

Missouri Folklore

Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 45, Nos. 1-2

Spring 2021

We're Back! Due to disruptions related to COVID-19, the Missouri Folklore Society newsletter was on hiatus for volume 44 (Spring 2020 and Fall 2020).



In this our fair state's bicentennial, planning is underway for the 2021 annual meeting. This year's location and theme will be **"Everybody's Hometown"**

Hannibal has long seen and presented itself as the idyllic "white town drowsing in the sunshine of a summer morning," but it is many other things as well. As always, papers, presentations and demonstrations on all aspects of folklore, in Missouri and the region and beyond, are welcome, but we especially invite reflections on the idea of the hometown, in all its complexity, and this one in particular, with its rich and contradictory history. Adam Davis (adavis@truman.edu) is organizing this one; get in touch early about your ideas.





The Mark Twain Riverboat is in its 25th year as a family -run operation.



Among the many thousands of graffiti-signatures found in the Mark Twain Cave (including Jesse James', who used it as a hideout) quite recently the boy S.L. Clemens' script has been identified: https:// www.marktwaincave.com/clemenssignature-discovered/

The display version of the home is somewhat tidier than what Twain left behind.





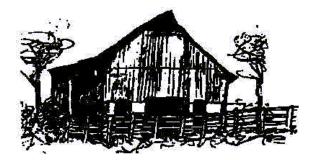


At the Museum, you can closely inspect Norman Rockwell's brilliant paintings of scenes from Tom Sawyer, and see one of Twain's signature white suits, as well as his well-loved Kapp & Peterson pipe.









Missouri Folklore Society

General Membership Meeting November 7, 2020

12n CST

Via zoom:

Let us always remember this terrible year of fear and sickness, and ... other things. Our meeting, originally scheduled for Hannibal, was moved to cyberspace, and though we missed the in-person fellowship, we made it work. We are resourceful, we are resilient, we are folk. Here follow our minutes and reports, and the full schedule. Many of the virtual and video presentations are still available, and we hope you'll copypaste the URLs into your browser's search-window so as to enjoy what you missed the first time around.

We built a virtual schedule around the asynchronous presentations to simulate the conference experience — alas, without our banquets and our auction. Till next year, friends!

President Andrea Davis gaveled in the meeting at 12:02. In attendance: Andrea Davis, Adam Davis, Brett Rogers, Evelyn Rogers, Barbara Price, Joseph Newkirk, Betsy Delmonico, Neal Delmonico, Dave Para, John Shewmaker, Debra Greene, Donna Jurich, Jim Vandegriff, Margot McMillen, Jan Brunvand (hope I didn't miss anybody!)

Treasurer Dave Para presented a brief financial report; the meeting was revenue neutral, without expenses or income. The only transactions were the receipt of an \$800 Missouri Humanities Council grant, which was turned over to Gladys Coggswell for her keynote presentation.

Expenses for printing and mailing the 300+ page journal were substantial. Memberships (and therefore revenues) have declined, and we are now at numbers that do not allow bulk mailing. A general consensus held that transitioning to digital publication, like the newsletter, is inevitable, perhaps after reaching our nominal publication year, which will require two more double issues (vol 40-41 for 2018-19 and vol 42-43 for 2020-21). There was discussion of several previously proposed volumes; what seems most promising would be a miscellany and a volume of work by emerging folklorists, both in Adam's mailbox. It was suggested that Cathy Barton Para's memorial volume would be an ideal digital launch, because of the opportunity to link to musical performances online.

This effort should work well with migrating the journal to a new host;

Plans for the 2021 meeting in Hannibal go forward, with Adam organizing. He will look into setting it for October 17-18, to perhaps get some overlap with the annual folklife festival, if 35 rooms can be had. Lyn Wolz and Susan Bryson agreed to be co-presidents.

Barb reminded us of our resolve to come back to the center of the state, and our current plan is for Moberly. Brett and Evelyn Rogers agreed to shepherd the effort.

We assume that the Spring meeting will again be by zoom; Adam will host, date TBA.

