

MISSOURI TIMES

The State Historical Society of Missouri

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Society continues to adjust to change; two new staff members hired

We welcome the expertise and experience of two new staff members as initiatives to move forward get underway.

Steve Byers (pictured right), who has worked for the Society as a consultant since February on a part-time basis, will expand his role and level of involvement to establish an Office of Development and associated programs. For the past several months, Mr. Byers has learned about the Society's strengths and challenges, and with degrees in business communication and public administration, a passion for non-profit organizations, and over twenty-five years working in development, he brings significant experience to the task of increasing the Society's support from private funds.

Steve served eighteen years with Children's Mercy Hospital & Clinics, Kansas City, in several positions, rising to Senior Director of Development Administration. During that time, the hospital raised over \$200 million. Steve's duties included oversight of annual giving, direct mail, foundation grants, and several award-winning publications. From 2005 to 2008, Steve was chief development and communications officer for WaterPartners International, building their development program from the ground up, tripling revenue, and helping to secure a \$4.1 million grant from PepsiCo Foundation. In 2008 he started his own consulting practice to help non-profit leaders identify and develop opportunities for transformative change.

In March of this year Steve completed a study of the Society and submitted to the Executive Committee a fund-raising plan to accomplish short, intermediate, and long-term goals. We appreciate Steve's expertise in leading implementation of this important and exciting work.



John McKerley (pictured left), will evaluate and prepare manuscripts for publication in the *Missouri Historical Review* and assist in the writing and design of Society publications. Associate Editor and Associate Director Lynn Wolf Gentzler has assumed many new duties in the wake of the merger with the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, and to accommodate those changes, the Society has created a new assistant editor position.

Dr. McKerley received the PhD in history from the University of Iowa with the dissertation "Citizens and Strangers: The Politics of Race in Missouri from Slavery to the Era of Jim Crow." John is a certified documentary editor following completion of requirements in 2008 at the 37th Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents sponsored by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Wisconsin Historical Society.

He received the MA in history from the University of Iowa and a BA in

history with a minor in French from the University of Alabama, Huntsville.

For two years, John served as assistant editor with the Freedmen and Southern Society Project at the University of Maryland, College Park, which has produced five award-winning volumes of edited documents detailing the transition from slavery to freedom in the U.S., 1861-67. He also worked for two years as an editorial consultant for the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute in Birmingham, Alabama, overseeing revisions to the institute's oral history project's manuscript, *Foot Soldiers for Democracy*, a volume of edited interviews with rank-and-file civil rights activists.

The caliber of scholarship and experience John brings to the Society's editorial division secures the high level of professionalism established for the *Missouri Historical Review* and promises high quality for the additional publications planned over the next several years.

An Evening with Bingham raises interest and support in Independence

Several \$1,000 sponsors and \$300 patrons, six institutional partners, and many general admission attendees raised more than \$26,000 for the Society at the special event, *An Evening with George Caleb Bingham*, held in Independence on June 2.

The first half of the evening featured activities at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. Lynn Wolf Gentzler, associate director and editor of the Society's most recent book, *"But I Forget That I Am a Painter and Not a Politician": The Letters of George Caleb Bingham*, presented her thoughts concerning the monumental process of compiling, editing, and annotating 246 of Bingham's letters for two separate audiences. The Society's curator of art collections, Dr. Joan Stack, provided three tours of the Truman Library's exhibit *Steamboats to Steam Engines: George Caleb Bingham's Missouri, 1819-1879* in character as Eliza Thomas Bingham, the artist's wife from 1849 to 1876.

The second portion of the evening revolved around refreshments, dinner, and dessert catered by Ophelia's Restaurant and enjoyed on the lawn of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate, as well as educational entertainment from actor Robert Gibby Brand who performed "George Caleb Bingham Live" from the home's expansive porch for approximately 150 seated guests. The atmosphere was further enhanced by Bingham-inspired music, written and performed by the Mengel Brothers String Duo. The estate was open to attendees for viewing and learning more about Bingham's years lived in the home and the site of the property's former studio where he painted *Order No. 11*.

At right: Curator of Art Collections Dr. Joan Stack and actor Robert Gibby Brand portray Eliza and George Caleb Bingham on the porch of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate in Independence.



Boone County Community Trust grant funds microfilm scanner

In early June the Boone County Community Trust granted the Society \$8,785 to purchase a ScanPro 2000 microfilm scanner, which makes remarkably clear scans and superior reproductions compared to standard microfilm reader-printers.

The equipment has been purchased and installed in the Research Center-Columbia and is already heavily used to complete research requests and create electronic copies of historical material for patrons. The Society's ongoing microfilm digitization efforts provide improved patron services through scans and other electronic duplication of manuscript and newspaper collections.

A. P. Green Foundation makes big impression

Thank you to the Allen P. and Josephine B. Green Foundation, which in late May granted \$9,000 to the Society for purchase of a large HP DesignJet Photo Printer.

