



*Winterville Mounds Archaeological Park Family — volunteers and employees — gather at their recent volunteer appreciation event.*

*Front row, left to right: Joseph Walker, Timothy Robinson, Lisa Bruce-Robinson, Elizabeth Nealon, and Leana Taylor (seated); Second row, left to right: Tyler Robinson, Ruth Spiller, Donald Morris, Patricia Fleming, Alice Booker, Regina Griffin, Margaret Wolfe, Susie Smith and Ashley Cauldwell; Third row, left to right: Bobye Feltson-McKnight, Sissy Schuster, Princella Nowell, Mark Howell, James Crawford and Gary Smith.*

**To the MDAH Volunteers:**

Now that the warmer weather is here, it is a great time to visit MDAH sites with your friends and family! MDAH has the most friendly and knowledgeable volunteers who go beyond the call of duty to share the Mississippi story! Hop in your car today and visit the kind folks at Winterville Mounds (pictured above) or any of our other sites.

Thank you for all that you do to serve MDAH and the great state of Mississippi!

Hugs to all,

Elizabeth Coleman, CVA  
 Volunteer Services



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## Winterville Mounds — That Special Place

**News from Susie Smith, volunteer coordinator and principal secretary at the Winterville Mounds Archaeological Park**

On May 2, Winterville Mounds Archaeological Park director Mark Howell and volunteer coordinator Susie Smith hosted a catfish cookout in appreciation of the work of our volunteers over the last year. There were twenty-seven people in attendance.

The goal of the cookout was to give back “in thanks” what our volunteers have given us in hard work; in other words, to provide a day for them to relax and enjoy themselves. But, as usual, they wanted to help cook, make and bring desserts, and clean up the museum before and after the festivities.

As is widely known, our volunteers really enjoy being involved with the site and they care that Winterville Mounds looks and runs as well as it can. For instance, as you can see in the second photo (right), Mr. Adams and Mr. Parker are cooking while Mr. Crockett makes sure the food is cooked to perfection.

All of our volunteers have special talents that help make Winterville Mounds the special place it is today.

**Thank you for this great report, Miss Susie!**

For visitor information, please follow the link below:

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/hprop/winterville.php>



**Left to right:** Edward Crockett, Larry Parker and Lee Adams



The grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission is free.

# Let's Visit Historic Jefferson College

## News from Kay McNeil, historian at Historic Jefferson College

The annual Easter Party for Pleasant Acres took place on the grounds of Historic Jefferson College on April 16. The students from Pleasant Acres Day school have been coming for the annual Easter Party since it was started in 1982. They always look forward to an invitation from us to come celebrate Easter the Wednesday before with a lunch of hot dogs, an Easter egg hunt, and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

This event is always a success because of the Byers family — Ricky, Shelia and daughter Misty — volunteers/friends from Brookhaven. The Byerses furnish all the food, stuff the plastic eggs donated to them, and bring the bunny costume. I love working with such giving and caring people. It makes the event even more fun. Oh, and a big thank you to Rebecca Anderson, historian at GVNI. Also known as "the Easter Bunny."



## Visitor Information:

Visitors are invited to tour the restored West Wing, the kitchen buildings, Prospere Hall — where interpretive exhibitions, a gift shop, and rest rooms are located — and the T.J. Foster Nature Trail.

## More about Historic Jefferson College:

Historic Jefferson College, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was restored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in phases completed in 1977 and 1984. The restoration was funded in part by the Friends of Jefferson College, a non-profit corporation.

Popular annual events include a Civil War re-enactment and the Children's Victorian Christmas. Portrayed as West Point Academy in the *North and the South* television series, Historic Jefferson College has been a popular film location-- for *Horse Soldiers*, *Mistress of Paradise*, and two versions of *Huckleberry Finn*.