The meeting adjourned at 12;02

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Davis

THE MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY

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

Officers and Board of Directors

President:

Lyn Wolz and Susan Bryson Vice President: Brett and Evelyn Rogers Executive Secretary: Adam Davis Treasurer: Dave Para Corresponding Secretary:

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2017-2020

Gary Buxton, Doniphan, MO George Caudle, Bonne Terre Jan Caudle, Bonne Terre Jim Caudle, Bonne Terre Gladys Coggswell, 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

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2019-2022

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Missouri Folklore Society

Virtual Meeting November 7, 2020 Financial Statement Jan.1 to October 31, 2020

		COME 019	2020
Membership Dues		\$409.00	
Annual Meeting Donations, Grants Sales Interest Miscellaneous Refund		28.00 75.00	\$800.00
	\$38	88.36	\$102.07
Total	\$5,20	00.36	\$1,082.07
	EXPENSES		
Journal Printing	\$2,280.70		
Newsletter Printing Annual Meeting Refunds Postage Awards Supplies Miscellaneous	\$2,68	\$2,685.40	
	\$623.43		\$128.95
Total	\$5,5	89.53	\$2,128.95
Checking Account Balance CD Schroeder Endowment Fur Total Account Balance	12-31-2019	\$16,001.76 \$19,500.45 \$14,743.71 \$50,245.92	
Checking Account Balance CD Schroeder Endowment Fur Total Account Balance	10-31-2020	\$16,652.81 \$19,565.59 \$14,780.64 \$49,999.04	

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Para

29th Big Muddy Folk Festival to Move to November 12-13, 2021



The pandemic has brought hard challenges to both artists and the venues who present them. The Friends of Historic Boonville and the Big Muddy committee simply couldn't reconcile to a second year's cancellation, but it is still with some trepidation that we target the festival to this fall, indoors in historic Thespian Hall. The festival will still feature a tribute to co-founder and beloved musician, Cathy Barton Para.

In early March 2020, while attending a contra dance in Tucson, festival director Dave Para heard announcements concerning possible cancellation of the group's annual weekend. Hand sanitizer was already being supplied thoughtfully at the dance. The thought then occurred to him of the possibility of cancelling the Big Muddy. In email conversations (who thought of Zoom then?) we came to what seemed a hard to decision to cancel the event, considering the tight indoor seating of 600 and an older average age of attendants. Six weeks later it was an obvious no-brainer, but surely with confidence the festival would return in the spring of 2021. Dave just planned to book the same festival roster and program then. As the year was ending our confidence had dissolved, and during the committee's Zoom meetings it discussed possibilities of an outdoor festival in the summer as well as a return to the hall in the fall. We now more confidently keep our fingers crossed. Thespian Hall has always been the prime reason for doing the festival.

But the times have made a mess of the festival roster. Some of our artists have now grown beyond their late teens, and life has made new turns for them. Some of our artists are pregnant and expecting later in the fall. Others are committed to venues eyeing the same weekends in November. So director Dave has his work cut out for him again. David Lynne Grimes, an old friend of Cathy's, Dave's and Bob Dyer's, will be able to come as planned, bringing his sweet voice, inventive guitar mastery and his mercurial rapport. Also returning from 2003 is Harmony, a trio from Mountain View, Ark., which includes Robert and Mary Gillihan, two of the first people Cathy got to know when she started spending so much time there. **We are also including a musical revue of the show "Gumbo Bottoms,"** for which Cathy wrote the music in collaboration with Meredith Ludwig, and a version of which was presented to the society's annual meeting in Boonville. There are plenty of friends out there willing to make a musical tribute to Cathy.

Consult bigmuddy.org and friendsofhistoricboonvillemo.org in ensuing months for updates.

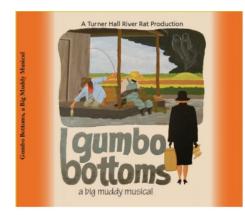


Gumbo Bottoms director Lesley Oswald, writer/ producer Meredith Ludwig, and musician/composer Cathy Barton-Para

Gumbo Bottoms — Music by Cathy Barton and Dave Para

"Gumbo Bottoms – a Big Muddy Musical", is a local treasure. Local writer Meredith Ludwig took the seeds of oral histories she collected from local river rats, cultivated them into a story and wrote a script for a musical based on these stories. Boonville musician Cathy Barton joined the team, writing a complete score of songs to flesh out the storyline. The musical, brought to life by a stable of local actors, was performed in many Missouri River towns on its initial run.

