

Calendar of Events

EWB - Eudora Welty House, Jackson
GV - Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, Natchez
GM - Governor's Mansion, Jackson
HJC - Historic Jefferson College, Washington
MHM - Manship House Museum, Jackson
OCM - Old Capitol Museum, Jackson
WWB - William Winter Building, Jackson
WM - Winterville Mounds, Greenville

October:

10/01-02 *Pioneer Days* children's program
20 Demonstrators (HJC)
10/01-02 *Digging into History* children's archaeology program (MHM)
10/1-31 *The Mummy Returns* (OCM)
10/1-31 *Archaeology Month* children's program (WM)
10/5-6 *Student Days* children's program – storytelling & demonstrators (GV)
10/6-31 *Manships in Mourning* (MHM)
10/7 *History is Lunch* noon – 1 p.m. Teddy Roosevelt reenactor Joe Weigand (WWB.)
10/10 *Black and Blue Civil War Reenactment* (HJC)

To our Volunteers:

As the seasons change from summer to fall, MDAH sites prepare for upcoming holiday programming. Please read the calendar to the left to see all of the wonderful events that the department is hosting, many of which you—our volunteers—will help to facilitate.

I am happy to report that the MDAH volunteer link has been reinstated on the MDAH Web site. Please check out this new volunteer link. Go to the MDAH Web page at <http://mdah.state.ms.us>, and click on the **Volunteer at MDAH** link under **About MDAH**. This information will be helpful if anyone should ask you about volunteering with us — you can just refer them to this site. Also, you will find a link to our new volunteer newsletter. Volunteer newsletter issues will be archived on this site so that you may have them for reference.

This is an exciting era at Archives and History. With the assistance of our volunteer staff, we are finding more creative ways to reach our audience during these challenging times. I am proud to say that our volunteer program is a shining example of a successful partnership. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Coleman, CVA
Volunteer Services Coordinator
Museum Division

Volunteers assist Collections Staff with Cataloging

While awaiting funding for the new Museum of Mississippi History, the collections section of the Museum Division is continuing to organize both the artifacts in the collection and the documentation files. Volunteers are a big help in this endeavor. As seen in the photo, volunteer Megan Russ is performing one of these tasks by going

through the documentation files of the artifacts and making sure that they are complete and in order. She also uses a special pH testing pen to determine if the file folders are still acid free and, thus, helping to preserve the papers inside.

Volunteer Megan Russ works with the Museum Division's collections office.



Continued

10/14 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *The Canton Expedition*, Jim Woodrick (WWB)

10/14&16 PowWow
Adventures 9 a.m. – noon (GV)

10/15 Moving of Vidalia
6:30 p.m. Corinne Randazzo (GV)

10/20 Luncheon Lecture
noon – 1 p.m. *Conserving Family Photos* - Jeff Rogers (HJC)

10/21 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *MDAH Newsfilm Collection*, Elaine Owens (WWB)

10/24 Music at the Mound
11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. (GV)

10/24 Archaeology Family Day 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. (WM)

10/26-29 Horror Week
Film Festival and Ghost Tales Around the Campfire (HJC)

10/26 Dearly Beloved: Symposium on Death and Mourning in the Victorian Times 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (MHM)

10/28 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *Jaketown Site*, archaeologist Lee Arco (WWB)

10/28-29 Present Meets Past 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. (OCM)

November:

11/2 Old Jackson: The Way We Once Lived
children's program. Reservations required 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (MHM)

11/4 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *Cotton and Race in the Making of America*, Gene Dattel (WWB)

11/4-7 Native American Days 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (WM)

Eudora Welty House Volunteers Honor Mary Alice White



Retiring Eudora Welty House director, Mary Alice White

Mary Alice Welty White, Eudora Welty's niece, who served as the director of the Eudora Welty House for the past seven years retired on September 30, 2009. Although it only has been seven years, much has been accomplished during her tenure. The home and gardens have been restored and opened to the public. The house was named a National Historic Landmark. A National Endowment for

the Humanities Challenge Grant was successfully met, creating a \$1,800,000 endowment for educational programming; and an Education and Visitors Center with temporary and permanent exhibits was established to enhance visitors' experience of the home.

