

Exploration and Discovery Then and Now

Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

Wednesday, February 18, 2003

COPAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR, 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

"Exploring Through Movies and Films"

- "Tara (Noble Harlan): Little Women, Adams State University, Louisiana, Miss."
- "Florence (C. Coombs): Belle David, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.
- "Richard Wright," Joyce Kilmer, Adams State University, Louisiana, Miss.

SPECIAL EVENT 11:00 a.m.

Unveiling of Historic Marker Honoring Judith Sargent Murray (1751-1820), with Remarks by James Wiggins, Jr., Copiah-Lincoln Community College

NATURE CONVENTION CENTER

"Exploring and Discovering New Land, 1803"

- 1 p.m. Conference Opening Ceremony and Receptionists: Ronald Gorman, Clinton Britton, B.R. "Bud" Smith III, Cynthia Vance Smith, Justice Tarrago, Jim Bennett, Ralph Patten, William Walter Scholten, MLCU Advisory Board Members, Williams and Wilkie Name Fellowship Receptionists, and William E. Waters, MLCU Director of Proceedings
- 1:30 p.m. "Temporaries on the Louisiana Purchase: Then and Now," Jim Smith, A Wilderness to Immerse: The Louisiana Purchase and the Struggle of America (Purdue) and A Guide to the Sites of Paris (Claremont: Stanford) Signs for the Cities of Louisiana, and Discover, Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation, Rockwood, Va.
- 2:00 p.m. "Three Cities Lament: The Louisiana State," Alfred Lemmons, and "Charting the Louisiana Purchase," James White, The Historic New Orleans Collection
- 3:00 p.m. "The forgotten Republics: The Struggle of William Douglas and George Hunter into the Southern Louisiana Purchase," Larry Folsom, University of Arkansas, with The forgotten Republics, a Documentary Film
- 3:00 p.m. "Before the Louisiana Purchase and Beyond" A Special Preview of Louisiana... A History, a Louisiana Public Broadcasting Documentary Film, with Commentaries by Tiki Lamborn and Al Golden, Co-Producers, and Charles Richard, Scriptwriter/Writer, Baton Rouge

Thursday, February 20, 2003

"Exploring through Films, Non-Fiction, Compendiums, and More!"

- 9 a.m. "The Louisiana Purchase and the South," Elliott West, University of Arkansas, "New Orleans in 1803," John Lawrence, The Historic New Orleans Collection, "Master in 1803," Jack Elliott, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Rockville
- 11 a.m. "Charting Revolution: Judith Sargent Murray and the Rights of Women," Sheila Stacey, Judd, Joplin, Missouri, A Day's Geography, The University of Mississippi
- 1:00 p.m. "An Abolitionist's Journey: Being a Black Country Girl" with Documentary Film, God Black Women, Central Wilkinson, Carnegie Center, Lexington, Nc.
- 2:00 p.m. Comments to Announce the Opening of the NCCU Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, followed by "Read and Imagine: Places, Movies, for Example," Ellen Douglas (Virginia: Museum, South Four Seasons) on Studio City (Chicago: ILL and A Family's Affairs, Natchez and Jackson, Miss.)
- 3:00-7 p.m. NATURE MUSEUM OF ARIZONA, ARIZONA HISTORICAL AND CULTURE Reception Honoring MLCU, Spottsville (AZ)
- 3:00 p.m. "Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase," A Concert by The St. Joseph Jazz Orchestra Ensemble (AZ)

Friday, February 21, 2003

"Exploring and Discovering through Film, Fiction, Books, Architecture, and More!"

- 9 a.m. "Exploration and Discovery: Films That Appeal to All Ages," Stuart Margolis, Essay Award Writing Competition Winner, with Screening of the Film, Salt Water Moose, Natchez, Miss.
- 10:15 a.m. "William Faulkner: Re-discovering Southern Fiction," Donald Kautzinger, University of Mississippi, with Readings from Faulkner's Works by Anna Gerald M. Roney, Los Angeles
- 12:00 p.m. CARRIAGE HOUSE AT STANTON HALL (MS) A Live Event followed by "Deep Southern Fellowship" Diane Williams, Anne Rice, Jump-over the River, Mississippi Riverway-ers-Guild, Madison, Miss.
- 2 p.m. "Meet Ben Bond," An Interview of Ben Bond, The New York Observer Film Clinic, New York, by Robert Ross, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

3-5:30 p.m. "Historical Documentaries: Movies," A Guided "Walking Tour Celebrating the Bicentennial of Shadrach's Incorporation in 1803 (2003) with Tours of Governor William Howe in 1794, King's Tavern (1790), Temple of the Lord (1803) with the film The Natchez (Irish Experience), and Rebirths and Exhibits on Judge George W. Armstrong Library

3 p.m. "Bill King Homecoming" A Premiere Screening of a Documentary Film by Mississippi Educational Broadcasting with Remarks by Marie Antonio, MLCU Executive Director, Jackson

Saturday, February 22, 2003

"Exploring and Discovering First, Film, and Poetry"

- 9 a.m. "Think if You Love Movies: An Omelette's Story," Edward Cohen, The Public's Curious: Growing Up Inside in Mississippi and The Natchez Jewish Experience, Vinton, Calif.
- 10:15 a.m. "John Ford Goes to War: A Documentary Film," Thomas Thomson, Pleasanton, Lexington, Nc.
- 12 p.m. Part One: "Motherless Love: Murder on a Sunday," Clay B. Jenkins, Five Rivers Inaugural and Cultural Commission, Reno, Nev.
- Part Two: "Motherless Love: Murder on a Sunday," Clay B. Jenkins and John-FW Duke, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
- 2 p.m. "Honor Fleming Bennett's Legacy: The Matchless Three Parkway," Mable Parsons, Honor Fleming Parsons, A Geography, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
- 3:00 p.m. "An Evening with the Stars," An Annual Community Luncheon by William E. Waters, Donald McWhorter, and David E. Searing, University of Mississippi
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. NIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN STATES AWARDS
- TR. Hummer, Golden State, With Williams in Hall Home, The \$1,000 Top Choice, Dupes Place, Lower Class Home, Adams, Nc.
 - Clinton Endroit, One Up on a Two When It Was Colored, The Last Great North, The Journey Home, High Hairs of the South, McWhorter's Mad, The Letter 2, Pleasant, Tola, Ohio

Honors Party Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing

- Billy Bob Thornton, Stay Black, One Pale Horse, A Family Thing, Hot Springs, Ark., and Los Angeles

8 p.m. HISTORIC BAVENSWAYE, Screen Home of Honor Fleming Bennett, A Gals Benefit Reception/Supper Honoring Award Winners and Speakers, with First Person Characterizations of Honor Bennett's Davis Ann Bennett, Natchez, Miss., and the Unveiling of an Historic Marker (Award to 100 People @ \$125, \$200 to non-individuals)

8 p.m. NATURE VISIONS CENTER THEATER,

"Stay Black" a Film by Billy Bob Thornton, with Collier House Discussion Afterward, Led by Gail Brown, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, and Scott Dunn, McDaniel, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

Sunday, February 23, 2003

ELLEN DOUGLAS WRITING WORKSHOPS

"Exploring and Discovering Words and Ideas" COPAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (9:30 for two workshops and refreshments)

8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

- "How NOT to Write a Screenplay," David Armstrong, Lost River, The Third City, Sweet Adventure, and The King Place, Southport, Miss.
 - "Exploring the World of Publishing, or How to Get Your Non-fiction Book Published from Concept to Contract and Beyond," James P. Shirley, A Practical Guide to Publishing and More, Cleveland, Ohio
 - "Writing an Autobiography: Uncovering the Story Your Life Tells," Elizabeth Allen, The Public's Curious: Growing Up Inside in Mississippi, Vinton, Calif.
 - "The World of Collecting Memorabilia of Southern Authors," Fred W. Todd, Cultural Arts, New Orleans, La.
- 11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- "Charles Dickens of Natchez: A Biographer's Collage," Thom Inel Ekinen, Dynasty, Charles Dickens of Natchez, Dallas, Tex.
 - "Poetry and the Prophetic Poetics of Hawthorne," TR. Hummer, Old Thomas in Hall Home, Adams, Nc.
 - "Spotlight on Personal Stories," Diane Williams, Brentwood and Ardley, Madison, Miss.
 - "New Screenplay: ETV and Kin," Marie Antonio, Executive Director, Screen Report, Productions and Thomas Davis, Development Director, Foundations for Public Broadcasting, Mississippi Educational Broadcasting, Jackson



March 6, 2003

Illustrated by William M. Smith, Jr., New Orleans, La.

NOTE: A total of 143 Continuing Education Units are available for those attending the conference. Please inquire.

2003 part 1
page 1

The 14th annual
**Natchez Literary and
 Cinema Celebration**

presents



Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
 Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

February 19-23, 2003 - Natchez, Mississippi

All Free or Low Cost
 Lectures • Films • Book Signings • Workshops
 Exhibits • Tours • Parties



*Billy Bob Thornton
 will be present to
 receive the Harvest
 Foote Award for
 Outstanding
 Screenplay Writing
 His film, Sling Blade,
 will be shown and
 discussed.*

For information and tickets call 1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631
 WEB SITE: www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the
 Mississippi Humanities Council.

Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, Main Street.

Sponsored by Central Louisiana Community College, Natchez National Historical
 Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Alcorn State University.

Publicity
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Emily Sartor
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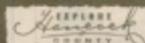
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This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism.

2003 part 1
 page 2

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

"Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase"

Presents



"Exploring and Discovering with Ourselves"
A Panel Discussion



Friday, February 21, 2003

Redd Watkins Career-Technical Center

Nelson Multipurpose Room

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Sponsors

**Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Student Support Services**

The Colnian

Volume 29, No. 1

January 2003



- 2 Charlotte Hill, New Foundation Director
- 6 Natchez News
- 7 Internet Campus Solutions

Olga Kern



- 10 Homecoming 2002
- 13 Wolfpack Art
- 14 Wesson News
- 16 Community Arts Series

75th Anniversary Celebration

Make Plans to Join Us



- 18 Athletics
 - 20 Tracking the Classes
- Backcover
Co-Lin Trivia

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

The Colnian is printed as a service through the Offices of Public Relations and Alumni Affairs and is mailed to all members and friends of the Co-Lin Alumni Association.

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Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or students.

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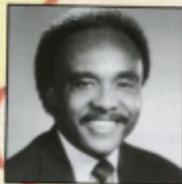
2003 part 1
page 4

NLCC to feature Louisiana Purchase, other American turning points

by Carolyn Vance Smith • NLCC Co-Chairman



Douglas



Taulbert



McRaney

A dramatic turning point in American history, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, will be one major focus of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Gimmie Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003.

Numerous other powerful turning points in American culture will also be subjects of the conference, including programs by and about some of Natchez's own citizens.

Using the theme of "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the Olympic Award-winning Celebration is expected to attract hundreds of people, according to event organizers.

"Explorations and their resulting discoveries have excited Americans for centuries," said Jim Barnett of Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Natchez, a Celebration co-chairman.

Other co-chairmen and their sponsoring agencies are NLCC founder Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Janice Turrage, Natchez National Historical Park; and Ralph Payne, Alcorn State University.

"In 1803, when the United States paid France \$15 million for nearly 600 million acres, our country suddenly doubled in size," Barnett said.

"This peaceful acquisition under the leadership of President Thomas Jefferson, which we call the Louisiana Purchase, placed the United States on the road to becoming the world's leading country."

About one-third of the Celebration will include lectures, panel discussions, films and a concert dealing with the Louisiana Purchase. Programs will be by the renowned historian Clay Jenkinson, who will present a first-person characterization of Meriwether Lewis; the historian John D.W. Guice on Lewis' mysterious death; the author/historian Jon Kukula; the historians Alfred Lemmon and Jason Wise of the Historic New Orleans Collection; the film maker Larry Foley on "The Forgotten Expedition of William Dunbar and George Hunter"; and a three-part program on 1803 in the South, in New Orleans and in Natchez by the historians Ellicott West, John Lawrence and Jack Elliott.

The rest of the programs will focus on exploration and discovery in avenues other than history by such experts as Natchez-born, award-winning novelist Ellen Douglas (Josephine Haxton); Emmy Award-winning screenwriter/actor Stuart Margolin of Natchez (Rockford Files); and Edward Cohen, author of *The Natchez Jewish Experience and The Peddler's Grandson: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi*.

Also on the agenda are the premieres of two documentary films, *Before the Louisiana Purchase* and *B.B. King Homecoming*, and the showing of the famed Academy Award-winning film, *Sling Blade*.

In addition, Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney will return to read selections from William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, in connection with a program on Faulkner's innovations in writing by the scholar Donald Kartiganer of The University of Mississippi.

Winning the Richard Wright Awards in 2003 will be the inspirational writer Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Okla., author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, *Last Train North* and *Eight Habits of the Heart* and the poet T.R. Hammer, editor of the *Georgia Review* and author of six volumes of poetry including *The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream Poems* and *Walt Whitman in Hell: Poems*.

Winning the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing will be Billy Bob Thornton of Little Rock, Ark., and Hollywood, who received an Academy Award for writing *Sling Blade*.

As last year, additional sessions will focus on three famous Southern writers, Flannery O'Connor, Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright. Also, eight writing workshops, named this year in honor of Ellen Douglas, will focus on screenplay writing, publishing, research, biographical writing, poetry writing, storytelling tips, Mississippi ETV partnerships and collecting writers' memorabilia.

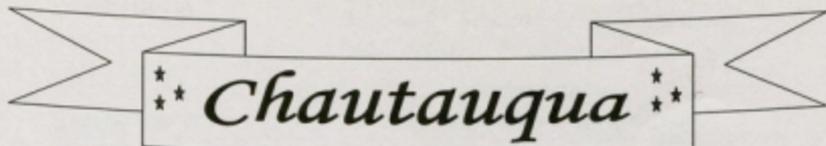
Most of the conference is free because of support from the sponsoring institutions, grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Tribal-State Compact Grant and other agencies, donations and in-kind gifts.

Ticketed events include the pre-conference seminars at \$15, a NAPAC reception at \$10, a luncheon at the Carriage House Restaurant at \$20, a guided walking tour at \$10, a concert at \$10, a benefit event at historic Ravensside at \$125 (with \$100 tax-deductible); and the post-conference workshops at \$15.

Tickets and information are available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, P.O. Box 347, Natchez, MS 39121, or by calling 800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631. Further information is available at the web site, www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Presents



Wednesday, January 29, 2003
Redd Watkins Career-Technical Center
Nelson Multipurpose Room
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



179

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Luncheon Followed by a Program,
Deep Southern Folklore, by Diane Williams

12:30 p.m., Friday, February 21, 2003

Carriage House at Stanton Hall

401 High Street • Natchez, Mississippi

\$20



071

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase

by The St. Joseph [La.] Orchestra Ensemble

8 p.m., Thursday, February 20, 2003

Natchez Convention Center

211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

\$10



077

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Three Pre-conference Seminars with Refreshments

8–11:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2003

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle • Natchez, Mississippi

\$15

2003 part 1
page 6



146

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration*presents***A Reception with Exhibits
Honoring NLCC Speakers**

5:30-7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 20, 2003
 Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture
 301 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

\$10



124

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration*presents***Historical Downtown Natchez
A Guided Walking Tour**

3-5:30 p.m., Friday, February 21, 2003
 With Group Departures from Natchez Convention Center
 211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

\$10



017

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration*presents***Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops**

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Sunday, February 23, 2003
 With Reception Honoring Ellen Douglas, 10:30-11:00 a.m.
 Copiah-Lincoln Community College
 11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, Mississippi

\$15



098

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration*presents***A Gala Benefit Reception/Supper
Honoring Award Winners and Speakers**

8:00 p.m., Saturday, February 22, 2003
 Historic Ravensside
 600 South Union Street • Natchez, Mississippi
 \$125 (\$100 tax-deductible donation)

2003 part 1
 page 7

1989 Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was named the number one chapter in the world



1990
The award-winning Natchez Literary Celebration (now known as the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration) was established

1991
New bridge from Highway 51 to the Wesson Campus was officially opened on the south side of campus



1993 - 1996 The Co-Lin Golf Course was completely renovated to an 18-hole course and named Wolf Hollow Golf Course

1994 Accepted first Associate Degree Nursing Class of 53 students



1996
The Natchez Campus was consolidated with the opening of the academic/administration facility adjacent to the vocational-technical center



1997
Howell C. Garner became the sixth president of Co-Lin



1995
Fried and Jewett Taylor Chapel completed

Completion of a second bridge over the Illinois Central Railroad connected Wesson with the campus

Co-Lin began offering programs at the Magee facility

1999 Business Technology program was named Mississippi Career and Technical Education Association Program of the Year

Co-Lin purchased 14 acres adjacent to the Natchez Campus for a future fine arts education and performance center to be operated in cooperation with Alcorn State University

2000

The Billy B. Thames Conference Center opened



2003

Two men's dormitories, Lawrence Hall and Lincoln Hall were dedicated

Old Lincoln Hall was torn down and removed in preparation for the new instructional technology building



1928-2003

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

History of Copiah-Lincoln Community College

1928 The expansion of Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School into a junior college.



Russell Elzey became president of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College.

1930 The Co-Lin Band and the Colletes were formed.

1932 - 1966

James Malcolm Ewing served as the second president of Co-Lin.



1934 W.S. Henley became chairman of the Board of Trustees.

1943 - 1945

Wilke H. Breth was acting president of Co-Lin.

1954 The Student Hall of Fame was established.



1956 - 1960
Francis Marion Fortanberry served as the fourth president of Co-Lin.

1966 The F. M. Fortanberry Vocational-Technical Complex was completed.

1968 - 1997 Billy Boss Thames served as the fifth president of Co-Lin.

1969 Nine-hole Co-Lin Golf Course added to the campus.



Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School, through the joint efforts of Copiah and Lincoln Counties, was established in the fall of 1915 in Wesson, Mississippi, at the edge of Copiah County. During its early years, the high school was a boarding school serving the rural districts of those counties. However, as consolidation of local schools progressed within the counties, practically every family in each county had access to an accredited high school. This availability to local schools created a new role for the agricultural school.

In addition, educators in the agricultural high school and in the county public schools became aware that the youth of Copiah and Lincoln Counties needed educational opportunities beyond the level of the 12th grade. To meet this need, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College was organized during the summer of 1928 under the authority of Section 508, Chapter 283, of the General Laws of the State of Mississippi in 1924. Enrollment for the first year was more than 90 students.

Since its establishment in 1928, Copiah-Lincoln has continued to grow in size and prestige and now occupies a prominent position in the state's educational system with an enrollment of over 3,000 and a physical plant valued at more than \$35 million.

In 1934, the officials of Simpson County requested an opportunity to join in the support of Copiah-Lincoln so that its students might have the right and ben-

efits of the public junior college.

Accordingly, the Copiah-Lincoln Board of Trustees accepted Simpson as a cooperating county.

Since that time four additional counties have joined in the support of Copiah-Lincoln: Franklin County in 1948; Lawrence County in 1965; Jefferson County in 1967; and Adams County in 1971.

In the fall of 1972, upon the request of local and state officials, Copiah-Lincoln opened a branch at Natchez, Mississippi, to better meet the educational needs of the citizens of that area. The Mississippi Legislature in the 1975 session authorized that "there shall be two campuses in the Copiah-Lincoln Community College District: one located in or near Natchez to be known as the Natchez Campus, and the other in or near Wesson to be known as the Copiah-Lincoln Campus."

Copiah-Lincoln Junior College became Copiah-Lincoln Community College on July 1, 1988, as approved by the state and the Board of Trustees. The name change reflects Co-Lin's continuing service to the community, its young people, adults, and senior citizens.

The year 2003 marks Copiah-Lincoln's 75th anniversary as a collegiate institution. "A Celebration of Learning, Community, and Commitment" appropriately describes Copiah-Lincoln's rich history and its philosophy for the future. The college will share a time of remembrance, reminiscence, fellowship, and appreciation with yearlong events.



1970

The Sopranos were organized by Julia Guesz.

Co-Lin honored its first Alumnae of the Year, Dr. Billy S. Thames.

1972 Natchez Branch began operation.

1974 J.H. Strubling replaced W.S. Henley as chairman of the Board of Trustees.



1975 Mississippi legislature upgraded Natchez operation to a "campus."

1976 165 acres of land was purchased south of Natchez for future development of a higher education facility in Natchez.

1978 Co-Lin established the Athletic Hall of Fame.

1981 The Copiah-Lincoln Foundation was established.

1982 The February Festival of Arts (now known as the Community Arts Series) began.

1983 The Copiah-Lincoln Library Hall of Fame was established by the English Club.

The first microcomputer lab was established with 64K Commodore computers.

1988 Copiah-Lincoln Junior College became Copiah-Lincoln Community College as approved by the state and the Board of Trustees.



THE 14th annual
NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA
CELEBRATION

sponsored by

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Alcorn State University

*The event is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities
Council and the Mississippi Division of Tourism.*

You're invited to attend free or low-cost NLCC
lectures, panel discussions, films, exhibits, book
signings, readings, and workshops.

Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 19-22
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
Feb. 19 and Feb. 23

FOR INFORMATION AND TICKETS,

CALL 601-446-6631 or 1-800-647-6742



THE 14TH ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA
CELEBRATION

*Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase*

WELCOMES YOU

to a

SPECIAL FREE PANEL DISCUSSION

**"EXPLORING AND DISCOVERING
WITHIN OURSELVES"**

at the

David Steckler Multi-Purpose Building
Natchez High School, Natchez, Miss.
9-10:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003

featuring

CLIFTON TAULBERT, Tulsa, Okla.
TRICIA WALKER, Nashville, Tenn.
and
DIANE WILLIAMS, Madison, Miss.

This event is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community
College, Natchez National Historical Park,
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and
Alcorn State University.

2003 part 1
page 10

BOOK IT!

NATCHEZ LITERARY and
CINEMA CELEBRATION



**EXPLORATION
AND DISCOVERY
THEN AND NOW**

*Saluting the Bicentennial
of the Louisiana Purchase*

Feb. 19-23, 2003
Natchez, Mississippi

Program presenters:

Ellen Douglas
Clay Jenkinson
Stuart Margolin
Gerald McRaney
Rex Reed
Clifton Taulbert
Billy Bob Thornton
and many other writers,
scholars, and film experts

Films:

The Forgotten Expedition
John Ford Goes to War
The Louisiana Purchase
Natchez Jewish Experience
Saltwater Moose
Sling Blade

Exhibits Discussions
Tours Book Signings
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**"EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY THEN
AND NOW"**

**Saluting the Bicentennial of the
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www.colin.edu/nlcc

2003 part 1
page 11



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The 14th Annual NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY: THEN AND NOW

SALUTING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

- Swing Low, Sweet Chariot African American Spiritual
- Ave Verum Corpus W. A. Mozart
1756 - 1791
- Quartet Op.50 No. 6 1st Mvnt F. J. Haydn
1732 - 1809
- Medley of Hymns
- Quartet Op.77 No.1 1st Mvnt F. J. Haydn
- Six Country Dances (Ländler) L. van Beethoven
1770 - 1827
- Eine Kleine Nachtmusik W. A. Mozart

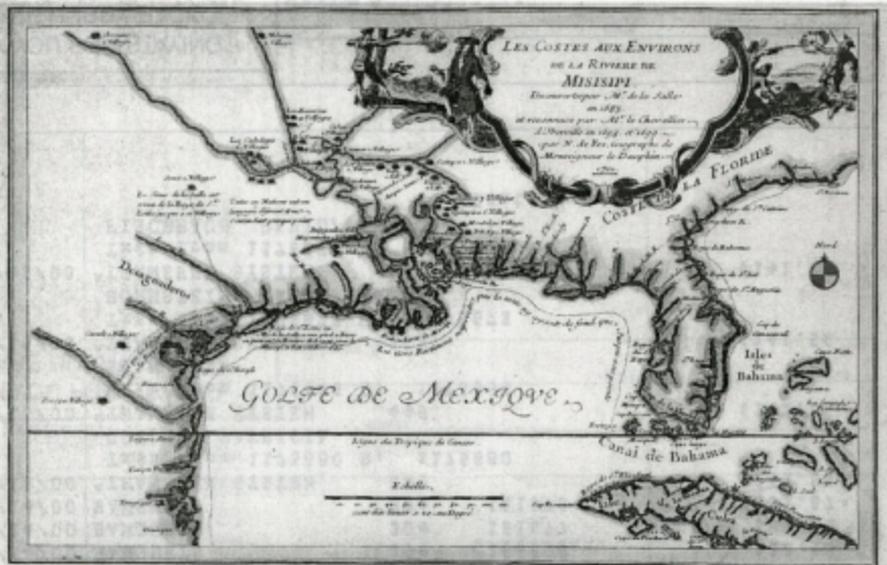
Dr. Jerry Rankin, M.D., Sand y Shugars , *First Violin*
Fulton McGraw, Elizabeth Latufo, *Second Violin*
David Troutman, *Viola*
Cecil Evans, *Cello*

2003 part 1
page 12

fall NCC
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Rare Maps and Books Documenting the Early History of the Lower Mississippi River Valley and Natchez Region

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"EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY THEN AND NOW"
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

2003 part 1
page 13

file NLCC publicity
2003 file

Smith, Carolyn Vance

To: Nettles, Ronnie
Cc: Colson, Marsha
Subject: FW: Spring Schedule Publication

Dr. Nettles [Carolyn Vance Smith]

Here are my comments and revised copy. [Carolyn Vance Smith] Thank you for allowing us to participate in this spring schedule publication. Please see copy below. Marsha Colson will get some suitable photos to you today.