Many of the stories that developed into "Gumbo Bottoms" were told to Meredith by Fred Oerly, who grew up in the small river and railroad town of Overton, which was directly across the river from where Les Bourgeois Bistro is now. The area is now part of the Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge – Overton Bottoms Unit. The "Gumbo Bottoms" crew decided Les Bourgeois would be the perfect place to have this event, and we were proud it could be part of the Big Muddy Speaker Series. The original Missouri River Folk History Project was supported by <u>Missouri River Communities Network</u>.



Copypaste the URL to listen to selections and if you like, buy a copy of the CD:





Original cast: (front row): Jen Davis, Deb Jewett, Lesley Oswald; (back row): Willie Cogshell, Michael Crowe, Steve Jones

The Band: Dave Para, Kevin Hennessy, David Wilson and Cathy Barton

Rogers Presents "Material Culture of Black Missouri"



Brett Rogers, who will organize the 2022 meeting in Moberly along with co-president Evelyn Somers Rogers, was the special guest of Truman State University's Folklore Colloquium series. The architecture — homes, churches, schools — of the dominant culture remains prominent, while the legacy of the Other oftn decays and disappears or simply goes unrecognized. For thirty years, Rogers has been engaged in salvage ethnography and documentation.

He recorded four short talks on various aspects of Black material culture in our state, and then visited via zoom with his audience for another hour on April 22. The talks will continue to be available via YouTube (you can copypaste the raw URLs below into your browser's searchwindow, or for "clickable" links, just visit the **Missouri Folklore Society**)

Introduction (5:23) overview

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gHrLQRTv58 Part 2: (21:38) slave quarters and freedpeople's settlements https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2BakTmyAY8 Part 3: (20:38) African American schools & churches https://youtube.com/video/J-3BJQFBsrc/edit



Part 4: (27:08 min) Africanisms: shotgun houses and funerary decoration https://youtube.com/video/8yAIPBUp1YE/edit







Missouri Folklore Society Virtual Meeting via zoom April 17, 2021

Meeting came to order at 12:09 CDT, co-presidents Lyn Wolz and Susan Bryson

Present (digitally): Lyn Wolz, Susan Bryson, Barb Price, Adam Davis, Andrea Davis, Betsy Delmonico, Neal Delmonico, Julie Henigan, Dave Para, Brett Rogers, Evelyn Rogers, Donna Jurich, Jim Vandegriff, Rachel Gholson, John fisher, Carol Fisher, Deloris Grey Wood, Joseph Newkirk, Jim Wilson, Evelyn Wilson, Lisa Higgins, Gary Lloyd, Bob Estes, Claire R, Mary Jo Herde, Al Tacker

Dave Para screenshared the treasurer's report (included). We had no revenue this year. We had expenses for the meeting, including our portion of the speaker's honorarium (most of it was covered by a grant). We put down a large deposit on the hotel in Hannibal, which will be carried forward to next year. Expenses for the journal were large, because the journal was large. For a number of years we accumulated savings while not publishing the journal, and we agreed that we are now paying that down.

A question about how we notify members of dues arose. We agreed that we need to call members' attention to renewal time in our communications about the annual meeting.

John Fisher moved adoption of report, Betsy Delmonico seconded, passed by acclamation.

Adam Davis gave the secretary's report. Preparations are underway for the Hannibal meeting, November 4-6. Joseph Newkirk agreed to suggest excursions for nearby Quincy.

Discussion of how to recruit members. If contacting academic institutions, email chairs directly. Good prosopects: departments of English, Anthro, History, Foreign Languages, Music, Art and regional programs. High school English teachers are also good. We very much want to recruit students and other young people. Adam will mail out the file for the trifold brochure, so members can leave copies with local genealogy and historical societies, or leave piles on counters at the local library.

Members are strongly encouraged to be thinking of presentation ideas – Adam noted that the biggest stressor on organizers is wondering if there will be enough presenters to have a meeting.

Call for suggestions for keynoters and other invited presenters: Faye Dant, Hannibal native and operator of "Jim's Journey;" Gladys Coggswell and Angela Williams (Angela is now a master in her own right, and is a Hannibal native); Steve Chou, unofficial historian of Hannibal, Henry Sweets, retired from the Mark Twain Museum, Bryan Fox Ellis, a storyteller from near Peoria, Mary Lou Montgomery, retired newspaper editor and local historian.

Julie Henigan is interested in organizing a Max Hunter panel; Dave Para will contact the scholar currently writing a book on Max.

