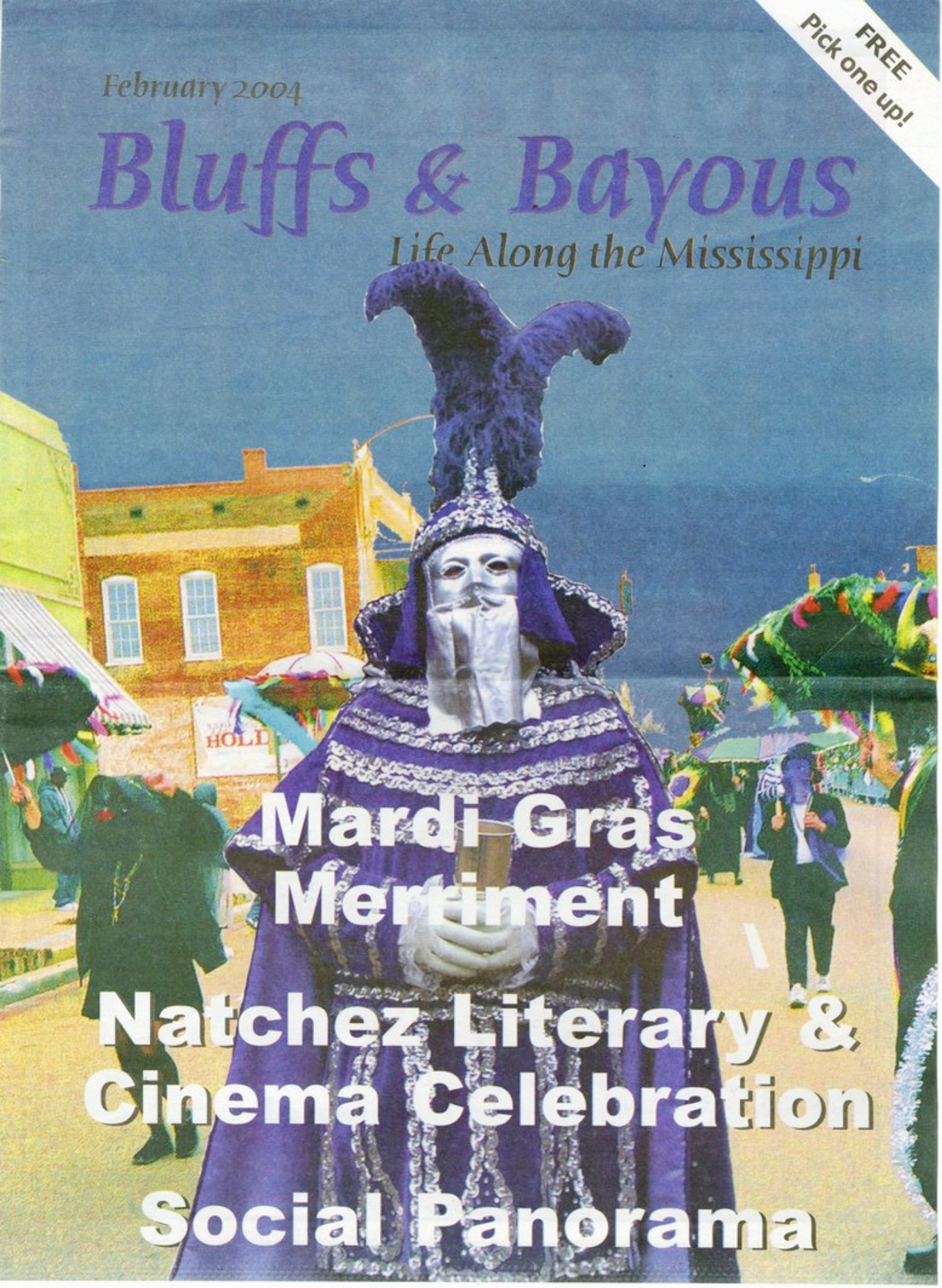
February 2004

Bluffs & Bayous

Life Along the Mississippi

FREE
Pick one up!



Mardi Gras Merriment

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

Social Panorama

2004 part 1
page 56

River Ramblings

"Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South"

Nearly three dozen programs, films, workshops, seminars, and discussion sessions will focus on "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South," the theme of the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The event, to be held February 25-29, 2004, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

A three-part pre-conference seminar costing $10 will take place the morning of Feburary 25 at Co-Lin. Concentrating on reading, teaching, and studying William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander, the seminar features three scholars: the Faulkner scholar Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi and the Walker scholars Maryemma Graham of the University of Kansas and Alferdteen Harrison of Jackson State University.

At 11:00 a.m. that day, Co-Lin's Student Support Services will join Co-Lin and the NLCC to present a free panel discussion called "Careers in the Public Arena: All About Relationships."

On the panel are Stuart Margolin, Natchez actor/producer and Emmy Award winner famous for his role in *The Rockford Files*; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Mississippi-born Pulitzer Prize nominee and author of *Eight Habits of the Heart* and numerous other books; and Natasha Threthewey, native Mississippian and award-winning poet who is a creative writing professor at Emory University, Atlanta, and author of *Domestic Work* and other books of poetry.

The conference officially begins at 2:00 p.m. February 25 at the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street. Kickoff speaker is former Mississippi Governor William F. Winter of Jackson, whose topic is "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South."

Other programs on February 25 include the following:

1. Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University, "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times"
2. Paul Stekler, University of Texas at Austin, editor/producer of the film *The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer*, part of the documentary *Vote for Me: Politics in America.*

Other dates, speakers, films, and program titles are as follows:

Thursday, February 26, 2004

3. Robert E. May, Purdue University, "John A. Quitman of Antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?"
4. Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi, "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics"

continued on page 14

2004 part 1
page 57

N-Sights

The campus newspaper of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

February 2004
Vol. 31, No. 4

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is around the corner

Stories, photos, Pages 9-11

2004 part 1
page 58

NLCC a way of life for Smith

By WESLEY STECKLER
N-Sights Staff
More on Pages 10-11

Here at Co-Lin, we have many faculty and staff members that share an active and involved lifestyle with the students. Some employees, however, are often seen, but their role on campus might not be readily evident.

One of those is Carolyn Vance Smith, the founder and co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which enters its 15th year later this month.

At one time, however, Smith was not only one of the busiest instructors, but she was the first instructor.

"I was the first person ever hired by Co-Lin to be the instructor of English and head of public relations in the winter of 1972-1973," Smith said. "I held that position for 25 years."

That was when the Natchez campus was small and faculty members were few in numbers. "Back then, I worked double duty teaching English and Journalism as well as heading public relations, so I wore a couple of hats," she said.

She added yet another hat - a rather large one - in 1990 when Smith founded the Natchez Literary Celebration. She retired from teaching and public relations in 1997 to take on the full responsibility for the celebration.

Smith's inspiration for the celebration began in Texas. "I attended a major educators' conference at the University of Texas in Austin in 1989," Smith said. "It was a big success attracting about 1,500 educators, so I said to Dr. Garner, (Dr. Howell C. Garner) who at that time was our dean, why don't we try to start a program on a smaller scale in Natchez?"

Smith wanted the event to focus on Natchez history and culture and have it accessible to the community. "We brought the conference to Natchez to make it less expensive and time consuming for the people of Natchez. This way, people didn't have to travel to New York or Memphis to attend," Smith said.

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION FEB. 25-29

The first Natchez Literary Celebration was held in June of 1990 and featured Eudora Welty. "We were very fortunate to have her support, and the first year we attracted more than 1,000 people. She participated in the event by reading her story 'A Worn Path' to a standing-room-only audience only at the Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall. We had about 300 people in the facility which holds about 75 (seated at tables), so needless to say the room was packed and the people did not mind paying to stand," Smith said.

One thing that makes Smith feel good about the event is the variety of people who attend. "What I like every year is to look at an audience that is mixed from all walks of life that have a common interest and that is books, films about books, documentaries about books or authors; and the people can be old or young, black or white, or highly educated, or just in the sixth grade," Smith said. "I enjoy the fact that the people in the audience can intermingle with the experts and there is no barrier between the people who have succeeded and the spectators in the audience learning."

Smith recalled some memorable moments at past celebrations. "Last year was our first year in the Natchez Convention Center, and we were showing a film … outside was a lightning storm. A bolt of lightning hit a transformer outside and the film as well as the lights went out. We quickly called for help, and technical people came, and we resumed the conference without a hitch. We later learned that a fireball that was as big as a one-story building was seen on the street after the transformer was struck but nobody was alarmed and we never missed a beat."

Even film stars have attended the celebration as Smith recalled. "Last year Billy Bob Thorton won the Horton Foote award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing, and after the conference he was very generous with his time and people came up with copies of his movies and screenplays as well as anything they could find for him to autograph and he was very glad to do so," Smith said.

Although the event was started as the Natchez Literary Celebration, the celebration also involved films, chiefly those about the writers or movies based on their books. Thus, it was natural, Smith said, for the celebration to be later called the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"It wasn't a new concept because we were realizing that we were using film aspects every time by showing documentaries and commercial films of different author's works and so Gerald McRaney, the actor from Mississippi, suggested we use the word film or cinema in the name of our event to capture that aspect. So we called it the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, so that is how it got its name," Smith said.

The literary celebration has affected Smith in many ways. "It has broadened my horizons about the people whose names I have just read on paper or seen on credits at the end of a movie … for me to realize that so many creative geniuses are just human beings and delightful to know."

She added, "What pleases all of us who work on this project is that Natchez is a big hit to all of these people who have come here. If they have never been here before, or if they are returning visitors, they can't wait to come back. So it pleases me to see Natchez in the eyes of other people and to know that it is a very beautiful and special place."

Smith said she plans to remain involved with the NLCC for many years to come. "I have retired from teaching, but I'll never retire from working or volunteering. I would like for someone to come on board of the leadership of the conference to learn the ropes in order to help me." Smith said.

"This project is so time-consuming that it could absolutely take over your life, and I'm not going to say that I would like to stop doing it, just that I need more help to make it continue to grow and be as good as it is," she said.

N-Sights staff photo by Mark LaFrancis

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration has taken on national prominence. The founder and co-chairman, Carolyn Vance Smith, envisioned the NLCC's success more than a decade ago.

A brief history of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was created in 1990 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Other organizations since have become involved as co-sponsors. They are the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council and corporate and business donors have helped keep the costs down to those who attend.

The celebration annually features about a dozen lectures by nationally known scholars and writers, enhanced by related films, tours, booksignings, exhibits, plays, readings, concerts, entertainments and meals.

The conference has won many awards, including the Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement; a Cultural Olympiad award for outstanding programming from the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games; the Most Outstanding Festival or Event in Mississippi from the Mississippi Tourism Commission; and the Public Humanities Achievement Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

2004 part 1
page 59

NLCC winners have common bond: Natchez

By MARK LaFRANCIS
N-Sights Staff

A common thread links the three writers to be honored at the 2004 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

On one word: Natchez.

All three have literary - and emotional - connections to the river city.

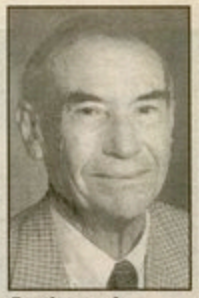
First there is Greg Iles, Natchez native and resident. He is to receive the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

Next is Dr. William Kauffman Scarborough, professor of history at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. He, too, is to receive the Richard Wright Award. Scarborough's latest book, "Master's of the Big House," about elite slaveholders of the mid-19th Century has extensive references to Natchez homes and families.

Finally, there is Gail Gilchriest of Lost Angeles and Texas. She will receive the Horton Foote Award for Screenplay Writing. Gilchriest has been to Natchez several times, including attending the wedding of a friend several years ago. Each time she is in town, Gilchriest said, "It's a blast every time."

The three will be the honored guests at the NLCC's annual awards ceremony Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Natchez Convention Center. The 15th annual celebration's theme is "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." The event opens Wednesday, Feb. 25 at Co-Lin, and concludes Sunday, Feb. 29, also at Co-Lin.

Iles



Scarborough

Gilchriest

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
FEB. 25-29

Greg Iles

Iles has been a prolific writer since his first book, "Spandau Phoenix, was published in 1992. He could not be reached for this story because he is deeply involved in writing his next novel. Since "Spandau Phoenix," Iles has written five more successful novels, and his works are becoming customary listings on The New York Times Besteller List. He also penned a screenplay for his novel, "24 Hours," which was developed into a movie called, "Trapped." That film will be shown for the first time in Natchez immediately after the awards ceremony.

Iles was born in Germany, where his father, Dr. Jerry W. Iles, ran the U.S. Embassy Medical Clinic during the height of the Cold War. He spent his youth in Natchez and graduated from Trinity Episcopal Day School, where he played football.

According to Iles' web site, "gregiles.com" "Greg is a film nut. He also loves watching movies with his children."

Also, "Greg feels he learned the most about writing during grade school and high school, where he had wonderful teachers. He doesn't think an authorial voice can be taught to anyone, but that creativity can and should be nurtured and supported during a child's early education.

"Greg's father is a doctor much like Tom Cage in 'The Quiet Game,' with a library much like the one in that character's home. It was there, surrounded by all those books, that Greg first imagined himself writing for a living."

The site said, "He reads extensively about the origin of the universe and quantum physics, and those subjects play a part in his next novel. He also reads a great deal of fiction, often rereading novels by his favorite authors to discover new perspectives that he missed in prior readings."

Dr. William Scarborough

"I was very surprised and delighted to learn that I was to be a recipient of the Richard Wright Award," Scarborough said in an interview from his USM office. "To be compared with some of the distinguished past recipients is a high honor indeed. I'm not sure that I deserve it."

In his latest book, he chronicles the lives of one of the most powerful groups in American history, the 340 wealthy planters and slave owners in the South, including many references to plantation owners in Natchez.

"I would hope that the readers would get a greater understanding of and appreciation for this very remarkable class of elite slaveholders. I should think readers in Natchez and Charleston, the two great residential citadels of my cohort, would relate most directly to the men and women in my book."

A native of Annapolis, Md., his father was a math professor at the U.S. Naval Academy. "It is from him that I learned to love the South. I received most of my higher education at the University of North Carolina, and have spent the last 43 years in Mississippi."

Scarborough said, "Personally, I am opinionated (and sometimes abrasive, I fear), conservative politically, and very much devoted to the South and to Southern history. I am motivated to write by the desire to make the past come alive for current readers - especially the younger generation whose ignorance of history is sometimes appalling. And I suppose I write also for a sense of personal achievement. Actually, the research is much more exciting that the writing, but the latter flows fairly easily once I get into it."

Scarborough's research for "Master's of the Big House" was so extensive he needed 17 pages for his bibliography. "Most of the material on Natchez came from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Jackson, the Center for American History at the University of Texas-Austin, and the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collection at Louisiana State University."

Gail Gilchriest

Most noted for her screenplay adaptation of "My Dog Skip," based on the novel by Willie Morris, Gilchriest is eager to return to Natchez. "My affinity for Natchez outlasted my friend's marriage," she said. She also wrote a television play based on Eudora Welty's famous work, "The Ponder Heart," which aired on "Masterpiece Theatre," and was shown at the NLCC last year. In all, she has crafted seven screenplays, television plays or documentaries.

Like Scarborough's reaction to winning the Richard Wright Award, Gilchriest also expressed surprise at being selected for the Horton Foote Award. "Horton Foote, Billy Bob Thornton and ... Gail Gilchriest. I'm still not sure there hasn't been some sort of mistake," she said in an interview from her California home. Gilchriest referred to Thornton, the most recent Horton Foote Award recipient during the 2003 NLCC.

"I have met Horton Foote," she said. "His daughter, Daisy, who's also a playwright and screenwriter, is a friend. I met him at her birthday party in New York, and we gossiped briefly ..."

A native of Silsbee, Texas, Gilchriest said she has had ups and downs in her career.

"Every now and then, I'll have a writing day that's pure euphoria, but for every one of those, there are 50 days of drudgery. I'd have to say I agree with the theory that it's more enjoyable to have written than to write. That said, the day 'My Dog Skip' premiered ranks up there as one of my best."

Writing screenplays, she said, is the most enjoyable writing form for her. "I tried my hand at non-fiction, and I wasn't very good at it," Gilchriest said.

"I was always tempted to run with the story and make it better. ... write my own dialogue or change the ending. So, some sort of fiction writing seemed in order. I didn't have the patience for novels nor the skill for short stories, plays or poetry. So here I am. Film offers the best medium for the kind of stories I want to tell."

NLCC working to match $100,000 grant from national endowment

A campaign to raise $100,000 over the next two years in order to receive a $100,000 Matching Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities was kicked off Feb. 11 by leaders of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"We are very encouraged by many civic-minded people who have agreed to serve on the Fundraising Committee," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the NLCC. "We think raising the matching money will be a challenge, but it is doable."

The money will be used to establish an endowment for the conference, Smith said. "Proceeds from the endowment will assure that the event will live in perpetuity. We are delighted to have this national stamp of approval from the NEH."

Co-chairmen and sponsors with Smith and Copiah-Lincoln are Keith Whisenant, the Natchez National Historical Park; Jim Barnett, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon, Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

"We have until July 31, 2004, to raise the first $30,000 of the Matching Grant," Smith said. The next level of $40,000 must be raised by July 31, 2005, with the remaining amount due by July 31, 2006.

"If we don't raise the required amount by each deadline, we lose it," Smith said. "Some people already know this, and donations are coming in."

Another fund-raiser during the upcoming NLCC is a raffle of major items, all donated by area merchants and individuals.

Among the raffle packages are a Natchez Balloon Race weekend, a Natchez Pilgrimage weekend, a "Memories" package that includes a sitting by Natchez photographer T.G. McCary, a Gone With the Wind package and a great books package.

Raffle tickets are only $10 each.

2004 part 1
page 60

A look at the NLCC schedule Feb. 25-29

Special to *N-Sights*

What do Johnny Cash, Rose Hill Baptist Church and Monmouth Plantation have in common with Huey Long, George Wallace, William Winter and Marshall Ramsey? They all have roots in the politics of the Deep South.

Learn how their individual talents, locations and public policy decisions have shaped the regional and national political landscape during the 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC), Feb. 25 - 29. The mostly free, five-day conference explores the South's varying political climates through films, writings, story-telling, drawings, music, discussion sessions, parties and a tour of historic sites.

Pre-conference Seminars Copiah-Lincoln Natchez Feb. 25

The celebration kicks off at Copiah-Lincoln Community College with four pre-conference seminars on Feb. 25. The first three cost $10 and feature the techniques of reading, teaching and studying the works of William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander. Leading the seminars are Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi; Alferdteen Harrison, Jackson State University; and Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas.

The fourth features a discussion about how relationships have created, sustained or ended sustained political careers. Panelists are Stuart Margolin of New York and Natchez ("The Rockford Files"), Barry Phillips of Dallas (PBS' "Wishbone"), and the poet Natasha Trethewey of Atlanta's Emory University ("Domestic Work").

Conference Opening Ceremonies - Natchez Convention Center

The NLCC kicks off at 2 p.m. with former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter presenting a look at "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South." The first day includes Robert V. Haynes' "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times" and ends with "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," a documentary film from "Vote for Me: Politics in America" by Paul Stekler of the University of Texas at Austin.

Feb. 26

The second day of the NLCC explores the politics of three of the most powerful leaders in Mississippi and Louisiana. Professors Robert E. May, Purdue University; Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University; and Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, talk about John A. Quitman, Theodore G. Bilbo, and Huey Long. A screening of the documentary "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long" will follow. A highlight of the day will be a talk by Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, on editing the most recent edition of Robert Penn Warren's All the King's Men.

At 7:30 p.m., a cinematic version will be shown of one of the undisputed classics of American literature, All the King's Men, based on the Robert Penn Warren 1946 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. Fifty years after the novel's publication, Warren's characters still stand as powerful representations of the moral dilemmas faced by individuals in positions of power.

Feb. 27

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Eudora Welty is revered for her writings and photography. But which of her words described her political views? Welty scholar Peggy Whitman Prenshaw of Millsaps College (Conversations with Eudora Welty) will lead a discussion of Welty's political views in fiction and non-fiction.

Next is another Paul Stekler documentary film, George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire. The film details the political and personal views of Alabama Gov. George Wallace from his early days as a segregationist to his later years as a civil-rights supporter.

A luncheon at the Carriage House at Stanton Hall ($20) is followed by a light-hearted musical program by Allen Dennis, Troy State University, called "The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash." After lunch is a discussion of the documentary film by Wendi Berman and Brian Gary (Flying Chaucer Films, Los Angeles) titled "Jefferson Davis: An American President."

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
FEB. 25-29
WWW.COLIN.EDU/NLCC

Scholars and history buffs alike will find the afternoon's tours and reception both educational and entertaining. From 2:30 - 5 p.m. guided tours of three Natchez sites associated with politics - The Briars (home of Jefferson Davis); Monmouth (home of John A. Quitman), and Rose Hill Baptist Church (site of civic and political meetings) will take place. The $20 tour includes transportation, guide and refreshments.

The Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture is the location for a reception honoring NLCC speakers. The $10 fee includes a tour of the museum and refreshments.

At 8 p.m., a lively discussion will take place with some of the South's best political cartoonists, including Bruce Plante of the Chattanooga Times Free Press and Marshall Ramsey of *The Clarion Ledger* in Jackson, Miss.

Feb. 28

Morning sessions feature a look at Jefferson Davis as a politician by William J. Cooper Jr., Louisiana State University; the political conflicts faced by Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith by Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University; and how poetry has captured the historic essence of political memories by Natasha Trethewey, Emory University.

Afternoon sessions begin with author Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., who will pay tribute to former Mississippi House of Representatives Speaker Pro Tem Robert G. Clark in a talk called "A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence."

Probably the most anticipated program is a panel discussion, "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" by four Mississippi journalists, Donald Adderton, Greenville, and Bill Minor, Emily Wagster Pettus and Sid Salter, Jackson. Moderating will be Gene Edwards of Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

At 3:45 p.m., Mississippi Public Broadcasting will present an original documentary featuring three of Mississippi's most notable authors. "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr, and John Grisham" is a candid conversation about the authors' love of writing and their bodies of work.

Awards Ceremony

At 6:30 p.m., a host of stars will celebrate the humanities and win awards for their work. Natchez author Greg Iles ("The Footprints of God, 24 Hours, Spandau Phoenix") and University of Southern Mississippi professor William K. Scarborough ("Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid Nineteenth-Century South" and "The Overseer") will win the 2004 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards.

Winning the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing is Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles for her screenplays, including Willie Morris' "My Dog Skip," Eudora Welty's "The Ponder Heart" and "Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!"

Participating in the ceremony are former Mississippi Gov. William Winter, University of Southern Mississippi history professor John Guice and Mississippi Film Commission Director Ward Emling.

"Trapped" A movie by Greg Iles

At 8 p.m. is a screening of "Trapped" by Greg Iles, a major motion film adapted from the kidnapping thriller 24 Hours, also written by Iles. The movie features actors Kevin Bacon and Charlize Theron. Presented at the Natchez Convention Center the movie will be followed with a coffee house discussion led by Iles, Emling and Dixon McDowell, University of Southern Mississippi.

Feb. 29

Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops - Copiah-Lincoln Community College

The final day of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 29, is reserved for the writer in all of us. A $10 fee allows participants a choice of two sessions at the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, one from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m., the second from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Workshop presenters include Gail Gilchriest on screenwriting; Maryemma Graham on how Black writers write; James Mesker, Cleveland, Ohio, on utilizing primary resources; Wendi Berman and Brian Gary on documentary filmmaking; and Elfrieda Abbe, editor, *The Writer* magazine, on getting articles published. (Students free with ID card.)

Reception

The fictional Mississippi county of Homochitto has been the setting of numerous short stories and novels of author Ellen Douglas, better known as Natchez native Josephine Ayres Haxton. The NLCC salutes Douglas' many contributions to the literary world during a reception at Copiah-Lincoln Community College at 10:30 a.m. For more information and to buy tickets to the seminars, luncheon, tour, reception, Gloucester party and workshops, visit the NLCC website at www.colin.edu/nlcc or call toll-free 866-296-6522 or email Christy.Williams@colin.edu.

'The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is successful for several reasons: the richness of its humanities content, the happy choice of program participants, and the virtually flawless execution of a carefully planned program.'

— Dr. Charles Lowery, chairman, history department at Mississippi State University

2004 part 1
page 61

Publicity 2004

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration Presents

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:

Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25-29, 2004 • Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST

Lectures - Films - Book Signings - Workshops - Exhibits – Tours

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Natasha Trethewey, Will Campbell, and more

Photo courtesy of Courtney Aldridge

Greg Iles

FREE AWARDS CEREMONY HONORING

Greg Iles (*24 Hours, The Footprints of God*)
William Scarborough (*Masters of the Big House*)
Gail Gilchriest (filmscript of *My Dog Skip*)

6:30 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, 2004
Natchez Convention Center, Main Street

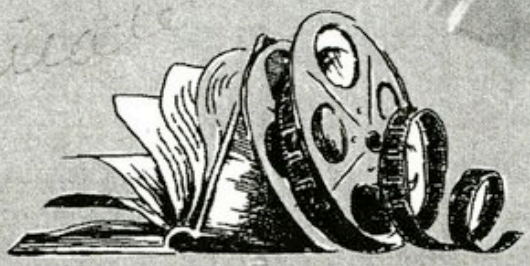
Gala Party Afterward Honoring Award Winners
The Historic Mansion Gloucester
$125 per person ($100 tax-deductible); limited to 100 people

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

2004 part 1
page 62



Design by William M Smith Jr New Orleans

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

Scoundrels to Statesmen: *Politics in the Deep South*

February 25-29, 2004
Natchez, Mississippi
Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST
Lectures - Films - Book Signings
Workshops - Exhibits - Tours

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Clifton Taulbert, William Winter, Natasha Trethwey, Will Campbell, and more

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.
Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting

2004 part 1
page 63

SW **********CAR-RT WSS**R006

3963

MARION SMITH
270 FOSTER MOUND RD
NATCHEZ MS 39120-9065
SW S30 P1

Today
IN MISSISSIPPI

Periodical postage (ISSN 1052 2433)
February 2004

Mississippi Events

Explore the mystery of bats

• **15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration,** Feb. 25-29, Natchez. Lectures, films, writing workshops, exhibits, panel discussions, awards ceremony, guided tours and more relating to conference theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Natchez Convention Center. Most events free or low cost. Details: (601) 446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6522; Web site: www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2004 part 1
page 64

Mississippi History NEWSLETTER
MDAH
Published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Elbert R. Hilliard, director
Chrissy Wilson, editor
http://www.mdah.state.ms.us
Mailing address: MHN, P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571
Volume 46 No.2
February 2004

Monument Honors African Americans

On Saturday, February 14, 2004, at 10:30 a.m., a monument will be unveiled at the Vicksburg National Military Park commemorating the service of the 1st and 3d Mississippi Infantry Regiments, African Descent (re-designated the 51st and 53d U. S. Colored Troops or USCT, respectively) and the participation of all Mississippians of African descent in the Vicksburg Campaign. The monument and dedication are sponsored by the Mississippi African American Monument Committee, the City of Vicksburg, and the Vicksburg National Military Park. A reception will follow the dedication.

This monument is the only monument in a national military park that honors the service of the USCT. Of the more than 200,000 USCT who served in the Civil War, ten percent were Mississippians. Descendants of the USCT will be recognized during the dedication. Descendants should confirm their ancestry and attendance by contacting the committee chair at usctmonument@yahoo.com.

The monument initiative was started in 1988 by Robert Major Walker, former mayor of Vicksburg and currently professor of history at Jackson State University and chair of the Mississippi African American Monument Committee. Dr. Kim Sessums of Brookhaven is the sculptor of the monument. The initiative received support from the African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; the City of Vicksburg; and the National Park Service. For more information, contact the Vicksburg National Military Park at 601/ 636-0583.

Mississippi History NOW

For advance reading on the topic for the Mississippi Historical Society 2004 annual meeting—the Great Depression and the New Deal in Mississippi—visit Mississippi History NOW at http://mshistory.k12.ms.us/ and read Martha Swain's article, "Women's Work Relief in the Great Depression," the feature article for February. Also of special interest as Mississippi inaugurates a new governor is the January feature, "Mississippi's Governors from 1817 to 2004," by David G. Sansing.

Historic Natchez Conference: February 11-14 in Natchez. Call 601/ 442-2500.

Natchez Literary/ Cinema Celebration: February 25-29 in Natchez. Call 866/ 296-6522.

Mississippi Historical Society: March 4-6 in Tupelo. Call 601/ 576-68549.

February Events

Black History Month

On **Tuesdays and Thursdays** throughout February, from 9 to 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon at the **Old Capitol Museum of Mississippi History,** Jackson, fourth- through ninth-grade students will tour the museum, learning about the **contributions of African Americans to Mississippi history.** Reservations required. For more information call 601/ 576-6920. Funding provided by BellSouth.

During February local and regional classes of first- and fourth-graders will make **field trips to Historic Jefferson College,** Washington, to learn about **craftsman Nathan Bennett and the slave Ibrahima.** For more information call 601/ 442-2901.

On **Sunday, February 22, at 2:00 p.m., Alan Huffman,** Bolton, will talk about his new book, ***Mississippi In Africa: The Saga of the Slaves of Prospect Hill Plantation and Their Legacy in Liberia Today,*** in the House of Representatives Chamber, Old Capitol Museum. Afterwards he will sign copies of the book, available at the Old Capitol Shop. For information call 601/ 576-6920.

Valentines

Children ages five to twelve are invited to learn about and make **Victorian-style valentines** on Thursday, February 12, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the **Manship House Museum,** Jackson. Free of charge. Reservations required. For more information call 601/ 961-4724.

On **Saturday, February 14,** 7 to 10 p.m., at the **Winterville Mounds, Greenville,** Winterville historian Jan Taylor will discuss **Native American Romance Rituals.** Free of charge. For information call 662/ 334-4684.

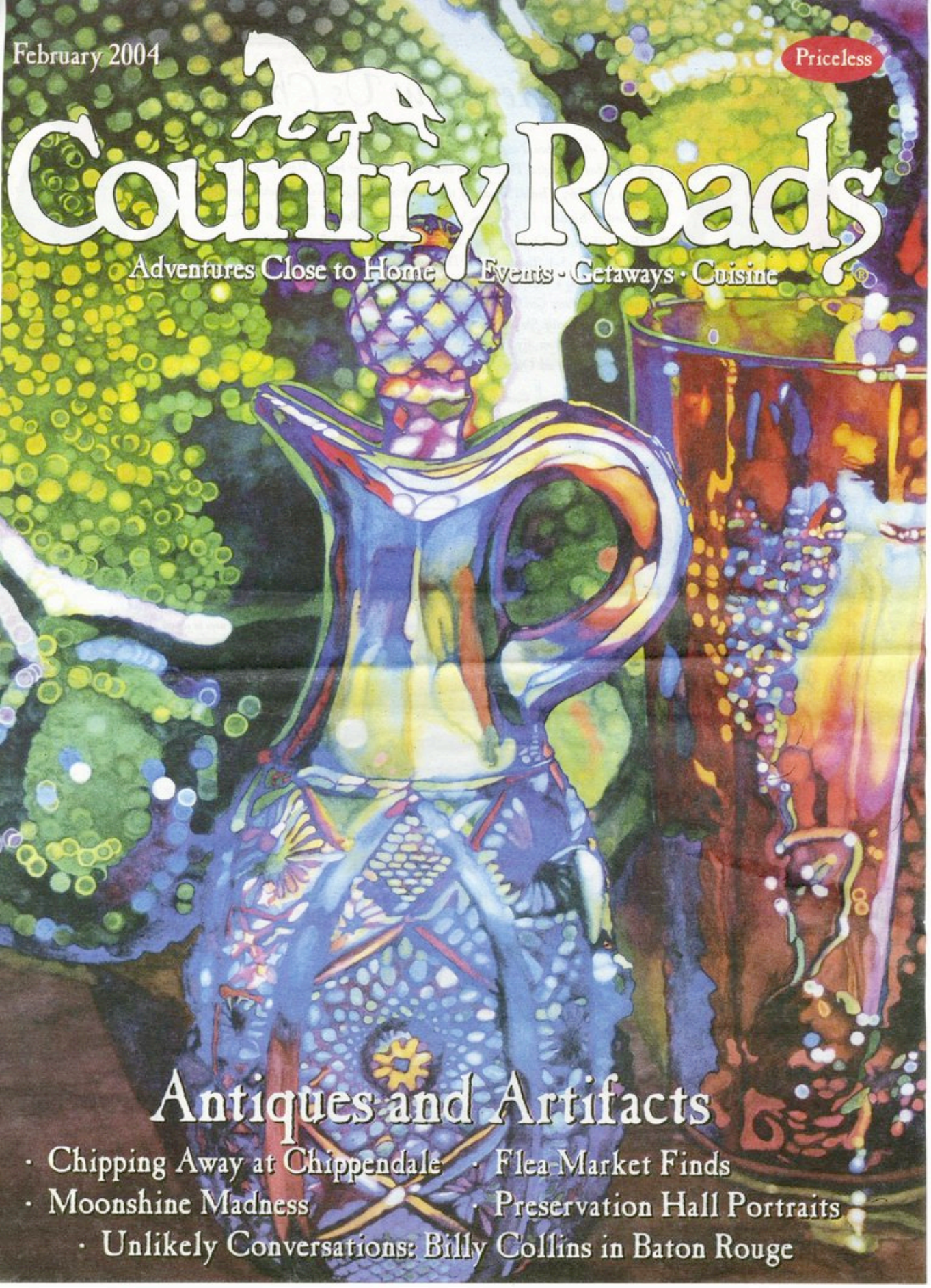
Awards Ceremony

The Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts ceremonies will be held **Friday, February 13,** from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Old Capitol Museum of Mississippi History, Jackson. Established in 1988, these awards recognize significant contributions to artistic life in Mississippi and are coordinated each year by the Mississippi Arts Commission. For more information call the Mississippi Arts Commission at 601/ 359-6090.

Historic Preservation Conference

Plan to attend the April 22-23, 2004, "Experience Mississippi" Historic Preservation Conference in Hattiesburg for educational sessions on historic Mississippi downtowns and a mobile workshop in historic downtown Hattiesburg. Professional preservationists will lead sessions and tours. The conference is sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Mississippi Heritage Trust.

2004 part 1
page 65



2004 part 1
page 66

Country Roads
Published Since 1983

Publisher Dorcas Woods Brown
Associate Publisher
Ashley Fox-Smith

EDITORIAL & PRODUCTION
Editor
James Fox-Smith
Assistant Editor Sandy Glass
Special Guest Editor C.E. Richard

Graphic Design
Mike Bourgeois, Elizabeth Badeaux, Jennifer Wilson
Art Director Anna Macedo

Contributors
Bob Coke, Robert H. Goldberg, Eileen Hale, Lucile Bayon Hume, Sarah Spell, Lili LeGardeur, Brenda Maitland, Ed O' Rourke, C.E. Richard, Maggie Heyn Richardson, Joseph Sanford, Leon Standifer

ADVERTISING
(225) 924-9916
1-800-582-1792
sales@countryroadsmag.com

Sales Manager
Rikki Broussard

Account Executives
Alison Seamster, Shelly Smith, Anne Spurlock

Advertising Coordinator
Meredith Smith

SUBSCRIPTIONS HOTLINE
1-800-582-1792
ISSN # 8756-906X
Copyrighted. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced without permission of the publisher. The opinions expressed in *Country Roads* magazine are those of the authors or columnists and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher, nor do they constitute an endorsement of products or services herein. *Country Roads* magazine retains the right to refuse any advertisement.

Country Roads cannot be responsible for delays in subscription deliveries due to U.S. Post Office handling of third-class mail.

Please address correspondence to:
Country Roads magazine
340 St. Joseph St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
editorial@countryroadsmag.com

In Baton Rouge
Phone (225) 924-9916
Fax (225) 924-9727
In St. Francisville
Phone (225) 635-9118

www.countryroadsmag.com

Contents

February 2004 Volume 21 Number 2

"Adventures Close to Home"

photo by Phil Ward

Throughout Louisiana flea markets, shoppers find the cluttered collective memory of the region (and maybe a few things—like big-haired '70s pop stars—best left forgotten.) *See page 41.*

Features

Trash, Treasures and Flea Market Finds 41
Off on a junk shop junket, a writer searches for the perfect something-or-other
by Sarah Spell

Chipping Away at the Chippendale Myth 46
Thomas Chippendale's exquisite furnishings have made his name a byword for fine antique artistry. But they didn't make him rich.
by Robert H. Goldberg

Unlikely Conversations 55
Former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins comes to Baton Rouge
by Lili LeGardeur

Regulars

6 Editorial Reflections
by James Fox-Smith

8 Tittles & Jots
—News and Noteworthies

10 *Country Roads* Map

11 Calendar of Events

59 Photo Essay
—Preservation Hall Jazz Portraits
by Bob Coke

64 Weekends Away
—The Natchez Literary Festival
by Eileen Hale

70 Lawnchair Gardeners
—Native Americans and Obnoxious Aliens
by Ed O'Rourke and Leon Standifer

72 Visual Arts
—Jazz photography of Bob Coke
by Joseph Sanford

74 Cuisine
—Renaissance on Tchoupitoulas
by Brenda Maitland

80 — A Chicken in Every Pot: Courier de Mardi Gras
by Maggie Heyn Richardson

78 Recipes

82 Folk Wisdom
—Moonshine Madness
by Lucile Bayon Hume

84 A Mile in His Shoes
—A Bit of Forgery
by C.E. Richard

On the Cover:

Carnival Lights, Watercolor
Tommie Hollingsworth-Williams

For this Mardi Gras melange of colored crystal titled "Carnival Lights," artist Tommie Hollingsworth-Williams of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, won a Memorial Award in the 2002 Mississippi Watercolor Society's Grand National Exhibition at the Mississippi Museum of Art, as well as Best of Show in the Member Show. Painting since 1993, Hollingsworth-Williams is represented by Southern Breeze Gallery in Jackson and A Gallery in Hattiesburg. http://home.earthlink.net/~hollingsworthwms/

2004 part 1
page 67

...ave a way of making even their dis-... humid South. The elder statesmen of ... workshops that begins February 24.

Calendar of Events

magazine, then you might already be acquainted with our beloved, bickering, bantering Lawnchair Gardeners, Ed O'Rourke, Jr., and Leon Standifer. But long before the two gardening gurus began contributing a column to these pages, they were LSU professors of horticulture. This month, they return to their roots (so to speak) as teachers with a six-week course through Lagniappe Studies Unlimited, part of LSU's Continuing Education program for folks over fifty. Their course takes its name from the title of their book, *Gardening in the Humid South*, but the specifics of what they'll cover are up to their students; those attending the class should make a list of the topics that are of most interest to them and bring it to the first meeting.

Beginning on February 24, the class will meet every Tuesday morning at Broadmoor Methodist Church until March 30 from 9:30 am–11:30. It's limited to forty students and, knowing the following that Ed and Leon have developed over the years, it's expected to fill up fast. (225) 766-3688.

February 24: Mardi Gras: Lagniappe Tours, New Orleans, La.—For those interested in heading down to New Orleans for Mardi Gras, Lagniappe Tours will take care of all the details. For members of the Foundation for Historical Louisiana, $90 covers the cost of the luxury coach, reserved seating tickets and lunch at Le Pavillon Hotel. For non-members, it's $100. Buses fill fast for this, so book early. (225) 387-2464.

February 25: Skills for Living: The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's, Baton Rouge, La.—Through a special partnership with Louisiana Public Broadcasting, Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area invites family caregivers to attend its February lunch 'n learn session. The program will feature a summary of the LPB program based on David Shenk's book *The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's*—the first to tackle the entire spectrum of the issues facing Alzheimer's sufferers and their families. A question-and-answer session will follow. Noon–1 pm at Louisiana Public Broadcasting, 7733 Perkins Road. Free, but reservations are required. (225) 334-7494.

February 25—29: Cultural Program: Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Natchez, Miss.— The only spectator sport Southerners cherish more than SEC football is politics. With players like Thomas Jefferson, John C. Calhoun, Andrew Jackson, Huey P. and Earl Long, George Wallace, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, we are well cast for great drama, as well as for the theatre of the absurd. So this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration presents "Statesmen to Scoundrels: Politics in the Deep South," and the conference is as stuffed as an Alabama ballot box with intriguing events.

"More than two dozen nationally known scholars, historians, writers and film experts will present fascinating programs about the Southern political world," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin Natchez, founder and co-chairman of the conference. "These programs include biographical sketches of early political leaders, the political leanings of Eudora Welty and a discussion of Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*, both the book and the film based on the life of Louisiana's colorful Huey P. Long."

Tours of historic mansions occupied by early Mississippi political leaders, commercial and documentary films, panel discussions, writing workshops, an awards ceremony honoring the writers Greg Iles of Natchez and William Scarborough of the University of Southern Mississippi and screenplay writer Gail Gilchriest of Texas and Los Angeles, exhibits, parties and more are on tap, Smith said.

"We always have fun at this conference," she said. "This year Dr. Allen Dennis, a musician who is also a major historian, will present a program based on political statements in the songs of Johnny Cash. He will sing and accompany himself on the guitar."

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is so full of fun and interesting things to do that it spills out of February and overflows into a unique riverboat cruise scheduled for April. (See related article on page 64.) The conference will take place at the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street, with some events scheduled at neighboring Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Most of the conference is free. For ticket information and a full schedule of events, call 866-296-6522 or 601-446-1289, or visit the NLCC web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

February 27: Genealogy: Natchez

2004 part 1
page 68

Weekends Away

During the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration this year, Natchez-based Greg Iles, autho of Black Cross, Mortal Fear, 24 Hours, Sleep No More *and* The Footprints o God, *will be presented with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award. There will also b a screening of Iles' film* Trapped, *with a coffee house discussion to follow.*

2004 part 1
page 69

said Smith. "We'll talk about certain stories as we get to specific cities, such as *All the King's Men* in Baton Rouge because of Huey Long. This is going to be a lot of fun, a fabulous mixture of genius and creativity." Along the way, travelers will get to disembark in various cities for live musical performances, too: jazz in New Orleans, choirs in Natchez, rock and roll in the Delta and blues in Memphis. Other stops with shore excursions include Baton Rouge and Vicksburg. Guests will also be able to attend seminars on combining different kinds of writing careers—film, books, magazines, poetry—and inter-relating them in successful ways. The cruise will also feature dramatic readings of works by authors including Mark Twain, William Faulkner and Eudora Welty, who looked to the Mississippi and found inspiration in its swollen flow. Readings come courtesy of presenters including Stuart Margolin, presenting selections from Twain, Ernest Gaines, Walker Percy and Richard Wright, among others.

"I'm excited about the trip, imagining what I'll hear and see and learn. It will be an educational experience, but I'm also excited about the journey, the mode of travel on the river," said Margolin. If the cruise fills up, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will be one-quarter of the way to its goal of raising the $100,000 in matching funds required to pocket the National Endowment for the Humanities grant. That nest egg would secure a vital source of funding for the festival in years to come. "This would insure the viability of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration years after I'm gone," mused Smith. It is a vision that could preserve, protect and forward the

February 12, 2004

To: Natchez-area hotels/motels/B&B inns

From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Re: 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004

I am writing to tell you that the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will take place this year for five days and four nights, Wed.-Sun., Feb. 25-29, 2004. Many people will arrive on Tues., Feb. 24.

We expect to attract another large number of people from out of town. In fact, some have already called our office concerning housing in Natchez. We routinely send them to the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau and Natchez Pilgrimage Tours for advice.

However, several have called us back to tell us that they have called several hotels/motels only to have registration personnel tell them they do not know anything about the Celebration!

Will you please take a minute to look over the enclosed NLCC brochure with complete agenda? Also, please be sure your personnel have seen the brochure and know about the Celebration.

