

# Missouri Folklore Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 1757, Columbia MO 65202  
<http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu>

Volume 35, Nos. 1-2

Spring 2011



## MFS Thanks Donna Jurich

Donna has edited the Society's newsletter since 2003. We are grateful for the long years she shared her skills with us. Beginning with the present number, the MFS Newsletter becomes a digital publication. Reasons include the economics of printing and mailing as well as ecological considerations and the improved accessibility of delivery via our website as well as the ability to incorporate color images and eventually audio and video files. Postcards announcing the change will go out to the membership; we will print and mail black-&-white copies to institutions and those members who do not have computer access.

## *Hills, Hollers and History*

The 2010 annual meeting took place from November 4th to the 6th in Neosho. All events were held at the First Baptist Church on Highway 86. Co-Presidents Betty Henderson and Liz Faries organized a successful meeting. Highlights included a tour of the George Washington Carver home, and a performance by Paxton Williams in character as the great scientist from Diamond, Missouri. As usual, there were presentations on a variety of subjects of interest to Missouri folklore enthusiasts, including stories of Dan'l Boone and his kin, African-American Cemeteries, the role of social networking websites in the distribution and development of proverbs. In business, Judy Domeny again led us through a successful auction, made more enjoyable by the musical interludes.



The Dolf and Becky Schroeder prize was won by Holly Fling of Truman State University for her paper on the Christmas traditions of the Bethel Community. Runner up was Scott White,

also from Truman, for his work on campfire tales among the Boy Scouts. Fling wrote her senior thesis on "[The History Behind My Father's Shelby County Folktales](#)." Scott has been accepted into the graduate program in folklore at the University of Utah.



## **In Memoriam, Mitch Jayne 1928-2011**

*Ozarks storyteller leaves a legacy of music, humor*



**Author, musician and humorist Mitch Jayne died Aug. 2 in Columbia. Jayne was the author of five books, a weekly newspaper column published in the rural Ozarks for 20 years, and more than a dozen bluegrass songs recorded by The Dillards. He hosted a radio show in Salem that attracted national attention for its satire, including the "Snake and Tick Market Report," a regular feature that reported market prices for Hoo-Boy White Dot Crushproof Dry Valley Wonder ticks and black, copperhead, coachwhip, garter and rattle snakes.**

**Jayne was born July 5, 1928 in Hammond, Ind., the son of Bea and Gus Jayne. After a stint at the University of Missouri-Columbia, he began teaching in one-room schools in Dent County, where he documented the use of the forgotten words and phrases of Elizabethan English spoken by his pupils. He once asked a six-year-old what his father did for a living. "He principally farms," the youngster told him, "and when he isn't farming he sits on the porch and plays the fiddle, just to beguile the time." One day when a student learned Jayne wanted to see a beaver in the wild, the student told him, "Mr. Jayne, there's a beaver a'workin' forenent the mill." When Jayne asked a student to stay after school for some chore, the boy replied, "No, Mr. Jayne, I'd best haste home. Mother don't sanction us being dilatory."**

**Jayne published his recollections of his students' use of Elizabethan English in 2000 in "Home Grown Stories & Home Fried Lies," illustrated by his wife, artist Diana Jayne. He lamented the consolidation of one-room schools, comparing it to the influence of TV and radio that brought homogeneity to language and culture, ultimately leading to the demise of the rich old English phrases in their last sanctuary in the remote Ozarks mountains.**

**In 1962, Jayne befriended talented bluegrass musicians Douglas and Rodney Dillard, who invited him along to seek their musical fortunes in California. Jayne learned to play the bass lying down in the back of their station wagon en route to the West Coast. They played several venues, including the Hungry i in San Francisco, where they caught the attention of critics for their hard-driving melding of electrified bluegrass and rock. They were invited to play on the "Andy Griffith Show," where they appeared regularly as the Darling Family for three years.**

Jayne authored many of the Dillard's best-known works, including "Dooley," "The Old Home Place" and "The Whole World Round." The group recorded more than 20 albums from 1963 to 2006, but Jayne's participation in the group waned in the late 1970s.

While in California, Jayne also published his first books, "The Forest in the Wind," in 1966, and "Old Fish Hawk" in 1973. "Old Fish Hawk," about an Osage Indian, was made into a movie starring Will Sampson in 1979. Jayne returned to Missouri around 1974 and built a house adjacent to the Marcoot region of the Mark Twain National Forest. One week before Christmas in 1981, a spark from the massive stone chimney of his house caught the hand-made shakes of the roof on fire and destroyed his home. Two weeks later his bluegrass friends held a benefit concert to raise money to rebuild the house, which he moved into in 1983.

His popular radio show, "Hickory Holler Time," broadcast on KSMO, featured local news, bluegrass music, the Snake and Tick Market Report, and a variety of satirical sketches. He invented a character, Zeke Reeferzottum, who shared folklore such as predicting the severity of winter by looking at "wooly caterpillows. Not their color, their size! I been skinnin' 'em and tannin' their hides!" Mother Mitch's News was a spin-off of the Mother Earth News, providing practical advice for living off the land, including making your own toilet paper ("perforations can be added with a spur or pizza cutter") or a sturdy truss out of old shoe tongues and Band-aids.