"Establishing Eudora's home as a literary house museum truly has been a labor of love. Looking back over these past years, many of my personal goals have been met because of the hard work and devotion of my staff, the volunteers, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Eudora Welty Foundation, and the National Advisory Board," said White.

At a recent volunteer training session, the Welty House docents may have summed it up best. They honored White's achievements by issuing a proclamation. (left)

Despite her retirement, White is determined to remain involved. "I feel very fortunate to have worked with such outstanding staff and volunteers without whose help the Eudora Welty House would not be where it is today. Not having the daily responsibilities of running the Eudora Welty House will allow me more time to do something I'd really like—serving as a volunteer," said White.

A RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, For Eudora Welty "One Writer's Beginning" took place at her home, and she found "Friendship Forever" and respect wherever she'd roam, and

WHEREAS, to preserve "A Memory So Dear," her loving niece, Mary Alice Welty White's goals for the future were quite clear, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that sincere appreciation is hereby extended to Mary Alice, who, at times, may have felt like "A Petrified Woman" fighting "A Losing Battle," entangled in "The Wide Net," but being "The Optimist's Niece" with each and every challenge she met. The Eudora Welty Foundation was established, the garden redone, the Eudora Welty House has no equal, not a one.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our gratitude to Mary Alice for her guiding spirit, loyalty, and smile, which make serving as docents more than worthwhile.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that thanks to your leadership the Eudora Welty House shares Eudora's home and life with the world as a whole, a gift to all people that is more precious than "Golden Apples" in a bowl.

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED THAT we thank you so much.

We love you; we'll miss you; so keep in touch.

Note: Please email or call Elizabeth Coleman (email: ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us or phone: 601.576.6985) if you want to confirm that we have your correct email address or if you do not wish to receive this electronic newsletter.

Continued

11/6 Annual Social Studies Teachers Workshop 8a.m. – 3 p.m. *Mississippi Takes Shape: 1798-1832* (OCM)

11/14-15 Wirt Adams' Raid into Natchez Civil War Reenactment (HJC)

11/18 History of Reapportionment in Mississippi noon – 1 p.m. Jere Nash (OCM)

December:

12/2-23 Sounds of the Season

Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Hear choirs fill rotunda. Refreshments (OCM)

12/4-18 Winter Holidays 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Christmas trees, toys, Possum Ridge train town. School tours offered Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m. – noon. Reservations required. (WWB.)

12/4-23 Christmas at the Governor's Mansion Tuesdays – Fridays, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. on the half-hour. Reservations required for groups of ten or more. (Governor's Mansion)

12/4-23 Christmas at the Manship House Museum Tuesdays – Fridays 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Reservations required for groups of ten or more (MHM)

12/4 Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour 5 – 8 p.m. Includes Manship House Museum, Governor's Mansion, Old Capitol Museum, State Capitol, and the Winter Archives and History Bldg.

12/6 Christmas Open House 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Music and refreshments (WM)

12/7 St. Nicholas Day Craft Workshop 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Reservations required. (MHM)

Original Pieces Come Back to Manship Home

Dozens of original pieces to the Manship House have made their way home. Museum director Marilynn Jones, museum curator Tyler Nowell, and director of collections Cindy Gardner traveled to Texas in August and retrieved a large collection of original furnishings from the Wilson family, direct descendants of Charles Henry Manship (Luther Manship line). The pieces will soon be placed back in the house, and we encourage our volunteers to visit the Manship House Museum to view these precious antiques.

The pier table that the museum received is a twin to one that is located in the Central Hall. An interesting tidbit about this recent acquisition is that a corner of the marble was broken off at one point and a replacement piece of wood was grained to match the marble. It is likely that Mr. Manship did the marbling.

Another remarkable item in this donation is a marble boot, which was given to Belmont Manship in 1891. Belmont was the wife of Luther Manship, son of Charles Henry. The boot was given to Belmont because she was heavily involved in seeing the Confederate Monument erected.

Also, there is another interesting piece — a small desk. On the back of the desk is written “General John S. Adams/Jackson, Miss.” The family story says that Adams, a Confederate general, used the desk when he stayed at the house during

the Civil War.