This important piece of equipment has been purchased and installed at the Research Center-Columbia to fulfill patron requests for large-scale reproduction of digital images of artwork, photographs, and maps. It also presents many possibilities for student and scholarly research and allows opportunities for in-house production of oversized images and text panels for gallery exhibitions and displays, educational outreach activities, and special events.

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New Membership categories and increase in Individual dues

The Society's Board of Trustees recently approved new membership levels that will go into effect January 1, 2012.

A Corporate membership has been established at \$500 and carries programming and technical services benefits. An annual giving club has also been created at \$1,000 and named the George Caleb Bingham Society. A combination Student/Teacher category was determined with the support level of \$25 and Individual dues will rise to \$30. Family/Household memberships will increase to \$50.

By working to meet the needs of all Missourians—scholars, genealogists, family and local historians, journalists, historic preservationists, teachers, and students—the Society encourages and relies on member support and donations to fund exhibitions, services, and special events around the state.

Existing membership renewal rates will be honored through December 31, 2011.

Check out the Web site for benefits at various membership levels. Be an active member!

Thank You to Research Center-Columbia's Seth Smith

Researchers will miss Reference Specialist Seth Smith's knowledge about the history of Missouri newspapers and his cheery, helpful attitude. Seth has been involved in many facets of the Society's programs over the last seven years but most particularly as coordinator of volunteers. We wish him well as he moves to the Daniel Boone Regional Library in Columbia.

Announcement of 2011 Brownlee Awards

The 2011 Richard S. Brownlee Fund Grants were recently determined by the Society's Executive Committee for projects commemorating the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. Applications were received from historical societies, museums, and cultural organizations throughout the state requesting support for a wide variety of projects. Congratulations to each of the winners listed below. Funds will be awarded to representatives from the organizations at the Annual Meeting in Columbia on November 5.

- \$500 **The Puppetry Arts Institute**, Independence for touring marionette theater production of "Trouble on the Border—Order No. 11"
- \$500 **Friends of Fort D**, Cape Girardeau for six interpretive signs to be added at Fort D
- \$500 **Dade County Historical Society**, Greenfield for expenses incurred during 2011 Civil War Days
- \$400 **Lexington Library and Historical Association, Inc.** for Lexington Civil War sites driving tour brochure
- \$500 **Friends of the Missouri State Archives**, Jefferson City to fund the Civil War-version of *Archives Alive!*
- \$480 **Springfield-Greene County Library District** to publicize Civil War Virtual Museum and Community and Conflict Digital Archive
- \$450 **Jackson County Historical Society**, Independence to research National Archives Civil War veteran pension records concerning Jackson County taxpayers for a forthcoming book
- \$500 **Montgomery County Historical Society**, Montgomery City to mark the grave of William H. H. Pease, first Union soldier killed in action and buried in Montgomery County, and purchase seventy flags marking Civil War graves in Montgomery City Municipal Cemetery
- \$500 **Camden County Historical Society**, Linn Creek for an exhibit about Camden County towns in existence during the Civil War
- \$500 **South Broadway Merchants Association**, St. Louis to purchase a replica of an Ironclad cannon for exhibition in South St. Louis Square Park
- \$500 **Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center**, Kansas City honoraria for presenters of a teachers' seminar on African Americans and the Civil War in Missouri
- \$500 **St. Louis Mercantile Library** to assist with Civil War exhibit during month-long sesquicentennial commemoration sponsored by the Mercantile Library and Missouri Center for the Book
- \$500 **Civil War Roundtable of Western Missouri**, Independence to publish a second volume about Civil War monuments and memorials in the Greater Kansas City Area
- \$500 **The Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve** for a plaque commemorating removal of funds from the Ste. Genevieve Bank during the Civil War
- \$500 **Wayne County Historical Society**, Piedmont for a living history event, "Civil War Days," at Fort Benton in Patterson, Missouri
- \$500 **Florissant Valley Historical Society**, Florissant to research members of Mullanphy family with ties to the Civil War, particularly Lily Graham Frost, Daniel Frost, and William Harney
- \$500 **Bates County Historical Society**, Butler to construct a permanent exhibit about the Battle of Island Mound
- \$500 **Kansas City Public Library** to host public conference on the era of the Border Wars
- \$450 **Civil War Reenactment 2011**, Crawford County, Cuba to print a book on the Battle of Leasburg and the history of town and county during the Civil War period

New Trustee: Edward C. Matthews III

Welcome Edward C. "Ned" Matthews III of Sikeston to the Society's Board of Trustees. Mr. Matthews takes the place of James R. Mayo, Bloomfield, who resigned earlier this year due to health concerns. Matthews will stand for re-election in November at the Society's Annual Meeting.