Carolyn

-----Original Message-----

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2002 8:03 AM
To: Colson, Marsha
Subject: Spring Schedule Publication

Marsha:

Please review the text below with Mrs. Smith and update as necessary for the Spring Schedule Publication. Also, if you have a couple of good pictures from last year, send those to me and I will try to get them in the publication.

Thank you.

REN

The annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will take place Feb. 19 - 23, 2003, using the theme, "Exploration and Discovery, Then and Now: Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase." Nationally known scholars, writers, screenwriters, film experts, historians, and storytellers will offer more than three dozen programs.

Special events include special programs about the Louisiana Purchase, including a first-person interpretation of Merriwether Lewis by Clay Jenkinson; a premiere of a documentary film about the Mississippi musician B.B. King; writing workshops; selections read from William Faulkner's works by the Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney; an Emmy Award-winning children's film, *Saltwater Moose*, by the actor/screenwriter Stuart Margolin; an interview with the film critic Rex Reed; and the presentation of special awards to the poet T. R. Hummer, the author Clifton Taulbert and the screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton.

For more information, visit the web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc, or call 1-601-446-1213, 1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631, or join Friends of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

2003 part 1
page 14

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration set for February

WOLF TALES STAFF REPORT

A dramatic turning point in American history, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, will be one major focus of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003.

Numerous other powerful turning points in American culture will also be subjects of the conference, including programs by and about some of Natchez's own citizens. Using the theme of "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the Olympic Award-winning Celebration is expected to attract hundreds of people, according to event organizers.

"Explorations and their resulting discoveries have excited Americans for centuries," said Jim Barnett of Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Natchez, a Celebration co-chairman.

Other co-chairmen and their sponsoring agencies are NLCC founder Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Janice Tarnage, Natchez

National Historical Park; and Ralph Payne, Alcorn State University. "In 1803, when the United States paid France \$15 million for nearly 600 million acres, our country suddenly doubled in size," Barnett said.

"This peaceful acquisition under the leadership of President Thomas Jefferson, which we call the Louisiana Purchase, placed the United States on the road to becoming the world's leading country."

About one-third of the Celebration will include lectures, panel discussions, films and a concert dealing with the Louisiana Purchase. Programs will be by the renowned historian Clay Jenkinson, who will present a first-person characterization of Meriwether Lewis; the historian John D.W. Guice on Lewis' mysterious death; the author/historian Jon Kukla; the historians Alfred Lemmon and Jason Wise of the Historic New Orleans Collection; the film maker Larry Foley on "The Forgotten Expedition of William Dunbar and George Hunter"; and a three-part program on 1803 in the South, in New Orleans and in Natchez by the

historians Elliott West, John Lawrence and Jack Elliott. The rest of the programs will focus on exploration and discovery in avenues other than history by such experts as award-winning novelist Ellen Douglas (*Josephine*); Emmy Award-winning screenplay writer/actor Stuart Margolin of *Natchez* and *Los Angeles* (Rockford Files); and Edward Cohen, author of *The Natchez Jewish Experience* and *The Peddler's Grandson: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi*.

Also on the agenda are the premieres of two documentary films, *Before the Louisiana Purchase* and *B.B. King Homecoming*, and the showing of the famed Academy Award-winning film, *Sling Blade*. In addition, Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney will return to read selections from William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, in connection with a program on Faulkner's innovations in writing by the scholar Donald Kartiganer of The University of Mississippi.

Winning the Richard Wright Awards in 2003 will be the inspirational writer Clifford Taubert, Tulsa, Okla., author of

Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored, *Last Train North* and *Eight Habits of the Heart* and the poet T.R. Hummer, editor of the *Georgia Review* and author of six volumes of poetry including *The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream Poems* and *Wah Whittman in Hell: Poems*.

Winning the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing will be Billy Bob Thornton of *Little Rock, Ark.*, and Hollywood, who received an Academy Award for writing *Sling Blade*.

As last year, additional sessions will focus on three famous Southern writers, Flannery O'Connor, Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright. Also, eight writing workshops, named this year in honor of Ellen Douglas, will focus on screenplay writing, publishing, research, biographical writing, poetry writing, storytelling tips, Mississippi ETV partnerships and

collecting writers' memorabilia. Most of the conference is free because of support from the sponsoring institutions, grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Tribal-State Compact Grant and other agencies, donations and in-kind gifts.

Ticketed events include the pre-conference seminars at \$15, a NAPAC reception at \$10, a lunchroom at the Carriage House Restaurant at \$20, a guided walking tour at \$10, a concert at \$10, a benefit event at historic Ravenwood at \$125 (with \$100 tax-deductible); and the post-conference workshops at \$15.

Tickets and information are available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, P.O. Box 347, Natchez, MS 39121, or by calling 800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631. Further information is available at the web site, www.cohn.edu/nlcc.

2003 part 1
page 15

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The Natchez **CHILDREN'S** Home Newsletter

Volume 17 Number 1, Winter 2003

www.natchezchildrenshome.org

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE FRIENDS

Cajun Rock Climbing Wall
for participating in
Chili Cook-off

Central HS Baton Rouge
"Presidential Roundtable"
students for help at
Chili-Cookoff

Christian Motorcycle Association
Hattiesburg Chapter, for a fall visit

Cobblestone Alley
for donating a percentage of
all store-wide sales

Corr-Williams
for Nestle's candy

Day's Inn of Natchez
for providing showers
during hot water outage

First Baptist, Natchez,
RA's & GA's
for visit and supplies

First Natchez Corporation
(95 Country) for
"Toys for Tots" drive

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hyde
for the mini-van

Kelly's Kids
for donating clothing
for our children

Kimbrell's Office Supply
for paper cutter machine

KFNV Radio 107 "The River"
for publicizing NCH events

Natchez Literary & Cinema
Celebration
for event tickets

Plantation Pecan & Gift Company
for holiday pecan treats

Mr. and Mrs. David Rickett
for 50 new dining room chairs

Ruby Tuesday Restaurant
for discounted meals

Smith Printing and Office Supply
for a new fax machine

Supermarket Operations, Inc.,
for sponsoring Children's
Village at Balloon Races

Westminster Christian
Academy Mission Team
for work project and visit

Woodville Methodist Church
youth group for
"Make a Difference Day"
work team

2003 part 1
page 16

THE 14th ANNUAL NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

Exploration
and Discovery
Then and
Now:
Saluting the
Bicentennial of the
Louisiana
Purchase

FEB. 19-23, 2003
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln
Community College, Natchez
National Historical Park,
Mississippi Department of
Archives and History and
Alemo State University



Mississippi History NEWSLETTER



Published by the Mississippi
Department of Archives and History
Elbert R. Hilliard, director
Christine Wilson, editor
<http://www.mdah.state.ms.us>
Mailing address: M-PL, P.O. Box 571,
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

December 2002

Volume 44 No. 12

2003 MHS Meeting: "Mississippi in the Early Twentieth Century"

Members attending the **Mississippi Historical Society annual meeting**, to be held **February 27-March 1, 2003**, in Jackson will be welcomed at the Governor's Mansion, according to MHS president David Bowen. Program chair Dennis Mitchell reports that scholars to explore the topic of Mississippi in the early twentieth century include **Thomas K. McCraw**, Harvard University; **William C. Allen**, architectural historian, United States Capitol; and **Stephen Cresswell**, West Virginia Wesleyan University. Participants will tour the **Mississippi State Capitol and the newly renovated War Memorial Building**, Headquarters for the meeting is the Edison Walthall Hotel. Pre-registration packets will be sent to all members in coming weeks. The pre-registration fee of \$10 (individual) or \$12 (couple) is available through February 21. After that date and at the door, registration will be \$15 and \$17, respectively. Rates at the Edison Walthall are \$75 single or double. Meeting participants should make reservations promptly (a block of rooms is reserved until February 14) and specify that

Children's Victorian Christmas at Historic Jefferson College

From Saturday, December 7, through Friday, December 27, Christmas trees decorated by local and regional fifth-grade classes will be on display in the site's historic buildings at His-

toric Jefferson College, Washington. These trees are always extraordinarily imaginative and fresh. Don't miss them. For more information, call 601/442-2901.

***** Governor's Mansion Tours

From Wednesday, December 4, through Friday, December 20, the historic section of the Governor's Mansion will feature traditional holiday decorations using seasonal greenery and fruit. **Free guided tours** are offered Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 to 11 a.m., on the half-hour. Reservations should be made for

groups of ten or more. The Governor's Mansion will be closed for tours from Saturday, December 21, through Wednesday, January 1, 2003. The Mansion may be closed at other times during the month for official state functions. To confirm the availability of tours, call 601/359-6421.

they are attending the MHS annual meeting. For more information about the meeting, call Betty Kearney, 601/359-6850.



Winterville Holiday Open House

On Friday, December 6, at the Winterville Mounds Museum, Greenville, a Christmas Open House will be held 5-7 p.m., with vocal groups from local schools caroling. For more information call 601/359-6855.

Christmas at the Manship House

The Manship House Museum kicks off the holiday season with a **St. Nicholas Day Crafts Workshop** on Monday, December 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m. The workshop, for children ages 5-12, is free of charge.

Daily tours of the Manship House Museum during the Christmas season, Tuesday, December 6, through Saturday, December 21, will highlight traditional authentic Victorian decorations that the Manship family might have displayed at Christmas. Reservations are requested for groups of ten or more. For information call 601/961-4724.

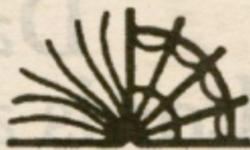
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

Historians, fiction writers, non-fiction writers, film makers, poets, and more will gather February 19-23 to salute the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase at the 14th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. There will be presentations of awards for literary excellence and screenplay writing, writing workshops, dramatic presentations, receptions, dinners, and more. For more information, visit www.colin.edu/nlec.

2003 part 1
page 19

*The 14th annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents*

**Exploration and Discovery
Then and Now:
*Saluting the Bicentennial of the
Louisiana Purchase***



**Feb. 19-23, 2003
Natchez, Mississippi**

FREE OR LOW COST

**Lectures • Films • Book Signings
Workshops • Exhibits • Tours**

**For Information and tickets call
1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631
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**This project partially funded by the MS
Development Authority/Tourism.**

**Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln
Community College, Natchez National
Historical Park, Mississippi Department
of Archives and History, and
Alcorn State University**

December 2002 **Country Roads** Page 45

2003 part 1
page 20

Help needed from students, staff NLCC's 14th celebration features history, tours, stars, and more

One of Copiah-Lincoln's biggest educational activities each year is the Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The 14th annual Celebration will take place Feb. 19-23, 2003, attracting internationally known speakers and hundreds of people.

Headquarters will be at the new Natchez Convention Center on Main Street, but several sessions will take place at Co-Lin.

Among the celebrities expected to present are the actors and/or writers Billy Bob Thomson (Slag Blade), Gerald McRaney (Major Dad), Stuart Margolin (Rockford Files), Ellen Douglas (A Family's Affairs and Traff: Four Stories), Clifton Taulbert (Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored) and Clay Jenkins (a top U.S. historian who "becomes" the explorer Meriwether Lewis).

"We can't put on something of this magnitude without the help of Co-Lin's students, faculty and staff," said Carolyn Vance Smith, foundation chairwoman of the celebration and retired head of the Co-Lin English Department.

Two Co-Lin faculty members are on the program. Gerri Brown will lead a discussion group after the showing of Slag Blade. Jim Wiggins will present remarks about an early

Natchez woman, Judith Sargent Murray, prior to the unveiling of an historic marker in her honor.

Students already involved with NLCC details are members of Phi Beta Lambda, SHARE, Student Government Association, Student Support Services, Institute for Learning in Retirement, Elderhostel and the President's Council.

"But there is so much to do," Smith said. "We need everyone."

Help is needed in the following ways, Smith said:

- * Assistance with speakers' needs while they are in Natchez
- * Distribution of NLCC brochures to Natchez schools, bookshops and libraries

* Greeting and ushering at the Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 19-22, 2003

* Greeting and assisting at Co-Lin for campus programs, Feb. 19, Feb. 21 and Feb. 23

* Decorating the Convention Center

* Serving refreshments between program sessions, Feb. 19-22

* Taking up tickets at the few ticketed events during the conference.

Volunteers may contact Smith in her office at the Co-Lin entrance near the bookstore, by phone at 601-448-1208 or by email at Carolyn.Smith@coelin.edu.

A dramatic turning point in American history, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, will be one major focus of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003.

Numerous other powerful turning points in American culture will also be subjects of the conference, including programs by and about some of Natchez's own citizens.

Using the theme of "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Solving the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the Olympic award-winning celebration is expected to attract hundreds of people, including many from Co-Lin Natchez.

"Explorations and their resulting discoveries have excited Americans for centuries," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Celebration founder and co-chairman.

Other co-chairmen and their sponsoring agencies are Jim Barnett, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Janice Tarrage, Natchez National Historical Park, and Ralph Payne, Alcorn State University.

In 1803, when the United States



Taulbert



McRaney

paid France \$15 million for nearly 600 million acres, our country suddenly doubled in size," Barnett said.

"This peaceful acquisition under the leadership of President Thomas Jefferson, which we call the Louisiana Purchase, placed the United States on the road to becoming the world's leading country."

Among the experts on the program are two Co-Lin faculty members, Dr. Gerri Brown and Jim Wiggins.

About one-third of the celebration will include lectures, panel discussions, films and a concert dealing with the Louisiana Purchase. The rest of the program will focus on exploration and discovery by such experts as award-winning novelist Ellen Douglas, pen-name of Natchez-born Josephine Haxton; Olympic Award-winning screenplay-writer and actor Stuart Margolin of Natchez and Los Angeles; Jerry Bledsoe of Alcorn State University, an internationally known writer; Richard Wright of Natchez, 1903-1960, and Edward Coles, author of a film, *The Natchez Jewish Experience*, and an autobiography, *The Fiddler's Grandeur: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi*.

Also on the agenda are the premieres of two documentary films, "Before the Louisiana Purchase" and "B.B. King Homecoming," and the showing of the famed Academy Award-winning film, "Slag Blade."

In addition, Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney will return to read selections from William Faulkner's "The Sound and the Fury," in conjunction with a program by Faulkner scholar Donald Kartiganer of The University of Mississippi.

Winning the Richard Wright Award in 2003 will be the inspirational writer Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Okla., author of "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," "Last Train North" and "Eight Habits of the Beat" and the poet T.R. Branner, editor of the *Georgic Review* and author of six volumes of poetry including "The 18,000 Ton Wingtip: Dream Poems" and "Walt Whitman as Heel: Poems."

Co-Lin will be the site for several sessions. These are:

* Three seminars Feb. 19 on Southern writers Flannery O'Connor, Zora Neale

Harston and Richard Wright. These seminars are free to Co-Lin students but cost \$15 for others.

* A free panel discussion, "Exploring and Discovering Within Ourselves," Feb. 21 by noted author Clifton Taulbert, singer/songwriter Tricia Walker of Nashville, Tenn., and Crystal Whitson, poet and novelist, Lexington, Ky.

* Eight writing workshops Feb. 23, named this year in honor of Ellen Douglas, on screenplay writing, publishing, research, biographical writing, poetry writing, storytyping tips. Mississippi ETV partnerships and collecting memorable writers. These workshops cost \$15 per person.

Most of the conference is free because of support from the sponsoring institutions, grants

from the Mississippi Humanities Council and other agencies, donations and in-kind gifts.

2003 part 1
page 21

Opinion

The Democrat

Mark calendar right for Celebration

One of the best Christmas gifts the Miss-Lou received this year was a surprise. It was a new 2003 Natchez Community Calendar, published by The Democrat, sponsored by merchants and inserted in newspapers dated Dec. 31, 2002.

What a great idea to have a community-wide calendar! Adding gorgeous photographs to make it attractive as well as useful was icing on the cake.

Such a novel idea should not be marred by error, but in one unfortunate instance, a gremlin crept into the lineup of coming events.

This error was not the fault of The Democrat staff, since dates were downloaded electronically from a local listing that was inaccurate.

To correct the error, please go to your calendar and flip to February 2003. Cross out the dates given there in late February for the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Then ink in the correct dates for the Olympic Award-winning conference, which are Wednesday through Sunday, Feb. 19-23.

While you're there, write the words "Must Do" across all five days.

You'll be glad you did, since this year's program lineup is the richest ever.

Using the theme "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the conference features several programs on the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, one of America's most dramatic events.

Speakers will be the renowned historian Clay Jenkinson, who will "become" Meriwether Lewis; the historian John D.W. Guice on Lewis' mysterious death; and the film maker Larry



Top of the Morning
Carol Vance Smith

Foley on "The Forgotten Expedition of (Natchez's own) William Dunbar and George Hunter."

Other programs will focus on exploration and discovery in avenues other than history by Natchez-born, award-winning novelist Ellen Douglas (pen name of Josephine Haxton, A Family's Affairs); Emmy Award-winning screenplay writer/actor/director Stuart Margolin of Natchez (Rockford Files); and Edward Cohen, author of The Peddler's Grandson: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi.

Celebrities will again be on hand. Noted actor Billy Bob Thornton of Little Rock, Ark., and Hollywood, will win the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing, especially for his Academy Award-winning film, Sling Blade.

The popular writer/inspirational speaker Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., author of Eight Habits of the Heart, and the award-winning poet T.R. Hummer, editor of the Georgia Review and author of The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream Poems, will win the Richard Wright Award for Literary Excellence.

Hollywood actor and Mississippi native Gerald McRaney will return to read selections from William Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury to illustrate

Faulkner's innovations in writing as explained by Faulkner scholar Donald Kartiganer of The University of Mississippi.

Other special events are the premieres of two documentary films, Before the Louisiana Purchase and B.B. King Homecoming, and the showing of Thornton's famed Sling Blade.

Pre-conference seminars will focus on the famous Southern writers, Flannery O'Connor,

Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright, and post-conference writing workshops, named for the first time this year in honor of Ellen Douglas, will explain screenplay writing, publishing and more.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Alcorn State University, the conference is mostly free because of support from the Mississippi Humanities Council, businesses, agencies and individuals.

A few events are low-cost. These are the seminars, a reception, a luncheon, a walking tour, a concert and the writing workshops. A benefit event at historic Ravensside is limited to 100 people and costs \$125 (with \$100 tax-deductible).

Tickets and information are available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, P.O. Box 347, Natchez, MS 39121, or by calling 800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631. Further information is available at the web site, www.colin.edu/nlcc.

See you next month at the Celebration!

Carol Vance Smith is a Natchez resident and co-founder of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

2003 part 1
page 22

Conference Theme

"Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase"

Headquarters

Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street

Sponsors

Copiah-Lincoln
Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
Alcorn State University

For Information and Tickets:



Call 601/446-6632 or
800/647-6742
or visit the web site:
www.colin.edu/nlcc

The 14th Annual NATCHEZ
LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI
FEBRUARY 19-23, 2003
PRESENTS

**EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY
THEN AND NOW**

SALUTING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE



Headquarters
Natchez Convention Center • 211 Main Street
Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.

The 14th annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

Exploration and Discovery
Then and Now:
*Saluting the Bicentennial of the
Louisiana Purchase*



Feb. 19-23, 2003
Natchez, Mississippi

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Workshops • Exhibits • Tours

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www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS
Development Authority/Tourism.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln
Community College, Natchez National
Historical Park, Mississippi Department
of Archives and History, and
Alcorn State University

Page 38 Country Roads January 2003

2003 part 1
page 24

fill NLCC
partially



February 2003



2003 part 1
page 25



Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Institute for Learning in Retirement
11 Co-Lin Circle
Natchez, MS 39120

Phone: 446-1210
Fax: 446-1296
Email: dee.ray@colin.edu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Computer Club 3:00-5:00	4 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00	5	6 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00	7 Current Issues Discussion Group 11 am Activity Room	8
9	10 Computer Club 3:00-5:00	11 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00	12	13 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00 Valentine Luncheon	14 Current Issues Discussion Group 11 am Activity Room	15
16	17 Computer Club 3:00-5:00	18 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00	19 NLCC Blood Drive Judith Sargent Murray's ded.	20 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00 NLCC	21 NLCC Current Issues Discussion Group 11 am Activity Room	22 NLCC
12	24 Computer Club 3:00-5:00	25 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00 Computer Class 2:30-4:30	26 Black History Month program and Blood Drive	27 Tai Chi 9:00-10:00	28 Current Issues Discussion Group 11 am Activity Room	

publicity
2003

Ty and Courtney Case wedding photo by Rhonda Powell

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MS State Society DAR

February 1 - 28

Black History Month at The
Grand Village of the Natchez
Indians. (School classes only)

February 1 - 28

Black History Month,
for events call (800) 647-6724

February 15

Black History Parade
noon

February 21

Mystic Krewe of Alpheus Mardi
Gras Parade. 6:30 pm

February 22

23rd Annual Taco Bell
River City Classic
10K, 5K, 1 mile fun!
(601) 446-6090

February 26 - March 2

Natchez, Literary and
Cinema Celebration
(800) 647-6742 (601) 446-6631

February 28

Krewe of Phoenix Mardi Gras
Parade. 5:00 pm

March 1

Krewe of Phoenix Grand Ball
601-445-5698

NAACP MEMORIAL PARADE

The Martin Luther King
Day Parade will be held
Monday, January 20, 2003.
The lineup for the parade
begins at 1:30 p.m. and the
parade begins at 2:30 p.m.

The 14th Annual
Natchez, Literary and Cinema
Celebration
Presents

Exploration and
Discovery
Then and Now:
Saluting the Bicentennial of
the Louisiana Purchase



Feb. 19-23, 2003
Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW COST
Lectures*Films*Book Signings
Workshops*Exhibits*Tours

For information and tickets call
1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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the MS Development
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Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln
Community College, Natchez
National Historical Park,
Mississippi Department of
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January 2003 Country Roads Page 31

2003 part 1
page 26

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Home

Search

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Orders

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Exhibits

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HENRY TAYLOR

2002 Michael Braudé Award for Light Verse, sponsored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters

JAY WRIGHT

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T. R. HUMMER

2003 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, sponsored by the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

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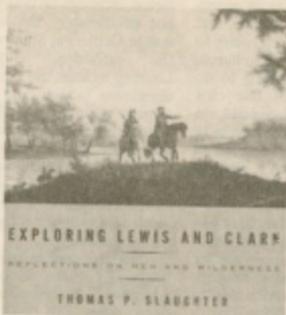
By Jon Kukla
Contributing writer

In October 1809 — three years after he and William Clark had led 40 men and Sacagawea to the Pacific Ocean and back — Meriwether Lewis shot himself in a fit of depression along the Natchez Trace. He had scarcely begun the daunting task of preparing the journals of the Corps of Discovery for publication.

