

# MISSOURI TIMES

The State Historical Society of Missouri and Western Historical Manuscript Collection

## Celebrating the art of Charles Schwartz, September 10-12

The Society, with support from Bass Pro Shops and the Conservation Federation of Missouri, will exhibit *Charles Schwartz, Missouri's Audubon: An Artist in Nature*. This is the state's first exhibition devoted entirely to the artwork of Charles Schwartz.

The exhibit will open Friday, September 10, at a ticketed event at the Bass Pro Sportsmen's Center in Columbia with proceeds benefitting the Society. The display will remain at Bass Pro over the weekend of September 11-12, supported by guided tours, artist seminars, and conservation educational activities. The exhibit will then move to the Society's Main Gallery and remain on display through January 2011. See the calendar, pages 6-7, for details.

Charles Schwartz earned degrees at the University of Missouri and met his future wife and lifelong collaborative partner, Elizabeth Reeder, while serving as a graduate assistant under her instruction. The couple married in 1938. Charles joined the Missouri Conservation Commission in 1940 as a biologist, and in 1945 the commission published his illustrated study, *The Prairie Chicken in Missouri*. Over the next thirty-five years, the Schwartzes worked together to produce many award-winning conservation and wildlife films, publications, and

studies. Perhaps their best-known work, *Wild Mammals of Missouri* was copublished by the Conservation Department and the University of Missouri Press in 1959. It was revised in 1981 and is still available due to continued demand.

Charles Schwartz also created a monumental mural, *Man and Wildlife in Missouri: The Conservation Effort*, for the Department of Conservation's new headquarters in Jefferson City in 1965, and on the occasion of the department's 50th anniversary in 1987, offered a final four panels.

Most of the artworks in the Society's new exhibit are original drawings published in *Wild Mammals of Missouri* and other Department of Conservation publications, as well as preliminary studies for the murals.

The late Jim Goodrich, former executive director of the Society, wrote about Charles Schwartz: "His life was synonymous not only with wildlife art but also with conservation education. Not only did Missourians learn from his biological research, writings, lectures, motion pictures, paintings, bronzes, drawings, and photography, but people throughout the nation and the world benefitted from his commitment to nature and its creatures."



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Libby and Charles Schwartz with Canada geese at their farm near Jefferson City.

## From the Executive Director



As the national economic forecast remains uncertain, and as very real declines in state revenue continue and are projected for the future, the Society's leadership and staff are sharply focused on the need to make the best use of limited resources. We also see opportunity and unrealized potential for support, enhanced collections, and improved services. To put it briefly-- we are engaged in strategic planning and are learning a lot in the process.

In October 2009 the Board of Trustees discussed ways to move the Society toward a future that seems, in many ways, to have already arrived. The executive committee of the board met this challenge in a straightforward manner in December 2009 and January 2010 with work sessions that ended with several goals and objectives proposed for further consideration.

The staff worked with the goals and objectives throughout the spring, comparing the Society's core mission against the challenges of the present and the possibilities for the future. In June, Trustee Robert Mueller of Ste. Genevieve gave his time and talent by leading the staff through workshop exercises designed to prioritize goals and rank objectives in order of importance. We thank Bob and appreciate his expertise in this area. This past month (July), staff members further refined the strategic plan by determining desirable actions and setting deadlines for their achievement. Over the last several months of meetings and lengthy discussions, our focus has remained on preserving the treasured collections that have been entrusted to us by the people of Missouri, and arriving at ways to provide greater access to them.

This is a challenging time for the State Historical Society of Missouri, and for all public institutions such as ours. With the talent and support of trustees, staff members, patrons and supporters throughout Missouri and the nation, we are moving forward to embrace the challenges of the present and to prepare for the possibilities of the future.

## State Historical Society News

### MoHiP Theatre presents *Nobody Plays Like Boone*

In May, the Society's MoHiP Theatre celebrated one of Columbia's most famous citizens with *Nobody Plays Like Boone: The Life and Times of John William "Blind" Boone*.

Presented as a reader's theatre performance, the play tells the engaging story of a young blind boy, born of a self-emancipated slave mother, who later achieved national acclaim as a composer and musician. Born in Miami, Missouri, Boone grew up in Warrensburg and spent most of his adult life in Columbia when not touring.