Brett Rogers will see if he can find an archaeologist to talk about New Philadelphia, a nearby freedmen's community.

Thematic emphases might include the Hannibal sesquicentennial and the Missouri Bicentennial; we agreed to call the meeting "America's Hometown" – as Hannibal names itself.

We will encourage presenters to post video versions of their presentations to YouTube so as to create a parallel virtual conference.

Future meetings: Brett Rogers and Evelyn Somers Rogers will serve as co-presidents and organize the 2022 meeting for Moberly. Publications: the newsletter resumes production after a year's suspension due to COVID. Similarly, the webpage has gone unchanged, as the editor was distanced and had no access to the servers. The need to migrate to Wordpress or some other platform remains.

Volumes 38-39 (2016-17) Ruth Ann Musick's novel "Hell's Holler" were a wonderful production. A gathering of student papers is next in line, with a miscellany in preparation. We also discussed a volume of captioned images from Brett Rogers' collection on material culture of Black Missouri (the subject of his upcoming keynote in the Truman State University Folklore Colloquium series).

At some future point, when we have brought our nominal publication year in sync with the calendar year, we will probably need to suspend paper publication, and go to on-demand only.

Items from the floor:

Dave Para announced the rescheduling of Big Muddy for November – the week after our meeting. More to come in the newsletter. Also go to http://friendsofhistoricboonvillemo.org/?page_id=554

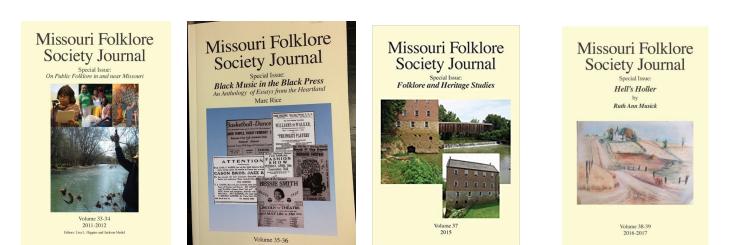
Lisa Higgins reminded members of a number of opportunities: she invited people to visit Facebook's Missouri Folk Arts group for their online "200 posts" exhibit in honor of the bicentennial, featuring images linked to our state's heritage and history.

She also encouraged people to write with ideas for local lengends and lore that could be commemorated with a quality bronze plaque by the Pomeroy Foundation – she can't write the application, but she can help you. There's a May 3 deadline, and another in October. Write HigginsLL@missouri.edu and put "Legends and Lore" in the message line.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Davis





June 3 – 5, 2021

HOBA Park, 1138 Bluegrass Lane, West Plains, Missouri - South Bypass 63/Jan Howard Expressway - Turn South at the Stoplight at Lanton Road (between Favorite Fishing USA and the Glass Sword Theater) then 1/8 mile to Bluegrass Lane, Turn Right. Watch for our signs!



Missouri Folklore Society Virtual Meeting April 17, 2021 Financial Statement Jan.1 to December 31, 2020

	INCOME 2019	2020
	2019	2020
Membership Dues	\$409.00	\$380.00
Annual Meeting Donations, Grants	\$3,628.00 \$775.00	\$825.00
Sales Interest Miscellaneous Refund	\$388.36	\$118.83
Total	\$5,200.36	\$1,323.83
	EXPENSES	
Journal Printing Newsletter Printing Annual Meeting Refunds	\$2,280.70	\$1,800.00
	\$2,685.40	\$2,500.00
Postage Awards Supplies Miscellaneous	\$623.43	\$860.56
Total	\$5,589.53	\$5,160.56
Checking Account Balance CD Schroeder Endowment Fur Total Account Balance	12-31-2019 \$19,500.45	
Checking Account Balance CD Schroeder Endowment Fur Total Account Balance	10-31-2020 \$19,578.65	

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Para



Missouri Folklore Society

Annual Meeting 2020

Somewhere in Cyberspace



Thursday November 5

2pm

Welcome from American Folklore Society president Norma Cantu (Trinity University) 1:15 min

https://www.youtube.com/watch?