After Lewis' suicide, the War of 1812 brought further delay to the project. By the time Nicholas Biddle finished a one-volume summary of the expedition in 1814, the expedition's fame was being eclipsed by subsequent explorers. Pirated reports of the expedition had spoiled the market, and Biddle's edition sold slowly. By the end of the 19th century, Lewis and Clark were almost forgotten. Henry Adams scarcely mentioned them in his classic "History of the Administration of Thomas Jefferson" (published in 1890 and long the best available narrative of the Louisiana Purchase).

After decades of neglect, near the turn of the century, the Lewis and Clark expedition elbowed its way to the forefront of western American history — with help from two world's fairs and the long-delayed publication of its journals.

In Chicago at the Columbian Exposition of 1893, the great historian Frederick Jackson Turner announced his famous "Frontier Thesis." The democratic character of America, Turner believed, was rooted in the repeated frontier experience of settlers pushing west into lands they regarded as "empty." Turner paid no attention to the displacement of Native-American tribes as the nation ex-



EXPLORING LEWIS & CLARK: REFLECTIONS ON MEN AND WILDERNESS

By Thomas P. Slaughter
Alfred A. Knopf, \$24

panded westward. Nor did the officials who announced that according to the census of 1890 the frontier was no more — all lands having been at least minimally settled.

When St. Louis celebrated the centenary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with another world's fair in 1904, Americans embraced the leaders of the Corps of Discovery as national heroes. That same year, Reuben Gold Thwaites published an eight-volume edition of Lewis and Clark's journals that brought the full story of their expedition to public view for the first time. Books and articles, popular and esoteric, soon followed.

For the sesquicentennial in 1953, Bernard DeVoto edited a selected edition of the journals that is still the best of many one-volume versions now in print. More recently, Gary Moulton published the modern definitive edition of the journals in eight volumes from 1983 to 2002. From all these sources Stephen Ambrose and Ken Burns respectively distilled the heroic tale of Lewis and Clark into a best-selling book, "Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of

the American West," and a popular television documentary. Enlarged to mythic dimensions in the American imagination, the frontier odyssey of Lewis and Clark has virtually supplanted the larger and more complex international diplomatic and political story of the Louisiana Purchase itself.

Thomas P. Slaughter's fascinating new book, "Exploring Lewis and Clark: Reflections on Men and Wilderness," stands on the shoulders of the past century's scholarship. It also stands some of that scholarship on its head.

Where Thomas Jefferson saw "courage undaunted," Thomas Slaughter rediscovers the daunting challenges that inspired both anxiety and valor. He demonstrates that the Missouri country, like every wilderness worthy of the quest, confronted Lewis and Clark and their companions with both topographical and spiritual obstacles.

Through close attention to the explorers' own accounts of their journey, Slaughter probes the threats that confronted Lewis and Clark at every turn. As they encountered Native Americans and heard their stories and legends, the forbidding terrain became a foreboding landscape. Snakes were a constant worry. But a den of rattlesnakes was even more frightening in the shadow of rock cliffs bearing pictographs "of the Devil and other things."

Equally unsettling was the reception accorded to Lewis's slave, York, by the native tribes. "Their women are very fond of caressing our men," Clark noted in his journal, but especially fond of York. To partake of the mystery and "great medicine" of York's blackness, Arikara warriors stood guard at the doors of their homes to prevent York from being interrupted as he had intercourse with their wives.

In these and many other instances, Thomas P. Slaughter's "Exploring Lewis and Clark" adds new and fascinating dimensions to our appreciation of the Corps of Discovery and their brave trek through the American West.

Kukla's *A Wilderness So Immense: The Louisiana Purchase and the Destiny of America* will be published in April.

2003 part 1
page 28



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Center for the Study of Southern Culture

Post Office Box 1848

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(662) 915-5993

Fax: (662) 915-5814

E-mail: cssc@olemiss.edu

URL: <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south>

January 28, 2003

file
NLCC ..
publicity

TO: Center Advisory Committee and Executive Council

FROM: Charles Reagan Wilson, Director

CRW

SUBJECT: Dinner and Meeting in Natchez

The Center's Advisory Committee and its Executive Council will have a joint meeting on Sunday, February 23, during the 2003 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. CAC member Carolyn Vance Smith is cochair of the February 19-23 event, which will examine the topic "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

A flyer with information about the program and registration is enclosed. Most of the lectures are free, and tours and social events are priced individually at low cost. Tickets are available through the Natchez Ticket Office. For details, see the flyer. For lodging information and reservations, call the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-647-6724. Carolyn and I hope you will plan to attend the entire Literary and Cinema Celebration as well as the Center meeting and dinner.

Ruth Ellen and Bill Calhoun have invited us to have the meeting at their home, Elgin Plantation, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 23. If weather permits, we will meet on the front gallery, overlooking the Calhoun's beautiful garden. If it's cold or raining, we will meet in the parlor. Elgin Plantation is off Highway 61 South; turn right on Dunbar Road and then right again, on Elgin Plantation Road. Maps will be available at numerous sites in Natchez.

Everyone is invited to gather for dinner on Saturday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. We have made reservations at Dunleith, where John Martin is chef. Dunleith is located on Homochitto Street.

Please return the enclosed form to let us know if you plan to attend the meeting and if you wish to make reservations for dinner on Saturday. Or, if you prefer, you may call my assistant, Brandi Dykes at the Center (662-915-5993).

I look forward to seeing you in Natchez, in Oxford on April 10-13 for the Oxford Conference for the Book, and at numerous sites throughout the year as we continue to celebrate the Center's twenty-fifth anniversary.

Enclosure



Center for the Study of Southern Culture
Studying the South Since 1977

2003 part 1
page 29



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Alcorn State University

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 19, 2003

To: All Speakers, Lecture Chairmen, Award Winners, and Other VIPs at the 2003 NLCC
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Copiah-Lincoln Community College; home phone: 445-5955
Re: Welcome to Natchez!

We are so glad you are with us to help make the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration another event to remember. Thank you for all you are doing to help us. Here are a few notes that may be helpful.

- Please look at the enclosed copy of a form you sent us, telling us which meals and other events you wish to attend. We gave the hosts/hostesses and caterers the number determined from your replies. We encourage you to attend the events you indicated you would attend since your local hosts/hostesses are eager to meet you and serve you.
- If you want a ride to meals or a ride to events away from the Convention Center, simply look for a Copiah-Lincoln van, which will be available from the Convention Center beginning late Wednesday afternoon. The van will be available at noon on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening. If you need a ride at other times, look for me or call me at above numbers.
- On Thursday, an Alcorn bus will be at the corner of Main and Wall Streets, near the NAPAC Museum, to pick up those going to dinner at President Clinton Bristow's home on the Alcorn State University campus at Lorman. The bus will leave promptly at 6 p.m. If you miss the bus, simply go by car on Hwy 61 north of Natchez about 35 miles and follow the signs to Alcorn. Ask at the entrance booth for directions to Dr. Bristow's dinner party for the NLCC.
- You may certainly follow the map in the program booklet and take your own car to any of the sites involved. Parking is always free.
- If you are a member of the NLCC Advisory Board, remember the breakfast meeting is at 7:30 a.m. Friday at The Castle restaurant on the grounds of Dunleith, 84 Homochitto St.
- If you need a ride and are interested in an inexpensive trip around downtown Natchez, a green trolley runs a 15-minute loop all day, with stops at the Natchez Visitor Center (near Isle of Capri Hotel entrance) and with other stops, including those near the Convention Center.
- Please complete and return your evaluation form. We like to hear from you!
- Please enjoy your enclosed complimentary copy of *The Writer* magazine. The publisher of this magazine sends hundreds of copies to the NLCC as an indication of his esteem.

2003 part 1
page 30

Traveling exhibit chronicles nations, cultures of the Louisiana Purchase

By TRACY BLAKE

The Natchez Democrat
The Natchez Democrat's articles, paintings and other artifacts tracing the historical significance of the Louisiana Purchase was one of the topics discussed during the first day of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Dr. Alfred Lemson, director and manuscripts curator of The Historic New Orleans Collection in New Orleans, gave a lecture about a traveling exhibit called, "A Fusion of Nations, A Fusion of Cultures: Spain, France, the United States and the Louisiana Purchase." The traveling exhibit is an example of a larger exhibit now showing at The Historic New Orleans Collection museum in New Orleans.

"The traveling exhibit kicks off here in Natchez and is one of three copies traveling through Louisiana," Lemson said.

The three smaller exhibits each display more than 20 examples of the historical maps, paintings and documents that were all part of the history and sale of the Louisiana territory. It traces the players, treaties and agreements from centuries before, which subsequently set into motion the 1803 transfer of Louisiana to the United States.

"The traveling exhibit is just a taste of the larger exhibit in New Orleans. This version of the exhibit is designed so that it would be easily digested by eighth graders," Jason Weiss, special collections and projects librarian with the museum, said.

The exhibit shows some of the people and treaties involved during the course of the territory being transferred from France to Spain back to France and ultimately to the United States. The exhibit states that, "The purchase of this vast land of Louisiana was a momentous event in the history of the United States because it effectively doubled the size of the country and insured western expansion, economic growth through unimpeded waterways.

Lemson and John Lawrence, director of museum programs, explained that the history of the territory before the sale to the United States was historically significant to Spain and France, and many of those documents are all part of the exhibit.

The men pointed to one document in the exhibit that showed

Literary celebration

Treaty of Naples, the signatures, or symbols, of the Native Americans had to be translated on the document. The Oct. 28, 1793, treaty also was signed by representatives of Spain. It established a loose consideration between the Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Tallapoosa, Alabama and Chickasaw nations and the King of Spain in order to impede the westward expansion of the United States.

"This created a buffer between one European nation and another," Lawrence said.

The traveling exhibits are designed to hit the highlights of the larger Louisiana Purchase exhibit in New Orleans, which includes

more than 75 pieces.

"This particular assemblage of items will probably never be together again," Lawrence said.

A big part of the museum's collection includes maps of the Louisiana area.

During the afternoon events, Weiss gave a lecture on a new book that will be available this spring. The book chronicles 500 years of maps and tells the story of Louisiana and the Louisiana Territory from the earliest explorations of Hernando de Soto to the modern American state. The book includes maps from cartographers' first attempts to chart the course of the Mississippi River and the region in the 16th century to a modern color-enhanced satellite view of Louisiana. The 430-page

hardback book is being published by the museum and will cost \$95.

The traveling exhibit is open for viewing in the lobby of the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St. The larger exhibit will be on display at the museum through June 7. The Historic New Orleans Collection is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 533 Royal St. in the historic French Quarter of New Orleans.

"People shouldn't go there just expecting to see some little scraps of important papers. This is a self-guided exhibit that comes to life through the rich paintings of the people who brought this together. The items are books on which to hang in order to get deeper into the story," Lemson said.



Jack Shobbs studies The Historic New Orleans Collection display, a small replica of the actual exhibit on display in New Orleans.

February 2003 Country Roads Page 37

The 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presented



Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase

February 19-23, 2003 - Natchez, Mississippi

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Billy Bob Thomson
will be present to
receive the Horton
Foster Award for
Outstanding
Screenplay Writing.
His film, *Sling Blade*,
will be shown and
discussed.

For information and tickets call 1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631

WEB SITE: www.ccin.edu/blcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, Main Street.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical

2003 part 1
page 31

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Published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History
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Christine Wilson, editor
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Mailing address: MDAH, P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Mississippi History

NEWSLETTER

Volume 45 No. 1

January 2003

Preservation Grants of \$7,336,500 Awarded

The Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has announced awards of grant funds totaling \$7,336,500.

Mississippi Landmark Grants

The 2002 Legislature authorized the issuance of \$700,000 in bonds as supplemental funding to implement the Mississippi Landmark Grant Program, established by the 1999 Legislature and administered by MDAH. MDAH received fifty-two applications requesting almost \$8.9 million.

"We are grateful to the Mississippi Legislature for its decision to establish and fund this program. We saw many, many worthy applications during this process, and wish we could have awarded each of them grants," said MDAH director Elbert R. Hilliard. "Participation in the Mississippi Landmark Grant Program was overwhelming, and we salute all the applicants."

"In addition to thanking legislators for their continued support, I would like to especially note the efforts of State Treasurer Marshall Bennett, who was instrumental in helping us initiate this important program," said William F. Winter, president, MDAH Board of Trustees.

For the list of the grant awards, see page 2.

Community Heritage Preservation Grants

The 2002 Mississippi Legislature authorized the issuance of \$5.5 million in bonds to continue the popular Community Heritage Preservation Grant Program that helps with the preservation and restoration of historic courthouses and schools and, in Certified Local Government communities, other historic properties.

The Department of Archives and History, directed by the Legislature to review and evaluate the grant applications, received seventy-three applications requesting over \$22 million.

"We are delighted with the response to this very popular program, which will enable the preservation of some of the most significant historic buildings in the state," said MDAH director Elbert R. Hilliard. "We are grateful to the Mississippi Legislature for funding this important program for a second year. And we are grateful to the organizations and local governments around the state that submitted such outstanding grant proposals. We regret that we could not have funded more of these worthy projects."

For the list of grant awards, see page 3.



John Dennis cleans monument.

Monument to Women Restored

Conservation and treatment of the 85-year-old bronze and granite memorial to the women of the Confederacy on the State Capitol grounds is complete. Conservators John Dennis of Dallas and Michael Morris of New York chemically cleaned the green, water-streaked bronze surface to restore it to its intended color, then pressure-washed the granite. The conservation was made possible by private donations, an allocation of legislative funds for the maintenance of the Capitol and grounds, and a matching grant secured by MDAH from Save Outdoor Sculpture! (SOS!), a joint project of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the National Heritage Preservation Agency. The sculpture was created by artist Belle Kinney and was cast by the Tiffany Studios. The 1917 monument stands on the south side of the Capitol, facing Mississippi Street.

January Events

Mississippi Genealogical Seminar

January 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Mikhail's Northgate Convention Center, Jackson

Margaret M. Hofmann: "Three Hundred Years of North Carolina Patents and Grants"

\$38, lunch included, with \$2 discount for MGS members
Information: Sandra Boyd, (tel) 601/359-6889

Louisiana Purchase Exhibition Opens January 14

The Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC) celebrates the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase with *A Fusion of Nations. A Fusion of Cultures: Spain, France, the United States, and the Louisiana Purchase*, showing January 14 through June 7, 2003. The exhibition is free and open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 533 Royal Street.

The exhibition includes key documents and artifacts related to the purchase as well as earlier documents that set the stage for the transfer: more than 100 items from museums and archives in France, Spain, the Netherlands, the United States, and HNOC. For more information, visit www.hnoc.org.

MHS Annual Meeting: Page 2

Natchez Literary/Film Celebration: Page 4

2003 part 1
page 32

Smith, Carolyn Vance

file NCC
publicity

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2003 9:35 AM
To: Natchez Everyone; Davis, Natalie; Biggs, Courtney
Subject: Monday Update 01/13/03

Faculty and Staff:

* Opening ceremonies for Co-Lin's 75th Anniversary Celebration will be held at the Thames Center in Wesson on Monday, February 3, 2003 at 2:00 pm. Featured speakers include Governor Ronnie Musgrove, US Senator Thad Cochran, Co-Lin alumnus Frank Pitts, and retired Co-Lin President Dr. Billy Thames. A short concert by world-renowned pianist Randall Aitcheson is also on the agenda. I am hopeful that several of you are interested in attending this event to represent the Natchez campus. If you would like to ride with me in the Co-Lin car (or van), please call Pat.

* Please send your course syllabi for the Spring 2003 semester to Pat Cater for academic courses or to Beth Richard for career and technical courses. Make sure that the information for the course is current and that your syllabus contains the attendance policy, your grading scale, and the disability statement. You do not need to send syllabi for classes that were taught in the Fall 2002 semester unless you made changes to the course syllabi.

* We have over 818 students registered for classes this Spring semester. I want to thank everyone who helped with registration this year.

* The Leadership Natchez class including our own Nancy McFarland will be on campus this Thursday. Please make them feel welcome as they visit our campus.

* The current issues discussion group will meet this Friday in the Activity room at 11:00 am. The topic this week "Cloning Saddam, & Tax Cuts for Kim Jong-il..." Always interesting....

* Hall of Fame nominations are due this week. Please give this nomination your thought and attention because it is a significant honor for our students. A committee of faculty and staff will make the final selection.

* I will be meeting with members of the Presidents Council this Thursday at 11:00 am in the Library Conference room. This organization consists of the presidents of all the student organizations on campus. If you are a club advisor, please encourage your club president to attend.

* Mrs. Harris and I will be traveling to Wesson today to attend Dr. Garner's staff meeting.

* Congratulations to Mr. Kenneth Taylor and Mathew Willis, our 2003 William Winter Scholars from Co-Lin Natchez. These two were chosen as Most Outstanding Teacher and Student and will be representing our campus at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in February.

* Admissions to the Chataqua program on January 29, 2003 is free but only with a ticket. If you would like a ticket for yourself or a group of students, please contact Mark LaFrancis this week.

Have a good week.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

2003 part 1
page 33



◀ Rising gas prices not cause for alarm just yet PAGE 1D

Trinity boys fall in bid for state championship PAGE 1B ▶




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The Natchez Democrat

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Sunday, February 25, 2001
www.natchezdemocrat.com

MISSISSIPPI EDITION

Thornton glad to be off 'red carpet'

By NITA MCCANN

The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — With humility and humor, filmmaker, screenwriter and actor Billy Bob Thornton received the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's screenwriting honor Saturday night.

Prize-winning screenplay writer Horton Foote, for whom the Outstanding Screenplay Writing

Natchez

award is named, is a longtime fan of Thornton's.

And in accepting the second-ever award at the Natchez Convention Center, Thornton said the feeling is mutual.

Foote "has always been one of my heroes," Thornton said. "And to have his name on my wall is just amazing to me. He was a humble

man ... and a great writer."

That same down-to-earth quality is, Thornton said, one of the things that attracted him to the awards ceremony itself.

"This is not ... walking down the red carpet and selling products," Thornton said. "That's why I'm so proud to be here tonight."

"People think you won't come if it's not the Golden Globes or the Academy Awards."

But Thornton said that when Mississippi native and actor Gerald McRaney called to say Thornton was this year's recipient, "I said sure — make sure you clear the schedule out and let's go."

Was Thornton's schedule clear? Well ... not exactly. He was up until 3 a.m. Saturday shooting the

See Thornton, 9A



Sitting beside a photo of screenwriter Horton Foote at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, honoree Billy Bob Thornton smiles during his introduction by actor Gerald McRaney.

Thornton

Continued from 1A

film "The Alamo" — in which he will play Davy Crockett — before traveling to Natchez Saturday afternoon.

Between that and what he characterized as an awkwardness in public speaking, "basically, all I've done for you tonight is bring you a vinyl," Thornton said to the laughter of the crowd.

But Thornton, an Arkansas native, also brought these in attendance a few compliments.

He noted that in a one-man show he performed for many years in Los Angeles, he told audiences a few things about the South before he began his performances.

"I said, 'I want you to remember this — that if it weren't for the southern United States, you wouldn't have many great authors or any modern music. So just sit back and enjoy the ride.'"

Thornton also congratulated his fellow honorees, Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award recipients T.R. Hummer and Clifton Taulbert, whom he referred to as "amazing people."

Poet and Macon native Hummer, however, said he knew his place in the ceremony. "I'm just proud and pleased to be a warm-up act for Billy Bob Thornton," Hummer said.

But both Hummer and Taulbert went on to draw standing ovations from the crowd, reading from the works that helped earn their place at the podium.

For Hummer, those included poems drawing from a wide range of human experiences — from waxing poetic about a bust of Plato in a library to imaging how

God was assembled in the work "First Assembly of God."

He also read from "The Chaos Primer," a collection of poems for each letter of the alphabet, which he wrote for his daughters to keep them for life as it really is.

Hummer noted that he was accepting the award not only for himself, but for poetry in general, being only the second poet honored with the award.

"I thank everyone, including God, for this medal," he said.

Taulbert — in keeping with this year's celebration theme, "Exploration and Discovery" — told of exploring his hometown of Glen Allan for the themes of his books.

Taulbert said that if he does have a talent, it is in observing people and telling their stories. As a child, he would sit and listen to the grown-ups' life stories at every opportunity. "And I gently and safely packed them away," he said.

In doing so, he gathered the ingredients for his well-honored works. Those include "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," "The Last Train North," "The Journey Home," "Eight Habits of the Heart" and "Separate but Equal," among others.

Life wasn't always easy growing up in the Mississippi Delta in the days of Jim Crow, Taulbert said, "but racism didn't have the power" to overcome the influence of incredible people, black and white, that influenced his life for the better.

And when the young man from Glen Allan was summoned to New York City to introduce "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored" on the Phil Donahue Show, he knew the recognition wasn't just for him.

"It introduced America to shotgun houses where incredibly big

2003 part 1
page 34

WPMI-Fairfax

WTVJ-Natchez

The following television stations with Community Calendar have been sent PSA information:

WBRZ - Baton Rouge
 WAFB - Baton Rouge
 WJLT - Jackson
 WU & Alexandria
 WNOX - Monroe

2003 part 1
 page 35

3/2/2003

Smith, Carolyn Vance

To: Carolyn Vance
 Subject: RE: Radio State PSA

Thanks, Karen! This looks great.
 Carolyn

-----Original Message-----

From: Carolyn Vance (mailto:carol@radio.com)
 Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2003 11:07 AM
 To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
 Subject: Radio State PSA

The following radio stations have been sent PSA information:

WJST - Jackson State University
 WJRC - Rust College
 WUSM - University of Southern Mississippi
 WMLW - Mississippi University for Women
 WYSD - Mississippi Valley State University
 WNGD - Aberdeen
 WFMN - Hattiesburg
 WOCM - Gulfport
 WABO - Greenwood
 WNOX - Greenville
 WGOO - Greenville
 WBAO - Greenville
 KZYG - Greenville
 WMSO - Canton
 WMAJ - Brookhaven
 WOCN - Gulfport
 WABO - Gulfport
 WCRB - Gulfport
 WNLK - Batesville
 WAMY - Amory
 WAFB - Amory
 WONE - Natchez

2/2/2003

profile
 name
 Page 1 of 2
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Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Nina Parikh [NPARIKH@mississippi.org]
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2003 5:41 PM
Subject: Hotline: 02/04/03

Hope everyone had a nice weekend.

Don't forget about the Magnolia Independent Film Festival in Starkville this Thursday through Saturday. www.magfilmfest.com

+++ WLBT has an opening for a news cameraman. Video production or news experience necessary. For further information please contact Jim Duncan at WLBT at 601/946.8407.

+++ SOUTHERN EXPRESSIONS, a new show on ETV, will debut tomorrow night, Feb. 4 at 9:00 PM. The premier episode is designed to bring southern films to viewers who might not get to see them otherwise as well as provide an outlet for regional filmmakers so their stories can be seen. Future episodes will include interviews with filmmakers, industry news, upcoming events and other information pertaining to filmmaking.

Films for this episode:

- *Eminent Domain* - Sadia Shepard
- *They Said It Couldn't Happen* - Lida Gibson
- *Souvenir* - Kathryn Rodemeyer
- *O'Sunitra* - Anita Modak-Truran
- *Club Vertical* - Eric Steven Roberts
- *Monk Rules* - Neil White

+++ The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will take place on Wednesday, Feb 12 through Sunday, Feb 23, 2003. This year's theme is "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

There will be three dozen programs, films, concerts, discussions, book signings, seminars, writing workshops, etc. Billy Bob Thornton will be presented with the 2003 Horton Foote Award for Screenplay Writing; novelist Ellen Douglas will be speaking; the inspirational writer/speaker Clifton Taulbert will be present; and dozens more.

*

Most of the conference is free and open to the public. Please go to the web page for more information and the complete lineup: www.colin.edu/nlcc.

+++ Video Works Inc. operates a small production truck throughout the South. The truck can be used for telethons, concerts, music festivals, teleconferences, as well as church services and pageants. Their operators have 15 years in the business. For a brochure or more info, please call Steve Guidry at 800.844.4404

If you have film or video related news or events you would like considered for the Hotline, please email nparikh@mississippi.org.