Columbia's Second Baptist Church hosted the premier performance on May 16, and a second performance was given May 21 at the historic Blue Note Theatre in Columbia. Boone and his manager, John Lange, were both instrumental in financing the construction of the Second Baptist Church in 1892, so this venue held special emotion. The Boone home in Columbia is currently being restored by the John William "Blind" Boone Foundation, and this MoHiP Theatre show was developed in cooperation with the Foundation's fundraising effort. Many Boone supporters from across the state traveled to see *Nobody Plays Like Boone*, including members of the Warrensburg, Missouri, Blind Boone Park Restoration Group.



The play was written by Mary Barile and featured performers Clyde Ruffin, Al Plummer, Mabel Grimes, Alejandro Soto, and CortneyJo and Dan Fishbach. Celestine Hayes opened and closed the production at Second Baptist Church with spirituals, as was Boone's custom.

A DVD of the performance was shown at the Blind Boone Ragtime Festival in Columbia on June 9-10. The performance will also be available on the Society's Web site in the coming weeks: <http://shs.umsystem.edu/outreach/mohip/>. Each Columbia school

will receive a complimentary copy, and the DVD is available for sale to the public. For more information, contact Christine Montgomery at (573) 882-7083.

Financial assistance for this MoHiP production was provided by the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs, the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, the University of Missouri Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, and the University of Missouri Center for Arts & Humanities.

Above, actor Mabel Grimes confers with director cfrancis blackchild during rehearsal.

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## Annual Meeting brings distinguished art historian, workshops, silent auction

Henry Adams, an expert in the field of American art, will address members and guests at the annual meeting in Columbia on October 2, with the presentation "Benton Pictures the World at War: Thomas Hart Benton and the State Historical Society of Missouri." Dr. Adams is a graduate of Harvard University with additional degrees from Yale and has authored over 200 scholarly articles and numerous books covering American art from the 17th century to the present. His works include *Thomas Hart Benton: An American Original* and, most recently, *Tom and Jack: The Intertwined Lives of Thomas Hart Benton and Jackson Pollock*. Adams is currently Professor of American Art at Case Western University. For more information about Professor Adams, visit his blog: [www.henryadams-cleveland.com](http://www.henryadams-cleveland.com).

Additional annual meeting activities include two workshops at the Lenoir Community Center, "Exploring Online Resources for Historical and Genealogical Research" and "Get up to Speed on Grant Application and Foundation Support." The fee for members is \$15 and non-members is \$25. Activities then move to the Courtyard by Marriott for a silent auction with items such as a painting of the Missouri River by Byron Smith and a carnival photograph by Notley Hawkins. Executive Director Gary Kremer will give the annual report on progress made this year and plans for the future, and scholars will be recognized for their work in Missouri history. Winning National History Day student, Patrick Lawhon, will present his entry, "The Box That Made the World Smaller," about the shipping container, and Henry Adams will offer his program after the luncheon. The luncheon and program price is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Reservations will be taken online at [shs.umsystem.edu](http://shs.umsystem.edu) or by phone (800) 747-6366, beginning August 15 through September 30 or as long as accommodations remain.

## Society receives \$215,672 for second National Digital Newspaper Project

In June, the Society received notice of award for a second National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) grant. The NDNP is a joint program of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress.

The Society's 2010-12 project will digitize and make available 100,000 pages of historic Missouri newspapers published between 1836 and 1922. Papers will be chosen from areas adjacent to or near Missouri's three major rivers: the Mississippi, Missouri, and Osage.

From prior to Missouri's joining the Union in 1821 through the middle of the nineteenth century, rivers served as major arteries for trade and travel. The project's focus on newspapers from the river corridors will provide researchers with a clear window into the growth patterns of the state and offer greater understanding of the historic, economic, political, and social forces that transformed Missouri from a frontier, subsistence community of agrarians into a highly industrialized modern state.

The grant will fund the digitization process from microfilm and employ two key staff positions: Erika VanVranken, who worked on the first NDNP grant and has been involved in additional digitization projects at the Society, will serve as project assistant, and Patricia Luebbert, who recently retired as Senior Archivist from the Missouri State Archives after a 30-year career, will assume duties as grant administrator. The Society's information systems manager and assistant director of reference, Gerald Hirsch, will again serve as project director for Missouri's NDNP.