Jayne started a third novel, the yet-to-be-published "Glory Hole War," a story about Ozarkian saboteurs who take exception to a government plan to dam their spring. He also began writing his weekly column, "Driftwood," which appeared in several Missouri newspapers (including The Salem News) and magazines, and went on the lecture circuit to talk about conservation, not just of natural resources, but of culture and history. The publication of his fourth novel, "Fiddler's Ghost," in 2007 led to the 2008 Governors Humanities Book Award, and it was named one of the 10 best books of the year by the "St. Louis Post-Dispatch." In 2002, the Dillard's reunited to play to a packed audience in Carnegie Hall. In 2009, they were inducted into the Bluegrass Hall of Fame.

In addition to his wife of 16 years, Diana Jayne, he is survived by a brother, Sears Jayne of Boston, Mass., and daughters Carole Jayne, Eminence, and Valerie Jayne, St. Charles. Family and close friends were with him during his final days of compassionate care at the Columbia veteran's hospital, where he entertained and told stories until he was too weak to talk.

When asked by a friend how he was doing, he replied, "I don't know. I've never died before."

A memorial service is planned for the fall in the Ozarks, the time and place Jayne loved best and never tired of sharing through his stories and music.

*Kathy Love*

## Missouri



## New Committee Formed:

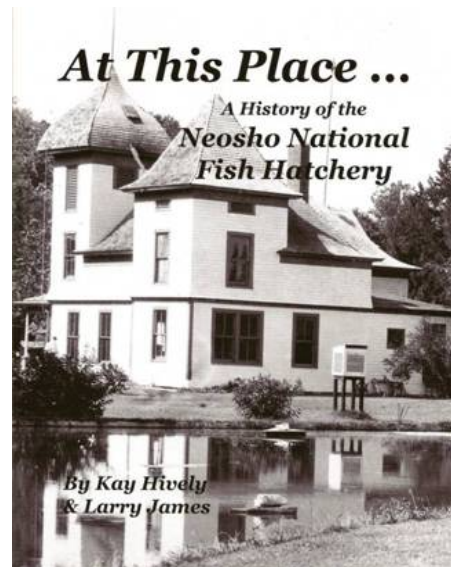
*A message from past president Lyn Wolz:*

After the MFS annual meeting in Boonville in November 2009, some of the board members met informally to discuss ways of addressing the backlog of publications. The ad hoc group referred to itself as a “Communications Committee,” and soon found itself brainstorming additional initiatives for re-energizing the So-

ciety, managing the society’s publications and recruiting new members (especially younger people). The same group gathered again after our meeting in Neosho last fall, and some met yet again, in March after the board meeting in Columbia. The group outlined several areas of concern, created action plans for proposing to the board, and solicited volunteers to lead some projects not requiring board approval. I have outlined them briefly below. The group has at this point no formal charge or membership. If you would like to join the Communications Committee and / or lead / help with any of these projects, please let Adam Davis know ([adavis@truman.edu](mailto:adavis@truman.edu)) and he will add you to our group’s email list.



*Attractions of the Neosho meeting included the national fish hatchery and the George Washington Carver home in nearby Diamond, MO*



## **Initiatives Suggested by the Ad Hoc Communications Committee**

- 1) Setting up a peer-review process for academic articles submitted to the journal
- 2) Improving and updating the website
- 3) Distributing the updated brochure
- 4) Composing / mailing postcards to members as needed
- 5) Writing articles about the society for various publications
- 6) Making audios / videos for publicity purposes
- 7) Investigating options for offering promotional materials such as mugs, key chains, and tote bags
- 8) Serving as MFS liaisons to other organizations
- 9) Compiling / writing an MFS “Manual for Meeting Organizers”
- 10) Organizing two new groups within the MFS structure:
  - Council of Past Presidents
  - Academic Caucus
- 11) Proposing / scheduling meetings for at least the following groups DURING the annual meeting
  - Communications Committee
  - Student Paper Contest Committee
  - Schroeder Scholarship Committee
  - Council of Past Presidents

*Gladys Cogswell, Master Storyteller performs the Twain Classic*

**“A True Story, Repeated Word for Word As I Heard It”**



The Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum celebrated Black History Month in February with an array of books, and historical artifacts in the gift shop as well as a night of two memorable performances. Local storyteller, Gladys Cogswell, Mark Twain Museum Storyteller-in-Residence, and Missouri’s Master Storyteller for nine years performed Twain’s, “A True Story, Repeated Word for Word as I Heard It.” Cogswell said “that it was important to her to play the part of Mary Ann Cord who is referred to as ‘Aunt Rachel’ in Mark Twain’s writing”.

“I have a deep unmitigated sense of pride for the slaves,” said Cogswell. “I especially appreciate those who maintained any degree of sanity through the most horrible of circumstances. ‘Aunt Rachel’ was such a person.”

When Samuel Clemens asks how she lived to be 60 years old and never had any trouble, she paused, and there was a moment of silence. She said, without a smile in her voice: “Misto C-is you in ‘arnest? Has I had any trouble? Misto C- I’s gwyne tell you, den I leave it to you.”