## Eagle Scout Project helps Historic Jefferson College



While a senior at Cathedral High School, Brandon Sandifer completed his Eagle Scout project at Historic Jefferson College. Sandifer built two benches for the site's nature trail, using plans designed by Aldo Leopold (1887-1947). Leopold was a

conservationist, forester, educator, philosopher and writer. Leopold is best known for his book *A Sand County Almanac*. In the 1940s, Leopold designed these benches to be inexpensive, yet durable and comfortable.

# Thank you, Brandon!!!

# Let's Visit...

## The Grand Village of the Natchez Indians



The reconstructed Natchez Indian house is based on historical descriptions and archaeological remains. The Natchez were farmers and lived in permanent dwellings.

### Visitor Information:

Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Group tours are available by appointment, and the Grand Village also offers educational programs for school and adult groups by prior arrangement.

For more information, follow the link below:

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/hprop/gvnivisit.html>



The 128-acre Grand Village site features a museum, a reconstructed Natchez Indian house, and three ceremonial mounds. Two of the mounds, the Great Sun's Mound and the Temple Mound, have been excavated and rebuilt to their original sizes and shapes.

A religious structure once stood atop the Temple Mound and housed bones of previous chiefs (called Suns). A sacred perpetual fire was kept in the Temple's inner sanctum, symbolic of the sun, from which the royal family had descended.

A third mound, called the Abandoned Mound, has been only partially excavated. After three major archaeological excavations at the Grand Village by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, no more digging investigations are planned for the site. The unexcavated areas of the site will be preserved intact, representing a sort of "time capsule" from the Natchez Indians' past.

Additional features of the site include a nature trail, a "Touch Table" for children, and a Visitor Center with gift shop featuring Native American crafts.

**Admission is free.**



## Groups Drawn To Mississippi State Capitol

*Increased Visitation during 2014 Legislative Session*

### **News from Kathy Broom, visitor services coordinator, at the Capitol**

More than 11,495 guests visited the Mississippi State Capitol from January through April 2014, according to Visitor Services. Most of them (10,218+) came during the Legislative Session.

During those first four months, 304 scheduled group tours were conducted by Visitor Services. Due to the expected increased volume of guests and the desire to accommodate every group interested in touring the Capitol, Visitor Services Coordinator Kathy Broom and Visitor Services Assistant James Bridgforth were joined by Joy Matthews (Session-only employee), Dorothea Brock (Session-only employee), Curator Brenda Davis, and a few Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) volunteers. All helped to provide an enlightening tour for each group.

In addition to the scheduled group tours conducted, the visitor numbers also include those guests who “stopped by to see the Capitol” and were greeted and given tours by the MDAH volunteers.

The Legislative Session is, without a doubt, the most popular time for interested groups to visit the Mississippi State Capitol. Getting to view the Legislature in action combined with seeing the building’s beautiful architecture makes for an eye-opening experience!



We served 3,500 more visitors during 2014 session (January – April) than in 2013!!!  
Congrats to all!

### **Numbers at a Glance:**

#### **January – April 2014**

Total Scheduled Group Tours Conducted: 304  
(Session Only: 279)

Total Scheduled Group-Tour Visitors: 9,472+  
(Session Only: 8,644+)

Total Drop-in Visitors: 2,023+  
(Session Only: 1,574+)

Total Visitors (drop-ins and scheduled group tours):  
11,495+ (Session only: 10,218+)

# Collections Experts Solve Mystery at Welty...

## Share Expertise with Governor's Mansion

*Barbara and Peter Avrea of Ohio are pictured at the Viennese Waltz Ball in November 2013. The ball was held at the Cosmos Club in Washington D.C. Peter is dressed in a custom-made Union Army general's uniform. The Avreas say that they enjoy wearing different outfits to the balls that they attend in Washington — one of their favorite things to do!*

When Barbara and Peter Avrea came to our Governor's Mansion for a guided tour last year, little did they know that they would become part of the MDAH volunteer family!

During their tour, Curator Lauren Miller and yours truly — Elizabeth Coleman — quickly discovered that the Avreas not only have a passion for antiques and history, but more specifically, expertise in the period antiques that adorn the Mansion.

