

Summer 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

OCM – Old Capitol Museum, Jackson

WWB – William F. Winter Building, Jackson

WM – Winterville Mounds, Greenville

July:

7/10-10/7 *Pieces of the Past: Mississippi's Chief Executive.* Rotating exhibit features artifacts relating to former governors of Mississippi.

(OCM)

7/11-13 *Civil War Adventure Camp*

9 a.m. – noon. Children's camp ages 8-12. Civil War from a soldier's point of view. Drill and parade, black powder rifle demonstration, and survival while in the military. Cost is \$25, pre-registration is required. For more information call 601-442-2901.

(HJC)

7/12 *The 1962 Excavations at the Fatherland Site (The Grand Village of the Natchez)*

6:30 p.m. Lecture by Joseph V. "Smoky" Frank, Natchez archaeologist and historian. (GV)



If you would like to volunteer at the *Mississippi State Capitol*, contact Elizabeth Coleman at ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us or 601-576-6985. Training dates to be announced.

To the MDAH volunteers:

The State Capitol and MDAH have partnered to start a new chapter at this magnificent site. MDAH volunteers are being invited to serve as the official hospitality ambassadors for our State Capitol. Volunteers will serve at the information desk, as docents giving guided tours, and at special events. Be sure to call Elizabeth if you would like to be included.

In this issue, we are pleased to introduce the new curator of the Governor's Mansion, Lauren Miller, and the new director of the Eudora Welty House, Dr. Bridget Edwards.

The Board and I are constantly astonished at what MDAH volunteers have been able to accomplish. We are indeed fortunate to have your support.

H. T. Holmes, director

continued

7/16-20 Mississippi Places and Faces

8:30 a.m. – noon. Children's camp (rising 4th, 5th, and 6th graders). Hands-on artifacts, crafts, tours, and more at the Old Capitol Museum, Governor's Mansion, Eudora Welty House, and State Capitol. Registration fee is \$50. For more information call 601-576-6800.

(OCM)

7/18 History is Lunch

noon- 1 p.m. Presentation of new book about Senator J. Z. George. Lecture by Timothy B. Smith, historian and author.

(OCM)

7/21 Music of the Delta

1 p.m. Winterville Mounds director Mark Howell will examine the different kinds of music heard in the Delta from prehistoric times to the present. A musical performance will follow.

(WM)

7/23-27 Mississippi Places and Faces

8:30 a.m. – noon. Children's camp (rising 4th, 5th, and 6th graders). Hands-on artifacts, crafts, tours, and more at the Old Capitol Museum, Governor's Mansion, Eudora Welty House, and State Capitol. Registration fee is \$50. For more information call 601-576-6800.

(OCM)

7/24-27 Naturalist Camp

9 a.m. – noon. Children's camp (ages 9 – 12). Get a close look at insects, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and plants through hands-on projects and observation in the field. Cost is \$25, pre-registration is required. For more information call 601-442-2901.

(HJC)

MDAH Welcomes New Eudora Welty House Director

Bridget Edwards



Bridget Edwards of Bloomington, Indiana, now calls Jackson her home. Edwards has served as the curator of education at the Wylie House Museum, which has many similarities to the Welty House.

Both sites are on the National Register of Historic Places and are historic homes with an extensive collection of family furniture, textiles, and other household artifacts, in addition to a robust archives of family letters.

The Wylie House also has a historic (heirloom) garden. Edwards has worked closely with the volunteers who serve that site.

Edwards has an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Anthropology (social-cultural) from Indiana University and a B. A. in Community Education (University of Wisconsin). She is most ex-

cited about working with the employees and volunteers. Edwards said, "From the rolling limestone hills of south-central Indiana to the smooth, sandy piney wood landscapes of central Mississippi, I am honored to take the helm at the Eudora Welty house.

"I look forward to working with my colleagues at MDAH and the Eudora Welty Foundation, and with the docents and other volunteers who attentively marshal the primary day-to-day contact with visitors from near and afar.

"I am eager for your counsel, experience, and ideas."

Bridgforth Explores Historic Preservation Profession

James Bridgforth joined the MDAH Historic Preservation's Architectural History volunteer staff. Bridgforth has a Bachelor's degree in history from Millsaps College and is planning to attend graduate school in the future.

Bridgforth's volunteer service will allow him to see firsthand the important work of architectural historians.

