

## 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

### January:

**1/13** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *Ten Most Endangered List*, David Preziosi, MHT director (WWB)  
**1/16** **EXPLORE!** Weaving 10–11:30 a.m. children's workshop (HJC)

## Dear Volunteer Staff,

Dear Volunteer Staff,

History has shown us the positive impact that volunteers have had on our communities, and more specifically, on the work of this department. Volunteers have worked side-by-side with our staff over the years to preserve historic sites, add rare items to our collections, and educate the public about our rich and varied history. In the early twentieth century, a group of civic-minded volunteers lobbied the legislature to establish the Department of Archives and History and to save our most historic building, the Old Capitol, from ruin. Through good times and bad, Mississippians from across the state work with us to ensure that our history is saved for future generations.

During this next chapter of our history, we may be calling upon you more often as we struggle to meet ever-increasing needs with more limited resources.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff, please accept our sincere gratitude for your service to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

**H.T. Holmes**

**Director**

**Mississippi Department of Archives and History**

## Manship Engages Pathologist for Image Research

Dr. Steven Bigler has agreed to volunteer his expertise to the Manship House Museum staff with a research project involving daguerreotypes (early pictures) belonging to the Charles Henry Manship family. It is hoped that by examining these pictures

as well as other reference material, he will be able to offer insight into the early deaths of some of the Manship children. Dr. Bigler is the chair of the University of Mississippi Medical Center's Pathology Department.

**Left:** Volunteers Mike Koskie and Bernie Lieb help with faux graining activity at the *Old Jackson the Way We Once Lived* program.

**Right:** Manship House Museum director Marilynn Jones and volunteer Dr. Steven Bigler examine Manship family image.



## Continued

**1/20** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *New Directions in the Study of Richard Wright*, Professor Jerry Ward, Dillard Univ. (WWB)

**1/21** Lunchtime lecture - noon *Water, Water Everywhere: Mississippi's Fossil Record*, George Phillips, Miss. Museum of Natural Science (HJC)

**1/27** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *Scourge of Yellow Fever in Mississippi*, Professor Deanne Nuwer, USM (WWB)

**1/30** *Eleventh Moon Storytelling* 2–4 p.m. (GV)

## February:

**February 2–25** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 and 11 a.m. *Black History: Road to the Vote* school program. Reservations required. (OCM)

**2/3** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *Bleeding Borders: Race, Gender, and Violence in Pre-Civil War Kansas*, Professor Kristen Oertel, Millsaps (WWB)

**February 4–26** Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m.–2 p.m. *Voices from the Past* school program. Reservations required. (MHM)

**2/10** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *Frank Blair: Lincoln's Conservative*, Professor Emeritus William Parrish, MSU (WWB)

**2/11** *Preserving Mississippi's African American Heritage* 6–7:30 p.m. Heritage Trails Mgr. Alex Thomas, Miss. Development Authority (OCM)

# Archaeology and Historic Sites Launches New Volunteer Program! *Work with professional archaeologists behind the scenes or in the field!*

Chief archaeologist Pam Lieb has launched a new volunteer program for MDAH. Volunteers are being recruited for the Jackson and Clarksdale locations. To begin, volunteers are needed to staff the Research Room at the Charlotte Capers Building in Jackson. This

position entails learning the new Geospatial Information System—a cutting-edge method of documenting important historic sites—and providing access to data. Volunteers are also needed for collections, surveyors, deed research, outreach, and special events.

Archaeologist Patty Miller-Beech will oversee this volunteer program. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer in this interesting field, please call Patty at 601-576-6944.

## DEALING WITH DIFFICULT VISITORS WORKSHOP

**MARCH 8, 2010 ❖ 10–11:30 A.M.**

As our ambassadors, you meet many types of people when you volunteer. Most of these encounters are pleasant, but there are times when you may come across visitors who are disruptive, unruly, noncompliant with rules, or who ask questions which may be inappropriate or difficult to answer. We will be holding a free workshop discussing “best practices” in this regard. The goal of this class is to equip our staff (volunteers and employees) with the necessary tools to enhance the visitor experience.

Museum Division director Lucy Allen, and Governor’s Mansion curator Mary Lohrenz will be conducting this workshop. It will be held on Monday, March 8, 2010, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Old Capitol Museum.

