Dear Member,

Welcome to the end of an era for the State Historical Society of Missouri. We are here to celebrate it. And while we do, we will be anticipating an even bigger celebration next year.

This is the last annual meeting and fall lecture that we will hold outside of the Society’s own building for, we hope, many decades.

A year from now we will welcome you to the annual meeting and fall lecture in the brand new Center for Missouri Studies!

We exist to serve you and thousands of others who turn to us for family records, insights into how we got to be who and what we are, and documentation of how that history unfolded. And so much more. We know we’ll discover new ways to serve and to reach out to others when we start to capitalize on the opportunities we will have in our new building.

We’re starting to close the door on more than a century of our own history with today’s events. This will be the last chance for some of you to visit the Elmer Ellis Library quarters that have been our home since 1916, and I hope you will take that opportunity so that you will be amazed at what you see when you return for our annual meeting in 2019.

Many of you are regular visitors, and maybe from time to time you have checked on the construction progress of the Center for Missouri Studies. Now that it is mostly enclosed, we can see what an incredible statement this building will be. Please check it out when you visit our present quarters and the special exhibits the staff has put together for this meeting.

There is so much great stuff to talk about today! Thank you for being with us to celebrate the beginning of the end of one era for the State Historical Society of Missouri, and the beginning of the beginning of our next great era.

A dynamic future for our past is only a few months away.

Sincerely,

Bob Priddy
President, Board of Trustees

Cover: Little Scotia Pond, Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, a photograph by Oliver Schuchard, is one of a hundred photographic prints recently donated by the mid-Missouri artist. Back Cover: Building the Eads Bridge, 1873, by Frank Nuderscher.
Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2018

The State Historical Society of Missouri is funded through appropriations from the State of Missouri and the University of Missouri, as well as with revenues from its Membership Trust Fund. A complete accounting of all funding sources is available in the audited financial statements available online. The graph to the right illustrates operating revenues within the Membership Trust Fund for the 2018 fiscal year (July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018). The graph below highlights expenditures from the Membership Trust Fund for the same period.

Membership Trust Fund Operating Revenues

- Endowment Contributions 1% – $4,526
- Unrestricted Donations 12% $51,860
- Dedicated Funding 31% $140,633
- Membership 22% $99,701
- Programs and Services 34% $155,664
- Unrestricted Donations 12% $51,860

Membership Trust Fund Operating Expenses

- Management & General 44%
- Education & Programming 25%
- Collections & Research 31%

Collections & Research – $141,897
Education & Programming – $114,900
Management & General – $197,049
Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2018

The graph below on the left illustrates public funding received by the State Historical Society of Missouri from the State of Missouri and the University of Missouri. To the right is a representation of expenditures of these funds. Both graphs represent the 2018 fiscal year (July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018).

Funding Sources

- University of Missouri: $528,000.00 (18%)
- State of Missouri Revenue: $2,387,028.00 (82%)

Funding Expenditures

- Salary Expenditures: $2,782,666.47 (95%)
- Facilities Expenditures: $148,005.24 (5%)

Comprehensive Campaign

In addition to the $35 million bond funds provided by the State of Missouri for the new State Historical Society’s Center for Missouri Studies, SHSMO needs to raise $1.9 million total funds to pay for moving expenses, to construct a patron parking lot, and to complete the furnishing of the building. Photo courtesy of River City Construction
Construction on the State Historical Society of Missouri’s new headquarters, the Center for Missouri Studies, is progressing on schedule. The final steel beam is in place, the concrete floors are set, and the walls have been framed. Completion of the interior is scheduled for next March, and the move to the new Columbia headquarters at Sixth and Elm Streets is expected to take place during the University of Missouri’s 2019 summer session. Without strong support from State Historical Society members, this exciting time in the organization’s history would not be possible.

The Center for Missouri Studies will provide a state-of-the-art facility that secures SHSMO’s ability to carry out its work for a second century. An onsite multipurpose room suitable for hosting future lectures and other large public events; a larger gallery specifically designed for the Society’s art collections; an expanded research center equipped with modern technology; additional classroom and meeting room spaces for holding more intimate programs; and cutting-edge archival spaces and equipment for housing and preserving collections that will open up possibilities in the years ahead that can barely be grasped today.

While the building’s construction is creating excitement, SHSMO’s educational initiative by the same name continues in its own right. The State Historical Society’s Center for Missouri Studies’ programs support scholarship, publication of new works, and educational programming across the Show-Me State, broadly promoting greater understanding of Missouri and its history.

Publications


The *Missouri Times* quarterly newsletter continued to provide SHSMO members and the public with information on new collections, art exhibitions, and programs offered by the State Historical Society of Missouri. A new email subscription feature enabled readers to select the news they would most like to receive directly in their inboxes.

Work also began on the Missouri Encyclopedia, a comprehensive online general reference source planned to launch during the state’s bicentennial year in 2021. An interactive demonstration site went “live” in September 2018. The site is a proof of concept that will continue to develop over time. Suggestions from the public are welcomed. To view the website, visit missouriencyclopedia.org.
Educational Programs

SHSMO’s six research centers provided more than 150 presentations, tours, workshops, and public programs during the 2018 fiscal year. The programs included hands-on sessions ranging from the Using Land Records in Genealogy Workshop in Jackson to the Archive Dive with the St. Louis Mercantile Library. Other programming included presentations on the Jewish Community Archives in Kansas City, Civil War Across the Ozarks in Rolla, and the 1916–1917 Springfield Streetcar Strike at the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library in Mount Vernon.