Have a good week.

Mississippi Film Office

2003 part 1
page 36

February 4, 2003

To: Natchez-area hotels/motels/Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, representing B&B inns
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Re: 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003

I am writing to tell you that the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will take place this year for five days and four nights, Wed.-Sun., Feb. 19-22, 2003. Many people will arrive on Tues., Feb. 18.

We expect to attract another large number of people from out of town. In fact, some have already called our office concerning housing in Natchez. We routinely send them to the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau and Natchez Pilgrimage Tours for advice.

However, several have called us back to tell us that they have called several hotels/motels only to have registration personnel tell them they do not know anything about the Celebration!

Will you please take a minute to look over the enclosed NLCC brochure with complete agenda? Also, please be sure your personnel have seen the brochure and know about the Celebration.

If you wish, you can find out more about the NLCC by visiting our web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc. Please call me if I can be of any help to you. My direct line is 601-446-1208. My e-mail address is Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu.

Thank you for all you are doing to help us with this prestigious event.

2003 part 1
page 37

Three writers to receive awards at upcoming celebration

Special to The Democrat

NATCHEZ — Three writers, all with strong Southern roots, will receive major awards at the 34th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in five ceremonies at 6 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Natchez Convention Center.

Award winners are the Hollywood screenplay writer and actor Billy Bob Thornton, the inspirational writer/speaker Clifton Taubert of Tulsa and the poet/literary TR Hammer of the University of Georgia. All will be present to

accept the awards and present remarks.

Thornton will win the Horton Foote Special Achievement Award for Screenplay Writing, to be presented by the award committee chairman,

Gerald McRaney, film and television actor of Mississippi and California.

Taubert and Hammer will win the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, to be presented by former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter and awards committee chairman David G. Searns of The University of Mississippi.

Thornton, widely known for the film "Sling Blade," on which he did triple duty as starring actor, screenwriter and director, is winner of an Academy Award for Best Screenplay. The Arkat native

Natchez

and his writing partner, Tom Ipperson, are also known for their screenplays, "Hunter's Blood," "A Family Thing" and "One False Move." In addition, Thornton has had winning acting roles in such films as "The Apostle," "Primary Colors," "A Simple Plan" and "Armageddon."

Inventor of location in Texas filming "The Alamo," Thornton has won numerous awards for filmmaking and acting. In addition to the Academy Award, other awards are from the Writers Guild of America, the Broadcast Film Critics Association, the National Board of Review, the Online Film Critics Society and film critics associations in Los Angeles, San Diego, Boston, Chicago and Dallas-Fort Worth.

Clifton Taubert, an author, lecturer, film maker and motivational speaker, is best known for his Pulitzer Prize-nominated "The Last Train North" and for his autobiographical "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored."

"Once Upon a Time" was the basis for the 1996 film by the same name. He is also author of "Eight Habits of the Heart," a book outlining essential materials in building a productive community, including, as he says, "basic ideas that are not held captive by time, race, gender or place."

Other books Taubert has written are his childhood memoirs "Little Cliff and the Porch People," "Little Cliff and the Cold Place," "Little Cliff's First Day of School" and "The Journey Home: A Father's Gift to His Son." A new book is "Separate But Equal: The Mississippi Photographs of Henry Clay Anderson."

Taubert has been honored from

Europe to Asia to the Mississippi Delta as a great writer, humanitarian and civic leader. Born in the Mississippi Delta town of Glen Allen, he served in the U.S. Air Force, earned a degree at Oral Roberts University and is a graduate of the Southwest Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University.

He worked with Larry Pitts, the inventor of the Successor Exercise System, to develop the U.S.-wide government market for his revolutionary machine.

TR Hammer, currently professor and editor of The Georgia Review at the University of Georgia, Athens, is a native of Macon and author of seven books of poetry.

Hammer earned both bachelor's degree and master's degree at the University of Southern Mississippi's Center for Writers and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Utah. He has taught at the University of Southern Mississippi, University of Utah, Kenyon College, Middlebury College, University of Oregon and Virginia Commonwealth University.

He has been editor of Quarterly West, The Cimarron Review, The Kenyon Review and New England Review and was Senior Poet at Virginia Commonwealth



Thornton



Taubert



Hammer

Commonwealth University. His books include "Translation of Light," "The Angelic Orders," "The Prisoner of the Right-angled Man," "Lower-Class Beauty," "The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream," "Walt Whitman in Hell" and, in 2001, "Useless Poems." His poems have appeared in many journals, including The Paris Review and The Atlantic.

Hammer has won a Guggenheim Fellowship for poetry, the Pulitzer Prize, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship for poetry and the James Poetry Prize from Fellowship of Southern Writers.

All three award winners will be honored at an autograph session following the ceremony. In addi-

tion, Thornton will help lead a discussion of "Sling Blade," following the showing of the film after the awards ceremony.

The Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing is named after Horton Foote of Wharton, Texas, an Oscar-winning and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer of screenplays, plays, and a non-fiction memoir. Foote won the first award in 2002, after which time the award was named in his honor.

Called the "American Chekhov," Foote gained acclaim with the play "The Young Man from Atlanta" (which won a Pulitzer Prize), "The Trip to Bountiful" (which won an Indie Award for Best Writer), "The Chase," "The Traveling Lady," "On Valentine's Day," "Corvick" and "The Carpetbagger's Children."

He is currently at work on the play "Tender Mercies," which will appear this spring.

Foote is also lauded for the screenplays "Steen Pan," "To Kill a Mockingbird" (which won an Oscar), "Baby," "The Rain Man Film," "Harry Sandown," "Tomorrow" (an adaptation of William Faulkner's work), "Tender Mercies" (which won a second Oscar), and a remake of Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men."

He is also author of a recent memoir, "Farewell," which tells his own story and that of people who inspired his characters.

The Horton Foote Award is the brainchild of Gerald McRaney, an award-winning film and television actor of Mississippi and Sherman Oaks, Calif. Since the Natchez Literary Celebration in 2001 changed its name at McRaney's suggestion to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to reflect its increased focus on film, McRaney suggested a writing award for that medium.

The Richard Wright award was established in 1994 by the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to honor the internationally known author, Richard Wright.

This man was born near Natchez in 1908, the son of a country schoolteacher and an illiterate sharecropper. Wright's first novel, "Native Son," was published in 1940 and was an immediate success.

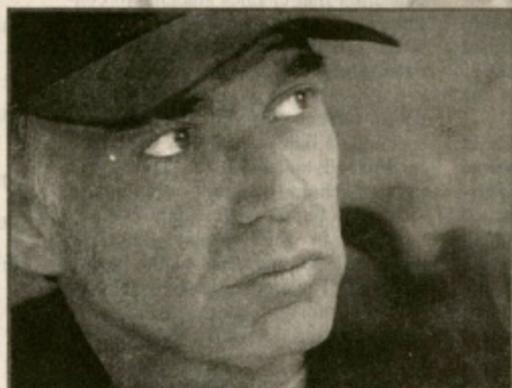
His "Black Boy," a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. After leaving Natchez at a young age, Wright worked in Chicago and later moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

2003 part 1
page 38

THE 14TH ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
presents

"Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase"

NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
211 Main Street - Natchez, Mississippi
FEBRUARY 19-23, 2003



Billy Bob Thornton will be
present to win the Horton
Foote Award for Outstanding
Screenplay Writing.
His film, *Sling Blade*,
will be shown and discussed.

ALL FREE OR LOW-COST

PRESENTATIONS BY

Billy Bob Thornton, Gerald McRaney, Clifton Taulbert, Ellen Douglas,
Edward Cohen, Clay S. Jenkinson, John D.W. Guice, Elliott West, T.R. Hummer,
Stuart Margolin, Jon Kukla, Rex Reed, and others.

FILMS

Premieres of *Louisiana...a History* and *B.B. King Homecoming*

Also to be shown: *Sling Blade*, *The Forgotten Expedition*,
The Natchez Jewish Experience, *John Ford Goes to War*, *Salt Water Moose*
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2003 part 1
page 39

3. Approved the resignation of Terrey Dukes as assistant librarian on the Natchez Campus.
4. Approved the retirement of Mr. Jack Amacker as commercial truck driving instructor at the Wesson Campus after 26 years of employment at Co-Lin.
5. Approved advertising bids for new vans.
6. Approved a resolution in support of the Simpson County Board of Supervisors to provide facilities for Co-Lin.
7. Hear numerous reports on SACOS, renovation, the college budget, instructional technology building, MCOJ, and athletics.

Have a good week.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Capehan-Lincoln Community College

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2003 9:11 AM
To: Nettles, Evansport; Davis, Rosalie; Biggs, Courtney
Subject: Monday Update-02/10/03

Faculty and Staff

* I want to thank Judy Wiggins, Helen LaFrancis, Gwen McCall, Lolita Kendall, Kaye Harris and Carolyn Vance Smith for traveling to Wesson with me last week to attend the 75th Anniversary Celebration. It was a very nice program with speakers by Governor Ronnie Blount, Senator Chad Cooper, Dr. Billy Thomas, and Mr. Frank Pitts. As you probably read in the paper, Mr. Pitts pledged \$500,000 to the college for student scholarships and faculty development.

* This is national Career and Technology week. There are several activities planned including visits from students at various schools in the community. Please make these students and visitors feel welcome on our campus.

* Keep the family of Mrs. Peggy Ferman in your thoughts and prayers. She passed away last week in Jackson. Mrs. Ferman worked on our campus two different times as a senior aide in the Student Support Services office and with the MCOJ.

* Congratulations to Mrs. Carolyn Vance Smith, last Monday afternoon Alpha Omicron Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma presented her their first Red Rose Award in recognition of her exemplary service to education. Delta Kappa Gamma is an organization for key women educators. Members from Co-Lin are Joan McLemore, Barbara Hays, Jan Flocke and Janice Byrne. Adjunct instructor Joan Jones also is a member.

* Congratulations to Walt Wilson on being selected to present a program of the NSOCD conference in Austin, Texas this May. The title of Walt's program is: "Games People Play to Prepare for Final Exams."

* Our first Arbor Day and 75th anniversary program is scheduled for this Friday at 11:00 am. Please encourage student groups to participate. We will give students 75th celebration t-shirts as long as the supply lasts.

* Mrs. Betty Mullen has purchased a SMART Board for use on our campus. The SMART Board interactive whiteboard turns your computer and projector into a powerful tool for teaching, collaborating and presenting. With a computer image projected onto the board, you can simply press on its large, touch-sensitive surface to access and control any application. Using a pen from the SMART Pen Tray, you can work naturally at the board to take notes and highlight important information. **Bobby Kerrigan will be demonstrating how to use the SMART Board in the Lecture Hall this Friday at 1:00 pm.**

* Please encourage your students to attend the MCOJ program in the Multi-Purpose room at 11:00 am on Friday, February 21, 2003. It will be a panel discussion featuring Pulitzer Prize nominee Cillian Tauler, Singer/Songwriter Trish Strain, and author/ryer Yell. Diane Williams. This program is our effort to bring the MCOJ to the students on campus. As most of you know Cillian Tauler is a world renowned speaker and writer and I think it will be a wonderful opportunity for our students. The program will conclude at 12:30.

* Congratulations to Ray Smith and Walt Wilson on receiving continuing accreditation for the Respiratory Therapist Program. They recently completed a peer review process and site visit that was conducted by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). If everything continues as we expect, the accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs will be continue until 2015. I want to thank Ray, Walt, and Mrs. Harris for their hard work during this year-long process.

* The Current Issues Discussion Group topic this week is "After Columbia, What is the Future of the American Space Program?" They will meet this Friday at 11:00 am in the Activity Room.

* The Board of Trustees met last Thursday in Wesson and took the following actions.

1. Approved the 2003-2004 Catalog as an official document of the College.
2. Approved the employment of Mr. Henry Krink as Instrumentation Technology Instructor at the Wesson Campus.

2003 part 1
page 40

Mississippi Events

Natchez hosts 14th annual literary, film celebration

We gladly list events of statewide interest, at space allows. Submissions must reach us at least two months prior to the event date. All submissions must include a phone number with area code. Mail submissions to Mississippi Events, Today in Mississippi, P.O. Box 1300, Ridgeland, MS 39153-0300; fax to (601) 605-6601; or email to news@todayms.com. All events are subject to change. Please call ahead to confirm dates and times before making plans to travel. Abbreviations: CVR, Convention and Visitors Bureau; CC, Chamber of Commerce.

30th Annual Bi-State Art Competition, b. 8 - March 8, Meridian. Oldest juried art competition in the region. Works by Mississippi and Alabama artists. Free. Meridian Museum of Art. Details: (601) 93-1501.

"Women and Flight," Feb. 8 - March 23, Tunica. Photographs and stories of 37 women involved in aviation and space exploration. Organized by the National Air & Space Museum and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. Tunica Museum. Details: (662) 363-3454.
Roberta Peters in Concert, Feb. 13, Amesbury. Metropolitan Opera star to

perform with the USM Symphony Orchestra; 7:30 p.m. Admission. Bennett Auditorium, University of Southern Mississippi. Details: (601) 266-5418; 800-844-8425; www.tickets.usm.edu.

Ebony Fashion Fair Show, Feb. 13, Vicksburg. To feature designer clothes; 8 p.m. Admission. Vicksburg City Auditorium. Details: (601) 636-7674.

Prehistoric Playground, Feb. 14 - May 16, Jackson. Exhibit with robotic dinosaurs and hands-on learning for kids of all ages. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Natural

Science. Details: (601) 354-7303.
Arbor Day Plant Sale, Feb. 15, Picayune. To offer native trees and shrubs for sale; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free. The Crosby Arboretum. Details: (601) 799-2311.

Mid-winter Bluesgrass Show, Feb. 15, Tylertown. Southwest Events Center. Details: (225) 634-7886.

Gospel Concert, Feb. 16, Paris. To feature The Old Time Gospel Hour Quartet; 6 p.m. Free. Okaloosa Baptist Church. Details: (601) 264-2557.

14th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, Natchez. Authors, scholars, films, book signings, concerts on the theme "Exploration and Discovery: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase." Mostly free. Natchez Convention Center. Details: 800-647-6742; (601) 446-6631.

Roosevelt State Park Music Festival, Feb. 20-22, Morton. Bluesgrass, gospel and country music. Livingston Performing Arts Center, Roosevelt State Park. Details: (601) 537-3641.



- **Mid-South Quarter Horse Association Show**, Feb. 21-23, Tunica. Admission. Tunica Mississippi Arena and Exposition Center. Details: (662) 393-2856.
- **Krewes of Roses Ball**, Feb. 22, Picayune. Centraples; 7 p.m. Details: (601) 799-0601.
- **42nd Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society Annual Show**, Feb. 22-23, Jackson. Exhibits, demonstrations, dealers and more. Admission. Trade Mart Building, Mississippi Fairgrounds. Details: (601) 854-6085.
- **Country Days Promotions Arts, Crafts and Collectibles Show**, Feb. 22-23, Jackson. Admission. Columbia Exposition Center. Details: (601) 736-6204.
- **31st MSU Art and Design Competitive Exhibition**, Feb. 26-20, Starkville. Opening reception 7 p.m. Feb. 27. McComas Hall Art Gallery, Mississippi State University. Details: (662) 325-2970.
- **97-OKK Outdoor Extravaganza**, Feb. 28 - March 2, Meridian. Hunting and fishing seminars, demonstrations and equipment displays. Free. Borita Lakes Mall. Details: (601) 693-2661; 888-693-2661; www.wook.com.
- **Saturday Crafts Demonstrations**, March



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2003 part 1
page 41

NCLL TO FEATURE LOUISIANA PURCHASE, AMERICAN TURNING POINTS



William F. Winter



Clifton Taubert



Ellen Douglas



Stuart Margolin



Gerald McRaney

Carolyn Vance Smith

A dramatic turning point in American history, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, will be one major focus of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003.

Numerous other powerful turning points in American culture will also be subjects of the conference, including programs by and about some of Natchez's own citizens.

Using the theme of "Exploration and Discovery

Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the Olympic Award-winning Celebration is expected to attract hundreds of people, according to event organizers.

"Explorations and their resulting discoveries have excited Americans for centuries," said Jim Barnett of Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Natchez, a Celebration co-chairman.

Other co-chairmen and their sponsoring agencies are NCLL founder Carolyn Vance

Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Keith Whitecast, Natchez National Historical Park; and Ralph Payne, Alorean State University.

"In 1803, when the United States paid France \$15 million for nearly 600 million acres, our country suddenly doubled, in size," Barnett said.

"This peaceful acquisition under the leadership of President Thomas Jefferson, which we call the Louisiana Purchase, placed the United States on the road to becoming the world's leading country."

About one-third of the Celebration will include lectures, panel discussions, films and a concert dealing with the Louisiana Purchase.

Programs will be by the renowned historian Clay Jenkinson, who will "become" Meriwether Lewis; the historian John D.W. Guice on Lewis' mysterious death; historian Alfred Lemmon and Jason Wiese of the Historic New Orleans Collection; the film maker Larry Foley on "The Forgotten Expedition of (Natchez's own) William Dunbar and George Hunter";

and a three-part program on 1803, including what Natchez was like at that time by historian Jack Elliot.

The rest of the programs will focus on exploration and discovery in avenues other than history by such experts as Natchez-born, award-winning novelist Ellen Douglas (*Josephine Havton, A Family's Affairs*), Emmy-award winning screenplay writer/actor Stuart Margolin of Natchez (*Rockford Files*); and Edward Cohen, author of *The Natchez Jewish Experience and The Peddler's Grandson*.

OTHER



Dianne Williams

Growing up Jewish in Mississippi

Celebrities expected to attend include screenplay writer/actor Billy Bob Thornton of Little Rock, Ark., and Hollywood, who will win the Horne Foots Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing, especially for his Academy Award-winning *Sling Blade*.

Other celebrities are the inspirational writer Clifton Taubert, Tulsa, Okla., author of *Eight Habits of the Heart and Last Train North*, and the

See NCLL Page 2

Bluff City Post Jan. 24-Feb. 14, 2002 Page 3

2003 part 1
page 42

NCLL

poet T.R. Hammer, editor of the *Georgia Review* and author of *The 18,000-Ton Olympic Poems* and other volumes of poetry.

In addition, Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney will return to read selections from William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, in connection with a program on Faulkner's innovations in writing by the scholar Donald Kartiganer of the University of Mississippi.

Also on the agenda are the premieres of two documentary films, *Before the Louisiana Purchase* and *B.B. King Homecoming*, and the showing of the famed film, *Sling Blade*.

Two African-American creative artists are also featured. They are Diane Williams, founder of the Mississippi Storyweavers Guild, Madison and Crystal Wilkinson, professor at Eastern Kentucky and star of the documentary film, *Coal Black Voices*.

Dr. Gerri Brown, chairman of the psychology and sociology departments at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez, will lead a discussion session following the showing of Billy Bob Thornton's film, *Sling Blade*.

As last year, additional sessions will focus on three famous southern writers, Zora Neal Hurston by Alcorn State University professor Dr. Lillie Jones; Flannery O'Connor by Mississippi Humanities Council scholar Dr. Kelly Gerald, and the Natchez-born author Richard Wright by Dillard University Professor Jerry W. Ward.

Also, eight writing workshops, named this year in honor of Ellen Douglas, will focus on screenplay writing, publishing, research, biological writing, poetry writing, storytelling tips, Mississippi ETV partnerships and collecting writers' memorabilia.

A special social event is an 80th birthday party honoring William F. Winter, Friday evening, Feb. 21, at the Natchez Convention Center. Director of Proceedings of the Celebration for all 14 years, Winter will be honored with toasts by Alcorn President Dr. Clinton Bristow, Co-Lin President Howell Garner and others. Refreshments and music will be free of charge.

2003 part 1
page 43

file NCC
publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2003 5:38 PM
To: Natchez Everyone
Subject: Welcome, One and All

Hello, Everyone at Co-Lin Natchez,

Do you like to read? Do you like films? Do you like learning when it's fun? Do you like to be around smart people who inspire you?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, then you'll love the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

This Olympic Award-winning conference will take place Wed.-Sun., Feb. 19-23. It is co-sponsored by Co-Lin, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Alcorn State University. The theme this year is "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bi-centennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

Several of the Celebration programs will be on the Co-Lin Natchez Campus. All you have to do to get in free is show your Co-Lin identification (even to seminars and workshops that cost other people \$15 each). Campus activities will be:

- Seminars Wed. morning, Feb. 19, in Nelson Multi-Purpose Room
- A special ceremony at 11:30 a.m., Wed., Feb. 19, in front of Reed Academic Building
- A panel discussion by the world-famous author Clifton Taubert of Tulsa, singer/songwriter Tricia Walker of Nashville, and storyteller/author Diane Williams of Madison, Miss., at 11 a.m., Fri., Feb. 21; in Nelson Multi-Purpose Room
- Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Sun., Feb. 23, at various locations on campus. A reception from 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. will honor Ellen Douglas.

Most of the Celebration programs will be at the new Natchez Convention Center on Main Street. Most are free, even a concert at 8 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 20, that costs others \$10. Get your concert ticket from your English or music instructor.

Among the program presenters at the Convention Center are the famous actor/screenplay writer Billy Bob Thornton ("Sling Blade"), the famous author Ellen Douglas ("Truth" and other books); the famous impersonator of historical figures, Clay Jenkinson, who will "become" Meriwether Lewis; and more than a dozen others.

If you had to pay to attend these programs, the price would be in the hundreds of dollars. Because of grants and donations, the conference is yours for free.

If you have attended a past Celebration, you know what it's all about. Please encourage your family and friends to attend this year. If you have never attended the Celebration, the time is now to do so. You'll love it.

The Celebration is one more thing that Co-Lin and the Natchez area can justly be proud of. I hope to see you there.

For more information, visit the Celebration's web page at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Carolyn Vance Smith, Co-chairman
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Elderhostel/Educational Travel Associates, Inc.
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
E-mail: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu

2003 part 1
page 44

2003 part
page 46

NLCC has lots to offer in 14th celebration

Co-Lin to host several events

Several major events during the 14th annual National Library and Cinema Celebration will take place on the Co-Lin Campus campus Feb. 19, Feb. 21 and Feb. 23.

"We are delighted that the NLCC was our world-wide promotional activity for our campus," said Christine Taylor, faculty member and Co-Lin's NLCC and Brown instructor of English and director of public relations at Co-Lin.

"Because of a recent, unexpected growth the NLCC received, over the two weekend events on campus on here to Co-Lin's National students and faculty," Smith said.

"They should simply show Co-Lin identification for the celebration," Smith said.

Members of NSAAE, Future Teachers of America, Student Government Association, Phi Beta Lambda and other student groups are helping facilitate the NLCC's campus activities.

The two events that we are now are on campus on Feb. 19 and 21 and on campus on Feb. 23. These

events will feature 200 each.

The four on-campus events are:

* Screenings about various Southern writers, 6-11 a.m., Feb. 19, in the National Media Program Room

* A ceremony to unveil an official Mississippi Writers' Market featuring Rubin Sargent Marino, 11:30 a.m. Feb. 19, in front of the National Media Program Room

* A panel discussion by three nationally known experts, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Feb. 21, in the National Media Program Room

* Eight films showing "Writing Workshops," 5:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Feb. 23, with registration and refreshments in the Media Center for Tech Link and refreshments in various campus locations.

On Feb. 19, 11 a.m. until the weekend. These

events will be held in the Adams State University, Faculty Center by Kelly Smith of the Mississippi Writers' Market, Jackson, and Richard Wright by Amy W. West ofillard University, New Orleans.

Facilitating the activities are Judy Wiggins, Barbara Haugh and the Public, all of the Co-Lin's National

English Department

The university will unveil the historic exhibit will include materials by Co-Lin's National Library instructor Kim Wiggins, who led the project. Co-Lin President Harold Gentry, Co-Lin's Dean, Robert Brown, Assistant Vice President Michael Wiggly Jr., "Head" Smith, Media Center Director of Supervisors President Louis Gentry, and Mississippi Department of Archives and History Executive Director of the program.



Taylor



Douglas

The panel discussion on Feb. 21 is called "Exploring and Discovering White Consciousness."