MDAH architectural historian Vicki Myers said, "James



has been a great help in digitizing our slides and assisting with our survey files. He

seems to have a true passion for historic buildings."

continued

7/25 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. “Welty at Home.” Lecture by Alanna Patrick and Betty Uzman of MDAH’s Paper Archives offers a look inside the Eudora Welty Collection.
(WWB)

7/27 MDAH Board of Trustees regular quarterly meeting at 10 a.m.
(WWB)

August:

8/1 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. *Junior Ray* and *The Yazoo Blues*.

Presentation on books by John Pritchard, author.
(WWB)

8/14-1/13/13 In Session: Legislative Acts of the Old Capitol exhibit. Important, influential, and even comical legislation that was passed in the Old Capitol when it served as statehouse from 1839 to 1902.
(OCM)

8/15 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. Presentation about Natchez and General Douglas MacArthur. Lecture by Vernon Chadwick, Jacksonian.
(WWB)

8/29 History is Lunch
noon – 1 p.m. “Finding Hooch and Homicide on the Gold Coast: Liquor and Crime in East Jackson.” Lecture by Tom Henderson, Millsaps College Library director.
(WWB)

A special note of thanks to these very special volunteers who have been transcribing the history of our agency.

We appreciate your patience and attention to detail as you do this painstaking work.

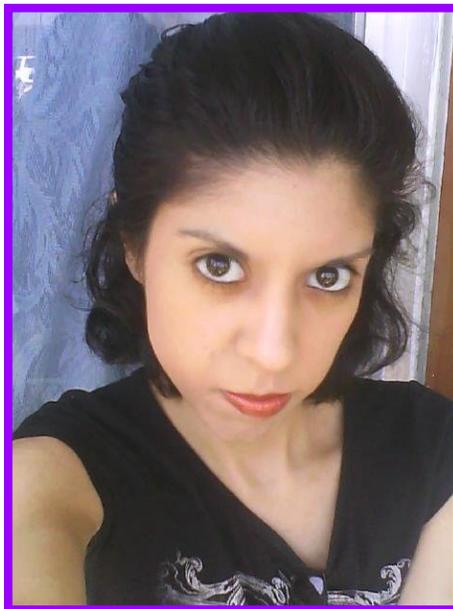
Historical Transcriptionist Volunteers

Document MDAH History

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History is unique among state agencies in that many employees work here for decades. The transfer of this accumulated knowledge to the next generation of staff is one challenge facing the department. The MDAH Oral History Project is capturing this institutional memory through interviews with retired and longtime employees and members of the Board of Trustees.

To date, almost fifteen interviews have been conducted by oral historian Larry Morrissey. The recordings will then be used in new employee orientation and other events.

Volunteers Dianna Guadiana, Jessica Kelly, and Tonya Walker are working on the essential task of transcribing the recorded interviews. Guadiana and Walker are working remotely from Texas and Arizona, respectively.



Above: *Tonya Walker of Fort Mohave, Arizona, has started serving as a historical transcriptionist volunteer for MDAH. Walker is a U. S. Navy veteran and has a master of business administration degree (Excelsior College, New York) and a master of arts degree in human services and business (Liberty University, Virginia). She is currently working on a medical transcription degree at Mohave Community College, Arizona.*

Left: *Dianna Guadiana of Dallas, Texas, documents MDAH history as a historical transcriptionist volunteer. Guadiana received her bachelor’s degree in general studies (Texas A&M, Texas) and is pursuing a master’s degree in business administration (Dallas Baptist University, Texas). Guadiana’s past volunteer service has included research and editorial support.*

Bottom: *Jessica Kelly of Jackson has also transcribed oral histories for the director’s office. Kelly has served in multiple roles at MDAH as a volunteer. As of July 1, 2012, Kelly began her new role as an employee. She is now employed as the personnel officer in the Human Resources office.*



President's Call to Service Award Presented to Elbert Hilliard

continued

September:

9/5 *History is Lunch*

noon – 1 p.m. History of nursing in Mississippi. Lecture by Seetha Srinivasan, author, and Kathryn Rodenmeyer, filmmaker. (WWB)

9/11 *The Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln, Grant, and Mississippi*

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, Dr. Edna Greene Medford from Howard University will offer remarks on this monumental event in American history. Lecture to be followed by panel discussion and light reception. This free event is funded by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Foundation. (OCM)

9/12 *History is Lunch*

noon- 1 p.m. The Work of Mississippi architect Hays Town. Lecture by Todd Sanders, MDAH architectural historian. (WWB)

9/19 *History is Lunch*

noon- 1 p.m. *Crossroads at Clarksdale: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Mississippi Delta after World War II*. Lecture by Francoise Hamlin, author. (WWB)

9/20-21 *Pioneer Days*

Over 20 demonstrators present information about Pioneer life to school groups. Topics include furniture making, quilting, storytelling, fiddling, pioneer toys and much more! School groups wishing to schedule a time slot for Pioneer Days should contact Kay McNeil at kmcneil@mdah.state.ms.us. (HJC)

Right: Patricia Fleming and Larry Parker are Winterville Mounds' first two official volunteers since the site came under the purview of MDAH. Each serves close to 100 hours every year.

