Deep and Wide
2011 annual meeting in Ste Genevieve
November 3-5

There’s still time to submit a paper proposal. Go to the website to get the call for papers and lodging info, or contact chairs Jan & George Caudle:

janetcaudle42@gmail.com
or 573.358.8667
The town boasts more than 150 pre-1825 structures, many of which are open to the public, including gems such as The Bolduc House (1785), The Amoureaux House (1792), the Felix Vallé State Historic Site, built in 1818, and the 1806 Guibourd-Valle House with its Norman style trusses. Visitors can also tour the historic Memorial Cemetery where many of Ste. Genevieve’s distinguished early inhabitants are buried.
Once again, the Big Muddy Festival in Boonville was a premiere folk music event, and once again, Cathy Barton and Dave Para were among the headliners. Others included Paul Fotsch, Karen Mueller, Phyllis Dale, the Possum Holler Fiddlers, the Rain Dogs, Mike Fraser, Bare Bones, Spark & Rhonda Rucker and the Mark Dvorak Trio. Events were held April 1-2 at Thespian Hall and nearby venues. Go to http://bigmuddy.org/ to read more, and watch the site for details of next year’s festival.
The Golden Lane: 
Margot McMillen’s new book on the women’s 
suffrage movement

On June 14, 1916, outside the Jefferson Hotel--where the men were meeting with their committees in preparation for the Democratic Convention--thousands of women quietly took their places along both sides of Locust Street, standing shoulder to shoulder, each shading herself with a yellow parasol and wearing a yellow sash that read, "Votes for Women." The all-male delegations may not have had a comfortable walk down the Golden Lane, but they were moved to add women's suffrage to the national platform.

Margot gave a reading and signing of her new book at Left Bank Books in downtown St. Louis on July 27...in the very place where those women had borne witness nearly a century before. “The Golden Lane, How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History” appeared in bookstores beginning in June. To order your copy, go to http://www.amazon.com/Golden-Lane-Missouri-Changed-History/dp/1609490134
Your help needed!

**John and Carol Fisher** are editing an upcoming volume of the *Missouri Folklore Society Journal* on *Missouri Foodways and Foodlore*. Topics might include – but are not limited to –

- holiday food traditions
- histories of a particular food
- food production and preservation
- hunting and fishing
- gathering wild foods
- ethnic food traditions

The submission package should include a printed copy of the article and a copy of the article on CD. Contact the Fishers with questions:

John and Carol Fisher, 201 Westgate, Kennett, MO 63857

1-573-888-3620 (home office)
1-573-888-7248 (Carol’s cell)
1-573-344-3842 (John’s cell)

fisherjohnc@yahoo.com
vcarolfisher@yahoo.com
Truman State University’s Folklore Minor Program held its annual showcase for outstanding student projects by students on Wednesday, April 27.

Daniel Hillen spoke on *Dark Corners: The Slender Man, and other Internet Campfire Tales*, “analyzing the core aspects of the proliferation of stories regarding the paranormal, from Bigfoot to the Loch Ness, with a particular fixation on a recent, internet phenomenon known as Slender Man.”

Scott Henson reported on Midwestern female impersonators, or “drag queens,” as a folk community, with initiation practices, apprenticeship patterns, originary stories, naming customs, insider jokes, gestures, and more.

Chantae Rudie took a more empirical, quantitative, anthropological approach in *Breaking the Rules and Getting Away with It: An Exploration of Sanctioned Taboo-breaking in Ritual Performances*. Rituals frequently involve taboo-breaking, and a close examination reveals that frequency of violation depends on certain variables – “including the relatedness of observers, the importance of the taboo in question, the specific type of ritual, and whether a participant or an observer breaks the taboo.”

Olivia Wikle, in *The Twa Sisters*, compares variants on this traditional ballad, to determine whether the ballad shows greater variation in its European or its American distribution.
Jan Brunvand writes: “...I am revising, updating, and expanding my Encyclopedia of Urban Legends to be published (we hope) next year in two volumes. There is much more new stuff—books, articles, online resources, etc.—than I expected.” Otherwise, Jan’s retirement days are taken up with skiing and flyfishing.

Gladys Coggswell’s performance of Mark Twain’s “A True Story” is available for purchase from the bookstore at the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum, or online:

http://www.marktwainmuseum.org/shop/proddetail.php?

Adam Brooke Davis filmed an installment of National Geographic’s Taboo in New York City this summer. In the upcoming episode, he discusses folk medical practices in the Philippines, India and South America.