When the dust settles, and the tour is rewritten to include these fine additions, the Museum will be recruiting volunteer guides to showcase what will become one of the finest museums of its kind in the country. “The addition of these pieces will take our museum to another level,” says Museum Division

director Lucy Allen. “We are indeed very fortunate in Mississippi to be able to provide such an authentic view into our past at the Manship House Museum.” Please call Michael Busbin at 601.961.4724, if you would like to be placed on the volunteer guide training (aka docent) list.



October at the Old Capitol Museum

The Mummy Returns

For the entire month of October, one of the Old Capitol's most famous



visitors returns to the newly restored National Historic Landmark. Many Mississippians in years past remember seeing the famous mummy, who was thought to be an Egyptian princess. X-rays eventually determined the mummy was a fake, but she has remained one of the museum's most popular attractions. Come meet a legend in October. For more information, call 601.576.6920.

Present Meets Past: Voices from Mississippi History

October 28-29

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Old Capitol Museum

The Old Capitol Museum comes alive in late October. Come mingle with three former Jacksonians to learn about our state's past from these living history performers. See the Old Capitol from

their point of view and enjoy light refreshments at Mississippi's most treasured historic landmark. For more information, call 601.576.6920.

Continued

12/9 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *The Price of Defiance: James Meredith and the Integration of Ole Miss*, Charles Eagles (WWB)

12/10 Statehood Day
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (OCM)

12/14 – 31 Celebration of Christmas Trees

Local school groups and home educators adopt Christmas trees (HJC)

For more information visit mdah.state.ms.us

Other MDAH Volunteer News

A Successful Copper Magnolia Festival at Historic Jefferson College

Historic Jefferson College – Washington, MS hosted the 28th Copper Magnolia Festival with 21 vendors displaying their wares for sale. All of the 800 people who visited enjoyed shopping and listening to the music of the old time string band that played.



Marianne Raley, a local story teller



Candle maker, Sheila Buyers stirs her caldron of melted wax.

Historic Preservation Archaeologists are Cleaning Up



Clydell Morgan is a volunteer with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's Archaeology section. She is a retired Forensic Scientist from the Mississippi Crime Lab and also from Ideal Innovations, where she was in Iraq for 18 months

as deputy lab director for Bio-metrics (which served the American-Australian-British coalition forces for the forensic examination of IEDs (improvised explosive devices)). Additionally, she was the first woman to be tested and certified as a latent print examiner by the

International Association for Identification. She has a Ph.D. (2006) in education and psychology. She has been helping with accessioning the Chambers collection that was returned to MDAH from Louisiana State University in 2004.

"It amazes me to see the ground-root intelligence of our forefathers. It is so much fun!" Dr. Clydell Morgan

Governor's Mansion Docent News



MDAH staff member/author Todd Sanders and docent Pat Pierce hold a copy of Todd's book, *Jackson's North State Street*. Pat is the Central High School drum majorette featured on the cover.



Docent Janet McLaurin shows the equestrian portrait of Governor John A. Quitman to Loretta and Rent Reece of Oxford and Joyce and Monty Giver of Fort Wayne, Indiana.



Docent Jean Hallman points out the fire screen in the Mansion's Pumpkin Bedroom to Karen Welch of Ridgeland and her parents, Claire and Jerry Tayerle of Mantua, Ohio.



Docent Freda Spell begins a tour of the Governor's Mansion for Dr. Stephanie Busbea, her son, Graham, and their relatives, Angela and Audrey McCrary of Dumfries, Virginia.



Docent Janis Roberts tells members of Jackson State University's International Student Association about the *Voyage of Life* paintings in the Front Rose Parlor of the Mansion.



Docent Frances Kee describes the Mansion's Back Rose Parlor to members of the "Senior Swingers" of Christ The King Catholic Church in Jackson.

Mississippi History Store Closes in Winter Building

The Mississippi History Store closed its main location in the William F. Winter Building on September 30. Satellite locations at the Old Capitol Museum and the Eudora Welty House will continue to sell products specific to those sites. Mail orders for MDAH publications and other publications (while supplies last) may be placed at 601.576.6921 or mississippihistorystore@mdah.state.ms.us.