The President's Call to Service Award was presented to Elbert Hilliard for his volunteer service to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) on Friday, June 22, 2012. The President's Volunteer Service Award is an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service and is administered by the Points of Light Institute.

The standard for the Council's lifetime achievement award is serving 4,000 volunteer hours over a lifetime. To date, Hilliard has served more than 14,000 hours furthering the mission of MDAH. Hilliard received a letter and certificate from President Barack Obama congratulating him on his service, along with a lapel pin.



MDAH director Hank Holmes, MDAH director emeritus Elbert Hilliard, MDAH Board of Trustees president Kane Ditto

Volunteer Appreciation Day at Winterville Mounds

First row from left:

Austin Li, Will Eubank, John Wiltcher, Will Collun, Collin Salley, and David Salley.

Second row from left:

Natha Booth, Mark Howell, Lynda Monroe, Sissy Schuster, Leana Taylor, Beverly Bell, and Susie Smith.

Back row from left:

Joseph Walker, Patricia Fleming, Stephen Tankersley, Regina Griffin, Alice Booker, Christian Osborn, Jerel Walker, Lee Adams, and Mark Dingeldein.



Volunteer Appreciation Day at the Winterville Mounds Park and Museum was held on May 25, 2012. Winterville Mounds has a number of volunteers with various talents that make Winterville a special place.

Some of the volunteers have volunteered at Winterville Mounds since 2007 when it became an MDAH site.

Volunteers serve in a variety of roles — as maintenance support, demonstrators, interpreters, and special event coordinators.

To show their gratitude for the loyal support of their volunteers, Mark Howell, director of Winterville Mounds, and Susie Smith, volunteer coordinator, treated the volunteers to a Friday night Delta-style catfish supper.

Tillner Prepares for Museum Career

Lane Tillner, a senior at Millsaps College, has assisted collections staff with two major cataloging projects. She began her volunteer service in the collections office last summer by providing accurate and detailed descriptions of numerous books currently on display at the Eudora Welty House.

When collections staff members discovered Lane had an interest in coins, a new project began. The Museum Division has a diverse collection of coins, most of which are lacking a detailed physical description or image. Lane has worked diligently to update collections records by providing accurate physical descriptions and correctly identifying the country of origin and dates of manufacture.

Millsaps College senior Lane Tillner labels a coin from the Museum Division collection.



While Tillner spends the majority of her time working with the coin collection, she also assists with other cataloging needs as they arise, including new acquisitions. According to Lauren Miller, Museum Division curator

of collections, “Lane is eager to learn new aspects of collections management. She has gained a wealth of experience during her service that will serve her well as she pursues a career in the museum field.”

Last call for recipes!

Tomato Sandwich Day: MDAH Family Recipes cookbook (online, first edition).

Send by July 15 to:

Elizabeth Coleman

ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us

continued

9/26 Admission of James Meredith into Ole Miss on the fiftieth anniversary of the historic event. Lecture by historian Charles Eagles. (WWB)