If you wish, you can find out more about the NLCC by visiting our web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc. Please call me if I can be of any help to you. My direct line is 601-446-1208. My e-mail address is Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu.

Thank you for all you are doing to help us with this prestigious event.

Colson, Marsha

From: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2004 4:12 PM
To: Colson, Marsha
Subject: memo to inns, B&Bs, hotels

Please copy the letter onto NLCC letterhead, enclose an NLCC brochure, and send to:

1. The Burn, 712 N. Union St.
2. Cedar Grove Plantation, 617 Kingston Road
3. Dunleith, 84 Homochitto St.
4. Wensel House, 206 Washington St.
5. Gov. Holmes House, 207 S. Wall St.
6. Guest House Historic Inn, 201 N. Pearl St.
7. Lisle House, 205 State St.
8. Mary Magnolia's B&B, 501 Madison St.
9. Myrtle Corner, 600 State St.
10. Riverside, 211 Clifton Ave.
11. The Victorian, 610 N. Pearl St.
12. Weymouth Hall, 1 Cemetery Road
13. White Hall Plantation B&B, 919 Hwy 131, Vidalia, LA 71373
14. Comfort Inn, 337 D'Evereux Dr.
15. Days Inn of Natchez, 109 Hwy 61 South
16. Natchez Eola Hotel, 110 N. Pearl St.
17. Ramada Inn Hilltop, 130 John R. Junkin Dr.
18. Travel Inn, 271-A D'Evereux Dr.
19. Western Inn, 271 D'Evereux Dr.
20. Budget Inn, 700 Carter St., Vidalia, LA 71373
21. Comfort Suites Riverfront, 100 Front St., Vidalia, LA 71373
22. Natchez Inn, 218 John R. Junkin Dr.
23. Scottish Inn Motel, Hwy 61 North, Natchez
24. Super Inn, 40 S. S. Prentiss Dr.
25. Terrace Motel, Hwy 61 North, Natchez

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Educational Travel Associates, Inc./Elderhostel
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
Email: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Web site for Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
www.colin.edu/nlcc

2/12/2004

2004 part 1
page 71

A Literary Getaway

The writers, directors, actors, films and tours that comprise the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration make Natchez one smart destination during February. A Literature, Lore and Lyrics cruise in April adds even more.

by Eileen Hale

If there is any truth at all to the oft-employed adage that "smart is sexy," then the city of Natchez might prove irresistible this month. That's because each year, the Bluff City presents an opportunity to curl up with not just a good book, but also with some good movies, some celebrated actors, a couple of authors, a screenwriter or two, and more besides during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Between February 25 and 29, writers, actors, directors and scholars descend on Natchez to present readings and tours, lectures and film screenings and writers' workshops. Events take place at historically significant venues all about town and even on the river: this year there's an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Mark Twain himself and set sail on the waters of the mighty Mississippi. For attendees, the Celebration is a chance to rub shoulders with renowned literati as they explore the power of the written word to capture Southern culture in print, on stage and on screen, and be part of the Magnolia State's best-read weeklong getaway.

"We're trying to explain our place in the worldwide scheme of things," said Carolyn Vance Smith, of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Founder, she defines its mission. "The purpose of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is to bring to Natchez an annual thematic humanities event that ties together and expands the knowledge and appreciation of the historical, literary, political, social, artistic, and natural heritage of Mississippi and the South. The event celebrates the region's

Photo by Ben Hillyer

Besides being the oldest church in Mississippi, the Rose Hill Baptist Church is also a vital center of the community, hosting decades of civil and political meetings. The church is one of the stops on the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's itinerary this year.

Actor, director, and now Natchez resident, Stuart Margolin (left) has appeared in twenty-five movies and over two hundred television shows. Also featured at the festival is poet Natasha Tretheway (right), author of Domestic Work.

2004 part 1
page 72

contributions and attempts to relate them to the wider world."

Appropriately for this election year, the 2004 theme *Scoundrels to Statesmen, Politics in the Deep South* revolves around politics. This year, literary figures will mine the rich seam of Southern literature to tackle such diverse topics as the legacy of Governor Huey Long, the evolution of Southern politics, and why Southern governors keep getting elected President.

It's more than a series of readings, though. "Instead of just straightforward lectures, we're being creative," explained Smith. "We add panel discussions, plays, concerts, films and documentaries." There is also a series of workshops designed specifically for writers, addressing topics like screenwriting for dummies (with Los Angeles screenwriter Gail Gilchriest, author of screenplays *My Dog Skip* and *The Ponder Heart*), and getting magazine articles published (with Elfrieda Abbe, editor of *The Writer* magazine).

It's all to further the Literary Celebration's goal of getting participants out to actually experience Natchez sites that have played a part in the literary history of the South. This year's itinerary includes stops at the nationally renowned The Briars, where President Jefferson Davis wed;

This year, a luxurious addendum to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will unfold aboard a three-story riverboat called the River Explorer. *Guests can join an eight-day cruise up the Mississippi from New Orleans to Memphis, centering on the theme "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi." Carolyn Vance Smith, founder of the Celebration, explains, "It's a huge floating hotel, with some of the country's most respected writers, filmmakers, musicians, storytellers, critics, and chefs sharing with the rest of us what they know best." The cruise runs April 6—13, 2004.*

2004 part 1
page 73

Weekends Away

Monmouth, John A. Quitman's home, and Rose Hill Baptist Church, the oldest church in Mississippi, which has hosted decades of civil and political meetings.

Speakers include actor and producer Stuart Margolin (*The Rockford Files*), screenwriter Gail Gilchrist (*My Dog Skip, The Ponder Heart*) and poet Natasha Trethewey (*Domestic Work*). Margolin, who today calls Natchez home, has appeared in more than twenty-five movies and two hundred television shows. He is likely best known for his role as Angel Martin in CBS's *The Rockford Files*. In fact, the Natchez Literary Festival can take some credit for bringing Margolin into the community. "It was in 1998, while I was in Natchez to direct the CBS television show *Promised Land*, starring Gerald McRaney, that my wife Pat and I fell in love with the town. We decided to come back and attend the Natchez Literary and Cinema

Eudora Welty attended the first Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in June 1990 and read her short story, "A Worn Path," to a standing-room-only crowd. Here she is seated with the Welty scholar Dr. Suzanne Marrs of Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi. Marrs has presented programs about Eudora Welty's work at several of the Celebrations throughout the years.

2004 part 1
page 74

Celebration," said Margolin. "By May of 2001 we had bought a house, and in December of 2001 we moved in to stay," said Margolin. The award-winning actor/director/writer now also plays a starring role in the Celebration as a member of the advisory board. This year, Margolin will also be a program presenter.

The Literary and Cinema Celebration grew out of a quest to further literary training for future generations and expand Copiah-Lincoln Community College, a school that now serves around two thousand students from Natchez and surrounding communities. Fifteen years ago, Smith, an English teacher and public relations director for Copiah-Lincoln, attended the Texas Book Festival at the University of Texas at Austin. On the way, Smith and current president of Copiah-Lincoln, Howell Garner, began batting ideas around about how to establish a Natchez-based educational activity that would be enriching for current students as well as non-students who would wish to learn in an educational environment. "I said, 'Why don't we do a conference like [the Texas Book Festival]? The business community would see it as a great move for tourism and it would help impress the importance of Copiah-Lincoln onto people's minds'," explained Smith. The first celebration in 1990 was a huge hit with locals and attendees. Natchez residents and the region's literati noticed. Today the festival welcomes around three thousand attendees a year and has grown to involve local restaurants, hotels and bed and breakfasts, who donate their services for guest speakers, which makes it easier for the festival to get out-of-town presenters to attend. "I'm so grateful for all the wonderful support. Our town really pulls together, which makes it such a pleasure to all work together on a project like this," said Smith.

"The purpose of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is to bring to Natchez an annual thematic humanities event that ties together and expands the knowledge and appreciation of the historical, literary, political, social, artistic, and natural heritage of Mississippi and the South. The event celebrates the region's contributions and attempts to relate them to the wider world."

—Carolyn Vance Smith,
founder and co-chairman of
the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Carolyn Vance Smith

Over the years, the celebration has won awards and grants from numerous organizations, but none as important as the most recent. The National Endowment for the Humanities recently announced the award of a $100,000 grant to the Celebration, contingent upon Natchez generating matching funds over the next three years. That stipulation ignited Smith's next brainstorm: an eight-day cruise up the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Memphis, titled the "Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi" cruise, aboard a three-story luxury ship called the *River Explorer*, planned for April 6—13, 2004. "It's a huge floating hotel, with some of the country's most respected writers, filmmakers, musicians, story tellers, critics, and chefs sharing with the rest of us what they know best,"

2004 part 1
page 75

contribution of the written word, the thing that, whether read, sung or recited, defines our place in history and preserves it for those who follow in our footsteps.

So if your idea of a great getaway involves curling up with a good book, this just might be the thing for you.

The cost starts at $2500 per person and provides participants the chance to sail down an historic river while interacting and learning with some of the greatest masters of the written word.

❖

Most events that make up the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration may be attended free of charge. Berths on the Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi cruise begin at $2,500. For information, see the related article on page 33, or visit www.colin.edu/NLCC, e-mail christy.williams@colin.edu or call (866) 296-NLCC (6522). If you need a place to stay in picturesque Natchez, check out all the bed and breakfast options at www.cityofnatchez.com.

Aboard the River Explorer, *accommodations are luxurious. Above is a Platinum Deck State Room*

2004 part 1
page 76

Around Town

SECTION F THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2004

Weekend

The Clarion-Ledger

NATCHEZ LITERARY & CINEMA CELEBRATION: SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN: POLITICS INTHE DEEP SOUTH

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration begins Wednesday with a slew of events that discuss and dissect politics, culture and even popular music and film. A schedule of the event's highlights follows:

Wednesday

■ **2 p.m.**: Former Miss. Gov. William F. Winter presents *The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South*. Screening of *The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer*, a documentary from *Vote for Me: Politics in America* by Paul Strekler of the University of Texas in Austin.

Feb. 26

■ **1:30 p.m.**: Screening of *Ken Burns' America: Huey Long*.

■ **3:30 p.m.**: A talk by Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi on editing the most recent edition of Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*.

■ **7:30 p.m.**: Screening of *All the King's Men*.

Feb. 27

■ **10:15 a.m**: Screening of documentary *George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire* by Paul Stekler.

■ **12:30 p.m.**: *The Man in Black: Political Statements of Johnny Cash* conducted by Allen Dennis of Troy State University. At Carriage House in Stanton Hall. $20.

■ **2:30-5 p.m.**: Guided tours of three Natchez sites associated with politics — The Briars (home of Jefferson Davis), Monmouth (home of John A. Quitman) and Rose Hill Baptist Church (site of political meetings.) The $20 tour includes transportation, a guide and refreshments.

John Grisham

Clarion-Ledger file photo

Feb. 28

■ **1:30 p.m.**: *A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence*, a talk by ex-Miss. House of Representatives Speaker Pro Tem Robert G. Clark.

■ **2:45 p.m.**: *Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?*, a panel discussion with Mississippi journalists Sid Salter, Emily Wagster Pettus, Donald Adderton and Bill Minor.

■ **3:45 p.m.**: Screening of *Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers: Greg Iles, Nevada Barr and John Grisham.*

Feb. 29

■ **From 8:30 a.m.**: Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops. Presenters include Gail Gilchrist on screenwriting, Maryemma Graham on how black authors write, Wendi Berman and Brian Gary on documentary filmmaking, and Elfrieda Abbe on getting articles published. $10, at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

All events are free and take place at the Natchez Convention Center unless otherwise stated. For more information, call 1-866-296-6522 or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

LOCAL THEATER SPOTLIGHT

A weekend of family fun is on tap in area community theaters, with the Mississippi premiere of Charles Whitman's *Papa Married a Mormon* and the Community Children's Theatre continuing their production tradition with *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*.

■ *Papa Married a Mormon* is based on the true-life novel of John D. Fitzgerald, which deals with religious conflict and acceptance in southwest Utah in the late 1800s.

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. (Thursday-Saturday) and 2 p.m. (Sunday) in the Christian Center Auditorium on the Millsaps College campus. Admission is $8 for students and seniors and $10 for adults. For more information on Millsaps Players, call 974-1321 or log on to www.millsaps.edu.

■ The Community Children's Theatre continues their school-group performances of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* at Chastain Middle School this week, with a performance for the public scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday. Admission is $2 per person.

Performances continue Feb. 25-27 at Whitten Middle School at 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. for school children and members of the public who would like to attend, said Judy Middleton, reservation chair.

For reservations for the Community Children's Theatre production, call (601) 354-1191.

— *Julie Whitehead*

2004 part 1
page 77

B. B. King film, William Winter's 80th birthday on tap at Feb. 21 event

Two of Mississippi's best-known citizens, blues great B.B. King and former Gov. William F. Winter, will be in the limelight Feb. 21 at the 14th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The Olympic Award-winning conference is set for Feb. 19-23, with the theme, "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase."

At 8 p.m. Feb. 21, a premiere showing of "B. B. King Homecoming," an hour-long documentary film, will be presented. The film, about Mississippi Blues giant B.B. King of Indianola, was produced by Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

Winter

King

Garner

Following the film, a festive 80th birthday party honoring former Mississippi Governor William F. Winter of Jackson will take place.

Winter has served as director of proceedings for the Celebration since its inception in 1990. He also is president of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, one of the Celebration's sponsors.

Both the film and the party are free at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St., and are open to the public.

"We hope everyone will come to see this new film and stay to have birthday cake and speak to Gov. Winter," said Howell Garner, president of Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Co-Lin is the founding sponsor of the NLCC. Other sponsors are the MDAH, the Natchez National Historical Park and Alcorn State University.

"B.B. King Homecoming" will be introduced by MPB executive producer Bob Pickett and MPB executive director Marie Antoon, both of Jackson.

"I live and breathe blues," Pickett said in a recent interview. "I'm a blues musician and once toured as the only white member of an all-black band. From the time I first started playing guitar, I was influenced by B.B. King."

The film is called "B.B. King Homecoming" because King for 29 years has returned annually to his hometown of Indianola to perform at a free outdoor concert. The documentary includes scenes from the 2002 concert.

Winter, born Feb. 21, 1923, in Grenada, will celebrate his 80th birthday in Jackson a day early on Feb. 20 at a symposium and reception in his honor, sponsored by The University of Mississippi and the Institute for Racial Reconciliation.

Then on Feb. 21 he, his wife, Elise Winter, their daughters and their families will join others at the NLCC for a full weekend of programs, including the B.B. King film Feb. 21 and the birthday party afterwards.

"I must tell you," Winter said, "my crowd is very excited about being there."

The evening is a very special one, Garner said. "We want everyone to attend. At the party, we'll have balloons, a huge birthday cake, good things to eat and drink, entertainment by the Natchez High School Singers, and a PowerPoint presentation with pictures of Gov. Winter through the years.

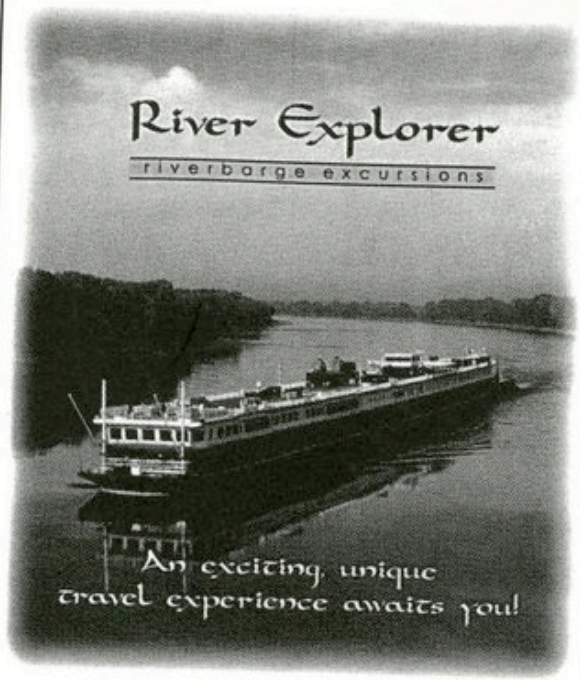
"We'll also give him a custom-made gift as a way of saying thank-you for all he has done for us."

Verbal tributes to Gov. Winter will be by Garner, Clinton Bristow, president of Alcorn State University; Billy B. Thames, former president of Co-Lin; Natchez Mayor F.L. "Hank" Smith and Elise Winter, Garner said.

Lynwood Easterling, president of the Adams County Board of Supervisors, will preside over the evening's program. In charge of the birthday party is Judy Wiggins, chairman of the English Department at Co-Lin.

For information about NLCC activities, most of which are free, visit the web page at www.colin.edu/nlcc or call 800-647-6742 or 601-446-6631.

2004 part 1
page 78



Welcome Aboard

April 6 - 13, 2004

Travel from New Orleans to Memphis onboard the luxurious and spacious *River Explorer*

• Explore the theme, "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics of the Mighty Mississippi," with programs and films by noted southern writers, scholars, historians, storytellers, film experts, and musicians. Enjoy guided excursions in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Natchez, Vicksburg and Memphis, live concerts and films.

• While onboard *River Explorer*, you'll be pampered with first-class comforts, service, meals and amenities. All accommodations are identical with spacious, 200 sq. ft. staterooms featuring large picture windows, twin beds or a queen bed, a full bath with tub and shower, mini-fridge, telephone, TV/VCR, coffeemaker, hair dryer, radio, binoculars and plentiful storage.

• Rates per person begin at $2,526. Price includes stateroom, all meals, 24-hour snacks and soft drinks, all shore excursions and guides, all entertainment, two cocktail parties, a wine tasting, a cooking demonstration and all tips.

1-866-296-NLCC • 601-446-1289

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

Scoundrels to Statesmen: *Politics in the Deep South*

Feb. 25-29, 2004
Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street, Natchez, MS

FREE OR LOW -COST
Lectures - Films - Book Signings
Workshops - Exhibits - Tours

Greg Iles, author of *The Footprints of God, 24 Hours, Spandau Phoenix, Dead Sleep, Black Cross, The Quiet Game, Mortal Fear* and *Sleep No More*, will receive the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, 6:30pm, Sat, Feb 28.

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Natasha Trethewey, Clifton Taulbert, Will Campbell and more.

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting

2004 part 1
page 79

Region

Sunday, February 22, 2004 The Democrat 7A

Isle of Capri donates $7,500 to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Special to The Democrat

NATCHEZ — A donation of $7,500 over a three-year period to a new fund-raising campaign by the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was announced Friday by Isle of Capri of Natchez.

Making the announcement were Baxter Lee, senior director of marketing, and Tony Scudiero, senior director of operations.

"The Isle of Capri's commitment will go far as we seek to raise $100,000," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

"In order for the celebration to receive a $100,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, we have to match the Challenge Grant dollar for dollar. We think we can raise the matching money by having such strong supporters as the Isle."

The funding will establish an endowment for the celebration. Income from the endowment will allow the conference to live in perpetuity, Smith said.

Smith and Co-Lin founded the Olympic award-winning celebration in 1990.

This year's five-day conference is co-sponsored by Co-Lin, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

It will take place Feb. 25-29, using the theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

Most of the conference is free and will take place at the Natchez Convention Center. It is open to the public.

"We are happy as corporate citizens of this community to help fund events that recognize Natchez on a national stage," Lee said. "We're not looking for anything in return. We are giving this money to show our company's community spirit."

The Isle of Capri Natchez has long been a support of the celebration, Smith said.

"We count on the Isle for funding, hotel rooms and meals for speakers and blocks of low-cost rooms for people attending the conference. We could not meet our budget without such invaluable support," she said.

"We are proud to be associated with the celebration," Scudiero said. "It is an outstanding event."

Chairing the NLCC Challege Grant's fund-raising committee is Maria Bowser of Natchez. Serving on the committee are Natchez Mayor F.L. "Hank" Smith III; Darryl Grennell, president of the Adams County Board of Supervisors; state Sen. Bob M. Dearing; state Rep. Phillip West; Howell Garner, president of Co-Lin; Todd Carpenter, president of Natchez Newspapers Inc. and publisher of *The Natchez Democrat*; attorney Philip Carby; physician Thomas Weed and his wife, Margaret Weed; and Shirley Petkovsek of Callon Petroleum Co.

Working closely with the committee are NLCC co-chairmen Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin; Keith Whisenant, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park; Jim Barnett, director, division of historic properties, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon, executive director, Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

NLCC

How to donate

Donations to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's fund-raising campaign are tax-deductible and may be sent to the Copiah-Lincoln NEH Account, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.

2004 part 1
page 80

USM professor to receive honor

By Janet Braswell
American Senior Writer
jbraswell@hattiesb.gannett.com

Longtime University of Southern Mississippi history professor William Scarborough will be honored Saturday with the 2004 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

Scarborough will receive the award for his nonfiction work, "Masters of the Big House," about planters who owned more than 250 slaves.

"We can't understand today how people can think that way," Scarborough said. "They felt that slavery was a divinely-sanctioned institution. They felt that the only proper place for people of African descent was slavery."

The Richard Wright Literary Award, established 10 years ago in honor of the Mississippi native, goes annually to two living writers with strong ties to Mississippi. Mystery writer Greg Iles will receive this year's fiction award.

Scarborough, 71, still teaches a full classload at USM, serves on the Faculty Senate, criticizes president Shelby Thames and anyone else he thinks deserves it and plays golf regularly.

"That's one of the funnier things you'll ever see – he and I arguing about golf," said history professor Andy Wiest, a student of Scarborough's.

Scarborough is as well-known on campus for his battle to keep assigned parking places open for faculty as for his expertise in history. Dean of students Eddie Holloway worked with him on a transportation and parking committee.

"He's a very intense and forthright person that will readily share an opinion and give aid and assistance," Holloway said. "We count his opinion as valuable."

Scarborough developed his interest in Southern history, especially the antebellum years, while a student at the University of North Carolina. His first book, "The Overseer," was published in 1966.

Scarborough

He pored through archives from Austin, Texas, to Baltimore doing research, primarily through letters, for "Masters of the Big House."

"It's a little surprising that so many of them were unionists prior to the secession of South Carolina," he said. "I was not cognizant of the degree to which they had pipelines to the northeast."

Many were born in the northeast, were educated there or did business there, he said. They disagreed about slavery but didn't want to secede.

"They felt that their economic interests could best be protected by remaining in the Union rather than seceding and risking losing everything, which of course is what happened," he said.

"Masters of the Big House" was published by LSU Press. Reviewed in the October edition of the Atlantic Monthly, it was called "a remarkable feat of archival excavation."

Scarborough also wrote "The Diary of Edmund Ruffin." It and his latest book won the Jules and Frances Landry Award (1989, 2003) given by LSU Press to the best manuscript submitted during the calendar year in the field of Southern studies. He is only the fourth author in the 35-year history of the award to have won it twice.

USM President Shelby Thames congratulated Scarborough on the award.

"At Southern Miss, we are fortunate to have an outstanding faculty body who have received national and international recognition for their work," he said.

Richard Wright Award

■ The Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award is given annually to two living writers – one an author of fiction and one of nonfiction – with strong ties to Mississippi. It is presented during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

■ Honorees receive a framed certificate, a medal and a $250 check.

■ Past winners include Eudora Welty, 1994; Margaret Walker Alexander, 1995; Ellen Douglas and Willie Morris, 1996; Shelby Foote and Elizabeth Spencer, 1997; Richard Ford and Will Campbell, 1998; Barry Hannah and Sterling Plumpp, 1999; Beth Henley and David Sansing, 2000; John Grisham and Bill Minor, 2001; John Marszalek and Lewis Nordan, 2002; and Clifton Taulbert and T.R. Hummer, 2003.

2004 part 1
page 81

Actor Margolin settles in Natchez, begins making contributions

Itinerary for Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi

Trip highlights

- April 6: New Orleans, jazz concert, welcoming cocktail party
- April 7: Baton Rouge, Huey P. Long, Robert Penn Warren's All the King's Men, story telling
- April 8: River cruising, Greg Iles (24 Hours), Clifton Taulbert (Eight Habits of the Heart), cooking demonstration

April 9: Natchez, antebellum homes and gardens, gospel/spiritual concert, wine tasting

- April 10: Vicksburg, National Military Park, Eudora Welty's The Ponder Heart, rock 'n' roll dancing fun
- April 11: River cruising, an Easter to remember, Stuart Margolin's dramatic readings
- April 12: Memphis, William Faulkner's The Reivers, Beale Street, Mud Island Museum, blues concert, farewell cocktail party
- April 13: Memphis tour and farewell
- For trip information and registration: Call 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-NLCC.

Write Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration On-the-River, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.

Email Christy.Williams@colin.edu

Visit these web sites: www.colin.edu/nlcc/nlcc-on-the-river and www.riverbarge.com

Special to The Democrat

Though the internationally known, award-winning actor/director/producer/screenplay writer/songwriter Stuart Margolin was born on the banks of the Mississippi River in Davenport, Iowa, he left there as a child.

Little did he know one day America's legendary river would again figure prominently in his life.

Margolin

After moving from Davenport to Dallas, he later lived and worked in many places: Tennessee, New York City, Arizona, California, Italy, British Columbia and, a few years ago, Natchez, Miss.

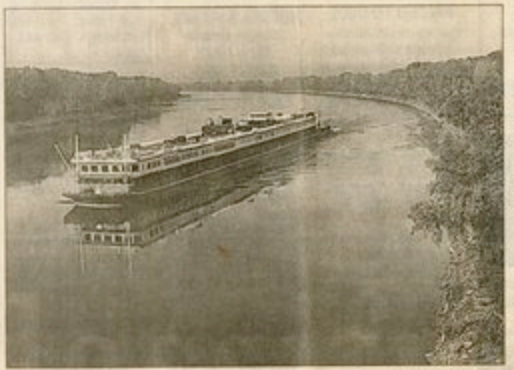
"It was in 1998, while I was in Natchez to direct the CBS television show, Promised Land, starring Gerald McRaney, that my wife, Pat, and I fell in love with the town," Margolin said.

"We came back to attend the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration," he said. "By May of 2001 we had bought a house, and in December 2001 we moved in to stay. We love Natchez."

Margolin has appeared in more than 25 movies and 200 television shows but perhaps is best known for his role of Angel Martin in the long-running Universal/CBS' television series, The Rockford Files.

For this role, he won two Emmy Awards for Best Supporting Actor in a One-Hour drama and was nominated a third time.

Other awards reveal Margolin's varying talents. He has won the Best Director Award from the Directors Guild of America for his children's film, Salt Water Moose; the Donatello Award for Best Directing for the Italian television film, Donna D'Honore, released in the United States as Vendetta; and the Jessie Award for Best Actor in the Vancouver Theatre for his role in I'm Not Rappaport.



Actor Stuart Margolin will be part of a literary cruise on the RiverBarge Explorer this spring.

On top of all this, he is a successful writer/actor (Bret Maverick, Glitterdome, Love American Style and the Western series, Nichols); song writer ("Day After Day," which rose to Billboard's Top 20, as well as an album on the Warner Bros. label called And the Angel Sings); television show director (Mary Tyler Moore Show, Touched by An Angel and 50 others); and author of film scripts, television movies, plays and even a recently completed first novel.

After moving to Natchez, it didn't take long for Margolin to begin sharing his talents. He immediately joined the Advisory Board of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration; presented his award-winning film, Salt Water Moose, at the 2003 conference; and will be a program presenter at the 15th annual Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004.

In addition, he has directed a student production of William Saroyan's Hello Out There and has now volunteered to present dramatic readings of some of the South's most famous literature during a Celebration-sponsored Mississippi River cruise from New Orleans to Memphis, April 6-13, 2004.

This cruise, to benefit the Celebration's new endowment fund, is called "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi."

Margolin will read selections from Mark Twain, Ernest Gaines, Walker Percy, Richard Wright and other well-known writers who have lived and worked along the Mississippi River.

"I'm excited about the trip, imagining what I'll hear and see and learn," Margolin said. "It will be an educational experience.

"But I'm also excited about the journey, the mode of travel on the river. As an adult I have not traveled on the river. I'm looking forward to it."

Literary Celebration charters RiverBarge Explorer trip

Take three things the South is most famous for — music, literature and storytelling — and add the Mississippi River, great food and abundant hospitality, and you've got a trip to remember.

"Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi" is the theme of a unique experience April 6-13, when a limited number of passengers will spend eight days traveling from New Orleans to Memphis on the spacious and comfortable RiverBarge Excursion Lines River Explorer.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, an annual conference in Natchez, has chartered the vessel for the trip. Proceeds will benefit the conference's new endowment fund, established by the event's co-sponsors, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Broadcasting Networks.

"Some of the country's most respected writers, film makers, musicians, historians, story tellers, critics and chefs will be onboard the River Explorer to share with the rest of us what they know best," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, founder and co-chairman of the Celebration.

Prices start at $2,526 per person, Smith said. "This is a price that pays for everything, including tips, shore trips, tickets, buses, guides, programs, films and round-the-clock great food and service.

"We have room for only 160 people," she said. "This is a trip of a lifetime."

2004 part 1
page 82

NLCC kicks off campaign for NEH matching grant

Special to The Democrat

A campaign to raise $100,000 over the next two years in order to receive a $100,000 Matching Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities was kicked off this week by leaders of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"We are very encouraged by many civic-minded people who have agreed to serve on the Fundraising Committee," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the NLCC. "We think raising the matching money will be a challenge, but it is do-able."

The money will be used to establish an endowment for the conference, Smith said. "Proceeds from the endowment will assure that the event will live in perpetuity. We are delighted to have this national stamp of approval from the NEH."

The NLCC, celebrating its 15th anniversary this year, will present a multi-faceted program Feb. 25-29 at the Natchez Convention Center and on Copiah-Lincoln's Natchez campus.

The conference theme is "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Several dozen nationally known scholars, historians and film experts will gather to share their knowledge with hundreds of people.

Natchez

Co-chairmen and sponsors with Smith and Copiah-Lincoln are Keith Whisenant, the Natchez National Historical Park; Jim Barnett, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon, Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

"We have until July 31, 2004, to raise the first $30,000 of the Matching Grant," Smith said. The next level of $40,000 must be raised by July 31, 2005, with the remaining amount due by July 31, 2006.

"If we don't raise the required amount by each deadline, we lose it," Smith said. "Some people already know this, and donations are coming in."

One fundraiser will take place during the 2004 Celebration, Smith said. "We hope to raise quite a bit of money from a benefit reception and dinner at Gloucester, the historic mansion that is the home of Gwen and John Deakle," she said. "Gloucester has recently been restored and is absolutely gorgeous."

This party, to honor 2004 NLCC award winners and speakers, is set for 8 p.m., Feb. 28, following a free awards ceremony at the Natchez Convention Center at 6:30 p.m.

Winning awards at the ceremony are Natchez novelist Greg Iles, University of Southern Mississippi historian William Scarborough and film script writer Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles.

Tickets to the Gloucester event are limited. They cost $125 each, with $100 tax-deductible, Smith said. "Tickets may be ordered by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6522," she said.

Another fund-raiser during the upcoming NLCC is a raffle of major items, all donated by area merchants and individuals.

Among the raffle packages are a Natchez Balloon Race weekend, a Natchez Pilgrimage weekend, a "Memories" package that includes a sitting by Natchez photographer T.G. McCary, a Gone With the Wind package and a great books package.

"Raffle tickets are only $10 each," said project chairman Shirley Petkovsek of Natchez. "We hope people love the raffle packages and buy lots of tickets."

Yet another major fundraiser is a trip on the Mississippi River called "Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi." To take place April 6-13, this trip begins in New Orleans and ends in Memphis onboard the spacious and comfortable RiverBarge Excursion Lines River Explorer.

"Take three things the South is most famous for — music, literature and storytelling — and add the Mississippi River, great food and abundant hospitality, and you've got a trip to remember," Smith said.

"Some of the country's most respected writers, filmmakers, musicians, historians, story tellers, critics and chefs will be on board the River Explorer to share with the rest of us what they know best," she said.

Prices start at $2,526 per person, Smith said. "This price pays for everything, including tips, shore trips, tickets, buses, guides, programs, films and round-the-clock great food and service.

"We have room for only 160 people," she said. "This is a trip of a lifetime."

Working with Smith and heading the overall Fund-raising Committee is Maria Bowser of Natchez, a retired community college administrator in Los Angeles. Sharing fund-raising leadership are several people, each in charge of certain areas:

- Howell Garner, president of Co-Lin, special grants
- Todd Carpenter, president of Natchez Newspapers Inc. and publisher of *The Natchez Democrat*, corporate gifts
- F.L. "Hank" Smith III, mayor of Natchez; Darryl Grennell, president of the Adams County Board of Supervisors; Robert M. Dearing, state senator from Adams County; and Phillip West, member of the House of Representatives from Adams County, governmental funding
- Shirley Petkovsek of Callon Petroleum Co., a raffle during the NLCC and a live auction later this year
- Margaret and Tom Weed of Natchez, the medical community
- Philip E. Carby of Natchez, the legal community

"Todd Carpenter is taking the lead on corporate gifts," Bowser said. "Natchez Newspapers Inc. has pledged $5,000 per year for three years. Todd will challenge other businesses in the area to match or top that pledge."

In other action, Dearing has introduced Senate Bill SB 2471, an appropriation bill that is co-sponsored by Sen. Lynn Posey, Union Church; Sen. Kelvin Butler, Magnolia; Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Brookhaven; and Sen. Perry Lee, Mendenhall.

"Rep. Phillip West is very supportive, also," Smith said. "He guaranteed he will help push this bill through when it arrives in the House of Representatives."

Donations from individuals are sought, and all are tax-deductible, Smith said. "People can send checks to the NLCC Matching Grant, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121. We are excited about this project and look forward to a successful campaign," she said.

2004 part 1
page 53

Region

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

The Democrat

The Natchez Democrat/Ben Hillyer

Known for his mastery of graining and faux finishes, Natchez painter Chris Landers paint the front doors of Gloucester Monday afternoon in preparation for Saturday's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's annual gala reception and dinner. The celebration begins Wednesday and continues through Sunday, with most of the lectures and events free and open to the public. The gala reception requires a $125 ticket.

Renovated Gloucester to host gala reception for literary celebration

Special to The Democrat

NATCHEZ — The historic mansion Gloucester, 201 Lower Woodville Road, has been receiving a year-long facelift, courtesy of some of the Natchez area's finest craftsmen and the mansion's new owners, John and Gwen Deakle of Hattiesburg.

The work is winding up just in time for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's annual gala reception and dinner, to take place at Gloucester on at 8 p.m. Saturday.

"We are glad to share our home with the community," John Deakle said. "We think highly of this important conference and are happy to be part of it this year."

The party follows a free awards ceremony at 6:30 p.m. at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St. To win writing awards are the novelist Greg Iles of Natchez, the historian William Scarborough of University of Southern Mississippi and screenplay writer Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles and east Texas.

The public is invited to the awards ceremony. It will be preceded from 4:45 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. Saturday by a book signing honoring the award winners; the novelist Ellen Douglas (pen name of Natchez native Josephine Haxton); James Mesker of Cleveland, Ohio; Will Campbell of Amite County and Mt. Juliet, Tenn.; and journalist Bill Minor of Jackson.

Following the awards ceremony will be the reception and dinner at Gloucester.

"We are delighted that the Deakles have offered to open Gloucester as the site of the annual party that honors award winners and speakers at the Celebration," said Jim Barnett, director of historic properties for Mississippi Department of Archives and History and an NLCC co-chairman.

Natchez

"The conference theme this year is 'Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South,'" Barnett said. "Gloucester fits our conference theme perfectly, since it was once home of Winthrop Sargent, the first governor of the Mississippi Territory."

Sargent, formerly secretary of the Northwest Territory and a Massachusetts Federalist, arrived in Natchez on Aug. 6, 1798, to assume his Mississippi Territory gubernatorial duties, according to D. Clayton James in his book, Antebellum Natchez.

"For the first eight months of his governorship, Winthrop Sargent ruled Natchez, the territorial capital, by personal decree," James wrote. Later, Sargent married "a wealthy Natchez widow, bought Gloucester and became a cotton planter," James wrote. "By 1805 he had amassed 11,802 acres."

The mansion, one of the first large brick homes constructed in the Natchez area, has multiple levels, several large galleries and original nearby, smaller brick buildings, including one used as a billiard hall.

During the party, refreshments will be served in the mansion and in the billiard hall, with supper served in the main dining room. Music will be provided by Sylvia Johns Ritchie.

Tickets for the party are $125 each, with $100 of that a tax-deductible donation to the Celebration's fund drive to match a $100,000 National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. "Only 125 tickets will be sold, and they are going fast," Barnett said.

Tickets may be ordered by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free 1-866-296-6522 or by emailing Christy.Williams@colin.edu.

2004 part 1
page 84

Organization grants with a March 1 deadline are 1- and 2-year Operating grants, Project grants, Whole School Initiative grants and Core Arts Initiative grants.

Individual artist grants and opportunities with a March 1 deadline are Artist Fellowships, Folk Arts Apprenticeships and Fellowships, and Mississippi Artist Roster and Arts Education Demonstrator Roster memberships.

For more information, visit www.arts.state.ms.us or call 601-359-6030.

*****

The Creative Capital Foundation is now open for grant submission. Inquiry Forms for Visual Arts and Film/Video are now available online at http://apply.creative-capital.org, and must be submitted by March 15, 2004. Those interested in grants for Performing Arts and Emerging Fields will be eligible to submit Inquiry Forms in 2005.

Creative Capital's Online Application Advice Chats will take place in a chat room on America Online's Instant Messaging Network. For information on how to participate in the chat sessions, visit http://creative-capital.org/application/chat.html. This year's chat schedule is:

4:00 - 5:00 PM EST on Wednesday, February 25, 2004
4:00 - 5:00 PM EST on Wednesday, March 3, 2004

At these times, Creative Capital Grants Officer Sean Elwood will be logged on AOL Instant Messenger, and will be able to answer general questions about the application process and specific questions about how to best create a grant request.

For more information on grants, go to http://creative-capital.org.

*****

The 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is next week, Feb 25-29.

The theme this year is Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South.

For a complete list of events, please visit:
http://www.colin.cc.ms.us/nlcc/default.htm

****

JOB OPENING AT WLOX, BILOXI

Job Title: Creative Services Director
Starting Date: ASAP

JOB DESCRIPTION:
WLOX-TV, the number one station in South Mississippi, is seeking a Creative Services Director. The applicant will be responsible for the administration of a full commercial production team than has earned Emmy and Telly Awards for videography and animation. Applicant will work hand-in hand with the station's Sales Department and clients for recruitment and commercial production.

EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS NECESSARY:
Must be familiar with non-liner editing, EFP/Film acquisition, and budgeting. Applicants must have leadership sills that build consensus and positive interdepartmental relations.

2/23/2004

Natchez The Democrat

50¢

Tuesday, February 24, 2004
www.natchezdemocrat.com

Tipton: NLCC aids city's exposure

By KERRY WHIPPLE
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — When last year's recipient of a Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration screenwriting award put his new accomplishment on his Web site, the city's gained "great exposure," said Natchez Tourism Director Walter Tipton.

The plug from actor and screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton is just one of the ways the NLCC — which begins Wednesday — helps put Natchez on the map, Tipton said.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is growing in stature every year," he said.

While the tourism department has not been tracking overnight numbers for the celebration, Tipton said this year's event is one of the most publicized. "It grows every year, both in caliber of programming and in numbers," he said.

This year, for example, Mississippi Broadcast Networks has signed on as a co-sponsor, which could increase the celebration's [illegible] and the city's — exposure.

See NLCC, 5A

Inside:
- Gloucester site of NLCC event, 5A.

Wednesday:
- A special section detailing this year's celebration.

NLCC

Continued from 1A

And a group of Utah students will be in town to film sites for a documentary on African-American heritage.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, in its 15th year this year, kicks off Wednesday with pre-conference discussions and opening ceremonies, then continues through the week with lectures on this year's theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

Most of the lectures and events are free and open to the public, while some are ticketed events. The celebration headquarters is the Natchez Convention Center.

2004 part 1
page 86

Sponsors

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Student Support Services - A Federal TRIO Program

The 15th Annual Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

Presents

"Careers in the Public Arena: All about Relationships":
A Panel Discussion

Wednesday, February 25, 2004
Redd- Watkins Career-Technical Center
Nelson Multipurpose Room
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

2004 part 1
page 87

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 25, 2004

To: All Speakers, Lecture Chairmen, Award Winners, and Other VIPs at the 2004 NLCC
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Copiah-Lincoln Community College; home phone: 445-5955
Re: Welcome to Natchez!

We are so glad you are with us to help make the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration another event to remember. Thank you for all you are doing to help us. Here are a few notes that may be helpful.

- Please look at the enclosed copy of the information you sent us, telling us which meals and other events you wish to attend. We gave the hosts/hostesses and caterers the number determined from your replies. We encourage you to attend the events you indicated since your local hosts/hostesses are eager to meet you and serve you.
- If you want a ride to meals or a ride to events away from the Convention Center, simply look for a Copiah-Lincoln van, which will be available from the Convention Center beginning Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 25. The van will be available at noon on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Feb. 26-28, and after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, Feb. 28. If you need a ride at other times, look for me or call me at above numbers.
- You may certainly follow the map in the program booklet and take your own car to any of the sites involved. Parking is always free.
- If you are a member of the NLCC Advisory Board, remember the breakfast meeting is at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at the Garden Center behind Monmouth, corner of Melrose Avenue and John Quitman Boulevard. At the entrance to Monmouth, turn left and circle all the way to the rear of the property.
- Please complete and return your evaluation form. We like to hear from you!
- Please enjoy your enclosed complimentary copy of *The Writer* magazine. The publisher of this magazine sends hundreds of copies to the NLCC as an indication of the esteem the company hs of the NLCC.

2004 part 1
page 88

PLEASE HELP WITH A NEW INTER-DISCIPLINARY DOCUMENTARY CALLED "HOME," FEATURING TRICIA WALKER!

The project is under the direction of students and professors at Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah. Students are Keith Lutz, producer; Jason Spencer, director; Travis Begay, director of photography; Jared Nelson, camera; and Tony Hadlock, assistant director. Professors accompanying the students are Michael Stemkoski and Melinda Bender.

BE A PART OF THE DOCUMENTARY!
Interviews by appointment, Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 26-29, 2004,
during the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

COMMENTS ARE INVITED ON THE SUBJECT "LIFE IN THE SOUTH."

ABOUT THE DOCUMENTARY...

A documentary tracing the memories and music of singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, formerly of Fayette, Miss., and now of Nashville, Tenn., is in progress. The documentary, about Tricia's South, relates the personal to the universal and explores the irony in the everyday richness of the culture that reveals reasons why people who leave decide to return again and again. The food, music, politics, religion, and land in the South are traced through the memories of Ms. Walker's present "home" in Nashville to Memphis, down Route 61 into the Delta, and then in Natchez and Fayette. Comments from others about the South are needed for the documentary.

A sign-up sheet for interviews will be at the registration desk in the Convention Center lobby. The 30-minute interviews will take place on the second floor of the Convention Center.

"When Tricia told us about the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, we looked it up on the internet," Stemkoski said. "We are extremely impressed with the top quality of the program. We have read books by and about the speakers this year, and we have studied the history of the Natchez area. We are convinced that we need to film the conference and add that to the Tricia Walker documentary," he said.

"We hope to have a cross-section of people to interview, whether they are from the South or just visiting the South," Stemkoski said. "This is the most fascinating area of our country. We hope to capture some of its beauty, charm, and richness in this documentary."

Tricia Walker will perform at 5 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, at the Natchez Convention Center during a free reception, 4:45-6:15 p.m., hosted by the NLCC and the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi. The party honors three award-winning authors, Greg Iles, William Scarborough, and Gail Gilchriest, who will be present to sign books and DVDs.