If you have specific topics, questions, or examples of incidents that would be helpful to address, we would like for you to share them with us. Please email your responses to me ([ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us)) by Tuesday, February 9, 2010, or you can just call me at 601-576-6985 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

**Reservations are required. If you plan to attend, please notify Elizabeth at 601-576-6985 or [ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us).**

**Note:** Please email or call Elizabeth Coleman (email: [ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto: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**

**2/13 EXPLORE!** Evergreen Trees 10–11:30 a.m. children’s workshop Reservations required. (HJC)

**2/17** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *The Longleaf Trace Companion*, Attorney Anthony Mozingo (WWB)

**2/24** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *Far from Home: The Diary of Lt. William H. Peel, 1863–1865*, Author Ellen Wilds (WWB)

**March:**

**3/3** History is Lunch noon–1 p.m. *The Gulf Islands: Mississippi’s Wilderness Shore*, independent film producer Robbie Fisher and MPB director of content Jay Woods (WWB)

**March 4–April 30,** Thursdays and Fridays *Growing Up in Mississippi: 1857–1888* 9 a.m.–2 p.m. school program. Reservations required. (MHM)

**3/16** *Queen of the Natchez Trace* 11 a.m. Natchez Trace Parkway Assn. president Dot Ward (OCM)

# Winterville Mounds Hosts Open House

Winterville Mounds hosted an open house on December 6. Visitors enjoyed choral music and refreshments with the historic Native American site as a backdrop.



L to R (back): John Lee, Pat Flemming, Joe Walker, Larry Parker, Brandon Feltson (front): Amy Lee and Erin Morris.



L to R: Marian Mercer, Herman Moore, and Dorothy Seaton.

## MDAH awarded AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) team!

Volunteer Services is pleased to announce that MDAH has been awarded an AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) team to facilitate a mound-clearing project at the Winterville Mounds site in Greenville. Ten AmeriCorps members will work at the site from January 13 to February 5, 2010. This project will help to preserve the integrity of the earthworks, allow for better access to archaeologists, and make the park more attractive to visitors. Prior to their work at Winterville Mounds, the team was involved with housing construction on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and building walkways in a West Virginia wilderness area.



MANSHIP HOUSE MUSEUM

*Coming in August...*

Docent Training School for the Manship House Museum. Contact Elizabeth Coleman at 601.576.6985 or email [ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us), if you would like to be placed on the list.

## New Museum Event Held in Columbus

Kathy Smith (left) and Laurean Reynolds (right) address invitations to a fundraiser for the Foundation for Mississippi History recently held at Rosedale, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Imes in Columbus, Mississippi. This was the first event to begin development work for the future Museum of

Mississippi History. If you are interested in knowing more about fundraising events for the new museum, please contact Trey Porter at 601-576-6809. To learn more about the Foundation for Mississippi History, please follow this link: <http://mdah.state.ms.us/museum/ffmh.php>.



# Old Capitol Museum Kicks off the New Year

The Old Capitol Museum will begin 2010 with several exciting events focusing on preservation and voting. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings in February, we will present to students throughout the state *Black History: Road to the Vote*.

## Continued

**3/16 – 5/9** *Petitions, Protests, and Patriotism: Miss. Women in Preservation, 1900-1950* exhibit (OCM)

**3/27 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

**3/28 noon – 5 p.m.**

*Natchez Powwow* Native American dancing, food, crafts, and jewelry (GV)

**For more information visit**  
[mdah.state.ms.us](http://mdah.state.ms.us)

Students will learn about the Old Capitol's role in African American Mississippians' struggle for voting rights. On February 11 at 6:00 p.m., we further our focus on black history with *Preserving Mississippi's Blues Heritage*, a lecture on the development of the Mississippi Blues Trail from Alex Thomas, Heritage Trails Program manager.

During Women's History Month, our exhibit *Petitions, Protests, and Patriotism: Mississippi Women in Preservation, 1890-1950* will feature women throughout the state who have been leaders in preserving Mississippi's

historic sites. Dot Ward, president of the Natchez Trace Parkway Association, will open the exhibit on March 16 at 11:00 a.m. with *Queen of the Natchez Trace*, a presentation discussing Mississippian Roane Fleming Byrnes's work to preserve the Natchez Trace

Parkway. The exhibit will remain on display until May 9, 2010.

Please call Maura Johnson at 601-576-6923 if you are interested in helping with any of the upcoming programming at the Old Capitol Museum.



