

MISSOURI TIMES

The State Historical Society of Missouri

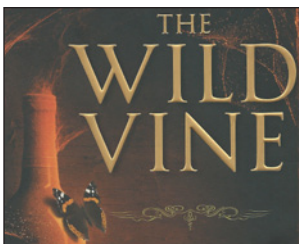
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Students Showcase History and Gain Skills through Competition

More than 3,000 motivated sixth- through twelfth-grade students compete in National History Day in Missouri each year. On April 26 roughly 600 students advanced from regional competitions to the state competition on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus to showcase their exemplary work.

The young scholars conduct extensive research on historical subjects and present their findings through documentaries, exhibits, papers, performances, or websites. The high-level work helps them to develop skills that prepare them for successful lives. Many students advance from the state contest to the national competition.

Ninth-grader Hannah Scott from Odessa advanced to nationals in 2013, finishing in seventh place for her junior individual exhibit, *Penicillin: Wonder Drug of the Battlefield, Turning Point for Modern Medicine*. Scott spent the 2013-14 school year working on her project, *Women of Steel: The Rights and Responsibilities of America's Arsenal for Production*, to top her award-winning entry. While her subject changed, her process didn't.

"I've been working really hard to make it to nationals again this year," Scott said. "I had such a great time last year, and it was amazing to have my exhibit displayed at the National Museum of American History in DC. I just really hope my project is good enough for me to go again."

At the 2014 state contest, Scott earned the right to advance to nationals by placing second in her category. The special prize judges also rewarded Scott's efforts. She received a Missouri History Prize, sponsored by the Missouri State Museum, the Native Sons & Daughters of Greater Kansas City Prize, and the first ever Show Me Prize, established and presented by the State Historical Society of Missouri's Bicentennial Committee. "Hannah's project is great and exactly what I had in mind when we created the Show Me Prize," committee chair Brent Schondelmeyer said. "The award is meant to celebrate the unique contributions of our state to national and international history. Missourians impact the world in more ways than we realize."

Scott found both local and national sources to support her project on women's contributions in WWII. "I really enjoyed learning about the many ways women supported the war effort in the Heartland, as opposed to on the East and West coasts," Scott said.

"The impact on students is tremendous and well worth the investment from the Society and from teachers and parents," SHSMO Executive Director Gary Kremer said. "Students build confidence, develop their critical thinking, and learn important communication skills. National History Day in Missouri prepares them for college and beyond."



Left SHSMO Executive Director Gary Kremer presents Hannah Scott a medal for placing second in senior individual exhibits. Above Scott with her national award-winning 2013 project.

Thank you to the Missouri Humanities Council, which serves as cosponsor for National History Day in Missouri.

Missouri Connections to the Monuments Men Showcased

On February 20 US Senator Roy Blunt spoke at the Research Center-Columbia, advocating for a bipartisan bill he introduced in the Senate to award the Congressional Gold Medal to men and women who saved European artworks, sculptures, and cultural artifacts stolen by Nazis during World War II.

The press event focused on legislation Blunt introduced last December to honor the Monuments Men, a group of roughly 350 men and women from thirteen countries who are credited with restoring millions of artworks. Their story is portrayed in a recent movie directed by George Clooney that is based on books written by Robert Edsel.

Blunt stated that four of the Monuments Men were Missouri natives, and ten were later employed in the state.

"Incredible men and women from Missouri and across the world fought to protect and preserve millions of invaluable cultural artifacts from devastation during World War II," Blunt said. "I'm excited to see their compelling story adapted into film, and I'm



While making an announcement about the bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Monuments Men, US Senator Roy Blunt took a moment to view *Negro Soldier* by Thomas Hart Benton. After being on loan to the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, the painting was returned just prior to Blunt's visit.

hopeful that through this movie and this bipartisan legislation we can encourage more Americans to learn about the rich history of these works of art and the remarkable legacies of the Monuments Men."

During his visit, Blunt, a Society trustee and board officer, highlighted artworks at SHSMO that capture complex moments in American

history. Among the most famous is *General Order No. 11* by George Caleb Bingham. Yet there are many valuable works beyond the famous pieces by Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton. Explore the collection by visiting the Research Center-Columbia or the Society's website at <http://shs.umsystem.edu/art>.

Make SHSMO Part of Your Legacy: Share Your Story and Secure the Society's Future

The State Historical Society of Missouri's collections tell the stories of people within the communities in which they lived and worked. The most amazing insights into local history are often pieced together from the diaries and day-to-day papers of plainspoken Missourians. Consider preserving your unique story by sharing your papers and family records with the Society. At SHSMO they will be safely stored and made available for future generations.

You can also let your love for Missouri history be reflected through estate gifts and gifts of assets. The 1898 Society recognizes estate and planned gifts as well as endowment gifts. Join the company of those who have already made the commitment to expand the important mission to collect, protect, and share Missouri history. To learn more about the 1898 Society, please contact Ms. Severin Roberts, Director of Development, at Severin.Roberts@umsystem.edu or 573.882.7083.