ABOUT UTAH VALLEY STATE COLLEGE

UVSC, recently named one of the top five comprehensive public four-year colleges in the West by *U.S. News & World Report*, has more than 24,000 students majoring in a wide range of subjects. The UVSC documentary, "Home," will be released in 2005.

2004 part 1
page 89

continued from page 12

5. Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, Alexandria, Louisiana, "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible"
6. A documentary film by Ken Burns, *Ken Burns's America: Huey Long*
7. Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, "Editing Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*
8. A showing of the film *All the King's Men*

Friday, February 27, 2004
9. Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi, "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-Fiction"
10. Paul Stekler, University of Texas at Austin, editor/producer of the film *George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire*
11. Allen Dennis, Troy (Ala.) State University, "The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash," with singing and guitar accompaniment
12. Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, Flying Chaucer Films, Los Angeles, a documentary film *Jefferson Davis: An American President*
13. Bruce Plante, *Chatanooga Times Free Press;* Marshall Ramsey, *The Clarion Ledger*, Jackson, Mississippi; and Scott Stantis, *Birmingham Daily News*, a panel discussion, "Editorial Cartoons," moderated by John D. W. Guice, University of Southern Mississippi

Saturday, February 28, 2004
14. William J. Cooper, Jr., Louisiana State University, "Jefferson Davis: Politician"
15. Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University at Meridian, "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997"
16. Natasha Trethewey, Emory University, "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry"
17. Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence"
18. Newspaper editor Donald Adderton, Greenville, Mississippi; syndicated columnist Bill Minor, Jackson, Mississippi; *The Clarion Ledger* columnist Sid Salter, Jackson, Mississippi; and Associated Press writer Emily Wagster, Jackson, Mississippi, a panel discussion called "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents who are Southerners?" to be moderated by Gene Edwards, Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Natasha Trethewey

19. A documentary film by Mississippi Public Broadcasting, *Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr,*

continued on page 15

2004 part 1
page 90

Greg iles

Design by William M. Smith Jr., New Orleans

continued from page 14

and John Grisham

20. An awards ceremony conducted by William F. Winter, the Los Angeles actor and Mississippi native Gerald McRaney, and the University of Mississippi historian David G. Sansing

William Winter

21. Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winner Greg Iles of Natchez, author of *The Footprints of God, 24 Hours, Mortal Fear, Spandau Phoenix, Black Cross, Sleep No More,* and other novels

22. Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winner WIliam Scarborough of the University of Southern Mississippi, author of *Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid Nineteenth-Century South* and *The Overseer*

23. Winner of the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing Gail Ghilchriest of East Texas and Los Angeles, author of the screenplays *My Dog Skip,* based on Willie Morris's book; and *The Ponder Heart,* based on Eudora Welty's novella; and *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!*

24. The film *Trapped,* by Greg Iles, based on his novel, *24 Hours*

Sunday, February 29, 2004

Writing workshops at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, costing $10 for two workshops, to be presented by the following:

1. Gail Gilchriest, "Screenwriting for Dummies"
2. Maryemma Graham, "The African-American Novel from the Early 19th Century Until Today: How Black Writers Write"
3. James Mesker, Cleveland, Ohio, "Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Myths: Utilizing Primary Sources for Fact or Fiction"
4. Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, "Modern Documentary Filmmaking"
5. Elfrieda Abbe, editor of *The Writer* magazine, Waukesha, Wisconsin, "Get Your Magazine Article Published: 50 Tips from *The Writer* Magazine"

Enhancing the program are the following related activities:

1. A luncheon on February 27 at the Carriage House on the grounds of Stanton Hall, after which Allen Dennis will present his program on Johnny Cash; $20
2. A tour February 27 of three sites associated with politics: The Briars (where Jefferson Davis married Varina Howell); Monmouth (former home of Mississippi Governor John A. Quitman); and Rose Hill Baptist Church (oldest African-American Baptist Church in Mississippi and site of civic and political meetings for decades); $20.
3. A reception on Feburary 27 at the Museum of the Natchez Association of Afro-American culture, honoring speakers and award-winners; $10
4. A festive reception and dinner on February 28 at the mansion Gloucester on Lower Woodville Road, once home of the first governor of the Mississippi Territory, Winthrop Sargent, and now home of John and Gwen Deakle of Hattiesburg. This benefit honors NLCC award winners and speakers. Cost is $125 per person, with $100 tax-deductible. Funds will benefit the NLCC's endowment fund.
5. A living history exhibit called "Politics on Parade" on February 29 at the mansion Melrose, presented by the Natchez National Historical Park
6. A total of 3.7 Continuing Education Units for teachers. For this information, call 601/445-0217.
7. Exhibits by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters; Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi; Mississippi Public Broadcasting; Mississippi School of the Arts in Brookhaven; Natchez National Historical Park; the Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center at Jackson State University; *The Writer* magazine, Waukesha, Wisconsin; and Phi Theta Kappa, international honor fraternity for two-year college students

Information and tickets are available by telephoning toll free 866/296-6522 or 601/446-1289; emailing Christy.Williams@ colin.edu; writing P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121; or visiting the web page www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2004 part 1
page 91

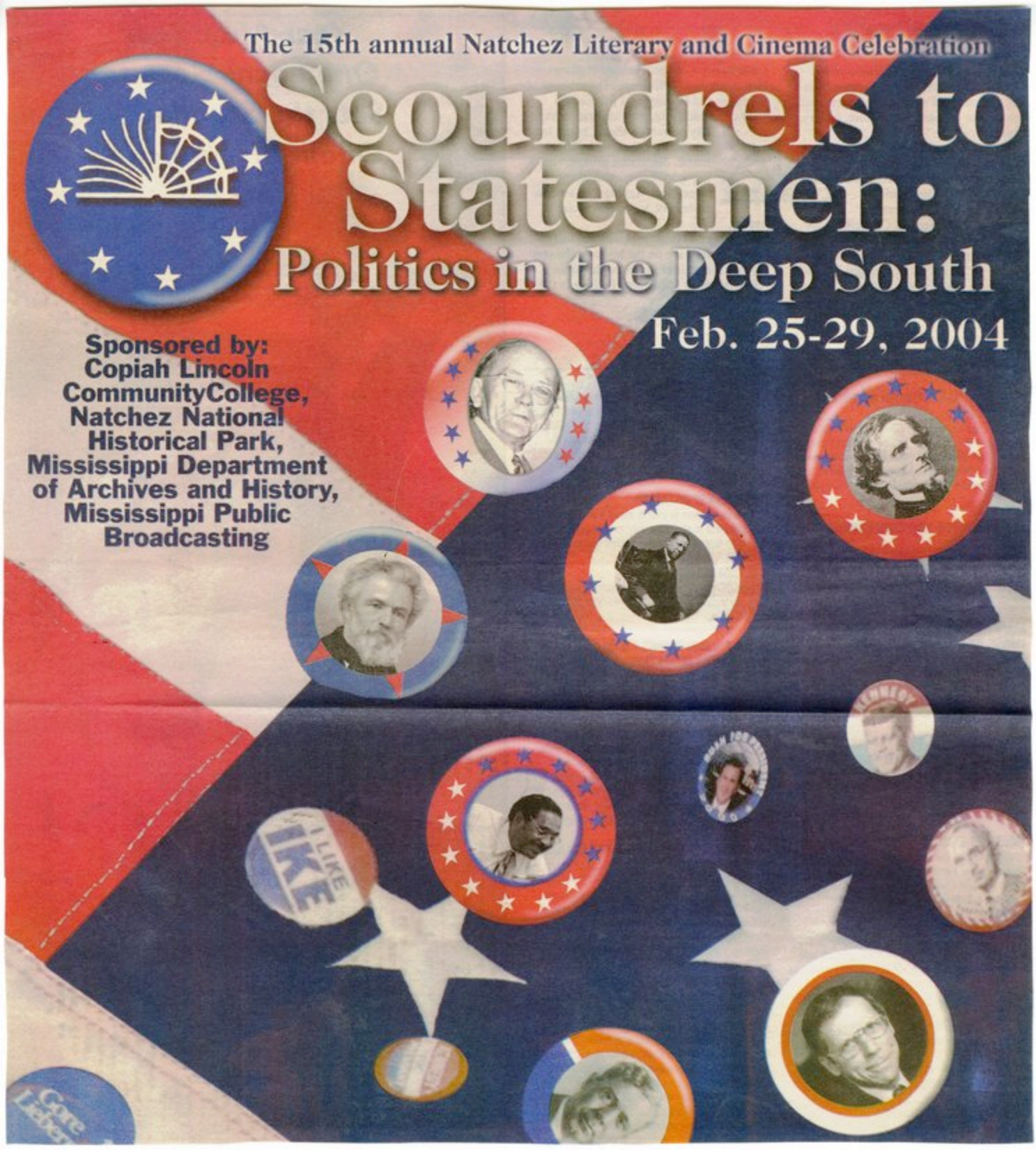
The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Scoundrels to Statesmen:

Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25-29, 2004

Sponsored by: Copiah Lincoln CommunityCollege, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Mississippi Public Broadcasting



2004 part 1
page 92

On exhibit

Among the many educational features of the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration are numerous visual enhancements, including handouts and exhibits of art, photography, artifacts, documents, and historic structures.

These include:

- Margaret Walker Alexander: Under the Hat, Out of the Heart," photographs and materials about the novelist/poet of Jackson, Miss., sponsored by the Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center, Jackson (Miss.) State University, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- Mississippi School of the Arts, Brookhaven, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 28
- *The Writer* magazine, Waukesha, Wis., Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- 25th anniversary of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- Books by NLCC speakers, Judge George W. Armstrong Library, Natchez, month of February
- Books by NLCC speakers, Willie Mae Dunn Library, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, month of February
- Phi Theta Kappa, international honor fraternity for two-year college students, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- Natchez Museum of African-American History and Culture, Feb. 27
- The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi," an NLCC-sponsored trip on the Mississippi River, April 6-13, 2004, Natchez Convention Center, Feb. 25-28
- Natchez history exhibits, Natchez Visitors Reception Center, Feb. 25-29
- The Briars, Monmouth, and Rose Hill Baptist Church, Feb. 27 tour sites
- Gloucester, Feb. 28 reception/dinner site
- "Politics on Parade," a living history program examining political events in Natchez from the perspectives of three very different historical characters, developed and presented by personnel at the Natchez National Historical Park, 1-1:45 p.m. and 3-3:45 p.m., Feb. 29.

Cover information

Pictured on the cover, clockwise from top right: Jefferson Davis, John F. Kennedy, Harry S Truman William Winter, Huey P. Long, Robert Clark, George W. Bush, Hiram Revels, John A. Quitman, Theodore Bilbo.

2004 part 1
page 43

UNIVERSITY PRESS of MISSISSIPPI press@ihl.state.ms.us

Celebrating Mississippi Politicans and Authors

Mississippi Liberal
A Biography of Frank E. Smith
By Dennis J. Mitchell, with a foreword by William F. Winter
The biography of a white, Democratic congressman whose liberal stand on race ended his political career in Mississippi
$32 hardback

Robert G. Clark's Journey to the House
A Black Politician's Story
By Will D. Campbell
The story of a black man's unprecedented rise to power and political prominence in the formerly segregationist state of Mississippi
$22 hardback

Sonny Montgomery
The Veteran's Champion
By G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, with Michael B. Ballard and Craig S. Piper
The autobiography of the Mississippi Congressman who spearheaded the drive for the revamped G.I. Bill
$25 hardback

Shifting Interludes
Selected Essays
By Willie Morris and edited by Jack Bales
Covering the span of his forty-year career, a collection of eloquent essays by one of the South's favorite writers
$28 hardback

Outside the Southern Myth
By Noel Polk
A southern male's forthright view of himself and of the real-life small-town culture that made him
$17 paperback

On William Faulkner
By Eudora Welty, with an afterword by Noel Polk
A memorable literary record that marks the encounter of two great American writers
$25 hardback,
$500 limited edition hardback

Some Notes on River Country
By Eudora Welty
In prose and photography, Welty's meditation on her inspiring encounter with an enduring landscape
$25 hardback,
$100 limited edition hardback

Conversations with Eudora Welty
Edited by Peggy Whitman Prenshaw
$18 paperback

More Conversations with Eudora Welty
Edited by Peggy Whitman Prenshaw
$16.95 paperback

The Magic Carpet and Other Tales
Retold by Ellen Douglas, with illustrations by Walter Anderson
For all readers a spectacular book combining the arts of illustration and narrative
$50 hardback

Apostles of Light
By Ellen Douglas, with an introduction by Elizabeth Spencer
A spellbinding novel named as a finalist for the National Book Award in 1973
$20 paperback

Conversations with Ellen Douglas
Edited by Panthea Reid
$18 paperback

Conversations with Margaret Walker
Edited by Maryemma Graham
$18 paperback

Find these books at your favorite bookstore, call 1-800-737-7788, or visit our website at www.upress.state.ms.us

2004 part 1
page 94

Celebration*welcome*

Welcome! The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration has been called by official evaluators "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film and culture."

The event has won an Olympic Award, the Governor's Award, the Mississippi Tourism Award, and the Humanities Achievement Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council, all for outstanding humanities programming.

As an example of its worthiness, each year for 15 years the conference has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, the Celebration annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, music, discussion groups, writing workshops, exhibits, book sales, book signings, an awards ceremony, tours, and social events.

This year, as important national and local elections are on the horizon, the conference theme is pertinent to the times: "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

Let the celebrating begin!

Conference*tips*

HEADQUARTERS FOR INFORMATION AND TICKETS

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration headquarters Feb. 25-28 will be at the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St. Pre-conference and post-conference headquarters will be at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle.

VARIOUS SITES FOR CONFERENCE EVENTS

Certain Celebration activities will take place away from the Convention Center. Please refer to the program agenda for event locations, dates, and times.

ALL EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT THOSE AT LOCAL COLLEGE/SCHOOL

All activities are open to the public except those in local schools. A panel discussion will take place at Copiah-Lincoln Community College Feb. 25 and at Natchez High School Feb. 26. These events are especially for area students and faculty.

NAMETAGS

Nametags are pre-printed only for speakers and others involved with the official program. Blank nametags are available at the NLCC registration desk for any conference participant who wishes to print his or her name on a tag and wear it.

TICKETED EVENTS

Though most of the conference is free, there are several ticketed events. Some of these events are sold out, while others have unlimited space. Available tickets will be sold at the Natchez Convention Center or at the door of the event. Please see agenda for sold-out events.
YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER A TICKETED EVENT WITHOUT A TICKET, according to the Natchez Fire Marshal. Over-crowding a site is prohibited.

PARKING

Free parking is allowed along city streets and in the parking lots near the Natchez Convention Center.
On the morning of Feb. 28, the River City Run will take place, but parking on city streets will not be affected.

NLCC BOOKSHOP

A customized bookshop selling books and other items related to the 2004 Celebration is situated in the Convention Center's pre-function area Feb. 25-28. This shop, directed and managed by Eastern National, features current titles by 2004 NLCC speakers, as well as related books, videotapes, and other items. Proceeds benefit the NLCC.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Bus transportation to events away from Celebration headquarters is available only for groups bringing their own buses and for the guided tour on Feb. 27.

CUSTOM MAP

The NLCC map in this booklet provides easy directions for those driving their own cars to events around town.

DOOR PRIZES: BOOKS FROM THE WRITER MAGAZINE

Win! Win! Win! Yes, you can win copies of publications from *The Writer* magazine. All you have to do is register at *The Writer* desk in the Convention Center's pre-function area.
Drawings will be held at the end of each morning's program on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Feb. 26-28. You do NOT have to be present to win. Winning names will be posted near *The Writer* desk. Winners must present photo identification to claim their prizes, all courtesy of *The Writer,* a monthly magazine essential for writers since 1887.

FREE COPIES OF THE WRITER MAGAZINE

Pick up free copies of *The Writer* magazine in the Convention Center's pre-function area, courtesy of *The Writer,* a magazine company with headquarters in Waukesha, Wis. These magazines contain helpful, supportive articles and information and are considered indispensable for writers, readers, teachers, and students.

RECORDING OF NLCC PROGRAMS

A big welcome and a bigger thank-you go to students and faculty from the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, who will digitally record most of the conference programs. Later, these programs will be edited and stored for archival purposes at USM and will be available for scholars and teachers to use in educational pursuits.
Heading this project are Phil Gentile and Dixon McDowell, professors in the USM Department of Radio, Television and Film and several of their students who are majoring in radio/television/film.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004 | Natchez, Mississippi

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Presents Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

Headquarters: Morning of Feb. 25: Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Afternoon and Evening of Feb. 25: Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and are at the Natchez Convention Center.

Wednesday, February 25

PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR, 8-11 a.m. ($10, payable at the door)
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle

Polk

Ward

Harrison

Haigh

"Reading, Teaching, and Studying William Faulkner, Richard Wright, and Margaret Walker Alexander"

Session #1: 8-8:50 a.m., "Reading Faulkner," Noel Polk, Professor of English, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and author of *Reading Faulkner*, introduced by Barbara Haigh, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez

Session #2: 9-9:50 a.m., "Richard Wright's Fiction," Jerry W. Ward Jr., Professor of English and African World Studies, Dillard University, New Orleans, co-founder of the Richard Wright Circle and co-editor of the forthcoming *Richard Wright Encyclopedia*, introduced by Jan Pickle, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez

Session #3: 10-10:50 a.m., "Margaret Walker Alexander: Under the Hat, Out of the Heart," Alferdteen Harrison, Director, Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center, Jackson (Miss.) State University, introduced by Judy Wiggins, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, including an unveiling of a new exhibit about Dr. Alexander and her career

Wiggins

Nettles

Isaac

Pickle

PRE-CONFERENCE PANEL DISCUSSION, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Free for Co-Lin students, faculty, staff, and guests)

"Careers in the Public Arena: It's All about Relationships"

Welcome and introductions by Ron Nettles, Dean; and Corey Isaac, Ben Hei, and John Bond, students, all of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez

Panelists:

- Emmy Award-winning Stuart Margolin, actor/producer/director *(The Rockford Files)*, New York and Natchez
- Emmy Award-winning Barry Phillips, art director for the PBS television series *Wishbone*, Fort Worth
- Natasha Trethewey, professor of creative writing, Emory University, Atlanta, and award-winning author of two books of poetry, *Domestic Work* and *Bellocq's Ophelia*

Hei

Bond

Margolin

Philips

Trethewey

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES
Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

2 p.m., Opening ceremonies and introductions

- Howell Garner, President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- F.L. "Hank" Smith III, Mayor of the City of Natchez
- Carolyn Vance Smith, Copiah-Lincoln; Keith Whisenant, NNHP; Jim Barnett, MDAH; and Marie Antoon, MPB, Celebration co-chairmen
- William Winter Scholars; William and Harriet Vance Fellows; Elderhostel participants; Phi Theta Kappa members; NLCC Advisory Board members; and other special guests

Garner

H. Smith

C. Smith

Whisenant

Barnett

Antoon

Winter

Risley

2:15 p.m., "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South," William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss., Governor of Mississippi, 1980-1984, introduced by Rod A. Risley, Executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa, International Honor Society of the Two-Year College, Jackson, Miss.

3:15 p.m., Break

3:30 p.m., "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times," Robert V. Haynes, Professor of History, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, and author of *The Natchez District during the American Revolution* and (forthcoming) *History of the Mississippi Territory*, to include remarks about Aaron Burr, James Wilkinson, Andrew Ellicott, George Poindexter, and Robert Williams, introduced by John D.W. Guice, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

Haynes

Guice

4:30 p.m., Book signing honoring the afternoon's speakers

Evans

7:30 p.m., "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," a documentary film about a Congressional candidate in Western North Carolina, from *Vote for Me: Politics in America*, produced, directed, and written by Paul Stekler, the University of Texas at Austin, with Louis Alvarez and Andy Kolker, introduced by Robert G. Evans, 13th Circuit Court Judge, State of Mississippi, Raleigh, and editor of *The 16th Mississippi Infantry: Civil War Letters and Reminiscences*

2004 part 1
page 95

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004 | Natchez, Mississippi
Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Presents Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South
Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St.
Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and are at the Natchez Convention Center.

Thursday, February 26

May

Grennell

9 a.m., "John A. Quitman of Antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?" Robert E. May, Professor of History, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., and author of *John A. Quitman: Old South Crusader*, introduced by Darryl Grennell, President, Adams County (Miss.) Board of Supervisors, Natchez

9 a.m., Concurrent event, David Steckler Multi-Purpose Building, Natchez High School, for area high school students, by invitation
Welcome and introductions by Anthony Morris, Superintendent, Natchez-Adams School District
"Careers in the Public Arena: It's All about Relationships," a panel discussion by:
- Emmy Award-winning Stuart Margolin, actor/producer/director (*The Rockford Files*), New York and Natchez
- Emmy Award-winning Barry Phillips, art director for the PBS television series Wishbone, Dallas
- Natasha Trethewey, professor of creative writing, Emory University, Atlanta, and award-winning author of two books of poetry, *Domestic Work* and *Bellocq's Ophelia*

Morris

Margolin

Phillips

Trethewey

10 a.m., Break

Morgan

Morgan

10:15 a.m., "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics," Chester M. Morgan, Chair, Department of History, Delta State University, Cleveland, Miss., and author of *Redneck Liberal: Theodore G. Bilbo and the New Deal*, introduced by Duncan Morgan, member, Board of Trustees, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Natchez

11:30 a.m., Book signing honoring the morning's speakers

1 p.m., "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible," Jerry Purvis Sanson, Professor of History, Louisiana State University, Alexandria, introduced by Eugene Bates, President of the Board of Trustees, Copiah-Lincoln Community College

1:30 p.m., "*Ken Burns' America: Huey Long*," a documentary film by Ken Burns, introduced by Beth Courtney, President and CEO of Louisiana Public Broadcasting, Baton Rouge

Sanson

Bates

Courtney

Polk

Cassagne

3 p.m., Break

3:30 p.m., "Editing *All the King's Men*," Noel Polk, Professor of English, University of Southern Mississippi, and editor, *All the King's Men*, 2002 edition, introduced by Susan Cassagne, Homochitto Valley Library Service Director and Director of the Judge George W. Armstrong Library, Natchez

4:30 p.m., Book signing honoring the afternoon's speakers

McDowell

7:30 p.m., *All the King's Men*, an award-winning film based on Robert Penn Warren's novel by the same name, followed by discussion led by Dixon McDowell,University of Southern Mississippi

Friday, February 27

Prenshaw

Lott

9 a.m., "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-fiction," Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Holder of the Eudora Welty Chair, Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., and editor, *Conversations with Eudora Welty*, introduced by Willis Lott, President of the Mississippi Humanities Council and President, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Perkinston.

10 a.m., Break

10:15 a.m., *George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire*, a documentary biography by Paul Stekler and Daniel McCabe, the University of Texas at Austin, of the four-time candidate for the presidency and longtime Alabama governor, introduced by Eric Glatzer, treasurer, Mississippi Film and Video Alliance, Natchez

Glatzer

Noon, Book signing honoring the morning's speakers

12:30 p.m., Carriage House at Stanton Hall, Luncheon (sold out), followed by a musical program, "The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash," Allen Dennis, Chairman, History Department, Troy (Ala.) State University, introduced by Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director, State Board for Junior and Community Colleges inMississippi, Jackson

Dennis

Stonecypher

2:15 p.m., "Plans for a New Documentary Film, *Jefferson Davis: An American President,*" to be produced by Flying Chaucer Films, LLC, discussed by co-producer and co-writer Brian Gary, Los Angeles and New Orleans, introduced by Percival Beacroft, Freeport, Texas

Gary

2:30-5 p.m., "Natchez Sites Associated with Politics," a tour ($20, beginning and ending at Natchez Convention Center. If buses are sold out, please take your own car.)
- **The Briars,** 1845 marriage site of Varina Howell and Jefferson Davis, 1808-1889, United States Senator, United States Secretary of War, and President of the Confederate States of America, now home of Robert Canon and Newton Wilds
- **Monmouth**, home of John A. Quitman, 1799-1858, Governor of Mississippi, General in the United States Army during the Mexican War, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Vice President of the United States, and United States Congressman, now home of Ron and Lani Riches (refreshments at Monmouth)
- **Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church**, the oldest African-American Baptist church in Mississippi, and for decades the site of civic and political meetings

5-6:30 p.m., Natchez Museum of African-American Culture
Reception honoring NLCC speakers (@ $10, payable at the door)

8 p.m., "Editorial Cartoons," Bruce Plante, *Chattanooga* (Tenn.) *Times Free Press*, President of the American Association of Editorial Cartoonists, and Marshall Ramsey, award-winning cartoonist at *The Clarion-Ledger*, Jackson, Miss., an illustrated discussion about the profession of editorial cartoonists and the impact of cartoons on politics in the South, introduced by John D. W. Guice

Ramsey

Plante

9:30 p.m., Book signing honoring the evening's speakers

2004 part 1
page 96

15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration | Map of Natchez sites

A Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St.

B Carriage House restaurant at Stanton Hall, 401 High St.

C Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle

D Melrose, 1 Melrose-Montebello Parkway

E Natchez Museum of African-American Culture, 301 Main St.

F The Briars, 31 Irving Lane

G Gloucester, 201 Lower Woodville Road

H Monmouth, corner of John Quitman Boulevard and Melrose Avenue

I Rose Hill Baptist Church, 607 1/2 Madison St.

2004 part 1
page 97

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004 | Natchez, Mississippi
Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Presents Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South
Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main St.
Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and are at the Natchez Convention Center.

Saturday, February 28

Cooper

Bramlette

9 a.m., "Jefferson Davis, Politician," William J. Cooper, Jr., Professor of History, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and author of *Jefferson Davis, American*, introduced by David C. Bramlette III, U.S. District Judge, Biloxi, Miss., and Natchez

10 a.m., Break

Mitchell

Thames

10:15 a.m., "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997," Dennis Mitchell, Chair of the Division of Arts and Sciences at Mississippi State University at Meridian, and author of *Mississippi Liberal: A Biography of Frank E. Smith*, introduced by Shelby Thames, President, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

Trethewey

11 a.m., "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry," Natasha Trethewey, associate professor of creative writing at Emory University, Atlanta, and author of two books of poetry, *Domestic Work* and *Bellocq's Ophelia*, introduced by Shelby Thames

11:45 a.m., Book signing honoring the morning's speakers

Campbell

1:30 p.m., "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence," Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., author of *Robert G. Clark's Journey to the House: A Black Politician's Story*, introduced by Paul Johnson, academic dean, Copiah-Lincoln Community College

2:30 p.m., Break

Minor

Salter

Pettus

Adderton

Edwards

2:45 p.m., "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" a panel discussion led by Donald Adderton, editor, *Delta Democrat-Times*, Greenville, Miss.; Bill Minor, syndicated columnist; Sid Salter, columnist, *The Clarion-Ledger*, and Emily Wagster Pettus, Associated Press columnist and reporter, all of Jackson, Miss., introduced and moderated by Gene Edwards, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Jackson

Antoon

3:45 p.m., "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr, and John Grisham," a documentary film by Mississippi Public Broadcasting, introduced by Marie Antoon, Executive Director, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Jackson

Walker

Wilson

Guice

Winter

4:45-6:15 p.m., "Meet the Award Winners," a festive wine-and-cheese party sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, featuring:

- Book signings by the 2004 NLCC award winners Greg Iles, William Scarboroug.h and Gail Gilchriest
- Book signings by 1996 NLCC award winner Ellen Douglas of Natchez and Jackson, Miss., and other authors
- Music by award-winning singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, Nashville, Tenn.
- Display of photographs by documentary photographer David Wharton
- The final opportunity to buy raffle tickets to help raise matching money for the NLCC's Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities
- Remarks by Charles Reagan Wilson, Director of The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi

Emling

Iles

Scarborough

Gilchriest

6:30 p.m., "An Evening with the Stars," conducted by William F. Winter, John D.W. Guice, and Ward Emling, Manager, Mississippi Film Office, Jackson

Presentation of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, underwritten by Natchez Newspapers, Inc., to:

- Greg Iles, Natchez, author of *Spandau Phoenix, Black Cross, Mortal Fear, The Quiet Game, 24 Hours, Dead Sleep, Sleep No More*, and *The Footprints of God*
- William K. Scarborough, University of Southern Mississippi, author of *Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid-Nineteenth-Century South, The Overseer: Plantation Management in the Old South*, and *The Diary of Edmund Ruffin*

Presentation of the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing, underwritten by The Mississippi Film Office, Division of Tourism, Mississippi Development Authority, to:

- Gail Gilchriest, Los Angeles, author of the screenplays *My Dog Skip* (a reminiscence by Willie Morris of Mississippi); *The Ponder Heart* (a novella by Eudora Welty of Mississippi); and *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!*

McDowell

Douglas

8 p.m., The mansion Gloucester, former home of Winthrop Sargent, first Governor of the Mississippi Territory (1798-1801), and now home of John and Gwen Deakle. A gala benefit reception and supper honoring award winners and speakers (sold out)

8 p.m., Natchez Convention Center
Trapped, a showing of a film by Greg Iles based on his novel, *24 Hours*, with coffeehouse discussion afterward led by Greg Iles, Ward Emling, and Dixon McDowell

2004 part 1
page 98

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004 | Natchez, Mississippi

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Presents Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

Headquarters on Sunday, Feb. 29: Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle

Sunday, February 29

POST-CONFERENCE ELLEN DOUGLAS WRITING WORKSHOPS
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 11 Co-Lin Circle
Two workshops and refreshment break ($10, payable at the door)
Most of the costs of the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops are underwritten by Isle of Capri Natchez.

Gilchriest

LaFrancis

Graham

Newsome

Mesker

8:30-10:30 a.m., concurrent sessions. Choose one.

- "Screenwriting for Dummies," by Gail Gilchriest, Los Angeles, author of the award-winning screenplays *My Dog Skip* and *The Ponder Heart*, introduced by Mark LaFrancis, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
- "The African-American Novel from the Early 19th-Century until Today: How Black Writers Write," Maryemma Graham, the University of Kansas, Lawrence, introduced by Thelma Newsome, Member, Board of Trustees, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and Director of Federal Programs, Natchez-Adams School District

Carey

Gary

Wiggins

Abbe

Whipple

Berman

10:30-11 a.m., Refreshment break honoring Ellen Douglas (pen name of Natchez native Josephine Haxton)

11 a.m.-1 p.m., concurrent sessions. Choose one.

- "Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Myths: Utilizing Primary Sources for Fact or Fiction," James Mesker, author, *A Practical Guide to Collecting Civil War*, Cleveland, Ohio, introduced by Delecia Carey, Head of School, Trinity Episcopal School, Natchez
- "Modern Documentary Filmmaking," Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, Flying Chaucer Films, LLC, Los Angeles and New Orleans, introduced by Jim Wiggins, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
- "Get Your Magazine Article Published: 50 Tips from *The Writer* Magazine," Elfrieda Abbe, Editor, *The Writer*, Waukesha, Wis., introduced by Kerry Whipple, Editor, *The Natchez Democrat*, Natchez

POST-CONFERENCE LIVING HISTORY EXHIBIT
The Mansion Melrose, 1 Melrose-Montebello Parkway (free)

1-1:45 p.m. and 3-3:45 p.m. "Politics on Parade," a living history program examining political events in Natchez from the perspectives of three very different historical characters, developed and presented by personnel at the Natchez National Historical Park

2004 part 1
page 99

NLCC awarded grant from National Endowment for Humanities

A new chapter has begun in Mississippi's famed world of humanities. In December 2003 the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded a $100,000 Matching Grant to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The award paves the way for the conference to continue into perpetuity.

Begun in 1990 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and currently co-sponsored by the Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, the NLCC annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, field trips, workshops, exhibits, book signings, and discussions.

The NLCC, winner of an Olympic Award, the Governor's Award, and the Mississippi Tourism Award, has been called by official Mississippi Humanities Council evaluators "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film, and culture."

"What a huge compliment to Natchez, to Mississippi and to the South!" said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin. "This grant is a national stamp of approval for the NLCC. It recognizes the incomparable contributions of our area's great writers, historians, film makers, and scholars. With this funding, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration can continue its important work. I am simply delighted."

Co-chairmen of the NLCC with Smith are Keith Whisenant, Natchez National Historical Park, Jim Barnett, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon, Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

The NEH supports learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities. The Challenge Grant award presented to Co-Lin for the NLCC was one of 27 given in December. Co-Lin was the only community college in the country to win the award and one of only five institutions of higher learning to win.

"A grant like this is a god-send both to Natchez and to the state of Mississippi as a whole," said Natchez resident and *New York Times* best-selling author Greg Iles. "The Literary and Cinema Celebration has been bringing cultural opportunities to this area that are far too rare in the South, and long overdue. Mississippians of every age will benefit from this NEH grant for decades to come, and I think we all owe Carolyn Vance Smith a deep debt of gratitude."

"This grant will enable the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to continue the process of using literature and film to build lives and relationships – a valuable gift to the nation," said Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, a Pulitzer Prize-nominated author and native Mississippian.

NLCC directors

Smith

Whisenant

Barnett

Antoon

Agreeing with Iles and Taulbert is television and film actor Gerald McRaney, a Collins, Miss., native.

"The Celebration is a role model for nationally significant humanities programming," McRaney said. "The cinema side of the Celebration makes it one of the few film festivals that focuses attention on the written word.

"The NEH grant will help enhance the quality and breadth of our programs," McRaney said. "I believe it is money well spent because to have an educated society one must first have a literate society. What makes the Celebration so special is its combination of fascinating topics and world-class speakers and films. I am honored to serve on the Celebration's Advisory Board and as chairman of the committee that selects the annual Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing."

Echoing the compliments are Mississippi Humanities Council Executive Director Barbara Carpenter, Co-Lin Dean Ronnie Nettles, and NNHP Superintendent Keith Whisenant.

"This award certainly means that beyond Mississippi and the region there is a national appreciation for what the NLCC has done," Carpenter said. "The NLCC is one of the Mississippi Humanities Council's shining stars, and we are delighted to have the NLCC receive this funding to start an endowment that will provide stable footing for the Celebration to continue for many years to come."

"We are very pleased about receiving the NEH grant and what it will mean for the future of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration," Nettles said. "The NLCC is already an outstanding literary conference, and the NEH grant and matching funds will allow us to continue to offer this quality program. We are very grateful to all of our partners and co-sponsors for working with us, and we are looking forward to the sustained future of the NLCC."

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is a wonderful event not only for Natchez but for all of Mississippi and the entire South," Whisenant said. "This Challenge Grant will go a long way towards ensuring that this outstanding program continues to entertain and enlighten future generations. We need to remember, though, that the grant requires a match, so we urge everyone who enjoys the Literary and Cinema Celebration to continue their support so that we can take full advantage of the NEH grant."

2004 part 1
page 100

Celebration kicks off fund campaign for NEH matching grant

A campaign to raise $100,000 over the next two years in order to receive a $100,000 Matching Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities was kicked off in mid-February by leaders of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"We are very encouraged by many civic-minded people who have agreed to serve on the Fundraising Committee," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the NLCC. "We think raising the matching money will be a challenge, but it is do-able."

Send contributions to:
▸ NLCC Matching Grant, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.

The money will be used to establish an endowment for the conference, Smith said. "Proceeds from the endowment will assure that the event will live in perpetuity. We are delighted to have this national stamp of approval from the NEH."

The first $30,000 of the Matching Grant must be raised by July 31, 2004, Smith said.

The next level of $40,000 must be raised by July 31, 2005, with the remaining amount due by July 31, 2006.

"If we don't raise the required amount by each deadline, we lose it," Smith said. "Some people already know this, and donations are coming in."

One fundraiser will take place during the 2004 Celebration, Smith said. "We hope to raise quite a bit of money from a benefit reception and dinner at Gloucester, the historic mansion that is the home of Gwen and John Deakle," she said. "Gloucester has recently been restored and is absolutely gorgeous."

This party, to honor 2004 NLCC award winners and speakers, is set for 8 p.m., Feb. 28, following a free awards ceremony at the Natchez Convention Center at 6:30 p.m.. Winning awards at the ceremony are Natchez novelist Greg Iles, University of Southern Mississippi historian William Scarborough and film script writer Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles.

A literary cruise on the RiverBarge Explorer this spring will help raise money for NLCC.

Tickets to the Gloucester event, priced at $125 and limited to 125 people, are sold out.

Another fund-raiser during the NLCC is a raffle of major items, all donated by area merchants and individuals.

Among the raffle packages are a Great River Road Balloon Race weekend, a Natchez Spring Pilgrimage weekend, a "Memories" package that includes a sitting by Natchez photographer T.G. McCary, a *Gone With the Wind* package and a great books package. (See p. 18 for details.)

Yet another major fundraiser is a trip on the Mississippi River called "Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi."

To take place April 6-13, 2004, this trip begins in New Orleans and ends in Memphis onboard the spacious and comfortable RiverBarge Excursion Lines *River Explorer.*

Prices start at $2526 per person, Smith said. "This price pays for everything, including tips, shore trips, tickets, buses, guides, programs, films and round-the-clock great food and service.

"We have room for only 160 people," she said. "This is a trip of a lifetime." (See p. 17 for detais.)

Working with Smith and heading the overall Fundraising Committee is Maria Bowser of Natchez, a retired former community college administrator in Los Angeles. Sharing fund-raising leadership are several people, each in charge of certain areas:

▸ Howell Garner, president of Co-Lin, special grants

▸ Todd Carpenter, president of Natchez Newspapers Inc. and publisher of *The Natchez Democrat,* corporate gifts

▸ F.L. "Hank" Smith III, mayor of Natchez; Darryl Grennell, president of the Adams County Board of Supervisors; Robert M. Dearing, State Senator from Adams County; and Phillip West, member of the House of Representatives from Adams County, governmental funding

▸ Shirley Petkovsek of Callon Petroleum Co., a raffle during the NLCC and a live auction later this year

▸ Margaret and Tom Weed of Natchez, the medical community

▸ Philip E. Carby of Natchez, the legal community

"Todd Carpenter is taking the lead on corporate gifts," Bowser said. "Natchez Newspapers Inc. has pledged $5,000 per year for three years. Todd will challenge other businesses in the area to match or top that pledge."

In other action, Dearing has introduced Senate Bill SB 2471, an appropriation bill that is co-sponsored by Sen. Lynn Posey, Union Church; Sen. Kelvin Butler, Magnolia; Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Brookhaven; and Sen. Perry Lee, Mendenhall.

"Rep. Phillip West is very supportive, also," Smith said. "He guaranteed he will help push this bill through when it arrives in the House of Representatives."

Donations from individuals are sought, and all are tax-deductible, Smith said. "People can send checks to the NLCC Matching Grant, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121. We are excited about this project and look forward to a successful campaign," she said.

2004 part 1
page 101

150

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

"Natchez Sites Associated with Politics"
A Guided Bus Tour to The Briars, Monmouth, and Rose Hill Baptist Church

2:30-5 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004

With Group Departures from Natchez Convention Center

211 Main Street ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$20

081

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Gala Benefit Reception/Supper
Honoring Award Winners and Speakers

8:00 p.m., Saturday, February 28, 2004

The Historic Mansion Gloucester

210 Lower Woodville Road ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$125 ($100 tax-deductible donation)

075

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

"Natchez Sites Associated with Politics"
A Guided Bus Tour to The Briars, Monmouth, and Rose Hill Baptist Church

2:30-5 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004

With Group Departures from Natchez Convention Center

211 Main Street ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$20

054

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Reception Honoring NLCC Speakers

5-6:30 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004

Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture

301 Main Street ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$10

2004 part 1
page 102

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was 'meant to be'

By Carolyn Vance Smith, NLCC founder and co-chairman

I am frequently asked, "How did the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration get started?"

I always answer, "It was meant to be. Many important factors were simply waiting to converge."

First, in the spring of 1989, while I was serving as Coordinator of the English Department and Director of Public Relations at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez, I attended a major educators' conference at The University of Texas at Austin. With me was Dr. Howell C. Garner, then dean of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and now the college's president.

In attendance were 1,500 top educators from all over the country. Splendid lectures and related activities were on the agenda. At one of the programs, I said, "Dr. Garner, this conference is so successful, full of interesting writers and scholars. I bet Co-Lin could host a similar conference in Natchez, but just on a smaller scale."

A patient man with vision, Dr. Garner said, "What do you have in mind?"

"Well," I said, "I'm always looking for strong ways to tie the college into the community. An educational conference would continue the college's academic mission and at the same time attract out-of-towners who would help Natchez's tourism industry. We probably could attract at least 100 people."

"That sounds good," Dr. Garner said. "Put something on paper."

All the way back to Natchez I thought about our upcoming conference. Since at the time I was serving on the Natchez Trace Parkway Association's board, I knew the Natchez Trace was a subject of widespread interest. It hit me: "The Natchez Trace" could be our theme, since it shows up repeatedly in history, fiction, poetry, drama, biography, song, and other segments of the arts and the humanities.

We could get writers and scholars to discuss various aspects of the Trace in their books, I thought.

I even dreamed big dreams. I wanted famous writers, such as Eudora Welty and Margaret Walker Alexander. But we needed assistance to get people like that.

First I went to Dr. Billy B. Thames, then president of Copiah-Lincoln. Next I called on Elbert Hilliard, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Then I contacted former Mississippi Governor William F. Winter, longtime friend of my husband, Marion Smith. All agreed to help.

I then met with Brad Chism, at that time Director of the Natchez Convention and Visitor Bureau, and Dr. Cora Norman, then Director of the Mississippi Humanities Council. Both agreed to help.

Finally, I asked Becky Nevill and Kenneth Taylor, both instructors at Copiah-Lincoln and members of the college's Publicity Committee, to be co-chairmen with me. They agreed to do so.

Then I set about lining up the program. I knew from teaching American literature that my idol, Miss Welty, had written a short story, "A Worn Path," and set it on the Trace near Natchez.

I had had the honor of spending a weekend with her in 1982 at Mississippi University for Women when I was President of the MUW Alumnae Association and she was there to receive the first Medal of Excellence. I was overjoyed to be the one to present the medal to her.

But by 1989 I thought she would have forgotten me. When I called and introduced myself, this gracious lady instantly made me feel we were old friends. After I explained the Literary Celebration, without hesitation she agreed to be on the program.

Dr. Alexander likewise agreed to appear, and so did a dozen other superstars. Months went by as we worked on details. Then the first Natchez Literary Celebration took place June 7-9, 1990.

Those three days flew by. On the evening of June 9, 1990, an overflow crowd gathered after dinner at the Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall to hear Miss Welty read "A Worn Path."

The entire room was dead silent as she mesmerized us with that beautiful story of self-sacrifice and love. When she finished, people were in tears as they leaped to their feet in a thundering ovation. Miss Welty had reached into our hearts with her poignant story.

So did other speakers and events during that first Literary Celebration. At the dedication of Melrose to the National Park Service, the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra performed on the front lawn as more than 1,000 people took part in a truly historical moment.

In all, the 1990 Celebration reached not just 100 people, as I had first dreamed, but many times that number. Response has been the same each year since, especially because of the generous support of the Natchez community.

That support began when the Natchez National Historical Park joined Copiah-Lincoln as a Celebration co-sponsor. My first National Park co-chairman was Stuart Johnson; later came Gerald Gaumer, Robert Dodson, and now, Keith Whisenant.

In 1994 the Mississippi Department of Archives and History officially became a co-sponsor with Jim Barnett as co-chairman. And last year, 2003, Mississippi Public Broadcasting became a co-sponsor with Marie Antoon as co-chairman.

Other major support has come from The University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture, Alcorn State University, The University of Southern Mississippi and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Indeed, each year since the beginning the MHC has given the Celebration the highest compliment it can give: annual funding. Official MHC evaluators say that the Celebration helps meet the needs of people who are starved for a world in which their own minds are allowed to flourish. They say the Celebration is "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film, and culture."