This is where ‘Aunt Rachel’ recounts an incredibly moving story of the pain of the unforgettable separation from her family at the slave auction. “I could feel her heart ripping in agony when she says, “An’ dey sole my ole man, an’ took him away, an’ dey begin to sell my chil’ en an’ take dem away, an’ I begen to cry.”

She tells of her youngest son Henry, who whispers in her ear, that he is going to run away. He promises her he’ll work and buy her freedom. Still they got him; she almost tore the cloths off of them and beat them over the head with her chains.

“An’ they give it to me too”.

“Well, dah my ole man gone, an’ all my chil’ en, all my seven chil’ en an’ six of em I hadn’t set eyes on ag’in to dis day an’ dat’s twenty two years ago las’ Easter “.

To experience that type of defeat and yet hold on to determination and even an ounce of hope the way ‘Aunt Rachel’ did was amazing. I had to portray her so that people would have some understanding of what she felt inside. This story really tells of the sordid injustice of slavery and lets us know just how far we’ve emerged. The word nigger is used in this piece because that is what my ancestors were called; also what they called each other. Ironically today I hear it applied to all races at various times, but it is a word that I don’t use in my daily vocabulary. I don’t have a problem however using it to portray periodic literature.

The story concludes on a morning, some thirteen years after her family was sold. She finds herself in a glorious, reunion with her youngest son, Henry. She didn't know it, but he had run off to the North, and became a barber who worked for himself. When the Civil War came he gave up barbering and joined the service. He fought in battle after battle, while faithfully looking for and then finding his mother. This story is so moving and so truthful.

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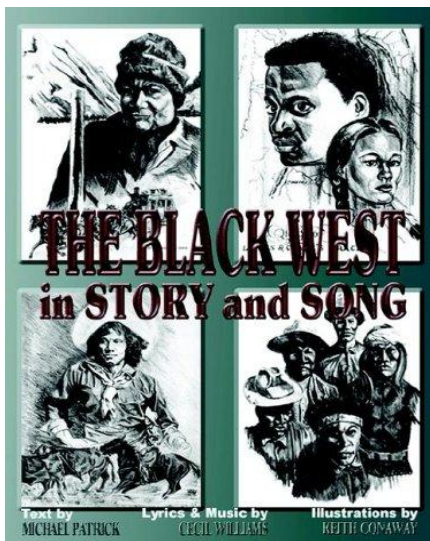


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Slavery is a very painful subject and it will remain so unless we all develop an unbending sense of pride for those people who made way for us. It is the slaves whose shoulders I stand on. They endured their families (especially their children) being snatched away. They lived to tell the story. I will always be grateful to them and I will make it my business to keep their memory alive.

Mark Twain's portrayal of slavery's brutality was authentic and heart wrenching. I believe that he disapproved of the inexcusable sorrow of the time and to feel the unbearable pain. He tried very hard to recapture the dialect and think he did it very well. The story does not attempt to white wash the severity of slavery, but it also presents hope.

We had a full house and the audience was really in tune. They gave a standing ovation and the feedback was very positive. The audience was racially mixed and I was pleased that they received "A True Story" so well. (The original story first appeared in the November 1874 issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*: <http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/1874nov/truestory.htm>)



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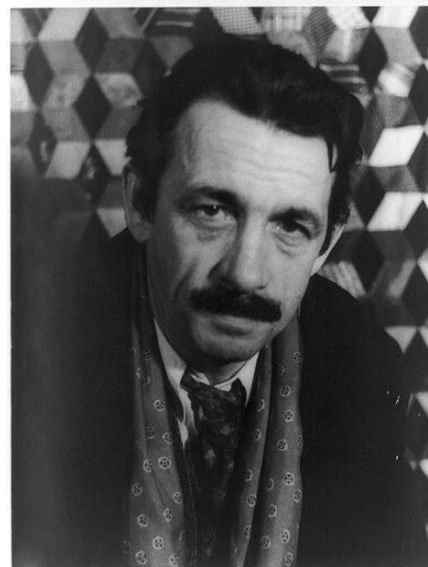
**The Black West in Story and Song**, by Michael Patrick with illustrations by Keith Conaway and songs by MFS member Cecil Williams is still in print. Members may buy the book for \$15. from Michael Patrick, 351 Fig Ave., Fairhope, AL 36532. The regular price is \$20.

**Lecture:**  
**Thomas Hart Benton as Musician and Musical Folklorist**  
**Annett C. Richter, Ph.D.**

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of  
Missouri, Columbia**

*Friday, April 29, 2011, 9:30am-11am at the Stephens Lake Activity Center, 2311 East Walnut Street (across from Reichmann Pavilion), Columbia, MO. Stephens Lake Activity Center is located ½ mile from the intersection of Old 63 and East Walnut.*

Join us for an introductory presentation on Thomas Hart Benton and his multifaceted connection to music. It was Benton's interest in the musical traditions of rural America and his dedication to depicting, in high art, the common man, and more specifically the American folk musician that caught the attention of Richter. Her talk will feature examples of Benton's artwork of both folk and classical musicians. She will discuss the music he collected, notated in a self-devised system, and played on the harmonica. Richter will play excerpts of Benton's sound recording, Saturday Night at Tom Benton's, produced with Decca in 1942. The audience will acquire a sense of the unique musical and cultural world Benton created not only for himself but also for the folk and classical musicians with whom he played and performed — all in order to preserve a musical and cultural heritage that was in the process of vanishing with the onset of modernism and technology in early 20th-century America.