Presenters are Clifford Johnson of Tulsa, author of Lost Time North and other books; Erica Walker of Nashville, author of "The Color of Politics"; and Chae Williams of Madison, Miss., founder of the Mississippi Statewide Black and author of African Film Songs

book by him," Smith said.

"The panel discussion will cover topics such as what we can do to create a program. The other on the panel with him are fully committed, as well."

The Film Design Writing Workshops Feb. 23 are aimed at honor of Ellen Douglas, the past owner of Applebee's Station, a Nashville artist who is nationally known for her novels, short fiction and non-fiction.

for Brown.

The program will be featured by Dr. Robert Smith, Co-Lin's Dean, Benji J. Miller, director, and John T. Kendall, academic advisor. Both of Co-Lin's National Student Support Services. The event is sponsored by the NLCC's Student Support Services and Co-Lin's Student Services.

"Everyone who has ever been a Co-Lin

including Taylor. From 1979 to 1981, she served as Co-Lin's

to help, which is an honor. She has been a member of the

from 1979 to 1981, and 1979 to 1981, she served as Co-Lin's

about one workshop from the following:

* "How NOT to Write a Novel," David Armstrong, author of the non-fiction book "The Third Girl and Being Misunderstood and Author of the novel, The Rising Power, Nashville, Miss.

* "Expanding the World of Publishing, or How to Get Your Non-Fiction Book Published Through Concepts in Contracts and Beyond," James T. Wiggins, author of A Practical Guide to Publishing, Co-Lin, Cleveland, Ohio.

* "Writing an Anthology: Uncovering the Story From Life's Tolls," Edward Cohen, author of The Poet's Creative: Growing Up Jewish in Mississippi and the Blues, The Nashville Express, Tennessee and Great Moments' Blues with B.B. King, Tampa, Calif.

* "The World of Publishing: Memorabilia of Southern Authors," Paul W. Taylor, collector of the Paul W. Taylor Southern Writers Collection, Nashville, Tenn.

* "The World of Publishing: Memorabilia of Southern Authors," Paul W. Taylor, collector of the Paul W. Taylor Southern Writers Collection, Nashville, Tenn.

authors, Sam Amerson.

From 1979 to 1981, she

Ellen Douglas (1979-1981),

led by the then president

and served by Linda Davis,

from 1979 to 1981, she

one workshop from the following:

* "The World of Publishing: Memorabilia of Southern Authors," Paul W. Taylor, collector of the Paul W. Taylor Southern Writers Collection, Nashville, Tenn.

* "The World of Publishing: Memorabilia of Southern Authors," Paul W. Taylor, collector of the Paul W. Taylor Southern Writers Collection, Nashville, Tenn.

Writers Guild of America is newest supporter of NLCC

Writers Guild of America (WGA), the Los Angeles and New York based guild that represents 11,000 writers in various creative services, has become an official supporter of the annual National Library and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) at Nashville.

The 14th annual Celebration will take place Feb. 19-23, with headquarters at the Nashville-Columbia Center.

"The WGA's record of devotion to the creative arts is well known," said WGA Executive Director and President, Nancy Sussman. "We are pleased to have the NLCC's National Library and Cinema Celebration as one of our members' projects."

At the WGA's 70th anniversary celebration, the WGA is proud to have the NLCC as one of its members' projects.

"We are pleased to have the NLCC as one of our members' projects."

"We are pleased to have the NLCC as one of our members' projects."

"We are pleased to have the NLCC as one of our members' projects."



McKelvey

They are David McKelvey and Sam Smith III, both of whom are members of the NLCC's Advisory Board.

"The National Library and Cinema Celebration does the spotlight on the creative arts and the creative services industry," said McKelvey.

"We are pleased to have the NLCC as one of our members' projects."

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tion between the NLCC and the WGA is a mutual one," said McKelvey.

"The celebration of the National Library and Cinema Celebration will enhance the visibility of the Celebration on both," Smith said.

"This project that is the first and foremost in embracing the creative arts and the creative services industry," said McKelvey.

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Thomas



McKelvey

He served also as

The year's vision, Billy

Thomas, who was a

the will receive the 2003

Outstanding Young Person

in recognition of his

the NLCC is already being

NLCC to honor King, W

tion of Mississippi's two-
terrace citizens. When great
to B.B. King and James Ray,
William F. Buckley Jr. and
in the twilight Feb. 23 at the
annual National Library and
Cinema Celebration.

"The Olympic Anti-racism

celebration to all the Feb. 19-23,
with the theme,

"Exploring and Discovering
White Consciousness: A
Workshop on the Color of
Politics."

"On Feb. 23, a program
showing of 'B.B. King
Remembered,' an hour-long
documentary film, will be
presented. The film about
Dr. King's life and work is
a King of Mississippi was
produced by Mississippi Public
Broadcasting.

Following the film, a
celebration will feature
James Mississippi Governor
Fleming R. "Fleming" Smith
will take place.

"The emphasis on the writing
and the literature of the
National Library and Cinema
Celebration is a new thing
at," Smith said.

"We are delighted that a national
organization devoted to the
creative arts has found us and
wants to support us."



King



W

the Celebration's sponsors.

Both the film and the party
are free at the Nashville
Columbia Center, 215 Main
St., and are open to the public.

"We hope everyone will
come to see this film and
participate in the celebration
of Dr. King's life and work
in the heart of Nashville,
Tennessee."

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Mmm hmm — Billy Bob slings into Natchez festival

By Billy Watkins
watkins@clarionledger.com

He's different. And extremely creative. His fifth wife, actress Angelina Jolie, called him "the sexiest (expletive) creature that ever lived" in a May 2000 interview with *Jal Renard* of *Hollywood.com*. Now, Billy Bob Thornton is being honored in Mississippi with the Horton Foote Special Achievement Award for Screenplay Writing.

Thornton, who won an Academy Award for his 1997 film *Sling Blade* and has acted in such popular movies as *Armageddon*, *Primary Colors*, *Tombstone* and *The Apostle*, will receive the award Saturday night as part of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The event runs Wednesday through Saturday and features writing seminars (film and book), screenings, signings and publishing tips.

Ticketed events include seminars and writing workshops (\$15). Saturday night's award ceremony is free to the public, which will end with a showing of *Sling Blade* and a question-and-answer session with Thornton.

The movie is about a man, played by Thornton, who is released from a psychiatric hospital where he has been since the age of 12 after murdering his mother and her lover. He returns to his childhood home to start a new life. The cast includes Robert DeNiro, Dwight Yoakam and John Ritter.

Thornton, 47, a native of Arkansas, grew up in a house with out electricity and indoor plumbing. *Sling Blade* changed his life and made him a legitimate Hollywood force.

"He's simply a genius when you study his work," says Carolyn Vance Smith, co-founder and chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC).

Author Clifton Taulbert, who was born in the Mississippi Delta town of Glen Allen, and poet T.R. Hamner, a native of Macon, will be presented the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

Taulbert is best known for *The Last Train North*, which earned him a Pulitzer Prize nomination.



Billy Bob Thornton and Lucas Black appear in a scene from the 1997 movie *Sling Blade*. Thornton wrote and directed the character-driven film, which won him an Academy Award.

He will be honored for his screenwriting Saturday night at the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Hamner has written seven books of poetry, including *Translation of Light* and *The Angelic Orders*.

B.R. King Homecoming, a documentary film produced by Mississippi Educational Broadcasting about the legendary blues musician, will be shown Friday at 8

p.m. "It's hard to believe this is our 14th year," says Smith, who taught English and creative writing courses at the Natchez campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College for 25 years.

The original idea of the event was to honor the South's strong literary history. Gerald McRaney, an established TV actor (*Major Dad*, *Promised Land*) who was born in Collins, asked Smith to also consider adding film work to the event.

"So about four years ago, we changed the name to include cinema, and it's carried us to another level," she says. The Writer's Guild of America, a union that represents more than 11,900 writers in television and movies, has noticed. One of its members, Victor Navas, who has twice won the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance Film Festival, will begin serving on the NLCC advisory board.

"I think it validates us in a whole new way," Smith says. "The Writer's Guild understands and promotes the fact that without good writing, there are no good films."

More than 3,000 attended last year's event. "It's an opportunity to highlight our cinematic storytellers in a place that has been so supportive of our industry," says Ward Erling, director of the Mississippi Film Office.

Highlights



Elton Douglas will be signing books at 3:15 p.m. Thursday.



Former Gov. William Winter will celebrate his 80th birthday Friday at 9 p.m.



T.R. Hamner (left) and Clifton Taulbert will receive the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.



For more information, call 1-800-647-6742 or 466-6631. Also see a full schedule of events on *The Clarion-Ledger* Web site at www.clarionledger.com.

2003 part 1
page 47

file NLCC
publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2003 8:47 AM
To: Natchez Everyone; Davis, Natalie; Biggs, Courtney
Subject: Monday Update 02/17/03

Faculty and Staff:

- * The NLCC is this week at the Natchez Convention Center. Let me encourage you to participate in as many activities as possible. It is very important for us to be visible during the week to let people know about Co-Lin's role in the conference. Dr. Garner and Dr. Johnson will be in attendance most of the week as will representatives from colleges and universities around the state. Mrs. Smith and Marsha Colson and the other conference organizers have done a wonderful job of planning the conference.
- * On Wednesday morning we will be hosting several NLCC pre-conference workshops, a conservation meeting, and the dedication of the Judith Sargent Murray historical marker. To accommodate our guests, I would like to ask those employees who normally park in the front parking lot of the Tom Reed Center to park in another location. There is usually parking spaces available at the rear of the building near the bookstore entrance. We will also be reserving an area in front of the Redd/Watkins Center for the participants attending the NLCC workshops. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.
- * Please encourage your students to attend the NLCC program in the Multi-Purpose room at 11:00 am on Friday, February 21, 2003. It will be a panel discussion featuring Pulitzer Prize Nominee Clifton Taulbert; Singer/Songwriter, Tricia Walker; and Author/Story Teller, Diane Williams. This program is our effort to bring the NLCC to the students on our campus. As most of you know Clifton Taulbert is a world renowned speaker and writer and I think it will be a wonderful opportunity for our students. The program will conclude at 12:30.
- * If things were not stressful enough, Co-Lin and the rest of the colleges involved in the Mississippi Virtual Community College will have a visit from SACS this week. Several Co-Lin faculty and staff members have been selected for interviews with the SACS team members in Jackson. A tremendous amount of work has been done by Margaret Britt, Cathy Ellett, and others to prepare for the visit. We feel very confident that we have done everything possible to get us ready for the visit.
- * Next Monday Dr. Clarence Lovelady, Program Manager with Big Brothers/Big Sisters will be on campus next Monday to recruit faculty, staff, and students to serve as a Big Brother or a Big Sister to local child. Dr. Lovelady will have a table set up near the bookstore so please plan to stop by and talk with him next Monday.
- * Let me know if you have a problem with the changes I made in the exam schedule for this semester. Most of the response so far has been positive but if there is a problem, I want to know now and not the day after it is distributed to students.
- * Please keep Mrs. Linda Flynn, Mrs. Sara Marchbanks, and Joyce Allred in your thoughts and prayers this week. We hope they all have a speedy recovery from their illnesses.
- * We want to wish our Scholars Bowl Team good luck this week. They will be traveling to Ole Miss for competition in Ken Woolen Scholars Bowl. Team Members are Mathew Willis, Anna Kate Jex, Elaine Thimmesch, and Hannah Bullen. The sponsor is Jim Wiggins again this year but Nancy McFarland will be taking the student to Ole Miss.
- * Congratulations to Delta Epsilon Chi students who participated in the DEX State Career Development Conference. Winners were 1st place in Financial Services Marketing - Wanda McGuffie; 2nd place in Sales Managers Meeting - Doug Logan; 2nd place Quiz Bowl - Tara Bolyer, Jessie Paul Wanza McGuffie, Crystal Mackey; 3rd place Travel & Tourism Marketing - Micheal Anderson; and 6th place Sports Event Marketing - Tara Bolyer and Jessie Paul.
- * Congratulations to Mrs. Jo Hinton. Mrs. Hinton was awarded an "Honorary Life Membership" in Mississippi DEX for her work.
- * This is Mississippi Severe Weather Awareness Week. Remember in the event of a Tornado Warning, there will be a long ring of the bells and/or notifications by my office or Security. Always be prepared to move students and others to an interior area away for windows. Bathrooms, offices, and interior hallways are good examples of safe areas.

2003 part 1
page 43

The Clarion-Ledger

Real Mississippi
clarionledger.com

Jackson, Miss. ■

Monday, February 17, 2003

INSIDE TODAY

NATION/WORLD

Driving into London? Pay up

Mayor's plan to charge a toll of \$8 to enter the central part of the city goes into effect today with plenty of naysayers. **11A**

SOUTHERN STYLE

Natchez to honor Thornton

Billy Bob Thornton will receive the Horton Ford Special Achievement Award for Screenplay Writing on Saturday in Natchez. **1D**

Opinion

The Democrat

Thanks to all those smart women

I don't believe in inevitability. After 5,000 years of civilization, the development and spread of the ideals of equality and liberty in the last 250 was not a foregone conclusion. And there was certainly no assurance that once achieved for men, by men, these honors would ever be won for women. That accomplishment, mostly, was the work of women.

As advocates of women's rights, Mary Wollstonecraft and the 19th century suffragettes are fairly well known. But it was the more obscure Judith Sargent Murray (1751-1820) who preceded them all in the field with published essays, plays, poetry and over 2000 letters. As her biographer, Sheila Skemp, put it, "her views of gender relations represented the cutting edge of what passed for feminism in 18th century America." At a time when white men were zealously acquiring new rights for themselves while still legally classifying their wives as children, Judith's was a lonely voice proclaiming women's intellectual equality, demanding women's access to education in subjects in addition to "the mechanism of a pudding," insisting that women prepare themselves for financial independence, and hoping that eventually



Top of the Morning
Jim Wiggins

this would all lead to full political rights. Quite simply, without the efforts of women like Judith long ago, half of this country's talent would be dormant, and we would all be poorer for it.

But, interestingly, all this feminist "radicalism" came from a fine conservative Federalist who also took a vital role in fostering the Universalist Church in America. All this while praising the virtues of companionate marriage and motherhood. All this while, from all indications, still being quite the pudding mechanic.

Though a newly lifelong resident of Gloucester, Mass., all this from a woman who lived her last two years in Natchez with her daughter, who had married local planter Adam Lewis Bingham. And it was in Natchez that Judith would die and be buried in an

isolated though beautiful plot.

Maybe you'd like to learn more. Then I invite you to the Convention Center for this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. At 11 a.m. Thursday, Professor Skemp, Judith's biographer, will speak on the topic, "Crossing Boundaries: Judith Sargent Murray and the Rights of Women." Admission is free.

Also, please join us for the dedication of a historical marker in Judith's honor at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the former site of Oak Point, the Bingham home where Judith lived and died. The brief ceremony will be held in front of the Tom Reed Academic Center at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday (not 11:45, as in the NLCC brochure).

Mary helped to make this plaque a reality, and they will be thanked at its dedication. But then we all owe Judith a debt of gratitude. If you're an intelligent, educated woman, or know and respect one or two, I hope to see you at Co-Lin and at the Convention Center. Considering that criterion, the thing could be enormous. For that, thank you, Judith.

James Wiggins is instructor of history at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez Campus.

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

2003 part 1
page 49

OurOpinion

Literary celebration uniquely Natchez

Natchez area residents have a perfect opportunity this week and this weekend to learn more about literature, film and history.

The ongoing Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which kicked off Wednesday, has a little something for everyone.

Today, two women will be honored for their contributions to literature and history — Natchez native Josephine Ayers Haxton, who goes by the pen name Ellen Douglas, and late Women's rights pioneer Judith Sargent Murray.

On Friday, along with lectures and other presentations, attendees will celebrate the birthday of longtime Celebration supporter William Winter.

On Saturday night, Billy Bob Thornton, Clifton Taulbert and T.R. Hummer will be honored for their writing.

And on Sunday, several writers will offer their own tips of the trade at workshops.

While a few of the events are ticketed, we cannot forget that most of the lectures, presentations and exhibits at the celebration are free every year. What a wonderful opportunity to take time to expand our horizons — right in our own hometown.

Since its founding 14 years ago, the Literary and Cinema Celebration — cinema is a recent addition — has grown and garnered more and more attention for Natchez.

The event gives visitors a chance to experience the beauty and culture of Natchez, and it gives residents a chance to hear from and interact with scholars from across the country.

This uniquely Natchez event, which this year carries the theme "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," gives us all a chance to explore and discover.

2A • THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Saturday, February 22, 2003

Winter Birthday



The Natchez Democrat, Tom Hillyer

With grandchild Grace Gillespie, 7, helping, former Mississippi governor William Winter blows out the other candles on the other side of his birthday cake. Winter celebrated his 80th birthday at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration at the Natchez Convention Center.

2003 part 1
page 50

Ellen Douglas Day • Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

the glamour of distance

Natchez-born writer to be honored at annual Literary, Cinema Celebration

By JOAN GANDY

The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — A day in Natchez set aside to pay tribute to Mississippi writer Josephine Ayres Haxton will be a fitting honor for one whose life, work and family are firmly rooted in Southwest Mississippi.

Haxton, who writes under the pen name Ellen Douglas, will speak at 2:10 p.m. today at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration and will take part in the formal ceremony that will name the popular annual writing workshops the NLCC Ellen Douglas Writing

Miss-Lou

Today's highlights

- At 9 a.m., lectures on the Louisiana Purchase and Natchez in 1803.
- At 5:30 p.m., Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture reception honoring NLCC speakers.
- At 8 p.m., St. Joseph Orchestra Ensemble concert.



Workshops. "I'm pleased, flattered and delighted," Haxton said. "I grew up around and about Natchez. My three siblings and I came every summer for a month or two or even longer."

Born in Natchez, Haxton lived with her family in Hope, Ark., and Alexandria, La., during much of her childhood. In her adult years, she lived for 30-plus years in Greenville and now lives in Jackson.

Still, Natchez has remained central as an influence. "Natchez was not home but was where you went in the summer," she said. "Natchez always had the glamour of distance from the everyday life."

Further, Natchez fascinated with its rich stories, including "layers and layers of my own family," she said. "And there was this sense of a place that had a history that was accessible to anyone who wanted to take the time to listen, observe and read."

Her first book was published 41 years ago. Laughing as she refers to herself as a late starter, she said she worked on "A Family's Affair" for six years. It was published when she was 40 years old.

See Haxton, 5A



The writing workshop held during the 10th Annual Literary and Cinema Celebration will be named for Ellen Douglas, the pen name of Josephine Haxton, during a ceremony at 2 p.m. today.

Haxton

Continued from 1A

She thought she was writing short stories. Somewhere in the process, however, she realized the work was meant to be a novel. That it was published was almost an accident.

"I wrote because that's what I wanted to do," Haxton said. "I was sort of a small-town country girl. I guess you could say. Being published was not real to me."

A friend read that first manuscript and gave it to an editor at Houghton-Mifflin. The editor liked it. Her career began with that publication in 1962.

Since then, she has published "Black Cloud, White Cloud," "Two Novellas and Two Stories," "Where the Dreams Cross," "Apostles of Light," "The Rock Creek

Out," "A Lifetime Burning," "The Magic Carpet," "Can't Quit You Baby" and, the latest, a work of nonfiction, "Truth: Four Stories I Am Finally Old Enough to Tell."

Her most recent work is with her literary agent. It is a collection of her essays drawn from years of speaking and teaching. "I found I had a lot of material I thought would make a book," she said.

In there another work brewing within her? Well, yes, she said, obviously excited as she thought about it. "It's still so tentative that I don't want to talk about it. It's mostly notes now."

"Will the new work surprise her readers? 'Well I hope it surprises me,' she said. "Every time you began to work, from the

beginning, you're not sure where it will go or whether it will work."

Haxton describes her body of work as political. "We live in an extraordinarily complex period historically speaking," she said. "Everything in the South for the last 200 years is political. And as individuals we have enormous pressures on us."

In her latest published work, "Truth," she found herself drawn to the techniques of writing nonfiction. She drew on her own family stories and said the whole long title has real meaning. "I really did have to wait until I was old enough to tell some of those stories," she said. "I began to think about illusions we have about the

past and that truth is not exactly what you always thought about it."

A mother and a grandmother, Haxton also has enjoyed the role of teacher at several universities, including the University of Mississippi, where she earned a B.A. in 1942.

"I tell those who want to write fiction that you don't go about it by thinking about the answers but about the questions."

She advises students in the words of Henry James, she said, to let nothing go unobserved. "I tell them all you have are words on the page. So you have to make the reader see and care about what you put on the page."

2003 part 1
page 51



Novelist Ellen Douglas: *Exploring the Dynamics of Truth, Lies, and Diverse Relationships*

When asked what first motivated her to write, Josephine Ayres Haxton, known professionally by her pseudonym Ellen Douglas, eagerly affirmed, "The first thing that is true of writers is that they are compulsive readers; and if you really love to read and you love stories and you tell stories and you listen to stories, then eventually you begin to think, 'Well, this is writing, really, and maybe I would like to do this.'"

Born in Natchez, Mississippi, in 1921 and a resident of Jackson, Mississippi, since 1954, Josephine Haxton's immersion in listening, reading, and later writing was at the hands of her parents and grandparents. "Mother was always reading aloud," she recalled, "and grandmother wrote children's stories, some published in magazines of the time, and a couple of romances."

At eight or nine years old, Haxton herself began writing "little poems roughly in hymns or in ballads," a reflection of her early church-going. Later around eighth grade, her poetry took a tragic-romantic twist and included a narrative poem she related "about a beautiful cardinal in a snowstorm that stabbed itself to death on an icicle."

After writing "off and on" through high school and more off than on in college, Haxton returned to more concentrated writing after college. With marriage, though, and three sons in five years, she was unable to settle into serious writing for ten years until after her children were in school.

Josephine Haxton's first published novel, *A Family's Affairs* appeared in 1961 after six years of her "off and on" work and was accepted for publication quite by surprise. Charles Bell, a novelist, poet and long-time friend of her husband's family in Greenville, Mississippi, acquired a copy of her manuscript while on a summer's visit there where his mother lived. When he returned to Annapolis, Maryland, and his teaching position at St. John's College, he submitted Haxton's text to

Houghton Mifflin publishers without her knowledge. They published this novel under her professional name Ellen Douglas and selected it as Houghton Mifflin's First Novel Award for 1962. It also merited inclusion in the *New York Times* top five novels of the year. Since that time, Douglas's literary honors and accolades have been many and she has taught at the University of Virginia and been writer-in-residence at both Northeast Louisiana University and the University of Mississippi.



Josephine Ayres Haxton, known professionally by her pseudonym Ellen Douglas

in-residence at both Northeast Louisiana University and the University of Mississippi.

In addition to *A Family's Affairs*, Douglas has published five novels, two collections of short stories, a number of short stories in literary journals and anthologies, and a book of non-fiction. However, getting published during the last ten years, she admits, "has grown increasingly difficult because publishers have been absorbed into big conglomerates that are less likely to promote unknown, unproven writers. These are not many independent publishers anymore; it is no longer a gentleman's business."

Douglas considers her last two major works - the novel *Gay's Right* (1985, 1988) and the non-fiction *Truth: Four Stories I Am Finally Old Enough to Tell* (1998) - her "most innovative and stylistically interesting." In discussing both, she explained, "I was very much interested in the relationship between truth and lies. In the next to the last one, the narrator constantly tells lies about her past. One level is her made-up story and the other is the one the reader gradually uncovers in the course of reading. *Truth* is about how we remember the past, and how we transform the past through memory, and how, in fact, we tell a lot of lies."

Asked about a recurrent theme or vein of concern throughout her writings, Douglas reflected, "Many of them to one degree or another are preoccupied with relations between black people and white people in the South in my life-

continued on page 21

2003 part 1
page 52



Currently, Elin Douglas is finalizing a collection of her essays and talks through the last 40 years.

time their difficulties, tragedies, and heroisms." Another concern she voiced regarded women writers in the past who had difficulty gaining recognition and getting published because they were "dismissed as regionalists or romantics," citing Kate Chopin, whom she enjoys reading, and lamenting the "tragic life" of now acclaimed Zora Neale Hurston.