Since the beginning, the Celebration's top goal has remained the same: to provide a springboard to the world of books, films and ideas. In 2001, the Celebration changed its name slightly to reflect its increasing use of quality films and documentaries. Since then the name has been the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, a suggestion made by longtime supporter, the actor Gerald McRaney.

The Celebration's other goal is to encourage a more open, accepting attitude among participants old and young, black and white, rich and poor, highly educated and educationally deprived. As a lifelong educator and a lover of books, I rejoice over the Celebration's first 15 years.

But I also look forward to future Celebrations. My hope is that they will continue to follow Miss Welty's "worn path" — a path lined with books, stories, and films and the deeply meaningful messages they hold for all of us.

2004 part 1
page 103

Special attendees

Welcome to special groups!

William Winter Scholars 2004

Several outstanding Humanities Division students, faculty members and professionals have been named William Winter Scholars for the 2004 NLCC. Each was chosen by his or her educational institution as the Humanities Division's most outstanding faculty member or student.

This award allows winners to attend most of the ticketed events at the NLCC free of charge. The annual award also carries with it prestige and public acknowledgment of how highly the person is regarded by his or her institution.

The appellation honors former Mississippi Gov. Wiliam F. Winter, who has served as Director of Proceedings for the NLCC each year since the event began in 1990.

This year's honorees hail from institutions across the state. Their names, their institutions, and their hometowns are:

William Winter Faculty/Administrative Scholars

Jean Biglane, Cathedral School, Natchez
Thomas Boschert, Delta State University, Duncan
Peggy Seay Brent, Hinds Community College, Jackson
Janice Coleman, Alcorn State University, Alcorn State
Barbara Fuller, Simpson County Academy, Magee
Alice Long, Rust College, Holly Springs
Pat McCormack, Itawamba Community College, Fulton
Nancy McLemore, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
Faye Moulds, Jones Junior College, Ellisville
Kim Sanford, Mississippi Delta Community College, Moorhead
Justin Starling, Jones Junior College, Mt. Olive

William Winter Student Scholars

Heather Gauslin, Itawamba Community College, Guntown
Amber King, Hinds Community College, Jayess
Kimberly Mallet, Alcorn State University, Alcorn State
Morgan Mizell, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
Maurice Stanfer, Rust College, Holly Springs
Neal Stephens, Simpson County Academy, Magee
Katie Tumminello, Cathedral School, Natchez

William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellows 2004

Exemplary teachers have been chosen to receive the annual William and Harriet Vance Memorial Fellowships for the 2004 NLCC. These fellowships cover the cost of all ticketed events except the gala fundraiser.

The fellowships are underwritten by friends and family and are in memory of Harriet Mitchell Vance, 1917-1996, and William Jackson Vance, 1914-2001, both of Natchez, Miss. They were longtime supporters of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the NLCC.

Winners are certified teachers or administrators in grades 1-12 in accredited schools who were chosen for outstanding leadership by their schools' top administrators. Schools and winners are:

Geraldine Brown, Natchez-Adams School District
Theresa Frye, Natchez-Adams School District
Cheryl Hunt, Cathedral School, Natchez
Lula James, Natchez-Adams School District
Letha Thomas, Natchez-Adams School District
Martha Tuccio, Natchez-Adams School District
Paul Stephens, Trinity Episcopal School, Natchez

Phi Theta Kappa Honorees

Outstanding members of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for students in the two-year college, were chosen by their chapters to represent them at the NLCC. This is the inaugural PTK class at the NLCC. These outstanding students, their colleges and their hometowns are:

Kimberle Arnold, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
Kristie Calhoun, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
DeSean Dyson, Mississippi Delta Community College, Clinton
Brittany Greer, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Wesson
Cindy Moak, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Wesson
Demareus Price, Mississippi Delta Community College, Clinton
Justin Starling, Jones Junior College, Mt. Olive

Other special guests: Student/faculty groups

Adams County Christian School, Natchez
Cathedral School, Natchez
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez
Mississippi School of the Arts, Brookhaven
Natchez-Adams School District schools
Trinity Episcopal School, Natchez
Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

Other special groups:

Advisory Board, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi
Members of the Board of Trustees, Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Elderhostel travel/study participants from across the United States
Teachers receiving Continuing Education Units
Board members, Mississippi Humanities Council
Board members, Mississippi Institute for Arts and Letters
Members, Mississippi Film and Video Alliance
Advisory Board members, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Friends of Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Participants attending a meeting of Southeast Regional African American Preservation

2004 part 1
page 104

Celebration *donors*

Generous support for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration comes from many sources. These include:

- The National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grants Program: Special Initiative for Local History with a new $100,000 grant to the NLCC, to be matched dollar-for-dollar by July 31, 2006. All monies will help establish an NLCC endowment to secure the program into perpetuity.
- The National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council with a grant of $10,000. The MHC has supported the Celebration annually since it began in 1990.
- Mississippi Tourism Matching Grants Program

CASH CONTRIBUTIONS - MATCHING GRANTS - DIRECT PAYMENTS

Benefactors ($1,000 or more in donations/payments)

Adams County Board of Supervisors
The Briars: Newton Wilds and Robert Canon
The City of Natchez
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
David and Gwendolyn Ball
John and Gwen Deakle
Eastern National
Educational Travel Associates, Inc.
Entergy
Gloucester: John and Gwen Deakle
Greenlea: Philip and Stella Carby
Isle of Capri – Natchez, Inc.: Jose Oakley
Linden: Jeanette Feltus
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Mississippi Film Office
Mississippi Humanities Council
Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau
Natchez National Historical Park, National Park Service
The Natchez Democrat - Natchez Newspapers Inc.
Ron and Lani Riches
Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church
SSS Foundation
Marion Smith
Truly, Smith & Latham, P.L.L.C.
Twin Oaks: Doug and Regina Charboneau
University of Mississippi, Center for the Study of Southern Culture
University of Southern Mississippi
The Writer magazine

Patrons ($999-$500)

Anonymous
Robert and Bettina Barnes
BellSouth Mississippi
Sim and Vera Callon
Callon Petroleum Co.
Cellular South
Concordia Bank & Trust Co.
Copiah-Lincoln Community College/ Student Support Services
Will and Betsy Feltus
Deborah Firmin
John Mathew
Profitt's/McRae's
Natchez Historical Society
Natchez Regional Medical Center
Michael Stemkoski and Utah Valley State College
United Mississippi Bank
Tricia Walker
The Writer Magazine
Robert and Yvonne Bertolet
Henry and Beth Brevard
Britton & Koontz First National Bank
William and Ruth Ellen Calhoun: Elgin Plantation
Dott Cannon
Janet Clark
Natalie Davis
Robert and Paula Evans
Joseph F. Fortunato
William E. and Rose Godfrey
Forrest and Debbie Germany
John and Nancy Guice
Hugh and Catherine Harris
Hayden and Barbara Kaiser
Donald and Lynn Kartiganer
Norma Keyes
Scott Kimbrell
Bazile and Anne Lanneau
Learning Works in Mississippi, Brookhaven
Claudia Limbert
Aubrey and Ella Lucas
Mississippi Film and Video Alliance
Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce
Natchez-Adams School District
Natchez Community Hospital
Rotary Club of Natchez
Bruce and Jan Scarborough
Silas M. Simmons & Co.
Sally Simms
H.I. III and Judy Stahlman
Stephens & Hobdy Insurance
Kenneth and Karen Stubbs/Riverview
A.C.Tipton
Sam Tomlinson and Susanne Kirk
University of Southern Mississippi
Jerry W. Ward Jr.

Supporters ($99-$25)

Bruce and Darleine Bucklew
Terry and Paula Estes
Lynn Crosby Gammill
Kimbrell Office Supply
Keith Dockery McLean
Margaret Moss
G. Doug Nigreville
Limuel and Laura Parks
Billy Ray Reynolds
Armando T. Ricci Jr.
Frances Trosclair
Bernard and Lucianne Wood

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Assistance

Adams County Board of Supervisors
Alexandria (La.) *Town Talk* newspaper
Blockbusters of Natchez
Bluffs and Bayous magazine
Britton & Koontz First National Bank
Canal Street Coffee Roasters
Carriage House Restaurant
Cathedral School
Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi
City of Natchez Mayor's Office
City of Natchez Police Department
The Clarion-Ledger, Jackson, Miss.
Concordia Parish Libraries
Copiah-Lincoln Elderhostel Program
Copiah-Lincoln Institute for Learning in Retirement
Copiah-Lincoln Phi Beta Lambda members
Copiah-Lincoln Phi Theta Kappa members
Copiah-Lincoln Student Hospitality

2004 part 1
page 105

Celebration *donors*

Copiah-Lincoln Student Support Services
Country Roads magazine
Cover to Cover Books & More
Darby's Gifts and Decorative Accessories
Dianne's Frame Shop
Eastern National
Educational Travel Associates, Inc.
Friends of Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Great River Road Balloon Race
Isle of Capri – Natchez, Inc.
KALB television, Alexandria, La.
The Library of America
Live Oak Nursery
Louisiana Public Broadcasting
Maxwell Printing
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Land Co.
Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Mississippi School of the Arts
Murray Printing
Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce
Natchez-Adams School District
Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture
Natchez Coca-Cola Co.
Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau
Natchez Convention Center
The Natchez Democrat/The Miss-Lou Guide
Natchez Festival of Music - *Show Boat* tickets
Natchez High School
Natchez National Historical Park
Natchez Pilgrimage Tours
Natchez Printing Co.
Natchez Visitors Reception Center
Natchez Women's Book Society
Old South Winery
Ramada Hilltop Inn
Southern Carriage Tours
Glenn R. Swetman
T.G. McCary Photography
Trinity Episcopal School
Truly, Smith & Latham, P.L.L.C.
Valley Food Services
Vidalia Women's Club
WQNZ Radio Station, Natchez
The Writer magazine

Houses, buildings and sites

(providing complimentary lodging for speakers and other use of facilities)

Aunt Frannie's Cottage: Vernon and Frances Pike
Bailey House: Jack and Linda Rodriguez
Rawdon and Kathie Blankenstein's home
The Briars: Newton Wilds and Robert Canon
The Burn: Ty and Sonja Taylor
Carriage House: Pilgrimage Garden Club
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Elgin: William and Ruth Ellen Calhoun
Glen Auburn: Randy and Ann Tillman
Gloucester: John and Gwen Deakle
Greenlea: Philip and Stella Carby
Hope Farm: Ethel Banta
Highpoint: Frank Bauer and John Davis
Isle of Capri Hotel
Judge George W. Armstrong Library
Linden: Jeanette Feltus
Magnolia Hall: Natchez Garden Club
Miss Lucy's Cottage: Bernard and Lucianne Wood
Monmouth Plantation: Ron and Lani Riches
NAPAC Museum
Natchez Convention Center: Walter Tipton
The Natchez Democrat Townhouse: Todd Carpenter
Natchez Visitors Reception Center
Pleasant Hill: John and Valerie Bergeron
Ramada Hilltop Inn: Scott Swinny
Shields Town House: Marie Perkins
Twin Oaks: Doug and Regina Charbonneau

Advisory *board*

Members of the Advisory Board of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration hail from coast to coast and bring a wealth of expertise and advice with them, said Jim Barnett, NLCC Co-chairman.

Barnett, Director of Historic Properties for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, serves as one of four NLCC co-chairmen.

The others are Keith Whitenant, Superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park; Marie Antoon, Executive Director of Mississippi Public Broadcasting; and Carolyn Vance Smith, former Director of Public Relations and former Coordinator of the English Department at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. Smith and Co-Lin founded the Celebration in 1990.

The four co-chairmen form the NLCC Steering Committee and serve as leaders of the Advisory Board, which was established in 2000. Assisting them are Marsha Colson, NLCC office manager; Christy Williams, NLCC administrative assistant; and Marla Bowser, NLCC Director of Development.

Many board members have registered for the 15th annual Celebration. Some are coming especially for the Advisory Board breakfast meeting at Monmouth on Feb. 27.

Members of the Advisory Board are:

Vicki Bodenhamer, Executive Director, Mississippi School of the Arts, Brookhaven

Henri Bollinger, Henri Bollinger Associates, Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Betsy Bradley, Executive Director, Mississippi Arts Commission, Jackson, Miss.

David C. Bramlette, U.S. District Court Judge, Woodville, Miss.

Todd Carpenter, Publisher, *The Natchez Democrat*, Natchez, Miss.

Ward Emling, Manager, Mississippi Film Office, Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development, Jackson, Miss.

Howell C. Garner, President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Wesson and Natchez, Miss.

Laura Godfrey, President, Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce

John D. W. Guice, Professor of History, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Barry Hannah, author, Oxford, Miss.

Alferdteen Harrison, Director, Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center, Jackson State University, Jackson, Miss.

Macy Hart, Director, Museum of Southern Jewish Experience, Jackson, Miss.

Sam Haskell, The William Morris Agency, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Elbert Hilliard, Director, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Greg Iles, author, Natchez, Miss.

Aubrey K. Lucas, Past President, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Stuart Margolin, Actor/Producer/Director, New York and Natchez, Miss.

Millicent Mayo, Public Relations Director, Natchez-Adams School District, Natchez, Miss.

Scott Dixon McDowell, Film Studies, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Gerald McRaney, actor, Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Anthony Morris, Superintendent, Natchez-Adams School District, Natchez, Miss.

JoAnne Prichard Morris, Editor, Jackson, Miss.

Victor Nunez, Filmmaker, Tallahassee, Fla.

Jennifer Ogden, Producer, Santa Monica, Calif.

Bruce Boyd Raeburn, Director, Hogan Jazz Archive, Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

Lani and Ron Riches, Monmouth Plantation, Natchez, Miss.

David G. Sansing, historian and author, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.

Clifton Taulbert, author and lecturer, Freemount Corporation, Tulsa, Okla.

Connie Taunton, Manager, Natchez Film Commission, Natchez, Miss.

Charles Vahlkamp, Professor of American Film Studies, Centre College, Danville, Ky.

Jerry W. Ward, Professor of English, Dillard University, New Orleans, La.

Thomas Weed, physician, Natchez, Miss.

Samuel L. White, Director, Resource Development and Sponsored Programs, Alcorn State University, Lorman, Miss.

Charles Reagan Wilson, Director, The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.

William F. Winter, President, Board of Trustees, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Charles Yarborough, Faculty, Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, Columbus, Miss.

2004 part 1
page 106

file NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

To: kgerald@mhc.state.ms.us
Cc: Colson, Marsha
Subject: Short info about 2003 NLCC

Hi, Kelly,
Thank you for asking for an overview paragraph about the 2003 NLCC for use in the upcoming issue of the MHC newsletter. Here goes:

From Lewis and Clark to Billy Bob Thornton: 2003 NLCC Salutes Exploration and Discovery

About one-third of the programming at the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 19-23, 2003, saluted the Louisiana Purchase and the resulting Lewis and Clark expedition. But the rest of the five-day conference covered the gamut. Using the theme "Exploration and Discovery Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase," programs ranged far and wide. Academy Award-winning screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton explained his film, "Sling Blade," while Edward Cohen, author of *The Peddler's Grandson,* commented on his dual Southern/Jewish identity. More than 3,000 people attended segments of the Olympic Award-winning conference, which has been funded for each of its 14 years by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. Co-sponsors and co-chairmen are Copiah-Lincoln Community College/Carolyn Vance Smith, Natchez National Historical Park/Keith Whisenant, Mississippi Department of Archives and History/Jim Barnett, and Alcorn State University/Ralph Payne. The 15th annual Celebration will take place Feb. 25-29, 2004, with the theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

Hope that is OK. Thanks again.
Carolyn Vance Smith

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Elderhostel/Educational Travel Associates, Inc.
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
E-mail: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu

2004 part 1
page 107

Awards to go to three outstanding writers at 15th annual NLCC

Three outstanding writers, all with strong Southern roots, will receive major awards at the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in free ceremonies at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Natchez Convention Center.

Award winners are the novelist Greg Iles of Natchez; the historian William Scarborough of The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg; and the screenplay writer Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles, formerly of east Texas.

All will be present to accept the awards and present remarks.

Iles and Scarborough will win the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, to be presented by former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter and awards committee co-chairman John D.W. Guice of The University of Southern Mississippi.

Gilchriest will win the Horton Foote Special Achievement Award for Screenplay Writing, to be presented by award committee member Ward Emling, manager, Mississippi Film Office, Jackson.

Greg Iles

Greg Iles was born in Germany, where his father managed the U.S. Embassy Medical Clinic during the height of the Cold War. He grew up in Natchez, Miss., and was graduated from The University of Mississippi in 1983. He worked for several years as guitarist and vocalist for the band Frankly Scarlet, but after getting married in 1989, decided to turn to writing novels.

Iles

His first novel, *Spandau Phoenix*, a thriller about Nazi war criminal Rudolph Hess, was a *New York Times* bestseller. His second novel, *Black Cross*, set during the Holocaust in Germany, was awarded the 1995 Mississippi Authors Award for fiction by the Mississippi Library Association and the Bertelsmann award for new fiction, after being nominated for the prize by John Grisham.

His third novel, set in the South, was also a *New York Times* bestseller. *Mortal Fear* traces a duel between a computer sysop and a serial killer.

Next was *The Quiet Game*, published in 1999, about a search for justice in a Southern town. In 2000 came *24 Hours*, a suspense novel with riveting action. This novel was written after Iles wrote a screenplay named *24 Hours*. The film was re-named *Trapped* and starred Charlize Theron and Kevin Bacon.

In 2001 came *Dead Sleep*, and in 2003, *Sleep No More*. His latest novel, *The Footprints of God*, was released in the summer of 2003 to much acclaim. He is currently working on another novel, set in Natchez, to be released later this year.

Iles lives with his wife and two children in Natchez. For relaxation, he writes and records original music with close friends and with the Rock Bottom Remainders, a group of writers (including horror novelist Stephen King) who love to play music.

William Scarborough

A native of Annapolis, Md., where his father was a math professor at the U.S. Naval Academy, Scarborough was graduated from the University of North Carolina with Phi Beta Kappa honors. After two years of active duty aboard the battleship *USS New Jersey*, he entered graduate school, receiving a master's degree in history from Cornell University and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina.

Scarborough

After brief teaching stints at Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., and Northeast Louisiana University, he joined the faculty at The University of Southern Mississippi, where he is professor and former chair of the History Department.

Considered a leading authority on the Civil War and the plantation slavery system of the Old South, Scarborough has written several books, chapters in other books and numerous articles an reviews.

His principal publications include *The Overseer: Plantation Management in the Old South;* a three-volume *The Diary of Edmund Ruffin*; and, in 2003, *Masters of the Big House: The Elite Slaveholders of the Mid-Nineteenth Century South.*

Both *The Diary of Edmund Ruffin* and *Masters of the Big House* won the Jules and Frances Landry Award for the best manuscript accepted for publication by LSU Press.

Scarborough is a past president of the Mississippi Historical Society and the St. George Tucker Society. He and his wife live in Hattiesburg and are the parents of two children.

Gail Gilchriest

Gail Gilchriest, who grew up in Silsbee, Texas, lives now in Los Angeles, where she pursues a successful screenwriting career. She is the author of numerous projects, including feature films. They are:

Gilchriest

* The screenplay adaptation of a novel by Mississippian Willie Morris called *My Dog Skip*, from Mark Johnson Productions, released by Warner Brothers in 2000

* The teleplay adaptation of a novella by Mississippian Eudora Welty called *The Ponder Heart*, by ALT Films, which premiered at the 2001 NLCC and aired on PBS/Mobil Masterpiece Theater in 2001

* *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!* by Harpo Films, produced by Oprah Winfrey and Kate Forte and distributed by ABC

* *Scarlett Fever*, also known as *The Belle*, by Dinovi Pictures/Warner Brothers, a romantic comedy inspired by *Gone with the Wind*

* *High Hopes*, also known as *Suddenly Yours*, by Out of the Blue Entertainment/Immi Pictures

* *Crazy Love* and *The Hunting of Hiram C. Hopgood*

Television scripts she has written include *My Dog Skip* and *Baby Makes Three*. Animation work includes *The Return of the Diamond Avenger* by Walt Disney Television Animation.

Gilchriest has also written the documentaries *O Cowgirls!* and *Tyrone Power: The Last Idol*, an A&E Biography.

She has won numerous professional awards, including the Christopher Award in New York for *My Dog Skip* in 2000; the Chesterfield Writers' Film Project, Los Angeles, quarterfinalist, in 1997; the Cinestory Screenwriter's Conservatory, Chicago, quarterfinalist, in 1997; Nicholl Screenwriting Fellowship, Los Angeles, quarterfinalist, 1996; and Press Club of Dallas "Katie" Award for Feature Writing, 1989.

Gilchriest holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and has studied further at Columbia University and New York University.

Iles, Scarborough, and Gilchriest will be honored at an autograph session, 4:45-6:15 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, at the Convention Center, prior to, the awards ceremony. In addition, Iles, Emling, and University of Southern Mississippi film scholar Dixon McDowell will lead a discussion of Iles' film *Trapped* after a screening that evening. The free film begins at the Convention Center at 8 p.m. with a coffeehouse discussion beginning at approximately 10 p.m.

About the Richard Wright Award

The Richard Wright award was established in 1994 by the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration to honor the internationally known author, Richard Wright. This man was born near Natchez in 1908, the son of a country schoolteacher and an illiterate sharecropper. Wright's first novel, *Native Son*, was published in 1940 and was an immediate success. His *Black Boy*, a fictionalized autobiography, was published in 1945 and sold 400,000 copies in three months. After leaving Natchez at a young age, Wright worked in Chicago and later moved to Paris, where he died in 1960.

Winners of the award are honored each year for a body of literary work. They must be outstanding, living writers with a strong Mississippi connection. The award is funded each year by Natchez Newspapers Inc., publisher of *The Natchez Democrat* and *The Miss-Lou Buyers' Guide*.

Wright was also honored by the Celebration on June 9, 1990, when an historic marker bearing his name was erected on the Natchez Bluff in ceremonies attended by Wright family members and friends.

About the Horton Foote Award

The Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing is named after Horton Foote of Wharton, Texas, an Oscar-Winning and Pulitzer Prize-Winning writer of screenplays, plays, and a non-fiction memoir. Foote won the first award in 2002, after which time the award was named in his honor. Winner of the award in 2003 was Billy Bob Thornton, Academy Award-winning screenplay writer of *Sling Blade* and other noted films.

Foote, called the "American Chekhov," gained acclaim with the plays *The Young Man from Atlanta*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *The Chase*, *The Traveling Lady*, *On Valentine's Day*, *Convicts*, *The Carpetbagger's Children*, and *Tender Mercies*. Foote is also lauded for the screenplays *Storm Fear*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (which won an Oscar), *Baby, the Rain Must Fall*, *Hurry Sundown*, *Tomorrow* (an adaptation of William Faulkner's work), *Tender Mercies*, and a remake of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. He is also author of a recent memoir, *Farewell*, which tells his own story and that of people who inspired his characters.

The award is underwritten by the Mississippi Film Office, Division of Tourism, Mississippi Development Authority.

2004 part 1
page 108

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN: *POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2004

COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR, 8-10:50 a.m. ($10)
"Reading, Teaching, and Studying
William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander"

- **"William Faulkner,"** Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi
- **"Margaret Walker Alexander,"** Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas, and Alferdteen Harrison, Jackson State University

PRE-CONFERENCE PANEL, 11 a.m.
"Careers in the Public Arena:
All About Relationships"

- **Stuart Margolin,** Natchez actor/producer *(Rockford Files)*
- **Clifton Taulbert,** Tulsa author *(Eight Habits of the Heart)*
- **Natasha Trethewey,** Atlanta poet *(Domestic Work)*

NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
Scoundrels to Statesmen:
Politics in the Deep South

Director of Proceedings:
William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss.

2 p.m. Conference Opening Ceremonies

- **Howell Garner,** President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- **E. L. "Hank" Smith III,** Mayor, City of Natchez
- **Carolyn Vance Smith, Keith Whisenant, Jim Barnett,** and **Marie Antoon,** NLCC Co-chairmen
- **William Winter Scholars**
- **William and Harriet Vance Fellows**
- **Phi Theta Kappa Members**
- **NLCC Advisory Board Members**

2:15 p.m. "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South," William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss., Governor of Mississippi, 1980-84

3:30 p.m. "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times," Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University *(The Natchez District during the American Revolution)*

7:30 p.m. "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," a documentary film from *Vote for Me: Politics in America,* **Paul Stekler,** University of Texas at Austin

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004

9 a.m. "John A. Quitman of Antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?" Robert E. May, Purdue University *(John A. Quitman: Old South Crusader)*

10:15 a.m. "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics," Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University *(Redneck Liberal: Theodore G. Bilbo and the New Deal)*

1 p.m. "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible," Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, Alexandria

1:30 p.m. "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long," a documentary film by **Ken Burns**

3:30 p.m. "Editing Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men,"* Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi

4:30 p.m. Reception honoring **Elbert Hilliard,** Director Emeritus, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

7:30 p.m. *All the King's Men,* a showing of the award-winning film, with discussion afterward

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2004

9 a.m. "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-Fiction," Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Millsaps College *(Conversations with Eudora Welty)*

10:15 a.m. "George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire," a documentary film by **Paul Stekler,** University of Texas at Austin

12:30 p.m. CARRIAGE HOUSE AT STANTON HALL ($20) A luncheon followed by **"The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash," Allen Dennis,** Troy State University

2:15 p.m. "Jefferson Davis: An American President," a premiere trailer of a documentary film by **Wendi Berman** and **Gary Brian,** Flying Chaucer Films, Los Angeles

2:30-5 p.m. "Natchez Sites Associated with Politics," a guided tour with transportation and refreshments ($20), featuring **The Briars** (Jefferson Davis); **Monmouth** (John A. Quitman), and **Rose Hill Baptist Church** (civic and political meetings)

5-6:30 p.m. NATCHEZ MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE Reception honoring NLCC speakers ($10)

8 p.m. "Editorial Cartoons," Bruce Plante, *Chattanooga Times Free Press;* **Marshall Ramsey,** *The Clarion Ledger* (Jackson, Miss.); and **Scott Stantis,** *Birmingham Daily News,* a panel discussion moderated by **John D. W. Guice,** University of Southern Mississippi

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2004

9 a.m. "Jefferson Davis: Politician," William J. Cooper Jr., Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge *(Jefferson Davis, American)*

10:15 a.m. "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997," Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University at Meridian *(Mississippi Liberal: A Biography of Frank E. Smith)*

11 a.m. "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry," Natasha Trethewey, Emory University *(Domestic Work)*

1:30 p.m. "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence," Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn. *(Robert G. Clark's Journey to the House: A Black Politician's Story)*

2:45 p.m. "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" a panel discussion by the journalists **Donald Adderton,** Greenville, Miss., and **Bill Minor, Sid Salter,** and **Emily Wagster,** all of Jackson, Miss., moderated by **Gene Edwards,** Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

3:45 p.m. "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr, and John Grisham," a documentary film by Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

6:30 p.m. "An Evening with the Stars," An Awards Ceremony Conducted by **William F. Winter, Gerald McRaney,** Los Angeles, and **David G. Sansing,** University of Mississippi

Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards

- **Greg Iles,** Natchez, Miss., *Spandau Phoenix, Black Cross, Mortal Fear, 24 Hours, Sleep No More,* and *The Footprints of God*
- **William K. Scarborough,** University of Southern Mississippi, *Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid Nineteenth-Century South* and *The Overseer*

Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing

- **Gail Gilchriest,** Los Angeles, *My Dog Skip* (based on Willie Morris' book), *The Ponder Heart (*based on Eudora Welty's novella), *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!*

8 p.m. HISTORIC GLOUCESTER, Once Home of Winthrop Sargent, first Governor of the Mississippi Territory, a gala benefit reception/supper honoring award winners and speakers. (Limited to 100 people @ $125; $100 is tax-deductible.)

8 p.m. NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
"Trapped," a film by **Greg Iles,** with coffee house discussion afterward, led by **Ward Emling,** Mississippi Film Office

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2004

ELLEN DOUGLAS WRITING WORKSHOPS
COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
($10 for two workshops and refreshments)

8:30-10:30 a.m. Choose one session.

- **"Screenwriting for Dummies," Gail Gilchriest,** Los Angeles, author of the screenplays *My Dog Skip* and *The Ponder Heart*
- **"The African-American Novel from the Early 19th-Century until Today: How Black Writers Write," Maryemma Graham,** University of Kansas

10:30-11 a.m., Reception honoring **Ellen Douglas** (pen name of Natchez native Josephine Haxton), Jackson, Miss.

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Choose one session.

- **"Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Myths: Utilizing Primary Sources for Fact or Fiction," James Mesker,** *(A Practical Guide to Collecting Civil War),* Cleveland, Ohio
- **"Modern Documentary Filmmaking," Wendi Berman and Brian Gary,** *Flying Chaucer Films, LLC, Los Angeles and New Orleans*
- **"Get Your Magazine Article Published: 50 Tips from *The Writer* Magazine," Elfrieda Abbe,** Editor, *The Writer*

NOTE: A total of 3.7 Continuing Education Units are available for those attending the conference. Please inquire.

2004 part 1
page 109

Actor Stuart Margolin taking riverbarge trip with NLCC in April

Though the internationally known, award-winning actor/director/producer/screenplay writer/songwriter Stuart Margolin was born on the banks of the Mississippi River in Davenport, Iowa, he left there as a child.

Little did he know that one day America's legendary river would again figure prominently in his life.

Margolin

After moving from Davenport to Dallas, he later lived and worked in many places: Tennessee, New York City, Arizona, California, Italy, British Columbia, and, a few years ago, Natchez, Miss.

"It was in 1998, while I was in Natchez to direct the CBS television show, *Promised Land*, starring Gerald McRaney, that my wife, Pat, and I fell in love with the town," Margolin said.

"We came back to attend the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration," he said. "By May of 2001 we had bought a house, and in December 2001 we moved in to stay. We love Natchez."

Margolin has appeared in more than 25 movies and 200 television shows but perhaps is best known for his role of Angel Martin in the long-running Universal/CBS' television series, *The Rockford Files*.

For this role, he won two Emmy Awards for Best Supporting Actor in a One-Hour Drama and was nominated a third time.

Other awards reveal Margolin's varying talents. He has won the Best Director Award from the Directors Guild of America for his children's film, *Salt Water Moose;* the Donatello Award for Best Directing for the Italian television film, *Donna D'Honore*, released in the United States as *Vendetta;* and the Jessie Award for Best Actor in the Vancouver Theatre for his role in *I'm Not Rappaport.*

On top of all this, he is a successful writer/actor (Bret Maverick, Glitterdome, Love American Style and the Western series, Nichols); song writer ("Day After Day," which rose to *Billboard's* Top 20, as well as an album on the Warner Bros. label called And the Angel Sings); television show director (Mary Tyler Moore Show, Touched by An Angel and fifty others); and author of film scripts, television movies, plays, and even a recently completed first novel.

After moving to Natchez, it didn't take long for Margolin to begin sharing his talents. He immediately joined the Advisory Board of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration; presented his award-winning film, *Salt Water Moose*, at the 2003 conference; and will be a program presenter at the 15th annual Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004.

In addition, he has directed a student production of William Saroyan's *Hello Out There* and has now volunteered to present dramatic readings of some of the South's most famous literature during a Celebration-sponsored Mississippi River cruise from New Orleans to Memphis, April 6-13, 2004.

This cruise, to benefit the Celebration's new endowment fund, is called "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi." Margolin will read selections from Mark Twain, Ernest Gaines, Walker Percy, Richard Wright, and other well-known writers who have lived and worked along the Mississippi River.

"I'm excited about the trip, imagining what I'll hear and see and learn," Margolin said. "It will be an educational experience. "But I'm also excited about the journey, the mode of travel on the river. As an adult I have not traveled on the river. I'm looking forward to it."

Literary Celebration charters RiverBarge Explorer

Take three things the South is most famous for — music, literature and story-telling — and add the Mississippi River, great food, and abundant hospitality, and you've got a trip to remember.

"Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi" is the theme of a unique experience April 6-13, when a limited number of passengers will spend eight days traveling from New Orleans to Memphis on the spacious and comfortable RiverBarge Excursion Lines *River Explorer.*

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, an annual conference in Natchez, has chartered the vessel for the trip. Proceeds will benefit the conference's new endowment fund, established by the event's co-sponsors, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Broadcasting Networks.

"Some of the country's most respected writers, film makers, musicians, historians, story tellers, critics, and chefs will be onboard the *River Explorer* to share with the rest of us what they know best," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, founder and co-chairman of the Celebration.

Prices start at $2,526 per person, Smith said. "This is a price that pays for everything, including tips, shore trips, tickets, buses, guides, programs, films and round-the-clock great food and service.

"We have room for only 160 people," she said. "This is a trip of a lifetime."

Trip highlights

- April 6: New Orleans, jazz concert, welcoming cocktail party
- April 7: Baton Rouge, Huey P. Long, Robert Penn Warren's All the King's Men, story telling
- April 8: River cruising, Greg Iles (*24 Hours*), Clifton Taulbert (*Eight Habits of the Heart*), cooking demonstration

April 9: Natchez, antebellum homes and gardens, gospel/spiritual concert, wine tasting

- April 10: Vicksburg, National Military Park, Eudora Welty's *The Ponder Heart*, rock 'n' roll dancing fun
- April 11: River cruising, an Easter to remember, Stuart Margolin's dramatic readings
- April 12: Memphis, William Faulkner's *The Reivers*, Beale Street, Mud Island Museum, blues concert, farewell cocktail party
- April 13: Memphis tour and farewell
- For trip information and registration: Call 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-NLCC.

Write Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration On-the-River, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.
Email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
Visit these web sites:
www.colin.edu/nlcc/nlcc-on-the-river and www.riverbarge.com

2004 part 1
page 110

Raffle proceeds to help match NEH Challenge Grant

Great rejoicing took place in Natchez in December 2003 when the National Endowment for the Humanities announced its $100,000 Challenge Grant to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

"But reality quickly set in," said grant writer and NLCC founder Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. "The grant requires a dollar-for-dollar match, and the first $30,000 must be raised by July 31, 2004. If we don't raise the money, we lose it."

When Shirley Petkovsek of Natchez heard this, she didn't look back.

"Shirley quickly offered her services, formed a committee, decided to hold a major raffle during the NLCC and began acquiring donations," Smith said. "And look at what she has done!"

Support for the NLCC's fundraising drive is widespread, Petkovsek said. "Those who have so generously donated items for the raffle have done so with enthusiasm. They are like me, thrilled to learn of the NEH grant and pleased to help with a donation.

"They realize the importance of this grant to the NLCC, and they realize the magnitude of raising $100,000," she said.

During the NLCC, Feb. 25-28, at the Natchez Convention Center, "people can buy $10 raffle tickets for chances to win one of several very special raffle packages," Petkovsek said. Packages include:

▸ The Great River Road Balloon Race Package, Oct. 15-17, 2004. This includes a weekend stay at Greenlea, the historic home of Stella and Philip Carby on South Wall Street; weekend passes to balloon race festivities; balloon race T-shirts; a balloon race poster; and a ride in a hot air balloon.

Petkovsek

▸ *Gone with the Wind* Package. This includes framed 24' x 35' posters of Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler; a copy of the novel, *Gone With the Wind*; a copy of a spoof of *Gone With the Wind*; a copy of a *Gone With the Wind Cookbook*; a DVD of *Gone With the Wind;* a Civil War CD by Nashville singer/songwriter Billy Ray Reynolds; sheet music of "Tara's Theme"; and a bottle of Old South Winery's "Miss Scarlett" wine.

▸ Memories-Are-Made-of-This Package. This includes a pair of tickets to "Natchez Day at the Races" March 6 at the Fair Grounds Race Course in New Orleans from Natchez Mayor F.L. "Hank" Smith III; a gift basket filled with Natchez-related items from the City of Natchez; a sitting by award-winning Natchez photographer T.G. McCary for an 11" x 14" portrait; a tour, dinner for two, and a live music show onboard the *River Explorer* when this floating hotel is docked at Natchez; a carriage ride for two from Southern Carriage Tours; and a pair of tickets to the Natchez Festival of Music's performance of *Show Boat* April 30 or May 1.

▸ Natchez Pilgrimage Package. This includes an overnight stay at Monmouth Plantation in Natchez, named one of the Top 100 Inns in America by *Travel & Leisure* magazine; lunch for two at the Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall; two tour tickets for Spring Pilgrimage 2004; coffee from Canal Street Coffee Roasters; fudge from Darby's Gifts and Decorative Accessories; and a decorative blanket with a Natchez-related theme from Mississippi Land Co..

▸ Books, Books, Books Package. New copies of *William Faulkner: Novels 1936-1940, Absalom, Absalom! The Unvanquished, If I Forgot Thee, The Hamlet* ($37.50 retail); *Eudora Welty: Stories, Essays, and Memoirs, A Curtain of Green, The Wide Net, The Golden Apples, The Bride of the Innisfallen, Selected Essays, One Writer's Beginnings* ($35); *Richard Wright: Lawd Today! Uncle Tom's Children, Native Son ($35),* all from Library of America; *Natchez: An Illustrated History* ($19); *The Great Houses of Natchez* ($60); *The Goat Castle Murder: A True Natchez Story That Shocked the World* ($13); *Natchez by Design* ($25); *Concerning Carpenters and Childhood Saints and Other Poems* ($12); *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* ($75) and a poster of Natchez's own award-winning author Richard Wright from the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi.

"We are hoping people will want these raffle items and will buy lots of tickets," Petkovsek said. "The raffle table will be set up daily, Wednesday through Saturday, Feb. 25-28, in the lobby of the Natchez Convention Center. Anyone can drop by at any time to buy the tickets, which were generously donated by The Natchez Printing Co."

Serving on the Raffle Fundraising Committee with Petkovsek are Maria Bowser, co-chairman; Rene Adams, Joyce Arceneaux, Micki Hartley, Katie McCarstle, and Linda Ogden, all of Natchez.

This committee is one of several subcommittees of the NEH Matching Grant Fundraising Drive, which is chaired by Maria Bowser of Natchez. "Tax-deductible donations may be made out to NLCC Matching Grant and sent to P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121," Bowser said. "To raise the matching money we need help from everyone."

2004 part 1
page 111

Conference*briefs*

Up to 3.7 CEUs available for teachers attending NLCC

Faculty and staff in Mississippi's schools are eligible to earn up to 3.7 Continuing Education Units (37 hours) for attending the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004.

A CEU registration fee of $75 per teacher covers costs of CEU verification and the costs of three pre-conference sessions Feb. 25, two post-conference writing workshops Feb. 29, a tour of historic buildings Feb. 27, and all free events.

If a teacher cannot attend the entire conference, CEUs are available for the number of actual hours in attendance. A fee of $65 applies.

Registration for CEUs is available by calling Millicent Mayo, 601-445-0217, director of public relations, Natchez-Adams School District, or registering at the NLCC desk at the Convention Center.

MIAL's activities to honor artists, writers in Natchez

The Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters (MIAL) is celebrating its 25th anniversary during 2003-2004, culminating with a free awards ceremony at 5 p.m., June 5, at the Natchez City Auditorium.

Each year, MIAL honors artists and writers with a strong Mississippi connection with awards in six fields of creative arts: fiction, non-fiction, music composition, photography, poetry, and visual arts. The 2004 awards ceremony will be followed by a festive party honoring winners for the past 25 years. This party will be held at Stanton Hall and costs $50 per person. To join MIAL and be able to attend the party, send dues of $25 and party fee of $50 to MIAL, 236 Woodlawn Drive, Greenville, MS 38701.

Utah Valley State College to film documentary on Tricia Walker

The distance from the small town of Fayette, Miss., to Music City USA, Nashville, Tenn., is 435 miles filled with music, politics, religion, land, literature, food, and people.

For Tricia Walker, formerly of Fayette and now of Nashville, these 435 miles have been a cultural cradle that nurtured her career as one of America's leading singers and songwriters.

"Everything about me and my career comes from the influence of the Deep South," Walker said.

Walker will perform at the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, 4:45–6:15 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, at the Natchez Convention Center.

She will entertain during a free reception hosted by the NLCC and the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi honoring three award-winning authors, Greg Iles, William Scarborough, and Gail Gilchriest.

While performing Feb. 28, Walker will be filmed for a documentary on her life by a student/faculty team from Utah Valley State College, Orem, Utah. In addition, the team will film interviews with NLCC participants. Those interested can register for interviews at the NLCC desk at the Convention Center.

"This documentary will trace the memories and music of singer/songwriter Tricia Walker about her South and her home in Mississippi," said Michael Stemkoski, professor and team leader.

UVSC, recently named one of the top five comprehensive public four-year colleges in the West by *U.S. News & World Report*, has more than 24,000 students majoring in a wide variety of subjects. Stemkoski works with UVSC students on real-world interdisciplinary projects, including the production of quality programming, he said.

Welcome To The
2004 Natchez Literary
& Cinema Celebration!

This outstanding cultural event is another reason
Adams County is a perfect place to visit.
Thinking of moving your business or your home?
Think Natchez and Adams County!

Board of Supervisors,
Adams County, Mississippi

Darryl Grennell, President
Samuel Cauthen, Vice President
Thomas "Boo" Campbell
Stanley "Spanky" Felter
Henry Watts

2004 part 1
page 112

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Jennifer Griffin [Jennifer.Griffin@mpbonline.org]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 9:02 AM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance; Marie Antoon; Gene Edwards
Subject: FW: Hotline: 02/20/04, News

Nina Parikh posted the NLCC website to hre hotline enews message. See below. There was also an add in the "Today" publication.

From: Nina Parikh [mailto:NPARIKH@mississippi.org]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2004 5:32 PM
To: Nina Parikh
Subject: Hotline: 02/20/04, News

Hey everyone.... happy Friday.
Lots of news: indie film, grant deadlines, job openings, Natchez festival.....

If you have news to post on the hotline, please email nparikh@mississippi.org for consideration.

****

FREE INDIE FILM!!!

The next Southern Circuit film at Millsaps College will be shown on Monday, February 23, 2004.

Brady Lewis's film DADDY COOL <http://www.daddycool.com/> will be screened at 7:30 pm in the Academic Complex, Room 215 on the Millsaps campus in Jackson.
Brady Lewis will be in attendance for discussion after the film.

Synopsis of film:
Daddy Cool is the story of Roxanne, a woman who sees visions in her television. Her hated TV-science-show-host-turned-televangelist father is getting under her skin a little more than usual these days. She's looking for solace (and assistance) in her therapist, Dr. Talbot. Dr. Talbot is philosophical, and a bit removed from everyday realities. He's the ultimate loner…a werewolf. He wishes he could stop killing. And he has. Mostly. Things get a little sticky for Dad when Roxanne learns the truth about her long lost twin. A scientist should never commit crimes against nature...

For a complete list of films for the season, please visit the following site:
http://www.millsaps.edu/classics/scfs.shtml

If you have further questions, please contact Holly at (601) 974-1299

*****

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION (MAC):

The March 1 grant application deadline is almost here. So, for convenience and to save time in the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply using eGrant on the Commission's Web site, www.arts.state.ms.us.

Guidelines and applications also are available in .PDF and Microsoft Word formats online. A limited number of paper copies are available at the commission office.

2/23/2004

2004 part 1
page 113

Opinion

The Democrat

Friday, February 27, 2004

Film crew in town during celebration

Top of the Morning

Tricia Walker

The distance from the small town of Fayette to Music City USA, Nashville, Tenn., is 435 miles filled with music, politics, religion, land, literature, food and people.

For me, growing up in Fayette, visiting Natchez regularly and now living in Nashville, these 435 miles have been a cultural cradle that nurtured my career as a singer and a songwriter.

Everything about me and my career comes from the influence of the Deep South.

While performing last year in Utah, people in the audience liked my music so much that they decided to produce a documentary film about my life in the South.

This documentary, to be called "Home," will trace past and present cultural influences, my music, and my memories about the South, particularly my home in Mississippi.