Ned Matthews is involved in his family's businesses and has served as vice president of the Bank of Sikeston; president, Bank of Sikeston Holding Company; and director, Bank of Sikeston and AmeriFirst Bancorporation, Inc., Bucoda Gin Company, Scott County Milling Company, and Semo Grain Company.

Currently, he is general partner of the E. C. Matthews Limited Partnership, director of the Matthews Cotton Company, and agent for Matthews Mineral Account.

In 2004 he published *Matthews: The Historic Adventures of a Pioneer Family*, profiling the lives of eight generations of the Matthews family as they settled in the Louisiana Territory and aided the growth and development of southeast Missouri. The central figure, C. D. Matthews, born poor in the 1840s, risked his life to supply corn and wheat to the South during the Civil War and went on to make a fortune in banking, lumber, railroads, and land.

Loss of Missourian Paul C. Nagel, acclaimed biographer and historian

Paul C. Nagel died May 22 in Edina, Minnesota, at the age of 85. A native of Independence, Missouri, Nagel earned degrees from the University of Minnesota after World War II. He was a professor of history at the University of Kentucky for fifteen years and also served as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. From 1969 to 1980 Nagel served as vice president for academic affairs at the University of Missouri, and during 1980-85 was director of the Virginia Historical Society. In 1985, Nagel became a full-time author and is best known for three books about the Adams family of Massachusetts: *Descent from Glory*, *The Adams Women*, and *John Quincy Adams*. Nagel also wrote three books about Missouri—*Missouri: A Bicentennial History*, *The German Migration to Missouri: My Family's Story*, and *George Caleb Bingham: Missouri's Famed Painter and Forgotten Politician*.

In 2010 Nagel received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Adams Institute, joining the company of only two other individuals—author David McCullough and the late Senator Edward Kennedy. Memorials are suggested to support a fund established for Nagel's late wife, the Joan Peterson Nagel Memorial Fund at the University of Minnesota Anderson Library.

Columbia Research Center and galleries to close on Mondays, beginning October

Effective October 1, the Society's Research Center-Columbia, associated art galleries, and administrative headquarters will close to the public on Mondays to allow staff members time for collections management and care, completion of special projects, preparation of exhibitions and displays, and additional internal matters. The practice of non-public work on Monday is fairly standard in large collecting institutions and those offering ongoing gallery exhibitions, response to public information requests, and answers to individual research queries. Examples of institutions that close one day a week include the Indiana Historical Society, Iowa Historical Society, Kansas State Historical Society, Kentucky Historical Society Research Library, Nebraska Historical Society, Tennessee State Library & Archives, and Ohio Historical Society, as well as the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis. The Society's Research Center-Columbia will be open to researchers and gallery visitors, Tuesday-Friday, 8:00-4:45, and Saturday, 8:00-3:30.

Authors of *Missouri Wine Country* receive warm welcome at Good Nature



The wine tasting held at the Good Nature store in Columbia on June 25 was attended by a festive crowd who enjoyed samples from Les Bourgeois, the Eagles Nest Winery and Cottage, Mount Pleasant Estates, Stone Hill Winery, and Yellow Farmhouse Vineyard & Winery. An interesting program about the history of the eastern Missouri wine region, from St. Charles to Hermann, was given by authors Dianna and Don Graveman.

Benton's *Exterminate!* goes to the Art Institute of Chicago

On July 5, professionals from Artworks of Kansas City transported Thomas Hart Benton's *Exterminate!* to the Art Institute of Chicago for inclusion in the exhibition *Windows on the War: Soviet Tass Posters at Home and Abroad 1941-1945* (through October 23). Artworks staff built a special travel crate to properly fit and support the large, eight by six foot, painting.

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Benton painted eight violently illustrated pictures, known as the *Year of Peril* series, to draw a strong reaction from viewers against the evils of fascism.

The Society holds the full series: *Starry Night, Again, Indifference, Casualty, The Sowers, The Harvest, Invasion, and Exterminate!*, as well as two additional Benton World War II-era paintings, *Embarkation* and *Negro Soldier*.

To view digital images of these provocative paintings, visit the Society's Web site: shs.umsystem.edu—go to "Collections and Research"; then "Online Resources"; then "Art Collection"; and enter a search for *Year of Peril*.

Make plans to visit the Windy City while *Exterminate!* is on display to view the work in full scale. For more information about the Art Institute of Chicago's *Windows on the War* exhibition, see www.artic.edu/.

Society to publish book about the Civil War

As part of the Civil War sesquicentennial commemoration, the Society will release a second anthology of articles about the conflict in November.

Dr. William Garrett Piston selected fourteen articles that had previously appeared in the *Missouri Historical Review* for the anthology and wrote an introduction analyzing the essays and discussing their relationship to Civil War historiography. Piston is a professor of history at Missouri State University in Springfield and a noted scholar on the Civil War in the state. The essays selected, in Piston's opinion, "allow the reader to explore the Civil War in Missouri in relation to political, military, social, racial, and gender history." He has placed emphasis on military history because of his "conviction of its centrality to understanding the most significant conflict in our nation's history."