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MISSOURI TIMES

is published by *The State Historical Society of Missouri*

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Artist's Life Celebrated

SHSMO celebrated the 125th birthday of Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton with a Birthday Bash and a new exhibit of his sketches, lithographs, and paintings. On April 12 families gathered at the Research Center-Columbia to create birthday cards, share cake, and meet a historical reenactor portraying Benton. The public took part in an interview with Benton, with attendees invited to question the artist about his life and work.

Perhaps Missouri's best-known artist, Benton recorded the social history of the West, including what he experienced in his home state. He was born on April 15, 1889, in Neosho.

The exhibit, *American Mythologies*, explores the



Gary Beahan as Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton.

popular history of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century Midwest and West with its vast landscapes, mighty rivers, and bigger-than-life characters whose legends remain in the American psyche.

"If you have ever wondered why the cowboy or the

steamboat is so important in America's cultural mythology, come view this unique show," Art Curator Joan Stack said.

The exhibit will continue through October 2014 in the Main Gallery at the Society's Research Center-Columbia.

2014 Missouri Conference on History Sees Record Attendance, Donates Proceeds to National History Day

The 56th Annual Missouri Conference on History (MCH) attracted 213 participants, well above the recent average of 120. The conference, held March 17-18 in Jefferson City, was hosted by the Missouri State Archives. The growth in attendance coincided with the conference's partnership with Phi Alpha Theta and its Midwest Regional Meeting. Gary Kremer, secretary/treasurer of the MCH Steering Committee, said the increase was a positive sign for the professional application of

history, and it allowed the committee to reinvest in future historians. A portion of the proceeds was donated to National History Day in Missouri, a program administered by the State Historical Society of Missouri in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council.

The MCH Steering Committee would like to thank the Missouri State Archives, SHSMO, Phi Alpha Theta, and Park University for making the 2014 conference a success.

State Historical Society Welcomes New Staff Members in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, and Kansas City

The State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO) added new staff members over the past year, including the most recent new hire, Tracey Howerton, who joined the Research Center-Kansas City staff as a senior manuscript specialist in late February. Prior to moving to the Kansas City area, Howerton

lived most recently in Nashville, Tennessee, where she worked at the Nashville Public Library's Special Collections Division for nearly ten years.

In Nashville, Howerton processed archival collections, provided public reference service, and managed the daily activities of the library's local history division. She coordinated volunteers and regularly assisted with public programs and tour groups, especially those related to the Nashville library's innovative Civil Rights Room. In 2011 she co-curated *Electrifying Times: How Power Transformed Our City*, an exhibition concerning the history of electrification in Nashville and central Tennessee.

"We are all excited to welcome Tracey to the SHSMO staff, and we look forward to benefiting from her enthusiasm, knowledge, and experience in the Research Center-Kansas City for years to come," SHSMO Executive Director Gary Kremer said.

In May 2012 Howerton earned a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, completing the online distance education

program while working full time. She fulfilled her graduate fieldwork requirement at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

A native of Ohio, Howerton enjoys walking, hiking, cycling, and spending time outdoors. She also is an enthusiast of great food and live music. She looks forward to learning about Kansas City and exploring its many libraries, museums, and archives. She especially appreciates the kindness of the staff at the Research Center-Kansas City—David Boutros, Nancy Piepenbring, Tonya Crawford, Ethan Williamson, and Laura Darnell.

Additional new staff members

Research Center-Cape Girardeau

Cassandra Daugette, Administrative Assistant

Frank Nickell, Assistant Director

Research Center-Columbia

Christina George, Computing Support Specialist

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Coordinator, Publications & Media Relations

Heather Richmond, Manuscript Specialist
Wende Wagner, Coordinator, Membership & Development



Tracey Howerton, senior manuscript specialist, recently started at the Research Center-Kansas City.

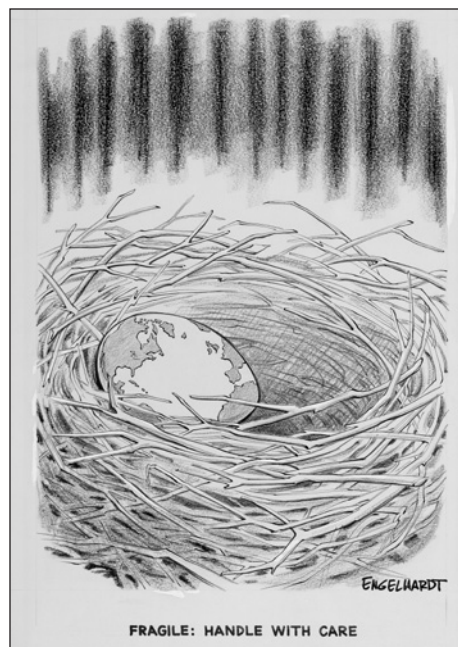
Engelhardt Editorial Cartoon Collection Now Available on SHSMO Website

Humor, satire, and impressive artistry fill the State Historical Society of Missouri's editorial cartoon collections, which include more than a dozen Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoons and roughly 18,000 original drawings from nationally known editorial cartoonists such as Herbert Block, Tom Engelhardt, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Don Hesse, Bill Mauldin, and S. J. Ray.