**Annett C. Richter, PhD**, Visiting Assistant Professor, is a faculty member at MU's School of Music where she teaches undergraduate music history and appreciation courses. She holds Master's degrees in Musicology and Guitar Performance from the University of Minnesota and the equivalent of an MA in British and American Studies from Martin-Luther-Universität Halle/Wittenberg, Germany. She received her PhD in Musicology from the University of Minnesota with a dissertation on Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton and his role in shaping popular notions of American folk music and musicians as a musical folklorist. Richter's research focuses on intersections between nineteenth- and twentieth-century American and African-American vernacular music and painting, as well as issues of music, art, and gender in Elizabethan England.

For more information, go to <http://extension.missouri.edu/learnforlife/> or call (573) 882-4349

## MFS Collections Migrating Along with WHMC to State Historical Society

The University of Missouri announced in February that its Western Historical Manuscript Collection, established in 1943, had been transferred administratively to the State Historical Society of Missouri. WHMC has been the repository for the Missouri Folklore Society papers since the Society reactivated in 1977, and papers relating to its early years are now available at the SHS reference room in the East Wing of Ellis Library at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Boxes of papers accumulated later have been stored by the Schroeders since Don Lance's death just before our 2002 meeting in Potosi, and we hope to move those to the SHS later this year. Dr. Gary Kremer, Executive Director of the State Historical Society of Missouri, has assured us that he would welcome the additional papers and will arrange to have the boxes the Schroeders still have picked up.

These will be supplemented by materials the Schroeders had deposited earlier relating to Folklore in general and Missouri Folk Music in particular. These include recordings of many of our meetings by Sam Griffin, recordings and a video of Missouri fiddlers by Cathy Barton, photos and recordings of fiddling sessions and songs of our major Missouri collectors including Loman Cansler and Max Hunter, interviews by Cathy and others of fiddlers and collectors, recordings and interviews Judy Domeny shared, recordings of the talks or presentations at Folklore meetings by major American folklorists -- Alan Jabbour, Joe Hickerson, Jan Brunvand, Archie Green., and others. Rosemary Thomas deposited some of her materials related to her research on music and speech in Old Mines, and the Schroeders plan to add the recordings by Marcel Beneteau of "Old French Songs of le Detroit,." available at the meeting in Potosi in 2002.

Most recordings of our own folk musicians were already at WHMC or were ready to be deposited there. In addition, some time ago the Schroeders gave about 100 LPs related to the Folksong Revival of the 1940s and 1950s to WHMC--Peter Seeger, Bess Lomax, Joan Baez, Leadbelly, Odetta, and many others. We have also collected recordings of our members to deposit--Charlie Farris, Judy Domeny, Esther Kreek, Cathy & Dave, Cecil Williams, our famous fiddlers, and others... We hope the SHS will also accept our books related to Folk Music.-- Francis James Child, Vance Randolph, H.M. Belden, R. P. Christeson, Bill McNeil, Malcolm Laws, and others.



## State Historical Society publishes Letters of Nineteenth-Century Artist George Caleb Bingham



*“But I Forget That I am a Painter and Not a Politician”*: *The Letters of George Caleb Bingham* was released by the State Historical Society of Missouri and Friends of Arrow Rock, Inc. with support from the Harriet Pillsbury Foundation. Bingham, who earned the sobriquet of “the Missouri artist,” evolved from a locally known portrait painter to an artist of national renown. The 246 letters in this volume illuminate the complex personality of a man actively involved in the political, social, and cultural life of nineteenth-century America.

The majority of the letters were written to Bingham’s close friend James S. Rollins, a wealthy mid-Missouri lawyer, politician, and father of the University of Missouri. In these letters, the artist-cum-politician describes his work on paintings and discusses political issues and candidates of the day—from the early years of the Whig Party in Missouri to the Unionists and Radicals of the Civil War period to the Democrats of the Reconstruction era. As a part of the friendship, Bingham sought and received Rollins’s advice and assistance when family problems and financial hardships closed in. Letters to family members reveal the ties between Bingham and his mother, siblings, and first two wives.