Piston's introduction will appear in the October issue of the *Missouri Historical Review*.

Cost per reel of microfilm going up

Effective January 1 the price to duplicate microfilm will rise from \$50 to \$65 for contributing newspaper publishers and move up from \$75 to \$100 for all other purchasers. The Society's cost with microfilming vendors has recently risen 31 percent, or nearly one-third—regrettably this cost must be reflected in the sales price.



Artworks of Kansas City professional movers take final measurements before molding material to support *Exterminate!* en route to Chicago.

Missouri Students Excel at 2011 National Contest



During a memorable week, June 12-16, Missouri's delegates to the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest made our state proud through competing with more than 2,700 students from 54 other affiliate programs at the University of Maryland, College Park. Three Missouri entries made it to the final round! Ultimately, we had one third-place winner, two Outstanding State Entry winners, an entry chosen for display at the National Museum of American History, and 23 of our 36 participating entries, or 63 percent, placed in the top half of all participants. The judges had uncommonly tough decisions to make as there were so many outstanding entries this year. Regardless of how students placed at NHD, we are extremely proud of their accomplishments.

Riya Mehta (pictured above), Pembroke Hill School in Kansas City, took the bronze medal (third place) for her Senior Individual Performance, *The Forgotten War: A Diplomatic Failure*, about the Korean War and the division of Korea into North and South. Dan O'Connell was her sponsor. The other two Missouri entries qualifying for finals this year were Sophia Mauro of Barstow School in Kansas City and Derek Carter of Joplin High School. Sophia placed fifth in the Junior Individual Performance category for her project, *The Integration of Kansas City's Black and White Hospitals*. Sophia's teacher was Kelly Finn. Sophia also won recognition as Outstanding Entry for Missouri in the junior division. Derek

Fall Teacher Workshops

NHDMO will sponsor two workshops titled "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in Missouri History: National History Day Educator Workshops." The sessions will be held Saturdays, August 20 and September 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., in Ellis Auditorium on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia. The workshops are designed to help Missouri educators new to NHD learn more about the program and aid experienced teachers with additional ideas for helping their students succeed. The workshops will introduce the program, focus on the 2012 NHD theme, "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History," look at Missouri's resources for research, and discuss how to successfully use National History Day in the classroom. Several NHDMO students will present their projects that advanced to the national competition and discuss the process for choosing and researching topics and creating successful entries. The workshops are free and lunch will be included. For more information or to register, contact historyday@umsystem.edu or (573) 882-0189. Visit the NHDMO Web site at: <http://mo.nhd.org/teacherworkshops.htm>.

About National History Day in Missouri

National History Day is the nation's oldest and most highly regarded humanities contest for students in grades 6-12. The Missouri program has been an affiliate of NHD since 1980 and is sponsored by the Society in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council. NHD is a yearlong program dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of history in elementary and secondary schools, with more than 700,000 students nationwide beginning the program each fall. NHD is open to all students—public, private, parochial, and home-school; urban, suburban, and rural. For more information, contact NHDMO state coordinator Deborah Luchenbill at historyday@umsystem.edu.

Carter of Joplin High School, whose teacher was Andy Ritter, placed sixth in the Senior Individual Documentary category for his project, *Bitter Relations: The Camp David Accords and the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty*. In addition to these finalists, Alexa Grissom, Kassie Lawrence, Morgan Marcus, and Hannah Moore—all of Gideon High School in Gideon—were chosen as the Outstanding State Entry in the senior division for their Group Performance, *Kill The Indian, Save The Man*. Their teacher was James Breece. Jacob Schwenneker's Junior Individual Exhibit, *Failed Diplomacy: Creek Nation Divided*, was chosen as Missouri's entry to be displayed at the National Museum of American History on Wednesday, June 15. Jacob is from Princeton R-5 Schools in Princeton, and his teacher was Maureen Funk.

Also during NHD week, students had the opportunity to gather as a state group, visit the National Museum of American History at a time open exclusively for NHD participants, take advantage of the opportunity to meet with their U.S. representatives and senators, enjoy tours of the Capitol building, as well as sightsee at all the wonderful museums and monuments in Washington, DC.

Pictured below, a few of the members of the Missouri delegation after the Awards Ceremony, including (in front row) finalist Derek Carter (second from left), bronze medalist Riya Mehta (center), and finalist Sophia Mauro (right). Far left is NHDMO Coordinator Deborah Luchenbill.