SHSMO is proud to announce that the Engelhardt Collection is now available online at <http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/ec>. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, more than 8,000 of Engelhardt's creations can be searched by keyword and date of publication. The collection is accessible 24 hours a day.

The online SHSMO Editorial Cartoon collection now contains 17,580 images by Tom Engelhardt, Daniel Fitzpatrick, and Bill Mauldin.

These cartoons provide unique observations on the political, social, and local issues of their respective eras. SHSMO invites you to visit the collection and learn more about both Missouri and national history through these thought-provoking artistic works.



One of the many Engelhardt cartoons available online. This image is from December 8, 1971.

JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION!

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Educators Honored for Dedication to Students, National History Day in Missouri Program

SHSMO is proud to recognize three educators who have shown extraordinary dedication to teaching history in Missouri classrooms and have made exceptional contributions to National History Day in Missouri. Congratulations to the 2014 award winners:

Patricia Behring Award Winner (Junior level): Maureen Funk, Princeton RV School

"In my thirty-eight years as an educator, I have found National History Day to be the best student project-based learning program I have encountered. The skills students learn in the process of developing their projects are invaluable, in both their academic career and in life. For the students in our small, rural school, National History Day has opened up whole worlds to them by the skills and knowledge gained through their projects as well as the opportunities offered by the NHD Program." -Maureen Funk

Patricia Behring Award Winner (Senior level): Paul Arnold, Malden High School

"There are two ways to teach: through your mind or through your heart. The National History Day program has allowed me not only to spread my passion for history through research and project construction but also to teach with my heart. Teaching history is more than dates and facts, or even people; it is about relationships." -Paul Arnold

Joseph Webber Award Winner: Amy Martin, William Matthew Middle School, Kirksville

"What I really appreciated was that she [Amy] solicited research mentors for her students from among history majors at Truman. She also encouraged these college age-middle school partnerships by involving the college students in helping edit papers and conducting mock interviews. I think the college students enjoyed this as much as Amy's middle schoolers. . . . Amy has a real heart for local history and she has passed that on to her students."

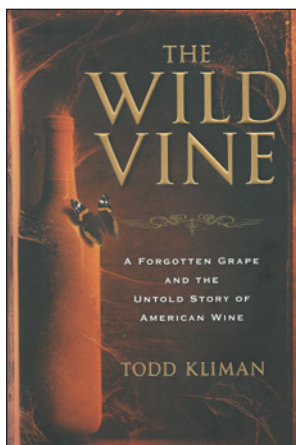
-Jeff Gall, Region 2 NHDMO Coordinator, on Amy Martin



State Coordinator Maggie Mayhan, left, with award-winner Maureen Funk.

These awards recognize extraordinary dedication to NHD, teaching, and creativity in the classroom. The Joseph Webber Teacher of Merit Award recognizes teachers who have participated in National History Day for five or fewer years. Nominees for the Patricia Behring Missouri Teacher of the Year Awards must be active participants in the program and be nominated by an NHD coordinator.

These exceptional individuals go the extra mile and help history come to life in classrooms across the state. Please thank them and the educators in your area who teach more than the history found in textbooks.



Author of *The Wild Vine* to Speak at Annual Meeting October 18, 2014

Author Todd Kliman will be the featured speaker at the State Historical Society of Missouri's 2014 annual meeting. The meeting will be held October 18 at the Broadway Columbia, a Double Tree by Hilton Hotel.

Kliman, the author of *The Wild Vine: A Forgotten Grape and the Untold Story of American Wine*, will lead attendees in a historical exploration of the Norton, Missouri's state grape, which turned the world of fine wine upside down in 1873. A hybrid developed to withstand North American climates, the Norton was cultivated by Missouri winemakers who produced a wine that took gold at an international exhibition in Vienna. The Norton grape and its full-

bodied wine surprised the connoisseurs and started a long tradition of Missouri wine-making.

Join fellow members in guiding the mission of the Society forward, visiting with colleagues, and enjoying the program. The Honor Roll of Membership and Giving will also be shared for the July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, year. Watch the *Missouri Times* and shs.umsystem.edu for the full schedule and registration details. Get started on your own Norton adventure by ordering *The Wild Vine* at 573.882.7083 or shsofmo@umsystem.edu. The book is priced at \$22.50 for members and \$25.00 for nonmembers, shipping excluded.

Society Seeks Nominations for Annual Missouri History Book Award and Lewis E. Atherton Prizes

Scholars of the history of Missouri and its people are invited to enter the Society's annual competitions recognizing exemplary new works. Recent books, doctoral dissertations, and master's theses are eligible for consideration.

The **Missouri History Book Award**, given for the best book published on the history of Missouri and its people, includes a \$1,500 prize and a certificate for the author(s).

Books copyrighted in 2013 are eligible for the 2014 award.

The **Lewis E. Atherton Prizes** are awarded for an outstanding doctoral dissertation and master's thesis on Missouri history or biography. The winner of the dissertation award will receive a \$1,000 check and a certificate, and the winner of the thesis award will receive a \$500 check and a certificate. Nominations must be made by the

department that granted the degree, and no more than two nominations for each prize are accepted annually from a department.