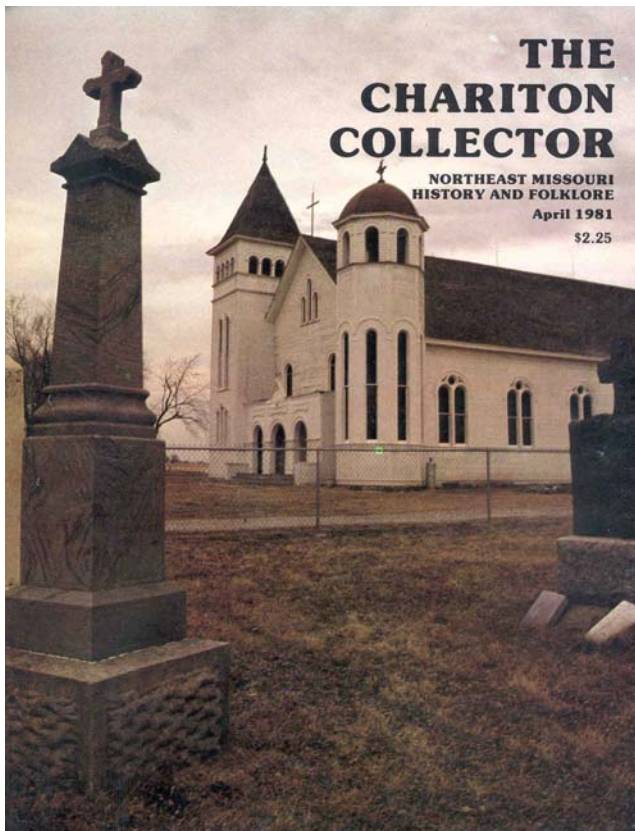
In letters written for publication in newspapers, Bingham displays his compassion for Missourians buffeted by the harsh tactics of the military on the Missouri/Kansas border during the Civil War and unleashes his anger at officers who did not distinguish between Southern sympathizers and civilians who supported the Union. Official reports and letters written during his tenure as adjutant general, 1875-76, chronicle Bingham’s role in seeking federal compensation for Missourians who had suffered losses during the war and describe the unrest that beset parts of the state long after the struggle’s end. Readers interested in nineteenth-century Missouri will find these letters truly engaging, as produced from the pen of an artist who maintained a keen connection to the political affairs of his time.

The book was edited by Lynn Wolf Gentzler, Associate Director for the Society, and contains an introduction written by Dr. Joan Stack, Society Curator of Art. Roger E. Robinson, a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Missouri and the Society’s current James W. Goodrich Graduate Research Assistant, compiled the letters. The paperback edition is available for \$20 to Society members and \$25 to non-members. To purchase the book, visit the Society’s Web site: <http://shs.umsystem.edu>.

## *Member Notes*

**Becky & Dolf Schroeder** would like to thank **Brett Rogers** for coming to pick up boxes of past issues of MFS journals that have been in our garage since we moved to Lenoir in 2003. Brett very generously stores back issues of our journals in Boonville for us. We receive phone calls occasionally from librarians who have learned of them and would like to order a set, so that is a very convenient location for us to have them.

Becky would also like to thank **Liz Faries** for bringing MFS papers related to the meeting in Neosho and Ste. Genevieve.



**Katherine Goodwin**, the Truman State University student responsible for scanning and putting online all eighteen issues of *The Chariton Collector*, Northeast Missouri's version of *Bittersweet* and *Foxfire*, has accepted a position working on the Pound Project at the Harvard Law School Library.

<http://library.truman.edu/scpublications/Chariton%20Collector/main.asp>

**Joe Hickerson** writes: "In July 2007 Ruth and I attended the bi-annual conference of the International Council for Traditional Music in Vienna, Austria. I was reminded of the 1975 conference in Regensburg, Germany, when Becky and Dolph Schroeder were my ever-helpful companions.

In July 2008 I was interviewed for Smithsonian Folkways "Sound Sessions." The resultant podcast is available at <[http://www.folkways.si.edu/explore\\_folkways/sound\\_sessions.aspx](http://www.folkways.si.edu/explore_folkways/sound_sessions.aspx)>.



In October-November 2010 I gave five concerts in Oregon, Illinois, and Washington, DC, celebrating my 75th birthday (here's a photo from the 11/4/10 Oak Park, IL, Public Library event).

On April 15, 2011, I will be delivering the Archer Taylor Memorial Lecture at the annual meeting of the Western States Folklore Society at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles (<[www.westernfolklore.org/2011Meeting](http://www.westernfolklore.org/2011Meeting)>). My topic: "Exploring the Record Record Record Record: Reflections on My Adventures with Sound Recordings in the Field of Folklore, Especially at the

National Folk Archive at the Library of Congress."

I continue to compile "The Songfinder" column for *Sing Out!* magazine (<[www.singout.org](http://www.singout.org)>), and I will be moving this summer to Portland, Oregon, to be with my sweetie, Ruth."

From **Don Carlson**: "Mim and I celebrated our fiftieth wedding anniversary January 10, 2011 Our children J and LaDonia had a party for us at the Robert Sermon Center in Independence MO with fifties music and a concert by Fabulous Freddie and the Doo Wops. Many friends and family members were present and Mim and I had a great time."

<http://www.donjcarlson.com>



**Dr. Howard Marshall** (Columbia / Fulton) recently published an article on the history of the Ozark Opry, focusing on Jeff City fiddler LeRoy Haslag: "Live at the Ozark Opry! An Appreciation of Vaudeville and 'Show Fiddler' LeRoy Haslag," The Old-Time Herald, 12:9 (February-March 2011), 24-35. With regard to the Ozark Opry, MFS members are encouraged to see a new book, Dan William Peek, Live! At the Ozark Opry (The History Press 2010). Marshall continues work on a book on the history of Missouri fiddle and dance, and has only a few chapters to go to complete a first draft.