After the morning that we shared with the Avreas, we knew that this delightful couple would be a true asset to our volunteer staff as Collections experts. Luckily for MDAH, they agreed!!!

Their first assignment was to help solve the mystery of the Haviland china at the Welty House. Director of Museum Division Collections Cindy Gardner said that for many years, we have not been able to identify the pattern, even with assistance from the Haviland descendants.



We are happy to report that Barbara was able to identify this pattern with the help of an association devoted to Haviland. "You have an interesting combination here. The cup is Schleiger pattern No. 464. It is on the Marseille blank. The plate is Schleiger 34 and is on blank 34. As is typical of most Haviland china these do not have specific, factory-designated pattern names. They could have been issued anytime in the early 1900s," said Arthur R. Stees, a past president of the Haviland Collectors (Haviland Publications Distributions).

Now that the Haviland china mystery has been solved, the Avreas are turning their attention to the Governor's Mansion by helping Lauren update the catalog records with more modern scholarship.

Thank you, Barbara and Peter, for helping Mississippi preserve its treasures! We look forward to future stories about your work at the Mansion.

Hugs from Mississippi!

## Governor's Mansion Welcomes New Docents

### Congratulations to Steve Kelly, Carolyn Clements, Tom Watts and Teeny Bond!

These new docents have passed their exam and are now ready to give tours at the Governor's Mansion — and there are more new docents in the works!

Our “teaching volunteers,” also known as docents or guides, share our history at several MDAH sites. We thank you for helping educate others about Mississippi's rich culture and history!

# Congratulations



**Tom Watts**



**Steve Kelly**



**Carolyn Clements**



**Teeny Bond**



## Summer Camps for Youth

**Spread the Word!**

Visit: <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/news/mdah-awards-over-900000-in-grants/>

for all of the details.

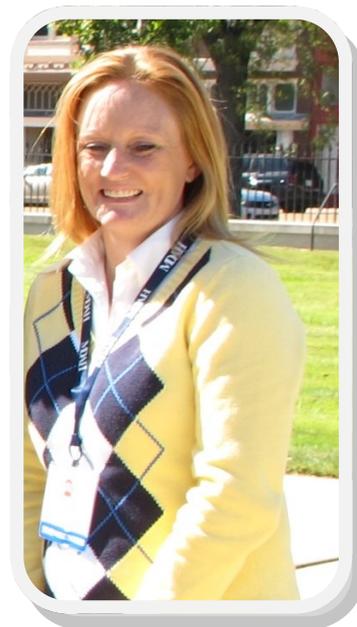
**Take your pick!**

Some of the camps include *Discovery Week (Native Americans)* at Grand Village, *Naturalist*, *Frontier Survival*, and *Civil War Adventure Camps* at Historic Jefferson College, *Mississippi Inspectors: Building Mississippi* at Jackson sites, and *Summer Days (Native Americans)* at Winterville Mounds.

# Museum Division Education Researchers



**Left:** Steve Kelly serves as a volunteer researcher in the Museum Division Education and Collections sections, as well as a guide/docent at the Capitol and the Governor's Mansion.



**Right:** Patti Smith is pursuing a master's degree in history from Mississippi College. Patti has served as a special event volunteer in Education, but most recently has been working on an educational resource for teachers pertaining to the film *Murder in Mississippi*.

## News from Claire Gwaltney, Museum Division Education

Volunteers for the Museum Division's Education section have been hard at work the past few months conducting a variety of research projects aimed towards Mississippi teachers and students.

Patti Smith has recently completed a film activity packet for *Murder in Mississippi*. The film, about the Chaney, Schwerner, Goodman murders during 1964's Freedom Summer, is part of MDAH's *Mississippi History on Loan* program.

This program makes over 200 educational films available to teachers free of charge. Activity packets for select films help students look at historic events more closely, using primary source documents, images, writings, and activities. Patti has been able to incorporate all these elements into the *Murder in Mississippi* activity packet which will be published on the MDAH website at

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/> in time for the start of the 2014-2015 school year.