To be considered for the Missouri History Book Award or the Lewis E. Atherton Prizes, nomination materials must be submitted by June 30, 2014. All three prizes will be awarded at the Society's annual meeting on October 18, 2014. For further information, contact SHSMO at 573.882.7083.

The Teaching Sisters of Morehouse Leave Lasting Legacy in Southeast Missouri

In nineteenth- and twentieth-century rural Missouri, few people were as well known and respected as the local schoolteachers. Often born and reared near the communities in which they taught, teachers might graduate from a one-room country school, gain a college education at a regional normal school, and be certified by a distant and seldom-seen State Department of Education. These teachers often began their careers when they were barely older than their pupils. A substantial number were female and unmarried; if successful, they might stay in their positions for three or four decades, becoming iconic figures in their small rural communities.

Two such teachers were Thelma and Nell Reynolds of Morehouse, Missouri. Born near the community of Poco in southeastern Illinois, the two sisters soon moved with their parents, John Clayborn “Clabe” Reynolds and Lou Harmon Reynolds, to southeast Missouri. Making their home west of Sikeston in the small town of Morehouse, Thelma, Nell, and their brother, Baker, received their education in the local schools. Baker became a barber and joined his father in the barber shop. Thelma and Nell enrolled in the teacher training program at Southeast Missouri State College in Cape Girardeau.

The sisters began teaching in the early 1930s and spent the next four decades impacting the lives of hundreds of elementary school students in

Morehouse. By the time Thelma and Nell retired in the 1970s, nearly every resident of the community had been a pupil of one or both. At the same time, all of the boys and men were getting their hair cut in the Reynolds Barber Shop.

Clabe earned the family further recognition by establishing an impressive tulip garden beside the house and barber shop. The garden quickly became his pride and joy, with hundreds of multicolored tulips in neatly cultivated rows. Visitors traveled to Morehouse to see the garden, walk along the rows of tulips, and sign the guest book. The register of visitors reveals hundreds of annual guests from states across the region: Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Missouri. In the 1940s and 1950s, the beauty of the tulips and the number of visitors motivated Clabe to purchase a movie camera to document this special springtime event.

Until recently, records of the family’s legacy were stored in a garage in St. Louis. Jay Brewer, the grandnephew of Thelma and Nell, donated the collection to the Research Center-Cape Girardeau to ensure its safekeeping. It was sizable, as neither sister wanted to part with the records of their teaching careers. They threw nothing away that connected them to their former students: letters, photographs, holiday cards, and gifts.

Also in the collection are sixty-two reels of home movies of the tulip garden, the Sikeston Cotton Carnival, parades,

graduation ceremonies, and life in Morehouse, a town the sisters sincerely loved. In her later years Nell became very much the historian, documenting events and teaching the young about their history.

The sisters outlived the rest of their family. Thelma died in 1988 and Nell in 1997. They left no direct descendants to provide care for their wonderful family artifacts and community history. The State Historical Society now has the privilege of preserving and sharing the Reynolds family story, including the record of the lives of Thelma and Nell Reynolds, the “Teaching Sisters of Morehouse.”



Above Nell, left, Thelma, Baker, and Clabe Reynolds in the tulip garden next to the Reynolds Barber Shop. **Top Right** Nell, left, and Thelma in Hawaii. The pair visited the island in 1984 on the recommendation of their brother, who was stationed there in World War II. It was the farthest the sisters ever ventured from Missouri.

June Close-up: On Photographs and Family Papers
June 16 1 – 4 p.m.
Excelsior Springs Museum and Archives

In this new workshop, the State Historical Society of Missouri's (SHSMO) Anne Cox, photograph specialist, and Laura Jolley, senior manuscript specialist, will provide an introduction to caring for photographs and papers. Topics will include collection management, organization and storage, basic preservation, and dealing with digital files. The session will be held at the Excelsior Springs Museum and Archives at 101 East Broadway in Excelsior Springs. A networking hour will follow from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Contact SHSMO to register at 573.882.7083 or email at shsofmo@umsystem.edu. Cost is \$5 for members and nonmembers.

Gen. Thomas Ewing: Beyond Order No. 11

June 21 1:30 p.m. Research Center-Columbia

Many people best know Thomas Ewing as the general who issued General Order No. 11, a forced evacuation impacting four western Missouri counties in 1863. The famous George Caleb Bingham painting by the same name at the Research Center-Columbia illustrates the repercussions of that edict. Guest lecturer Walter E. Busch, site administrator of the Fort Davidson State Historic Site, will discuss Ewing's career in Missouri after Order No. 11, arguing that the controversial evacuation order has overshadowed the general's important role in preserving Union control of Missouri in 1864.

Retirement Celebration for Lynn Wolf Gentzler

June 26 4 – 6 p.m. Memorial Union's Stotler Lounge III

After more than forty years advancing nearly every aspect of the Society's mission to collect, preserve, and share Missouri's rich history, Lynn Wolf Gentzler is retiring. Join in the celebration of her career before she retires in the fall. Cake will be served June 26, 2014, 4-6 p.m. Remarks will be made at 4:30 p.m. Come share your appreciation for all that Gentzler has influenced with her leadership. Contact SHSMO for more information at 573.882.7083 or shsofmo@umsystem.edu.