The film crew will trace these influences from Nashville to Memphis, down Highway 61 into the Mississippi Delta, where I attended Delta State University, and on to Natchez and Fayette, where I grew up.

According to Michael Stemkoski, a professor at Utah Valley State College in Orem, Utah, who is assisting with the documentary, it will relate the personal to the universal. It will explore both the irony and the reasons people leave the South and then return again and again.

When we began work on the documentary, I mentioned the importance of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which I have attended several times and where I have presented programs.

Since the filming was going to be taking place during February, I thought having the Celebration as part of the documentary would be perfect.

The documentary leaders at Utah State looked up the Celebration on the Internet and agree with me. They were so impressed they decided to come to Natchez this week.

While here for four days, they will film parts of the conference, including two programs I will present. One will be Friday after lunch at the Carriage House at Stanton Hall, and the other will be during a reception on from 4:45 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. Saturday at the Convention Center.

Also while they are here, they want to interview people about their life in the South. There will be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk in the Convention Center lobby, and the 30-minute interviews will be filmed in a second-floor room at the Convention Center from Thursday through Saturday.

The film crew hopes to have a cross-section of people to interview, whether they are from the South or just visiting the South. They think the South is the most fascinating area of our country. They hope to capture some of its beauty, charm and richness in the documentary.

I am very impressed with the film crew. They include five UVSC Media Department students, who are Keith Lutz, producer; Jason Spencer, director; Travis Begay, director of photography; Jared Nelson, camera; and Tony Hadlock, assistant director.

Accompanying the students are UVSC professors Michael Stemkoski and Melinda Bender. Both have experience conducting interdisciplinary and cross-cultural, real-world projects with students in multi-media, business management, accounting and basic composition.

I am also impressed with UVSC. It was recently named one of the top five comprehensive public four-year colleges in the West by U.S. News & World Report and has more than 24,000 students majoring in a wide variety of subjects.

I do hope you will attend the Celebration, meet the film crew and be a part of the documentary. It's great to be home.

Tricia Walker is a Fayette and Nashville, Tenn., resident.

2004 part 1
page 114

The Democrat

Saturday, February 28, 2004

Religion and politics

Rose Hill B.C. part of Celebration tour

2004 part 1
page 115

By JULIE FINLEY
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — The story at Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church is not about the solid brick walls, the mahogany finish, the high archway or the original stained glass — it is about the people.

And for the decades, the church's people were involved in civic and political life, with the church itself serving as the site for many such meetings.

For that reason, Rose Hill — along with The Briars and Monmouth — was a site on the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's Friday tour, "Natchez Sites Associated with Politics."

NLCC

Today's events

- Awards ceremony honoring authors Greg Illes, William K. Scarborough and Gail Gilchriest, 6:30 p.m., Natchez Convention Center
- Showing and discussion of the film "Trapped," based on Iles' novel "24 Hours," 8 p.m., Convention Center.

Rose Hill, the oldest black Baptist congregation in the state, found its origins in slavery, said Deacon Ralph Jennings. Jennings, whose family has a long history with the church, has been involved with a written and oral history of the church that has dated its beginnings back to 1834.

The congregation, organized at its current site in the 1850s, can be traced to Wall Street Baptist Church, a white church where slaves sat in the balcony. "During the Civil War, Wall Street was depleted by white males going to war," Jennings said. "Some of this congregation still worshipped there. When that congregation came back those African-Americans were not quite as welcome."

Black members of Wall Street moved to the Rose Hill church area and constructed a building three blocks away. The church members were a combination of slaves and free blacks. During the 1850s the church got its first official pastor. But in 1907 the frame of the church burned and was replaced by what is now standing. The construction of the new church took three years and cost $14,700. A water-powered organ was added in 1912, and remains in the building today, though no longer powered by water.

The church is still trying to obtain information about the original architects of the building.

Sunday, February 29, 2004
A4

OPINION

DELTA DEMOCRAT
TIMES
EMMERICH NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHER
John S. Clark
EDITOR
Donald V. Adderton
MANAGING EDITOR
David Lush

Presidents with Dixie flair molded America

NATCHEZ — We all take many things for granted, and for me, presidents from the South never created a blip across my radar screen.

So I was quite surprised when the organizers of the annual Literary and Cinema Celebration asked me to participate in a panel discussion on "Why does the nation continue to elect presidents who are Southerners?"

In discussions such as these, each panelist has a distinct view and position on a subject. Dissecting the import of presidents from the South certainly presented a delicious morsel to be chewed on.

Nevertheless, for me, I wondered what was I going to say? Or more importantly, how was I going share thoughts that would mean something and have an impact?

For the past 15 years, the celebration has been held in this idyllic Mississippi River city and has become a creative repository for the written and visual arts.

I began to ponder this interesting question and carefully considered its significance for several moments. The more I thought about it, the more I became attracted to the political subtext of U.S. presidents from Dixie.

Southerners have had a profound impact on the social and domestic landscape of America. Even though the South has had to carry the yoke of slavery, racism and disenfranchisement, those men who were elected president of the United States displayed prophetic visions for the growth and development of a young Republic.

From George Washington, the Father of the Nation, to William Jefferson Clinton, America has been exposed to a tangy Southern political flavor — sometimes the taste becoming a little too harsh on the senses.

Nevertheless, the times were often tough when these Southern gentlemen presided over the nation's welfare, and a formidable environment requires healthy doses of the scabrous medicine of reality.

Granted, some of these Southern presidents were more versed than others at supplying the fragile apportionment of medicaments than others. But then, these men displayed a strong leadership intent that gave the nation direction.

A lot of the important social change that took place in America came during the presidential administrations of Southerners — sort of from slavery to freedom.

Many of the presidents from the South put a presidential stamp on the nation that can still be seen and appreciated today. From the end of slavery to the first black jurist to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court, and everything in between, like it or not America has had that distinct Southern flavor.

It is hard to crawl into the psyche of the electorate as to why they have selected 15 men from Southern states — two since 1972 — as president of the United States. Perhaps Southerners present a greater political comfort level for voters. But one thing is clear: for the most part, they have been able to advance an agenda that has been good for the country.

Largely these Southern gentlemen came to office when the nation was staggering toward a crossroads.

Such was the case with presidents Andrew Johnson and Lyndon Johnson, who assumed the presidency after the assassinations of Abraham Lincoln in 1865 and John F. Kennedy in 1963 — nearly one century apart — and the nation each time embroiled in war and civil unrest.

Andrew Johnson presided over the end of the War Between the States, and the eradication of slavery. In 1866, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1866 — recognizing blacks as American citizens — and later the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, prohibiting restrictions on life, liberty or property "without due process."

On the other hand, Lyndon Johnson created a federal thrust to wage a protracted war on poverty, and marshaled landmark civil rights legislation through Congress that changed the human mosaic of the nation's social landscape.

Yes, whether we want to admit or not, this nation owes an unqualified debt of appreciation to U.S. presidents from the South.

Without their political verve some people in this great natic would not be enjoying its economic and social bounty.

Comment

Donald V. Adderton

662-335-1155
donaldadderton@ddtonline.com

Donald V. Adderton is editor of the Delta Democrat Times.

© 2004 Delta Democrat Ti

2004 part 1
page 116

CAREERS IN THE PUBLIC ARENA: ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

A panel discussion for Natchez/Adams County students from several schools

9-10:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004
David Steckler Multi-Purpose Building, Natchez High School
Natchez, Mississippi

Presiding
Dr. Anthony Morris, Superintendent
Natchez-Adams School District

PANELISTS

- **Stuart Margolin, Natchez and New York, Emmy Award-winning actor/producer/director, famed for his role of Angel Martin in "The Rockford Files"**

- **Barry Phillips, Fort Worth, Emmy Award-winning creative genius behind PBS TV's "Wishbone" and Creative Director, "Poetry Pals"**

- **Natasha Trethewey, Emory University, Atlanta, award-winning poet, author of *Domestic Work, Bellocq's Ophelia* and poems published in numerous magazine and anthologies**

This program is a special component of the 15th annual
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

"Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South"
Feb. 25-29, 2004

Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street
Most of the conference is free of charge. The public is invited.

The NLCC is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. This project is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

2004 part 1
page 117

049

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Three Pre-conference Seminars with Refreshments

8–10:50 a.m., Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle • Natchez, Mississippi

$10

111

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Gala Benefit Reception/Supper
Honoring Award Winners and Speakers

8:00 p.m., Saturday, February 28, 2004

The Historic Mansion Gloucester

210 Lower Woodville Road • Natchez, Mississippi

$125 ($100 tax-deductible donation)

112

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

"Natchez Sites Associated with Politics"
A Guided Bus Tour to The Briars, Monmouth,
and Rose Hill Baptist Church

2:30-5 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004

With Group Departures from Natchez Convention Center

211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi

• $20

065

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Sunday, February 29, 2004

With Reception Honoring Ellen Douglas, 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, Mississippi

$10

2004 part 1
page 118

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2004

Mississippi Humanities Council - Governor's Inaugural Lecture

Monday, January 12 at 10:00am
House Chamber, Old Capitol Museum, Jackson

Dr. Bruce Cole, Chairman of the National Endowment of the Humanities, gives MHC's Inaugural Lecture
Contact: MHC (601) 432-6752 Email: Barbara@mhc.state.ms.us

From Thoreau to Today: Philosophy to Action to Reflection

Tuesday, January 27 at 10:00am
Northeast Community College, Booneville

Dr. Beverly Hogan, President of Tougaloo College, discusses the ethics of civil disobedience.
& Thursday, January 29-30 at 7:00pm
Play by NEMCC Theater Department: "The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail"
Contact: Ms. Glenice W. Stone (662) 720-7237 Email: gstone@necc.cc.ms.us

February 2004

From Thoreau to Today: Philosophy to Action to Reflection

Sunday, February 1 at 2:00pm
Northeast Community College, Booneville

Third and final presentation of "The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail"
& Thursday, February 12 at 10:50am
Dr. Leslie McLemore, Professor of Political Science at Jackson State University, discusses the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi
Contact: Ms. Glenice W. Stone (662) 720-7237 Email: gstone@necc.cc.ms.us

Mississippi Humanities Council - Annual Awards Dinner

Friday, February 6
Mikhail's, Jackson
Reception 6:00pm
Dinner 7:00pm
Reservations Required

Contact: MHC (601) 432-6752 Email: Barbara@mhc.state.ms.us

15th Annual Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration
Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

Wednesday, February 25 - Sunday, February 29
Natchez Convention Center

Five-day event features scholars, writers, historians, film experts, and more.
Contact: Ms. Carolyn Vance Smith (601) 446-1208 Email: carolyn.smith@colin.edu

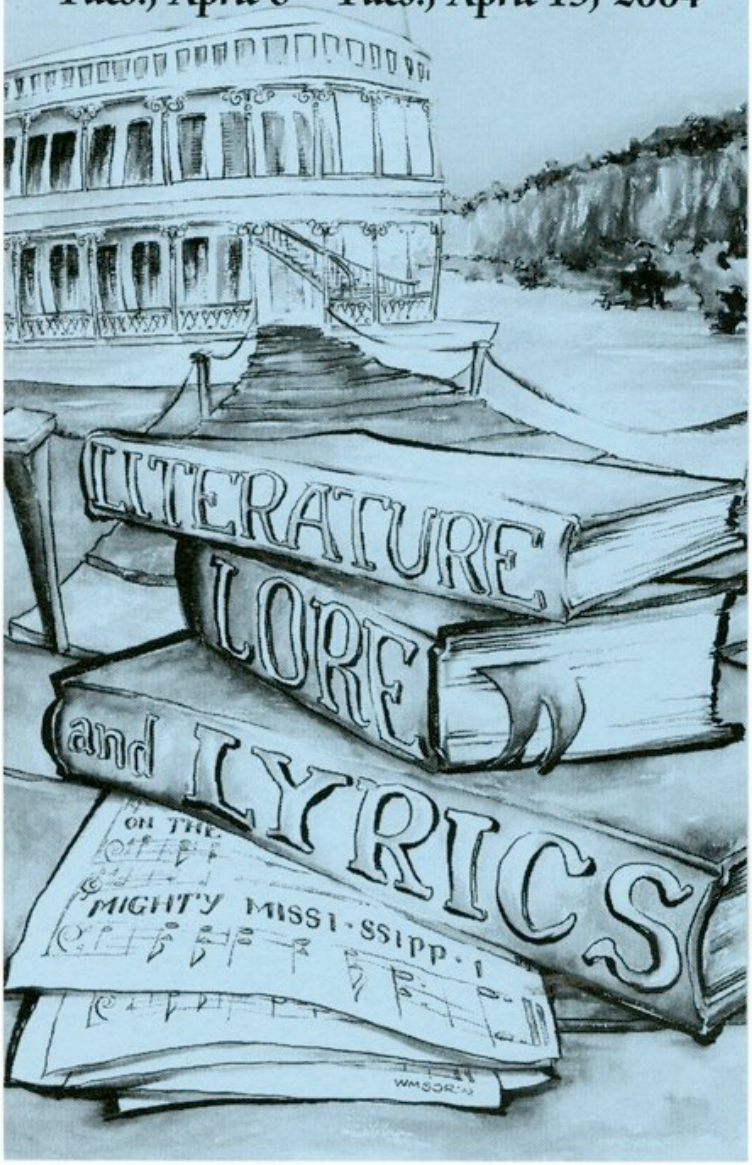
DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
CONTACT PROJECT DIRECTORS FOR INFORMATION.

Focus on the Humanities

2004 part 1
page 119

Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi

Eight days:
Tues., April 6 – Tues., April 13, 2004



Book It

NATCHEZ LITERARY and CINEMA CELEBRATION

Scoundrels To Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25 - 29, 2004
Natchez, Mississippi

Program presenters:
Will Campbell
Greg Iles
Gerald McRaney
Noel Polk
Peggy Prenshaw
William Scarborough
Clifton Taulbert
William Winter
and many other writers, scholars, and film experts

Films:
All The King's Men
George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire
Ken Burns' Huey Long
Trapped (by Greg Iles)
Vote for Me: Politics in America

- **Exhibits**
- **Discussions**
- **Booksignings**
- **Tours**
- **Writing Workshops**
- **Meals**
- **Receptions**

All free or low-cost!

Information & tickets:
1-601-446-1289
1-866-296-NLCC (6522)
www.colin.edu/nlcc

Sponsors
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,
Natchez National Historical Park,
Mississippi Department of Archives and History,
and
Alcorn State University

2004 part 1
page 120

MAGNOLIA
CLIPPING SERVICE
(601) 856-0911 / (205) 758-8610

CLARION LEDGER
JACKSON, MS
Circulation = 115223
DAILY
02/22/2004

33

ART BRIEFS

Composer in concert

Mississippi composer March Francis will present a recital of recent compositions at 3 p.m. today at the Municipal Art Gallery, 839 N. State St., Jackson.

Francis, director of education for the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, will premiere four pieces: suite for marimba, moments for clarinet and guitar and two song cycles on the poetry of Theodore Roethke and Edna St. Vincent Millay. The recital will also include members of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra and students from Hinds Community College, Jackson Academy and Power Academic and Performing Arts Complex.

The recital is free. For details, call 960-1565.

Bravo series

Violinist and Belgrade native Stefan Milenkovich will be the featured artist during *European Fantasy* presented by the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at Jackson's Thalia Mara Hall, 255 E. Pascagoula St.

Milenkovich made his orchestral debut at age 5 and won his first international violin competition at age 7. He has played with symphony orchestras worldwide.

In addition to Milenkovich performing Paganini's *Concerto No. 1 in D. Minor,* the Bravo Series concert will also include Schubert's *Overture to Rosamunde* and Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 3 in A Minor, Scottish.*

Tickets range from $25-$40 for adults and $20-$30 for senior adults. Student tickets are $5. For details, call 960-1565.

Literary at it's best

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will focus on *Politics in the Deep South* during its 5-day conference which gets under way Wednesday.

The mostly-free event explores the South's varying political climate through films, writings, story-telling, drawings and music. Activities will be held at various locations in Natchez and at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

Wednesday's pre-conference seminars will feature the techniques of reading, teaching and studying the works of William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander, as well as a discussion about how relationships have created, sustained or ended political careers.

Later in the week, the celebration will feature Peggy Whitman Prenshaw of Millsaps College discussing Eudora Welty's political views in fiction and non-fiction, discussions with political cartoonists Marshall Ramsey of *The Clarion Ledger* and Bruce Plante of the *Chattanooga Times Free Press,* as well as writing workshops, film screenings, historic tours, luncheons, musical entertainment, an awards ceremony and more.

Sponsors of the event include Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historial Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

For details, tickets and a complete schedule of events, call toll-free 1-866-296-6522 or visit the NLCC Web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

— Compiled by Lynda Dufour

2004 part 1
page 121

Center for the Study of Southern Culture
Post Office Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848

2004 part 1
page 122

The University of Mississippi
invites you to attend an informal reception
to promote
The Center for the Study of Southern Culture

Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street
Natchez, Mississippi
Saturday, February 28, 2004
4:45pm-6:30pm

Featuring a display of photographs
by documentary photographer David Wharton
and music by
Nashville singer-songwriter Tricia Walker

Refreshments will be served.
RSVP (662) 915-1546 or altobell@olemiss.edu

089

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Three Pre-conference Seminars with Refreshments

8–10:50 a.m., Wednesday, February 25, 2004

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$10

178

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Luncheon Followed by a Program,

"The Man In Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash"

by Allen Dennis

12:30 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004

Carriage House at Stanton Hall

401 High Street ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$20

082

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

A Gala Benefit Reception/Supper

Honoring Award Winners and Speakers

8:00 p.m., Saturday, February 28, 2004

The Historic Mansion Gloucester

210 Lower Woodville Road ▪ Natchez, Mississippi

$125 ($100 tax-deductible donation)

137

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

presents

Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Sunday, February 29, 2004

With Reception Honoring Ellen Douglas, 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle, Natchez, Mississippi

$10

2004 part 1
page 123

The Wolf Tales

Copiah-Lincoln Community College | March 4, 2004 | Vol. 39 No. 5

2004 part 1
page 124

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration a huge success

By Elizabeth Chapman
Wolf Tales Co-Editor

The 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration: Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South held Feb. 25-29 at the Natchez Convention Center. Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting sponsored the week long program. The celebration has been called "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film, and culture."

This conference has won many awards and recognition for its excellence; each year for 15 years the conference has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. In December 2002, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded a $100,000 Matching Grant to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The award paves the way for the conference to continue into perpetuity.

"What a huge compliment to Natchez, to Mississippi, and to the South," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin. "This grant is a national stamp of approval for the NLCC. It recognizes the incomparable contributions of our area's great writers, historians, film makers, and scholars. With this funding, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration can continue its important work. I am simply delighted."

ELIZABETH CHAPMAN/The Wolf Tales

Gail Gilchriest accepts the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing.

It annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, music, discussion groups, writing workshops, exhibits, book sales, book signings, an awards ceremony, tours, and social events. Among the many of the exhibits are several Natchez historic homes, Natchez Museum of African-American History and Culture, and several booths set up at the brand new Natchez Convention Center.

Contributions were given from many contributors in various forms. Cash contributions were given by the city of Natchez, Entergy, BellSouth Mississippi, Cellular South, University of Southern Mississippi, and other benefactors. Murray Printing, Live Oak Nursery, Dianne's Frame Shop, and Valley Food Services gave gifts that were used through out the week.

Natasha Tretheway presented "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry" on Saturday morning. A panel discussion on "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" held at 2:45 p.m., led by Donald Adderton, from Greenville; Bill Minor, Sid Salter, and Emily Wagster, all from Jackson. The panel was moderated by Gene Edwards from the Mississippi Broadcasting Networks.

"Carter was the last Democrat that Mississippi carried," said Minor.

The questions brought up during the panel discussion were: are Texas and Florida part of the true South, and can John Kerry take the presidency without winning the South? By the end of the discussion, Texas and Florida are no longer part of the true South and the assumption of who will be in the White House next term was determined. There was a unanimous vote that Bush would be out of the White House unless the problem in Iraq was solved and the economy would better, if not it would be the two Johns taking over the position.

"Kerry can win the presidency without taking the South because Texas is a world of its own," said Emily Wagster. "We keep electing Southern presidents because southerners are quirky and say

See **NATCHEZ LITERARY** page 2

2004 part 1
page 125

NATCHEZ LITERARY

From page 1

funny things; it is for the entertainment factor that they bring to the table."

Sid Salter added this to the discussion, "There are three things that Southern Presidential Nominees run on; they are race, religion, and reform."

The evening wrapped up with "An Evening with the Stars" conducted by William F. Winter, Ward Emling, and John D.W. Guice. Three outstanding writers, all with strong Southern roots, received the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award and the presentation of the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing. The Richard Wright award was established in 1994 by the NLCC to honor the internationally known author, Richard Wright. The winners of this award must be outstanding, living writers with a strong Mississippi connection. The Horton Foote Award is named after Horton Foote of Wharton, Texas, an Oscar-Winning and Pulitzer Prize-Winning writer of screenplays, plays, and non-fiction memoir.

Award winners were the novelist Greg Iles of Natchez; the historian William Scarborough of The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg; and the screenplay writer Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles. Iles and Scarborough won the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award that was presented by former Mississippi Governor William F. Winter and John D. W. Guice of the University of Southern Mississippi. Gilchriest won the Horton Foote Special Achievement Award for Screenplay Writing, which was presented by Ward Emling.

"I feel a kinship with Richard Wright," said Iles.

2004 part 1
page 126

OFFICERS
President - Benny Jeansonne
Pres. Elect - Page Ogden
Secretary - Nancy Hungerford
Treasurer - Fred Emrick
Sgt.-at-Arms - Sim Mosby

Rotary Club of Natchez

CLUB NO. 542, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Natchez, Mississippi

DIRECTORS
Katie Freiberger
Ronnie Nettles
Kevin Smith
Bill Hurt
Curtis Moroney
George Ward

District 6820 | District Governor – Kay Steed | "Service Above Self"

Club Bulletin for March 10, 2004 — *84-35*

Last Week March 3rd, 2004

Pledge & Invocation: *Terry Smith*
Guests: *Johnny Christian guest of Jim Crawford, Dr Chris Dingler-guest of Randy Tillman*
Visiting Rotarians: *Barry Maxwell and William McDonough- Ferriday*
Make-ups: *Al King, Terry Smith, Stuart Hudnall- Ferriday club 3/04*
Missing Spokes: *John Ballard, Dianne Brown, Bruce Bucklew, Gina Buckley, Larry Buckley, Woody Burwell, Delecia Carey, Todd Carpenter, Chip Davis, Will Devening, Don Farrar, Mike Ferdinand, Katie Freiberger, Joan Gandy, Dick Graham, Hugh Harris, Stuart Hudnall, Al King, Bob Latham, Nita McCann, Jerry Moore, Page Ogden, Ross Partridge, Ron Riches, Lamont Rowe, Bobby Russ, Adrian Sandel, Scott Sandidge, Anne Stowers, Alan Tyra, Tom Weed, Shirley Wheatley, Kevin Whittington*
Announcements: *Amanda Jeansonne has returned from the Polio-Plus Rotary trip to India. Program will be April 14th. Doug Wimberly inducted into Natchez Rotary Club introduced by Hayden Kaiser. June 15-29 District Friendship Exchange to Canada. District conference is April 22-24 at Jackson Hilton- see Nancy Hungerford for registaration forms.*
Attendance Percentage - 62%
Program Responsibility: *Al King had Carolyn Vance Smith speak on Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration past and future.*
***Scholarship Drawing: Grand Total: $1969****$Total $72Rotary $43, Ronnie Nettles $29.*
Attendance Drawing*: Katie McCarstle*
Closing Motto: *Lucius Butts, Sr.*

Today's Program: Responsibility of Ronnie Nettles

Next Week: *Mar. 17th- Jeff Kirkwood*
Mar. 24th- Dicky Laird
Mar. 31st- Bazille Lanneau. Jr.

Proposed Members: Second publication- Stephen Carruthers and Johnny Christian

From the Rotary Club of Congelton, UK

The World's Easiest Quiz...

1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?
2) Which country makes Panama hats?
3) From which animal do we get catgut?
4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
7) What was King George VI's first name?
8) What color is a purple finch?
9) What country do Chinese gooseberries come from?
10) How long did the Thirty Years War last?

Answers: 1) 116 years, from 1337 to 1453. 2) Ecuador 3) From sheep and horses. 4) November; The Russian calendar was 13 days behind ours. 5) Squirrel fur. 6) The Latin name was Insularia Canaria - Island of the Dogs. 7) Albert. When he came to the throne in 1936 he respected the wish of Queen Victoria that no future king should ever be called Albert. 8) Distinctively crimson. 9) New Zealand 10) Thirty years, of course. From 1618 to 1648.

Quote of the Week: "If we don't succeed, we run the risk of failure" Dan Quayle

2004 part 1
page 127

OPINION

DELTA DEMOCRAT
TIMES
EMMERICH NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHER
John S. Clark
EDITOR
Donald V. Adderton
MANAGING EDITOR
David Lush

2004 part 1
page 128

Clark helped move state beyond prejudice

NATCHEZ — It was a trying time when the South was a bubbling racial cauldron of unrest with the assassination of Medgar Evers and the deaths of four young girls in a bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., in 1963.

Even though the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had laid down a profound framework of racial inclusion, the Deep South was not listening at the time, but Robert G. Clark picked up the torch and carried it toward a homogeneous society.

Out of the ashes of racial discord would rise Clark of Holmes County, who would take his seat in 1968 in the Mississippi House of Representatives — the first black since Reconstruction.

Clark is the epitome of the American, rising out of poverty — graduating from Jackson State University and later teaching at Harvard.

The moving portrayal of Clark was one of many stories recounted during the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. During the four-day conference there were accounts of Dixie political icons — Huey P. Long and George Wallace — who played pivotal roles in shaping the nation's political perspective from a conservative Southern view point.

As Mississippi wrestled with maintaining the long-standing tradition of Jim Crow and racial separation, Clark, the grandson of a slave, saw the broader picture of inclusion.

The 75-year-old Clark, who retired as speaker pro tem this year, never subscribed to the blanket blame and victimization of whites.

Author Will Campbell of Tennessee, a World War II veteran, saw the importance of telling Clark's political climb during a time when blacks in Mississippi and other Deep-South states were not enjoying the constitutionally-protected bounty that is America.

"The first time I met Mr. Clark was with Gov. (William) Winter at the 16th Avenue Baptist Church — four little girls had been killed," said Campbell who wrote "Robert G. Clark's Journey to the House: A Politician's Story."

Campbell said he did not know that Clark was an ordained Baptist minister at the time of their first meeting.

"He took me to his church to hear him preach," Campbell said, "and introduced me to the congregation and said 'not all white people are your enemies.

"I had a feeling in my soul that I was in the presence of a great man and I was grateful to him," he said.

From that meeting with Clark, Campbell said he came to the conclusion that he would chronicle the life of a true Mississippi icon "because he was such a remarkable human being."

Campbell said Clark took him on tours of the back-roads of Holmes County, in sharing the stories of blacks in the Jim Crow South.

"Mr. Clark was a man of history who understood the land," Campbell said. "He was a preacher, teacher and coach."

Campbell recalled that in 1960 that there were no blacks registered to vote in Holmes County because of the state's racist voting laws. "Robert Clark was one of the first to vote in Holmes County," he said.

When it came time for Clark to cast his ballot, Campbell noted: "He was calm and stated 'I am here to vote' he knew what he was there to do. Yet he was challenged every step of the way. Clark was a noble soul."

At a time when Black History Month is concluded, Campbell said the state's racial past cannot be ignored because "this is part of our history and we would do well to keep this in mind."

With King trumpeting racial inclusion in the Deep South, there was a gradual change in the political mosaic, but whites had no intention of sharing — not even a portion — political influence with blacks.

Yet Clark was not deterred. He was elected to the Mississippi House in 1967 and faced an uncertainty of ever being seated — he was.

But as a state lawmaker, Campbell said Clark encountered consternation from black allies who felt he was not strident enough on issues of interest to minority constituents.

"Some of the people who helped Clark get the right to vote felt he was not moving fast enough," Campbell said. "They called him an Uncle Tom. Clark was certainly no Uncle Tom, he just knew what he wanted to do."

And that is the sticking point with much of the black leadership, when one of their own does not aggressively engage in doing their racial bidding. Clark brought about change in an unintrusive way as chairman of the House Education Committee, at a time when the state lacked a compulsory education statute.

Former Gov. William Winter was locked in a protracted battle with the state legislature in pushing forward a bill that would require compulsory school attendance, and recalled Clark's invaluable support in getting the legislation adopted.

"We would not have been able to pass the bill without his unflagging commitment," said Winter said who served as the conciliator for the celebration. "He was a brave man who was dedicated to the betterment of Mississippi."

With Clark's support and Winter's resolve, Mississippi has a compulsive education law that ensures every student at least has the opportunity to learn.

Clark went far beyond being the "first" but embarked on a statesman-like journey, which has made Mississippi a better place to live for both blacks and whites.

For this selfless effort, we owe so much to this true son of Mississippi.

Donald V. Adderton is editor of the Delta Democrat Times.

© 2004 Delta Democrat Times

Comment

Donald V. Adderton

662-335-1155
donald@
deltanewsroom.com

2004 part 1
page 129

igest Books, 4700 E. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236 (513) 531-2690, ext. 1275

VEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET VERIFICATION FORM

marsha, fax, please, to 513 531 2686 v 4/28 8:10

To: Anne Bowling
2 pages

file NLCC publicity

From: ce Smith
LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
)7,
39121-1307

FOR OFFICE USE:
No. _____
Work Copy NSSWM/CONF77
CCC _____ Date _____

Deadline for return of forms is April 18, 2003

a copy of your editorial description as it appears in our files. If you would like to be included in the 2004 edition of *Novel & Short Story Writer's Market*, please:

- Read the entire editorial description carefully;
- Make any corrections or additions you prefer on the copy itself (to avoid errors, please print or write legibly);
- Complete the supplemental questionnaire;
- Sign and date the form at the bottom and return it in the enclosed reply envelope or use our fax number: (513) 531-2686 (Attn: Anne Bowling).
- *We cannot include your listing if we do not receive the signed forms from you.* If you wish to discontinue your listing, please let us know so that we may avoid sending you additional mail.
- If you have any questions, please call (513) 531-2690, ext. 1542 or e-mail vanessa.lyman@fwpubs.com.

Thank you for your interest and cooperation. We look forward to including you in the next edition!

U,O,FEB,4,MS,

NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez MS 39121-1307. (601)446-1208. Fax: (601)446-1214. E-mail: carolyn.smith@colin.edu. Website: www.colin.edu/NLCC. **Contact:** Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman. Estab. 1990. Annual. Conference held February ~~17-23, 2003.~~ 25-29, 2004 Average attendance: 3,000. Conferences focuses on "all literature, including film scripts." Site: 500-seat auditorium, various sizes of break-out rooms. Theme will be "~~Exploration and Discovery. Then and Now: Saluting the Bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase.~~" Scholars will speak on ~~Welty, Faulkner,~~ Huey Long, Jefferson Davis, others in many areas of writing. Speakers will be ~~Rex Reed, Clay Jenkinson, Clifton Taulbert and many others.~~ William Cooper of LSU, Gail Gilchriest, screenwriter, & others. **Costs:** "About $100, includes a meal, receptions, book signings, workshops. Lectures/panel discussions are free." **Accommodations:** "Groups can ask for special assistance. Usually they can be accomodated." Call (800)647-6724. **Additional Informations:** "Participants need to read selected materials prior to attending writing workshops. Thus, pre-enrollment is ~~necessary.~~ advised." Conference information is available in the Fall ~~2002.~~ 2003. For brochure send SASE, e-mail, visit website, call or fax. Accepts inquiries by SASE, e-mail, phone and fax. Agents and editors participate in conference.

- Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South"

Carolyn Vance Smith — Co-chairman — 4-25-03
Name — Title — Date

NOVEL & SHORT STORY WRITER'S MARKET RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE ANY LISTING WHICH DOES NOT MEET ITS REQUIREMENTS.

2604 part 1
page 130

CONF.UP/04

NOVEL & SHORT STORY
WRITER'S MARKET

Writer's Digest Books • F&W Publications • 4700 East Galbraith Rd.• Cincinnati OH 45236
(513) 531-2690 ext. 1542 • Fax: (513) 531-2686 • nsswm@fwpubs.com

Need speakers for your next conference or workshop? As my schedule allows, I'd love to share some tips on the fiction market. You can reach me at the address above, or send e-mail to anne.bowling@fwpubs.com.

To keep your listing as current as possible, note changes to your listing on both the enclosed verification form and this update sheet.

1. ***Check all contact information***

		May we add this to your listing?
Phone:	601-446-1208	☑ yes ☐ no
Fax:	601-446-1214	☑ yes ☐ no
E-mail:	carolyn.SMITH@COLIN.EDU	☑ yes ☐ no
Website: http://	WWW.COLIN.EDU/NLCC	☑ yes ☐ no
Address:	P.O. Box 1307	☑ yes ☐ no
	Natchez, MS 39121	

2. **Who should writers contact** for information about your 2003 conference?

Name: Carolyn Vance Smith Title: Co-chairman

3. What makes your conference unique?

Nationally known speakers, premieres of films and documentaries, celebrity award winners who are writers, interesting theme and program components, beautiful, historic city, Olympic-Award winning conference

4. What is the **date** of your 2004 conference? Feb. 25-29, 2004

5. When will **brochures/registration forms** for your 2004 conference be available? Fall 2003

How should writers request this information? ☑ SASE ☑ website ☐ e-mail ☐ fax ☐ phone

6. Any tips on how to enjoy and get the most out of your event?

Read ahead after speakers/writers on program have been announced so that discussion sessions will mean more.

Completed by Carolyn Vance Smith Date 4-25-03

Please include a brochure about your event or mail one when it's available.

2004 part 1
page 131

Preview/Send Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

- Preview your newsletter & send it to your contacts by pressing the send newsletter button at the bottom of the page.
- If you need to add information or make corrections to this newsletter, click here.

This Newsletter Is Sponsored In Part By:
NATCHEZ Spring Pilgrimage March 13 - April 17, 2004

Southern Politics: A Cherished Spectator Sport

The only spectator sport Southerners cherish more than SEC football is politics. With players like Thomas Jefferson, John C. Calhoun, Andrew Jackson, Huey P. and Earl Long, George Wallace, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, we are well cast for great drama, as well as for theatre of the absurd.

This year, literary figures will mine the rich seam of Southern literature to tackle such diverse topics as the legacy of Governor Huey P. Long, the evolution of Southern politics, and why Southern governors keep getting elected President.

MORE >>

Celebration Attracts Accomplished Talent

Speakers this year include actor, director, producer Stuart Margolin (the Rockford Files), screenwriter Gail Gilchrist (My Dog Skip, The Ponder Heart) and poet Natasha Trethewey (Domestic Work). Margolin, who today calls Natchez home, has appeared in more than twenty-five movies and two hundred television shows. He is likely best known for his role as Angel Martin in CBS's The Rockford Files.

MORE >>

Walk in the Footsteps of Southern History

If there is any truth to the oft-employed adage that smart is sexy, then the city of Natchez might prove irresistible this month. That's because each year, the Bluff City presents an opportunity to curl up not just with a good book, but also with some good movies, some celebrated actors, screenwriter or two and more besides during the Natchez Literary an Cinema Celebration.

This year's itinerary includes stops at the nationally renowned The Briars, where President Jefferson Davis wed; Monmouth, General John A. Quitman's home; and Rose Hill Baptist Church, the oldest church in Mississippi.

MORE >>

Greg Iles to Attend Literary Celebration

During the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration this year, Natchez-based Greg Iles, author of Black Cross, Mortal Fear, 24 Hours, Sleep No More and The Footprints of God, will be presented with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award. There will also be a screening of Iles' film Trapped, with a coffee house discussion to follow.

MORE >>

Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi

This year, a luxurious addendum to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will unfold aboard a three-story riverboat called the River Explorer. Guests can join an eight - day cruise up the Mississippi from New Orleans to Memphis, centering on the theme Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mississippi. Carolyn Vance Smith, founder of the Celebration, explains, It's a huge floating hotel, with some of the country's most respected writers, filmmakers, musicians, storytellers, critics and chefs sharing with the rest of us what they know best. The cruise runs April 6-13.

For tickets and complete information please contact the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121 or Call 1-601-446-1289 or toll free, 866-296-NLCC.

Information contained in this newsletter was provided courtesy of Country Roads Magazine.

MORE >>

This Newsletter Is Sponsored In Part By:
April - May 2004 Natchez FESTIVAL OF MUSIC Opera, Broadway, Jazz April - May 2004

Send Newsletter

2004 part 1
page 132

Partly cloudy
High 78° • Low 56°

Natchez
The Democrat

50¢
Thursday, March 25, 2004
www.natchezdemocrat.com

MISSISSIPPI EDITION

KRT photo

Former administration counterterrorism chief Richard Clarke testifies before the 9-11 Commission on Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

Scenic byway bills headed for conference

By NITA MCCANN
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — Bills to create a scenic byway in southwest Mississippi have passed the House and Senate and are on their way to a joint conference committee, Tourism Director Walter Tipton said Wednesday.

"They'll get the language worked out, (and) then it will be sent to the governor for his signature," Tipton told a Wednesday meeting of the Convention Promotion Commission.

Mississippi

Natchez — along with Vicksburg, Port Gibson and Woodville — is lobbying to have a 100-mile stretch of U.S. 61 from north Warren County south to the Louisiana state line named a state scenic byway.

If that is approved, the cities can apply for a federal designation, which could bring grants for discretionary projects, such as marketing and infrastructure, the area's way.

Meanwhile, Tipton told commission members the Convention and Visitors Bureau staff is keeping busy with efforts to market the area to those, such as tour operators and travel writers, who could bring in more tourists.

Events CVB staffers have attended in recent weeks have ranged from the Chicago Golf Show to a show the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau hosted for tour operators and writers.

They also had 30 appointments with tour bus operators at the Travel South show, Tipton said.

And on Sunday, the Natchez CVB will host a group of 17 German tour operators, he said.

See Bills, 5A

2004 part 1
page 133

Bills

Continued from 1A

Tipton reported that Natchez Regional Medical Center has agreed to pay $5,000 to help produce film footage of Natchez attractions to be used in television ads. Tipton said he is soliciting donations from area businesses to raise $13,000 more for the filming, which he said should happen in May or June.

The commission also voted to donate $10,000 to help the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration match a National Endowment for the Humanities grant NLCC recently received.

A night for winners

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration salutes outstanding writers

By MARK LaFRANCIS
N-Sights Staff

Greg Iles, the weaver of psycho-thrillers and suspense novels, beamed as he accepted the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award during the awards ceremony of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

A Natchezian, Iles used witty quips and heartfelt passages to describe his delight and humility at receiving the NLCC's most prized honor. Dr. William K. Scarborough, a historian and professor at the University of Southern Mississippi, was the other recipient of the Richard Wright award. Screenwriter Gail Gilchriest of Los Angeles won the Horton Foote Award for Screenplay Writing. About 150 people attended the event, billed as "A Night With the Stars," which was held at the Natchez Convention Center.

Iles, known for blending local scenes and characters into his best-selling novels, said, "It's a pretty distinguished company to join" speaking of those who have won the Richard Wright Award.

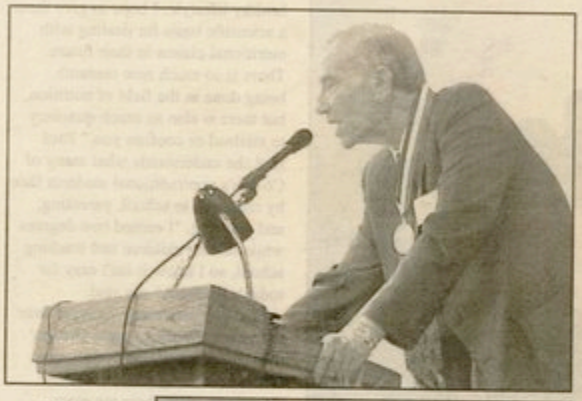
Iles added, "It's easy to show courage at cocktail clubs and parties, but it wasn't so easy to show courage ... as Richard Wright did. I'm honored."

Iles compared his works to those of Wright, who is heralded for his works portraying blacks in the post-Civil War South. "Richard Wright created portraits of the slave experience... I create portraits of people who are profoundly flawed; they are good people struggling with bad impulses."

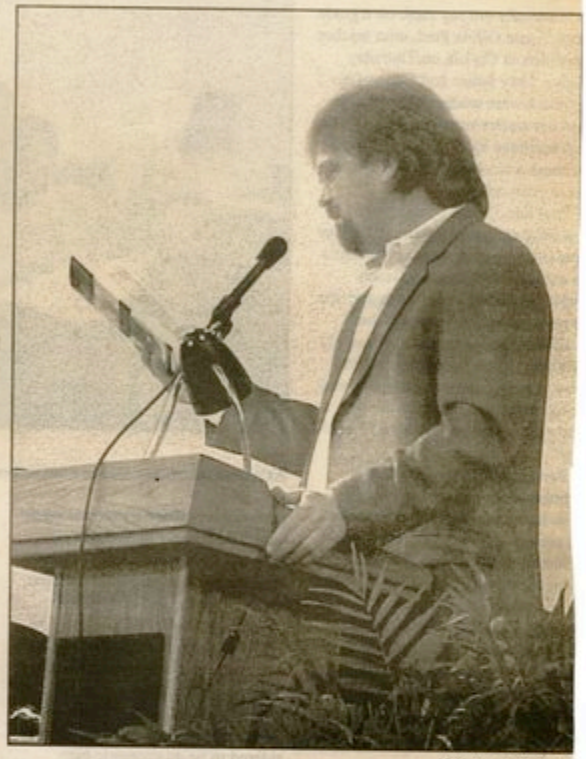
Iles quoted from a long, but intense passage from one of his novels, "The Quiet Game," set in the Adams County area. "The Quiet Game" tells the story of a prosecutor who discovers a 30-year-old unsolved murder of a black Korean War veteran. The book, however, also exposes images of the South and the region trough Iles' eyes.

Iles read from a scene in which one character, Sam Jacobs, writes a letter to The New York Times about Mississippi.

"Contrary opinions were few, and the battle was becoming embarrassingly one-sided until this morning, when into the fray charged my old friend Sam Jacobs, the self-styled Mississippi Jew, who in a half-humorous letter to the New York Times pointed out that while Mississippi might seem behind the times to outsiders, it actually had its collective finger on the pulse of America. The Magnolia State, Sam opined, had given the world William Faulkner, Elvis Presley, and Tennessee Williams. And while that holy trinity of American culture ought to be enough for anybody, for skeptics there were also Robert Johnson, Richard Wright, Jimmy Rodgers, and Muddy Waters; Leontyne Price, Charley Pride, Tammy Wynette, and John Grisham; Howlin' Wolf, B.B. King, four Miss Americas, and Oprah Winfrey. And while boneheaded nuisances like the Ku Klux Klan had committed atrocities to shame the South Africans, and slavery had come near to breaking an entire people, you couldn't by God refine gold without a fire. The state of Israel was created from the ashes of the Holocaust, and Mississippi was on its way to redemption. Why, the legacy of blues music alone, declared Sam, which was jazz and rock 'n' roll, had done more to end the Cold War than all the thin-blooded diplomats ever minted at Harvard and Yale."



Historian Dr. William K. Scarborough, above, addressed the audience during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration awards program. At right screenwriter Gail Gilchriest makes a point during her acceptance speech.



N-Sights staff photos

Greg Iles reads from his book, "The Quiet Game" during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration awards program.

"It's a pretty distinguished company to join."