In early August, project staff will travel to Washington, DC, for training at the Library of Congress and to meet with staff from NDNP projects across the country.



*Embarkation* by Thomas Hart Benton, 1942, Year of Peril series

## Merged Collections benefit researchers

The Society's merger of reference and newspaper collections into a single research library has been overwhelmingly positive. The availability of all materials in one area has eased the research process and introduced many longtime patrons to the full range of resources. With the addition of patron computers for online access to card files and catalogs, and support from reference staff cross trained on collections, researchers are provided a better understanding of the depth of the Society's resources and, as a consequence, can utilize them more fully.

The merger has also improved security for all collections with a single point of entry and exit, and patrons have expressed appreciation for having to "sign in" only once. The public has responded with comments such as: "It just makes sense," and "This is so much better than before!" Below, patrons work at new computer stations.



## Reception for Lester Parker paintings draws crowd



Above left, attendees respond to a painting of the Capitol by Lester Parker. Above, Executive Director Gary Kremer, First Lady Georganne Nixon, and Society Art Curator Joan Stack following the program.

An audience of more than seventy people gathered in Jefferson City on July 13 to learn more about the art of impressive amateur painter Lester Parker. Better known as the owner of L. S. Parker Shoe Company, which successfully operated inside the state penitentiary with convict labor during the early 1900s, Parker also wrote books and music and successfully honed his artistic skills in the later years of his life. The exhibit *Lester Parker: Capital City Painter, Songwriter, and Entrepreneur* is on display at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery in Jefferson City through August, with works from the Society and additional pieces loaned from First Baptist Church in Jefferson City, the Cole County Historical Society, Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce, and private collections. The Parker paintings cover several subjects, but the most often repeated is the Missouri State Capitol.

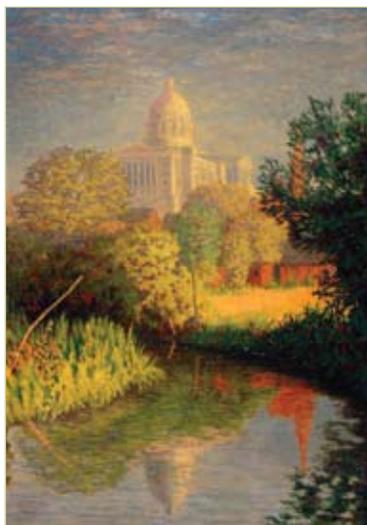
First Lady Georganne Nixon opened the evening with remarks about the appealing nature of Parker's art with impressionist styles of light and color, and how she, as a Jefferson City native, easily relates to his illustrations with a shared sense of place. Art Curator Joan Stack followed up on this theme, offering that Parker's understanding and use of color theory and optical mixing technique is impressive for the time. Stack explained that Parker had traveled to Paris to study the French Impressionists, and his resulting courage and dedication to the process came well before other Missouri artists made such bold moves. Executive Director Gary Kremer placed Parker in historical context through a discussion of industrial, labor, transportation, and government interests relevant to the period and reminded audience members just how spectacular the new Capitol was for those who witnessed its construction and finished presence. Kremer said the Capitol was simply awe-inspiring to Parker and the general population of the time.

The Rozier Gallery is located at 101 Jefferson Street with open hours Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and operated by Missouri Department of Natural Resources staff as part of the Lohman Landing State Historic Site.

### Special Offer

Reproductions (16 x 20 inches, unframed) of the Lester Parker painting, *Afternoon View on Ware's Creek*, are available for \$20. No shipping or handling fees.

For more information or to place an order, phone (573) 882-7083 or visit the Society Web site, [shs.umsystem.edu](http://shs.umsystem.edu).



## Becoming Bingham Symposium

In anticipation of the Society and the Friends of Arrow Rock's joint publication of the letters of George Caleb Bingham in spring 2011, the Society recently presented the mini-symposium *Becoming Bingham*.

Two staff members who have been working on the Bingham book made presentations: Roger Robinson, a doctoral candidate in the MU Department of History and the Goodrich Graduate Research Assistant at the Society, and Joan Stack, the Society's Curator of Art Collections. Robinson and Stack lectured on the development of Bingham's public image and reputation.