Steve Kelly has also been hard at work researching and writing a brief paper about Mississippi's response to the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918. Among the interesting details he uncovered about the epidemic was that a circus troop was trapped in West Point in October 1918 when the city was quarantined! Steve's research will be made available to teachers this fall at MDAH's annual *Teacher's Workshop* on November 7. This year's theme will look at Mississippi history from the turn of the twentieth century through World War I.

MDAH staff is receiving increasing demands from Mississippi teachers for more history resources for their classrooms, a demand we could never meet without volunteers such as Patti and Steve. **Thank you!**

## The Old Capitol Museum Needs You!!!



## Casting Call

**News from Clay Williams, director  
Old Capitol Museum**



The Old Capitol Museum needs you!!!! Most of our volunteer opportunities involve either working at our reception desk or assisting with public events or with children's activities.

But in October, the museum produces its annual living history program called *Present Meets Past* where staff and volunteers portray important people from the Old Capitol's past who then interact with the public and share their stories.

We conduct the research and provide the background material and scripts as well as costumes for our volunteers to use for this program.

We make sure our "actors" have plenty of time to learn their material and rehearse and are truly comfortable.

So, consider this our casting call for energetic and outgoing volunteers who are seeking a different type of volunteer experience, one that really connects you to Mississippi's most

### BE A STAR

historic building. If interested, please contact Maura Johnson at 601-576-6923 and she will find a character that is just right for you!

For *Present Meets Past* and other exciting programs, be sure to check our calendar of events at our website [www.oldcapitolmuseum.com](http://www.oldcapitolmuseum.com).

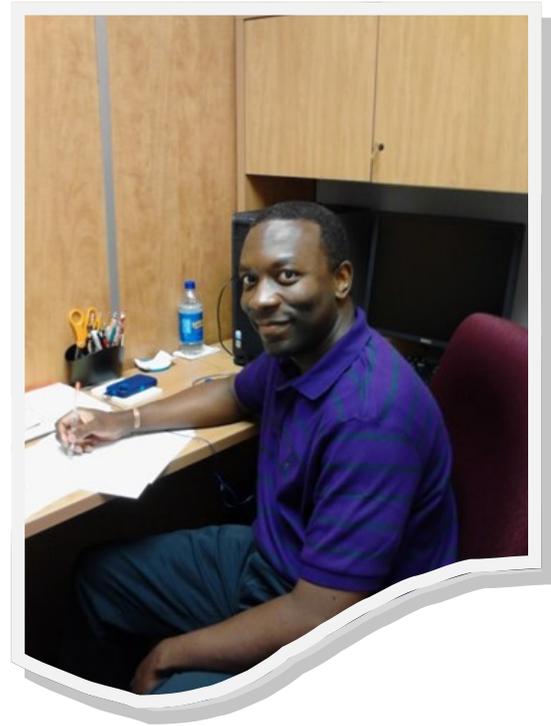
## Archaeology Reports Available for All

Maurice Smith can usually be found at the Mississippi Department of Health's Vital Records Division scanning important images. Smith is an imaging supervisor at the agency. Maurice has also lent his talent and skill set to MDAH's Public Information office, digitizing some of our history, too!

Most of the MDAH archaeological reports have been scanned and can be accessed by the public on our website. "The impact of this new online resource has been great!" said Pam Lieb, chief archaeologist for the state. "These reports are receiving many hits. They are being used."

Historic Properties and Grand Village of the Natchez Indians director Jim Barnett said, "The MDAH archaeological reports are classics. When I found out about the digitized reports, I spread the word to a number of archaeologists. They were very enthusiastic. Professors at the University of Alabama and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are information their students about this exciting development."

Maurice also worked on a digitization project in the Architectural History section. Smith said he really enjoyed scanning images



of our beautiful State Capitol. The images consisted of the construction and painting at the site as well as images of the eagle on top.

