

Spring 2012

Calendar of Events

EWH – 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 F. Winter Building, Jackson

WM – Winterville Mounds, Greenville

April:

4/4 History is Lunch
noon–1 p.m. “Anti-Romanticism in Historical Fiction.” Lecture by Howard Bahr, novelist. (WWB)

4/5 The Middle Archaic in Eastern Louisiana.

6:30 p.m. Lecture by Joe Saunders, archaeologist (GV)

4/7 Giant Easter Egg Hunt.

1–3 p.m. Children up to age 12. (WM)

4/10-12/31 The Shoe Bird exhibit.

Tuesdays-Fridays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (EWH)



First Lady Deborah Bryant and MDAH Board of Trustees President Kane Ditto at the MDAH Valentine Volunteer Luncheon sponsored by the Foundation for Mississippi History

To the MDAH volunteers:

First Lady Deborah Bryant extended her gratitude for your volunteer service to the state at the recent *MDAH Valentine Volunteer Luncheon*. The event, dedicated to active MDAH volunteers, was held at the Old Capitol Museum on Monday, February 13, 2012. Governor Phil Bryant provided signed *Awards of Merit* for MDAH volunteers who served more than one hundred hours.

Mrs. Bryant said that she is looking forward to the Mansion opening for tours again on April 3 and getting to know the docents better. She very graciously met with many of the volunteers individually. We thank you, too — for your dedication to our mission, your friendship, and your service.

Sincerely,

H. T. Holmes, director

All MDAH Volunteers are invited to

Gathering on the Green

Saturday, April 28 * 10 a.m.— 2 p.m. * Free

There will be fun for all ages — food, music, living history re-enactors, animals to love and pet, area museums and Craftsmen's Guild participants.





MDAH Award of Merit Recipients

Front: Carol Busbee, Nan Harvey, Natalie Heberg, Malinda McCullouch, Joyce Black Smith, First Lady Deborah Bryant, Linda Overman, Freda Spell, Clytice Gardner, Buena Lee Huff, and Carolyn Jones; **Back:** Elbert Hilliard, Susie Smith and Mark Howell accepting for Boy Scout Troop #4043, and Stephen Harper. **Not Pictured:** Jean Clarkson, Shake DeLozier, Judy Hocking, Caroline Hoff, Jean Hudspeth, Dora Lambert, Bernie Lieb, Gracie Magee, Clydell Morgan, Evan Parker, Paul Bragg, Alex Crowson, Jean Simonton, Chuck Borum, Nell Knox, Chuck Creswell, Curtis and Sherry Petersen, and Andrew "Lucky" Osborne.



Left: Winterville Mounds Park and Museum volunteers Joseph Walker and Lee Adams pose with Susie Smith and Mark Howell, employees at that site. The group traveled from Greenville to attend the Valentine Volunteer Luncheon.

Bring your young loved ones
(up to age 12)
to the
Giant Easter Egg Hunt.
April 7, 2012 * 1-3 p.m.
Winterville Mounds Park and Museum

continued

4/11 History is Lunch

noon-1 p.m. *Rediscovering Jackson's Historic Cemetery: A Non-invasive Ground-penetrating Radar Survey to Identify Unknown Burials at Greenwood Cemetery.* Lecture by Edward Henry, archaeologist. (WWB)

4/13 Eudora Welty Birthday Celebration.

10-11 a.m. Northside Elementary Singers
5:30-6:30 p.m. Mississippi Boy-choir
The Shoe Bird exhibit, free tours, and reception. (EWH)

4/17 Open House celebrating *The Shoe Bird* exhibit.

4 p.m. (EWH)
4/17 Books and the Process of Creating Art.
5:30 p.m. Lecture by Scott Cook, children's book illustrator.

(Belhaven University, Barber Auditorium)

4/18 History is Lunch

noon-1p.m. Historic flags in the MDAH collection. Lecture by Clay Moss, vexillologist. (WWB)

4/24- 6/24 Pieces of the Past: Women of Influence exhibit (OCM)

News from the Human Resources Office

by

Diane Mattox, director



MDAH and the GIVE Awards



Elbert Hilliard has been selected to receive a 2012 Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence (GIVE) Award.

Hilliard will receive the Marsha Meeks Kelly Award for Lifetime Achievement in Volunteer Service by the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service in an April 16 ceremony to be held at the Mississippi Museum of Art.

Hilliard averages more than two thousand hours of service each year in his roles as MDAH Public Information volunteer and the MDAH liaison to the Mississippi Historical Society.

Educational resources and opportunities for the general public, educators, scholars, and most importantly, Mississippi's school children, have been enhanced due to Hilliard's service.