One woman writer who significantly influenced Douglas when she first began to write was Katherine Anne Porter. Other writers of influence include Marcel Proust and Joseph Conrad. When asked her writers of choice for her personal reading, she quickly spited some of her favorites—Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Ivan Turgenev, Leo Tolstoy, and Anton Chekhov.

In recent years, Douglas has become more interested in reading non-fiction than fiction and currently is finalizing a collection of her essays and talks through the past 40 years and looks for publication within a year.

On Thursday, February 20, 2003, the Fourteenth Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will honor Elin Douglas by announcing the naming of its annual Sunday workshops as the NLCC Elin Douglas Writing Workshops. Following this recognition, Douglas will speak on "Real and Imaginary Places: Natchez, for Example."

"We encourage our readers to seize this rare opportunity to *spill* with and listen to such an extraordinary writer. Her presentation promises the same depth that informs and enriches the many stories she already has shared with us as she literally explores the microcosm of Mississippi but figuratively enlightens the macrocosm of life—the relationships of diverse peoples both in "their hardships and their heroisms." ♣

14th Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Exploration and Discovery
Then and Now
(Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase)
February 19-23, 2003

The 14th Annual Literary and Cinema Celebration will salute the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase in February at the Natchez Convention Center in Natchez, Mississippi. All events will be held at the convention center unless otherwise noted. This year's event will play host to southern authors, film critics and other scholars in the literary field. Special guest speakers such as Elliott West, Sheila Skemp, Crystal Wilkinson, Elin Douglas, Larry Foley, Jon Kukla, Stuart Margolis, Donald Kartiganer, Gerald McRaney, Robert Bray, Clinton Taulbert, Billy Bob Thornton, T.R. Hummer and many others will share their ideas and expertise as "Reader," "Rater," and "Reviser" become the three R's in this literary and cinema celebration.

The event kicks off on Wednesday, February 19, at 8:00 A.M. with a pre-conference seminar "Exploring Famous Southern Authors" and the unveiling of an historic marker honoring Judith Sargent Murray (1753-1803) at 10:45 A.M. The afternoon series will continue from 1:00 P.M. through 4:00 P.M. with speakers addressing the subject "Exploiting and Discovering New Land, 1803." The 8:00 P.M. program is a sneak preview of *Louisiana: A History*.

On Thursday, February 20, the lecture series will focus on "Discovering through Fiction, Non-Fiction, Correspondence, and Music," beginning at 9:00 A.M. From 1:30 P.M. until 7:00 P.M., a reception at the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture will honor the event's speakers. At 8:00 P.M. the St. Joseph Orchestra Ensemble will present "Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase."

On Friday, February 21, the series will begin at 9:00 A.M. with the focus on "Exploiting and Discovering through Film, Fiction, Stories, Architecture, and Music." The evening will host a premier showing of the documentary film *R.R. King Homecoming*.

Saturday, February 22, will highlight "Exploring and Discovering: Fact, Film, and Poetry." Lectures and film presentations will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude with an awards ceremony at 6:00 P.M. At 8:00 P.M. a Gala Benefit Reception/Supper at historic Rowenside will honor award winners and speakers. The cost of this event is \$125.00 per person with seating limited to 200 people. Also at 8:00 P.M. is a film showing of *Sling Blade* by Billy Bob Thornton.

Sunday, February 23, will host the Elin Douglas Writing Workshops with a focus on "Exploring and Discovering Yourself and Others." These workshops will be held at Captin-Lincoln Community College in Natchez, Mississippi. Workshops begin at 8:30 A.M. and run through 1:00 P.M. Participants have a choice of attending two of the four sessions.

This event is partially funded by the Mississippi Development Authority/ Tourism along with additional funding from the Mississippi Humanities Council. Most of the conference is free or low-cost. For further information regarding this event contact the NLCC office at 601-446-6616 or 1-800-647-4741 or visit their website at www.colin.edu/nc. ♣



2003 part 1
page 53

Opinion

The Democrat

Friday, February 21, 2003

Winter, King to be celebrated tonight

2003 part 1
page 54

Two of Mississippi's best-known citizens, blues great B.B. King and former Gov. William F. Winter, will be celebrated tonight as part of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

This special evening begins at 8 p.m. with a premiere showing of "B.B. King Homecoming," an hour-long documentary film about King, a native of Indianola.

This film was produced by Mississippi Public Broadcasting and will be shown on Mississippi Educational Television later this spring.

Immediately after the film, we'll honor Governor Winter with a festive party to celebrate his 80th birthday.

Governor Winter has served as director of proceedings for the celebration since its inception in 1990. He also is president of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, one of the celebration's sponsors.

Other sponsors are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park and Alcorn State University.

Both the film and the party are free at the Natchez Convention Center,



Top of the Morning

Jim Barnett

211 Main St., and are open to the public.

"B.B. King Homecoming" will be introduced by MPB Executive Producer Bob Pickett and MPB Executive Director Marie Amtoon, both of Jackson.

The film is called "B.B. King Homecoming" because for 29 years Mr. King has returned annually to his hometown of Indianola to perform at a free outdoor concert. The documentary includes scenes from the 2002 concert.

Governor Winter, who was born Feb. 21, 1923, in Grenada, will be honored by the celebration with "William Winter Day" all day today. Accompanying him to Natchez for the celebration and his birthday activities are his wife, Elise Winter, their daughters and their families.

At the party tonight, we'll have balloons, birthday cake and other refreshments, entertainment by the Natchez High School Singers and pictures of Governor Winter through the years.

Verbal tributes to Governor Winter will be by Howell Garner, president of Co-Lin, Clanton Bristow, president of Alcorn; Billy B. Thames, former president of Co-Lin; Natchez Mayor FL. "Hank" Smith; and Elise Winter.

Lynwood Easterling, president of the Adams County Board of Supervisors, will preside over the evening's program.

In charge of the birthday party is Judy Wiggins, chairman of the English Department at Co-Lin. She and Natchez artisan Wilkie Collins have created a surprise present for Governor Winter, a customized gift we hope will always remind him of the celebration.

All of us are excited about this very special occasion. We invite you to join us at the convention center for an evening to remember.

Jim Barnett is co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

LiterarySuspense



The Natchez Democrat, Ben Kilger

Many attendees of the first session of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration sat back and relaxed, while others like Annie Case sat on the edge of their seat focused on every word of Mississippi author Josephine Haxton Thursday afternoon as she read her essay "Real and Imaginary Places: Natchez, for Example." Haxton, who writes under the pen name Ellen Douglas, was honored by having the NLCC writing workshops named after her.

Ole Miss holds forum on race, honors Winter

JACKSON (AP) — The University of Mississippi honored former Gov. William F. Winter, who turns 80 Friday, for his contributions to racial harmony by holding a forum on "The Future of Race in America" at the Old Capitol Museum.

The forum was sponsored by Ole Miss and its Institute for Racial Reconciliation, which will be renamed the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation. Last fall, Ole Miss began a year-long commemoration of the 40th anniversary of its integration.

"The purpose of the symposium is to expose the challenges of race before us and suggest positive responses to those challenges," said Susan Glisson, director of the Institute for Racial

Mississippi

Reconciliation. "Our goal is to encourage individuals and organizations to commit time and resources to building a future for all people."

Winter, an Ole Miss alumnus and governor from 1980-84, spearheaded the passage of the state's Education Reform Act of 1982. The bill established Mississippi's first public kindergarten for all children and made compulsory attendance and performance-based accreditation a requirement for the state's schools.

In 1992, President Clinton named Winter to lead a national initiative on racial reconciliation.

"William Winter is universally admired and respected for his lifetime of distinguished ser-

vice," Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat said. "His support for education has enabled all Mississippians to pursue aspirations, hopes and dreams."

Thursday's forum featured five speakers: Cleveland Dorald, a professor at the University of Connecticut and Ole Miss' second black graduate; Hank Kliberoff, managing editor for news of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution; John McCullouch, past president of Ole Miss' Law Alumni Association and president of Mississippi operations for BellSouth Corp.; Constance Slaughter-Harvey, whose 12-year career in various state government positions was initiated by Winter and who was the first black female graduate of the Ole Miss School of Law; and Glisson.

Our Opinion

Begin the week with good news

Good morning and good Monday. As we prepare for the last week of February, we take a look back at the good news from the past week.

► Our thanks go to the organizers of the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, whose hard work made the event a success yet again. Many writers, including Ellen Douglas, Billy Bob Thornton, Clifton Taulbert and T.R. Hummer, were honored at the event, as was former Gov. William Winter on his 80th birthday.

So many of those who attended praised Natchez for its hospitality.

Speak out

We encourage you to share your opinion on this or other topics. Submit your letter to the editor to The Democrat by:

- **E-mail:** kerry.whipple@natchezdemocrat.com
- **Fax:** (801) 442-7315
- **Mail:** P.O. Box 1447, Natchez, Miss., 39121

• **Or in person:** 503 N. Canal St., Natchez.

All letters must be signed by the author and must include a telephone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit submitted information. For more information, call 445-3541.

several area groups attended the reinterment of two black Union soldiers in Port Gibson. The soldiers, whose graves were moved because they were in danger from erosion, were given burial with full honors Saturday.

And we're glad to see the show of unity from those representing a history which haunts us today.

► Thanks to the Krewe of Alpheus, which, despite having to cancel its planned Friday parade because of bad weather, quickly regrouped to pull off a family-friendly event on Sunday afternoon. Mardi Gras is always a fun time for the Miss-Lou, and we are in need of some good times.

The Krewe of Phoenix will hold its own parade this Friday, and we wish them clearer skies.

Here's hoping you and your family enjoy good news this week.



6 • THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

FEBRUARY brings with it the revelry of Mardi Gras and the importance of African-American history. Natchez has a history of celebrating Mardi Gras, and the parades and balls are entertaining and elegant. The celebration of Black History Month takes place in February, also. It is a great month to tour some of the outstanding black history sites, particularly the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture Museum at the corner of Main and Wall streets.

Natchez merchants will open their doors for evening shopping on Feb. 7 for the Downtown Development Association's "First Friday" event. With a Mardi Gras theme, the evening will include the passing out of Mardi Gras beads by the participating businesses.

Natchez Opera Guild will sponsor a Valentine's Day progressive dinner, providing the finest food and music in some of the most beautiful Natchez homes. From 6 to 10 p.m. on Feb. 14, diners can start with appetizers at Governor Holmes House, continue to Glen Auburn for the main course and finish with dessert at the Merrill House. Complimentary champagne will be served. Tickets are \$45 each. Only 100 will be sold. More information is available by calling (601) 304-1242 or (601) 445-5999.

Black History Parade will be Feb. 15, with starting time at noon in downtown Natchez. The parade will honor contributions and achievements of African Americans. More information is available at (601) 445-2727.

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, with the theme of "Exploration and Discovery, Then and Now," will be Feb. 19-23 at the Natchez Convention Center. The conference celebrates the written and film word.

2003 part 1
page 56

Copiah-Lincoln
celebration of learning

CLCC 75

community & commitment
Community College

15th Anniversary

All NLCC's
publicity -
see p. 15

- The annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will take place February 19 - 23, 2003, using the theme, "Exploration and Discovery, Then and Now: Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase." Nationally known scholars, writers, screenwriters, film experts, historians, and storytellers will offer more than three dozen programs.

- Special events include programs about the Louisiana Purchase, including a first-person interpretation of Merriwether Lewis by Clay Jenkinson; a premiere of a documentary film about the Mississippi musician B.B. King; writing workshops; selections read from William Faulkner's works by the Hollywood actor Gerald McRaney; an Emmy Award-winning children's film, Saltwater Moose, by the actor/screenwriter Stuart Margolin; an interview with the film critic Rex Reed; and the presentation of special awards to the poet T. R. Hummer, the author Clifton Taulbert, and the screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton.

For more information, visit the web site at <www.colin.edu/nlcc>, or call 1-601-446-1213, 1-800-647-6742 or 1-601-446-6631, or join Friends of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

2003 Spring Class Schedule

Warren • Natchez • Magee

2003 part 1
page 57

Writers Guild partners with Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Special to The Democrat

Writers Guild of America, the Los Angeles- and New York-based union that represents 11,000 writers in television and movies, has become an official supporter of the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in Natchez.

"The Guild's board of directors unanimously voted to support the celebration," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Coastal-Litworks Community College in Natchez.

Attending this year's celebration to represent the WGA is Victor Nunez of Tallahassee, Fla., an independent filmmaker who has twice won the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance Film Festival.

"What a compliment," Smith said. "With this association, the celebration is lifted to a higher level than ever."

Agreeing with Smith about the significance of the new WGA support are two leaders in the film world, both originally from Mississippi and now living and working in California. They are Oswald

Natchez

McRaney and Sam Haskell III, both of whom are members of the NLCC's Advisory Board.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration shines the spotlight on the literary aspect of the cinema arts," said McRaney, nationally known actor (*Major Dad*) and chairman of the NLCC's Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing.

"I'm delighted that the Writers Guild of America has chosen to become an official participant in what has become academia's most significant recognition of screenwriting. How appro-



Haskell



McRaney

priate it is for a festival that was designed to honor writers of the cinema arts to have such enthusiastic support from the WGA."

Echoing McRaney's comments about the significance of the connection between the NLCC and the WGA is Haskell, who is worldwide head of television, William Morris Agency Inc., Beverly Hills, Calif.

"The endorsement of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration by the Writers Guild of America will enhance the credibility of the celebration itself," Haskell said. "I'm proud that the Hollywood community is embracing the Mississippi-based literary and film world, and I am confident that other top-flight Los Angeles-based organizations will soon follow."

WGA representative Nunez is known for his character-driven projects, set against the backdrop of his northern Florida home.

Among his film projects are "Use's Gold" (starring Peter Finkler), for which he was screenwriter and director; "Gal Young

"Use" (based on Margorie Kinnan Rawlings' short story), for which he was screenwriter, director, editor, producer and cinematographer; "Baby in Paradise" (starring Ashley Judd) and "A Patch of Green," both of which he directed, and "Without Evidence," for which he was cinematographer.

Nunez, who is a new member of the NLCC's advisory board, will attend the NLCC Feb. 20-23 and will be introduced at the awards ceremony.

"The WGA is committed to assisting the NLCC with speakers and films for future programs, shows for future themes, publicity and promotion," Smith said. "The NLCC is already being promoted on the Writers Guild's Web page. We are very excited to have such prominent national support."

WGA board members were particularly pleased with the screenplay writing award given each year to an outstanding writer, Smith said. The first winner, Horton Foote of Wharton, Texas, was honored in 2002.

Immediately the celebration named the award after him.

This year's winner, Billy Bob Thornton, author, director and star in "Sling Blade" is likewise well-known. He will receive the 2003 Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing in ceremonies at 6 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Natchez Convention Center.

Thornton, who won a motion picture Academy Award for Best Screenplay for "Sling Blade," has written numerous other film scripts during the past 20 years.

Thornton will be present to accept the award, sign copies of his CDs and videos, and help lead a discussion of "Sling Blade" following its showing at 8 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Natchez Community Center, 225 Franklin St.

"The emphasis on fine writing and fine literature at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is our strong suit," Smith said. "We are delighted that a national organization devoted to the same cause has found us—and wants to support us."

2003 part 1
page 58



• Musgrove makes more budget cuts PAGE 7A

Rejuvenated Tigers edge West Lauderdale PAGE 1A



Partly cloudy
High 60° - Low 30°

The Democrat

MISSISSIPPI EDITION

50¢

Wednesday, February 13, 2003
www.natchademocrat.com

The Natchez Democrat
is a free paper.
With the help of a
few volunteers, it
was a clean sweep
for the downtown
streets of Natchez.
Tuesday, Volunteers,
from left, Anne
Stowers, Radwold,
John Goodrich and
James Garcia help
steep and shagup the
sidewalk along Main
Street in preparation
for visitors to the
Literary and Cinema
Celebration.



Literary

Continued from 1A

and "Separate but Equal," among other books. Handbooks are expected to attend the 14th annual oral-education, "and they'll see a lot that's new this year," said Carolyn Vance Smith, one of the event's co-organizers. "Every year, we make it as fresh as we can."

Perhaps that's appropriate, given the event's theme — "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Solving the Incremental of the Louisiana Purchase." New highlights include the location, the Natchez Convention Center, "a beautiful location, and state-of-the-art," Smith said.

Also this year, the celebration will name its writing workshop in honor of Ellen Douglas — actually the pen name of author Lorraine Hansberry of Natchez and Jackson.

A naming ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, which has been proclaimed Ellen Douglas Day in Natchez. This will be followed by a presentation and book signing by Douglas herself.

The workshops themselves will be held Sunday. For only the second time in the event's history — the first being Nat. author and author Richard Wright — historic markers will be unveiled in honor of two important figures in Natchez history.

Those to be honored include writer and women's rights organizer Judith Sargent Murray and Beane

Phonny Rivers, who spearheaded efforts to create the Natchez Peace Parkway.

On Friday — William Winter Day in Natchez — the former governor and NLCC supporter will be honored with an 80th birthday party at 9 p.m. at the convention center.

This will follow the 8 p.m. premiere of the documentary "B.B. King: Bluesmaking," also at the convention center.

Other highlights will include:
• A pre-conference seminar on Southern authors starting at 8:15 a.m. today at Capital-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus. The cost is \$25.
• A sneak preview of the film "Louisiana — A History," at 8 p.m. today.

• A reception honoring NLCC speakers from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture. The cost is \$30.
• "Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase," a concert by the St. Joseph Orchestra Ensemble, at 8 p.m. Thursday.

• Special panel discussions at Natchez High School and, for the first time, at Co-Lin, for students only. All events are free and are being held at the convention center, unless otherwise stated.

Literary, Cinema Celebration covers new ground

By NIEA MCKANN
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — From appearances by actor, screenwriter, producer and director Billy Bob Thornton to the premiere of a film on blues great B.B. King, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is covering new ground this year.

Thornton will be in Natchez Saturday to accept the Beane Peace Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing (in, among other films, the Academy Award-winning "Sling Blade").

The 6 p.m. awards ceremony will be

Natchez

Inside:

• Look for a pull-out guide to this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration made today's edition.

held at the Natchez Convention Center. A showing of "Sling Blade" — and a panel discussion, to be led by Thornton, following the film — will then be held at the Natchez Community Center.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Others to be honored at the ceremony

will include authors T.R. Houston of Athens, Ga., and Chiron Taylor of Tulsa, Okla., this year's recipients of the Richard Wright Literary Award.

Houston is the author of "Useless Virtues," "Wab Whitsom in Hell," "The 25,000-Ton Olympic Dream," "Lorraine Hansberry" and other books of poetry and serves as editor of the Georgia Review.

Taylor is the author of "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," "The Last Train South," "The Journey Home," "Eight Miles to the Heart"

See Literary, 5A

2003 part 1
page 59



◀ Musgrove makes more budget cuts PAGE 7A

Rejuvenated Tigers edge West Lauderdale PAGE 1A ▶



Partly cloudy
High 60° • Low 30°

Natchez The Democrat

50¢

Wednesday, February 19, 2003
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MISSISSIPPI EDITION

The Natchez Democrat

Restoration
With the help of a few volunteers, it was a clean sweep for the downtown streets of Natchez Tuesday. Volunteers, from left, Anne Stowers Radzowicz, John Goodrich and James Guerrico help clean and shaping the foliage along Main Street in preparation for visitors to the Literary and Cinema Celebration.



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Hummer is the author of "Useless Virtues," "Walk Whiteman in Hell," "The 15,000-Ton Olympic Dream," "Lower-Class Hero" and other books of poetry and serves as editor of the Georgia Review.

Taddei is the author of "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," "The Last Train North," "The Journey Home," "Eight Habits of the Heart"

See Literary, 5A

2003 part 1
page 60

Literary

Continued from 1A

and "Separate but Equal," among other books.

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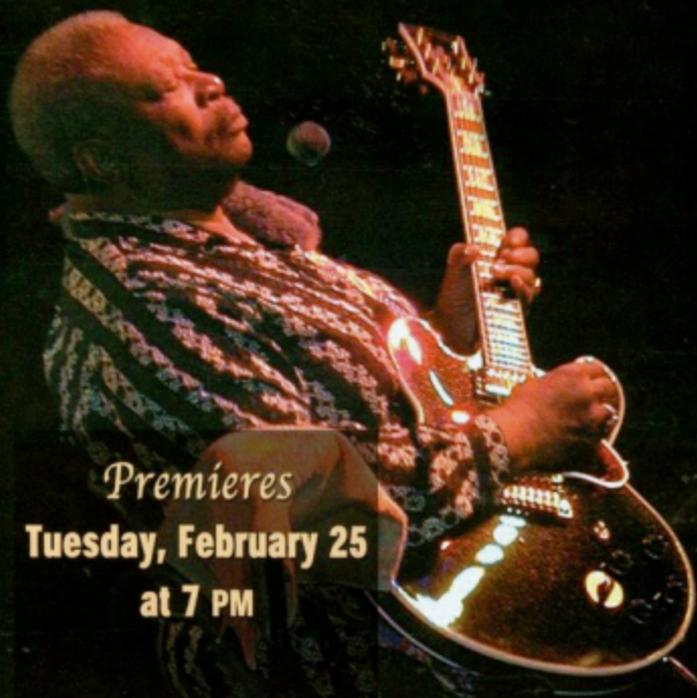
All events are free and are being held at the convention center, unless otherwise stated.

2003 part 1
page 61



fine tuning

February 2003



Premieres
Tuesday, February 25
at 7 PM

B. B. King Homecoming

HIGHLIGHTS!

The White House: In Tune With History

This documentary profiles the music and musicians featured at the White House during the past two centuries. Music, from high art to homegrown, reveals the artistic history of the White House by surveying the diverse musical tastes of the past and present administrations. Since the Marine Band performed on New Year's Day 1801, the White House halls have echoed with the sound of jazz, blues, opera, classical, folk, country and western and rock 'n' roll. **The special airs on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 17 at 9 pm.**



Ellis Marsalis

The Marsalis Family: A Jazz Celebration

This performance special salutes legendary teacher Ellis Marsalis. The program features his sons--Wynton (trumpeter and composer), Branford (saxophonist and composer), Delfeayo (trombonist and record producer) and Jason (drummer) -- and Marsalis student Harry Connick Jr. (pianist, vocalist, composer, bandleader).

Watch this special on Thursday, February 20 at 9 PM.

2003 part 1
page 62

WIN a trip to a writing conference, page 33

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The 14th annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

Exploration and Discovery
Then and Now:
*Saluting the Bicentennial of the
Louisiana Purchase*



Feb. 19-23, 2003
Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST
Lectures - Films - Book Signings
Workshops - Exhibits - Tours

For information and tickets call
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www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS
Development Authority/Tourism.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community
College, Natchez National Historical Park,
Mississippi Department of Archives and
History, and Alcorn State University

2003 part 1
page 63



Accent on Academics

Diane Williams - The Flavor of Her Words

With eyes aglow, robust voice, and sweeping movements, she introduces herself: "I am a story weaver, a keeper of treasured tales, a collector of phrases, and a griot." Enthralling her audience of area high school students and faculty, Diane Williams, a guest artist and writer with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC), compels all to listen as they eagerly seek to savor her tales.

Originally from New Jersey, Williams moved to Jackson, Mississippi, in 1986 and became a professional story weaver twelve years ago. She has traveled and shared her stories around the world as she gathered words, phrases, and tales to weave into the fabric of her sometimes borrowed, sometimes original narrative repertoire.

In 1994, Williams founded the Mississippi Story Weavers Guild and is listed on the Artist Roster and Arts Education Demonstrators Roster for Mississippi. A member of the National Storytelling Network, she received its 2002 Regional Leadership Award. Recently, the Mississippi Arts Commission tapped her experience and resources to oversee funding available

for artists in the state.

In her story weaving, Williams captures the flavor of the oral tradition that informs the story telling of centuries past and of their multiple cultures since. Therein, she virtually becomes the griot, an African storyteller and keeper of the history and mythology of his people. However, she did not acquire her bent for the dramatic from hearing stories as a child. In fact, she explained, "The most incredible thing about my career is that I did not grow up with stories."