📸 YouTube



5 pm

Keynote: Gladys Gaines Coggswell and Angela Williams, "Mark Twain's **Encounters with Blacks**"

46 min

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=J1tHPg_he9E&feature=youtu.be



Gladys Coggswell and the recently awarded title holder of Master storyteller, Angela Williams will share a presentation about Mark Twain, a great storyteller, as well as a great writer and speaker. He had many wonderful quotes, one of which we will explore. Very little is revealed about John Lewis, Mark Twain's close friend. Rodney Williams Sr. was the first and only black coroner in Marion County. Gladys and Angela appear through the generous support of the Missouri Humanities Council, with special thanks to Caitlin Yager, Director of Heritage Programs.



At 7:30 pm, Dave Para hosted a live jam via zoom, which obviously didn't look like this happy moment from our Sikeston meeting.

Friday, November 4

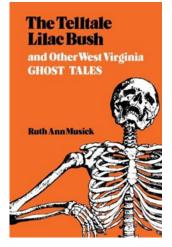
9 am

Book launch: Pat Musick, Elizabeth Delmonico, Adam Brooke Davis – introducing Ruth Ann Musick's Hell's Holler, a special issue of *Missouri Folklore Society Journal*

33 min

https://youtu.be/TZI13vbzpbY

Kirksville native Ruth Ann Musick wrote a novel based on the folklore of Adair County for her 1944 doctoral dissertation. She went on to a distinguished career as a folklore scholar in West Virginia, while the novel lay unpublished – until now. Her niece, Pat Musick, joins Betsy Delmonico to discuss the illustrations by her father, the distinguished artist Archie Musick.



10 am

Sarah Muir, "Tracing the Train Tracks" An examination of the folklore of trains in the Kirksville area including the ever-popular (though illegal) freshman initiation trip to The Train Bridge, the tales of a ghost train that continues to visit Kirksville long after the tracks were removed, and the secret train bridge seemingly no one knows about. (17 min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iptAXg0hEhY



11 am

Norma Cantu , Trinity University and President, American Folklore Society

"Dancing for Our Lady of Guadalupe"

The matachines are dancers in a folk Catholic tradition that exists across the Americas. In this paper I present data gathered in 2017 in Kansas City, MO and Kansas City Kansas analyzing it through a third space Chicana theoretical lens. 29 min



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M__AB253sNA&feature=youtu.be

1 pm

Gregory Hansen, Arkansas State University. "Missourians of Heritage: Contributions from Barry Bergey and Ruth Hawkins to Folklore & Heritage Studies" (live, via zoom)

With the burgeoning interest in Heritage Studies, the Missouri Folklore Society recently published a special issue on connecting folklore to heritage movements. Two native born Missourians were honored for their contributions in the journal. Barry Bergey grew up in New Haven and has been a leader in public folklore throughout his career. His many accomplishments include co-founding the Missouri Friends of the Folk Arts and directing the Folk Arts Program within the National Endowment for the Arts. Ruth Hawkins grew up on a farm north of St. Louis. She has spent most of her career at Arkansas State University, where she founded the Arkansas Heritage Sites and has made innumerable contributions to the university's Heritage Studies Ph.D. Program. This presentation uses their perspectives on heritage to demonstrate significant connections to folklife studies, public folklore, and the folk arts. Their work and publications offer a wide range of perspectives that contribute to a wider heritage discourse that is valuable for a wide range of theory and practice. 1pm on Friday 30 min



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rc_FWxnswZM&feature=youtu.be

2 pm

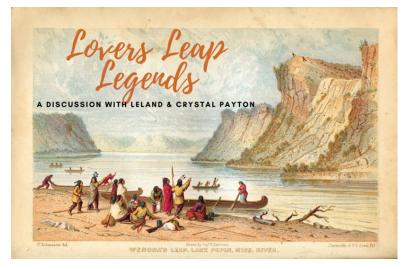
Margot McMillen, Fulton, MO. The Things She Saved: The Collection of Clara Clemens at the Mark Twain Birthplace in Missouri (22 min)



2:30 pm

Leland & Crystal Payton: Lover's Leap Legends from Sappho of Lesbos to Wah-Wah-Tee of Waco (7 minutes)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpIc09bDW-E



3 pm

Adam Brooke Davis, Truman State University. "Strahinic Ban – a Minor Serbian Epic" (21 min)

A reading of an original translation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XOLpNVxOHg

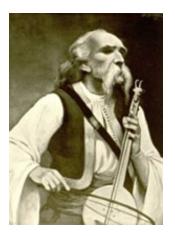
A partial performance, in Serbian, by a native bard, accompanying himself on the gusle, can be found here (7 min)

egends as Fences.

