirement center.

A memorial service and musical wake for all musicians and friends to attend was held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 27, at the First Congregational Church, 10 W. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, Missouri 63119. Interment was at Bellefontaine Cemetery on Monday, July 29, at 10 a.m.

(Webster-Kirkwood Times, by permission)



THE MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY

*P. O. Box 1757
Columbia, MO 65205-1757
(phone 660.882.7821)*

Officers and Board of Directors

President:

Barbara Price

Vice President:

Andrea Davis

Executive Secretary:

Adam Davis

Treasurer:

Dave Para

Corresponding Secretary:

Archivist:

2016-2019

Anthony Bodnar, Troy, IL

Jean Brand, Columbia

Susan Bryson, Lenexa, KS

Ken Burch, Sikeston

Janelle Burch, Sikeston

Norma Cantu, Kansas City

Don Carlson, Leavenworth KS

Mim Carlson, Leavenworth KS

Truman Cogswell, Frankford

Howard W. Marshall, Fulton

Patrick McGlasson, Mississippi

Margot McMillen, Fulton

Dave Para, Boonville

Barbara Price, Kirksville

Irvin Rice, Louisville KY

Bruce Scovill, Jefferson City

John Shewmaker, Columbia

Richard Shewmaker, Columbia

Debra Thompson, Harrisburg

Scott White, Belleville, IL

2017-2020

Gary Buxton, Doniphan, MO

George Caudle, Bonne Terre

Jan Caudle, Bonne Terre

Jim Caudle, Bonne Terre

Gladys Cogswell, Kansas City

Judy Domeny, Rogersville

Gene Edson, Richmond

John Fisher, Kennett

Carol Fisher, Kennett

Betty Henderson, Monett

Antonio F. Holland, Kansas City

Donna Jurich, Tucson AZ

Gordon McCann, Springfield

Mettazee Morris, St. Louis