— Natchez Author Greg Iles

William K. Scarborough

While Iles took the award ceremony as a chance to shine the spotlight on great southern literature coupled with long-standing disparities among southern people, Scarborough almost seemed defensive of his receiving the Richard Wright Award, given predominantly for his latest work, "Masters of the Big House," depicting the wealthiest slave owners in pre-Civil War South. "Masters of the Big House" has been acclaimed for its breadth of research and detail. His previous works also have chronicled the histories of plantations and plantation life.

Yet, Scarborough could not resist referring to the apparent dichotomy of his earning the honor in memory of Richard Wright, a black ancestor of slave owners.

Scarborough noted, "The theme is 'Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South' I guess I represent the scoundrels part."

He said that as an historian, "I'm not writing about a subject matter that is politically correct."

Yet, he humbly said of the award, "It's an amazing honor and one I'll cherish forever."

See AWARDS, next page

2004 part 1
page 134

N-Sights

April 2004
Vol. 31, No. 5

The campus newspaper of Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

N-Sights staff photo

Author Greg Iles poses with his family, wife Dr. Carrie Iles, and children Mark and Madeline, after the awards presentation ceremony.

Awards

Continued from previous page

Gail Gilchriest

In contrast to Iles' intensity and Scarborough's straightforwardness, Gilchriest added a heartfelt zest to the awards ceremony.

A former journalist turned screenwriter, Gilchriest revealed a poignant moment in her encounter with Willie Morris, Mississippian and author of "My Dog Skip," on which Gilchriest based her award-winning screenplay.

For the movie, Gilcrhiest created a major character, "Dink," an star hometown athlete who went to fight in Vietnam and returned shamed for running from the battle. "Dink" did not exist in the book, Gilchriest said, adding that she felt the screen story needed an extra character to help tell the story, which was Morris' recollections of his growing up in Mississippi and his friends and dog, "Skip."

After the screening of the film in Los Angeles, which both Gilchriest and Morris attended, "I just knew he (Morris) was going to take me to task for it."

However, Morris was cordial and even complimentary, telling Gilchriest, "Every good writer knows a story doesn't have to be factual to be true."

Gilchriest said she was surprised and honored to receive the award, professing that she has been attracted to Mississippi and the Natchez area for years.

Sylvia Johns Ritchie plays the piano at the gala.

Author Ellen Douglas with author/lecturer Dr. Noel Polk.

A night to party

The antebellum home, Gloucester, was the scene for a gala party after the awards program Saturday night, Feb. 28. Guests had the chance to mingle with authors, presenters, scholars, and other benefactors of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

N-Sights photos by Morgan Mizell

Former Mississippi Gov. Wiliam winter and his wife, Elise, talk with author Ellen Douglas

Maurice Griffin

Co-Lin Dean Ronald E. Nettles and his wife, Rosie.

Screenwriter Gail Gilchriest, right, with Chrissy Armstrong

Kitty and Hugh Harris.

2004 part 1
page 135

NLCC caps off 15th year in style; plans made for 2005 celebration

By CHARLIE BLANTON
N-Sights Staff

Spectacular weather, in-depth discussions, scholarly presentations, stirring music, honored writers, and much more made the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration another successful event, according to organizers.

"We again are delighted with the program," said Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Natchez campus dean. "The caliber of activities and programs remain outstanding. My compliments go to founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith, our co-chairs, staff and all those who helped in any way to make this year's program a success."

The theme for this years NLCC, held Feb. 25 through 29, was "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." As in previous years, music, lectures, workshops, tours and meals all were orchestrated around that theme.

In addition to Co-Lin, other sponsors are the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, which is the newest sponsor.

Events were held at the Co-Lin Natchez campus on opening day, Feb. 25, and closing day, Feb. 29, while nearly all the other programs were at the Natchez Convention Center.

Next year, the 16th annual celebration will have the theme: "Between Two Worlds: Free Blacks in the Antebellum South."

During the programs this year, scholars and experts talked about some of the region's great politicians, such as Huey Long of Louisiana, George Wallace of Alabama, and Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi. In addition, presentations delved into the lives and writings of great authors, including William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Eudora Welty and Margaret Walker Alexander.

One of the cinematic highlights was the showing of "Trapped," the movie based on Natchez author Greg Iles' book "24 Hours." The movie had not shown publicly in Natchez until the NLCC. Iles visited with the audience after the showing to discuss the film and his writing. Iles wrote the screenplay for the movie.

N-Sights staff photos

Above, screenwriter Gail Gilchriest ("My Dog Skip") talks about the film-making business, while at right, Elfrieda Abbe, editor of *The Writer* magazine tells about the finer points of selling a magazine article. Both lectures were during workshops at Co-Lin.

Photo by Robin Jones for Getty Pictures (reproduced from Time Magazine via internet.)
Johnny Cash in London in 1979.

Cash, the South, explored in song and discussion

By WESLEY STECKLER
N-Sights Staff

The late, great Johnny Cash, the "Man in Black," himself was heralded along with songs of the South during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in February.

Singers/songwriters Davis Raines and Trisha Walker, a Co-Lin alumnae and Fayette native, were the featured speakers and performers at the Carriage House during one of the NLCC's special events of the five-day celebration.

Walker performed "Sonny Boy Cupid," a bluesy number that referred to an actual person Walker knew. It's a song about a summer fling between the singer and Cupid that expresses a loss of innocence and a finding of sultry passion and love.

Next, Raines performed the Cash song, "The Ballad of Ira Hayes," which tells of a Native American who went to fight in the Pacific during World War II, and is depicted in pictures and statues on the raising if the flag at Iwo Jima.

Walker then performed "The Heart of Dixie," a story about a black woman who worked as maid for Walker's family and raised Walker like one of her own, teaching her to see beyond color.

Next, Raines performed "Big Jim Folsom (size 16 shoe)," about an Alabama governor who was "both a scoundrel and a statesman." The theme for this year's NLCC was "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

Raines said, "Folsom had promised all the pretty women in Alabama that he would kiss them if elected and he was … and probably received some of those kisses," Rainer said.

Raines said that Folsom, "was a very progressive thinker before his time who advocated if not an end to segregation at least an equal expenditure in education in both primary and secondary schools

Walker performed one of her songwriter friend's songs called "Funeral Food." This comic up-tempo song conveyed a message that many southerners can relate to. That is that when someone dies it is a chance to show off our culinary skills.

Raines' last song was humorous as well, called, "Look What Ole Kat Dragged In," which pokes fun at the high class society of small southern towns. Katherine, who is one of the elite of the small town, decides to take the singer, who is evidently of blue collar status, to a debutant-like ball where they act in a behavior that is distasteful to all the other "ladies" of the dance.

The closing song, "All the Way Home," explores the mystery why so many southerners seem to return to the South. Walker asked, "… You can physically travel back to the south but can you ever really return to that South that you left behind when you left it in the first place?"

Co-Lin to sponsor first Murray Lecture

More than 180 years ago, Judith Sargent Murray, one of the true founding mothers of the women's equality movement in America, lived in a home on the site where our campus is now located. In an era in which women were still legally classified as little more than children, and in which slavery was still a given, she argued for the rights of all, and relatedly, argued against the injustice of slavery---"every attempt to degrade humanity must indubitably be wrong," she said. In her honor, this month, Co-Lin Natchez will sponsor the inaugural Judith Sargent Murray Lecture.

Professor Kevin Bales of the University of Surrey in England, who will speak on the startling reality that far from being a relic of the past, the institution of slavery is very much alive and well, is flourishing.

He estimates that 27 million people are in bondage at present, more than ever before in human history. The lecture will be free of charge and will be held Wednesday, April 28, at 11 a.m., in the Nelson Multi-Purpose Room of the Redd/Watkins Career and Technical Education Center.

Considered to be "the world's leading expert on contemporary slavery," Bales is a director of Anti-Slavery International in London and is founder and director of its American sister organization.

2004 part 1
page 136

Mississippi MUD

(Muses Under Development)

The material contained within this portfolio includes the work of students in the Creative Writing Class for the Fall 2003 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez

2004 page 1 part 1

MLCC 2004

Mississippi MUD: Muses Under Development

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez

Mississippi River Tour

Tour barge on the Mississippi River

Welcome aboard!

An exciting and unique travel experience awaits members and friends of the Center and members of the Ole Miss Alumni Association.

An eight-day, fun-filled trip will explore the Deep South's extraordinary creative legacy through fascinating programs, concerts, films, and shore excursions in keeping with the theme "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics of the Mighty Mississippi."

This trip will take place April 6-13, 2004, on board America's only floating hotel, the luxurious and spacious RiverBarge Excursion Lines *River Explorer*.

Limited to 160 guests, the trip will begin in New Orleans and go up the mighty Mississippi River, stopping for shore excursions in Baton Rouge, Natchez, and Vicksburg, before ending with a day in Memphis.

Highlights include programs by noted Southern writers, scholars, and musicians; guided excursions of river towns; concerts; films; and time to enjoy the mighty Mississippi.

Presenters include

- Center director Charles Reagan Wilson
- Ole Miss historian David Sansing
- Ole Miss alum Greg Iles of Natchez, author of *24 Hours*
- Emmy Award-winning screenplay writer/director/actor Stuart Margolin (*Rockford Files*)
- Eudora Welty scholar Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, who will focus on *The Ponder Heart*
- Pulitzer Prize nominee and Mississippi native Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa (*Last Train North, Eight Habits of the Heart*)
- William Faulkner scholar Noel Polk of Hattiesburg, who will focus on *The Reivers*
- Former Ole Miss Alumni Association President Marion Smith of Natchez

Discussions and films will also explore Louisiana's Huey P. Long, John Barry's *Rising Tide*, and Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*.

While on board, guests will enjoy first-class comforts, service, food, and amenities. All accommodations on the *River Explorer* are identical, with comfortable, 200-square-foot staterooms featuring large picture windows. Rooms have either twin or queen beds, a full bath with tub and shower, mini-fridge, telephone, TV/VCR, coffeemaker, hair dryer, radio, binoculars, and lots of storage.

Staterooms are on two decks, Royal (lower) and Platinum (upper). Platinum Deck rooms have a small balcony. A limited number of single rooms are available on each deck. A third, open-air SkyDeck runs the entire 600-foot length of the vessel.

Rates per person range from $2,526 to $4,101. Price includes eight days aboard the *River Explorer*, all meals, 24-hour snacks and soft drinks, all shore excursions, all guides, all entertainment, welcome aboard and farewell cocktail parties, a wine tasting, a cooking demonstration, and all tips

To register, send a deposit of $500 per person to University of Mississippi Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1848, University, MS 39677-1848. Write on the check the purpose of the deposit.

Registrants will receive information about optional pre and post 24-hour packages in New Orleans and Memphis and motor coach transportation back to New Orleans on the last day.

This trip is made possible in part by an association with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, chaired by Center Advisory Committee member Carolyn Vance Smith. All travel and program arrangements are by Educational Travel Associates, Inc., P.O Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121. For information, please call 601-446-1208 or e-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu

Information about the RiverBarge Excursion Lines *River Explorer* is available at the Web site www.riverbarge.com.

Southern Register Fall 2003

2004 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Mention Southern political leaders, and immediately George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John C. Calhoun, John A. Quitman, Theodore Bilbo, Andrew Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Huey Long, George Wallace, Ross Barnett, Jimmy Carter, and others come to mind.

Were they scoundrels or statesmen? Find out at the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will explore the theme "Statesmen to Scoundrels: Politics in the Deep South."

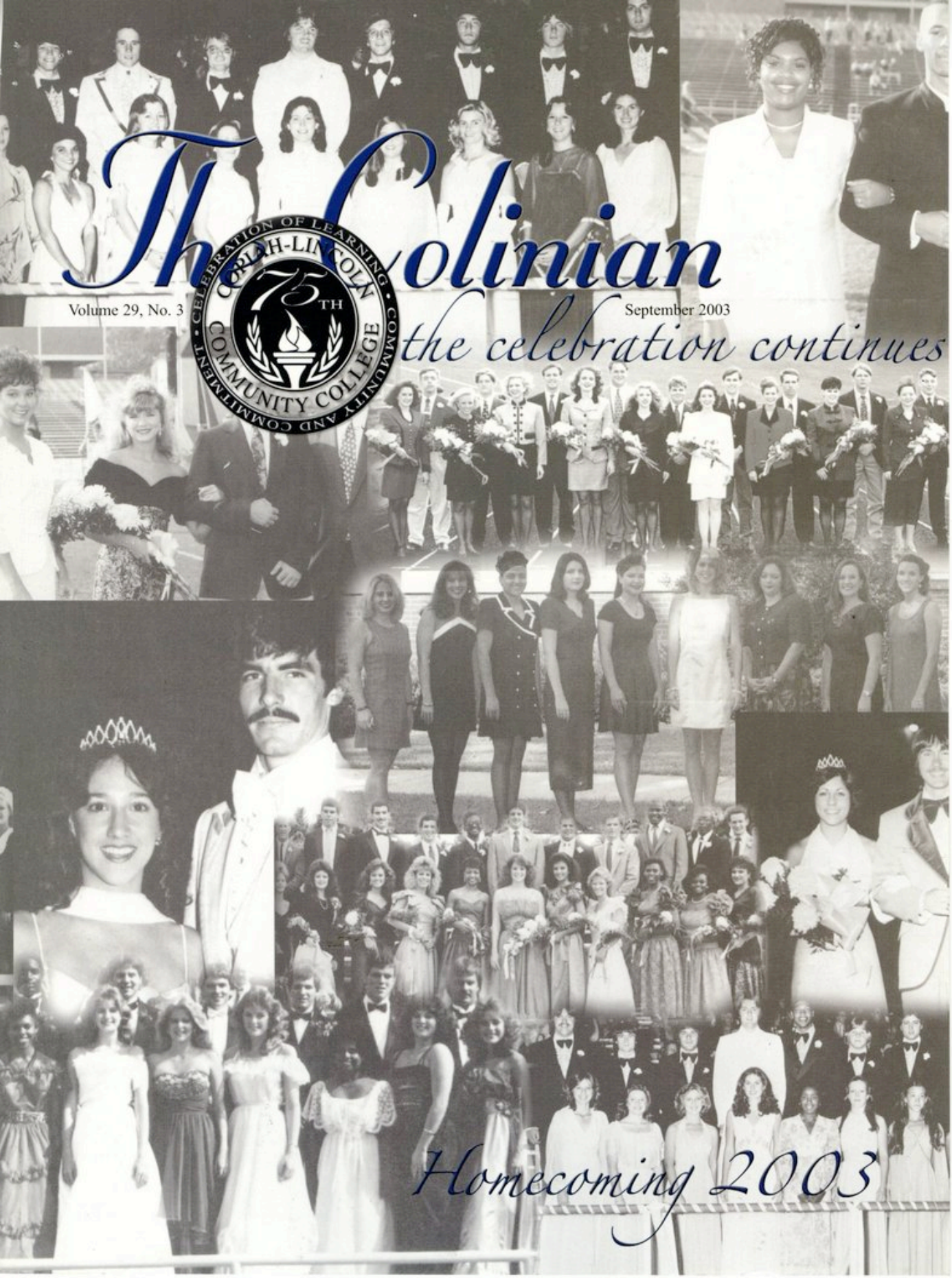
The event, set for February 25-29, 2004, in Natchez, Mississippi, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Broadcasting Networks. Headquarters will be the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

More than two dozen nationally known scholars, historians, writers, and film experts will present programs about the political world, examining biographical sketches of early leaders, Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*, a book and film based on the life of Huey Long, and Eudora Welty's political leanings.

Scheduled for the event are tours of historic mansions occupied by early Mississippi political leaders, commercial and documentary films, panel discussions, a concert of political campaign songs, writing workshops, parties, and an awards ceremony honoring the writers Greg Iles, William Scarborough, and Gail Gilchriest.

Most of the conference is free. For information and tickets, call toll-free 866-296-NLCC (866-296-6522) or 601-446-1289. Or e-mail Christy.Williams@colin.edu or visit the Web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2004 part 1
page 2



The Colinian

Volume 29, No. 3 September 2003

the celebration continues

Homecoming 2003

2004 part 1
page 3

file NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Darrell Lee [dlee@etv.state.ms.us]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2003 1:53 PM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: NLCC and MSBN

NLCC and MSBN.doc (52 KB)

See news release for details...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact:
Carolyn Vance Smith
September 30, 2003 601.446.1208

Mississippi Broadcasting Networks Joins
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration as a Sponsor

(Jackson, Miss.)-The Mississippi Broadcasting Networks (MSBN) will join the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) as a sponsor of the 15th annual celebration. MSBN, Mississippi's public radio and educational television stations, joins Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History as hosts of the week-long festival.

"We are delighted to welcome MSBN as a partner in our efforts to explore the great writings and films produced by many Mississippians," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. "Since the conference began, it has had major support from Mississippi's public radio and educational television networks. It seems natural that MSBN should become an official sponsor."

MSBN Executive Director Marie Antoon will join the NLCC as a co-chairman, along with Smith, Jim Barnett, Director of Historic Properties for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Keith Whisenant, Superintendent of the Natchez Historical Park.

"The Mississippi Broadcasting Networks is delighted to be a partner with the NLCC to support this conference, which recognizes Mississippian's contributions to literature, history and culture," said MSBN Executive Director Marie Antoon. "The mission of the NLCC is similar to ours in its emphasis on education and celebration of the humanities that ties together the historical, literary, political, social, artistic and natural heritage of Mississippi and the South."

The 15th Celebration is set for February 24 - 29, 2004, and will use the theme "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." A highlight of the celebration is a panel discussion by journalists Donald Adderton, Bill Minor, Sid Salter and Emily Wagster on the topic, "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?"

(more)

The Celebration, founded in 1990, has reached national and international levels with programming that regularly includes commercial films and educational opportunities. Each year's conference deals with an aspect of Southern history and culture and has included noted speakers Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, William Styron, Willie Morris, Ellen Douglas, Ernest Gaines, Elizabeth Spencer, Nikki Giovanni, Myrlie Evers-Williams, and Maya Angelou; the Richard Wright scholar Michael Fabre of Paris; and the historians Robert V. Remini, David Sansing, William Scarborough, John D.W. Guice, Jay Gitlin, John Blassingame, Michael Wayne, and Douglas Lewis.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is successful for several reasons: the richness of hits humanities content, the happy choice of program participants, and the virtually flawless execution of a carefully planned program," said Dr. Charles Lowery, retired chairman of the history department at Mississippi State University and an official Mississippi Humanities Council evaluator of the conference. "It is beyond question the best program I have been a part of during my humanities involvement in Mississippi and elsewhere."

The NLCC has won many awards, including a Cultural Olympiad award for outstanding programming from the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games; the Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement; the Most Outstanding Festival or Event in Mississippi from the Mississippi Tourism Commission; and the Public Humanities Achievement Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

###

Darrell L. Lee
Communications Specialist
Mississippi Broadcasting Networks
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211

(601) 432-6523 (phone)
(601) 432-6746 (fax)
dlee@etv.state.ms.us
www.ms-networks.org

Pick the Show! Pick Some Friends! Pick Their Brains!
Start your own PBS Program Club today!!!

2004 part 1
page 4

Mississippi Broadcasting Networks join NLCC as sponsor

Special to The Democrat

The Mississippi Broadcasting Networks (MSBN) will join the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) as a sponsor of the 15th annual celebration. MSBN, Mississippi's public radio and educational television stations, joins Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History as hosts of the week-long festival.

"We are delighted to welcome MSBN as a partner in our efforts to explore the great writings and films produced by many Mississippians," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez. "Since the conference began, it has had major support from Mississippi's public radio and educational television networks. It seems natural that MSBN should become an official sponsor."

MSBN Executive Director Marie Antoon will join the NLCC as a co-chairman, along with Smith, Jim Barnett, Director of Historic Properties for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Keith Whisenant, Superintendent of the Natchez Historical Park.

Natchez

"The Mississippi Broadcasting Networks is delighted to be a partner with the NLCC to support this conference, which recognizes Mississippian's contributions to literature, history and culture," said MSBN Executive Director Marie Antoon. "The mission of the NLCC is similar to ours in its emphasis on education and celebration of the humanities that ties together the historical, literary, political, social, artistic and natural heritage of Mississippi and the South."

The 15th Celebration is set for Feb. 24-29, 2004, and will use the theme "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." A highlight of the celebration is a panel discussion by journalists Donald Adderton, Bill Minor, Sid Salter and Emily Wagster on the topic, "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?"

The Celebration, founded in 1990, has reached national and international levels with programming that regularly includes commercial films and educational opportunities. Each year's conference deals with an aspect of Southern history and culture and has included noted speakers Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, William Styron, Willie Morris, Ellen Douglas, Ernest Gaines, Elizabeth Spencer, Nikki Giovanni, Myrlie Evers-Williams, and Maya Angelou; the Richard Wright scholar Michael Fabre of Paris; and the historians Robert V. Remini, David Sansing, William Scarborough, John D.W. Guice, Jay Gitlin, John Blassingame, Michael Wayne, and Douglas Lewis.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is successful for several reasons: the richness of hits humanities content, the happy choice of program participants, and the virtually flawless execution of a carefully planned program," said Dr. Charles Lowery, retired chairman of the history department at Mississippi State University and an official Mississippi Humanities Council evaluator of the conference. "It is beyond question the best program I have been a part of during my humanities involvement in Mississippi and elsewhere."

The NLCC has won many awards, including a Cultural Olympiad award for outstanding programming from the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games; the Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement; the Most Outstanding Festival or Event in Mississippi from the Mississippi Tourism Commission; and the Public Humanities Achievement Award from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

2C • THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. Sunday, October 12, 2003

2004 part 1
page 5

Maya,

As luck would have it, the summaries of the talks you want are incomplete. I have two but not all of them. I have emailed the speakers to send summaries as soon as possible and will forward those to you when they arrive.

I can give you the names and phone numbers of speakers you are interested in. Here they are:

1. William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss., governor of Miss., 1980-84, author of three books on non-fiction, longtime president of board of trustees of Miss. Dept. of Archives and History, and since the first NLCC in 1990, director of proceedings for each conference. He will deliver the kickoff speech on an overview of Southern politics. Phone 601-949-4800

2. Beth Courtney, Baton Rouge, La., president and CEO, Louisiana Public Broadcasting, to introduce the Ken Burns' film about Huey P. Long. Phone 800-272-8161

3. Dr. Noel Polk, U. of Sou. Miss., professor of English and director of honors college, to present a paper on William Faulkner and to present a program about editing Robert Penn Warren's novel, All the King's Men, the most recent edition in 2002. Phone 601-266-4326 or 4319

4. Dr. Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, professor of English, Louisiana State University and Visiting Welty Scholar, Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., to present a paper on Welty's political views. Phone 225-766-0527 and 601-898-8426

5. Dr. Alferdteen (notice spelling) Harrison, professor at Jackson State University and director of the Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center, who will present a paper on Dr. Alexander. Phone 601-355-3052 and 601-979-2055

6. Dr. Maryemma Graham, professor of English, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, and an expert on Margaret Walker Alexander, to present a paper on Dr. Alexander. Phone 785-864-2700 or 2557

I'll get photos of pertinent people and some art work sent to Amy and Maria. Thanks so much. Call me if I can help you.
Carolyn Vance Smith

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Educational Travel Associates, Inc./Elderhostel
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
Email: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Web site for Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
www.colin.edu/nlcc

-----Original Message-----
From: Maya Dalinsky [mailto:m_dalinsky@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2003 10:50 AM

2004 part 1
page 6

file NLCC
publicity

To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: for your records :

Carolyn,

Thank you for a wonderful phone conversation : it is simply a pleasure, as a writer (as you well know) to have such a wealth of material to work with.

If you would like to email me the synopses of the talks, please feel free to do so (m_dalinsky@yahoo.com) or if it is easier for you to fax them, you can fax them to the NEH Publications Office to the attention of Amy Lifson at 202-606-8451. I am particularly interested in the following topics : The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South, the documentary and talk about Huey Long, and the pre-conference literary component on Welty and Faulkner. I would love to talk to the scholars presenting these topics and if you happen to have their contact information perhaps you could pass that along as well.

For art/images, please send high resolution jpegs or hard copies of the program and promotional material directly to the Publications Office, to the attention of Amy Lifson/Maria Biernik. Their address is :
The National Endowment for the Humanities
Publications Office
1100 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC, 20506

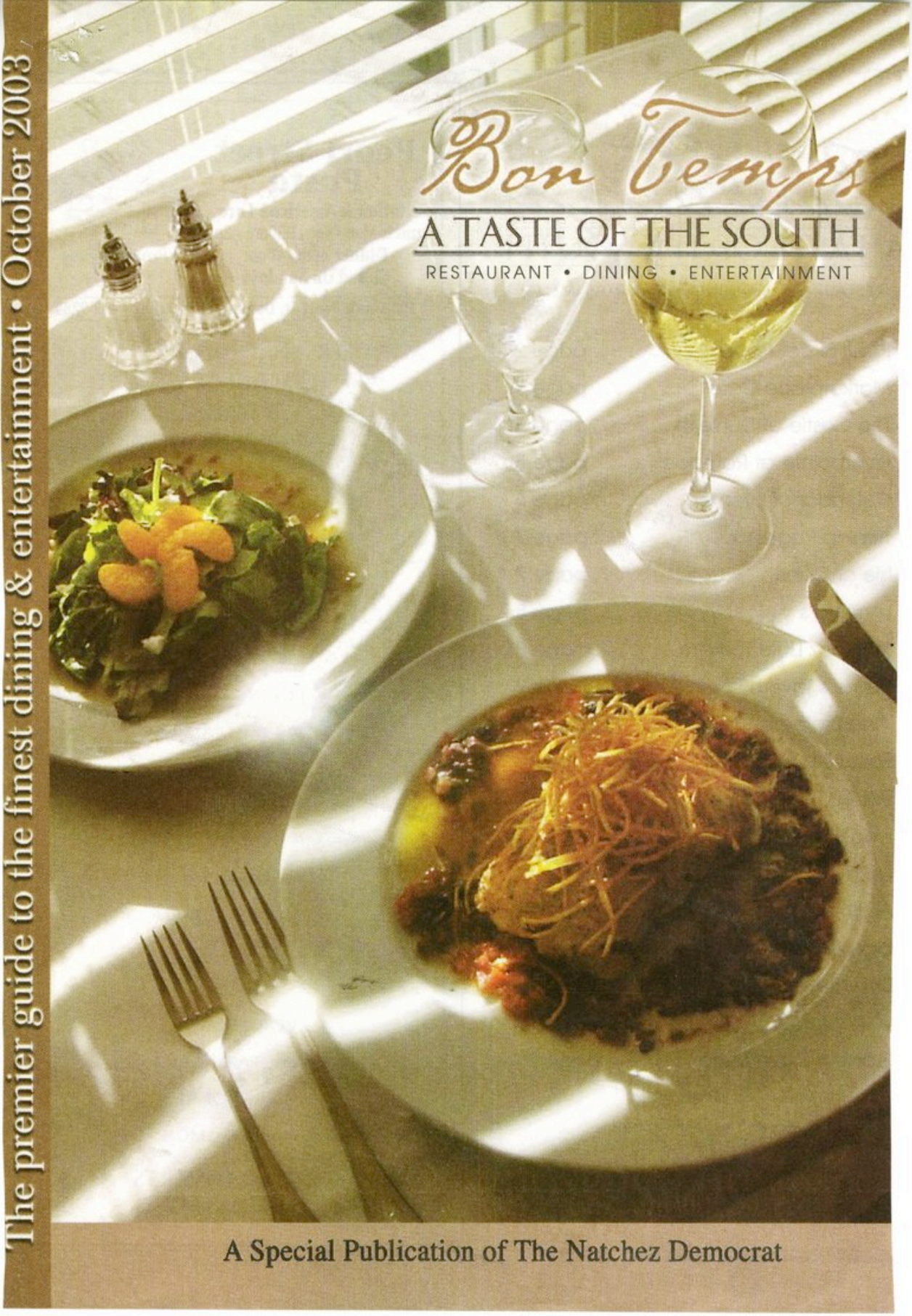
I will undoubtedly be in touch with some follow up questions as I finish the article and talk to the scholars. If you need to contact me, I can be reached at the following number :

Maya Dalinsky
410 243 5096
2706 St Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
m_dalinsky@yahoo.com

Thanks for your time and good luck with planning the celebration!

Maya D.

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Shopping - with improved product search
http://shopping.yahoo.com



2004 part 1
page 7

Annual Events

JANUARY
- Eleventh Moon Storytelling Festival
- MartinLuther King Day Parade

FEBRUARY
- Black History Month
- Mardi Gras In Natchez
- Natchez Literary And Cinema Celebration
- Taco Bell River City Classic 10K, 5K, and Fun Run

MARCH
- Natchez Spring Pilgrimage
- Pow-Wow At The Grand Village
- Krewe Of Killarney St. Patrick's Day Parade

APRIL
- Natchez Bluff Blues Fest
- River Cities Airshow & Motorcycle Extravaganza
- Delta Music Festival
- Church Hill Preservation Trust Barn Dance

MAY
- Natchez Opera Festival
- Arts In The Park
- Civil War Reenactment at Jefferson College

JUNE
- Natchez Juneteenth Celebration
- Flag Day Celebrations
- Pioneer Week at Jefferson College

JULY
- Lake St. John Blessing Of The Flotilla
- Isle Of Capri Fireworks Extravaganza

AUGUST
- Natchez Birding Festival
- Great River Road Food Festival
- Rosalie Celebrates Childhood

SEPTEMBER
- Copper Magnolia Festival
- Bark In The Park
- Jim Bowie Festival

OCTOBER
- Angels On The Bluff At The Historic Natchez Cemetery
- Great Mississippi River Balloon Race
- Ghost Tales Around The Campfire
- Natchez Fall Pilgrimage
- Music at the Mounds at Grand Village

NOVEMBER
- Broadway Bash And Chili Cookoff
- Pilgrimage Garden Club Antiques Forum
- Vintage Baseball at Jefferson College
- Civil War Reenactment at Jefferson College

DECEMBER
- Christmas Parades and Tours
- Caroling in Memorial Park
- Holidazzel

Make the Natchez Visitor Reception Center Your First Stop!

Intersection Of Highway 84 and Canal Street

1-800-647-6724 • 601-446-6345

www.natchez.ms.us

Historic Natchez on the Mississippi

2004 part 1
page 8

file NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Monday, October 06, 2003 8:50 AM
To: Natchez Everyone; Biggs, Courtney; Davis, Natalie
Subject: Monday Update 10/06/03

Faculty and Staff:

* To celebrate Co-Lin's Homecoming, the SGA has planned a different theme for each day of this week. Today is Hat Day, Tuesday is Favorite Team Day, Wednesday is Professional Dress-Up Day, Thursday is 70's Day and Friday is Blue and White Day. It should be an interesting week on our campus.

* We will be doing something a little different this year with our Homecoming Court. We are planning to introduce them at a special reception this Wednesday at 11:00 am in the Multi-Purpose Room. Everyone is invited and I really would like to have a good turnout of our faculty and staff. This will not be a long program. We plan to introduce them and then have refreshments afterward.

* The NLCC Steering Committee welcomed a new co-sponsor and a new co-chairman of the event last week. Mississippi Broadcasting Networks will become the Celebration's newest official co-sponsor, and MSBN's Executive Director, Marie Antoon, will become the Celebration's newest official co-chairman. Alcorn State University will no longer be a major co-sponsor of the NLCC. They will continue to support and help the conference in other ways.

* The 15th annual NLCC will take place Feb. 25-29, 2004, using the theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

* Congratulations to Theresa Rounds on becoming a new grandmother. Theresa's daughter had a healthy baby girl last week.

* **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** ---- We are changing our spring semester registration day from Tuesday, January 6 to Monday, January 5, 2004. The change is necessary to avoid both campuses conducting registration on the same day. Classes will start on Wednesday January 7, 2004. Mrs. McCalip will send you more details on registration later this semester.

* We are currently developing the new Schedule Tab for the Wesson and Natchez campus. If you have suggestions or comments about changes, please let me know something this week.

* Oops! We do not have extra 2001-2002 yearbooks. I will listen more closely to what Mrs. Marguerite is telling me next time. We do have the 2002-2003 yearbooks and several from 1997. If you want a copy, there are a few left in the Business Office.

* Faculty HEADWAE nominations are due this Friday. Please get them to me as soon as possible.

* No Monday Update next week because of the fall break.

* Circle K is sponsoring a Blood Drive this Wednesday in the Wellness Center. Please support these students by donating blood.

* The current issues discussion group will meet this Friday at 11:00 am in the Activity Room. The topic for the week is "The Mechanics of Democracy: from Recalls to the Electoral College."

* For those of you who keep my cell phone number close by, my new number is 601-597-2745.

* The Board of Trustees met last Thursday in Wesson. A few of the actions taken by the Board included:

1. Approved changes to the College Catalog and the Policies and Procedures Manual.

2. Approved an Upward Bound Program Expansion grant in the amount of $100,000.

3. Approved SBCJC/MACJC dues for Co-Lin.

4. Approved attorney fees for Simpson County Bond Issues and bond refunding issue.

5. Approved lowest and best bid for maintenance department uniforms.

6. Approved an agreement between Natchez Adams School District and Co-Lin to use the old Washington campus parking lot for WIA commercial truck driving training program.

7. The Board heard numerous reports.

Have a good week.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Touting Natchez

The Natchez Democrat photo illustration/Ben Hillyer

The new Natchez Web site will give tourism industry professionals, business owners and others opportunities to take advantage of a professionally created site that will coordinate events and information in one place: cityofnatchez.com. The new Web site will be part of the discussion at tourism meetings offered Tuesday at the Natchez Convention Center. The day will begin with a Downtown Development Association meeting with guest speaker John Brandon of the Mississippi Development Authority.

2004 part 1
page 10

FROM TREE TO PIE
Plantation proves pecan business is all it's cracked up to be, STYLE, 1C

UNITED FRONT: Local bank proud of award, BUSINESS, 1D

ONE DOWN ...
Braves win first game under new coach
SPORTS, 1B

Breezy and cool
High 52° • Low 36°

The Natchez Democrat

$1.50
Sunday, December 14, 2003
www.natchezdemocrat.com

SUNDAY EDITION

Mayor: City will help kick off grant drive

Natchez Literary Celebration

▸ The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, with the theme "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South," will be Feb. 25-29, 2004.

By KERRY WHIPPLE
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — Mayor F.L. "Hank" Smith wants Natchez to help kick off a fund-raising drive for a matching grant for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The celebration, which will hold its 15th annual series of lectures and films in February, received a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant earlier this week. The

Natchez

$100,000 grant must be matched dollar for dollar within three years.

"This would really put that festival on sound financial footing," Smith said. "Anything like that, I'll try to get the city behind it."

The city should assist with the match in part because of the economic impact the literary celebration has had — and will have — on Natchez, Smith said.

The challenge grant, one of 27 awarded by the NEH across the country Wednesday, would help the celebration continue in perpetuity, founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith has said. Interest from the grant and its match would help fund the event into the future.

"This Challenge Grant will go a long way towards ensuring this outstanding program continues to entertain and enlighten future generations," said Keith Whisenant, director of the Natchez National Historical Park, a co-sponsor. "We need to remember through that the grant requires a match, so we urge everyone who enjoys the Literary and Cinema Celebration to continue their support so that we can take full advantage of the National Endowment for this Humanities grant."

Fund-raising activities for the matching grant will include a riverbarge cruise on the Mississippi, to take place April 6-13, 2004.

2004 part 1
page 11

Mississippi River trip will help raise funds for literary celebration

Special to The Democrat

A limited number of travelers will embark on a specially arranged, unique Mississippi River trip April 6-13.

"This exciting eight-day trip on the mighty Mississippi will explore what the Deep South is famous for — writers, music, storytelling, food and hospitality," said trip organizer Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman of the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. "We're calling the trip a floating literary and cinema celebration. It's bound to be a trip to remember."

Entertaining and informative programs, shore excursions, concerts and films will be enhanced by traveling on America's largest floating hotel, the RiverBarge Excursion Lines' River Explorer, Smith said.

The entire trip will follow the theme, "Literature, Lore and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi." "Throughout, we'll be immersed in our area's extraordinary creative legacy," Smith said.

The trip is sponsored by the Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, an annual conference that Smith and Copiah-Lincoln Community College founded in 1990. "This conference has been called by official evaluators the South's most outstanding humanities event," Smith said.

Other sponsors of the NLCC and the river trip are Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

"The outstanding people presenting programs on the trip are donating their services," Smith said. "They are steadfast supporters of the celebration who are helping us raise money for the Celebration's new endowment fund."

On Dec. 10, the Celebration was presented with a $100,000 National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. "We have to match that grant dollar for dollar within the next three years," Smith said. "This river trip will help us raise the necessary matching funds."

Limited to 160 guests, the trip begins in New Orleans and goes up the Mississippi River to Memphis, with shore excursions along the way in Baton Rouge, Natchez and Vicksburg. Travelers will spend nearly two days in Natchez, visiting historic homes and museums and

Natchez

attending concerts.

"Highlights include sessions and films by noted Southern writers, scholars, historians, storytellers, film experts and musicians," Smith said. "And we'll also have plenty of time to relax and enjoy the Mississippi River."

Sessions will feature:

- New York Times best-selling author Greg Iles of Natchez ("24 Hours," "The Footprints of God").
- Charles Reagan Wilson, director of the Center of the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi ("Encyclopedia of Southern Culture").
- The University of Mississippi historian David Sansing ("Mississippi: A Study of Your State," "Natchez: An Illustrated History).
- Storyteller and humorist Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp of Danville, Ky., and Natchez
- Emmy Award-winning screenplay writer/director/actor Stuart Margolin of Natchez ("The Rockford Files").
- Huey P. Long enthusiast Charles Vahlkamp of Centre College, Danville, Ky.
- Eudora Welty scholar Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, formerly of Louisiana State University and now of Millsaps College, Jackson. ("Conversations with Eudora Welty").
- Pulitzer Prize nominee and noted storyteller Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa ("The Last Train North," "Eight Habits of the Heart").
- Noel Polk, a William Faulkner and Robert Penn Warren scholar of the University of Southern Mississippi (editor of Warren's "All the King's Men").

"There'll also be plenty of music," Smith said. "We'll have performances by a New Orleans jazz band, a spiritual music choir, a rock 'n' roll duo, a blues jug band and singer/songwriter Tricia Walker of Fayette and Nashville, Tenn."

Price per person begins at $2526 and includes a stateroom, gourmet meals, 24-hour snacks and soft drinks, shore excursions, guides, entertainment, cocktail parties, a wine tasting, a cooking demonstration and tips. To register, call toll-free 866) 296-NLCC or 446-1289 or e-mail Christy.Williams@ colin.edu Or visit the Web site:

2004 part 1
page 12

Opinion

The Democrat

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Letter wrong to call celebration support 'racism'

Your Letters

I would like publicly to response to Mr. Clifford M. Boxley's article in Dec. 17 edition of *The Natchez Democrat.*

I take issue with several points he made in the article.

First, the post he tried to make in contrasting the Forks of the Road grant and the efforts of the City of Natchez to support matching funds for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration are not even in the same category. In the former (the Forks of the Road grant) the city took a very active part in trying to secure this grant.

Jim Barnett was initially one of the first persons to initiate the attempt to secure a grant to purchase private property for location of the Forks of the Road. From the very beginning the City of Natchez and the current administration committed city funds to do four things that would be first necessary to secure this property. They were:

- Secured appraisals on the four pieces of private property owned by three separate individuals.
- Do an environmental abatement of the buildings on the property.
- Do legal and title work on the deeds, etc.
- Have an accurate survey done of the property.

These four things did take time. Most people would have the food sense to realize this, and it was evidenced by the fact that the city had to ask for two extensions from the Department of Archives and History to complete these tasks. Keep in mind these three property owners did not come to the city and ask for the city to purchase their land. It should be self-evident if the City of Natchez was not sincere in its effort to secure this property to be used for the Forks of the Road, it would simply have dropped the project after the first unmet deadline.

Let me point out your error when you stated the City of Natchez returned $85,000 to the grantor, the Department of Archives and History. Mr. Boxley, this did not happen.

In the first part of your article, you commented on the "immediate action" of our current mayor to lead a community effort to raise matching funds for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration grant. Let me point out the current administration lent (only) moral support to the idea of matching funds for this project to come from the community. In the Forks of the Road project the current administration committed city funds to the matching grant in question and spent actual monies on appraisals, environmental studies, legal work and surveys.

You stated supporting the literary celebration was an example of "insidious racism permeating the psyche of the inner circles" of the (political) powers in Natchez. Your point seemed to be that any kind of support for the literary celebration was in support for "white culture" and your perceived lack of support for the Forks of the Road project was "insidious racism."

I have a question I would like for you to answer for me. How could you possibly think the literary celebration could be something of "white culture" when it has been supported by a historically black college, Alcorn State University, for 15 years? This same literary celebration has recognized the outstanding efforts of many black people, including Natchez's own author, Richard Wright, and Myrlie Evers, Margaret Walker Alexander and Maya Angelou. Do these names reek of "white culture?" I think not.

I would bet the people of Natchez are tired of reading articles in the local newspaper charging racism on false grounds such as yours. I love Natchez and would love to see it grow, prosper and become a community where great strides are being made between the races. (Note the recent lifting of the federal restrictions on our public schools). It would seem articles such as you wrote would not let this desired progress occur.

The EDA is actively pursuing companies and entrepreneurs to come to Natchez and invest in our community and provide jobs we so desperately need.

Think about it. If you were a person scouting our community and had an interest in locating her and saw an article such as yours, this would surely be seen as a red flag. No sensible person would want to invest in a community where there seems to be great disharmony among the races.

Kirk Bartley
Natchez resident

2004 part 1
page 13

PROJECTS FUNDED

REGULAR GRANTS

Copiah-Lincoln Community College *The 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration* *Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South*	$10,000.00
Northeast Mississippi Community College *From Thoreau to Today: Philosophy to Action to Reflection*	$3,750.00
UM Department of Journalism *A Conference on Labor and the Southern Press*	$2,192.00
University of Southern Mississippi *Southern Vocal Arts Conference: Richard Wagner and His World*	$10,000.00
Zoological Society of San Diego *Mississippi Audubon Archaeology Project*	$3,770.00
Coahoma Community College *11th Annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival*	$5,000.00
JSU Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center *Unsettling Memories: Culture and Trauma in the Deep South*	$10,000.00
University of Mississippi *Portraits of Promise: Mississippi Women and Their Stories (video documentary)*	$4,800.00

MINI GRANTS

JSU Political Science Department *Exploring the Social Sciences and the Humanities through the African American Freedom Movement*	$2,000.00
MSU, Meridian *Meridian World Cinema Festival: World in the Movies*	$1,969.00
Mississippi Archaeological Association *Mississippi Archaeology Month, 2003*	$2,000.00
Friends of the Clinton Library *Mississippi Off the Beaten Path*	$325.00
UM, Modern Languages Dept. *How Carinthian Slovene and Choctaw are Alike*	$1,700.00
Jackson Academy *Anne Frank: A History for Today*	$1,940.00
Communities in Schools of Greenwood *Cultural Pre-Plan for Charleston*	$2,000.00
Greenville Arts Council *Cultural Plan for the City of Greenville*	$2,000.00
Delta Blues Museum *Blues in Pop Culture/Pop Culture in the Blues: Stories from the Other Side of the Tracks*	$1,856.00

Humanities Council Grants

Deadlines for applying for regular grants of more than $2,000 are January 15 and August 15.

Deadlines for submitting mini grant applications for $2,000 and less are January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1, and November 1. MHC should receive applications at least eight weeks in advance of the program date.

Applications for oral history grants and MHC media grants are accepted in accordance with mini grant and regular grant guidelines.

For application guidelines and forms, please consult the MHC homepage at *www.mshumanities.org* or contact MHC at (601) 432-6752. We are happy to assist with applications and answer questions about the grant process.