Williams' story ideas come from various sources - some of them arise from experience and some from a moment's inspiration. Through her years of travel and interest in storytelling, she has collected a library of information about her culture and its people, a library whose holdings at one time surpassed those of the Madison, Mississippi, library. Such a large personal library attests to Williams' claim, "I just love the flavor of words," and she willingly allows access to this library as a resource for others doing research.

Williams speaks of her craft as a "rooted" art form and advocates storytelling as a vital tool in terms of



"I love the flavor of words...communication is so important to me." - Diane Williams, story weaver

students learning their language. "First, you create an appreciation of the language," she explained, "then students will be eager to learn the power of the language."

"Communication is so important to me," Williams commented, "and there is so much power in stories to communicate, to help heal, and to cure. Williams has taken her passion for words - her "love [of] the flavor of words," into classes where she periodically teaches units on cultures and the significance of their stories. Armed with the statistic that an alarming number of prisoners in Mississippi were already illiterate by the third grade, she advocates the necessity of storytelling

in the state-mandated curriculum. Also, through her sponsorship in the World Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities and active involvement with the Americans with Disabilities Act, she promotes the healing power of stories.

During the NLCC, those students who watched and listened to Diane Williams as well as those who attended her scheduled festival performance, left enriched and uplifted by her story-weaving. They had the rare treat of communicating with someone heart to heart, and story to story as they found within her stories something of themselves. They, too, loved the flavor of words - her words. ♣



"There is so much power in stories to communicate, to help heal, and to cure," explains Williams.



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

*Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase
Coverage on Pages 19-22*

Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chair of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, received a hug from Dr. Howell C. Garner, Co-Lin president, during the opening day of the 14th annual NLCC. Looking on are the other co-chairman, from left, Jim Barnett of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Keith Whisenant, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park, and Ralph Payne, special assistant to the president of Alcorn State University.



N-Sights staff photo by Mark LaFrance

Stars, writers, authors, scholars showcase literature and cinema

N-Sight Staff

Take acclaimed authors. Hire in highly respected scholars. Mix in famous actors. Sit in music, food, workshops, special presentations, movies, and more.

What you have is the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

For six days, Feb. 19-23, the NLCC held center court in Natchez and at Co-Lin.

Entitled, "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the program showcased a wide variety of topics.

One of the highlights was the awards ceremony Saturday evening Feb. 22 at the Natchez Convention Center.

There, three acclaimed and respected professionals in acting, book writing and poetry were honored.

They were author and lecturer Clifton Taulbert, a Pulitzer Prize nominee, actor and screenplay writer Billy Bob Thornton, an Academy Award winner, and poet

and lecturer T. R. Hammer. Both Taulbert and Hammer received the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, while Thornton received the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing (for the screenplay for the movie "Sling Blade," in which Thornton starred).

"I'm honored to be on the same stage with them [the award winners]," Thornton said to a packed audience. "And I thank you for having me in your state."

Thornton said he was genuinely humbled by being selected for the award. He was given his prize by his friend and fellow actor Gerald McRaney, who helped create the award to honor internationally famous writer Horton Foote. Thornton was so taken with Natchez and the NLCC that he conducted

coffee-house style discussion with an audience after the showing of "Sling Blade." Also, he vented out into the Natchez night life.

Thornton may return next year to enjoy the program and possibly participate in the 15th annual NLCC. Taulbert, a highly respected author of such works as "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored" and "The Last Train North," said, "It is a great honor for me and my family to accept this award."

Both Taulbert, who has been a consistent participant in the NLCC, and Hammer conducted workshops at Co-Lin as part of their involvement with the NLCC.

The NLCC is sponsored by Co-

Lin, the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Alcorn State University. The Writers Guild of America this year became the newest supporter.

Here is a recap of the events.

Wednesday, Feb. 19
The morning program, "Exploring and Discovering Famous Authors," was held at Co-Lin. It featured lectures on authors Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright and Flannery O'Connor. Immediately after the program, a historic marker honoring early American author and woman's rights advocate Judith Sargent Murray was unveiled. (See story and photo in this NLCC section.)

The 14th annual conference officially opened that afternoon by Dr.

Howell C. Garner, Co-Lin president, and Natchez Mayor F. L. "Buck" Smith. Garner honored the co-chairman with Co-Lin's 75th anniversary commemorative medallions. The co-chairs are Carolyn Vance Smith, retired Co-Lin instructor and NLCC founder, Jim Barnett, of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Keith Whisenant, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park, Ralph Payne, special assistant to the president of Alcorn State University.

The afternoon and evening featured scholarly lectures about the Louisiana Purchase and the premier of "Louisiana ... A History," a documentary by Louisiana Public Broadcasting.

Thursday, Feb. 20
This was Ellen Douglas Day in Natchez. Douglas, of Jackson and Natchez, is the author of several books, including "Trunk Four Stories I Am Finally Old Enough to Tell," "A Family's Affair," and "Black Cloud, White Cloud." She has been a regular presenter at the

Continued on next page

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by being selected for the award.*



Dr. Ronnie Nettles, left, Natchez campus dean, congratulates Jacky Campbell, one of three recipients of the T. Waring "Buddy" Bennett Jr. Scholarships.



Bettye Mullen, right, advisor to the Student Government Association and director of Student Support Services, presented Student Government Association officers awards of appreciation. They are, from left: Sitanell Johnson, freshman representative; Michael Anderson, president; Renora Temple, vice president, and Holly Humphreys, secretary/treasurer.



Dr. Ronnie Nettles, left, Natchez campus dean, congratulates Jordan Brown, who received the Circle K Leadership Award.



The Natchez campus Scholars Bowl team was honored by advisor Jim Wiggins, history instructor, second from right. Team mates are, from left: Matthew Willis, Hannah Bullen, Anna Kate Jex and Elaine Thimmesch.

Awards night: A time to honor and thank

Continued from previous page Campbell.

First place in the Literary Essay category: Susan Powell.

Second place in Literary Essay: Michelle Shamblin. Third place in Literary Essay: Byron Abridge.

Dr. Gerri Brown, advisor to Trillium, honored individuals who were on the staff. They are: Holly Humphreys, editor; Krista Cox, photographer, and staff members Rosie Culbert, Amanda Dodge, Dorrell Robinson, Candice Turner, Nandi West, Erica White and Jesse Pollard.

Mark LaFrancis, advisor to N-Sights, the campus newspaper, recognized individuals for their contribution to the paper this school year.

They are: Morgan Mizell, news manager; Jacky Campbell, advertising manager; Dorrell Robinson, photo manager; N-Sights staff: Eileen Maher, Andrew Flach, Christina Weatherly, Aranda Woodruff, Kristina Nelson, Brandi Griffith, Charlie Hanton, Crystal Mackey and Cynthia Johnson.

Students of the month throughout the school year were applauded.

They are: Elaine Thimmesch, September; Michael Anderson, October; Nile Green, November; Matthew Willis, December;

Michelle Guthrie, January; James Allen, February; Paul Metzger, March; and Morgan Mizell, April. History instructor Jim Wiggins,

advisor to the Scholars Bowl, recognized the students who were on the team this school year. They are: Hannah Bullen, Anna Kate Jex, Elaine Thimmesch and Matthew Willis.

Nancy McFarland, academic advisor, and Mike Pevey, career and technical education counselor, both advisors to SHARE (Student Hospitality and Recruitment), recognized the students who participated in the program this school year. They are: Aranda Farmer, president; Lee Mizell, vice president; Cassie Whitaker, secretary/treasurer; Kristie Taylor, public relations.

SHARE members: Michael Anderson, Hannah Bullen, Laretta Butler, Kim Dunston, Arkin Eakins, Morgan Mizell, John Jackson, Sitanell Johnson, Nicole Jordan, Michael Levin, Melissa Phillips, Jessica Ratliff, Melissa Siles, Sara Siles and Nandi West.

Dr. Paul Johnson, dean of the College district and former Natchez campus dean, recognized students who were presidents and leaders of their respective clubs and organizations.

They are: Nandi West, Janet Wisner, Kendis Hinson, Jacqueline Green, Aranda Farmer, Lee Mizell, Michael Anderson, Jordan Brown, James Allen, Holly Humphreys, Elaine Thimmesch, Morgan Mizell, Rhonda Carter and Renora Temple.



Sue Savino, right, instructor and advisor to Phi Beta Lambda, presents the Business Technology Award to Mitchell Guthrie.



Kathy Wooten, instructor and advisor to Phi Beta Lambda, presents the Outstanding Biology Award to Barry Givens, an evening student.



Alan Oliver, right, instructor, presents the Outstanding Biology Award to Barry Givens, an evening student.

Dr. Ann Abadie
Center for the Study of Southern Culture
2002 Public Humanities Scholar

I am honored and proud to receive recognition from an organization that has perhaps meant more to the state of Mississippi than any other group in recent decades. The Mississippi Committee for the Humanities was formed at a time when citizens of the state were in great transition, when at last all citizens were officially freed to meet together—but where, on what ground? MCH provided that ground, a solid ground on which citizens could meet to discuss common concerns and consider possible solutions to problems affecting us all.

It was my privilege in the early 1970s to witness the birth and early growth of the organization as Chancellor Porter L. Fortune, Jr., Cora Norma, Tom Flynn, and Michael Harrington led in its development, then from offices on the campus of the University of Mississippi, in a building where I studied and taught.

It was my privilege to participate in early programs that sought to bring the humanities to bear on public policy issues. Among these programs were those that Clarice Campbell organized at Rust College and took to country churches around Holly Springs, bringing together blacks and whites—for the first time ever—to discuss civil rights and citizenship in the context of the humanities. Other programs were organized by Eva Bishop, president of the Mississippi Federation of Colored Women Club, Inc., bringing together members of her organization and other groups in towns from Aberdeen to Yazoo City.

It was my privilege, in 1977, to participate in a two-day workshop led by MCH chair Estus Smith for the purpose of formulating long-range plans for the organization, including, if we desired, broadening the types of programs funded. As a result of that meeting, MCH decided not to restrict humanities programs to public policy issues. This decision signaled the growth of MCH and the people it served, showing that citizens of the state were mature enough to consider humanities not just in the context of politics but in the broad sense of the term and to examine all aspects of human life in such a way as become aware of what Eudora Welty described as “each other’s wonder, each other’s human plight.”

Thereafter, humanities meetings in Mississippi allowed for the consideration of the culture and the creativity of our citizens. I have had the privilege of participating in a number of such programs, beginning in 1981 with “The Time Has Come” festival that celebrated the literary, musical, and visual creativity of Greenville, Mississippi. Since then, I have had the privilege of participating in numerous other such programs—the Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival, the Decorative Arts and Historic Preservation Forums in Columbus, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, the Oxford Conference for the Book, to name a few.

Thank you, Barbara Carpenter and all involved with the Mississippi Humanities Council for your rich achievements over the years and for honoring me as one of your great admirers and devoted servants.

Excerpt from Dr. Abadie’s 2002 acceptance speech.

2003 part 1
page 67

COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NATCHEZ CAMPUS

AWARDS DAY PROGRAM

April 15, 2003 - 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION Mrs. Cynthia Barfield

WELCOME Dr. Ronald E. Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus

75th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL RECOGNITION Dr. Howell C. Garner
President

CERTIFICATE AND AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Outstanding Business Technology Student Mrs. Sue Sarino

Outstanding Hospitality Management Student Mrs. Kaye Harris

Outstanding Marketing Management Student Mrs. Kaye Harris

Outstanding Respiratory Care Practitioner Student Mr. Walt Wilson

Outstanding Mathematics Student Dr. Robert Smith

Outstanding Biology Student Mr. Allen Oliver

Outstanding Spanish Student Mrs. Linda Flynn

* Refractors Creative Writing Mrs. Judy Wiggins

* N-Sights Mr. Mark LaFrancis

Co-Lin Natchez Flag Design Award Mr. Mark LaFrancis

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration Mrs. Carolyn Vance Smith

* Trillion Dr. Geraldine Brown

Yearbook Dedication Dr. Geraldine Brown

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Circle K Mr. John Bullen

Delta Epsilon Chi Mrs. Kaye Harris

Phi Beta Lambda Mrs. Kathy Wooten

Student Government Association Ms. Bettye Mullen

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Mrs. Kaye Harris
Mrs. Owen McCully
Dr. Ronald E. Nettles

Gene and Susie Bates Scholarship

Thomas Waring "Buddy" Bennett, Jr. Scholarship

Annette West Donnan Memorial Scholarship

Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation Scholarship

Dean Jones Gibson Memorial Scholarship

F. Kenneth McCully Memorial Scholarship

Sherryn W. McDonald Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Joey H. Paul Memorial Scholarship

E. A. Redd Memorial Scholarship

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Phi Theta Kappa/All-USA Academic Team Awards Mr. Kenneth Taylor
Dr. Howell C. Garner, President

Scholars Bowl Team Awards Mr. James Wiggins

* SFLARE (Student Hospitality and Recruitment) Recognition Mrs. Nancy McFarland
Mr. Mike Pevey

* Student of the Month Recognitions Mrs. Kaye Harris
Assistant Dean of Vocational-Technical Education

* Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges Dr. Paul D. Johnson
Dean of the College

* President's Council Dr. Howell C. Garner
President

Hall of Fame Dr. Howell C. Garner
President

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Ronald E. Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus

* Standing Recognition—student to pick up award from presenter immediately after the program



Southern Culture

HL. Mencken, the Baltimore writer of the early twentieth century, had too much fun deriding the backwardness of Southern culture. I mean, describing the South as the "Sahara of the Bozarts" and a "cesspool of Baptists" was just too easy at the time. Mencken actually admired the South of gentility and manners but had decided by the time of the Scopes Trial in 1925 that the region was beyond hope, and he came up with some of the nastiest language ever used to describe the region. There were no arts there except "the lower reaches of the gospel hymn."

Eudora Welty was born in the Sahara of the Bozarts in 1909 and would one day be a part of the generation of writers who must have stunned Mencken with the depth of their creativity and who still challenge us to understand how it happened. Welty long remembered as a little girl going for Sunday afternoon rides with her mother and her mother's friend. Young Eudora would sit between them and say, "Now talk." She soaked up stories and later converted them into her great literary art, like so many of the writers of the Southern Literary Renaissance. The South of the years from 1920 to 1960, the acknowledged high point of Southern letters, was also, though, the time of regional poverty, high illiteracy rates, occasional racial violence and institutional injustice, and a general backward glance in culture.

How did a place with so many apparent social problems still nurture a deep creativity in many of its people? It was not just genius. Yes, the occasional Faulkner walked the land, and who can explain his wild creative imagination? But the social context must have played a part in nurturing the sheer breadth of creativity in the twentieth-century South. After all, the same years that produced the Southern Literary Renaissance also witnessed a Southern Musical Renaissance—remember Louis Armstrong and Lester Young in jazz, Robert Johnson and Muddy Waters in blues, Jimmie Rodgers and Hank Williams in country, and Elvis Presley and Fats Domino in rock 'n roll. When we look at those names, we know the South was not a "Sahara" but a "fertile crescent" of American music and culture.

I think this creativity resulted from the long dominance of a traditional culture and the stimulus the Southern environment and social system provided to individuals who generated creative sparks. Southerners had a sense of place from which to observe the character and manners of people, always an advantage in capturing the human drama. The modernization of the region itself became the final spark in the early twentieth century that crystallized the creative spirit for many artists who were able to see an intensely rooted people face the turbulence of social change.

The Southern folk culture that birthed much of the region's creativity rested on an oral culture, and the facility with language that emerged from this conversation-oriented, storytelling society was surely of central importance to nurturing creative expression. Allen Tate contrasted, for example, the Northern style of conversation with that of the South. Northerners talk about ideas, Tate said, while the "typical southern conversation is not going anywhere; it is not about anything. It is about the people who are talking."

No one captured the earthy Southern rhythms of language better than Zora Neale Hurston. She insisted that "the average southern child, white or black, is raised on simile and invective." They know how to call names, and I hear generations of Southern voices in this quote of hers. In the South, she wrote, "It is an everyday affair to hear somebody called a mullet-headed, mule-eared, wall-eyed, hog-noted, 'gator-faced, shad-mouthed, screw-necked, goat-bellied, puzzle-gutted, camel-backed, butt-sprung, battle-hammed, knock-kneed, razor-legged, box-ankled, shovel-footed, unmated so and so!"

As much as any American place, the South has wrestled with deep-seated human hopes, fears, and anxieties rooted in the region's biracial culture that could produce a Zora Neale Hurston and a Eudora Welty. Its social system has been turbulent, given to vibrant emotional displays and clear and passionate expressions. It is no wonder that the South's artists have been nurtured here. They have had stories to tell and the language in which to tell them.

—Charles Wilson, 2002





Dr. Ronnie Nettles congratulates Brandy Bousall, the recipient of a T. Waring "Buddy" Bennett Jr. Scholarship.



Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chair of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, congratulates student Matthew Willis, left, and instructor Kenneth Taylor, who were selected as William Winter Scholars in a program sponsored by the NLCC.



Dr. Robert Smith presents student Matthew Willis with the Outstanding Mathematics Student Award.



Gwen McCallip, right, director of admissions and records, presents Tracy Hatchins with the Dean James Gibson Memorial Scholarship.

Students, staff honored during special night

Continued from preceding page

Nettles, Natchez campus dean, and Kaye Harris, assistant dean for career and technical education. Also, various program and organization leaders honored their students.

A special surprise went to Spanish and Speech instructor Linda Royals Flynn, who was honored with the tribute in her honor in this year's edition of *Trilium*, the Co-Lin yearbook. (See story in this section.)

Another surprise was the announcement of a new endowed scholarship by Gwen McCallip, director of admissions and records,

and her family, in the memory of McCaig's late husband, Kenneth. "As a member of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation, I have become more aware of the role that endowed scholarships play in the education of some of our finest students at Co-Lin," McCaig said.

"Dr. Nettles and I had discussed many times the need to increase the number of endowed scholarships on the Natchez Campus. I thought that establishing an endowed scholarship in memory of my late husband, F. Kenneth McCaig, during the 75th anniversary celebration of Co-Lin



A look back at Awards Night would be a fitting tribute to a beloved son, husband, father and grandfather."

McCaig said, "What better way to remember a loved one than to

have a memorial scholarship that would recognize the loved one each year after year by aiding a deserving student in the pursuit of their education and playing a role in their future success.

This scholarship will be awarded annually to a well-rounded sophomore who attends the Natchez campus and who has maintained a minimum 3.2 GPA (grade point average). The recipient will be selected by the Co-Lin Natchez Scholarship Committee."

This first recipient honored is Courtney Gladden. Here are the other recipients and

their awards:
 Business Technology Award: Michelle Guthrie
 Hospitality Management Award: Wanza McGuffie
 Marketing Management Technology Award: Kimberly Ansel
 Delta Epsilon Chi Leadership Award: Wanza McGuffie
 Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Award: Rhonda Carter
 Circle K Leadership Award: Jordan Brown
 Biology Award: Holly Givens
 Outstanding Respiratory Care
Continued on next page



Gwen McCallip, right, director of admissions and records, presents Christine Newman with the Sherry W. McDonald Memorial Scholarship.



Gwen McCallip, right, director of admissions and records, presents Natalie Stiles with the Co-Lin Foundation Scholarship.



Kaye Harris, right, presents Hannah Bullen with the Annette West Dunnam Memorial Scholarship.

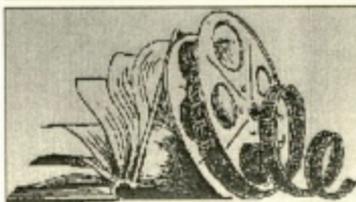


Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Natchez campus dean, presents Courtney Gladden with the F. Kenneth McCaig Memorial Scholarship.



Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Natchez campus dean, presents Maggie Ott with one of the T. Waring "Buddy" Bennett Jr. Scholarships.

2003 part 1
 page 20



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

*Exploration and Discovery Then and Now:
Safeguarding the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase
Coverage on Pages 19-22*

Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chair of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, received a hug from Dr. Howell C. Garner, Co-Lin president, during the opening day of the 14th annual NLCC. Looking on are the other co-chairman, from left, Jim Barnett of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Keith Whitson, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park, and Ralph Payne, special assistant to the president at Alocorn State University.



A-Sights staff photo by Mark LaFrambo

Stars, writers, authors, scholars showcase literature and cinema

N-Sights Staff

Take acclaimed authors, blend in highly respected scholars. Mix in famous actors. Stir in music, food, workshops, special presentations, movies, and more.

What you have is the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

For six days, Feb. 19-23, the NLCC held center court in Natchez and in Co-Lin.

Entitled, "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Safeguarding the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," the program showcased a wide variety of topics.

One of the highlights was the awards ceremony Saturday evening Feb. 22 at the Natchez Convention Center.

There, those acclaimed and respected professionals in acting, book writing and poetry were honored.

They were author and lecturer Clifton Taulbert, a Pulitzer Prize nominee; actor and screenplay writer Billy Bob Thornton, an Academy Award winner, and poet

and lecturer T. R. Hamner. Both Taulbert and Hamner received the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, while Thornton received the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing (for the screenplay for the movie "Sling Blade," in which Thornton starred).

"I'm honored to be on the same stage with them (the award winners)," Thornton said to a packed audience. "And I thank you for having me in your state."

Thornton said he was genuinely humbled by being selected for the award. He was given his prize by his friend and fellow actor Gerald McRaney, who helped create the award to honor internationally famous writer Horton Foote. Thornton was so taken with Natchez and the NLCC that he conducted

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Thornton may return next year to enjoy the program and possibly participate in the 15th annual NLCC.

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Both Taulbert, who has been a consistent participant in the NLCC, and Hamner conducted workshops at Co-Lin as part of their involvement with the NLCC.

The NLCC is sponsored by Co-

Lin, the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Alocorn State University. The Writers Guild of America this year became the newest supporter.

Here is a recap of the events:

Wednesday, Feb. 19

The morning program, "Exploring and Discovering Famous Authors," was held at Co-Lin. It featured lectures on authors Zora Neale Hurston, Richard Wright and Flannery O'Connor. Immediately after the program, a historic market honoring early American author and women's rights advocate Judith Sargent Murray was unveiled. (See story and photo in this NLCC section.)

The 14th annual conference officially opened that afternoon by 5P.

Howell C. Garner, Co-Lin president, and Natchez Mayor F. L. "Boss"

Smith. Garner honored the co-chairman with Co-Lin's 75th anniversary commemorative medallion. The co-chairs are Carolyn Vance Smith, retired Co-Lin instructor and NLCC founder; Jim Barnett, of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; Keith Whitson, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park; Ralph Payne, special assistant to the president of Alocorn State University.

The afternoon and evening featured scholarly lectures about the Louisiana Purchase and the premier of "Louisiana... A History," a documentary by Louisiana Public Broadcasting.

Thursday, Feb. 20
The event was the opening of the Natchez Convention Center and Natchez, in the center of several

venues, including "Truck Train Station I am Finally Add Enough to Tell," "A Family's Affair" and "Black 'Ond, White 'Ond." She has been a regular presence at the

Continued on next page

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by being selected for the award.

2003 part 1
page 71

NLCC hosts variety of programs



Continued from previous page
NLCC. Co-Lin has created the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops in her honor. The first of the workshops was presented on the campus on Sunday, Feb. 22, the final day of the NLCC this year.

During the day, scholars, authors and speakers presented several workshops at the Convention Center, including one on Jewish Sargent Murray, whose living estate was on land now the site of Co-Lin.

In the evening, the St. Joseph Community Orchestra presented a concert, "Music at the Time of the Louisiana Purchase."

Friday, Feb. 21

A day full of events included lectures about William Faulkner, Rex Reed, and film-making.

Co-Lin was the scene for a special presentation, "Exploring and Discovering within Ourselves," a motivational program by three respected professionals in their fields: Clifton Taubert, singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, and Diane Williams, author and storyteller.

This program was specially prepared for Co-Lin students and staff. That evening, Mississippi Educational Broadcasting released the documentary, "H.B. King

Homecoming," followed by a gala birthday party for former Gov. William Winter, who has been the NLCC director of proceedings since the celebration began.