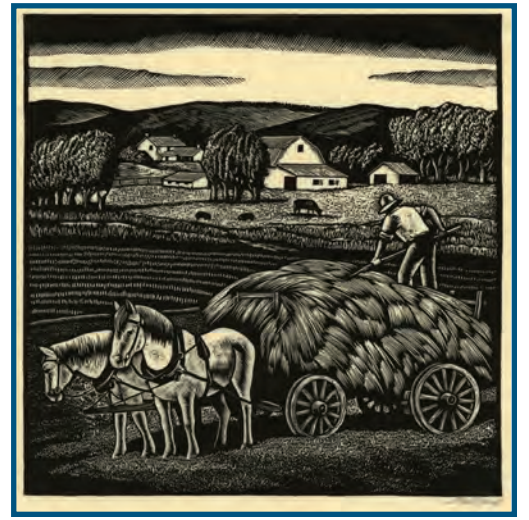


August

August 27 1:30 p.m. Research Center-Columbia, Corridor Gallery

Curator's Walk-Through **Fred Geary: Missouri Master of the Woodcut**

Missouri artist Fred Geary (1894-1946) was a leading figure in the American woodcut revival of the 1930s and 1940s. The Society's collection of over fifty of his graphic masterpieces reveals Geary's exceptional skill in the medium—depictions of landscapes and landmarks and a wide range of other subjects—display the expertise of this extraordinary artist. The exhibit runs through November.



September

September 11 2:00 p.m. Reynolds Co. Museum

The Civil War in the Ozarks

John Bradbury, Assistant Director, Research Center-Rolla, will present this program in Ellington at the Reynolds County Museum. For more information, (573) 663-3233.

September 9 - 15 Springfield Ozarks Celebration Festival

The 14th Annual Ozarks Celebration Festival will offer a Lecture Series featuring a variety of authors, storytellers, musicians, and historians presenting their unique perspective of Ozarks history and culture. John F. Bradbury, assistant director of the Society's Research Center-Rolla, and Lou Wehmer, independent scholar, will present "To Arkansas and Back with Colonel Monks" on September 13 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 313 of the Plaster Student Union, Missouri State University Campus. For more information check out: ocf.missouristate.edu



September 15 - January 28 Research Center-Columbia, Main Gallery

A State Divided: Missouri and the Civil War

As a border state, Missouri suffered greatly from brother against brother fighting during the war. Images and objects in this exhibition chronicle the conflict, revealing the complexity of the period. Among the artworks to be displayed are pieces by George Caleb Bingham and original wood engravings from *Harper's Weekly* and Frank Leslie's *Illustrated Newspaper*. Also included, three charming and rarely shown sketchbooks of drawings made in the field by artist Robert Sweeney who accompanied Union forces (page from one sketchbook at left).

The Prices of History: The Legacy of the Price Family in Mid-Missouri

Also opening on September 15 to commemorate the return of *Order No. 11* to the Society's Main Gallery and acknowledge the legacy of the Price family and their connection with George Caleb Bingham through R. B. Price, who helped finance "Bingham and Co.," publishers of the engraving *Martial Law (Order No. 11)*, for which the Society's version of the great Civil War picture was painted.

September 15 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. MU Campus, Columbia 7th Annual MU Museum and Gallery Crawl

Enjoy refreshments and win fun prizes while viewing exhibits at each of the nine locations: Craft Studio Gallery, George Caleb Bingham Gallery, Laws Observatory, Enns Entomology Museum, Missouri Historic Costume & Textile Collection, Museum of Anthropology, Museum of Art & Archaeology, The Residence on Francis Quadrangle, and The State Historical Society of Missouri. This year sponsored by **ArtiFact**: <http://artifact.missouri.edu>

September 18 2:00 p.m. Kansas City Public Library, Central Library, 14 West 10th Street

Thomas Hart Benton on Tom Sawyer: Re-envisioning Twain in the Twentieth Century

Missouri's Thomas Hart Benton was a natural choice for the illustrated version of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Likewise, the protagonist from Mark Twain's most accessible novel was a perfect subject for Benton, whose influence on the Regionalist movement emphasized works that conveyed uniquely American characters.

Joan Stack, Curator of Art Collections, will present this program in relation to **Mark Twain and Tom Benton: Pictures, Prose, and Song**, an exhibit organized by the Society from its collections, on display at the Central Library in Kansas City from September 3 through October 30.

September 20 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. The District, Columbia MEHA Mingle

Tapas, wine, and carriage rides, oh my! Come discover Columbia's museums, theatres, and observatory in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere with music, free carriage rides, and fare provided by your favorite downtown restaurants. Tickets available through the University Concert Series at just \$10 for adults (children under 12 free). For more information, go to www.DiscoverMEHA.com



October

October 25 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Research Center-Columbia

Trick or Treat through Missouri History

Come in costume to this fun and educational family event. Candy will be available at each station, as well as crafts, activities, and information about Missouri ghosts, pumpkins, bats, and more! New this year will be a display on the history of Halloween costumes. Brave visitors can also explore the Kid's Cave and the Ghostly Gallery and enjoy a gallery tour guided by the "spirit" of Eliza Bingham, second wife of Missouri's famed painter, George Caleb Bingham.