We would like to extend

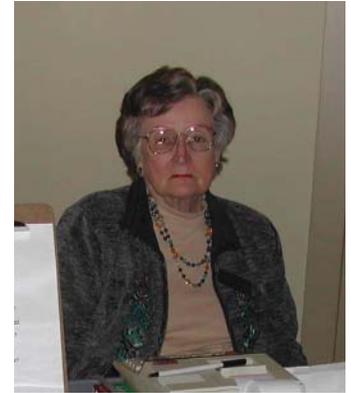
another special “thank you” to Margarita Niewald, Leo Niewald, and Buena Lee Huff for their steady volunteer service to the Store



for the past seven years. We wish to thank Doris Gibson for returning to the Store, as well as Carol Busbee who also served in the Store



during its final months of operation. We are fortunate that all of these volunteers will continue to serve in other roles.



L to R: Margarita and Dr. Leo Niewald, Carol Busbee, Buena Lee Huff, and Doris Gibson

All Aboard for the Museum Division’s Holiday Season

Old Capitol Museum rejoins the tour! New site added to the Candlelight tour! Possum Ridge Trains are back!

It is that time of year when the Museum Division staff starts planning for the holiday season, and we are looking for volunteers to help out with our holiday events. This year our annual *Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight* (December 4, from 5-8 p.m.) is promising to be bigger than ever! The Old Capitol Museum has rejoined the Governor’s Mansion, Manship House Museum, and the State Capitol on the tour, and we have added a new site – the

William F. Winter Archives and History Building. Yes, the trains will be making a comeback to Candlelight, but they will be on display in the Winter Building as a part of the *Winter Holidays* exhibit along with the small period trees and toys. The Old Capitol will rejoin the night with a new focus and new take on the holiday season.

The Museum Division is looking for help to staff the Winter Building for *Candlelight*. We will

have two shifts with four volunteers per shift. Two volunteers will be stationed with the trees, one with the trains and one will be a door person/greeter. The shifts are 4:30-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The *Winter Holidays* exhibit will run at the William Winter Building Mondays – Saturdays for the month of December. Due to our small Division Education staff, we will only offer school tours on Thursday and Friday mornings December 3 – 18. Volunteers are desperately needed to help us shuttle children, read the book *A Special Visitor Comes to Possum Ridge* to groups, and interpret the small period trees and toys.

If you have any questions regarding *Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight*, or *Winter Holidays*, please contact the Museum Division



Volunteer Fred Miles talks to a class about the Victorian tree decorations, and toys.

at 601.576.6800. If you would like to volunteer for these events please contact Elizabeth Coleman at 601.576.6985. Our other sites will be also having holiday events and candlelight activities. If you would like to volunteer for the other sites please contact Maura Carraway at the Old Capitol Museum 601.576.6920 or Michael Busbin at the Manship House Museum 601.961.4724.



MDAH Museum Division Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Guides are needed at the Eudora Welty House. Guide shifts are four hours in length Tuesday – Fridays. For more information about this volunteer position, please call Meemie Jackson at 601.354.5218.

Volunteer Guides are needed at the Manship House Museum. If you would like to be placed on the volunteer training list, please call Michael Busbin at 601.961.4724.

Volunteer Hosts are needed at the Old Capitol Museum for weekday afternoons. Host shifts are three hours — from 1 – 4 p.m. **Volunteer Guides** are also needed. For more information, please call Maura Johnson Carraway at 601.576.6923.

Special Event Volunteers are needed for the following holiday programming:
Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight, Friday,

December 4, from 4:30 – 6:30 or 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Winter Building (location of Possum Ridge trains). Please call Elizabeth Coleman at 601.576.6985. If you would like to volunteer at the Manship House Museum that night, please call Michael Busbin at 601.961.4724. If you would like to volunteer that night at the Old Capitol Museum, please call Maura Carraway at 601.576.6920.

Winter Holidays, December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, and 18

(Thursdays and Fridays) from 8:45 a.m. – noon. Please call Elizabeth Coleman at 601.576.6985, if you would like to help with these holiday tours of the little trees, Possum Ridge train town, and/or reading the heart-warming book *A Special Visitor Comes to Possum Ridge* to the children.

Visit us!

mdah.state.ms.us



The Mississippi Department of Archives and History was founded in 1902. It is the second-oldest state department of archives and history in the country. A comprehensive historical agency, the department collects, preserves, and provides access to the archival resources of the state, administers museums and historic sites, and oversees statewide programs for historic preservation, government records management, and publications.