Missouri and World War I Walk-Through

June 28 1:30 p.m. Corridor Gallery Research Center-Columbia

On this date 100 years ago, a single act ignited a chain of events that led to World War I. Join the State Historical Society of Missouri in remembering the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria with a walk-through of a new exhibition. Opening in June, *Missouri and World War I* examines the Great War's impact on Missourians' daily lives through photographs and correspondence that provide firsthand accounts of their experiences, both on the home front and abroad. Claire Presley Marks, associate historian, will guide attendees through the exhibit and provide interpretation of contemporary artifacts ranging from newspapers to sheet music and books, helping us to better understand the political, social, and cultural climate of the period.



July Retirement Celebration for David Boutros
July 9 5 – 7 p.m. Katz Hall
University of Missouri-Kansas City

The Research Center-Kansas City has benefited from the leadership of David Boutros for over three decades. Before he retires, please help the State Historical Society of Missouri thank him for his many contributions to preserving and sharing Missouri's history through his acquisition and management of countless historical records during his tenure. If you would like more information, contact the Research Center-Kansas City at 816.235.1543 or shsofmo-kc@umsystem.edu.

"I Will Make You Infamous":
Artist George Caleb Bingham on the Civil War, Civil Liberties, and General Thomas Ewing
July 15 7 p.m. Fort Davidson State Historic Site

Missouri artist George Caleb Bingham was a witness to and participant in the American Civil War. After the war, he depicted one of the state's most significant wartime events in *General Order No. 11*, a picture representing the evacuation of civilians from four western Missouri counties ordered by Union Gen. Thomas Ewing. Bingham and Ewing have been intertwined for more than a century through the legend that the artist recorded his feelings for the general in his famous painting. In this lecture Dr. Joan Stack, SHSMO's curator of art collections, discusses recent research related to the myth and encourages its reevaluation. The Fort Davidson State Historic Site invites you to attend the talk at 118 East Maple in Pilot Knob. For more details, contact Fort Davidson at 573.546.3454.

August World War I and Your Ancestors

August 11 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Research Center-Columbia

Join SHSMO for a workshop exploring artifacts from soldiers and civilians of the First World War era. Claire Presley Marks, associate historian, will guide you in evaluating photographs, personal letters, and other firsthand accounts of the wartime experiences of Missourians, both on the home front and abroad. Popular books, songs, and newspapers will offer further glimpses into the time period. Amy Waters, SHSMO reference specialist, will demonstrate tools for tracing the lives of your ancestors during the period of dramatic political, social, and cultural changes initiated by World War I.



2014 Annual Meeting
October 18
The Broadway Columbia

Looking ahead

Join fellow members in guiding the mission of the Society forward, visiting with colleagues, and enjoying the featured program by Todd Kliman, the author of *The Wild Vine: A Forgotten Grape and the Untold Story of American Wine*. See more details on page four.

American Audio Prose Library Provides Behind-the-Scenes Look at Famous Novels

In 1979 Kay Bonetti, a University of Missouri-Columbia graduate student, set out with University of Missouri English professor Speer Morgan to create the American Audio Prose Library, a collection of recordings of famous contemporary writers. The recordings, which include renditions and interpretations of the authors' works, were usually conducted by Bonetti. Close readings of the works prior to the interviews allowed Bonetti to ask insightful questions about the writers' influences and creative processes. Although the shortened, edited versions of these interviews were broadcast on hundreds of radio stations and are available for individual purchase, the collection donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri includes the unedited audiotapes, providing several more hours of discussion from the writers as well as readings of their own work.

Toni Morrison, Norman Mailer, Raymond Carver, and Norman Maclean are among the more than one hundred authors included in the collection. While most of the recordings are with American authors, the collection also includes interviews with foreign writers such as Mario Vargas Llosa and Chinua Achebe. The interviews span numerous writing genres and offer multifaceted explorations of the writers' childhoods, general influences, cultural backgrounds, significant life events, and other inspirations for their works.

Bonetti interviewed Nigerian author Chinua Achebe in 1988. His novel *Things Fall Apart*, a milestone in African literature, had been published more than thirty years earlier,

while *Anthills of the Savannah* had been published only one year prior to the recording. Achebe discusses both novels in great detail, providing his perspective on Nigeria's politics and indigenous cultures, particularly the Igbo culture in which he was reared.

When Achebe was a child, his education exposed him to European colonial novels. He quickly realized he identified not with the heroic colonizers, but with the colonized native characters, who were typically portrayed as ignorant, savage, or worse. Achebe explains his emotional response to

Norman Maclean was interviewed in 1985. His most famous work, A River Runs Through It and Other Stories, had already been published by the University of Chicago Press, and he was completing a later work, Young Men and Fire, at the time of the interview. Excerpts from Young Men and Fire are read aloud by Maclean prior to the book's publication, providing the audience with a unique opportunity to hear passages from a famous writer's rough draft, noting slight differences in wording and structure.

these works, declaring with certainty, "This is not me." This realization provided the inspiration to write a new literature that would portray African people and cultures from a perspective that was not foreign.