Jim Vandergriff

2020 Missouri Folklore Society Annual Meeting

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DARDxpM2Phw



3:30 pm

Jim Vandergriff, Tucson AZ: Legends as Fences

An argument that the Legends (i.e., family stories) that we grow up with teach us our values. Those who know the stories likely share our values; those who don't know them probably don't share our values. In that sense, Legends are Fences. They're ways of knowing who are, or who aren't, "our people." 21 min

https://youtu.be/XXX20jNeb4c

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Evening talk:

Sean Rost, State Historical Society of Missouri. Missouri Mysteries: the Blue Man of Douglas County, the Hornet Spooklight and MoMo the Missouri Monster.

Explores three unique Missouri legends that have deep ties to the Show-Me State: the Hornet Spook Lights, the Blue Man of Spring Creek, and Mo-Mo the Missouri Monster. This presentation takes attendees from the banks of the Mississippi River to the hills of the Ozarks to learn the origins and history behind these Missouri legends. 45 min

https://shsmo.org/news/2020/missouri-mysteries-on-demand



An expedition has been organized to search for the "Blue Man of the Ozarks."

Source: Springfield Leader and Press, 3 October 1965

Musical interlude:

Richard Shewmaker and Anthony Bodnar: three songs, with commentary 12 min

3 tune selection of contemporary folk music from North America. For best sound quality, we recommend the use of earphones or headphones.

- 1.) Over the Waves (Juventino Rosas)
- 2.) Road Be Kind (Scott Alarik)
- 3.) Comin' Down From Denver (Traditional)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_MKIE8y_5U&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2eGYeI1FqZvuOyZtT8mCw-AOwJ00Neayd2Cfn748ZYUVDScdO37RnkRO8



Sarah Jane Nelson, "Hunter Crankie" 5 min

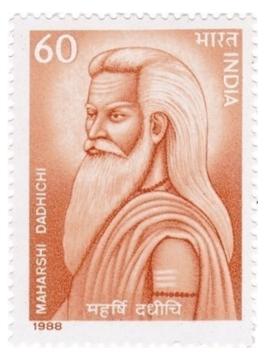
Sarah Jane Nelson's Crankie story on the life of song collector Max Hunter, with lyrics and vocals by Nelson and artwork provided by Martha Moseley Grace and talented friends.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4XAuwIeD0A

Saturday, November 7:

9 am

Neal Delmonico: This paper will explore the mythology around an enigmatic sage in ancient Indic texts named Dadhici who is also known as Dadhyanc or Dadhyang. The earliest reference to the sage occurs in the Rg Veda (1500-1000 BCE), where in hymn 1.117.22 he is described as the son of Atharvana who taught the Honey Meditation to the twin gods called the Asvins, physicians to the gods. Themes that crowd around Dadhici are self-sacrifice for the benefit of others, the teaching of secret doctrines in defiance of a threat of decapitation, horse mysticism (he teaches his secret wisdom with his head replaced by a horse's horse's head), headless sacrifice, the hunt for the elixir of immortality, and the phenomenon of twin gods, in India also connection with horses, in religion. I will try to connect some of these broad themes with Native American mythology in and around Missouri (the Missouri tribe and the Sac and Fox tribes)



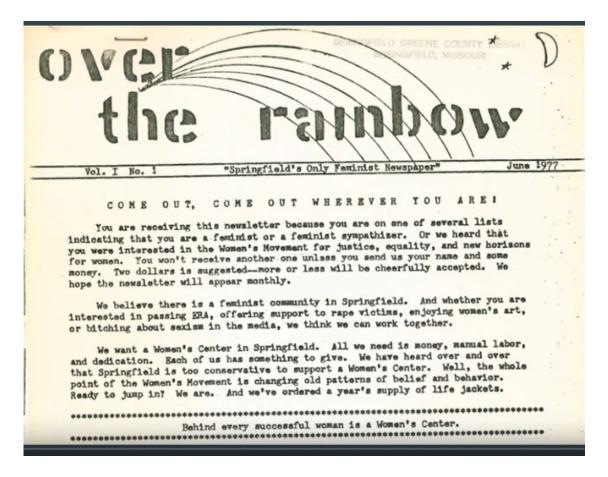
https://youtu.be/LuTG-o-tT9I

10 am

Taylor Dooley Burden, Western Kentucky University "To Worship and Conserve: The Role of American Christian Churches in the Conservation of Deaf Culture" (10 min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NySlHeiq4pw&feature=youtu.be





11 am:

Chris Drew: Reading the Rainbow: the Women's Movement in Print in Southwest Missouri

In 1977 "Over the Rainbow," appeared in print in Springfield, Missouri. The ambition and fantasy of that title would indicate the scope of their mission: building and maintaining a feminist space in print to make manifest their ideas and develop their community.