Robinson placed Bingham studies in their historical context, discussing the ways scholars have interpreted Bingham's place in art history over the last one hundred years, while Stack explored Bingham's part in fashioning his own reputation. Stack explained the prominent role the American Art-Union in New York had played in shaping the course of Bingham's career.

Over thirty people attended the symposium and afterward took the opportunity to explore the galleries and view a special display of two nineteenth-century Bingham engravings, *The Jolly Flatboatmen* and *County Election*.

## Missouri's Patrick Lawhon takes gold at National History Day

Forty-nine of Missouri's best students represented the state as delegates to the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day (NHD) Contest June 13-17, 2010, at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Missouri students competed against a record-setting number of more than 2,500 students from around the country. The final round at NHD awarded Missouri one first-place winner and two Outstanding State Entry winners, a finalist for the PBS Teacher of Merit Award, and two entries chosen for display at the National Museum of American History. Regardless of how Missouri students ultimately placed at NHD, we are extremely proud of their participation.

Patrick Lawhon of Pembroke Hill School in Kansas City took the first-place gold medal for *The Box That Made the World Smaller*, a Senior Individual Performance about changes brought by the shipping container. Sam Knopik was Patrick's sponsor. Emily Duncan from Liberty Junior High School in Liberty, whose teacher was Inga Nordstrom-Kelly, placed 8th in the Senior Web site category for her project titled *The Discovery of Insulin: A Medical Marvel for the Sugar Sickness*. Emily also won recognition as an Outstanding Entry for Missouri. This was Emily's second year in a row to place in the national top ten. Matt Vallorani, Holy Infant School in Ballwin, with teacher Bob Stevens, placed 9th in the Junior Web site category for *Steam Engine: Powering the Industrial Revolution*. Matt also received recognition as an Outstanding Entry. Justin Shock, of Gideon Junior High School in Gideon, placed 9th in the Junior Individual Performance category for his project about the importance of Braille, titled *Out of Darkness*.

Of more than sixty exhibits submitted for display at the National Museum of American History, only twenty-four were chosen, and two were created by Missouri students. Nick Bentz and Jack Perryman from St. Raphael the Archangel School in St. Louis, whose teacher was Christy Connor, were chosen for their Junior Group Exhibit, *Frank Lloyd Wright: Adapting Architecture for the Future*. Rebecca Hanlin, Jessica Nutt, and Payton Powell of Rolla Junior High School in Rolla, with teachers Mary Mueller, Christy Dalton, and Leslie Claxton, were selected for their Junior Group Exhibit, *Lewis Hine: Child Labor Exposed*. Student exhibits were displayed at the National Museum of American History the day of June 16.

Finally, Missouri's Joseph Webber Teacher of Merit Award winner, Melanie Tipton of Risco R-II Schools, received a certificate and a PBS video library as one of eight finalists for the PBS Teacher of Merit Award.



Top: Gold medal winner Patrick Lawhon. Above: Outstanding State Entry winners Matt Vallorani and Emily Duncan

## 2009 NHD finalists recognized by the Missouri Humanities Council

The Missouri Humanities Council hosted the Governor's Humanities Awards at the Kimball Ballroom at Stephens College in Columbia on May 12, 2010, where ten National History Day finalists and their teachers were among those recognized at a High Tea celebrating their achievements.

The honored students were among the top 10 percent of over 2,400 students from across the country who competed at the national contest in Maryland in June 2009.

Honorees were Ballwin student Rachel Hauser; Carthage students Brittany Golden, Andrew Schesser, and Eric Peer;

Clayton student Chi Zeng; Columbia student Ashwath Kumar; Kansas City student Mark Castera; Liberty students Bradley Dice and Emily Duncan; and Risco student Kassidy Murphy. Each student received a special certificate commemorating the event. Their teachers, Bob Stevens, Kathleen Swift, Julie Peer, Janet Baldwin, Tom Prater, Christopher Elmore, Inga Nordstrom-Kelly, Michael Murphy, and Melanie Tipton also received certificates.

## New documentary reveals behind the scenes of *Dialogue with Litton*



Congressman Jerry L. Litton and Georgia governor and presidential hopeful Jimmy Carter make their way through the audience to begin *Dialogue with Litton*, July 13, 1975.