Norman Maclean was interviewed in 1985. His most famous work, *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*, had already been published by the University of Chicago Press, and he was completing a later work, *Young Men and Fire*, at the time of the interview. Excerpts from *Young Men and Fire* were read aloud by Maclean prior to the book's publication, providing the audience with a unique opportunity to hear passages from a famous writer's rough draft, noting slight differences in wording and structure.

Maclean's unusual childhood provided the foundation for his late writing career. Home-schooled by his father, he spent only a few hours each day on reading and writing, using the rest of his time to explore the woods around his home. Maclean's knowledge of the Montana wilderness led him to a position with the Forest Service when he was only fourteen years old. He later engaged in a forty-five-year career at the University of Chicago. Maclean has described his life as "a combination of the woods and the big universities." When he turned his attention to writing at the age of seventy, he drew from these two very different experiences. In his recording for the American Audio Prose Library, Maclean describes these influences on his writing.

The Achebe and Maclean interviews typify the collection's recordings in that they provide important information about the authors' writing careers while also offering listeners the experience of hearing the writers firsthand, without editing. Intended to establish a permanent record of working writers' lives, the American Audio Prose Library illuminates the lives of these authors and provides behind-the-scenes glimpses into the creation of their works.



Things Fall Apart by Nigerian author Chinua Achebe was a milestone in African literature. In his interview, Achebe provides his perspective on Nigeria's politics and indigenous cultures, particularly the Igbo culture in which he was reared. [Courtesy of Scartol]

Award-Winning Photojournalist's Work Added to Research Center-Kansas City Holdings

The best photos are those that, like fine art, evoke emotion and interest in the viewer. For most photographs it is this quality, even more than the factual representation of a person, event, or place, that earns praise. To capture it, the photographer must be in the right place at the right time, and get the right picture. That was what photojournalist Ray Corey was known for among his colleagues, earning him the reputation of "the best street photographer" in the 1970s.

A recent gift of the Raymond E. Corey Photograph Collection (K1311) added prints and tens of thousands of 35mm negatives to the more than five million *Kansas City Star* images from the era between 1980 and 2000 already housed at the Research Center-Kansas City.

Corey's photographs from his time at the *Kansas City Star*, *Kansas City Times*, *Kansas City Kansan*, and *Coffeyville (KS) Journal* expand the range of images to the mid-1960s. The collection includes many evocative photos of people and events. Corey's biography, provided by his family, tells his story:

Ray Corey was born May 1, 1936, at Research Hospital in Kansas City to Mae (Vader) and John Corey. His parents were estranged prior to his birth, there were no siblings, and he had little contact with his father throughout his life. His mother died suddenly when he was sixteen, leaving him basically on his own.

While attending high school, he began working part-time as an office boy for the Associated Press (AP). This began a lifelong love of newspapers and photography. Although he never finished his formal education, AP photographer Bill Straeter and many others became his mentors, shaping his ability and skills.

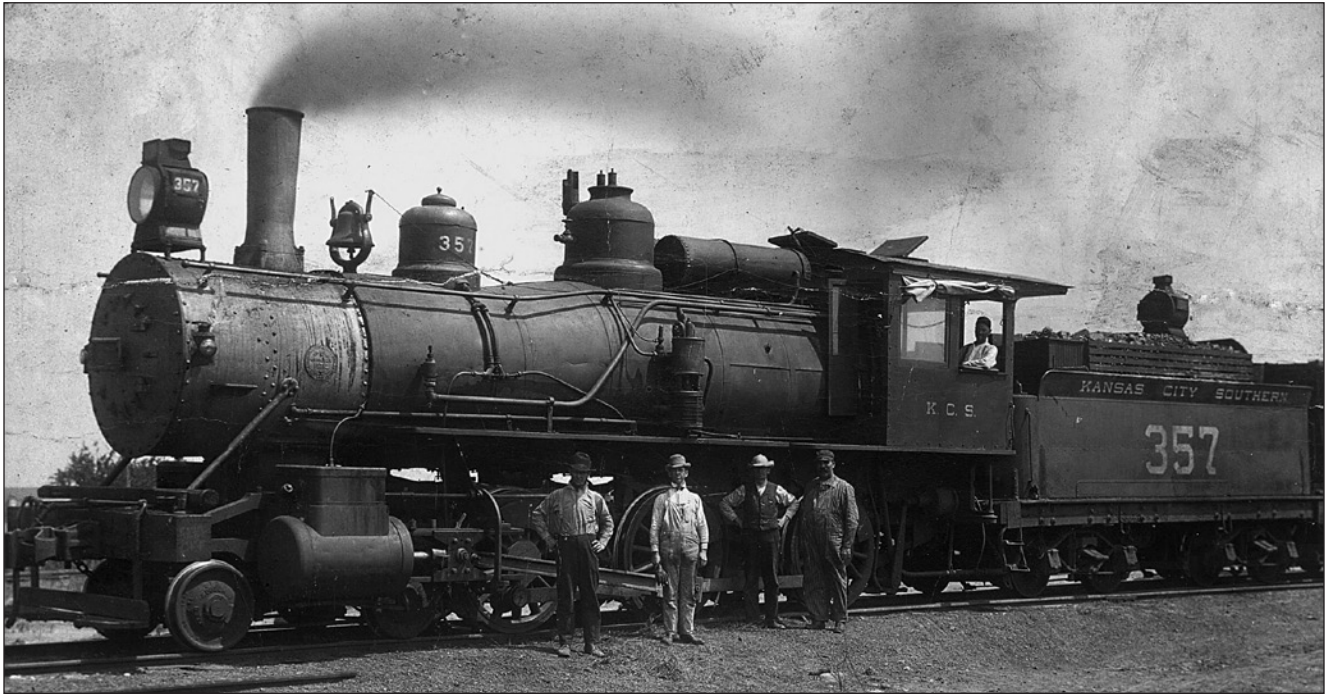
With the encouragement of his "teachers," he began taking photos of sports and news events, selling a few but more importantly becoming experienced in taking, developing, and printing quality news photographs.