Media Grants

MHC is a partner of the Southern Humanities Media Fund (SHMF). The Fund awards grants only in support of the shooting/production, editing, and finishing of films, video, and audio programs. Preliminary applications must be postmarked by the third Friday of October. Final applications must be received by the third Friday of March. Contact SHMF at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities at (434) 924-6895 or visit their homepage at *www.southernmediafund.org*

Speakers Bureau

Applications for Speakers Bureau programs are accepted at any time throughout the year, but the application must arrive at MHC at least four weeks in advance of your program date. For a complete list of speakers, please consult the MHC homepage at *www.mshumanities.org*. If you have questions about how to apply for a speaker from our Speakers Bureau, call (601) 432-6752 for assistance.

Grant Writing Workshops

MHC staff will conduct grant writing workshops in your community free of charge. Contact MHC at (601) 432-6752.

2004 part 1
page 14

Focus on the Humanities

Publication of the Mississippi Humanities Council

Winter 2003 - 2004

COUNCIL
Chair
Dr. Willis Lott
* Dr. Kathy Baxter
Dr. David L. Crosby
* Ms. Nancy S. Ellis
Ms. Carla C. Falkner
Dr. E. Harold Fisher
* Dr. John D.W. Guice
Dr. Michael L. Harrington
* Mr. John Johnson
Mr. Theodore Levi
Mrs. Dorothy Roberts McEwen
* Dr. Mabel Pittman Middleton
Dr. George T. Mitchell
Dr. Andrew P. Mullins, Jr.
Justice Lenore L. Prather
Dr. W. Charles Sallis
Dr. Audrey H. Sidney
Dr. Jo Ann Collins-Smith
Ms. Evelyn P. Sutton
Dr. John G. Thornell
Mr. Chuck Yarborough

** Governor's Appointee*

STAFF
Dr. Barbara Carpenter
Executive Director
Dr. Kelly Gerald
Assistant Director
Ms. Brenda Thigpen Gray
Fiscal Administrator
Ms. Vicki Crawford
Executive Assistant

Photo: Courtesy of Mrs. Ruth Hunt

Mark Your Calendars for MHC's Annual Awards Dinner, February 6, 2004!

CONTENTS

COVER Queen-Ixolib (Ella Mae Barq) & King D'Iberville (Harry Schmidt, Sr..) Gulf Coast Carnival Association Ball, 1950 Buena Vista Hotel, Biloxi

Check inside for details about
Key Ingredients: America by Food
Opening May 2004!

COUNCIL NEWS
Local & National Meetings page 1
Literary Landmarks page 1
Ground Breaking at DSU page 2
Southern Foodways Symposium page 2
2004 Inaugural Lecture page 2

PROJECTS FUNDED page 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS page 3

ARTICLES
Biloxi Mardi Gras Museum Oral History Project page 4
Baseball: A Reflection of the Times page 5
Stories from the Other Side of the Tracks page 5

BOOK REVIEWS
Southern Grace: Recipes and Remembrances from the W page 7
Lost Landmarks of Mississippi page 7

2004 part 1
page 15

PROJECTS FUNDED

REGULAR GRANTS

Copiah-Lincoln Community College	$10,000.00
The 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration	
Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South	
Northeast Mississippi Community College	$3,750.00
From Thoreau to Today: Philosophy to Action to Reflection	
UM Department of Journalism	$2,192.00
A Conference on Labor and the Southern Press	
University of Southern Mississippi	$10,000.00
Southern Vocal Arts Conference: Richard Wagner and His World	
Zoological Society of San Diego	$3,770.00
Mississippi Audubon Archaeology Project	
Coahoma Community College	$5,000.00
11th Annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival	
JSU Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center	$10,000.00
Unsettling Memories: Culture and Trauma in the Deep South	
University of Mississippi	$4,800.00
Portraits of Promise: Mississippi Women and Their Stories (video documentary)	

MINI GRANTS

JSU Political Science Department	$2,000.00
Exploring the Social Sciences and the Humanities through the African American Freedom Movement	
MSU, Meridian	$1,969.00
Meridian World Cinema Festival: World in the Movies	
Mississippi Archaeological Association	$2,000.00
Mississippi Archaeology Month, 2003	
Friends of the Clinton Library	$325.00
Mississippi Off the Beaten Path	
UM, Modern Languages Dept.	$1,700.00
How Carinthian Slovene and Choctaw are Alike	
Jackson Academy	$1,940.00
Anne Frank: A History for Today	
Communities in Schools of Greenwood	$2,000.00
Cultural Pre-Plan for Charleston	
Greenville Arts Council	$2,000.00
Cultural Plan for the City of Greenville	
Delta Blues Museum	$1,856.00
Blues in Pop Culture/Pop Culture in the Blues: Stories from the Other Side of the Tracks	

2004 part 1
page 16

Proceeds from this raffle will help match the National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant to The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
$10.00
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN
Drawing Saturday, February 28, 2004
No. 164

Proceeds from this raffle will help match the National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant to The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
$10.00
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN
Drawing Saturday, February 28, 2004
No. 252

2004 part 1
page 17

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN: *POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2004

COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR, 8-10:50 a.m. ($10)
"Reading, Teaching, and Studying William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander"

- **"William Faulkner,"** Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi
- **"Margaret Walker Alexander,"** Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas, and **Alferdteen Harrison**, Jackson State University

PRE-CONFERENCE PANEL, 11 a.m.
"Careers in the Public Arena: All About Relationships"

- **Stuart Margolin**, Natchez actor/producer *(Rockford Files)*
- **Clifton Taulbert**, Tulsa author *(Eight Habits of the Heart)*
- **Natasha Trethewey**, Atlanta poet *(Domestic Work)*

NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

Director of Proceedings:
William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss.

2 p.m. **Conference Opening Ceremonies**

- **Howell Garner**, President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- **F. L. "Hank" Smith III**, Mayor, City of Natchez
- **Carolyn Vance Smith, Keith Whisenant, Jim Barnett**, and **Marie Antoon**, NLCC Co-chairmen
- **William Winter Scholars**
- **William and Harriet Vance Fellows**
- **Phi Theta Kappa Members**
- **NLCC Advisory Board Members**

2:15 p.m. "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South," William F. Winter, Jackson, Miss., Governor of Mississippi, 1980-84

3:30 p.m. "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times," Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University *(The Natchez District during the American Revolution)*

7:30 p.m. "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," a documentary film from *Vote for Me: Politics in America*, **Paul Stekler**, University of Texas at Austin

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004

9 a.m. "John A. Quitman of Antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?" Robert E. May, Purdue University *(John A. Quitman: Old South Crusader)*

10:15 a.m. "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics," Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University *(Redneck Liberal: Theodore G. Bilbo and the New Deal)*

1 p.m. "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible," Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, Alexandria

1:30 p.m. "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long," a documentary film by **Ken Burns**

3:30 p.m. "Editing Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*," Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi

4:30 p.m. Reception honoring **Elbert Hilliard**, Director Emeritus, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

7:30 p.m. *All the King's Men*, a showing of the award-winning film, with discussion afterward

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2004

9 a.m. "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-Fiction," Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Millsaps College *(Conversations with Eudora Welty)*

10:15 a.m. "George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire," a documentary film by **Paul Stekler**, University of Texas at Austin

12:30 p.m. CARRIAGE HOUSE AT STANTON HALL ($20) A luncheon followed by **"The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash," Allen Dennis**, Troy State University

2:15 p.m. "Jefferson Davis: An American President," a premiere trailer of a documentary film by **Wendi Berman** and **Gary Brian**, Flying Chaucer Films, Los Angeles

2:30-5 p.m. "Natchez Sites Associated with Politics," a guided tour with transportation and refreshments ($20), featuring **The Briars** (Jefferson Davis); **Monmouth** (John A. Quitman), and **Rose Hill Baptist Church** (civic and political meetings)

5-6:30 p.m. NATCHEZ MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE Reception honoring NLCC speakers ($10)

8 p.m. "Editorial Cartoons," Bruce Plante, *Chattanooga Times Free Press*; **Marshall Ramsey**, *The Clarion Ledger* (Jackson, Miss.); and **Scott Stantis**, *Birmingham Daily News*, a panel discussion moderated by **John D. W. Guice**, University of Southern Mississippi

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2004

9 a.m. "Jefferson Davis: Politician," William J. Cooper Jr., Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge *(Jefferson Davis, American)*

10:15 a.m. "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997," Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University at Meridian *(Mississippi Liberal: A Biography of Frank E. Smith)*

11 a.m. "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry," Natasha Trethewey, Emory University *(Domestic Work)*

1:30 p.m. "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence," Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn. *(Robert G. Clark's Journey to the House: A Black Politician's Story)*

2:45 p.m. "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" a panel discussion by the journalists **Donald Adderton**, Greenville, Miss., and **Bill Minor, Sid Salter**, and **Emily Wagster**, all of Jackson, Miss., moderated by **Gene Edwards**, Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

3:45 p.m. "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr, and John Grisham," a documentary film by Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

6:30 p.m. "An Evening with the Stars," An Awards Ceremony Conducted by **William F. Winter, Gerald McRaney**, Los Angeles, and **David G. Sansing**, University of Mississippi

Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards

- **Greg Iles**, Natchez, Miss., *Spandau Phoenix, Black Cross, Mortal Fear, 24 Hours, Sleep No More*, and *The Footprints of God*
- **William K. Scarborough**, University of Southern Mississippi, *Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid Nineteenth-Century South* and *The Overseer*

WHO ARE WE?

MHC is a private nonprofit corporation funded by Congress through the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide public programs in traditional liberal arts disciplines to serve nonprofit groups in Mississippi.

MHC sponsors, supports, and conducts a wide range of programs designed to promote understanding of our cultural heritage, interpret our own experience, foster critical thinking, encourage reasonable public discourse, strengthen our sense of community, and thus empower Mississippi's people with a vision for the future.

All donations to MHC are 100% tax deductible.

GRANTS

MHC awards grants to nonprofit organizations to sponsor projects and public programs which use the knowledge and insights of one or more areas of the humanities to increase understanding of any aspect of human experience.

Mini Grants up to $2,000 are awarded six times per year. Regular Grants over $2,000 are awarded twice per year.

COUNCIL PROJECTS

Speakers Bureau

Chautauqua Programs

Lecture Series

Humanities Teacher Awards

Public Humanities Awards

Smithsonian Traveling Exhibits

Family Literacy Programs

MISSISSIPPI ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Mississippi Oral History Project is a joint venture by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the University of Southern Mississippi, and MHC, and funded by the Mississippi Legislature, to document and preserve the history and culture of our state.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

All interested persons are invited to nominate themselves or others to the Council at any time. Contact MHC for details.

MHC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

2004 part 1
page 18

The 15th Annual NATCHEZ
LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI
FEBRUARY 25-29, 2004

PRESENTS

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:
POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH

Headquarters
Natchez Convention Center • 211 Main Street
Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Presents

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:
Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25-29, 2004
Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST
Lectures - Films - Book Signings
Workshops - Exhibits - Tours

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Natasha Trethewey, Will Campbell, and more

---

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

2004 part 1
page 19

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 20

HUMANITIES

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

food: a metaphor for culture

2004 part 1
page 20

HUMANITIES

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2004 VOL. 25 NO. 1

A CULTURAL FEAST

6 **The Traditions of the Table** Chef Mario Batali speaks with NEH Chairman Bruce Cole about Italian cuisine and what food tells us about culture.

9 **Recipes for an Expedition** Meriwether Lewis and William Clark write about portable soup and how to cook a bear. *By Mary Gunderson*

47 **Key Ingredients** From spaetzle to pierogies, the foods Americans produce and prepare reveal a blend of historical and regional immigrant experience.

THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL

10 **Making a Difference** The White House recognizes Robert Ballard, Joan Ganz Cooney, Midge Decter, Joseph Epstein, Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, Jean Fritz, Hal Holbrook, Edith Kurzweil, Frank M. Snowden Jr., and John Updike.

REMNANTS OF THE PAST

22 **From the Rainforest: Rescuing an Altar from Looters** An archaeologist on a dig in Guatemala helps recover an ancient Maya masterpiece. *By Rachel Galvin*

33 **How Our Great-Grandparents Saw the Movies** From silent films to newsreels, a new grant is preserving early motion pictures. *By Ronica Roth*

MENDING A WOUNDED NATION

26 **Forty Acres and a Mule** A new documentary examines America's struggle to establish racial equality after the Civil War. *By Danielle Alexander*

30 **Incidents in the Life of an Abolitionist** The story of Harriet Jacobs, fugitive slave, author, and relief worker, unfolds in a new book. *By Paulette W. Campbell*

AROUND THE NATION

36 **State by State**
Exhibitions, lectures, films, and conferences throughout the country.
By Laura Wolff Scanlan

38 **In Focus**
Michael Gillette is preserving the past in Texas.
By Amanda Sigler

43 **Scoundrels and Statesmen**
Charismatic figures from Southern politics reflect the region's history.
By Maya Dalinsky

45 **From Aaron to Zubly**
The *New Georgia Encyclopedia* goes online.

DEPARTMENTS

4 **Calendar**

25 **Noteworthy**

55 **Deadlines**

2004 part 1
page 21

parenting techniques, and family tensions and rivalries. Participants will receive a copy of the curriculum and children's books.

On February 6 and 7 at the education center in St. Paul will be "Learning and the Land: The Impact of Government Treaties on Ojibwe Education," which will explore the effects of allotment and government-imposed education on the Ojibwe from the late nineteenth century to the present. Also at the center will be "The Cultural Geography of Korea and Its Neighbors" on February 16 and 17. Topics will include the geopolitics of the Korean peninsula, basic Korean language, urbanization and modernization, and Korea's economic development from 1950 to the present.

MISSISSIPPI

A festival focusing on the history of Southern politics will take place in Natchez. See page 43.

NEBRASKA

"Indigo: An Asian Dye Gives America the Blues" is an exhibition examining the history of indigo in Western society. The exhibition will be on display through February at the Lentz Center for Asian Culture in Lincoln. Yoshiko Wada will present a lecture January 30 on Japanese dyeing techniques.

A series of lectures will be presented during January and February at El Museo Latino in Omaha in conjunction with the exhibitions "Diego Rivera: The Brilliance before the Brush," "Diego and Frida," and "Machu Picchu." The programming is on the history of Latino life, traditions, art, culture, and immigrant contributions.

"The Meeting of Two Cultures: the Expedition of Lewis and Clark" will feature daylong residencies and video and book discussions in Wayne. Among the resident scholars in January are Great Plains Chautauqua presenters Jerome Kills Small as Tecumseh and Selene Phillips as Sacagawea. In February, scholar Joe Mussulman will speak on "Music of the Corps and the Indians."

"The Spirit of Aztlan" will conclude its tour with a series of public lectures on February 20 in Lexington. Featuring an exhibition of works by Mexican muralists and Chicano artists, the program explores the contributions that Mexican and Mexican-American art have made to American culture.

Speakers Bureau presentations are scheduled statewide. Pippa White will tell "The Story of the Orphan Train" on January 13 in Eagle. Chris Sayre will take his audience on a "Musical Journey across America" on January 16 in Omaha. William Clemente will present "Feathers and Verses" on January 21 in Creighton. Darrel Draper will portray "George Drouillard: Hunter, Interpreter, Sign-Talker for Lewis and Clark" on January 29 in Laurel.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

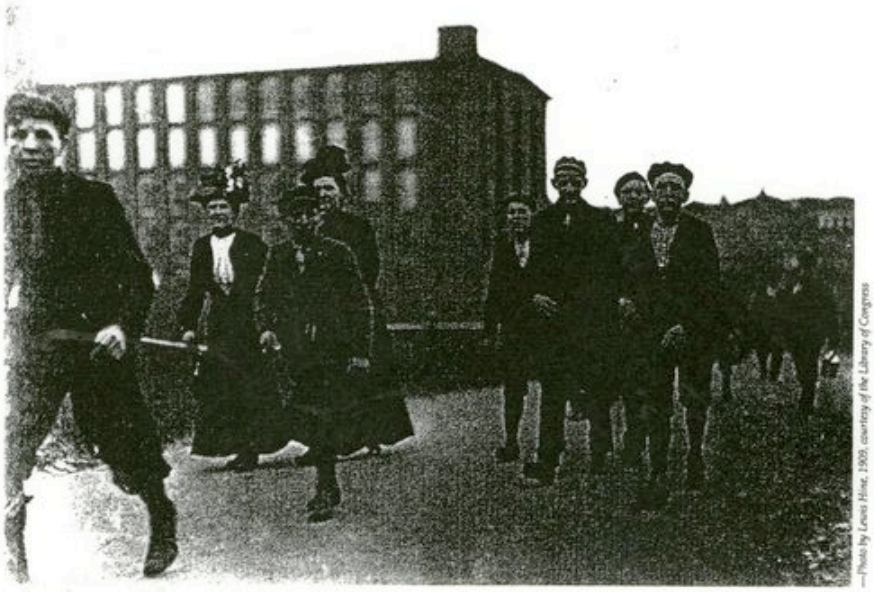
Judith Moyer will present "Number Please: New Hampshire Telephone Operators in the Pre-Dial Era" on January 8 at the Springfield Historical Society. Moyer will look at how technology affected operators' jobs, how roles were defined in relation to prevailing beliefs about women's work, and what the job meant to operators.

Abraham Lincoln, portrayed by Steve Wood, will make appearances this February 12 at the Rochester Historical Society Museum and February 24 at the Plainfield Elementary School. In his reenactment, Wood examines Lincoln's views on slavery and abolition.

"The Amoskeag Manufacturing Company and the Industrial Revolution" will be presented by George Comtois on February 15 at New England College in Henniker. Individuals within the mill community included spinners, weavers, children, overseers, engineers, and executives. Their lives, as well as the community as a whole, will be examined within the context of the mill's culture and the eventual dissolution of the company.

NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will perform *American Suite* and *Violin Sonatina* as part of the The Newark Museum's presentation "The Dvořák Centenary: Inspiring America" on January 24 at the museum. It will link the *New World Symphony* to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's *The Song of Hiawatha*. Commentary will be provided by Tim Barringer, professor of art history at Yale University; Michael Beckerman, professor of music from New York University; and Robert Winter, presidential chair in music and



—Photo by Lewis Hine, 1909, courtesy of the Library of Congress

MILL LIFE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1909.

2004 part 1
page 22

Scoundrels and Statesmen: The Study *of* Southern Politics

By Maya Dalinsky

GEORGE WALLACE AT A CAMPAIGN RALLY, 1958.

IN 1962 GEORGE WALLACE, THE FARM BOY FROM Barbour county, won Alabama's gubernatorial election with a landslide victory on a segregationist platform. Two decades and three terms later, after rejecting his racist past, Wallace entered his final term with overwhelming support from African Americans.

Filmmaker Paul Stekler says, "Wallace is a useful metaphor, representing a transformation of politics from racial resistance to racial inclusion." Stekler is a participant in this year's Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which runs from February 25 through 29. The conference will look at the evolution of Southern politics through the writers, poets, scoundrels, and statesmen who reflect the region's political past.

The South's history and current political climate have never been tame, says Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chair of the festival, which is supported by the Mississippi Humanities Council. The South's history includes a gallery of charismatic figures such as Wallace and the populist proponent of the Share the Wealth program, Huey Long.

"Southern politicians have been portrayed in film and literature as grotesque buffoons or ignorant good ole boys," explains Smith, who has organized a series of talks, site visits, workshops, and screenings in Natchez. The programs show the intersection of culture and politics: talks on Margaret Alexander Walker's literary and artistic expressions of race and Eudora Welty's frustration with the censorship of women in the South; site visits to historical Natchez mansions and the Rose Hill Baptist church, the city's first African American congregation; and screening of films such as Ken Burns's documentary *Huey Long* and Stekler's *George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire.*

An examination of the South reveals that the Civil Rights Movement of the sixties has affected the electoral process today. "It used to be that if you won the second primary in the Democratic Party it was tantamount to winning," says Smith. "Now we have a lieutenant governor who changes from Democrat to Republican and two U.S. senators that are both Republicans and I wonder, how did this happen? This is wild politics to be going on!"

The festival looks at the veracity and falsehood of Southern stereotypes. Activities include screenplay workshops, discussions on literary representations of the South, and panel discussions on networking and building relationships in politics. The festival also features screenings of other films such as Robert Rossen's *All the King's Men*, based on the novel by Robert Penn Warren about Huey Long. The festival's kick-off speech will be delivered by a former governor of Mississippi, William F. Winter, and the program culminates with a panel discussion on "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who are Southerners?" □

2004 part 1
page 23

Mississippi History NEWSLETTER
MDAH
Published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Elbert R. Hilliard, director
Chrissy Wilson, editor
http://www.mdah.state.ms.us
Mailing address: MHN, P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571
Volume 46 No.1
January 2004

Claiborne County, Clarksdale, Cleveland, Columbia, Columbus, Corinth, Friars Point, Greenwood, Hattiesburg, Hernando, Holly Springs, Indianola, Jackson, Kosciusko, Laurel, Leland, Lexington, Meridian, Mound Bayou, Natchez, Ocean Springs, Oxford, Pascagoula, Port Gibson, Raymond, Ripley, Tunica, Vicksburg, Winona, and Woodville.

For information on the Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation Grant Program, contact Mingo Tingle, MDAH, 601/ 576-6940 or at P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571.

SARC to Meet at Winter Building

The Southeastern Archives and Records Conference will hold its annual meeting at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building on February 2-4, 2004, according to H. T. Holmes, director of the MDAH Archives and Library. Eleven member states will send five representatives each for the sessions, where archivists and librarians will share information and discuss opportunities for collaborative projects.

Natchez Literary/ Cinema Celebration

Make plans now to attend the February 25-29 Natchez Literary/ Cinema Celebration with the theme "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Hear from writers, scholars, and filmmakers on John Quitman, Theodore Bilbo, Huey Long, Frank Smith, Robert G. Clark, and many others. Hear journalists Donald Adderton, Bill Minor, Emily Wagster, and Sid Salter examine the question, "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" Attend ceremonies for the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards and view Greg Iles's film, "Trapped." In addition to lectures there are tours of historic houses, receptions, and other entertainments. To register and purchase tickets for special events, call toll-free 866/ 296-6522 or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Heritage Conservation Network workshops teach specialized building conservation skills: to learn more, visit www.heritageconservation.net.

New Books

In *Fortune's Favorite Child: The Uneasy Life of Walter Anderson* (University Press of Mississippi), Christopher Maurer explores the troubled life of one of America's most prolific and visionary artists.

Walter Inglis Anderson (1903-1965) was acknowledged by many after his death as the South's greatest painter. John Russell of the New York *Times* spoke of the "quietly excellent power" that makes his watercolors "among the best of their date," and others compared his vision to that of Van Gogh and Georgia O'Keeffe.

But Anderson is only now finding his place in American painting, partly because he spent much of his life in the small Mississippi town of Ocean Springs, more intent upon "natural forms" than upon his own stature as a painter. Afflicted with mental illness that baffled some of America's leading psychiatrists, alienated for long periods from his wife and children, he led a life of passion and adventure. Few American painters have lived so intimately with nature as Walter Anderson, and few have lived as adventurously as he did, on the edge of society, a voluntary exile from what he called "the sordid thing most people call reality."

Alan Huffman has rescued a lost chapter of American history in his new book *Mississippi in Africa* (Penguin Group). Mississippi cotton planter Isaac Ross decreed in his will that his plantation, Prospect Hill, should be liquidated and the proceeds used to pay for his slaves' passage to the newly established colony of Liberia in western Africa. When he died in 1836, Ross's heirs contested the will for more than a decade in the state courts and legislature—prompting a revolt in which a group of slaves burned Ross's mansion to the ground—but the will was ultimately upheld. The slaves then emigrated to their new home, where they battled local tribes and built plantations with Greek Revival mansions in a region they renamed "Mississippi in Africa." The seeds of resentment sown over a century of cultural conflict between the colonists and tribal peoples would explode in the late twentieth century, begetting a civil war that rages in Liberia to this day. Former Mississippi governor William F. Winter said, "Alan Huffman has pulled from the dust bin of history a saga of immense present day significance."

Huffman will present a talk and sign books at the Old Capitol Museum February 22 at 2:00 p.m.

2004 part 1
page 24

NLCC 2004 publicity

sent 1/7

Colson, Marsha

From: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2004 5:25 PM
To: Colson, Marsha
Subject: FW: Natchez Literary and Film Celebration

Please send 100 NLCC brochures to Brandi. I have some in box under my desk. Thanks. CVS

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Educational Travel Associates, Inc./Elderhostel P.O. Box 1307 Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
Email: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Web site for Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration www.colin.edu/nlcc

-----Original Message-----
From: Brandi Dykes [mailto:bgdykes@olemiss.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2004 4:28 PM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: Natchez Literary and Film Celebration

Ms. Smith,
I work for Charles Wilson at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture.
We are about to send out letters to our advisory committee members regarding the upcoming Natchez meeting and celebration. Could you please send us 100 booklets/schedules for the celebration to include in our mailing?

Thanks,
Brandi Dykes
==========
Brandi Dykes
Center for the Study of Southern Culture University of Mississippi University, MS 38677
662-915-5993
662-915-5814 (FAX)
http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/south
bgdykes@olemiss.edu

get list of univ. Pres.

2004 part 1
page 25

Sunday, October 26, 2003 The Democrat

Meets set to get out details on upcoming events

By JOAN GANDY
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — Preparing for big upcoming tourism events and conventions in Natchez will be the focus of a meeting Tuesday at the Natchez Convention Center.

However, Walter Tipton, Natchez director of tourism, said he also will take the opportunity to tell attendees about the new Web site, cityofnatchez.com.

The timing of the new Web site launching is excellent, as a holiday season approaches with many new and expanded events planned for the next two months.

In addition to having good looks and professional quality, the site also has exciting potential for business owners who want to sell their items on it.

"It will be exposure for those businesses to the thousands of hits we're going to get on that Web site, and there will be some prestige attached to selling your gift items on the Natchez Web site," Tipton said.

The site also will be more efficient in getting calendar of events to potential visitors.

In times past, the several Web sites visitors could choose might have included conflicting or different information. That should not be the case now.

Laura Godfrey, president and CEO of the Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce, said the organizations have been working with Miss-Lou Internet Services "to have the calendars interactive and to provide a place where visitors could have one-stop shopping."

The Web site features a banner of images representing Natchez, including the Mississippi River bridge, the American Queen steamboat at Natchez Under-the-Hill, the mansion Dunleith and hot-air balloons.

Some links are still in the works. Overall, however, Tipton believes the Web site will be an improved tool for the Internet-using visitor.

Visitation in general, especially during the special events and conventions coming up at the end of 2003 and the first few months of 2004, will be the focus of two meetings on Tuesday.

"We'll present the same information at a morning session from 10 to 11:30 as at the afternoon session from 2 to 3:30 to give more people opportunities to attend," Tipton said.

The Tuesday event is co-sponsored by the Chamber, the convention center and the Downtown Development Association, which will start the day with a special program of its own for downtown business owners.

That program will be led by guest speaker John Brandon, associate manager of the Existing Industry Business Division of the Mississippi Development Authority.

That meeting will be 8 to 10 a.m. and will include a complimentary light breakfast.

The tourism sessions will be an information-sharing opportunity, Tipton said.

"We're trying to make people aware of events, especially in 2004 but also the Hollydazzle events planned in

See Events, 2D

Tourism

What: Tourism summit
When: Tuesday, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Where: Natchez Convention Center
Why: To share information about the upcoming big events in Natchez, including holiday plans, festivals and conventions
Who should attend: Public is invited, but especially those who work in tourism
Plus: Day starts with 8 a.m. meeting sponsored by Downtown Development Association, featuring John Brandon of Mississippi Development Authority.

We welcome your business news and suggestions. Call 442-9101 and ask for the business editor.

Events

Continued from 1D

November and December."

In addition, the convention center will host several large groups in the coming months, including the Mississippi Gideons organization, the state Orthopedic Society, the Southwest Mississippi Health Summit and others, Tipton said.

Godfrey said the holiday season is approaching, and the tourism summit will provide anyone involved in visitation to get some ideas about what to do to take advantage of any increased numbers of tourists.

"We want to provide the latest information for business people to take back to their employees so we all speak the Natchez language," Godfrey said. "Besides businesses, we want anyone who is interested to come, but especially bed-and-breakfast owners, hoteliers and restaurateurs."

Godfrey said businesses can devise campaigns that will increase the numbers of visitors who come into their stores.

"We want to encourage people to get clever, to make their businesses fun to shop in or their restaurants fun to eat in," she said. "Coupons are wonderful. Visitors and residents alike love to get a deal."

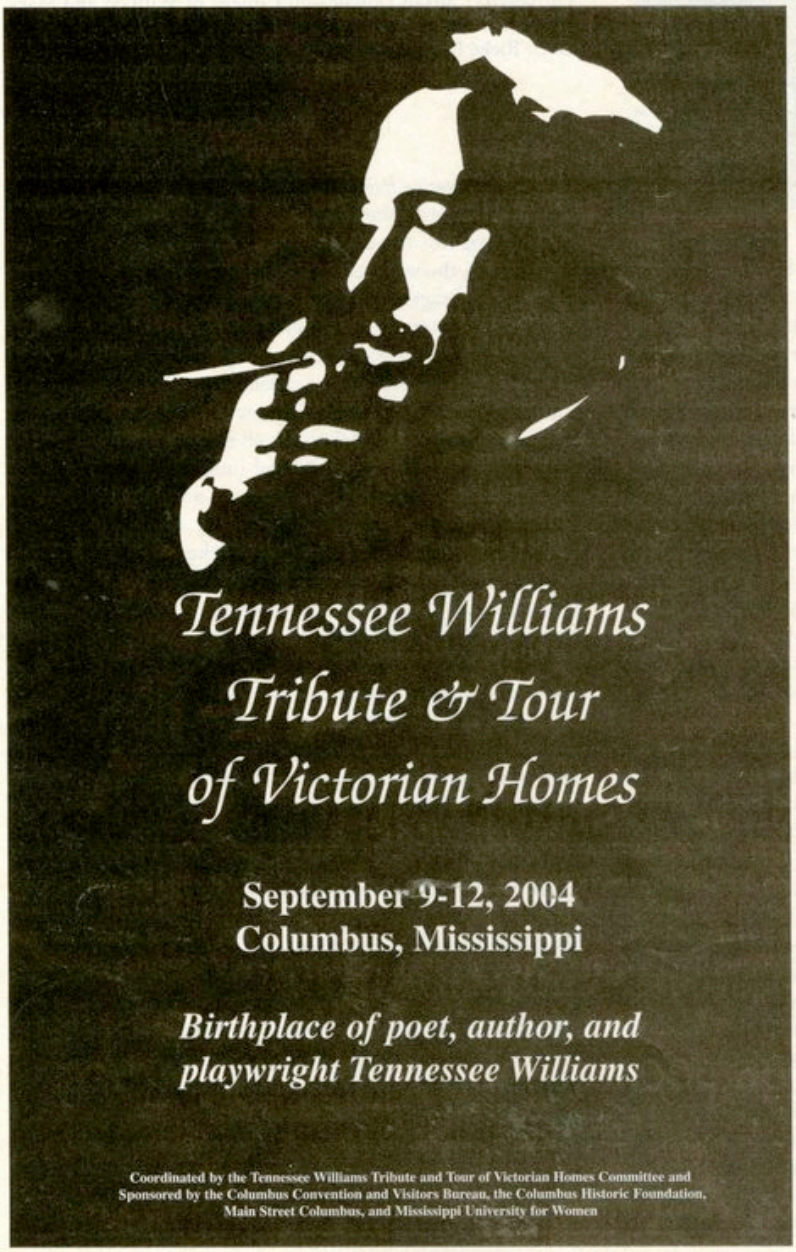
2004 part 1
page 26

In Memoriam

Murry Cuthbert "Chooky" Falkner II
November 22, 1928 - April 23, 2004

Bern Keating
May 14, 1915 - March 8, 2004

Joan Williams
September 26, 1928 - April 11, 2004



Center Reception in Natchez

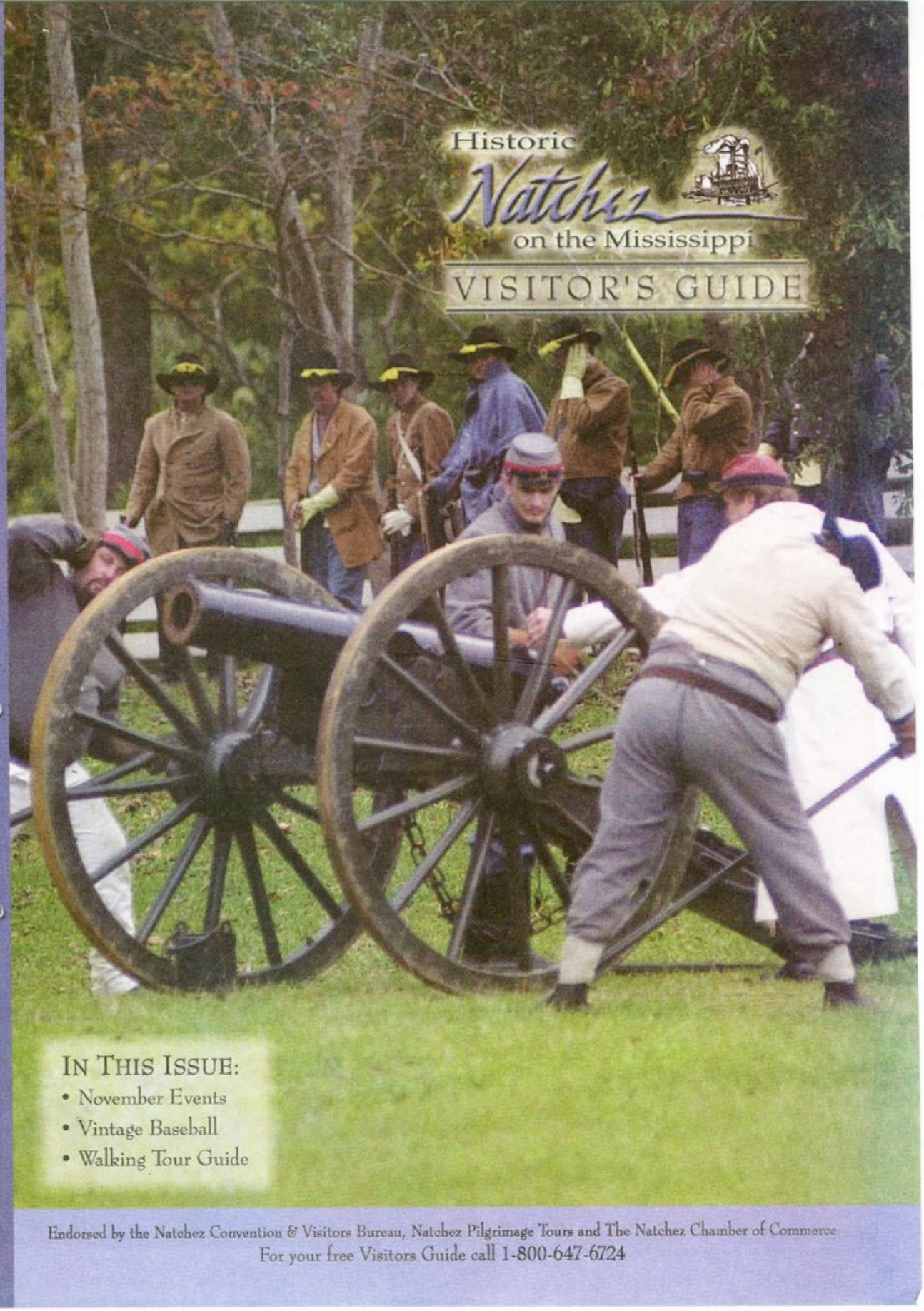
In a continuing effort to take the Center and Ole Miss into communities throughout Mississippi, the Center in February hosted a wine and cheese reception in Natchez. Occurring in conjunction with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, the February 28 reception allowed Center faculty, staff, and advisory members to interact with some 150 guests and discuss various Center programs.

Attending the event from the Center were Director Charles Reagan Wilson, Associate Director Ann Abadie, Director of Documentary Projects David Wharton, and Advancement Associate Angelina Altobellis. Also present were event co-organizers and Advisory Committee members Carolyn Vance Smith and Sherry Jones, both of Natchez.

Besides having the opportunity to view photographs by David Wharton and hear a live musical performance by Natchez native Tricia Walker, guests also had the chance to add their names to the Center's mailing list and pick up copies of the *Southern Register* and the *Ole Miss Alumni Review* as well as literature on April's Conference for the Book and the 2004 Faulkner Conference, which takes place July 25-29.

JENNIFER SOUTHALL

2004 part 1
page 27



The official tourist guide to the greater Natchez area. • November 2003

IN THIS ISSUE:

- November Events
- Vintage Baseball
- Walking Tour Guide

Endorsed by the Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours and The Natchez Chamber of Commerce

For your free Visitors Guide call 1-800-647-6724

2004 part 1
page 28

Annual Events

JANUARY
- Eleventh Moon Storytelling Festival
- MartinLuther King Day Parade

FEBRUARY
- Black History Month
- Mardi Gras In Natchez
- Natchez Literary And Cinema Celebration
- Taco Bell River City Classic 10K, 5K, and Fun Run

MARCH
- Natchez Spring Pilgrimage
- Pow-Wow At The Grand Village
- Krewe Of Killarney St. Patrick's Day Parade

APRIL
- Natchez Bluff Blues Fest
- River Cities Airshow & Motorcycle Extravaganza
- Delta Music Festival
- Church Hill Preservation Trust Barn Dance

MAY
- Natchez Opera Festival
- Arts In The Park
- Civil War Reenactment at Jefferson College

JUNE
- Natchez Juneteenth Celebration
- Flag Day Celebrations
- Pioneer Week at Jefferson College

JULY
- Lake St. John Blessing Of The Flotilla
- Isle Of Capri Fireworks Extravaganza

AUGUST
- Natchez Birding Festival
- Great River Road Food Festival
- Rosalie Celebrates Childhood

SEPTEMBER
- Copper Magnolia Festival
- Bark In The Park
- Jim Bowie Festival

OCTOBER
- Angels On The Bluff At The Historic Natchez Cemetery
- Great Mississippi River Balloon Race
- Ghost Tales Around The Campfire
- Natchez Fall Pilgrimage
- Music at the Mounds at Grand Village

NOVEMBER
- Broadway Bash And Chili Cookoff
- Pilgrimage Garden Club Antiques Forum
- Vintage Baseball at Jefferson College
- Civil War Reenactment at Jefferson College

DECEMBER
- Christmas Parades and Tours
- Caroling in Memorial Park
- Holidazzel

Make the Natchez Visitor Reception Center Your First Stop!

Intersection Of Highway 84 and Canal Street
1-800-647-6724 • 601-446-6345
www.natchez.ms.us

Historic Natchez on the Mississippi

2004 part 1
page 29

ASK JACK SUNN

Festivities surrounding books plentiful

Q: I just learned from a friend about the Louisiana Book Festival in Baton Rouge that was held Nov. 8. This was the second year for the event and it was open to the public free of charge. The event was held on the grounds of the State Capitol.

With all the writers from Mississippi, does Mississippi host a similar event? The La. event is sponsored by the Louisiana Library Foundation and the State Library of Louisiana. Does Mississippi have an "official" State Library and if so where is the library located? I hope you can shed light on these questions. Thank you. —**Avid reader**

A: The Mississippi Library Commission, 1221 Ellis Ave. in Jackson, is an independent state agency that serves local public libraries. Its collection is only available to the general public through inter-library loan; state agency staff and government officials may register for borrowing privileges. New headquarters are under construction off Ridgewood Road.

Book-related events in the state include the Children's Book Festival at the University of Southern Mississippi, the Oxford Conference for the Book at Ole Miss (dedicated to Walker Percy in April 2004) and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

There are also plenty of festivities surrounding books at such hip spots as Lemuria Book Store in Jackson and Square Books in Oxford.

■

Ask Jack Sunn appears Monday through Saturday. To send in questions, write Jack Sunn, *The Clarion-Ledger*, Box 40, Jackson MS 39205-0040 or e-mail jacksunn@jackson.gannett.com.

2004 part 1
page 30

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

STATESMEN & SCOUNDRELS

Literary celebration announces 2004 schedule, STYLE, 1C

EGG BOWL ON TAP TODAY

Miss. State, Ole Miss battle it out, SPORTS, 1B

Natchez The Democrat

SPECIAL EDITION

Mostly cloudy
High 75° • Low 40°

50¢

Thursday, November 27, 2003
www.natchezdemocrat.com

2004 part 1
page 31

Statesmen *and* scoundrels

Literary and cinema conference set for February

Mention Southern political leaders through the years, and immediately Thomas Jefferson, John C. Calhoun, John A. Quitman, Theodore Bilbo, Andrew Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Huey P. Long, George Wallace, Ross Barnett, Jimmy Carter, William F. Winter, Robert G. Clark and many others come to mind.

Are these people admirable or not?

Find out at the Olympic Award-winning 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will use the theme "Statesmen to Scoundrels: Politics in the Deep South."

The event, set for Feb. 25-29 in Natchez, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

Headquarters will be the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street.

"Nearly three dozen nationally known scholars, historians, writers and film experts will present fascinating programs about the Southern political world," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln's Natchez campus, founder and co-chairwoman of the conference.

"These programs include biographical sketches of early political leaders, the political leanings of Eudora Welty and a discussion of Robert Penn Warren's 'All the King's Men,' both the book and the film based on the life of Louisiana's colorful Huey P. Long."

Tours of historic mansions occupied by early Mississippi political leaders, commercial and documentary films, panel discussions, writing workshops, an awards ceremony honoring the writers Greg Iles of Natchez and William Scarborough of the University of Southern Mississippi and screenplay writer Gail Gilchriest of Texas and Los Angeles, exhibits, parties and more are on tap, Smith said.

"We always have fun at this conference," she said. "This year Dr. Allen Dennis, a musician who is also a major historian, will present a program based on political statements in the songs of Johnny Cash. He will sing and accompany himself on the guitar.

"Also, two panel discussions featuring nationally known editorial cartoonists and editorial columnists will explore how cartoonists and columnists influence political outcomes."

A special event during the Celebration is a festive reception and dinner at the mansion Gloucester, once home of Winthrop Sargent, first governor of the Mississippi Territory and now home of John and Gwen Deakle of Hattiesburg. "This event will honor the award winners and all speakers," Smith said. "The Deakles have recently restored Gloucester in all its majesty, and the mansion is absolutely gorgeous."

Most of the conference is free, Smith said. For information and tickets, call toll-free (866) 296-NLCC (866-296-6522) or (601) 446-1289. Or email Christy.Williams@colin.edu or visit the NLCC web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

Celebration focuses on 'Politics in the Deep South'

Special to the Democrat

Nearly three dozen programs, films, workshops, seminars and discussion sessions will focus on "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South," the theme of the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The event, to be held Feb. 25-29, is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

A three-part pre-conference seminar costing $10 will take place the morning of Feb. 25 at Co-Lin. Concentrating on reading, teaching and studying William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander, the seminar features three scholars.

They are Faulkner scholar Noel Polk of the University of Southern Mississippi and Walker scholars Maryemma Graham of the University of Kansas and Alferdteen Harrison of Jackson State University.

At 11 a.m. that day, Co-Lin's Student Support Services will join Co-Lin and the NLCC to present a free panel discussion called "Careers in the Public Arena: All about Relationships."

On the panel are Stuart Margolin, Natchez actor/producer and Emmy Award winner famous for his role in "The Rockford Files;" Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Mississippi-born Pulitzer Prize nominee and author of "Eight Habits of the Heart" and numerous other books; and Natasha Trethewey, native Mississippian and award-winning poet who is creative writing professor at Emory University, Atlanta, and author of "Domestic Work" and other books of poetry.

The conference officially begins at 2 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Natchez Convention Center on Main Street. Kickoff speaker is former Mississippi Gov.William F. Winter of Jackson, whose topic is "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South."

