

Mississippi History NEWSLETTER

MDAH

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Legislative Support for MDAH

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History received continued support for its programs from the 2007 Mississippi Legislature and is grateful for the following legislation:

- 1) in addition to its annual appropriation, \$1 million for the state records center;
- 2) authorization to sublease space in the GM&O Passenger Depot to not-for-profit organizations (MDAH will lease to the Mississippi Heritage Trust and the Mississippi Main Street Association);
- 3) authorization to exchange property with certain private individuals for use by the Eudora Welty House (regarding creation of a visitors center for the Eudora Welty House).
- 4) a small increase in the Community Heritage Preservation Grant fund; and
- 5) confirmation of Reuben V. Anderson, Jackson, and Roland Weeks, Jr., Biloxi, as trustees of the Department of Archives and History, with terms effective January 1, 2007–January 1, 2010.

Join the **Mississippi Historical Society** and receive the quarterly **Journal of Mississippi History** plus discounts at the **Old Capitol Shop**. Call 601-576-6849.

Welty's Birthday Observed

Eudora Welty would have been ninety-eight on April 13, and Eudora Welty House staff celebrated her birthday with a cake for staff and visitors. Above (l-r) Museum of Mississippi History hostess Ruth



Cole; Carolyn Brown, Millsaps English Department staff member and Welty House volunteer; and Welty House curator of collections Amy Steadman.



MDAH SALUTES WRITERS

Mississippi novelist **Ellen Douglas** was honored with the Cleanth Brooks Medal for Lifetime Achievement in ceremonies at the 2007 joint conference of the Fellowship of Southern Writers and the Tennessee Arts and Education Council, held in Chattanooga March 29-31.

Hank Klibanoff, former capitol correspondent for the *Biloxi Sun Herald*, and co-author Gene Roberts won the Pulitzer Prize for history for *The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation*.

Novelist **Elizabeth Spencer** has been selected to receive the 20th annual PEN/Malamud Award, directors of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, have announced. The award recognizes excellence in short fiction writing and includes a \$5,000 prize.

Gulfport native **Natasha Tretheway** won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry for *Native Guard*, a collection honoring black soldiers who played a role in protecting Fort Massachusetts on Ship Island during the Civil War.

Olive Marker Dedicated



Above, top, unveiled marker at the corner of Highway 17 and Ebenezer Road; below, comrades salute Olive's gravesite in West Grove Cemetery near Lexington.

Communities of Lexington, Ebenezer, and Pickens turned out March 31 to dedicate a historical marker honoring the life of Holmes County native PFC Milton Olive III. In the Vietnam War, Olive, nineteen, threw his body over a live grenade to save the lives of his comrades. Five survivors from his platoon drove from Ohio and Washington, D.C., to pay tribute to Olive, and community leaders gave testimony to Olive's selfless nature. Guest speakers were Major General Harold Cross, adjutant general of Mississippi, and the honorable Robert G. Clark, Jr., former speaker pro tempore of the Mississippi House of Representatives. The marker was coordinated by the MDAH historical marker program and made possible by the Milton Olive III Foundation, which has also built a community center honoring him.

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MAY MDAH EVENTS CALENDAR

Jackson

Manship House Museum
420 E. Fortification Street

Friday, May 4, 5–7 p.m. *Manships at Dusk*. Enjoy an evening tour of the Manship House Museum and its Victorian garden, featuring musical entertainment. Free of charge. For information call 601-961-4724.

Tuesday, May 15, through September 8. *Summer Dress*. Museum exhibits the Victorian practice of preparing the home for the heat, insects, and dirt of the summer months. Free of charge, reservations required for groups of ten or more. For reservations or information call 601-961-4724.

William F. Winter Archives and History Building
200 North Street (one block off State Street)

Saturday, May 5, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. A symposium, **“Not Just a Man’s War: Contributions and Experiences of Women During the Civil War,”** featuring the following speakers: Robbie Smith, Vicksburg National Military Park, USS Cairo Museum; Amy Young, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Southern Mississippi; and Elizabeth Shaifer Hollingsworth, historian, Port Gibson. The

public is invited; admission is free. For more information, call coordinator William Thompson, 601-576-6946.

Wednesday, May 9, noon–1 p.m. *History is Lunch* series. **Mark Howell**, director of Winterville Mounds, will give a presentation on the acoustic qualities of **LaSalle’s trading bells**.

Wednesday, May 16, noon–1 p.m. *History is Lunch* series **Betsy Bradley**, director of the **Mississippi Museum of Art**, will discuss plans for the new downtown facility. For information call 601-576-6857.

Greenville

Winterville Mounds
2415 Highway 1 North

Sunday, May 20, 2–4 p.m. “Music of the Delta, Pre- and Post-Conquest.” **Mark Howell**, Winterville director, will discuss the many musical genres of the region and play examples. For more information call 662-334-4684.

Washington

Historic Jefferson College
Highway 61

Saturday, May 5–June 19, *Eudora Welty: Other Places*, a Museum of Mississippi History

traveling exhibit featuring photographs taken by Welty in New Orleans and New York City. Free of charge, for information call 601-442-2901.

For more information visit
mdah.state.ms.us

Manship House Archaeology

Students in Dr. Michael Galaty’s Millsaps Archaeological Method and Theory class were digging at the Manship House Museum on April 17 as part of the “Manships Unearthed” program, when freshman Jordan Taylor found an 1854 Liberty Head gold dollar (see photo, below right). These coins, issued between 1849 and 1854, 90 percent pure gold, were the smallest denomination of gold currency in U.S. history. Area school children observed the archaeologists as they worked during the sessions, held Tuesdays in April, to find out more about the Manship family. The Manship House was built in 1857 as the home of Charles Henry Manship, the Civil War mayor of Jackson. The Manship House Museum is open to the public free of charge Tuesdays through Fridays. For information, call 601-961-4724.

Log Structures Workshop

The Kentucky Heritage Council (SHPO) and Pine Mountain Settlement School in Harlan County, Kentucky, offer a workshop, “The Care and Repair of Log Structures,” June 11-15, 2007. The workshop will include instruction in preservation techniques and hands-on experience with a 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps round log structure in Harlan County. The workshop fee is \$600, which includes tuition, printed materials, meals, lodging, transportation to the hands-on project site, and safety equipment. Register online at www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com or e-mail patrick.kennedy@ky.gov at the Kentucky Heritage Council.

Manship House Artifact