November

November 5 The Tiger Hotel, Columbia Annual Meeting "We Are Living in Very Stirring Times': The Civil War Era in Missouri's Capital City" by Dr. Gary R. Kremer

Executive Director Gary Kremer will deliver the luncheon address at the 2011 Annual Meeting, focusing on life in Missouri's capital city—from President Lincoln's election in November 1860 through the Civil War and its immediate aftermath—including consequences of the harsh division between Upland Southerners and their descendants in the city, many of whom supported slavery, and German immigrants, most of whom opposed it. Drawing upon diverse sources, including manuscript collections, newspapers, provost marshal records, and material from the *Official Record of the War of the Rebellion*, Kremer will chronicle the anxiety under which residents lived as they watched the machinations of state governmental officials and wondered whether their city and state would ultimately remain with the Union, or be absorbed by the Confederacy.



November 10 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Research Center-Columbia Life During Wartime, the Civil War in Central Missouri with Rudi Keller

A graduate of MU's J-School with twenty-five years' experience reporting on state government and politics, Rudi Keller is uniquely suited to write the *Columbia Daily Tribune* "Life During Wartime" column detailing the impact of the Civil War on the people and communities of central Missouri. Rudi's research brings the stories of soldiers, politicians, and civilians to life and allows him to draw parallels between modern political discourse and the Civil War era.

Lucile Morris Upton Papers preserve Ozarks history

Journalist Lucile Morris Upton defied the stereotype of the Ozark hillbilly: she was educated, lived in a city, and was a published author. Nonetheless, she happily declared, "I'm a hillbilly – 'n proud of it!" Upton's lifelong passion for the Ozarks and its history shaped her career as a journalist and writer. Her papers contain valuable information about the region's colorful history, culture, and folklore. Born in 1898, Lucile Morris grew up in Dadeville, Missouri, the daughter of a hardware merchant. After high school, she attended Southwest Missouri State Teachers and Drury colleges but did not graduate from either school. She taught school in Missouri and New Mexico before reinventing herself as a newspaper reporter with the *Denver Express* in Denver, Colorado. Exhausted after the paper engaged in a bitter feud with the Ku Klux Klan, Upton left the *Express* for the *El Paso Times*. Dreaming of a career overseas, she received a job offer with the International News Service in London. On her way east she stopped in Springfield, Missouri, to visit her ailing mother. It was a fateful stopover that lasted the rest of her life.



Lucile Morris Upton

Upton took a temporary job with the *Springfield Leader* and subsequently joined the *Springfield News*. Four years later, she was assigned to the Greene County Courthouse beat after her predecessor broke his jaw in a taxi accident. It was there that she met her future husband, Eugene V. Upton, an attorney and court reporter. After the couple married in 1936, she resigned from her job because married women were prohibited from working at the *News*. In 1939 she published her only book, *Bald Knobbers*. Due to a labor shortage during World War II, Upton was offered a job with the *Springfield News and Leader*. At first she refused, but after further persuasion, Upton joined the paper. When asked what type of column she wanted to write, Upton replied, "It would have to be an antidote to the war." Her Sunday column, "Good Old Days," ran for forty years. Upton gathered material on people, places, and events in Springfield's history and then wrote the column in the form of a fictitious letter from a young Springfield resident named "Celia" to her aunt in St. Louis.

After the death of her husband in 1947, Upton edited the "Ozarks Wastebasket" column, later known as "Over the Ozarks," which focused on the history of Springfield and the Ozarks region. The column solicited original material from the region's "historians, writers, and poets." Professional and amateur writers contributed material on Ozarks culture, history, and folklore. Nationally recognized poets Rosa Zagnoni Marinoni and Edsel Ford were among the contributors. Notably, Upton included material from the Missouri and Arkansas Ozarks, providing a perspective on the entire region.

Upton remained active after retirement. She served on the Springfield City Council, continued to write, and participated in local historical societies. In 1983 the Greene County Court named her the official county historian. Upton died in 1992 and is buried in the Dadeville Masonic Cemetery. Her nephew, John Morris of Jefferson City, donated her papers to the Society after her death. The collection is divided between Upton's personal papers and her research materials. The papers include biographical material, correspondence, manuscripts, unpublished stories, and speeches. Throughout her career Upton attempted unsuccessfully to publish fictional stories and the manuscripts for two fictional novels, "Joy Ride" and "Taffy Head," and her non-fiction book, "Bald Knobbers," are included. The research materials contain a wealth of information about the Ozarks: newspaper columns and clippings, research notes, correspondence, photographs, and songs. Naturally, there is a strong emphasis on Springfield, but researchers will find information on Ozark counties, towns, people, places, superstitions, crafts, and folklore. For a brief period, Upton collected old songs and fiddling tunes and shared them with Vance Randolph for inclusion in his four-volume compilation of Ozark folksongs.