In the summer of 2008, the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Columbia began to digitize and make available videotapes from the Jerry L. Litton Papers, 1960-1976. Over the course of two years, with the support of the Jerry Litton Family Memorial Foundation and WHMC-Columbia's Adopt-A-Document Program, forty-three tapes were cleaned and reformatted for easy patron access. Material that was inaccessible because it was on outdated video format can now be viewed and utilized for historical research on the decade of the 1970s.

In observance of this accomplishment, WHMC-C and the Litton Foundation are producing a thirty-minute documentary showcasing rarely seen footage of the period's most influential American political figures. This documentary will be shown October 20 in Ellis Auditorium on the University of Missouri campus. (See the Calendar of Events, pages 6-7, for details.)

Most Missourians are familiar with the Jerry Litton story. Born in 1937 in Lock Springs, Jerry grew up on a farm near Chillicothe, received a degree in agriculture journalism from MU, established the Litton Charolais Ranch with his parents, Charley and Mildred, and became active in Democratic politics. Litton won the Sixth District Congressional seat in 1972 and 1974. In 1976 he ran for the U.S. Senate against well-known Democrats Warren Hearnes and James Symington. On the night of the primary, August 4, Litton held a significant lead over his competition in the polls. En route to Kansas City to celebrate a certain win, Jerry Litton, along with his family, the pilot, and the pilot's son, perished in a plane crash at the Chillicothe airport, thereby changing the course of Democratic politics in Missouri.

Litton's rise in politics grew largely from the *Dialogue with Litton* show, a monthly, unrehearsed question-and-answer program with well-known politicians, members of Congress, political advisers, and activists. Litton was an exceptional public speaker and came of age politically at

a time when the American public was losing their faith in government. He combined his gift for public speaking with media know-how to overcome his constituents' lack of trust in elected officials. Through the show, Litton used media in a way no other politician had before, offering firsthand accounts and insight into the problems that gripped America in the early 1970s.

The problems facing America at the time were complex, and Litton's program gave audience members a chance to ask questions and receive answers. Audience concerns included Watergate, the Vietnam War, growth of congressional and presidential powers, rising inflation, tax reform, and the frequency of government

deficit spending. Litton's political guests addressed the topics with candor. Carl Albert, Speaker of the House during the Nixon impeachment proceedings, admitted that Congress was moving slowly on impeachment. Albert offered that he did not believe Nixon would resign and felt strongly that America would recover and move on from Watergate. New York Congressman Jack Kemp used the show to explain that his answer to inflation was to control spending and shared his belief that Americans depended too much on government to solve their problems.

Many guests voiced concern and outright anger over the oil cartels and their control of the supply and cost of oil. Senator Thomas Eagleton explained that America was without an effective energy policy because the two political parties were unable to agree or even compromise on the issue. In 1974 Congresswoman Martha Keys of Kansas was asked whether the United States would have a single choice, no option, health care plan paid for with taxes. Litton believed the price of health care was a growing problem and that legislation would soon be introduced to control costs so that Americans did not have to fear bankruptcy during an illness.

It seems little has changed since the 1970s: the role and size of government continues to be debated, legislators cannot agree on how to solve domestic problems, and Americans continue to question our government's involvement in other countries.

*Dialogue with Litton* was produced by Litton and his staff from March 1974 to July 1976. Of the twenty-nine programs videotaped for television, twenty-seven exist and are now available in digital format.

The information contained in the videotapes from the Jerry L. Litton Papers provides researchers with a new experience in primary source materials. *Dialogue with Litton* offers a unique look into the issues that were on the minds of average Americans and the challenges faced by our leaders in a decade defined by controversy.

## New image collections offer interesting stories

Pictures are some of the most interesting pieces of history preserved in an archive. This is particularly true when identification and context are provided for the image.

Recently, WHMC-Kansas City received photograph collections from Dale Monaghan, a talented professional photographer and collector of regional photographs. Among his gifts are negatives and prints from the prominent commercial photographic company, Anderson Brothers, which operated in Kansas City from 1910 until the 1960s. Although WHMC-KC does not have the full mass of photographs taken by Anderson Brothers, the collection as given contains a wealth of documentation concerning Kansas City streets, buildings, businesses, and people.