Chris Drew is an alumnus of Truman State University and the University of Missouri. He is a library worker in Springfield, Missouri with an ongoing interest in alternative and small press publishing. He has an article forthcoming in the Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy on Columbia Missouri's Vietnam era paper "The Free Press Underground." (16 min)

https://youtu.be/dEHUyQopbD4

Marking Local Legends

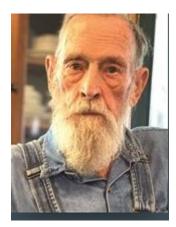
A message from Lisa Higgins, director, Missouri Folk Arts Program: As the Pomeroy Foundation's Legends & Lore partner in Missouri, MO Folk Arts will be reviewing applications submitted by local communities to document local legends and lore with road signs. Communities submit applications via Pomeroy's 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 tradition-al 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.

Feel free to contact Lisa at LLHiggins@missouri.edu with "Legends & Lore" in the subject line.



A North Carolina examplehttps://www.wgpfoundation.org/ historic-markers/naomi-wise/



George McCollum 1933-1920

George William McCollum passed away on Thursday, July 30, 2020, at the age of 87. He was a member of the Lamine Baptist Church.

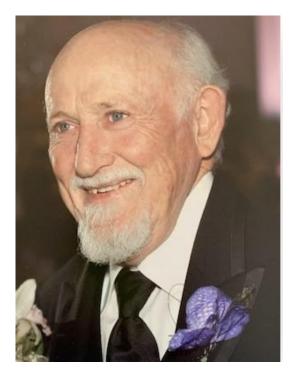
George was born June 22, 1933, in Seligman, MO, the second of the three sons of Earl and Edith Boyer McCollum. George grew up on the family farm and graduated from Seligman High School in 1951. He was an Eagle Scout who attended the National Jamboree in 1950; his son and one grandson followed in his Eagle footsteps. In 1954, he married Linda Leigh Johnston of Sedalia, MO. George graduated from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture; later he earned Master of Science degrees in Extension Education and Farm Management. George briefly worked for the Carnation Milk Company, before joining the University of Missouri Extension Service, where he served for 37 ½ years, retiring in Trenton, MO in 1992.

In retirement, George and Linda moved to her family's Century Farm in Pettis County, MO, where he continued to pursue his life-long passion for gardening. He enjoyed sharing the bountiful produce from his large vegetable garden with his neighbors and the community food pantry. George and Linda also operated the Spring Branch Berry Farm.

George learned how to harvest hickory bark, using it to weave chair seats. He demonstrated this lost art at folk festivals across Missouri for several years. George and Linda also taught themselves to play mountain dulcimers and the rare double dulcimer, performing for various organizations and at folk festivals.

George was a deep thinking, open minded, hard-working, story-telling, dry-humored, kind and generous son of the Missouri soil. Anyone who met George was a better person for it.

George is survived by his wife, Linda, to whom he had been married for 66 years; his children, Sharon Brummitt (Richard), of Waukegan, IL, Donna Albinson (Tom), of Plymouth, MN, Kimberly DeVorss (Stephen) of Hartsburg, MO, and David McCollum (JoAnn) of Hannibal, MO; eight grandchildren; and 16 great grandchildren. He also is survived by one brother, James McCollum of Peoria, IL and several nieces and nephews. George was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Homer McCollum.



Irwin Rice, 1934-2020

Irvin Keith "Irv" Rice, Ed.D., passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 17, 2020 in Lexington, KY. Irv was born in Holts Summit, MO on July 10, 1934, son of the late Roger Rice and Elizabeth Phillips Rice. He was the youngest of nine (six brothers and two sisters).