As managing editor of GHLL, he contributed a preface to Volume XXII, a meditation on St. Louis’ Eads Bridge:

http://ghll.truman.edu
On their way to a gig in Diamond, followed by another in St. Charles and then Winfield Kansas, Cathy Barton and Dave Para wrote:

On August 25, we were invited to be a part of Boonville’s Missouri River Festival of the Arts, and it was an evening we will always remember. Four Civil War songs and tunes from our recordings — "Johnny Whistletrigger" and "Rebel in the Woods" — were arranged for four violins and bass by Christopher Wehr, and on this special evening we were accompanied by St. Louis Symphony concertmaster David Halen and other extraordinary musicians from the symphony. Three of the pieces were compositions by Cathy, including a song about Confederate bushwhacker Bill Anderson and "Kate's Song", a piece about William Quantrill's wife Kate King. We were pleased to see such a large attendance in Thespian Hall, including many who attend the Big Muddy Folk Festival in April.

Prior to this event, Dave and Cathy spent a busy summer playing festivals and teaching at music workshops across the Midwest, including the Midwest Banjo Camp in Olivet MI and the Kentucky Music Week in Bardstown KY. They also were invited to play music from the era of Lewis and Clark aboard the paddle wheeler "Queen of the West" on the Columbia River.
It was a sweltering day on July 7, 1865 when Mary Surratt made her final life's journey as she climbed the 13 steps to the gallows. She was the first woman our Federal government ever executed and her sentence came as a shock not only to her but to thousands of Americans who daily followed her trial in the newspapers. We may never know all that transpired during those terrible days, and our American values compel us to question the trial with its horrific outcome.

Contact Civil War Chautauqua Scholar Dianne Moran for performance details:
dmoran@wildblue.net 573-678-2210

Three of Missouri’s public universities offer programs in folklore: check out the University of Missouri-Columbia, Missouri State University and Truman State:

http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu/StudyFolklore.htm
Board member **Lynn Morrow** has an article in the recent issue of *Big Muddy, A Journal of the Mississippi River Valley*, Volume 11.1, “Daniel Morgan Boone’s Missing Years: Sending Ozarks Pine to St. Louis.” The essay introduces Missouri’s first commercial “timber boom” set in the Big Piney River Valley, 1816-1825.

Send your news, notes and announcements to adavis@truman.edu
Events

**September 14-18:** Osage Knap-in at Boonville’s MRVSEA Brady Show Grounds. For more information, call 816.690.3359

**September 15-17:** 20th annual Starvy Creek Bluegrass Festival in Conway. Call 417.589.2013

**September 17:** Piney River Quilt Guild in Houston. Call 417.967.4571

*Missouri Puzzle quilt block, 1970s*
September 17, Ava:

Stillings Sorghum Festival

Photographs of a family sorghum mill from the 1920s to the 1950s:
http://jamesdanielgreen.info/JDGreen/Sorghum.htm

A sorghum mill depicted by Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton, in his distinctive style:
http://www.paramourfinearts.com/photos/Benton-Sorghum.jpg

A diagram of the workings of a horse-drawn sorghum mill, by illustrator Eric Sloane:
http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_FCRFPn2IKPU/Sf8iNCM4vKI/AAAAAAAAAOI/_vKjiWC3l28/s320/sorghum_mill.jpg

September 17:

12th annual Chamois Day and 1st Annual Bluegrass Festival.
Call 573.763.5419

It’s pronounced “sham-OY”
September 17: Kirksville’s Red Barn Arts, Crafts and Antiques Festival. Go to www.kirksvillearts.com

September 17-18: Northern Cherokee Nation 2011 Cultural Gathering. Hwy 7, 5 miles south of town. Call 660.885.7779 or 573.885.1070

If you have never attended an event like this before, here’s guidance from MFS:
http://missourifolkloresociety.truman.edu/powwow.htm

The jingles on this regalia are made in the traditional way, from the metal lids of snuff cans rolled into conical form and sewn onto the fabric.
September 24: Oldfield Opry BBQ and Music Fest. Call

September 24-25: Shell Knob Quilt Show. Call 417.858.3401

September 25: St. Mary’s Church of Adair Homecoming. Call 660.665.9338 — and read about it here: http://www2.truman.edu/~adavis/mipages/stmarysofadair.html

The McDowell Gold Jubilee, the hootenanny held in northern Barry County and hosted by Ben and Betty Henderson, will begin its 34th consecutive year on Saturday night, October 31, 2011. Amateur (and otherwise!) bluegrass, country, folk, and gospel musicians are welcome to perform and there is no charge for either performers or members of the audience. It is held every other Saturday night (barring bad weather, health and holiday issues) until the first of May. There are concessions available and anyone wishing to obtain directions can contact Betty at <bchenderson39@yahoo.com> or by calling 417-236-4983.
See you in Sainte Genevieve!