Another Monaghan collection is a curious grouping of 6.5 x 8.5 glass-plate negatives taken by amateur photographer Edgar Linton between 1912 and 1916. Linton, born in Clinton, Iowa, moved with his family in 1884 to Kansas City, where he attended school and graduated from Central High School in 1903. He attended the University of Kansas for three years, after which he worked for a commercial photographer and hatched an idea. On September 5, 1910, Linton departed on a thirty-thousand-mile journey around the world with \$85.60 in his pocket and his camera as the only means of earning his way. With some pride he reported traveling "first class, stopping only at the best hotels in the cities of this and foreign countries and purchasing high class accommodations in the steamships on which I took passage." Linton spent over \$3,000, or about \$5 per day, for more than twenty months of travel. His lengthy full-page illustrated account, "How I Worked My Way Around The World," appeared in the Sunday edition of the *Kansas City Star* only four days after his return on May 22, 1912.

It is evident from the fifty-four surviving negatives that his travels and photography did not end on that spring morning when he arrived home in the Bottoms at Union Depot, "just as the sun was peeping over the West Bluffs." By the summer of 1914, he was again on the road—to Central America.

Edgar Linton died in Kansas City on April 14, 1972. His obituary identifies him as a world traveler and writer who gave educational talks on WDAF radio (1923-24) and, using lantern slides made from his negatives, lectured on his travels in theaters throughout the Midwest. He taught mathematics and languages and privately tutored high school and college students. His photographs and accompanying narrative preserves his legacy as a world traveler and teacher.



Above, Sketch of Edgar Linton that appeared in the May 26, 1912, *Kansas City Star*



Left, Edgar Linton glass negative #237, "Hornets of the Sea," U.S. Navy C Class submarine.

## Newly hired and newly retired staff update

They say good help is hard to find, but in this case it was right at hand. Leann Arndt, who has been working as a volunteer at WHMC-Rolla for the past two years, began as a part-time manuscript specialist on July 1. Leann holds a master's degree in museum studies from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is also a certified archivist. Her diverse background includes working for the Mariners' Museum (Newport News, VA), the Fontenelle Nature Association (Bellevue, NE), the City of Portland Archives and Records Center (OR), and the Portland Fire Bureau (OR), as well as consulting for a variety of museums. A native of Iowa, Leann has made Rolla her home for the past three years, where she pursues her interests of local history, travel, photography, and gardening. Since she began working with WHMC-Rolla, Leann has processed and cataloged the Mary Bugg Eversole Papers and, with secretary Beth Lane, has assisted in additional processing and cataloging of the American Zinc Company Papers.

They also say old habits are hard to break. Mark Stauter (associate director at Rolla, 1980-2009) can't break his old habit of acquiring manuscripts and historical Missouri ephemera. Staying busy traveling and attending to his various duties as an officer of the Route 66 Association of Missouri and the Phelps County Historical Society, Mark has also found time to scout out and acquire material for the collections at Rolla. His donations represent nearly all of the fifty-three counties in WHMC-Rolla's collecting area and include social history (publications of fraternal organizations), mining history (stock certificates), soldiers' letters from both world wars, school items (annual programs and yearbooks),

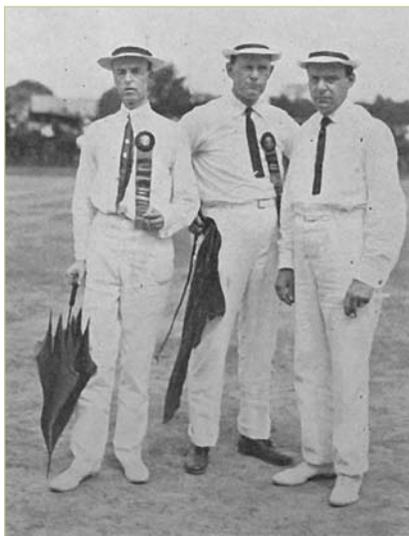


Mark Stauter and Leann Arndt

advertising and business items, and tourism-related materials.

Some of the items are additions to existing collections; recently cataloged items include the program of the Southeast Missouri Drummer's Association meeting at Festus in 1913; an 1891 souvenir program from the annual fair of the St. Francois County Agricultural and Mechanical Association; a booklet from the Tourist Club at Clinton; a souvenir booklet of the dedication service in 1914 of the Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Jackson; and the membership register and bylaws of the Masonic Lodge at Republic.