Congratulations!

MDAH Volunteer Services Administrator Elizabeth Coleman also received a 2012 GIVE Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer Management Professional.



Left: *Winterville Mounds Park and Museum director Mark Howell presents Boy Scout #4043 Troop leader Austin Li with an Award of Merit signed by Governor Phil Bryant. As part of their service to the site, the troop spent many hours painting the museum building.*

From Alaska to Mississippi Ahmed Continues Good Works

continued

4/25 History is Lunch

noon–1 p.m. “The Truth about Casey Jones.” Lecture by Bill Patrick, historian. (WWB)

4/26 Birds in Southeastern Indian Art and Archaeology

6:30 p.m. Samuel O. Brookes, Chief Archaeologist, U. S. Forest Service (GV)

4/27 MDAH Board of Trustees regular quarterly meeting

10 a.m. (WWB)

4/28 Gathering on the Green

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Third annual outdoor event with live music, community organizations, Jackson attractions, and children’s activities (OCM)

4/28 19th Century Living History event.

9 a.m. – 5 p.m. More than 20 pioneer life living history demonstrators. (HJC)

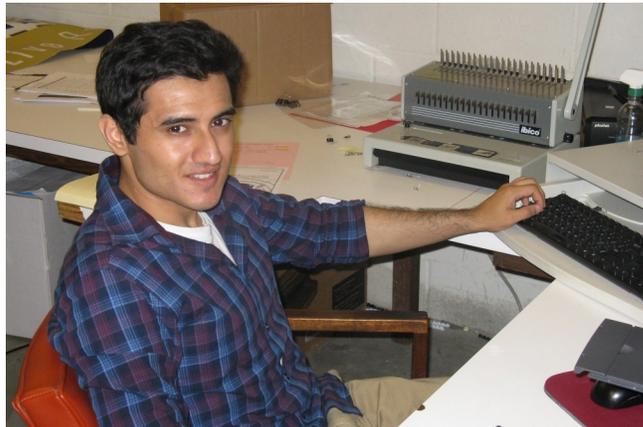
May:

5/9 History is Lunch

noon–1 p.m. “Southern Culture.” Lecture by Malcolm White, Mississippi Arts Commission director. (WWB)

5/19 Big Yam Potatoes Old Time Music Concert and Fiddle Contest

8:45 a.m. – 5 p.m. Old time musicians gather for a day of performances, and talented fiddlers compete in the fiddle contest. (HJC)



Information Systems volunteer Talal Ahmed has digitized many archaeological records for MDAH. When asked about his move to Mississippi, Ahmed said, “I like it here. I really enjoyed the weather in February.”

Talal Ahmed moved to Mississippi in mid-January when his father transferred from Alaska to the Vicksburg location of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Currently, Ahmed serves as an Information Systems volunteer, digitizing archaeological reports into a special database used by professional archaeologists and scholars who

access MDAH resources.

Ahmed has an exceptional history of volunteer service, having served as founder and president of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Chapter of the American Red Cross, an emergency department volunteer at the Providence Alaska Medical Center, a house building volunteer for Habitat for Humanity

(Fairbanks), and a chemistry tutor while majoring in bio-chemistry.

Ahmed’s education and work history are equally impressive. He holds licenses and certificates in multiple areas from the Environmental Protection Agency and has worked for the Alaskan Department of Environmental Conservation. Ahmed also volunteers at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Come to the

Eudora Welty Birthday Celebration April 13, 2012

10–11 a.m. Northside Elementary Singers

5:30–6:30 p.m. Mississippi Boy-choir

The Shoe Bird exhibit, free tours, and reception.

Jones Joins Welty House

The Welty House staff is pleased to welcome Jessica Perno Jones as the new Special Projects Coordinator. A native of Athens, GA, Jones graduated in May 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from the University of Mississippi. Jones brings a wealth of volunteer management and educational programming experience to the Welty House.

She spent four years working for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) in Washington, D.C. where she helped to plan the year-long, 25th anniversary commemoration of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

She worked with a volunteer corps of more than 100, organized regional and national teachers’ conferences, and developed and led a partnership with the Close-Up Foundation providing educators with resources that promoted the use of the VVMF’s curriculum in teaching the Vietnam War. She moved to Mississippi with her husband in August 2010.

“Jessica’s experience, combined with her warmth and poise, make her a perfect fit to work with our volunteers. She came to us with exceptional recommendations and experience and immediately assumed



full responsibility for managing our volunteer program. She has done an outstanding job since she has been with us and we are very fortunate to have her at the Welty House,” said Karen Redhead, Welty House Director.