*Ozark Opry fiddlers LeRoy Haslag, Paulette Reeves, and Leo Burlsworth pose for a photographer before a performance on KRCG TV in Jefferson City, 1964.*

(Courtesy Joyce Mace)

**Meredith Heist**, who organized the 2006 NEMO Folklore Festival in Kirksville, is completing her PhD in American Studies at St. Louis University and working at the Daniel Boone Home.



**Professor Anand Prahlad of the University of Missouri-Columbia** won the distinguished 2010 William Kemper Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching



<http://kemperawards.missouri.edu/fellows/2010/prahlad.php>

**LuAnne Roth** received a grant from Mizzou Advantage to host the year-long series called "Eat, Think and Be Wary -- The Food and Society Series." This sampling of speakers, films, and artifacts was intended to draw attention to some of the complex issues facing our society—and to

whet the appetite for conversations to come—about what we eat, how we eat, and how our food is procured. The series consisted of seven speakers, seven films, a slow art tour, an exhibit at Ellis Library, and classroom visits.



On March 17, 2011, **Dr. Riki Saltzman**, Director of the Iowa Folklife program, gave a talk titled "Performing Foodways in Iowa: Negotiating Identity," as part of the Student Folklore Society Spring Speaker series.



On March 23, **Laura M. Pita-Parra**, a doctoral candidate in ethnomusicology at the University of Kentucky, delivered the guest lecture for the Truman State University Folklore Colloquium. Her well-attended multimedia presentation "From Contradance to Merengue: Appropriation and Syncretism in Dance music of the Caribbean" traced the origins and development of a number of related dance styles from roots in English countryside and Africa to its contemporary popularity throughout the hemisphere: "The European contradance was particularly influential in the creation of hybrid and creolized musical genres in the Caribbean, many of which are

still preserved through oral tradition. My presentation examined the Tumba Francesa, a dance practiced in Eastern Cuba that evolved from a process of appropriation and creative reshaping of the European contradance, and the Dominican Merengue, a creolized salon variant of the European contradance, which was transformed by the black and mulatto population to become a folk genre of great popularity.

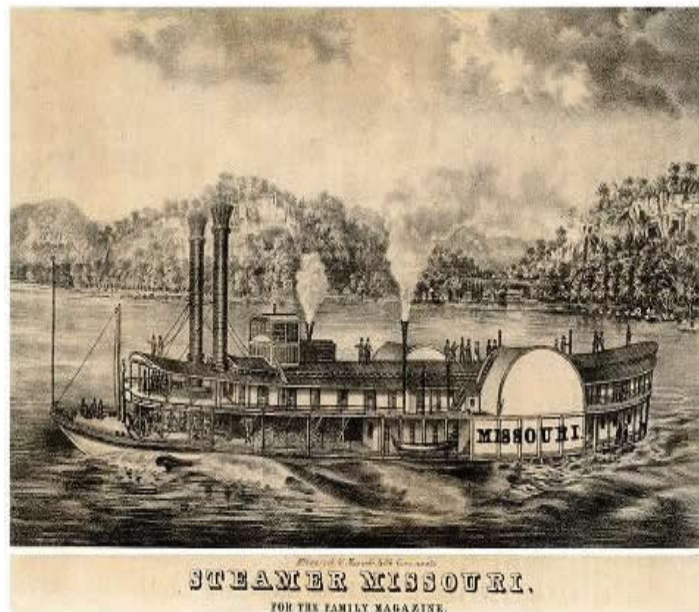


**Dave and Cathy Para** spent most of January and February doing assembly programs about Lewis and Clark and artists George Caleb Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton for Kansas City elementary schools.

For 23 years they did these programs with historian Bob Dyer, but now they are working with fiddler and guitarist Mike Fraser from Kansas City and they are enjoying the collaboration.

In March Cathy and Dave will be at a banjo instruction camp in Florida and playing at a folk festival in Palestine TX before performing for their hometown of Boonville MO at the **20th annual Big Muddy Folk Festival**. In April they will be featured performers for an 11 day Civil War theme cruise on the Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee Rivers. In June they will be teaching at a banjo camp in Michigan as well as a weeklong folk music camp in Bardstown KY. In late June they get back to the river, performing music of the Lewis and Clark era aboard the paddle wheeler "Queen of the West" on the Columbia River.

Dave and Cathy appreciate all the kind words and support they've received regarding **Claude Barton**. Claude is presently at Lenoir Healthcare, 3300 New Haven Road, Columbia MO. 65201, recovering from a broken hip he received in the fall of 2010. As of this writing he is much improved.



The last of three workshops funded by National Endowment of the Humanities, the **Springfield Missouri Community Scholars Regional Workshop** will be held in June. The workshop exists to build a statewide regional network of community scholars trained in cultural data collection and processing.

Organized by the Missouri Folk Arts Program and Missouri State University professor **Rachel Gholson**, the workshop is an intensive two and a half day training opportunity for folks with a keen interest in documenting community arts, promoting local culture, and sharing Missouri's traditions. Space is limited. Travel funds available. Contact MFAP director Lisa Higgins at [HigginsLL@missouri.edu](mailto:HigginsLL@missouri.edu) to reserve your spot.