**PRESERVING MISSISSIPPI'S  
BLUES HERITAGE**

**Alex Thomas**  
Heritage Trails Manager  
Mississippi Development Authority



**Old Capitol Museum**  
February 11 ~ 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
601-576-6920



## Old Capitol's *Present Meets Past* Program a Success



**Left to right:** Volunteer seamstress Karen Gibson works on the costume for the character Mrs. Letitia Dickson portrayed by Stacey Everett; John Roy Lynch was portrayed by Matt Galbreath; director Clay Williams and volunteer Caroline Hoff staff the desk for the evening event; and Todd Sanders portrays Keeper F.A. Whiting.

# Governor's Mansion Docents Celebrate with a Holiday Luncheon



**Governor's Mansion Docent Luncheon, December 7, 2009, hosted by First Lady Marsha Barbour**



**Docents recognized for working 14 times or more this year were (L to R) Andi McDaniel, Janet McLaurin, Freda Spell, Judy Lacy, Clytice Gardner, Janis Roberts, Ruth Byars, and Pauline Akers.**



**Retiring docents recognized for their service were Frances Kees (22 years), Sue McRoberts (10 years), and Barbara Magoun (3 years). Shown are Kees and Magoun.**



**Docent Sally Carmichael shows Manchester Academy students Mansion's State Dining Room decorated for Christmas.**



**Docent Shirlee Lawson tells Mississippi School for the Deaf students about the Christmas trees in the Mansion's Front Rose Parlor.**

# The Eudora Welty House Welcomes New Special Projects Coordinator



Katie Hamm

Karen Redhead, Eudora Welty House director, is pleased to announce the promotion of Katie Hamm to the position of special projects coordinator. A native of Tampa, Florida, Hamm graduated Phi Beta Kappa in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Millsaps College. She studied Eudora Welty with Welty scholar-in-residence

Dr. Suzanne Marrs, who served as Hamm's advisor. At Millsaps, she also completed coursework in Museum Studies, served as the editor of the *Stylus Literary Magazine*, and tutored in the Writing Center. Hamm has worked as an administrative assistant at the Eudora Welty House since graduation.

"The Welty House is indeed

fortunate to have Katie as the new special projects coordinator. She has been such an asset already at the front desk, not only welcoming visitors but dealing with the day-to-day operational issues we experience in a professional and personable manner. In addition, she has gotten to know and works well with all of our volunteers. Her knowledge of Welty, her writing skills, and her enthusiasm are strengths she brings to her new position," said Redhead.

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## *Celebration of Christmas Trees at Historic Jefferson College*

An annual tradition since 1981, the *Celebration of Christmas Trees* event took place from December 14 to 31, 2009, at Historic Jefferson College (HJC). Visitors were treated to stories of

the site and Christmas traditions, and were invited to decorate Christmas trees. In all, twenty-one trees were decorated by sixteen different groups of visitors.



Above: Dedicated volunteer Rick Byers (left), drove from Brookhaven several times in December with his wife, Shelia, and daughter, Misty, to help staff member Kay McNeil with group tours. Byers is pictured serving refreshments.

Right: The Grand Village Tree decorated by historian Rebecca Anderson.



# Volunteer Opportunities—*Call us today!*

**Volunteer guides** are needed at the Eudora Welty House. Guide shifts are four hours in length, Tuesdays–Fridays. For more information about this volunteer position, please call Katie Hamm at 601.354.5206.

**Volunteer receptionist** needed at the Manship House Museum for

Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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 to 4 p.m. Also, **volunteer guides**

are needed. For more information, please call Maura Johnson at 601.576.6923.

**Also needed:** Research Services Volunteers, Collections (Jackson and Clarksdale), Volunteer Surveyors (Jackson and Clarksdale), Volunteer Deed Researchers,

Special Events Volunteers, and Volunteer Docents for the Archaeology and Historic Sites section of the Historic Preservation Division. Please call Patty Miller-Beech for more details at 601.576.6944.

## Holiday Scenes



*Top left: Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight December 4, 2009, Manship House Museum; Middle top: Lucky Osborne and Margarita Niewald read the book *A Special Visitor Comes to Possum Ridge* to children at Candlelight in the Winter Building; Top right: David Morgan gives tours at the Winter Holidays exhibit; Bottom left: Juana Harris assists at the Old Capitol with the Candlelight event; Middle bottom: Sue Hunt helps in the craft room at the Old Capitol during Candlelight; Bottom right: Archives and Records Services volunteer Jean Hudspeth gives a tour of the Media Room in the Archives Library located in the Winter Building at Candlelight.*



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.