In an unpublished essay, Upton observed that tourists hunting hillbillies often looked for "creatures in long whiskers and sunbonnets." Instead, she declared, they were likely to find the "truly great of the Ozarks – the personalities that have enriched this section and the nation and have supplied the true romance of the Ozark hills." She was undoubtedly one of them. The collection is available on microfilm (with the exception of photographs) and can be requested through interlibrary loan.



Among Lucile Morris Upton's papers are many photographs of Ozarks' places and people, such as this photo of Pearl S. Spurlock. Spurlock (1883-1945) was a native of Harrison County, Missouri. After her doctor advised her to move to the Ozarks for her health, she moved to Branson and spent nearly thirty years behind the wheel of a taxi, guiding tourists through the rugged "Shepherd of the Hills" country. She became a popular local celebrity and during her tours, she told hillbilly jokes and stories such as this one:

"Well, one time there was a tourist who came down here and dreamed he died and went to heaven. When he got up to the Golden Gates, he met St. Peter, shook hands and passed the time of day. He peeked through the Golden Gates and saw a row of people chained to the golden streets. He said to St. Peter, 'Well, that's very beautiful in there, but why are those people chained to the golden streets?' St. Peter said, 'Those people are from Taney County, and if we didn't keep them chained they would all go back!'"

History of Kansas City transit systems

There has been a lot of talk in Kansas City the last several years about light rail travel—with a number of public votes, an uncounted group of commissions and committees, and chatter about what this or that city has, especially comparisons with St. Louis’s MetroLink.

Kansas City should be a bit jealous since at one time she boasted the third-largest mass transit system in the country, all of which was abandoned in the 1950s when changing city demographics, the relative cost of maintaining a rail system versus a motor bus system, and the emerging highway and road network encouraged use of the private car. The rich historical records of Kansas City’s mass transit system have been explored by few planners and policy makers involved in the current effort, but several individual researchers have put the collections to interesting uses.

Among the valuable resources available at the Research Center-Kansas City is the Terence W. Cassidy (1934-1992) Collection, which contains nearly 200 cubic feet of photographs, reports, maps and drawings, publications and clippings, contracts, and correspondence relating to the transit system—from mule cars to cable cars, streetcars, electric buses, and finally, motor buses. Monroe Dodd mined the collection for his book, *A Splendid Ride: The Streetcars of Kansas City, 1870-1957*, published in 2002 by Kansas City Star Books.

Now a more ambitious and comprehensive book is available—written by Edward A. Conrad and titled *Kansas City Streetcars: From Hayburners to Streamliners* (Kansas City: Heartland Rails Publishing Company, 2011). Richly illustrated with photos of cars, track, and stations; maps of lines; pictures of tokens, transfers, and passes; and other objects and documents, it is truly an encyclopedia of the transit system of Kansas City.

Ed Conrad is more than an avid researcher. He has volunteered at the Research Center-Kansas City for many years, helping to organize and identify the contents of Terry Cassidy’s legacy. Mr. Conrad has sorted and matched thousands of negatives to photo prints, unrolled and



cataloged hundreds of maps and drawings, and arranged and listed boxes of contracts for construction of rail lines, powerhouses, stations, and repair yards dating from the 1880s to the 1960s. Ed has led other researchers and donors to the Society, and through his research, writing, and publications, he has provided invaluable promotion for our holdings and activities—all of which we very much appreciate.

Ed Conrad and additional volunteers contribute their time and effort to complete tasks the staff does not have time to do and add their own experience and knowledge that has evolved over years of working with subjects in the collections. Ona Gieschen is a former hostess supervisor with TWA and a devoted historian of the airline who has been invaluable in helping with our 400+ cubic foot TWA collections. Kay Potter, a retired employee of the Public Relations Department in the JC Nichols Company, has helped identify and arrange the JC Nichols Company photographs and is now indexing the important company scrapbooks. Given the shortage of staff, these individuals and other volunteers we have enjoyed allow us to better serve the researchers who use our collections.



Above: The last day on the 12th Street Incline. Cable Car 3 at the bottom of the incline looking east from the West Bottoms, ca. 1896.

Left: Holmes streetcar, #445, at City Market Square, ca. 1900.

Civil War Road Show offers advice

On June 11 John Bradbury of the Research Center-Rolla served as a consultant in the “Civil War Road Show” sponsored by the Springfield-Greene County Library District. The event was the second of its kind (the first was held April 6, 2009) hosted at the Library Center in connection with the digital imaging project *Community and Conflict: The Impact of the Civil War in the Ozarks*. See: <http://www.ozarkscivilwar.org/>.

These venues offered to the public free evaluations of Civil War heirlooms by scholars and professionals. People brought in all manner of items, including heirlooms, antique shop finds, and campsite relics. The assemblage included everything from bayonets, bullet molds, and powder flasks to soldiers’ letters, tintypes, and cartes-de-visite photograph albums. Some items had Missouri provenance while others reflected postwar immigration to Missouri by veterans from other states. A few puzzlers, such as an odd percussion pistol probably cobbled together out of old parts, stumped the experts.