**Thank you, Maurice!**

**To see these wonderful MDAH archaeological reports,  
follow the link below:**

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/publications/archaeological-report-archive/>

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**For more interesting archaeology news,  
please see the report in this issue from  
MDAH archaeologist John Connaway.**

## Exhibit Coming: Stand Up!

### Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964

In the summer of 1964 hundreds of northern college students, most of them white, joined with local African Americans in communities across Mississippi to register voters, conduct Freedom Schools, and promote civil rights. Beginning in June MDAH will mark the fiftieth anniversary of Freedom Summer with an original exhibit at the Winter Building, diverse programming at its sites, and an address at the Old Capitol by an icon of the Civil Rights Movement.

On Monday, June 2, Dr. Robert P. Moses will give the keynote

address for the 2014 Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series. A leader in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations, Moses became a principal organizer of the Freedom Summer Project. He was also instrumental in establishing the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party that would challenge Mississippi's all-white delegation at the Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in August of 1964.

"Stand Up!" will run through October 31 at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building in Jackson. The free exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MDAH is a co-sponsor of the Mississippi Freedom Summer 50th Anniversary Conference in Jackson organized by the Mississippi Veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, Inc.; Mississippi State Conference NAACP; and Tougaloo College. The June 25-29 conference will highlight the legacy of Freedom Summer, recognize the accomplishments of those who changed Mississippi for the better, and examine ways to continue that progress for all of its citizens.

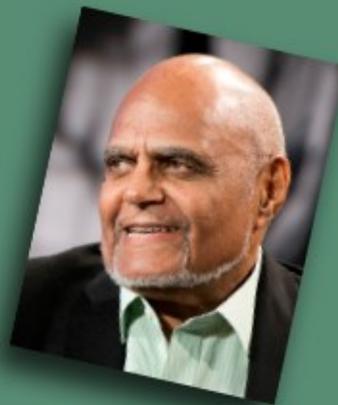
To register or learn more about the conference, visit <http://freedom50.org/>

For more information about any of these events, call 601-576-6850 or [email info@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:info@mdah.state.ms.us).

**Dr. Robert P. Moses**

Monday, June 2, noon  
Old Capitol Museum

Medgar Wiley Evers  
LECTURE SERIES



**Robert Moses To Open Freedom Summer Exhibit**

**Come see this informative exhibit created by our Exhibits Team!**

Many of the images, film footage, and documents are from the MDAH Archives and Records Services Division as well as the University of Mississippi's McCain Archives and Library, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. Also, you will see 3-D artifacts from our Museum Collections. All of this can be found **June 2 — October 31, 2014**, at the **William F. Winter Archives and History Building at 200 North Street, Jackson.**