**Judy Domeny Bowen** has reissued her 1990 cassette recording entitled *Yesterday's News* on CD. Sold out for many years, Judy only recently decided to put that recording into CD format and make it available again. MFS members Cathy Barton and Dave Para are two of the guest artists on the CD. Songs include: *The Whistling Gypsy*,

*Widdecombe Fair*, *The Old Cane Press*, *Mary of the Wild Moor*, *Give My Love to Nellie*, *Jack*, *Streets of Laredo*, *In the Sweet By and By*, *When I Was A Fair Maid*, *The Brazos River*, *Bright Morning Stars*, and *When You and I Were Young*, *Maggie*. CDs may be purchased from Judy for \$15 each (shipping is FREE!). Contact Judy Domeny Bowen, 6865 East Farm Road 194, Rogersville, MO 65742 to order *Yesterday's News* CDs or any of her other CDs: *Calling Me Back*, *Teacher Therapy*, or *Teacher of the Year*. Visit her website to read more about these other CDs: [www.judydomenybowen.com](http://www.judydomenybowen.com).

## State Historical Society hosts students exploring “Debate and Diplomacy”



Six hundred students participated in the National History Day in Missouri state contest on Saturday, April 9, on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia. National History Day in Missouri is an educational outreach program of The State Historical Society of Missouri. This high number of participants is the largest in the history of the Missouri program which serves students in grades 6-12.

For entries in any category or division involving folklore, folklife or folk history, **Laura Cansler** and family offered a \$100 prize in honor of **Loman D. Cansler**, and the Missouri Folklore Society offered a \$75 second prize. Judges were **LuAnne Roth** of the University of Missouri-Columbia and **Brett Rogers** of William Woods University. Suggested projects included collections of songs or verbal lore from relatives or neighbors, a history of traditional skills or occupations based on interviews with those who practiced such crafts as well as on written sources, documentation of a family or community event such as a festival or reunion, traditional foods for special events, or a study of a local folk hero or legend.

Both Brett and LuAnne observed that numerous projects would have been suitable for the competition, and that the Society needs to communicate with history teachers statewide in the future, to make sure students are aware of the opportunity.

**Chelsea Henry** (pictured) won 1st place for her informative and moving performance, "Failed Diplomacy Seeds Civil War: Cherokee Nation and Newtonia Battlefield." Allison Hughey won 2nd place for her exhibit, "They're Drowning a Town to Save a Million Arkansas Acres from Flood."



Each year a different theme guides students' research and presentations. This year's theme, "Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences," encourages students to examine controversies in history, explain the outcomes of debates, and analyze the impact each had on so-

ciety. Students can explain their chosen topic through one of several formats, such as research papers, dramatic performances, multimedia documentaries, museum-type exhibits, and Web site design. Students compete individually or in small groups in either the Junior Division (grades 6-8) or the Senior Division (grades 9-12). The first and second place winners from the state contest will qualify for the National History Day contest at the University of Maryland-College Park, June 12-16. Prizes are awarded at all levels, including college scholarships for national winners.

National History Day (NHD) is a yearlong program dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of history in elementary and secondary schools. Each fall, more than 700,000 students nationwide begin the National History Day program, competing in a series of history contests in their local districts and states. This annual student competition is the nation's oldest and most highly regarded humanities contest for students in grades 6-12. NHD is open to all types of students-public, private, parochial, and home-schooled in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

## Community Scholars Workshop Held



*Violin-maker **Geoffrey Seitz** with **Angela Williams** at the MFAP workshop*

MFS' **Gladys Cogswell** of Frankford was one of the presenters at the recent community scholars workshop sponsored by the Missouri Folk Arts Program (MFAP),

March 24-26, 2011 in St. Louis, Missouri. The statewide arts service organization, which identifies, documents, and presents Missouri traditional arts, is building a statewide network of community scholars. Participants were selected based on their interests and experience in documenting community arts, promoting local culture, and sharing Missouri's traditions with a wide audience. Ten citizens attended the intensive workshop, the second in a series. Lisa Higgins, director of the Missouri Folk Arts Program, said: "The St. Louis workshop was, by all accounts, a great success. The participants were enthusiastic and knowledgeable. With their input and assistance, we can build a much stronger and broader network for the folk and traditional arts. And, through that network, workshop participants can both strengthen their community-based projects and more widely promote Missouri's rich cultural heritage."

The curriculum for the St. Louis workshop was specifically crafted for the region. Topics included defining, identifying and documenting local traditions. Workshop presenters included Gladys Caines Cogswell, an award-winning storyteller, author, educator and community scholar from Frankford; Ann Rynearson, a cultural anthropologist who has worked with new immigrant and refugee communities in St. Louis for decades; and Alisha Martin, a professional folklorist with the Kentucky Folklife Program, which coordinates a long-standing and successful community scholars program. Participants also gained hands-on experience in the field. They used digital equipment to document local events, places, and artists, including the Bosnian foodways, music and material culture; construction and repair of stringed instruments at Seitz Violins; traditional Mexican dance; and Mandingo fabric dying and batik. The event was co-hosted by the Folk School of St. Louis and was supported with grants from the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Events

*Rural Missouri* maintains a calendar of events at <http://www.ruralmissouri.org/events.php>