Volunteering . . . a wonderful experience

continued

5/23-6/27 Storytime on the Side Porch

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Each Wednesday children K-3 will hear a classic story then make a related craft. (EWH)

June:

5/23-6/27 Storytime on the Side Porch

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Each Wednesday children K-3 will hear a classic story then make a related craft. (EWH)

6/5-8 Pioneer Camp I

9 a.m. – noon Children ages 7-9 learn about Pioneer life in the early 1800s, including hands-on activities such as quilting, soap-making, animal life, and frontier camp. Cost is \$25, pre-registration is required. 601-442-2901. (HJC)

6/6-8 Frontier Survival Camp

1-4 p.m. Children ages 10-14 will learn hands-on skills to survive the wilds of Mississippi in the 18th & 19th centuries, including archery, hunting, tanning hides, map and compass reading and more. Cost is \$25, pre-registration is required. 601-442-2901. (HJC)

After graduating with a bachelor of science degree from Eastern Oregon University in philosophy, politics & economics with a minor in history, Jessica Kelly sought to explore the realm of public service. Her love of history and a volunteer Internet posting led her to MDAH. She would soon discover that she was a good match for many projects.

Jessica began her volunteer service in the Image and Sound section of the Archives, creating an inventory of surveys of civil rights oral histories for the Civil Rights Museum and research related to the Museum of Mississippi History. She has recently been working with the Administration division researching photos for the upcoming MDAH Flickr launch and has contributed to the MDAH Blog.



Jessica described her partnership with MDAH by stating, “Volunteering at MDAH has been a wonderful experience. I have had the opportunity to work on various projects that allowed me to utilize my research and writing skills, as well as gain a better understanding of how the department functions as a whole. Yet the most rewarding part of volunteering at MDAH has been the knowledge that I have contributed to making history more accessible in some small way.”

Jessica is currently researching civil rights news film footage for the *Veterans of the Civil Rights Movement* reunion.

Additionally, Jessica serves in the Human Resources office and Old Capitol Museum.

Before coming to MDAH, Jessica was the retail development manager at Cellular South (now C-Spire). She left her job to complete her bachelor’s degree and is currently working towards a master of public administration degree.

With over 12,000 years of history, Mississippi has a story to tell.

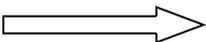
Visit the Mississippi History Timeline at

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/timeline/>

This site is supported by the Mississippi Humanities Council through a *We the People Grant* from the National Endowment for the Humanities, by the Foundation for Mississippi History, and by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. All images and media courtesy of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, unless otherwise noted.

The *Timeline* features photographs, artifacts, audiovisual materials, and oral histories from the Department’s archive collection and museum collection. The Timeline offers the public a way to see artifacts that are in storage until the Museum of Mississippi History is constructed.

Fun website



continued

6/11-15 Unveiling History: An Exhibits Workshop

8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rising 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students will get a behind the scenes look at museums as they research historic objects, design and build their own exhibit for display, and plan the opening party. Registration fee is \$150. Pre-registration required. 601-576-6800. (WWB)

6/12-15 Pioneer Camp II

9 a.m. – noon Children ages 10-12 learn about Pioneer life in the early 1800s, including hands-on activities such as quilting, soap-making, animal life, and frontier camp. Cost is \$25, pre-registration is required. 601-442-2901. (HJC)

6/13 History is Lunch

noon – 1 p.m. *Mississippi's American Indians*. Jim Barnett, historian and MDAH Historic Properties Division director, talks about his new book in the Heritage of Mississippi Series and signs copies. (WWB)

6/21 Archaeology Program series

6:30 p.m. "2012 Archaeological Investigations at Feltus." Presentation by Meg Kassabaum, University of North Carolina Ph.D. candidate. (GV)

For more information visit mdah.state.ms.us

Bondurant Takes on New Role

Dr. Sid Bondurant has served in many roles over the years. Bondurant has served in the U. S. military, delivered babies as an obstetrician/gynecologist, written works related to the civil war such as his *History of the 33rd Mississippi Infantry* book, and served in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

A longtime MDAH friend and volunteer, Bondurant's newest volunteer role is that of Civil War Battlefield Survey Coordinator within the Historic Preservation division of MDAH.

Bondurant will provide technical services

and conduct field surveys of Civil War battlefields across the state for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Bondurant will serve directly under Historic Preservation director Jim Woodrick.

"We are very fortunate that Sid is formalizing his volunteer relationship with MDAH. He has an extensive knowledge of the Civil War, a keen eye for detail, and great people skills. He continues to be a huge asset to our agency."