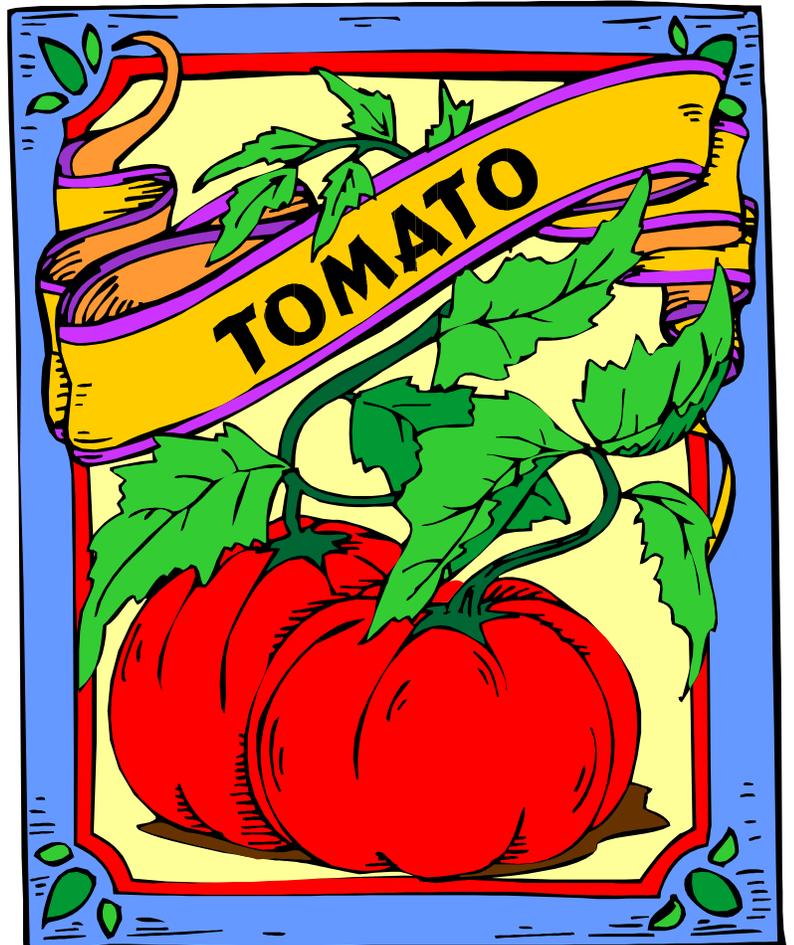
For more
information
visit

mdah.state.ms.us

Visit
the
*Mississippi History
Timeline.*

Go to:

mdah.state.ms.us/timeline/



Sue Newman Assists Patrons in the Archives Library

Patrons at the Archives library needing assistance in the Media Reading Room may find themselves assisted by Reference Services volunteer Sue Newman.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Newman lived in northern Virginia for 37 years before moving to Ridgeland. She worked in the financial and accounting field, retiring as a financial controller for a govern-

ment contractor after 25 years. Some of Newman's previous volunteer work includes serving as a treasurer for a homeowners' association and helping with voter registration.

Newman moved to Mississippi so that she could be near her children and grandchildren who live in the area. She said that she has enjoyed learning more about Mississippi and making new friends.



References Services volunteer Sue Newman enjoys volunteering at the Archives Library.

Looking for Special Map? New Database Can Help

The Inventory of Historic Maps of Mississippi project began when Paul Davis and other researchers wanted to help better identify historic maps that met specific criteria such as date, place, and special natural or cultural features.

Davis was formerly director of the Mississippi Automated Resource Information System (MARIS), which utilizes geographic information system (GIS) technology to manage and apply geographic infor-

mation to a wide range of natural and cultural resource programs in the state and serves as the state government clearinghouse for digital geo-spatial data about Mississippi, so this project was well-suited for him.

Davis's inventory can assist you in identifying, locating and, in most cases, viewing high-resolution images of historic maps of Mississippi, most of which are pre-20th century.

The database became possible because of Davis's ability to work in concert with the staff of MDAH, the Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, the National Archives and Records Administration, The Mississippi River Commission, and many other cooperating repositories. The result is that there is now a systematic inventory of more than 1,000 historic maps of the state and the inventory process continues.



Archives and Records Services volunteer Paul Davis

Looking for a special map is easy ...

"Paul's inventory of historic maps of Mississippi is a remarkable resource and addition to our online offerings," said David Pilcher, MDAH Head of Electronic Archives.

Inventory of Historic Maps of Mississippi

Please let us assist you in identifying, locating and, in most cases, viewing high-resolution images of historic maps of Mississippi, most of which are pre-20th century, by following the link below:

http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/mapindex/

Meet the New Governor's Mansion Curator Lauren Miller



The Museum Division's curator of collections, Lauren Miller, took over the role of the Governor's Mansion Curator beginning July 1, 2012.

Miller graduated from Mississippi State University in 2004 with a bachelor of arts in history and anthropology. She received her M.A. in History from Southeast Missouri State University.

As part of her coursework, Miller gained her first museum experience as an intern at the National Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville, Georgia.

Miller joined MDAH staff in 2008 during the final months of the Old Capitol restoration. She served as curator of exhibits and collections at the Old Capitol

Museum until August 2010, when she accepted her current position of Museum Division curator of collections.

"Lauren has been a great asset to the Museum Division collections office, focusing the majority of her time properly accessioning the books at the Eudora Welty House and preserving the collection at all sites through detailed pest monitoring and housekeeping," said Director of Collections Cindy Gardner.

"Lauren sees a project that needs to be done and jumps in to accomplish the task. Her knowledge and skills make her a great addition to the Governor's Mansion."