**Wyatt Violin Shop** of Independence sponsors the online Fiddle & Bow newsletter and calendar: [http://www.fiddlesong.com/pages/fiddle\\_and\\_bow.htm](http://www.fiddlesong.com/pages/fiddle_and_bow.htm)

Go here for a calendar of upcoming pow-wows and Native American culture events:

<http://www.powwows.com/calendar/displaymonth.php>

If you have never attended a pow-wow before, have a look at this introductory guide:



*Gordon McCann and Drew Beisswenger at the Neosho*

*Got a folklore, folk arts or folk-life related event to announce? A new recording, publication or performance? Email the editor at [adavis@truman.edu](mailto:adavis@truman.edu)*

# 2011 Meeting: Ste Genevieve

Preparations for the annual meeting have begun. The city of Ste. Genevieve was founded – depending on whom you ask – in 1732, 1735 or in the 1740s. The historic architecture is remarkably preserved, with French, German and English settlement well-represented. Several of the “Poteaux-en-Terre” and “Poteaux-sur-sole” style buildings are found here, as they are in Quebec and Normandy. German immigrants of the mid-1800s left a legacy of brick homes and stores throughout the community. German food, and French or German wines are readily available. Audubon painted the area’s birdlife, and Jesse James robbed a safe here. All this and more awaits you here, where the colonial heritage and the folklore run deep and wide.

The Microtel Motel, not far from the I-55/32 Junction (on 32 as you come into town) will serve as our conference base. Twenty rooms in a core have been reserved. Please reserve soon to make sure that space remains for all who wish to come. Rooms have microwaves and fridges, and an expanded continental breakfast is included. Our group facilitator is **Dana**: (573) 883-8884 The reserved rooms are \$71.95 (w/o tax) and a limited number of suites are available for an additional \$10. If you need a handicapped-accessible room, (which are very nice) please make your reservation right away, as there are only a limited number available. Meetings will take place at the First Baptist Church of Ste. Genevieve, within walking distance of the motel, and catered meals will be served there.

Programs currently in development include the Children’s French Choir, talks by the director of tourism, the director of the Missouri State Park historical site here. If (as he puts it) he’s still “alive and kicking” we hope for a visit from the bugler from the POW camp at Weingarten. Visiting the town’s historic buildings and a wine-tour are not an option for this beautiful place, but a must! We will sample French and German heritage foods.

Of course the usual picking, strumming, fiddling, humming, storytelling, singing and auctioning will occur as always on Thursday and Friday evenings. The first call for participation appears in this newsletter. Print out the forms, fill them out and send them to us. Watch the website too for further developments.

George and Jan Caudle, co-presidents  
573-358-8667  
[janetcaudle42@gmail.com](mailto:janetcaudle42@gmail.com)  
253 Moulin Rouge Drive  
Bonne Terre, MO  
63628

**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION  
2011 ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE MISSOURI FOLKLORE SOCIETY**

**“Deep and Wide”  
Ste Genevieve, MO November 3-5, 2011**

Due Date: September 20  
Program Chairs Jan and George Caudle 573-358-8667  
[janetcaudle42@gmail.com](mailto:janetcaudle42@gmail.com)  
253 Moulin Rouge Drive  
Bonne Terre, MO  
63628

Both individual and complete session proposals are welcomed.  
Proposals may be for **Single Paper, Full Session and/or Panel Discussion**.

The purpose of the MFS is to encourage *the collection, preservation, and study of folklore in the widest sense, including customs, institutions, beliefs, signs, legends, language, literature, musical arts, and folk arts and crafts of all ethnic groups throughout the State of Missouri.*

**Submission Process**

1. Complete this form for session proposals or to volunteer.
2. For session proposals, also complete the section specific to the session format: single paper, full session, or panel discussion.
3. Mail to the address above or submit electronically.
4. Contact Jan or George Caudle if you have other questions, suggestions or ideas

All Individual Paper Proposals should include the title of the presentation and a brief abstract.

Proposals for Full Sessions and Panels should include titles of individual papers, abstracts, and suggested title for the Session. Session proposals should also include a proposed session chair.

Ideally, the chair should not also be a presenter in the same session. Presentation times are 20 minutes for each presenter with time available for question and answer after all presentations have been made. Participants will supply any audio visual equipment necessary for presentations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_ (o): \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete the appropriate section*

**Individual Presentation/Paper**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Panel**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Other presenters to be included:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Full Session**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Other presenters to be included:

\_\_\_\_\_

Brief description/abstract of your Individual, Panel or Full session:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Volunteers Needed!

To volunteer, please indicate area(s) in which you wish to assist.

Chair a Session     Registration     Auction     Transportation

Jam Session Interest:     Thursday evening     Friday evening

I hereby  do/  do not grant the Missouri Folklore Society permission to record by any audio, video, digital and/or photographic means my presentation to become part of the Missouri Folklore Society Archives at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, Columbia, Missouri, where it will be made available for scholarly or research purposes.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*THANK YOU! mail to —*

Jan and George Caudle  
 2011 Program Chairs:  
 573-358-8667 [janetcaudle42@gmail.com](mailto:janetcaudle42@gmail.com)  
 253 Moulin Rouge Drive, Bonne Terre, MO 63628