Bondurant is currently moving to Madison with his wife, Aida.



Dr. Sid Bondurant is now serving as the Civil War Battlefield Survey Coordinator in his volunteer role.

Historic Jefferson College presents

19th Century Living History

April 28 * 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
More than 20 pioneer life living history demonstrators.

Gathering on the Green



The Old Capitol Museum (OCM) celebrates springtime with its third annual *Gathering on the Green* event scheduled for Saturday,

April 28. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The historic Old Capitol Green will be filled with activities for young and old.

With a goal of promoting Jackson and its attractions, most of the area's museums, including MDAH institutions, will be on hand providing entertainment. Civic organizations will also be on-site to promote community and civic pride.

"Where else in one day can you see the work of members of the Craftsmen Guild, living history reenactors, and animals to love and pet?" said OCM director Clay Williams. He further stated, "With food and music too, it will surely be an event you will not want to miss. Please spread the word. We hope to see everyone — either as volunteers, or simply as visitors — enjoying all that the OCM has to offer." For more information about this or any other event, visit www.oldcapitolmuseum.com.

Governor's Mansion to Re-Open April 3 after Repair Project

Right: The Governor's Mansion has been undergoing a Bureau of Building project for exterior repair and painting as well as repair of the Mansion's heating and air conditioning system.

This required the moving, covering, and protection of furnishings in almost every room on all three floors of the entire 22, 911 square foot Mansion!

Free, public tours resume on Tuesday, April 3.



East 1975 gazebo in need of repair!



Exposed original wood, fascia, east front



Exposed yellow pressed brick, applied 1909 over original red brick



Exposed red original brick, underneath stucco, ground level

Manships in Bloom!

The Manship House Museum grounds contain many varieties of plants that were popular in the nineteenth century.

Several varieties of fragrant native azaleas are now in bloom, along with iris, wisteria, dogwood, red buckeyes, an old favorite, magnolia fuscata. This evergreen shrub is often called the banana magnolia because its small blooms smell like ripe bananas!



Native Azalea



Red Buckeye



Dogwood

Are you a people person with an afternoon to volunteer? Please call Maura at 601.576.6923 to explore a fun volunteer opportunity at our state's most historic building.

Boy Scout Troop #1 Learns about History in the Field



Boy Scout Troop #1 is the oldest Boy Scout Troop in Mississippi. Troop 1 Scout Master Jay Cooke said, "This is a marvelous opportunity . We appreciate being able to help out, and the merit badges keep the troops interested. These are great opportunities for adventures that we can take as a group. We learn about history in the field." *photograph courtesy of Jessica Crawford*



Left: MDAH field archaeologist John Connaway supervises the ongoing excavation. Boy Scout Troop #1 recently earned archaeology merit badges while serving under Connaway and a group of volunteer archaeologists.

photograph courtesy of Jessica Crawford

On February 25, 2012, MDAH archaeologist John Connaway hosted Boy Scout Troop 1 from Jackson, MS, at a large Mississippian mound group in northwest Mississippi. Their volunteer service entailed working with Connaway at the excavations to help earn their archaeology merit badges.

Altogether, there were 56 Boy Scouts, ages 11-16, and 9 Scout leaders participating. Most camped out two nights on one of the big mounds.

There were also 21 volunteer supervisors for the archaeological activities, including professionals, students, and amateurs from Miss. State University, University of Miss., University of Alabama, Corps of Engineers, Archaeological Conservancy, Natural Resources Conservation Service, MDAH, and the Mississippi Archaeological Association.

Boy Scout Troop #1 Learns about History in the Field



Boy Scouts are busy excavating under the supervision of MDAH field archaeologist John Connaway and 21 volunteer supervisors. *photograph courtesy of Princella Nowell*



continued

Overall supervision was by John Connaway, MDAH field archaeologist. Twenty-five pits were excavated, plowzone soil was removed from two areas to expose new features, a large backdirt pile was moved, and 192 plowed rows in the adjacent field were surface collected.

Connaway and one volunteer completed profiles of all the pits the next day. It was quite successful and many thanks are due the scouts and the volunteers for their assistance.



Middle: Boy Scout Troop #1 preparing for their archaeology project.

Bottom: Troop #1 Boy Scouts Trailer parked at mound site.

Photographs courtesy of Princella Nowell and Jessica Crawford



**Springtime
at the
Eudora Welty House Garden**



**Eudora Welty House
Tours:
Tuesday - Friday
9am, 11am, 1pm,
and 3pm
For more information,
call 601-353-7762.**



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.