# Archaeology News from John Connaway



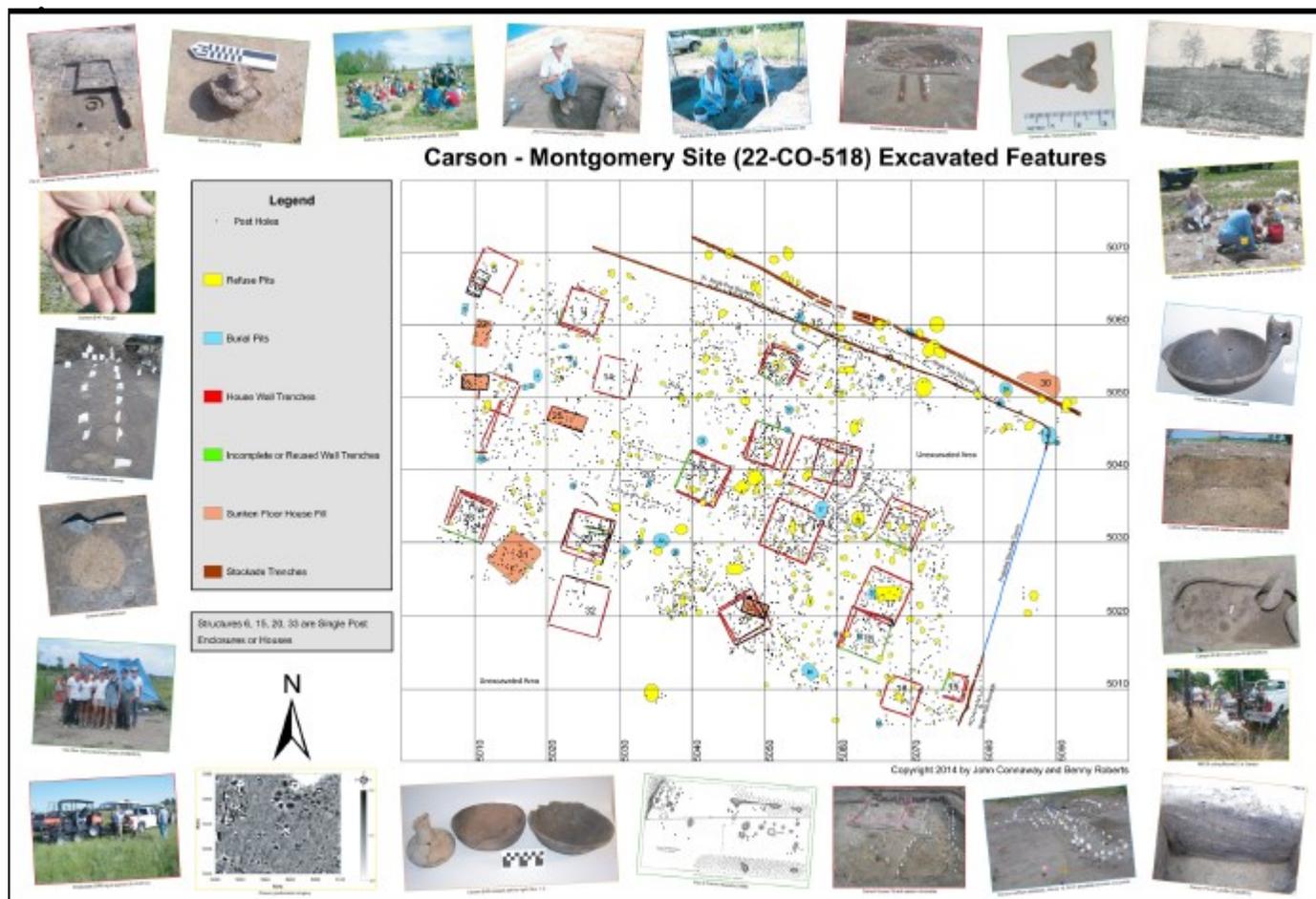
as they are opening a test trench to locate the east stockade. Also, Bobby Rawlinson is pictured on the backhoe in the background, moving dirt piles with his own backhoe and dump-truck.

Bobby is a retired funeral home owner and comes out periodically to volunteer his backhoe services. John says that Bobby saved him a LOT of wheelbarrow hauling of dirt, "and thus my poor back, which has been treated by a chiropractor for a year now."

Also pictured is a feature map that was prepared by Benny using the ArcGIS program. John said that this poster with pictures was prepared by MDAH archaeologist Lizbeth Velasquez and that he (John) suggested the layout and provided all of the pictures.

**To Benny, Gena, and Bobby:** We appreciate all that you are doing to help John in the field!

MDAH archaeologist John Connaway sent us a very informative report pertaining to the Carson Mounds excavation. Pictured above are volunteers Benny & Gena Roberts at Carson Mounds (Feb. 25, 2014)



## WELTY HOSTS SCHOLASTIC WRITING AWARDS CEREMONY

**News from Megan Bankston, special projects/volunteer coordinator**

On April 13, 2014, Eudora Welty's 105<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Eudora Welty House and Garden (EWHG) hosted the regional Awards Ceremony for the 2014 Scholastic Writing Awards.

Approximately 300 students, teachers, and parents attended the event. Author Margaret McMullan was the keynote speaker. She talked about her experience winning a Scholastic award and the courage that it gave her to pursue writing as a career. Before the ceremony, the Welty House was open for walk-through tours with volunteers stationed inside.