Other programs on Feb. 25 are by:

- Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University, "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times."
- Paul Stekler, University of Texas at Austin, editor/producer of the film, "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," part of the documentary "Vote for Me: Politics in America."

Other dates, speakers, films and program titles include:

Thurs., Feb. 26, 2004

- Robert E. May, Purdue University, "John A. Quitman of antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?"
- Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University, Cleveland, "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics."
- Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, Alexandria, La., "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible."
- A documentary film by Ken Burns, "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long."
- Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, "Editing Robert Penn Warren's "All the King's Men."
- A showing of the film "All the King's Men."

Fri., Feb. 27, 2004

- Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Millsaps College, Jackson, "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-Fiction."
- Paul Stekler, University of Texas at Austin, editor/producer of the film, "George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire."
- Allen Dennis, Troy (Ala.) State University, "The Man in Black: Political Statements in the Songs of Johnny Cash," with singing and guitar accompaniment.
- Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, Flying Chaucer Films, Los Angeles, a documentary film, "Jefferson Davis: An American President."
- Bruce Plante, Chattanooga Times Free Press; Marshall Ramsey, The Clarion-Ledger, Jackson; and Scott Stantis, Birmingham Daily News, a panel discussion, "Editorial Cartoons," moderated by John D.W. Guice, University of Southern Mississippi.

Sat., Feb. 28, 2004

- William J. Cooper Jr., Louisiana State University, "Jefferson Davis: Politician."
- Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University at Meridian, "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997."
- Natasha Trethewey, Emory University, "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry."
- Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence"
- Newspaper editor Donald Adderton, Greenville; syndicated columnist Bill Minor, Jackson; Clarion-Ledger columnist Sid Salter, Jackson; and Associated Press writer Emily Wagster, Jackson, a panel discussion called "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" to be moderated by Gene Edwards, Mississippi Public Broadcasting.
- A documentary film by Mississippi Public Broadcasting called "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr and John Grisham."
- An awards ceremony conducted by William F. Winter; Los Angeles actor and Mississippi native Gerald McRaney; and the University of Mississippi historian David G. Sansing.
- Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winner Greg Iles of Natchez, author of "The Footprint of God," "24 Hours," "Mortal Fear,"

See Celebration, 2C

2004 part 1
page 32

Celebration

Continued from 1C

"Spandau Phoenix," "Black Cross," "Sleep No More" and other novels.

▸ Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winner William Scarborough of the University of Southern Mississippi, author of "Masters of the Big House: Elite Slaveholders of the Mid Nineteenth-Century South" and "The Overseer."

▸ Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing Gail Gilchriest of East Texas and Los Angeles, author of the screenplays "My Dog Skip," based on Willie Morris' book; "The Ponder Heart," based on Eudora Welty's novella; and "Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!"

▸ The film "Trapped," by Greg Iles, based on his novel "24 Hours."

Sun., Feb. 29, 2004

Writing workshops at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, costing $10 for two workshops, to be presented by:

▸ Gail Gilchriest, "Screenwriting for Dummies."

▸ Maryemma Graham, "The African-American Novel from the Early 19th-Century until Today: How Black Writers Write."

▸ James Mesker, Cleveland, Ohio, "Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Myths: Utilizing Primary Sources for Fact or Fiction."

▸ Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, "Modern Documentary Filmmaking."

▸ Elfrieda Abbe, editor, The Writer magazine, Waukesha, Wis., "Get Your Magazine Article Published: 50 Tips from The Writer Magazine"

Enhancing the programs are several related activities. They include:

▸ A luncheon Feb. 27 at the Carriage House restaurant on the grounds of Stanton Hall, after which Allen Dennis will present his program on Johnny Cash, $20.

▸ A tour Feb. 27 of three sites associated with politics: The Briars (where Jefferson Davis married Varina Howell); Monmouth (former home of Mississippi Governor John A. Quitman); and Rose Hill Baptist Church (oldest African-American Baptist church in Mississippi and site of civic and political meetings for decades), $20.

▸ A reception Feb. 27 at the Museum of the Natchez Association of Afro-American Culture honoring speakers and award winners, $10.

▸ A festive reception and dinner Feb. 28 at the mansion Gloucester on Lower Woodville Road, once home of the first governor of the Mississippi Territory, Winthrop Sargent, and now home of John and Gwen Deakle of Hattiesburg. This benefit event honors NLCC award winners and speakers. Cost is $125 per person, with $100 tax-deductible. Funds will benefit the NLCC's endowment fund.

▸ A living history exhibit Feb. 29 at the mansion Melrose called "Politics on Parade," presented by the Natchez National Historical Park.

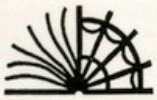
▸ A total of 3.7 continuing education units for teachers. For information, call (601) 445-0217.

▸ Exhibits by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Mississippi School of the Arts in Brookhaven, Natchez National Historical Park, the Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center at Jackson State University, The Writer magazine, Waukesha, Wis., and Phi Theta Kappa, international honor fraternity for two-year college students.

Information and tickets are available by calling toll-free (866) 296-6522 or (601) 446-1289; emailing Christy.Williams@colin.edu; writing P.O. Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121; or visiting the web page, www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2004 part 1
page 33

file publicity



Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
P.O. Box 1307 ▪ Natchez, MS 39121-1307

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 10, 2003

Contact: Carolyn Vance Smith
601.446.1208

National Endowment for the Humanities Awards $100,000 to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

(Natchez, Miss.)—A new chapter begins today in Mississippi's world of humanities. The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a $100,000 grant to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) to allow the conference to continue into perpetuity.

Begun in 1990 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and currently co-sponsored by the Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, the NLCC annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, field trips, workshops, exhibits, book signings, and discussions. The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, winner of an Olympic Award, the Governor's Award, and the Mississippi Tourism Award, has been called by official evaluators "Mississippi's most significant annual conference devoted to literature, history, film, and culture."

"What a huge compliment to Natchez, to Mississippi and to the South!" said NLCC Founder and Co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith. "This grant is a national stamp of approval for the NLCC and recognizes the incomparable contributions of our area's great writers, historians, film makers and scholars. With this funding, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration can continue its important work. I am simply delighted."

The National Endowment for the Humanities supports learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities. The Challenge Grant Award presented to the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was one of 27 given out today by the NEH.

"A grant like this is a godsend both to Natchez and to the state of Mississippi as a whole," said Natchez resident and New York Times best selling author Greg Iles. "The Literary and Cinema Celebration has been bringing cultural opportunities to this area that are far too rare in the South, and long overdue. Mississippians of every age will benefit from this NEH grant for decades to come, and I think we all owe Carolyn Vance Smith a deep debt of gratitude."

(more)

2004 part 1
page 34

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
P.O. Box 1307 ▪ Natchez, MS 39121-1307

Additional Quotes from NLCC Sponsors and Partners on Receiving the $100,000 NEH Grant

"We are very pleased about receiving the NEH grant and what it will mean for the future of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The NLCC is already an outstanding literary conference and the NEH grant and matching funds will allow us to continue to offer this quality program. We are very grateful to all of our partners and co-sponsors for working with us and we are looking forward to the sustained future of the NLCC."

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is a wonderful event not only for Natchez but for all of Mississippi and the entire South. This Challenge Grant will go a long way towards ensuring that this outstanding program continues to entertain and enlighten future generations. We need to remember through that the grant requires a match, so we urge everyone who enjoys the Literary and Cinema Celebration to continue their support so that we can take full advantage of the National Endowment for this Humanities grant."

Keith A. Whisenant
Superintendent
Natchez National Historical Park

"The National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant award of $100,000 to the NLCC is an acknowledgement of the vision and perseverance of the event's founder, Carolyn Vance Smith. The award will help to ensure the future of this important educational program."

Jim Barnett
Director
Division of Historic Properties
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

2004 part 1
page 35

"This grant will enable the Natchez Literary and Cinema Festival to continue the process of using literature and film to build lives and relationships – a valuable gift to the nation" said Clifton Taulbert, Pulitzer nominated author and native Mississippian.

The $100,000 NEH award is a special initiative for local history challenge grant. The NLCC has three years to match the grant dollar for dollar.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is a role model for nationally significant humanities programming. The Cinema side of the Celebration is one of the few film festivals that focuses attention on the written word," said actor Gerald McRaney, a Collins, Mississippi native. "The NEH grant will help enhance the quality and breadth of our programs. I believe it is money well spent because to have an educated society one must first have a literate society. What makes the Celebration so special is its combination of fascinating topics and world-class speakers and films. I am honored to serve on the Celebration's Advisory Board and as chairman of the committee that selects the annual Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing."

The Celebration aspires to increase public understanding of humanities, particularly local and state history. Because of funding by the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Mississippi Development Authority/Tourism, and the sponsoring agencies most of the NLCC is free or low-cost.

"This award certainly means that beyond Mississippi and the region there is a national appreciation for what the NLCC has done," said Mississippi Humanities Council Executive Director Dr. Barbara Carpenter. "The NLCC is one of the Mississippi Humanities Council's shining stars and we are delighted to have the NLCC receive this funding to start an endowment that will provide stable footing for the Celebration to continue for many years to come."

The 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is set for February 25 – 29, 2004. This year, as important state elections have occurred and equally important national elections are on the horizon, the conference theme is pertinent to the times: "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

The Celebration has reached national and international levels with programming that regularly includes commercial films and educational opportunities. Each year's conference deals with an aspect of Southern history and culture and has included noted speakers Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, William Styron, Willie Morris, Ellen Douglas, Ernest Gaines, Elizabeth Spencer, Nikki Giovanni, Myrlie Evers-Williams, and Maya Angelou; the Richard Wright scholar Michael Fabre of Paris; and the historians Robert V. Remini, David Sansing, William Scarborough, John D.W. Guice, Jay Gitlin, John Blassingame, Michael Wayne, and Douglas Lewis.

###

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Presents

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:
Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25-29, 2004
Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST
Lectures - Films - Book Signings
Workshops - Exhibits - Tours

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Natasha Trethewey, Will Campbell, and more

---

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

2004 part 1
page 37

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
P.O. Box 1307 ▪ Natchez, MS 39121-1307

Additional Quotes from NLCC Sponsors and Partners on Receiving the $100,000 NEH Grant

"This recognition is a standing ovation to the integrity and vision that the NLCC has towards preserving the humanities in Mississippi. The NLCC is to be commended for its emphasis on education and celebration of the humanities that ties together the historical, literary, political, social and artistic and natural heritage of Mississippi and the South. The challenge now is to match this grant and embrace the vision of the NLCC by keeping this significant historical celebration alive for many years to come."

Marie Antoon
Executive Director
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

"The NEH Challenge Grant is a national recognition of the exceedingly high quality of the Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration and will help to ensure the continuation of one of Mississippi's most significant literary events."

Aubrey K. Lucus
President Emeritus
University of Southern Mississippi

2004 part 1
page 38

The NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Henri Bollinger [henri@bollingerpr.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 3:23 PM
To: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Subject: RE: NEH grant story

Carolyn:

Excellent coverage. Congratulations!

Henri

[Henri Bollinger] -----Original Message-----
From: Smith, Carolyn Vance [mailto:Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu]
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 7:58 AM
To: Henri Bollinger
Subject: NEH grant story

Henri,

To read today's story in The Natchez Democrat about the NEH grant to the NLCC, please go to the newspaper's web site. Address is www.natchezdemocrat.com

On the opening page, scroll down to "NEWS." Go to the third paragraph and click on the headline called "Literary Celebration Gets $100K." You can read the entire story online. This story appeared on page one of the paper.

Thanks so much for your help. I'll be in touch about fundraising possibilities.
Fondly,
Carolyn

Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Educational Travel Associates, Inc./Elderhostel
P.O. Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
Email: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Web site for Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
www.colin.edu/nlcc

12/11/2003

The Natchez Democrat
50¢
Thursday, December 11, 2003
www.natchezdemocrat.com

Literary Celebration gets $100K

By KERRY WHIPPLE
The Natchez Democrat

NATCHEZ — A National Endowment for the Humanities grant likely will ensure the future of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, organizers announced Wednesday.

The $100,000 Challenge Grant, which requires a 100 percent match, will help establish an endowment to allow the celebration to continue in perpetuity. The grant is one of 27 challenge grants awarded Wednesday.

The Arts

"What a huge compliment to Natchez, to Mississippi and to the South."

CAROLYN VANCE SMITH
CO-CHAIRWOMAN AND FOUNDER, NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

The celebration is a theme-based lecture series attracting nationally known authors and filmmakers to Natchez each year.

"What a huge compliment to Natchez, to Mississippi and to the South," said Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairwoman and founder of the literary celebration. "This grant is a national stamp of approval for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The grant recognizes the incomparable contributions of our area's great writers, historians, filmmakers and scholars. With this funding, the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration can continue its important work. I am simply delighted."

Other supporters and sponsors said the grant is also a tribute to Smith's hard work on the event, which celebrates 15 years in February with a four-day program themed "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

"I do think this is an acknowledgement of the vision and perseverance of Carolyn over the years," said Jim Barnett, director of historic properties for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and a co-chairman of the celebration.

Natchez author Greg Iles called the grant a "godsend."

"The literary and cinema celebration has been bringing cultural opportunities to his area that are far too rare in the south and long overdue," Iles said. "Mississippians of every age will benefit from this NEH grant for years to come, and I think we all owe Carolyn Vance Smith a debt of gratitude."

The grant was awarded to Copiah-Lincoln Community College, which launched the celebration in 1990.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles, dean of the Natchez campus of Co-Lin, said the celebration has been a great resource for the college and its students.

"In many ways, it's almost outgrown us," he said. "People view it as something very independent. It's good for our college, and good for our students."

Grant funding is important to the celebration, as it allows most of the events to be free or low-cost to participants.

In recent years the celebration added its film component, enhancing its focus on literature.

"The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is a role model for nationally significant humanities programming. The cinema side of the Celebration is one of the few film festivals that focuses attention on the written word," said actor Gerald McRaney, a Collins native. "The NEH grant will help enhance the quality and breadth of our programs. I believe it is money well spent because

See Celebration, 7A

Celebration —

Continued from 1A

to have an educated society one must first have a literate society. What makes the celebration so special is its combination of fascinating topics and world-class speakers and films."

This year's celebration will be Feb. 25-29. Fund-raising activities for the matching grant will include a riverbarge cruise on the Mississippi, titled "Literature, Lore, and Lyrics on the Mighty Mississippi." That trip will be April 6-13.

2004 part 1
page 40

The 15th Annual NATCHEZ
LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI
FEBRUARY 25-29, 2004

PRESENTS

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:
POLITICS IN THE DEEP SOUTH

Headquarters
Natchez Convention Center • 211 Main Street
Natchez, Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.
Locations change for certain events.

2004 part 1
page 41

The University of Mississippi
Oxford • Jackson • Tupelo • Southaven

Center for the Study of Southern Culture
Post Office Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848
(662) 915-5993
Fax: (662) 915-5814
E-mail: cssc@olemiss.edu
URL: http//www.olemiss.edu/depts/south

January 20, 2004

TO: Center Advisory Committee and Executive Council

FROM: Charles Reagan Wilson

SUBJECT: Dinner and Meeting in Natchez

The Center's Advisory Committee and its Executive Council will have a joint meeting on Sunday, February 29, during the 2004 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. CAC member Carolyn Vance Smith is cochair of the February 25-29 event, which will examine the topic "Scoundrel to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South."

A flyer with information about the program and registration is enclosed. Most of the lectures are free, and tours and social events are priced individually at low cost. Tickets are available through the Natchez Ticket Office. For details, see the flyer. For lodging information and reservations, call the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-647-6724. Carolyn and I hope you will plan to attend the entire Literary and Cinema Celebration as well as the Center meeting and dinner.

Ruth Ellen and Bill Calhoun have invited us to have the meeting and breakfast at their home, Elgin Plantation, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 29. If weather permits, we will meet on the front gallery, overlooking the Calhoun's beautiful garden. If it's cold or raining, we will meet in the parlor. Elgin Plantation is off Highway 61 South; turn right on Dunbar Road and then right again, on Elgin Plantation Road. Maps will be available at numerous sites in Natchez.

Everyone is invited to gather for dinner on Saturday, February 28, at 8:00 p.m. We have made reservations at Dunleith. Dunleith is located on Homochitto Street.

Please return the enclosed form to let us know if you plan to attend the meeting and if you wish to make reservations for dinner on Saturday. Or, if you prefer, you may call my assistant, Brandi Dykes, at the Center at 662-915-5993.

A flyer about the Blues Today: A *Living Blues* Symposium is also enclosed along with information about the Oxford Conference for the Book and two related programs that will provide unique opportunities to study some of Mississippi's major authors and visit sites associated with their lives and work.

Center for the Study of Southern Culture
Studying the South Since 1977

2004 part 1
page 42

The 15th annual Olympic Award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Presents

SCOUNDRELS TO STATESMEN:
Politics in the Deep South

Feb. 25-29, 2004 • Natchez, Mississippi

FREE OR LOW-COST

Lectures - Films - Book Signings - Workshops - Exhibits – Tours

Featuring Greg Iles, Peggy Prenshaw, Noel Polk, William Scarborough, Stuart Margolin, Gerald McRaney, Natasha Trethewey, Will Campbell, and more

Photo courtesy of Courtney Aldridge

Greg Iles

FREE AWARDS CEREMONY HONORING

Greg Iles (*24 Hours, The Footprints of God*)
William Scarborough (*Masters of the Big House*)
Gail Gilchriest (filmscript of *My Dog Skip*)

6:30 p.m., Sat., Feb. 28, 2004
Natchez Convention Center, Main Street

Gala Party Afterward Honoring Award Winners
The Historic Mansion Gloucester
$125 per person ($100 tax-deductible); limited to 100 people

For information and tickets call
1-866-296-NLCC or 1-601-446-1289
email Christy.Williams@colin.edu
or visit www.colin.edu/nlcc

This project partially funded by the MS Development Authority/Tourism and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

2004 part 1
page 43

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 2004

To: Friends and Family of Award Winners at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Re: Award Events Honoring Greg Iles, William Scarborough, and Gail Gilchriest

Please take a look at the enclosed brochure. You'll see that at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, February 28, 2004, your friend or relative, Greg, Bill, and/or Gail, will receive a prestigious award at the annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. We invite you to a series of events that honor these outstanding people.

First, we invite you to a free party prior to the awards ceremony, from 4:45 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., in the lobby of the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street. This party is hosted by The University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture. During this party, books, CDs, and videotapes will be sold and signed by your honoree, and coffee, soft drinks, wine, and cheese will be served.

Live music will be provided by Nashville singer/songwriter Tricia Walker, and a silent auction of irresistible items, such as signed first editions, a Natchez Balloon Race weekend package, and much more will take place. Auction proceeds will benefit a new endowment fund for the Celebration.

The awards ceremony will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. in the Convention Center. Please be seated on time. The Celebration's Director of Proceedings, former Mississippi Governor William Winter, will ask you to stand to be recognized.

Two writers will win the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award. They are the novelist Greg Iles of Natchez, Miss., and the historian William Scarborough of The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg. They join former Richard Wright Award winners Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, Ellen Douglas, Willie Morris, Shelby Foote, Elizabeth Spencer, Richard Ford, Will Campbell, Barry Hannah, Sterling Plumpp, Beth Henley, David Sansing, John Grisham, Bill Minor, Lewis Nordan, John Marszalek, T.R. Hummer, and Clifton Taulbert.

Winner of the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing is Gail Gilchriest, formerly of East Texas and now of Los Angeles. She joins former award winners Horton Foote and Billy Bob Thornton.

Immediately following the awards event, at approximately 8 p.m., is a gala benefit reception/supper at the palatial historic mansion Gloucester, once home of Winthrop Sargent, first Governor of the Mississippi Territory. This gorgeous mansion was recently refurbished by its new owners, Gwen and John Deakle. The party honoring the award winners is the first time the home has been opened to the public since the restoration was completed.

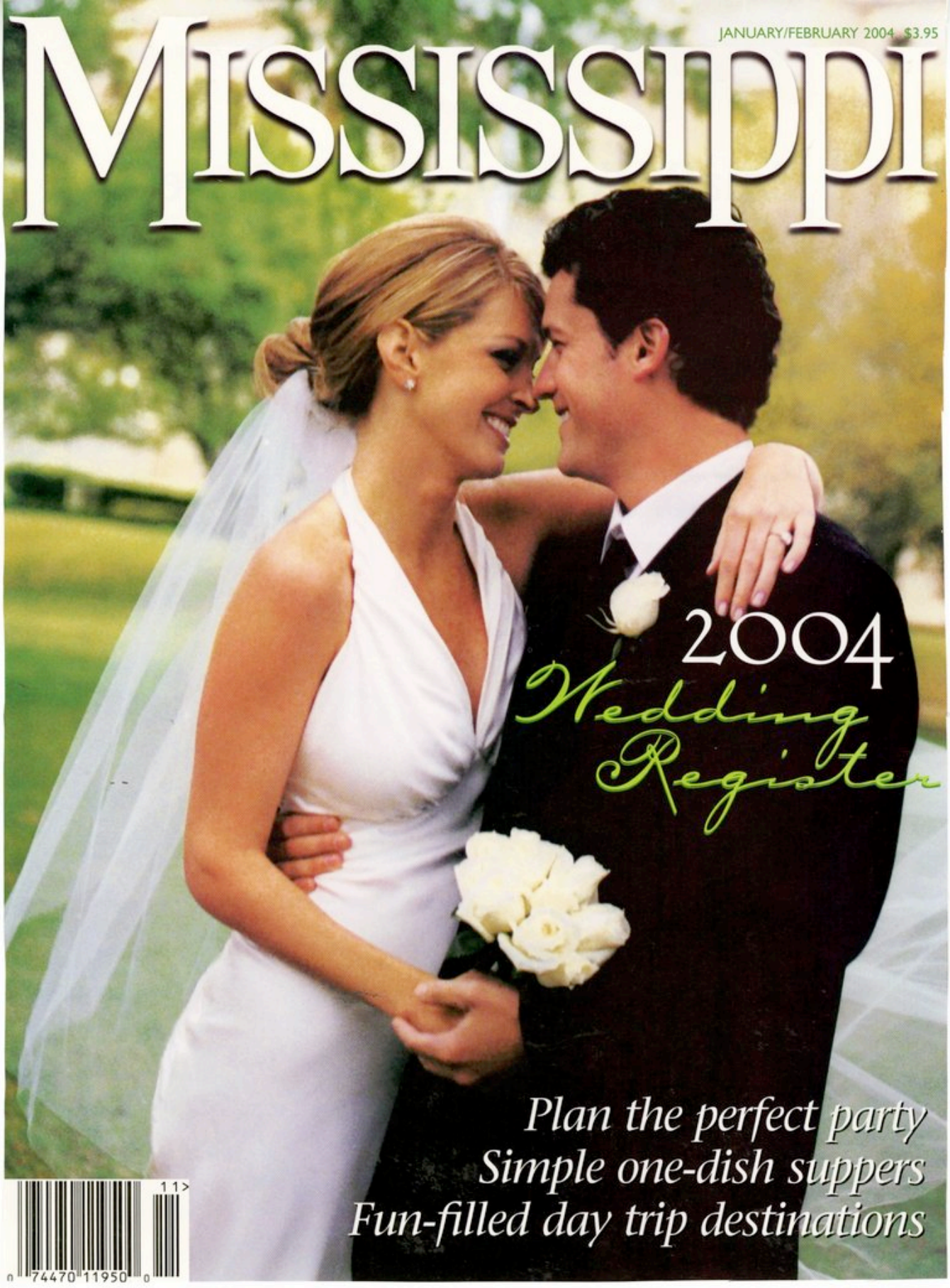
Tickets to the party at Gloucester are limited and cost $125 ($100 tax-deductible). For tickets, call toll-free 866-296-6522 or 601-446-1289 or email Christy.Williams@colin.edu.

We hope to see you at the entire Celebration, February 25-29, but especially for the events surrounding your friend or relative's award. Welcome!

2004 part 1
page 44

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2004 $3.95

MISSISSIPPI



2004 Wedding Register

Plan the perfect party
Simple one-dish suppers
Fun-filled day trip destinations

11>
0 74470 11950 0

2004 part 1
page 45

FEBRUARY 24-29
Natchez
15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

This event focuses on the unique cultural heritage of Mississippi and the South. This year's theme is "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Activities will include lectures, films, concerts, exhibits, and tours. Call 601/466-1289 or visit www.colin.cc.ms.us/nlcc/Agenda.htm.

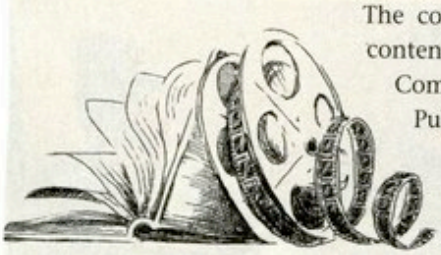
Celebrate Great Writing and Great Films

PHOTO COURTESY NLCC

The award-winning Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC) will recognize Mississippians' contributions to literature, history, and culture during a variety of special events the week of February 24-29.

Each year since its founding in 1990, the conference has focused on a certain aspect of Southern history and culture and has presented a series of lectures enhanced by films, field trips, exhibits, and book signings. Past speakers have included Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, Willie Morris, Myrlie Evers-Williams, and Maya Angelou.

This year's celebration is entitled "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Journalists Donald Adderton, Bill Minor, Sid Salter, and Emily Wagster will take part in a panel discussion on the topic "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?". Other highlights will include a presentation of the documentary "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long," an illustrated discussion of editorial cartoons featuring three noted newspaper cartoonists, and a tour of Natchez sites associated with politics.



The conference has won several accolades for its program content, including the Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement, the Mississippi Tourism Commission's Most Outstanding Festival or Event award, and the Mississippi Humanities Council's Public Humanities Achievement Award.

Most events will take place at the Natchez Convention Center. Many events are free; others are held to a minimum cost because of public funding. For more information on the NLCC or to order tickets, call 601/446-1289 or visit www.colin.cc.ms.us/nlcc/default.htm.

2004 part 1
page 46

The University of Mississippi
invites you to attend an informal reception
to promote
The Center for the Study of Southern Culture

Natchez Convention Center
211 Main Street
Natchez, Mississippi
Saturday, February 28, 2004
4:45pm–6:30pm

Featuring a display of photographs
by documentary photographer David Wharton
and music by
Nashville singer-songwriter Tricia Walker

Refreshments will be served.
RSVP (662) 915-1546 or altobell@olemiss.edu

r for the Study of Southern Culture
Post Office Box 1848
University, MS 38677-1848

2004 part 1
page 47

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1307
Natchez, MS 39121-1307
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Website www.colin.edu/nlcc

February 2004

To: Those planning to receive Continuing Education Units by attending the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 25-29, 2004

From: Millicent Mayo, CEU Chairman for the NLCC and Public Relations Director, Natchez-Adams School System, 10 Homochitto Street, Natchez, MS 39120 Phone 601-442-0217

Re: **GREAT NEWS!**

- **TO GET 3.7 CEUs: Attend 37 hours of approved events and pay $75.**
- **TO GET FROM ONE-TENTH CEU TO 3.6 CEUs: Attend from one hour up to 36 hours of approved events and pay $65.**

YES! Up to 3.7 CEUs (37 hours) have been approved for teachers attending the 2004 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. The CEUs will be issued by Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Continuing Education Department, under the leadership of Beth Richard and as approved by Dr. Ronald Nettles, Dean of Co-Lin's Natchez Campus.

TO GET ALL 3.7 CEUs: A person expecting to receive all 3.7 CEUs should pay $75 and attend 37 hours of approved events, including free events and three ticketed events. The cost of these three ticketed events is included in the $75 payment. The events required for attendance are plainly marked on the attached agenda.

TO GET FEWER THAN 3.7 CEUs: A person expecting to receive from one-tenth CEU to 3.6 CEUs should pay $65 and attend from one hour up to 36 hours of approved events, including free events and three ticketed events. The cost of these three ticketed events is included in the $65 payment. The events required for attendance are plainly marked on the attached agenda.

Everyone is invited to attend additional ticketed events, but no CEU credit will be given for attendance. They are a luncheon Friday, Feb. 27, a reception Friday, Feb. 27, and a gala benefit event Saturday, Feb. 28. Tickets are sold out for the luncheon and the gala but available for the reception by buying at the door of the NAPAC Museum on Main Street..

Register now for CEU credits with Millicent Mayo, 601-442-0217. Payment must be by check, made out to Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, with a notation "For CEU credit."
Deadline to register is Feb. 25, 2004.

NOTE: Those receiving CEUs must sign in and must sign out at the conference each morning, each afternoon, and each evening. These attendance records will be used to grant the CEUs.

Visit the NLCC web site at www.colin.edu/nlcc.

2004 part 1
page 48

The 15th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South

February 25-29, 2004

Natchez, Mississippi

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Broadcasting Networks

Continuing Education Units

All events approved for CEU credit are explained and marked with a bullet.
By attending approved events, up to 3.7 CEU's are available.
To register, call Millicent Mayo, 601-442-0212, Natchez, Miss.

Wednesday, February 25, 2004 — 8 ¼ Hours or .825 CEU available

Three pre-conference seminars at Copiah-Lincoln Community College
"Reading, Teaching, and Studying William Faulkner and Margaret Walker Alexander"
$10 for 3 seminars included with CEU payment.

- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 8:00 a.m – 8:50 a.m.** "Reading Faulkner," Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, Professor of English and author.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.** "20th Century Voice of the South: Margaret Walker Alexander and Her Writing Life, Her Poetry, and Her Fiction," Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas, Professor of English and author.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 10:00 a.m.- 10:50 a.m.** "Margaret Walker Alexander: Under the Hat, Out of the Heart," Alferdteen Harrison, Jackson State University, Director, Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center.

Special Event at Copiah- Lincoln Community College

- **1¼ hours or .125 CEU- 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.** "Careers in the Public Arena: It's All about Relationships," a panel discussion by Stuart Margolin, actor/producer; Barry Phillips, television art director; Natasha Trethewey, Emory University, associate professor of creative writing and poet.

All events are at the Natchez Convention Center unless otherwise noted.
Conference begins at 2:00 p.m.

- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 2:15 p.m.- 3:15 p.m.** "The Evolution of Politics in the Deep South," William F. Winter, Governor of Mississippi, 1980-1984.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.** "Political Leaders during Mississippi Territorial Times," Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University, Professor of History and author.
- **2 hours or .2 CEU- 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.** "The Political Education of Maggie Lauterer," a documentary film about a Congressional candidate in Western North Carolina.

2004 part 1
page 49

Thursday, February 26, 2004 7 ¾ Hours or .775 CEU

Concurrent Sessions. Choose one at 9 – 10 a.m.

- **1 hour or .1 CEU-** **9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.,** "John A. Quitman of Antebellum Natchez: Dis-Unionist or Patriot?" Robert E. May, Purdue University, Professor of History and author.
  1 hour or .1 CEU- **9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.,** Natchez High School, a repeat panel discussion for invited high school students and faculty members, "Careers in the Public Arena: It's All About Relationships," Stuart Margolin, Barry Phillips, and Natasha Trethewey.

- **1 hour or .1 CEU-** **10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.,** "The Stormy Petrel: Theodore G. Bilbo and Mississippi Politics," Chester M. Morgan, Delta State University, Chair, Department of History.
- **2 1/4 hours or .225 CEU-** **1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.,** "Huey Long and the Politics of the Possible," Jerry Purvis Sanson, Louisiana State University, Professor of History, followed by "Ken Burns' America: Huey Long," a documentary by Ken Burns.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU-** **3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.,** "Editing *All the King's Men*," Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, Professor of English and author.
- **2 ½ hours or .25 CEU-** **7:30 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.,** "All the King's Men," an award-winning film based on Robert Penn Warren's novel by the same name, followed by a coffeehouse discussion session led by Dixon McDowell, Associate Professor of Television, Film, and Radio, University of Southern Mississippi, and Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi, Professor of English.

Friday, February 27, 2004 7 ¾ hours or .775 CEU

- **1 hour or .1 CEU-** **9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.,** "Eudora Welty's Political Views in Fiction and Non-fiction," Peggy Whitman Prenshaw, Millsaps College, Holder of the Eudora Welty Chair, and editor, *Conversations with Eudora Welty*.
- **2 hours or .2 CEU-** **10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.,** "George Wallace: Settin' the Woods on Fire," a documentary biography of the four-time candidate for the presidency and Alabama governor for nearly two decades by Paul Stekler, University of Texas at Austin, with Daniel McCabe.
- **¼ hour or .025 CEU-** **2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.,** An overview of "Jefferson Davis: An American President," a film in production by Wendi Berman and Brian Gary of Flying Chaucer Films, LLC, Los Angeles and New Orleans.
- **2 ½ hours or .25 CEU-** **2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.,** "Natchez Sites Associated with Politics," a Guided Tour featuring The Briars, 1845 marriage site of Varina Howell and Jefferson Davis; Monmouth, home of John A. Quitman, 1799-1858, Governor of Mississippi, General in the U.S. Army during the Mexican War, candidate for Democratic nomination for Vice President of the U.S., and United States Congressman; and Rose Hill Baptist Church, the oldest African-American Baptist church in Mississippi, and for decades the site of civic and political meetings. **$20 for guided tour with transportation included with CEU payment.**
- **2 hours or .2 CEU-** **8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., "**Editorial Cartoons," Bruce Plante, *Chattanooga* (Tenn.) *Times Free Press*, and President of the American Association of Editorial Cartoonists, Marshall Ramsey, *The Clarion-Ledger*, Jackson, Miss., and Scott Stantis, *The Birmingham News*, Birmingham, Ala. An illustrated discussion by political and editorial cartoonists about their profession and its impact on politics in the South.

2004 part 1
page 50

Saturday, February 28, 2004 9 ¼ hours or .925 CEU

- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.,** "Jefferson Davis, Politician," William J. Cooper, Jr., Louisiana State University, Professor of History and author of *Jefferson Davis, American*.
- **1 ¾ hours or .175 CEU- 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.,** "Conflicting Political Terrains: Mississippi Congressman Frank E. Smith, 1918-1997," Dennis Mitchell, Mississippi State University/Meridian, Chair of the Division of Arts and Sciences and author; and "Memory and History: The Politics of Poetry," Natasha Trethewey, Emory University, associate professor of creative writing and author.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.,** "Robert G. Clark of Mississippi: A Black Man's Unprecedented Rise to Power and Political Prominence," Will Campbell, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., author.
- **1 hour or .1 CEU- 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.,** "Why Does the Nation Continue to Elect Presidents Who Are Southerners?" a panel discussion by journalists Donald Adderton, Greenville, Miss., Bill Minor, Sid Salter, and Emily Wagster, all of Jackson, Miss.
- **½ hour or .05 CEU- 3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.,** "Best Sellers: Three Southern Writers, Greg Iles, Nevada Barr, and John Grisham," a documentary film by Mississippi Broadcasting Networks.
- **1 ½ hours or .15 CEU- 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.,** "An Evening with the Stars," Presentation of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Greg Iles and William K. Scarborough. Presentation of the Horton Foote Award for Outstanding Screenplay Writing to Gail Gilchriest.
- **2 ½ hours or .25 CEU- 8:00 p.m.- 10:30 p.m.,** *Trapped*, a showing of the film by Greg Iles based on his novel, *24 Hours,* with discussion afterward.

Sunday, February 29, 2004 4 hours or .4 CEU

Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops
$10 for two workshops and refreshments, included with CEU payment.
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Concurrent sessions. Choose one.

- **2 hours or .2 CEU- 8:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.**
  - **a)** "Screenwriting for Dummies," by Gail Gilchriest, Los Angeles, author of the award-winning screenplays *My Dog Skip* and *The Ponder Heart*.
  - **b)** "The African-American Novel from the Early 19th Century until Today: How Black Writers Write," Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas, Professor of English, Founder/Director of the Project on the History of Black Writing, and author/editor of articles and essays on American and African-American literature and pedagogy.

Refreshment break honoring Ellen Douglas (pen name of Josephine Haxton). No CEU credit.

Concurrent sessions. Choose one.

- **2 hours or .2 CEU- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**
  - **a)** "Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Myths: Utilizing Primary Sources for Fact or Fiction," James Mesker, author, Cleveland, Ohio
  - **b)** "Get Your Magazine Article Published: 50 Tips from *The Writer* magazine," Elfrieda Abbe, editor, *The Writer* magazine, Waukesha, Wis.
  - **c)** "Modern Documentary Filmmaking," Wendi Berman and Brian Gary, film writers, directors, actors, and producers, and co-owners, Flying Chaucer Films, LLC, Los Angeles and New Orleans.

2004 part 1
page 51

file
NLCC publicity

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Smith, Carolyn Vance
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2004 2:07 PM
To: Natchez Everyone
Subject: Win a fabulous package of gifts!

Yes, you can win a fabulous package of gifts at the 15th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, co-sponsored by Co-Lin, the Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

Just come to the Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street, on Wed.-Sat., Feb. 25-28, and buy one or more $10 raffle tickets. You could win one of the five following packages:

- The Great River Road Balloon Race Package, Oct. 15-17, 2004. This includes a weekend stay at Greenlea, the historic home of Stella and Philip Carby on South Wall Street; weekend passes to balloon race festivities; balloon race T-shirts; a balloon race poster; and a ride in a hot air balloon.

- *Gone with the Wind* Package. This includes framed 24' x 35' posters of Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler; a copy of the novel, *Gone With the Wind;* a copy of a spoof of *Gone With the Wind;* a copy of a *Gone With the Wind Cookbook;* a DVD of *Gone With the Wind;* a Civil War CD by Nashville singer/songwriter Billy Ray Reynolds; sheet music of "Tara's Theme"; a bottle of Old South Winery's "Miss Scarlett" wine; and a small blanket with a Natchez-related theme from Mississippi Land Co.

- Memories-Are-Made-of-This Package. This includes a pair of tickets to "Natchez Day at the Races" March 6 at the Fair Grounds Race Course in New Orleans from Natchez Mayor F.L. "Hank" Smith III; a gift basket filled with Natchez-related items from the City of Natchez; a sitting by award-winning Natchez photographer T.G. McCary for an 11" x 14" portrait; a tour, dinner for two and a live music show onboard the *River Explorer* when this floating hotel is docked at Natchez; a carriage ride for two from Southern Carriage Tours; and a pair of tickets to the Natchez Festival of Music's performance of *Show Boat* April 30 or May 1.

- Natchez Pilgrimage Package. This includes an overnight stay at Monmouth Plantation in Natchez, named one of the Top 100 Inns in America by *Travel & Leisure* magazine; lunch for two at the Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall; two tour tickets for Spring Pilgrimage 2004; coffee from Canal Street Coffee Roasters; and fudge from Darby's Gifts and Decorative Accessories.

- Books, Books, Books Package. New copies of *William Faulkner: Novels 1936-1940, Absalom, Absalom! The Unvanquished, If I Forgot Thee, The Hamlet* ($37.50 retail)*; Eudora Welty: Stories, Essays, and Memoirs, A Curtain of Green, The Wide Net, The Golden Apples, The Bride of the Innisfallen, Selected Essays, One Writer's Beginnings* ($35)*; Richard Wright: Lawd Today! Uncle Tom's Children, Native Son* ($35), all from Library of America*; Natchez: An Illustrated History* ($19); *The Great Houses of Natchez* ($60); *The Goat Castle Murder: A True Natchez Story That Shocked the World* ($13); *Natchez by Design* ($25); *Concerning Carpenters and Childhood Saints and Other Poems* ($12); *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* ($75) and a poster of Natchez's own award-winning author Richard Wright from the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at The University of Mississippi.

Winners will be announced Saturday evening, Feb. 28, at 8 p.m. You do not have to be present to win.

Proceeds from the raffle will go toward matching dollar-for-dollar a $100,000 grant the Celebration has received from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Help us reach our goal!!!

Plan now to attend this outstanding **free** conference, and bring a friend! The conference is open to the public. Programs, films, and exhibits relate to the theme, "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." See you

2/23/2004

2004 part 1
page 52

there!

Carolyn Vance Smith
Founder and Co-chairman
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, Miss.
Phone: 601-446-1208
Fax: 601-446-1214
Email: Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu
Web site for Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration
www.colin.edu/nlcc

2/23/2004

2004 part 1
page 53

Smith, Carolyn Vance

From: Nettles, Ronnie
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 9:09 AM
To: Natchez Everyone; Davis, Natalie; Biggs, Courtney
Subject: Monday Update 02/22/04

Faculty and Staff:

* Please plan to attend the NLCC, Feb. 25-29. The theme this year is "Scoundrels to Statesmen: Politics in the Deep South." Most of the conference is free of charge. The activities will start with pre-conference workshops in the Multi-Purpose room on Wednesday morning. The program will then move to the Natchez Convention Center on Wednesday afternoon and return to Co-Lin on Sunday.

Please encourage students to attend the Wednesday morning seminars, Feb. 25, AND the Sun. morning Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, Feb. 29, free of charge by showing their Co-Lin ID. These activities cost others $10 each.

Many Co-Lin students, faculty, and staff are heavily involved with the 15th annual NLCC. We are grateful to everyone for their support and help.

* Because of my absence from work last week and the NLCC activities this week, it is going to be impossible for me to complete all of the my employee and faculty evaluations by the deadline. (Do I sound like I'm making excuses?) I will be contacting those of you that I evaluate before spring break to get everything completed. Thank you for your patience.

* I failed to mention that the admissions office and our counselors hosted a local high school counselors luncheon last week. The annual event was used to tell the counselors about the new programs at Co-Lin and the Taylor Presidential Scholarships that will be available to students next year.

* The current issues discussion group will meet this Friday at 11:00 am in the Activity Room. The topic this week is "Marriage (Gay & Ungay) & the Law: Should we Legislate 'family' Morality (& the accompanying financial benefits)?" Everyone is invited.

* Please continue to keep Rosie and our family in your thoughts and prayers after the loss of her brother last week. I want to thank all of you for the visits, phone calls, cards, food, flowers, prayers, and words of encouragement. Everything that you have done or offered to do has meant a great deal to me and Rosie.

Have a good week.

Dr. Ronnie Nettles
Dean of the Natchez Campus
Copiah-Lincoln Community College

2004 part 1
page 54

NLCC 2004 evaluations

General comments

- Fun, informative and entertaining. Gail Gilchriest
- Don't see how it could have been better. Ellen Douglas
- You did an outstanding job of organizing the program and all the events. Jerry Sanson
- I know that I say this every year, but this really was just about the best. William Winter
- They did a great job keeping on time for all the programs.
- We learned so much!
- This was a special treat.
- Excellent! Jim and Kathy Mesker
- Great!

Name facets of the Celebration you most enjoyed

- Speakers very knowledgeable in their subjects and discussed subject well
- The documentaries this year were outstanding, as well as the readings and other essays. Ellen Douglas
- Topics – varied, timely, excellently presented
- Films were excellent. Cartoonists highly entertaining.
- Dr. Cooper's concise review of Jefferson Davis's political career
- Not having [very many] concurrent sessions. It is wonderful to be able to attend all the sessions offered.
- Thought-producing films. Governor Winter's keynote address.
- The presentations have been wonderful.
- I especially appreciate that most events are free, especially films. I enjoy the displays.
- Diversity
- Panel – cartoonists
- Peggy [Prenshaw] and Natasha [Trethewey] were wonderful!
- The films/documentaries – Huey long, Wallace, Ken Burns; Stormy Petrel -- Dr. Morgan; Eudora Welty – Peggy Prenshaw
- The film segments were exceptional.
- Panel discussion.
- Enthusiasm of the speakers.

What do you wish were different?

That it lasted longer!
More short films and documentary films
Can't think of a thing.

Evaluate the physical facilities

Most said excellent or very good.

Have you attended an NLCC before?

About 75% said no.

What do you wish could be added to future Celebrations?

- I can't think of a thing. This has been a marvelous conference.
- Break out sessions.