He was a graduate with honors of Fulton High School and Westminster College in Fulton, MO; the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY; and earned a doctorate in Education at the University of Kentucky. He was a teacher, counselor, assistant principal and principal at various Jefferson County Public high schools including Westport HS, Thomas Jefferson HS, and Male Traditional HS; as well as serving as the Deputy Superintendent for Jefferson

After an early retirement in 1980, he volunteered teaching substance abuse youth and senior citizen writing courses at Bellarmine College. He also volunteered with Meals on Wheels.

Irv enjoyed and shared his love of music. He was a singer and played the guitar, mandolin, dulcimer, and banjo-mostly by ear. He wrote and recorded enough original songs to fill two CD's that his family continues to enjoy today. He was a member of the Louisville Dulcimer Society and the Missouri Folklore Society. Irv and his late wife of 50 years, Carol Hammond Rice, traveled the world, creating memories to last a lifetime. He was also preceded in death by his first wife, Helen Douglas Sleadd Rice.

Irv is survived by his daughters Karan Cutler Shawler (David) of The Villages, FL, Lauran Cutler Decker (Don) of Lido Beach, NY, Beth Rice Hilliard (Ogden) of Lexington, KY; five grandchildren, Christine Nimocks, Elizabeth Nimocks, Meredith Goldberg (Andrew Klein), Shelby Hilliard Brinker (Kory), and Ogden Douglas "Dougie" Hilliard. He also leaves to cherish his memory four great-grandchildren, Madison Nimocks, Adeline Fitzsimonds, Barrett Bradshaw III and Hazel Bradshaw.



Carol Hammond Rice 1933-2019

Carol Hammond Rice 86, of Louisville, passed away on July 14, 2019, peacefully at home. Carol was born in Pittsburg, PA, on May 14, 1933, daughter of the late Adeline and Floyd Hammond. Carol attended Richmond Senior High School in Richmond, IN, and received a Bachelor of Science in Education and a master's in art education from Ball State University and retired from Jefferson County Public School System after an inspiring career as an art educator. Carol leaves her husband of fifty years, Irvin Keith Rice, three daughters; Karan Shawler (David) of The Villages, FL, Lauran Decker (Don) of Lido Beach, NY, Beth Hilliard (Ogden) of Lexington, KY; a brother, Jay Hammond of Palestine, IN; five grandchildren, Christine Nimocks, Elizabeth Bradshaw (Barrett), Meredith Goldberg (Andrew Klein), Shelby Hilliard Brinker (Kory), and Douglas Hilliard; four great-grandchildren, Madison Nimocks, Adeline Fitzsimonds, Barrett Bradshaw III, and Hazel Bradshaw. Carol added color to our lives. She was a talented artist, designer and educator who inspired those around her to love art and design. Carol delighted in hearing Irvin sing, play guitar, mandolin, and banjo-she was his biggest fan. World travelers and true soulmates, Carol and Irvin explored tens of thousands of miles to visit family and see places from which they collected numerous memories, stories and artifacts.



Albert Flores, Sr.

Albert Flores, Sr., who, with his children and grandchildren, performed traditional Native American dances for MFS several times beginning in 1978, passed away April 20th at his home in Laclede County, MO. Though he was born in Riverside, CA, he spent the largest portion of his life in Missouri.

Albert was a member of the Pechanga band of the Luiseno tribe in Temecula, CA, where he served on the band's governing board as Gaming Commissioner for many years. For most of his life, he was Shaman of the Pechanga band. On his mother's side, he was of the Osage tribe.

He was a Navy veteran of the Viet Nam era.

He and Jim Vandergriff, and Jim's siblings, grew up together in Richland, MO, and considered each other brothers. They first met in 1958, when Albert was 14 and Jim was 15. The relationship lasted the rest of their lives.

Musicians come along with me. I need you to express some feelings my words can't impart. Play softly beneath my love's window, and let your magic take a message to her heart. Can you play the river gliding? Can you play the pale moon rising? Can you play the mystic beauty of the stars that shine above? Can you play the breeze of the evening? Can you play my poor heart beating? For music is the language that can tell her of my love. Your music and the sounds of night must blend. Bring your harps, guitars, and violins. Think the thoughts and feel the feelings that you play. She will understand the words I could not say. So, please play the river gliding, and play the pale moon rising, and play the mystic beauty of the stars that shine above, and play the breeze of evening, and play my poor heart beating, and she'll agree to marry me from the language of love. By Clyde Faries