"I'm really looking forward to the opportunity to work with the wonderful docents at the Mansion," said incoming curator Lauren Miller.

Volunteer Enrichment Series: Walking Tours with Todd Sanders

Volunteer Services wishes to express appreciation to MDAH's Todd Sanders for sharing his love of architecture with us. Sanders has conducted several guided walking tours of the historic downtown Jackson area, West Capitol Street, and the Belhaven Neighborhood.

Also, we wish to extend our gratitude to Laura Magee for her wonderful hospitality — serving cool lemonade to the Belhaven Neighborhood tour participants.

When cooler weather returns, we hope to do more of these tours.

If you have a suggestion for an enrichment activity, please let us know. Email: ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us.



MDAH's Todd Sanders works in the Historic Preservation Division. Sanders helps Mississippians utilize federal and state tax credits in their preservation efforts. If you would like to explore the use of tax credits through preservation, contact Sanders at tsanders@mdah.state.ms.us or 601-576-6950.

Repair Project Completed and Governor's Mansion Re-opened April 3rd !



Left: Mansion after painting and repair

Bottom: East gazebo after painting and repair



Docent Judy Lacy and visitors from Belgium, Cream Bedroom



Docent Tom Bowen and JSU international students, Upstairs Sitting Hall



Docent Billie Henry and Chalybeate Academy, Walnut Hills, Gold Parlor



Docent Bernie Lieb and Magnolia Christian School, Macon, Back Rose Parlor

Old Capitol Museum Volunteers Have Fun!!!



Old Capitol Museum volunteers Betty Henry and Lane Tillner helped visitors enjoy historic games at the Gathering on the Green event held in April on the Old Capitol Green.



Volunteer Betty Henry does Zumba!!!

Special Thanks to our AmeriCorps Friends for Helping with Gathering on the Green



Left:
Damian Bunin, New York (left); Alex Grier, Wisconsin

Front row from left: *Caitlin Schwartz, Ohio; Alexzandra Cutts, Oklahoma*

Back: *Nathan Sherby, New Hampshire; A. J. Weiss, California; Brendan Lee, Massachusetts*

Want to volunteer at the Old Capitol Museum? Call Maura at 601-576-6923.



Just like the U.S. Marines, the Old Capitol Museum is looking for a few good men (and women.) With a growing list of special programs and offerings for our visitors, we are always looking for daily help at our museum.

Whether it is assisting with children's activities, giving special tours, working behind the scenes, or even greeting visitors at our front desk, the Old Capitol has a job for you.

Please contact Maura Johnson at 601-576-6923, if you are interested in getting involved or if you know of others who

would relish the opportunity to volunteer at Mississippi's most historic building.

Be sure to check our calendar at our website www.oldcapitolmuseum.com for a listing of upcoming programs.

We hope everyone has a great summer!

Let's Take a Peep...Manship Foundation Repairs Begin!



HVAC units, ductwork, and steps have been removed.



Side porch and steps are demolished.



The dining room chimney is the first to be demolished.



Side porch and steps are demolished.

All three chimneys have been taken down to the roof.

Work to stabilize the foundation of the Manship House Museum is now underway! Contractor J. A. Moss began removing the porches, porch steps, the heating and cooling system and sprinkler system piping from beneath the house, and all three chimneys, to prepare the house for the re-leveling process.

An exterior HVAC system has been installed to temporarily

protect the house. Follow the Manship House Museum's progress on the Museum's new blog, Mississippi Victorian, at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/mississippivictorian> or follow the link on the MDAH homepage.

For more information call 601-961-4724 or email info@manshiphousemuseum.com.



All three chimneys are being deconstructed.

Easter Bunny Highly Recommends a Visit to Historic Jefferson College



HJC volunteer Ricky Byers enjoys serving visitors. Byers and his family are loyal supporters of the site.

Left: HJC historian Kay McNeil welcomes a special visitor to the site.

Middle: The Easter Bunny is tired from hiding eggs. Many visitors enjoy Historic Jefferson College's annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Bottom: Sitting under a very old oak tree on the beautiful grounds of Historic Jefferson College

Photographs courtesy of HJC volunteer Misty Byers.

Directions to Historic Jefferson College: Approaching Natchez on Highway 61, you will pass through the town of Washington. Historic Jefferson College signs will direct you to the entrance, at right. At the site entrance, follow the road to the left to parking areas. **Admission is Free.**

Buildings: Monday—Saturday 9 a.m.—5 p.m. and Sunday 1–5 p.m.

Grounds: Sunup — Sundown



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.