The consultants included professionals from the military museums at Fort Leonard Wood, the Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield, and Dr. Tom Sweeney of Springfield, whose General Sweeney’s Museum (since acquired by the National Park Service) contained the best collection of Trans-Mississippi theater artifacts in the country. Owners received advice on best methods for long-term preservation of their items and, in the case of images and documents, were offered free scans or electronic photographs and the opportunity to have their items considered for inclusion in *Community and Conflict*.

Certainly among the most dramatic items to come to light was a large 33-star United States flag emblazoned with “The



John F. Bradbury (standing) advises the owner of a cartes-de-visite album on best preservation practices. Photo by Brian Grubbs, Springfield-Greene County Library District.

Union Must Be Preserved.” A political or recruiting flag, its connection to Missouri was uncertain. That was not the case with an album of cartes-de-visite associated with the Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, a regiment with extensive service in southwestern and central Missouri. The images of the unit’s officers and men included a portrait of Col. George H. Hall made by a Jefferson City photographer.

Both “road shows” demonstrated that popular interest is high going into the Civil War sesquicentennial and also that there are still many undiscovered treasures.

Society and University partner to provide quality internship



Intern Lucia Flaim

In June the Research Center–Rolla and staff at the Curtis Laws Wilson Library at Missouri University of Science & Technology helped mentor Lucia (Luci) Flaim, an intern through the Information Science & Learning Technologies program at University of Missouri-Columbia.

Luci will graduate with her master’s degree in library science later this year.

A native of St. James, Luci had already completed an internship at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri, and wanted to pursue additional archival experience in a university library setting. Our collaboration provided her with that opportunity.

Luci’s internship at the Society’s Research Center-Rolla consisted of an introduction to basic archival practices and technical resources. She became familiar with the manuscript catalog, reference services, and office procedures. For perspective on the difference between institutional collections and state history collections, she toured the Missouri S&T Archives

and made a visit to City Hall in Rolla to view century-old municipal records.

No internship would be complete without collection processing. Luci cataloged a booklet from the Chester Army Airfield in McBride, Missouri, and revised an existing collection from the Malden (MO) Army Airfield to include additional material. Both collections required creation of finding aids with supplemental research on the provenance and context of the collections. She also assisted in the initial organization of a new accession.

Rolla staff members enjoyed having extra hands in the office and wish Luci all the best in the future—hopefully pursuing archival work!

Construction of the Gateway Arch: Ironworkers tell their tale



Ironworkers who worked on building the Gateway Arch have been coming into the Research Center-St. Louis to view slides of their achievement and add to the historical record.

They reviewed a 350-image slide show taken from the St. Louis collection in order to help identify individuals and engineering processes used during the construction. They have told many interesting stories that were recorded and will be transcribed. The information will be added to the relevant collection descriptions and photo database.

Author Greg Harris is writing a book about the ironworkers and has been responsible for contacting and bringing in the veterans of Arch construction. The slide show was culled from St. Louis's Art Witman photograph collection. Witman was the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* news photographer who documented the building of the Gateway Arch.

Photograph of Arch construction by Arthur Witman

Irwin-Perkins family history preserved

In 1997 Mathew Irwin-Perkins discovered old family photographs, a scrapbook, and documents in the basement of a grandmother who was reluctant to discuss her family history. He found the collection interesting enough to have it donated to the Research Center-St. Louis and later volunteered to process it. His family came to the United States from Germany in 1838 on a ship that arrived in New Orleans and came up the Mississippi River. "They settled in St. Louis because the Missouri River Valley was very fertile and was very similar to their native Rhineland." In St. Louis, the family acquired a thousand acres of farmland in tracts covering areas north of the Missouri River Bottom Road to Fenton, Missouri. They were among the early German farmers in St. Louis County.

Recently Processed Collections; increased online access

The E.G. Lewis Mail Fraud Collection (1905-1907) is now available. These materials are photocopies of the Library of Congress's holdings on the mail fraud case against E. G. Lewis, the first mayor of University City.

Staff at the Research Center-St. Louis have begun placing many inventories to unprocessed collections online. Finding aids are being scanned and will be available to search on the Society's Web site.

Fran Landesman, 1927-2011

Playwright and producer Fran Landesman who, along with husband Jay Landesman, made St. Louis's Gaslight Square a renowned nightclub and coffeehouse scene of the late 1950s and early '60s, passed away on July 23.

The Research Center-St. Louis holds collections from both Fran and Jay Landesman. Jay died earlier this year on February 20, 2011. These materials provide a window to an exciting and remarkable time in St. Louis's recent past. The collections include many of Fran's published songs and plays and tapes of her performances.



Fran Landesman



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