The Scholastic Writing Awards is a national competition where students from grades 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> are encouraged to submit original work to different categories, including short story, personal essay, poetry, and science fiction.

The EWHG administers the awards for Mississippi Writing Region along with the affiliate, Eudora Welty Foundation. They received 416 entries from students across the state. The 37 Gold Key winners from Mississippi were then sent on to be judged at the national level.

Five Mississippi students were awarded the national Silver Medal, and one received the American Voices Award, meaning her short story was judged as the best in the region. The 2013-2014 program year marks the first time the competition was open to all 82 Mississippi counties thanks to a generous grant from the C Spire Foundation.



*The chairs and stage were set up in front of the EWHG.*



*Author Margaret McMullan speaking to the crowd.*



*EWHG staff member Lee Anne Bryan presenting students with awards. From left to right: Maggie Smith from St. Joseph Catholic School received a Gold Key for flash fiction; Ian Garner from West Lauderdale Attendance Center received a Gold Key for science fiction; Sarah Pendleton, a home school student, received a Gold Key for dramatic script and a national Gold Medal for her novel; Lee Schmidt from St. Andrew's Episcopal School received a Gold Key and the American Voices Award for short story.*

# WELTY HOSTS SCHOLASTIC WRITING AWARDS CEREMONY



Volunteer Alec Valentine with guests in the sitting room.



Volunteer Nancy Scott showing visitors the guest bedroom.



Volunteer Beverly Fatherree with guests in Eudora Welty's bedroom. The student writers were thrilled to get a look at Eudora's writing desk.



Left: Volunteer Cindy Lyons talking with guests in the living room while volunteer Luran Buchanan waits in the dining room.

## NEW GARDEN SIGNS AT THE WELTY HOUSE



Left: New sign in the Lower Garden at the EWHG

Bottom: New garden signs being installed.



In continuation of the Eudora Welty House and Garden's celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Garden opening, new garden signs have been installed thanks to the generosity of donors Michael and Evelyn Jefcoat. Seven new signs designed by Communication Arts were installed throughout the grounds in time for the Garden luncheon in March.

They outline the many facets of the Garden, its restoration, and its importance to Eudora Welty not only in her writing but also throughout her life-time. These signs create a wonderfully informative and visual interpretation of the Garden for visitors.

One special feature of these signs includes a QR code! When scanned, the QR code directs you to a clip of Eudora Welty talking about her love of writing and reading. The EWHG staff welcomes you to try it out!



Visitors at the EWHG trying out the QR code.

# WELTY HOUSE AND GARDEN CELEBRATES 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GARDEN OPENING

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Welty Garden's opening to the public in 2004. Susan Haltom began the restoration in the mid-1990s and continues to supervise the garden volunteers today.

The Eudora Welty House and Garden celebrated the occasion with a special garden-themed luncheon at the Mississippi Museum of Art on March 27. There were over 240 friends and garden enthusiasts in attendance.

Julia Reed, humorist and author, was the keynote speaker. Other activities enjoyed during the luncheon included a word game frequently played by Eudora Welty and her friends and 1940s music.

Pryor Graeber performed the song "Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries," which inspired the

slogan "Don't take it cereus, life's too mysterious" for Eudora and friends' Night Blooming Cereus Club.

The tables were decorated in fresh green and pink each with unique flower arrangements made by members of the Garden Club of Jackson with blooms from their own backyards. Packets of morning glory seeds were the favors for each guest.

Camellias propagated from Welty's own camellias were also available for purchase. After the luncheon, guests were invited back to the EWHG for special tours of the Garden.