## Successful microfilming partnership



Southeast Missouri Drummers, Farmington Meeting, 1912

Recently, WHMC-Rolla coordinated a successful collaboration that secured microfilming of the *Bourbon Beacon*, 1925-30, as part of the Society's newspaper collection.

The papers contain news on the early days of Route 66, the beginning of the Great Depression, local news items from around Bourbon, Missouri, reports of country correspondents, and fill a gap in Society collections.

Privately owned, the papers were made available by Sheila Wood, a native of Bourbon and present resident of Rolla and officer of the Phelps County Genealogical Society. The newspaper might have remained unfiled due to depletion of the Society's microfilming funds had not the Crawford County Historical Society stepped forward with an offer to subsidize a good part of the cost. WHMC-Rolla helped by getting the collection to Columbia via the University's courier service. The newspapers are at the lab as this issue of *Missouri Times* is being prepared and will soon be available to researchers.

The partnership of private individuals and like-minded organizations with the Society and branches of WHMC in the preservation of Missouri history has been successful in the past. It is essential in the present time of declining appropriations, increased costs, and increased patronage.

## Newly acquired collections

Citizens for Missouri's Children: Records of a children's activist group that recently lost appropriated state funding  
 Midwest Coalition for Responsible Investment: An interest group that promotes the divestiture of business investments with potential for social harm, such as nuclear power and genetically modified produce  
 Women of Achievement: St. Louis organization that selects ten women annually to receive awards for making improvements to the community  
 Vivian Eveloff Papers: Ms. Eveloff has been active in state politics over many years and is currently the academic director of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life  
 Spirit of St. Louis Classic Car Club: WHMC-St. Louis Associate Director Zelli Fischetti gave a presentation to the Spirit of St. Louis Classic Car Club that included many photographs depicting automobiles in St. Louis history. The Club recently donated its records to WHMC- St. Louis.

## National Organization for Women records

The Metro St. Louis National Organization for Women (NOW), 1970-1984, was interested in a wide range of issues: child care, consciousness-raising, early childhood development, economic justice, education discrimination, homemakers' rights, labor unions, on-site organizing, lesbian rights, the problems of disabled and minority women, physical and mental health, violence against women, and women and religion. The Metro St. Louis NOW records contain materials collected by member Paula Geiss when she worked with the Squirrel Hill, Pennsylvania, NOW chapter and the Metro St. Louis NOW chapter.

## Donation received

Elsie and Glenn Todd, donors of the Charles Rannells Papers, recently contributed \$726.25 to WHMC-St. Louis. The gift resulted from the sale of rare postage stamps discovered in the collection and returned to the donors.

## Photo database surpasses 15,000 images

The WHMC-St. Louis photo database has reached 15,377 scanned images available for online research. Scanning continues on the Art Witman and Francis Scheidegger collections.



Dancers at the 1940 convention of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World. Art Witman collection

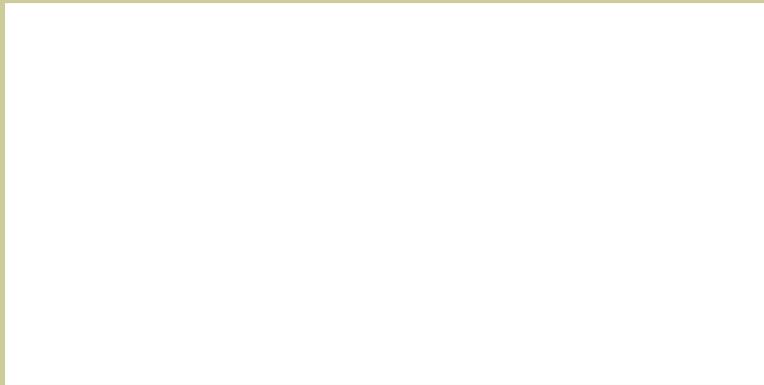


Will Rogers caravan promoting Route 66 (the Will Rogers Highway) arrives at the Kirkwood Theater in 1952. Francis Scheidegger collection



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Each new Society Life Member who joins the weekend of September 10-12 will receive this limited edition poster of a painting of Canada geese by Charles Schwartz. This beautiful member gift is made possible by the Conservation Federation of Missouri, which owns the few remaining copies of the iconic Schwartz artwork.