In 1959 Ray was hired by the Coffeyville Journal as a news photographer; his first job in his dream career. From the mid-1960s to 1979, he worked at the Kansas City Star, returning to the same building where he began with the AP.



Above National Press Photographers Association award-winning photo of a man being apprehended after an attempted robbery of the Brotherhood State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, in February 1966. Note Corey's shadow. **Below** Famous Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton in his studio. One of a series for a feature on Benton in the *Kansas City Star*.





Above Frank Switzer, second from left, and the crew of KCS No. 357 in Curranville, Arkansas, 1908. **Below** George Switzer in the cab of a diesel locomotive, ca. 1960.

History of the Kansas City Southern Railway, the last-built of the Missouri's Class I lines, Preserved

A recent donation by Sallie Beard of Joplin offers a glimpse into the rich history of the Kansas City Southern Railway (KCS). The collection represents the accumulation of a father and son who, between them, had nearly eighty years of experience on the line. Frank Moore Switzer, born in Chillicothe, Missouri, in 1873, was already a veteran of the Wabash Railroad when he became a brakeman for the Kansas City, Pittsburg, and Gulf line (KCP & G) in 1897. Promoted to conductor in 1901, Switzer and his wife, Anna, made their home in Anderson, Missouri, for many years. After thirty-four years of service, he was the senior conductor on the KCS northern division at the time of his death in Pittsburg, Kansas, in 1931.

His son, George M. Switzer, born in Kansas in 1902, began railroading around 1918 as a Kansas City Southern crew caller and brakeman. George was promoted to conductor in 1937. In the 1940s he rose through the ranks rapidly. He became superintendent of the northern division in 1955 before moving to the southern division in 1960. Switzer retired in 1968 after nearly fifty years of service with KCS.

The earliest item in the collection is a rulebook, checked out to Frank Switzer when he was hired by the KCP & G in 1897. Nearly all of the other material dates after 1900 and is Kansas City Southern in origin. Among the papers are Frank Switzer's membership

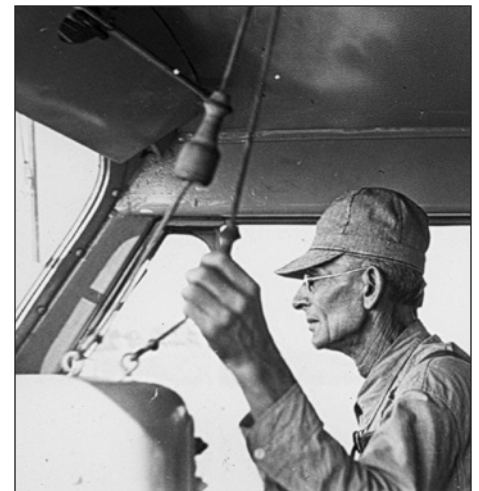
cards in the Order of Railway Conductors, train orders, seniority rosters, company publications, equipment diagrams, and items advertising KCS passenger service, notably the *Southern Belle* to New Orleans. Also included are over 200 photographs spanning the steam and diesel eras and showing Kansas City Southern locomotives, facilities, and operations. Some are the work of commercial photographers, but many are snapshots amassed by George Switzer in his capacity as trainmaster and division superintendent. A significant number show wrecks and derailments, illustrating the travails of a railroad official charged with keeping trains moving, and who was the first on call when they didn't.

Kansas City Southern Railway History

The smallest and last-built of Missouri's Class I lines, the Kansas City Southern Railway is also the last of over fifty railroads that once bore Kansas City in their titles. The railroad has been solvent since 1900 and outlived larger regional neighbors by transporting grain, oil, and petrochemicals to and from the Gulf. It survived the railroad merger mania in the late twentieth century and still operates in ten states. Since the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, it has become an important link in an international rail system connecting the American Midwest to the Panama Canal.

The rail was established in 1893 as the Kansas City, Pittsburg, and Gulf Railway. Developer Arthur E. Stillwell proposed a north-south railroad to the Gulf of Mexico for Kansas City. The direct line, cutting across the established transcontinental railroads, ran 800 miles, shorter by 400 miles than eastward routes to Atlantic seaboard ports.