Saturday, Feb. 22

A mixture of lectures was presented on Saturday, including a program about growing up Jewish in Mississippi, a documentary about director and actor John Ford, a presentation about Marjorie Lewis, and a lecture about Rineo Fleming Byrne, who was a force behind the development of the Natchez Trace Parkway.

In the evening was the awards ceremony, followed by a sold out gala benefit at Revenusade featuring live and winners, speakers and authors, and the showing of "Sling Blade."

Sunday Feb. 23

Co-Lin hosted the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, which included impromptu advice on writing by Douglas herself in the lobby of the Career and Technical Education Center.

That morning featured a variety of workshops on screenplay writing, poetry, educational television, publishing and other topics by well-known lecturers, scholars, authors and producers.



N-Sights staff photos by Mark LaFrance

Singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, top photo, sings a song during the program.

"Exploring and Discovering Within Ourselves" at Co-Lin Friday, Feb. 21 in the multi-purpose room.

Also to, acclaimed speaker and author Clifton Taubert talks about the importance of family.

At right, author and storyteller Diane Williams explains what a storyteller does.



Author and lecturer Ellen Douglas (the pen name for Josephine Haxton) talks impromptu to an audience in the Career and Technical Center lobby about writing. She was attending the writing workshops named in her honor Saturday, Feb. 23.

2003 part 1
page 72



N-Sights staff photos by Mark LaFrancis

With a portrait photograph of Richard Wright nearby, author and lecturer Clifton Taulbert talks of his pride in being awarded the Richard Wright Award for Literary Excellence by the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. At right, Academy Award-winning actor and screen-player Billy Bob Thornton is presented the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing by his friend and actor Gerald McRaney.

Writers, actor honored by NLCC

By CHARLIE BLANTON
N-Sights Staff

The NLCC Award Presentation "A Night with the Stars" on Saturday, February 22, 2003, turned out to be a huge success.

Two people were presented with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award: Dr. Terry R. Hummer, and Clifton Taulbert. Billy Bob Thornton received the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing.

Hummer was born in 1959 in Macon, Miss. When he went to high school in Neshoba County, he took up playing the saxophone in many different rock groups.

He attended the University of Southern Mississippi and the Center for Writers, where in 1972 he received his bachelor's degree; in 1974 he earned his master's. In 1977 he went to the University of Utah where in 1980, just before he finished his first poem, he earned his doctoral degree.

Some of Hummer's works include: "Useless Virtues," "The 18,000-Ton Olympic Dream Poems," and "Lower Class Heresy."

Taulbert, who *Time* magazine named "One of the World's Greatest Writers," is a renowned author, lecturer, film maker, and motivational speaker.

Taulbert is from Tulsa, Okla., but was raised in Glen Allan, Miss.; he was educated in the public schools of the Mississippi Delta. Taulbert has been a writer for more than 42 years.

His books include "The Last Train North," "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored," and "Eight Healthy Habits of the Heavens."

Taulbert also wrote a story about how his family spent Christmas one year called "The Journey Home: A Father's Gift to His Son."

Thornton is an Academy Award-winning writer, actor, director, and musician. Thornton, who has worked with

such actors as Catherine Zeta Jones, George Clooney, and Bruce Willis, is from Hot Springs, Ark. He had many small roles before he hit it big in acting. His screen plays include "Sling Blade," "One False Move," and "A Family Thing."

Thornton had received an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay, and an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor in his movie "Sling Blade," and many more nominations from other organizations such as the Screen Actors Guild.

Yet, he was honored to receive the Horton Foote Award.

Thornton said, "If it weren't for the southern part of the U.S., we wouldn't have Rock & Roll or any of the conventions today." He added "This ceremony is not a show, it's real."



Poet and lecturer T. R. Hummer, left, looks over his Richard Wright Award for Literary Excellence, which he received from Dr. David G. Samsing, professor of history emeritus at the University of Mississippi.



Honorees at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration along with award presenters listen to former Gov. William Winter talk about the Richard Wright Award for Literary Excellence during the Awards Night Feb. 22. They are, from left, Billy Bob Thornton, Gerald McRaney, Clifton Taulbert, T. R. Hummer, and David Samsing.

2003 part 1
page 73

Academy-Award-winning screenplay writer Billy Bob Thornton during a moment at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.



Thornton talks about Oscar-winning film

By CYNTHIA JOHNSON
N-Sight Staff

"I'll tell you what I write *'Slag Blade'* about and my theory on life. Everything is 50-50. I believe that people are happy and sad both at the same time, all of the time."

Those words describe Billy Bob Thornton's philosophy on life. The actor/screenplay writer said an audience of his thoughts during the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration Feb. 19-23. After the audience viewed the movie he wrote and in which he starred, Thornton conducted a coffee-house style discussion.

Co-Lin instructor Dr. Gerri Brown moderated the discussion. Last fall, Brown, who teaches psychology, required her students to watch *'Slag Blade'*, which is about

a mildly retarded man, Karl Childers, and his attempt at a normal life after serving a 25-year sentence in a state mental hospital for murdering his abusive mother and her lover.

Thornton said his "lingely symbolic film was about people taking life into their own hands and forcing it into something that suits them.

In addition, it is about the responsibility we have as parents, what you do affects children."

Thornton continued, "Karl Childers, the protagonist, thought it was more important to save a life than it was to keep his own."

Thornton's love for driving began at an early age.

"I've everything that I have today to my mother and my high school drama teacher who allowed

me to write my own scenes, cast my classmates as actors and direct them."

He said, "In an Arkansas high school during the 1970s that was not common for a teacher to be that creative about drama."

He added, "In terms of the way that I shoot things (on film), I owe something to Jim Jarmusch (the renowned filmmaker whose projects include *'Stranger Than Paradise'* and *'Down By Law'*) and like (director) John Ford."

During the discussion, Thornton responded to questions from the audience concerning acting and writing techniques, the beauty of the southern accent, and the depth of the southern experience.

He attended the NLCC to receive the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing

several new elements: a new headquarters in the beautiful Natchez Convention Center; a panel discussion especially for Alcorn and Copiah-Lincoln students, featuring Clifton Taulbert, Tricia Walker and Diane Williams; and the installation of historic markers on the grounds of Co-Lin, where the writer Judith Sargent Murray lived, and in Bayou La Batre, former home of Route Runners, whose efforts saved the Natchez Trace.

Among the thousands of people from across the country who attend-

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Southern Jewish experience discussed

By KRISTINA NELSON
N-Sight Staff

"I grew up with dual loyalties: as a Jew and as a southerner," said author Edward Cohen at the beginning of his presentation at the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. "My life was defined by these two contradictory aspects of my identity."

His story started when his grandfather left Romania in 1890 at the age of 15 and sought fortune in America. His grandfather, Cohen

explained, had been in trouble with the police and his parents feared for his life. "Imagine," Cohen said, "When my grandfather bonded that iron, he and his parents knew they would never see one another again."

His grandfather chose not to stay in New York, but found his way to Jackson, Miss., where he became a peddler and traveled the countryside selling goods to farmers from a 50-pound pack strapped on his back.

Cohen said that his grandfather and his grandfather's brother eventually opened a clothing store in town, the next thing they needed were wives. When his grandfather heard that an eligible Jewish woman was seeking with relatives in Memphis, he took the

four-hour bus ride to meet her. After an obligatory six-week courtship, they were married. Eventually, grandfather's sister married grandfather's brother and they raised their families in one big house in Jackson.

With all the double customs and relatives around when I grew up," Cohen commented, "I thought the whole world was Jewish." His first day at school,

however, as he recalled, he spoke about the trauma of having to leave a note to school to excuse him from classes

for the Jewish holidays. "I longed to be normal, said Cohen."

He made up stories to explain his absences to his friends, including telling them that he spent the holidays on the roof of his house.

Cohen also told a story about wanting to take part in the third grade Christmas pageant. His parents said he could participate, provided he played an inanimate object. He was a tree! Cohen's presentation offered an interesting perspective on the civil rights issues our nation faced 40 years ago.

Tracy Cohen lives with his wife and three cats in Venice, California, where he is a freelance writer and filmmaker.

Post-celebration reviews show that NLCC is rich in literature and tradition

By CAROLYN VANCE SMITH
NLCC Founder

Marvelous compliments continue to pour in for the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003. This year's Celebration acknowledged the 200th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase, using the theme, "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase." Including more material than ever before on Natchez, its resources and its people, the event incorporated

several new elements: a new headquarters in the beautiful Natchez Convention Center; a panel discussion especially for Alcorn and Copiah-Lincoln students, featuring Clifton Taulbert, Tricia Walker and Diane Williams; and the installation of historic markers on the grounds of Co-Lin, where the writer Judith Sargent Murray lived, and in Bayou La Batre, former home of Route Runners, whose efforts saved the Natchez Trace.

Among the thousands of people from across the country who attend-

ed the conference was Dr. Glenn Watts, who served as the official moderator for the Mississippi Humanities Council, which makes annual grants to the conference. In his report, Watts noted that the presenters — novelists, poets, historians and actors as well as producers of movies and film scripts — addressed the "universal issues of the human heart." He wrote further, "Just as the search for a *'Northwest Passage'* by Lewis and Clark led to exploration of our continent's resources, to these writers speak of exploring

and discovering new riches in our southern art traditions." Award-winning filmmaker Victor Nunez, who attended on behalf of the Screen Writers Guild of America East, wrote to that organization that other Guild members "might even find their weary enthusiasts for what we all try to do together, and enjoy!"

None of the conference's great success would have been possible without the support of hundreds of wonderful, generous people. Deepest thanks go from the NLCC Steering Committee, made up of

representatives of the four sponsoring institutions.

Members are Keith Whitcraft, Natchez National Historical Park; Jon Barnett, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; Ralph Payne, Alcorn State University; and Carolyn Vance Smith, Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

The 15th annual NLCC, Feb. 24-28, 2004, will use the theme, "Secundus in Statuibus: Politics in the Deep South." Plans now to attend!

2003 part 1
page 74



Jon Kukla

A Wilderness So Immense

The Louisiana Purchase and the Destiny of America



The remarkable story of the land purchase that doubled the size of our young nation and set the stage for its expansion across the continent.

In a saga that stretches from Paris and Madrid to Haiti, Virginia, New York, and New Orleans, Jon Kukla shows how rivalries over the Mississippi River and its vast watershed brought France, Spain, Great Britain, and the United States to the brink of war and shaped the destiny of the new American republic. We encounter American leaders—Jefferson and Jay, Monroe and Pickering among them—clashing over the opening of the West and its implications for sectional balance of power. We see these disagreements nearly derailing the Constitution of 1787 and spawning a series of separatist conspiracies, as the French Revolution and Napoleon's empire-building rocked the Atlantic community, and Spain's New World empire grew increasingly vulnerable to American and European rivals. Interweaving the stories of ordinary settlers and imperial decision-makers, Kukla depicts an upsurge of revolutionary intrigue that transformed a small and precarious union into a world power—all without bloodshed, and for about four cents an acre.

- National Media Appearances, including C-SPAN
- Author Tour: New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and regional publicity in Virginia
- Print Advertising in *The New York Review of Books*

Jon Kukla received his B.A. from Carthage College and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Toronto. He has directed historical research and publishing at the Library of Virginia and been curator and director of the Historic New Orleans Collection. In 2000 he returned to Virginia as director of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation. He lives in Brookneal, Virginia.

Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.

April 2003



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2003 part 1
page 75

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR
Jon Kukla's *A Wilderness So Immense*

"A wonderful story, wonderfully told. The richness of detail and freshness of insight combined with the power of its narrative flow should make the book a winner for the historian and general reader alike."

—W.W. Abbot

Editor Emeritus of *The Papers of George Washington*

"Jon Kukla is master story teller, and the compelling narrative of the Louisiana Purchase is worthy of his talents. Four countries, four centuries, a dozen intrigues and one fascinating tale of nation-building."

—Joyce Appleby

Author of *Inheriting the Revolution*

"An epic story, ranging from the capitals of Europe to the Haitian revolution to the Mississippi Valley. Diplomacy and war, duplicity and bribery, ambition and continental vision — Kukla's fast-paced narrative has it all. The Louisiana Purchase was the climax of a fascinating series of events. In this book they come together as never before."

—Charles Royster

Author of *The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company*

PUBLICATION DATE APRIL 2003 FROM

Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.



Louisiana: An Illustrated History

The Story of One of America's Most Unique Places and Its People

First Printing: 5,000

Louisiana has always been a central character in the story of America, from prehistoric times to the Louisiana Purchase to the present day. It is the story of one of the world's greatest rivers and the men who coveted it; of explorers, of empire-builders, and ordinary people; of wars and rebellions, carpebaggers, cultural clashes, and a man who called himself the Kingfish. For the first time, that complete story is told in both words and images in *Louisiana: An Illustrated History*, a new book published by the Foundation for Excellence in Louisiana Public Broadcasting. The intended audience includes non-fiction readers with an interest in general history, as well as public television viewers. It is scheduled to be released in spring of 2003.

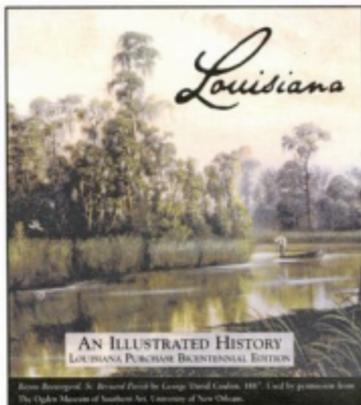
This 224-page coffee-table book is the companion piece to *Louisiana: A History*, the six-hour documentary series being produced by Louisiana Public Broadcasting to coincide with the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase. The series will be aired on public broadcasting in September 2003 and will have opening night premieres in Washington, D.C. and Louisiana. Each chapter corresponds with one of the six episodes in the series, which brings history to life through spectacular imagery and the spoken words of historical figures, scholars and history makers.

The late historian Stephen E. Ambrose is the on-camera host for the series and provides the introduction to this book. In a 2000 interview for the series and companion book, Ambrose explained what the Louisiana Purchase meant to America.

"Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark out to find out what he had bought. And they reported that he made the best bargain that's ever been made. It added almost half of the territory of the United States at a bargain price. It brought New Orleans into the Union and made it the greatest port for everybody from the Appalachians, way over to the Rockies. So, how important was it? It's impossible to exaggerate its importance."

In the years after the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon, the region became the heartland of America, a source of inestimable riches in minerals, agriculture, and cultural resources. The Purchase brought into the Union all or part of the states we know today as Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Louisiana, Minnesota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana.

The book was written by C.E. Richard with image research and editing by Tika Laudon, the senior producer for the documentary series. The book was designed by Michael Ledet and edited by Patricia Brady. Research and technical assistance were also provided by Al Godoy, Christina H. Melton, Linda Wei and Martha Boyd. Louisiana Public Broadcasting President/CEO Beth Courtney is the Executive Producer for the project. This publication was underwritten by The Foundation for Excellence in Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Commission.



Watch *Louisiana: A History* premiering this September...only on **LPBC**

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2003 part 1
page 77

The Colinian

Volume 29, No. 2

June 2003



*Celebrating 75 Years of
Learning, Community and Commitment*

2003 part 1
page 78

Spring semester in review

By Mark LaFrancis, Director of Public Information Natchez Campus

The spring semester at the Natchez campus blossomed with activities and excitement. A high enrollment – 815 – provided an early harbinger of good things to come.

The Natchez campus joined in the celebration of Co-Lin's 75th anniversary by participating in several events. First, several staff, including Dean Ronald E. Nettles and Assistant Dean Kaye Harris, attended the February 3 celebration ceremony on the Wesson campus.

On February 14, in conjunction with Mississippi Arbor Day, clubs and organizations planted 20 crape myrtle trees in the quadrangle.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration blended the anniversary with its 14th annual program, held February 19-23. A special commemorative coin was struck with the 75th anniversary seal on one side and the NLCC logo on the other.

The celebration, which Co-Lin founded, is also sponsored by the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Alcorn State University. This year, the Writers Guild of America became the NLCC's newest supporter.

The theme this year was "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

This year's celebration attracted visitors from around the country. The Natchez campus hosted several special events, including a writer's performance and discussion panel featuring Taulbert, singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, and storyteller, author Diane Williams. The program, called "Exploring and Discovering Within Ourselves," was heartwarming, entertaining and educational.

History was made when the first historic marker was dedicated near the Tom Reed Academic Center. Revolutionary-era writer and women's rights advocate Judith Sargent Murray was honored in a formal ceremony. Murray, the topic of an NLCC lecture the following day, coincidentally lived on land that is now



Academy-award winner Billy Bob Thornton (left) receives the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing. Presenting the award is his friend and colleague actor Gerald McRaney.



Representatives of Circle K Club gather around advisor John Ballen in preparation for planting a crape myrtle tree in commemoration of Co-Lin's 75th anniversary and in celebration of Mississippi Arbor Day.

part of the Natchez campus. The discovery of the connection was made by history instructor Jim Wiggins, while he researched Murray's writings and gravesite in Natchez.

Co-Lin also hosted a series of high-level workshops, "The Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops" featuring presentations on screenplay writing, poetry, publishing, literature and more. Douglas, pen name for Josephine Haxton, was honored during a reception, where she gave an impromptu lesson on writing.

Among featured activities at NLCC were, *Slingblade*, starring Billy Bob Thornton, followed by a discussion of the movie with him; a birthday party for former Gov. William Winter, director of proceedings since the NLCC began; premier of the Louisiana Public Broadcasting documentary, "Louisiana ... A History;" and many more presentations, workshops, tours, musical events, and more.

Two noted lecturers, Jerry Ford and Charlie Bosworth, presented the Mississippi Chautauqua Writers Program. The program was sponsored in conjunction with the Mississippi Humanities Council and the NLCC. Ford depicted Natchez author Richard Wright, and Bosworth portrayed playwright Tennessee Williams. Co-Lin was one of only a small number of stops on the Chautauqua tour.

Also in February the Redd/Watkins Career and Technical Education Center celebrated National Career and Technical Education Week. The center hosted several dozen students from area schools for tours of the programs and meetings with advisors. Later in the semester, in April, the center conducted its annual Industry Appreciation Luncheon. Approximately (continued on page 20)



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Cotiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Aloren State University

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlc

January 2003

To: Relatives of Famous Natchez Citizens
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Re: Your Relative(s) Who Will Be Featured in Programs at the 14th annual Celebration

Please take a look at the enclosed brochure. You'll see several programs/films/events that will teach us about the importance of your Natchez relative(s). Some of you may be related to more than one of the featured people.

You will be asked to stand and be recognized prior to the programs about your relative(s) by the Celebration's Director of Proceedings, former Mississippi Governor William Winter. A brief lineup of programs and events featuring Natchez residents is as follows. All are free except two.

Wed., Feb. 19, 2003

- 10 a.m. Seminar at Cotiah-Lincoln Community College about Richard Wright, born near Natchez in 1908
- 11:30 a.m. (NOTE NEW TIME): Unveiling of historic marker at Cotiah-Lincoln, honoring Judith Sargent Murray, who died in Natchez in 1820
- 3:30 p.m. Program and film about William Dunbar, 18th and 19th-century Natchez leader, at the new Natchez Convention Center on Main Street

Thurs., Feb. 20, 2003

- 11 a.m. Program about Judith Sargent Murray, Convention Center
- 2 p.m. (NOTE NEW TIME): Ceremony announcing the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, followed by a program by Ellen Douglas (Josephine Haxton), Convention Center

Sat., Feb. 22, 2003

- 3 p.m. Program about Roane Fleming Byrnes, 1890-1970, Convention Center
- 6 p.m. Awards Ceremony, with awards named in honor of Richard Wright and Horton Foote, Convention Center
- 8 p.m. Gala benefit reception/supper at Roane Fleming Byrnes' former home, historic Ravenssade. This gorgeous mansion was recently refurbished by its current owners, Bob Dean and his mother, Billie Dean, of Baton Rouge, La. The party will honor NLCC award winners and speakers. Doris Ann Benoist of Natchez will present a first-person characterization of Roane Byrnes (complete with floppy hat!). A Mississippi Historic Marker, noting the connection of Roane Byrnes and Ravenssade to the Natchez Trace Parkway, will be unveiled. Tickets are limited and cost \$125 (\$100 tax-deductible). For tickets, call 800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631.

Sun., Feb. 23, 2003

- 10:30-11 a.m. Reception honoring Ellen Douglas. This will take place between the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops that will be held 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Cotiah-Lincoln. Workshops cost \$15, but the reception is free.

We hope to see you at the Celebration. Welcome!

2003 part 1
page 30

February 2003

To: William Winter Scholars 2003
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, NLCC Co-chairman, Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
Natchez, Miss.
Re: Welcome!

Congratulations on being named to the prestigious, statewide group called the William Winter Scholars. Winners are so called in honor of former Mississippi Governor William Winter, who has been director of proceedings at the Celebration since it began in 1990. We are so pleased you will be with us at the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, February 19-23, 2003.

You were chosen because you are an Outstanding Student or Outstanding Faculty Member/Administrator in the Humanities Division at your institution. Other honorees hail from Mississippi's colleges, community colleges, universities, or schools, grades 9-12.

Each winner will receive a \$30 scholarship that pays for three seminars Wednesday morning, February 19, (a \$15 ticket) and two Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops Sunday morning, February 23 (a \$15 ticket). Your tickets may be picked up at the registration desk at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, on Wednesday morning, February 19, or at the registration desk at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street, after that time.

Winners are encouraged to attend the entire Celebration. Most of the conference is free, but certain events in addition to the seminars and writing workshops are ticketed. If you wish to buy tickets to any events for yourself, your friends or family, please call the ticket office, 1-800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631, and pay with a credit card. See enclosed brochure for agenda and ticket form information.

Here is some special information just for you as a William Winter Scholar.

- Please be present at 1 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, for the conference's opening ceremonies at the new Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St., in downtown Natchez. You will be asked to stand with other William Winter Scholars for recognition as a group.
- Please go to the speaker platform to have a William Winter Scholars Group photograph made, following the last afternoon program on Saturday, February 22. This will be about 4 p.m. Members of the William Winter family will be in the photograph with you.
- Please be present at 6 p.m., Saturday, February 22, at the Convention Center for the Awards Ceremony. You will again be asked to stand to be recognized as a group.

If you need assistance, please email me at Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu or call me at 1-601-446-1208. Again, congratulations!

2003 part 1
page 81



The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Alcorn State University

Publicity

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 2003

To: William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellowship Winners 2003

From: Carolyn Vance Smith, NLCC Co-chairman, Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
Natchez, Miss.

Re: Welcome!

Congratulations on being named to the prestigious group called the William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellows. We are so pleased you will be with us at the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003.

Most of the conference is free, but certain events are ticketed. Because of your selection as a Vance Fellow, all your ticketed events are paid for (except the gala benefit event at Ravensside that costs \$125, \$100 tax-deductible). Please pick up your tickets at the registration desk at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle, the morning of Wed., Feb. 19, or at the registration desk at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street, after that time. If you wish to buy tickets to the gala or to any events for your friends or family, please call the office handling NLCC tickets, 1-800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631, and pay with a credit card. See enclosed brochure for agenda and ticket form information.

Here is some special information just for you as a Vance Fellow.

- Please be present at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 19, for the conference's opening ceremonies at the new Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St., in downtown Natchez. You will be asked to stand with other Vance Fellows for recognition as a group.
- Please go to the speaker platform to have a Vance Fellows Group photograph made, following the last afternoon program on Wednesday, Feb. 19. This will be about 4:30 p.m. Members of the Vance family will be in the photograph with you.
- All Vance Fellows are invited to sit together for lunch at the Carriage House Restaurant at 12:30 p.m., Fri., Feb. 21. Please look for my husband, Marion Smith, and me. We'll have a table reserved for you.
- Please be present at 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Convention Center for the Awards Ceremony. You will again be asked to stand to be recognized as a group.
- For your information, the Vance Fellowships are funded by family and friends of the late William and Harriet Vance of Natchez, Miss., longtime supporters of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

If you need assistance, please email me at Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu or call me at 1-601-446-1208. Again, congratulations!

2003 part 1
page 82