Lynn Morrow, Jefferson City

Frank Nickell, Cape Girardeau

Annette Richter, Moorhead, MN

Brett Rogers, Boonville

Paul Schwartzkopf, Quincy IL

Evelyn Trickel, Trenton

Jim Vandergriff, Tucson AZ

Lyn Wolz, Lenexa KS

2018-2021

Jeanelle Ash, Kimberling City

Ray Brassieur, Lafayette LA

Carol Bening, Jefferson City

Sharon Brock, Columbia

Adam Davis, Kirksville

Andrea Davis, Kirksville

Betsy Delmonico, Kirksville

Neil Delmonico, Kirksville

Liz Faries, Terre du Lac

Annie Fuller, St. Louis

Rachel Gholson, Springfield

Debra Greene, Jefferson City

Sam Griffin, Columbia

Holly Hobbs, Columbia

Roger Jungmeyer, Jefferson City

Leon Keens, Kansas City

Austin Krueger, St. Louis

George McCollum, Sedalia

Julie McCollum, New Haven

Linda McCollum, Sedalia

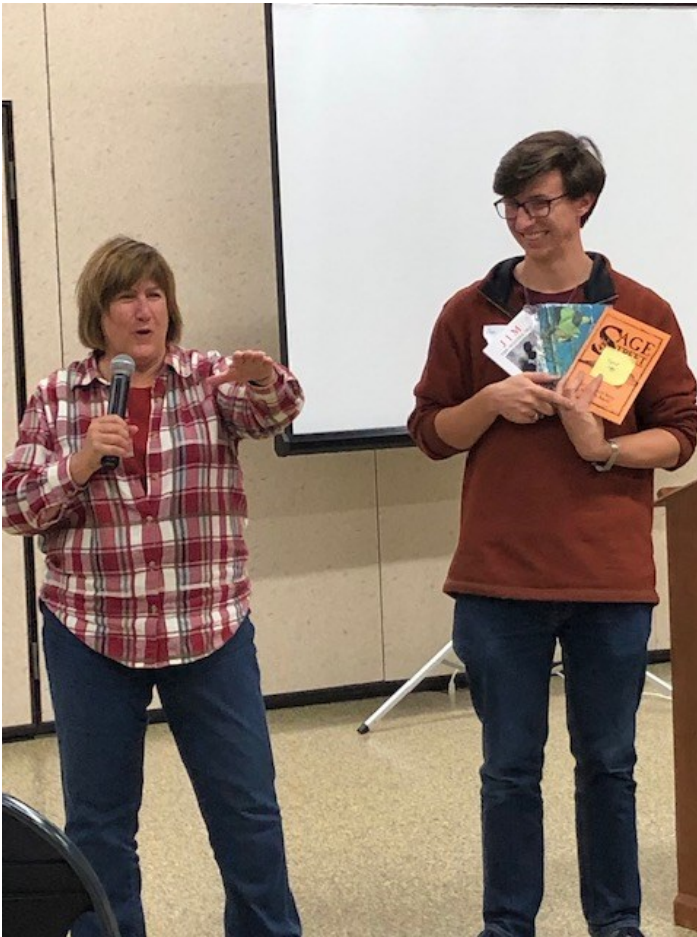
Meredith Rau, St. Charles

Lu Anne Roth, Columbia

Carla Waal Johns, Columbia

Loretta Washington, Florissant

Hester Wise, Rolla



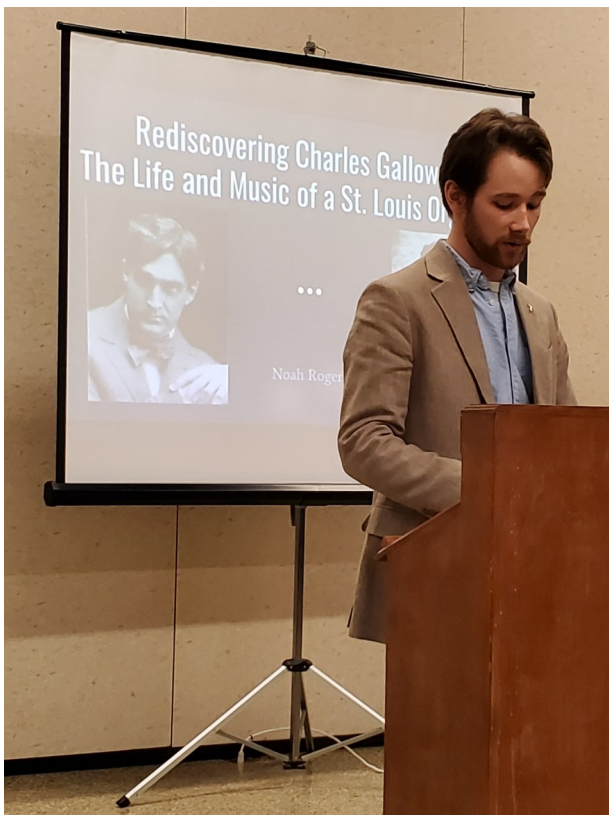
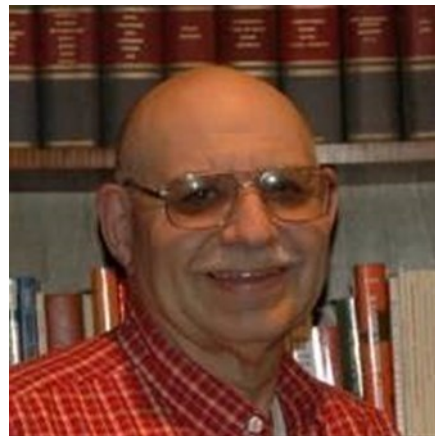
Jon Fisher presented on traditional weather beliefs, and lively conversation followed.

“For rain, kill a snake and hang it on the fence. The higher and longer the snake is, the more rain.”

“If you see a hog with a stick in its mouth, cold weather is coming “(one source claims the logical reason for this is, the hog is nesting).

“Time to plant cotton when walnut leaves are the size of a mouse’s ears.”

“All signs fail in dry weather.”



The Spring 2020 Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 18. Watch for details.



“Mark” your calendars:
 November 5-7, 2020, in
 Hannibal.