Stillwell developed Port Arthur, Texas, named after him, as the railroad's Gulf terminal. The costs of developing the terminal and 250 miles of new construction led the company into bankruptcy and drove Stillwell from leadership. The Kansas City Southern Railway emerged from the receivership in 1900.





Environmental Collections in St. Louis Enriched with Activist's Papers

The papers of noted lawyer and environmental activist J. Peter Schmitz recently became part of the collection at the Research Center-St. Louis. Donated by the Open Space Council, the papers reflect Schmitz's long legal career in which he championed environmental causes and sought to preserve Missouri's natural environment. Schmitz also served as the council's past president and a longtime board member.

Schmitz, who died in 1999, was the legal tactician behind the establishment of the Forest 44 Conservation Area and the expansion of Castlewood Park. He helped delay the destruction of the St. Louis Arena until the Landmarks Association approved the plans, and he played a pivotal role in creating the Carondelet Greenway. The Greenway went through the small town of Grantwood Village via a railroad easement on property once owned by Ulysses S. Grant. While researching the land's history, Schmitz discovered a letter from Grant authorizing the permit for the easement. This find allowed him to overcome objections by Grantwood Village officials opposed to putting the six-mile track through the town. They claimed no historical records existed for any rail yard easement.

Other topics reflected in the Schmitz papers include the St. Louis Art Museum's expansion in Forest Park, the extension of the MetroLink mass transit system in St. Louis, the preservation of the Collins tract in Arnold, and opposition to the Page Avenue extension.

The papers of environmental activist J. Peter Schmitz are now available in St. Louis.

First Director of the Research Center-St. Louis Named 2014 Trailblazer

Irene Cortinovic received a 2014 Women Trailblazers Award as part of the National Women's History Month observance at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). Cortinovic was the first appointed director of UMSL's Western Historical Manuscript Collection, the predecessor office to the Research Center-St. Louis. She served as director from 1971 to 1982.

Cortinovic helped establish some of the St. Louis center's most notable collections. She conducted interviews with early suffragists for the women's history collections and received a federal grant to expand the African American collections, which include interviews with early Mississippi riverboat jazz musicians and baseball players now featured in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

Cortinovic also worked to establish the Women's Center on UMSL's campus. She was chairwoman of the University of Missouri-St. Louis's Honorary Degree Committee and served on the boards of the Scholarship Foundation, the St. Louis Art Museum, and the United Nations Association.



Tom George, chancellor of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, presents a 2014 Women Trailblazers Award to Irene Cortinovic as part of the National Women's History Month observance at UMSL.

Recent Acquisitions

Famous Firsts of St. Louis: A Celebration of Facts, Figures, Food and Fun, by Diane Rademacher, 2014.

The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History, by Margot McMillen, 2011 (autographed).

Herb Waeckerle Papers, expanded with several books on regional history topics, including a volume of congressional memorial tributes to Harry S. Truman signed by Thomas Eagleton.

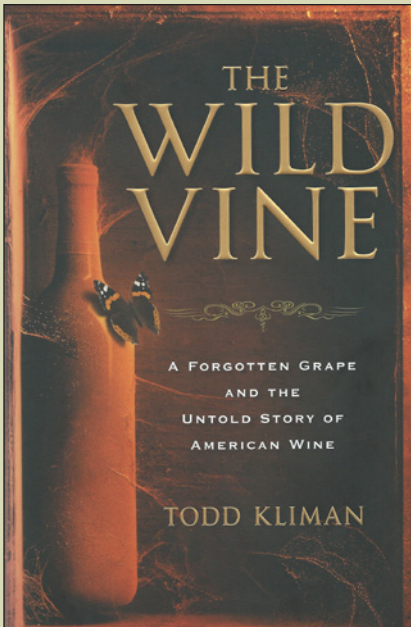
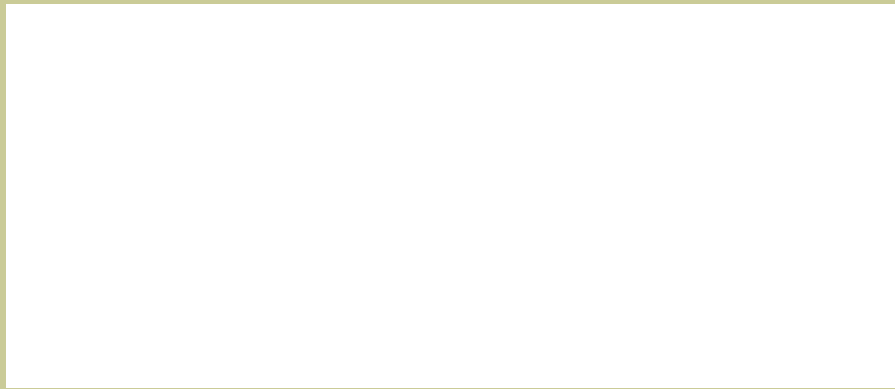
St. Louis Regional Chamber, Addenda, 1970-99. This addition contains membership, committee, and administrative files.



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ANNUAL MEETING

See details on page four.