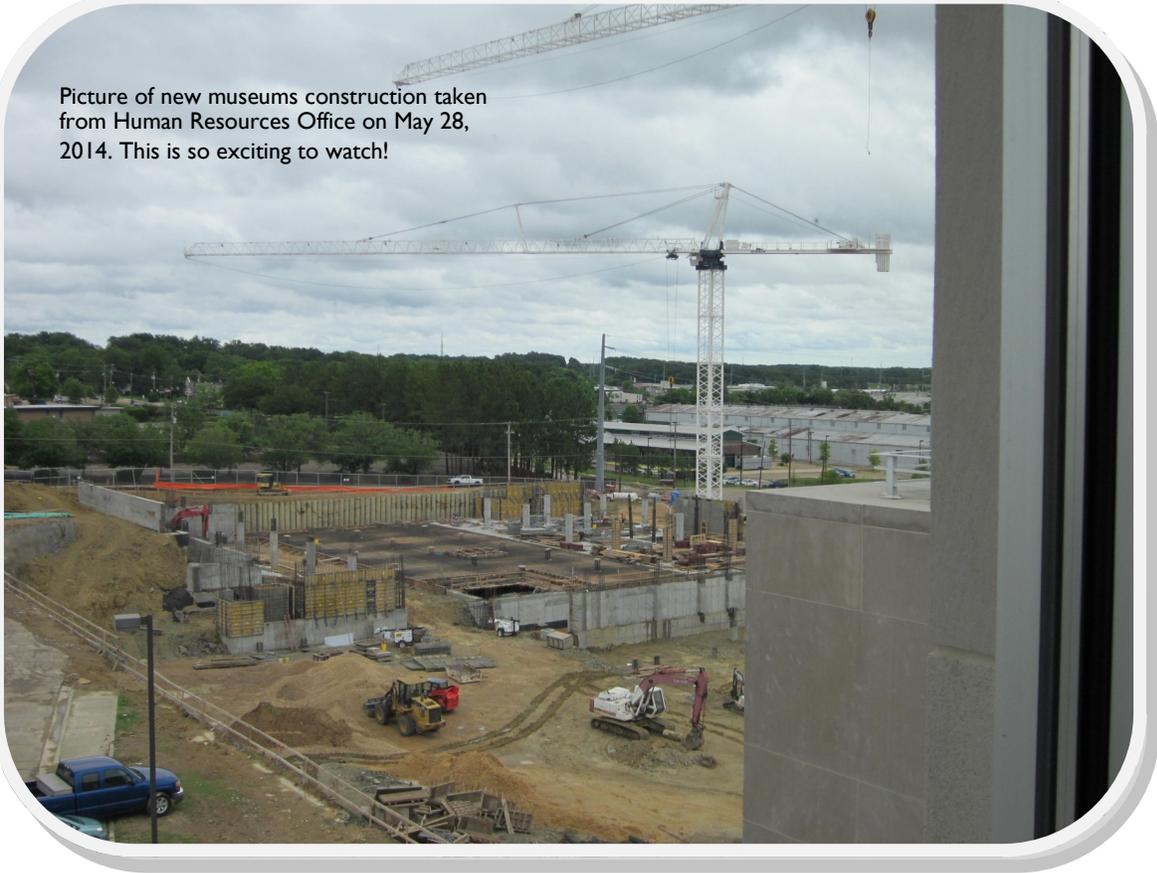
A big **THANK YOU** and **CONGRATULATIONS** goes to all of the dedicated Cereus Weeders who made this celebration a success!



1. Garden-themed tablescape  
 2. Flower arrangement by a member of the Garden Club of Jackson  
 3. Pryor Graeber singing "Life is Just a Bowl of Cherries"  
 4. Julia Reed speaking to the luncheon attendees.

# Bulletin Board

Picture of new museums construction taken from Human Resources Office on May 28, 2014. This is so exciting to watch!



## To see the MDAH Calendar of Events

Lots to do, people to see, places to go...click the link below.

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/category/events-category/>



The Mississippi Department of Archives and History was founded in 1902 and is the second-oldest state department of archives and history in the country. The mission of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History is to collect, preserve, protect, research, and interpret the state's rich and diverse historic resources and to promote the appreciation and use of those resources.