The State Historical Society cohosted a youth program with the Missouri State Museum that was inspired by the collaborative exhibition Sketches of War: Editorial Cartoons Representing WWI by Daniel Fitzpatrick. Designed for middle school and high school students, the workshop encouraged participants to harness the power of art through editorial cartoons. Educator workshops in Springfield and Cape Girardeau invited teachers to explore ways for incorporating SHSMO’s collections and other resources within their classroom instruction.

The 2017 Center for Missouri Studies Fall Lecture featured New York Times bestselling author Andrew Carroll. The founding director of the Center for American War Letters, Carroll spoke on the value of war correspondence in advancing understanding of past military conflicts and the people who engaged in them. To learn more about the Society’s efforts in this area, see the manuscripts section on page 12.

Kansas City’s popular Charles N. Kimball Lecture Series resumed in 2017 with the program From Garden Design to Master Planning: Hare and Hare Landscape Architects of Kansas City. The event exploring the significance of the nationally renowned Hare and Hare firm featured a conversation between landscape historian Carol Grove and Cydney Millstein, an architectural historian and preservation consultant.

Bluegrass Pickin’ One More Time celebrated Missouri’s bluegrass heritage with special performances by Mona Jones and the Bluegrass Travelers, Jimmy Orchard and the Ozark Bluegrass Boys, and Jimmie Allison and the Ozark Rounders. The Rolla center’s collections include many of the musicians’ papers. The Society is thankful to longtime mid-Missouri radio host Wayne Bledsoe for acting as the master of ceremonies.

The African American Experience in Missouri Lecture Series, initiated in 2016, continued with five lectures. The talks, all by prominent scholars, provide opportunities for the public to reach new understandings of present-day Missouri by learning about the history of African Americans within the state. Recordings of the presentations are available online. In 2017–2018 the project was supported by SHSMO; the University of Missouri’s Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity; and the Missouri Humanities Council.

The State Historical Society continues to expand its online educational resources. Thirty-one new resource guides to SHSMO’s collections, publications, and other resources were added to the Society’s website during the 2018 fiscal year. The additions, which bring the total to fifty-two guides, help online users explore topics such as business and industry, genealogy and family history, the military, and social and fraternal organizations. The research guides are available at shsmo.org/research/guides.

“Nixa High School began using the SHSMO archives in 2017 and the excitement our visits brought to the students was electric. They were transformed from high school students to real-life historians doing rigorous research into their fields of study.” – Simon Kelly Matney, history teacher
National History Day in Missouri

Sixty-five Missouri students competed in the 2018 National History Day contest in June at the University of Maryland–College Park campus. Not only did Missouri students bring home a silver medal and two outstanding entry awards, but several were selected to present their work at museums and events in Washington, DC.


In addition to these award winners, three other Missouri students were national finalists: Aubrey Chrisenbery from Joplin High School, Malia Morgan of Central High School in Springfield, and Charlie Schueppert of Holy Infant School in Ballwin.

National History Day also recognized two educators from the Show-Me State. Derek Frieling of Lafayette High School in St. Joseph and Gretchen Trower of Gentry Middle School in Columbia were Missouri finalists for the national James F. Harris Teacher Award.

Students experienced the nation’s capital in a variety of unique ways. NHDMO participants visited with each of Missouri’s senators: Roy Blunt, a SHSMO trustee, and Claire McCaskill. The students also displayed their projects at the National Museum of American History and the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

**Missouri Conference on History**

The sixtieth annual Missouri Conference on History returned to Jefferson City on March 14-16, 2018. The conference, hosted by the Missouri State Archives and sponsored by the State Historical Society, drew more than two hundred attendees. Special events, inspired by the capital city location, included a keynote lecture by SHSMO president Bob Priddy, author of *The Art of the Missouri Capitol: History in Canvas, Bronze, and Stone*, who shared highlights from the one-hundred-year history of the current capitol building. Other events included receptions at Avenue HQ and the Missouri State Museum's Rozier Gallery, an evening program at the Missouri State Capitol, a pre-conference preservation workshop, and tours of the Missouri State Penitentiary and historic Jefferson City.
Missouri Bicentennial

Under the Missouri 2021 banner, SHSMO is coordinating a statewide commemoration for the two hundredth anniversary of statehood on August 10, 2021, which incorporates both rural and urban communities in projects, programs, and events. Perhaps the biggest statewide project to date—the bicentennial license plate—will debut on October 15, 2018. The State Historical Society of Missouri is excited to work with the Missouri Department of Revenue on the communications surrounding the issuance to ensure all Missourians are aware of the upcoming bicentennial.

Three new Society projects—the Missouri Encyclopedia, the My Missouri 2021 Photograph Project, and the Missouri 2021 Endorsement Program—also launched this year to encourage a wide variety of audiences to take part in celebrating the bicentennial. The online Missouri Encyclopedia will provide free access to authoritative information on the history and culture of Missouri. A full public launch of the site is expected to coincide with the bicentennial, and the project will continue to grow after 2021.

The My Missouri 2021 Photograph Project invites professional and amateur photographers to capture and share the unique and meaningful aspects of place in Missouri. From these submissions, two hundred photographs will be selected for a traveling exhibition and a digital showcase on missouri2021.org. The images will also be added to SHSMO’s permanent Missouri Bicentennial collection.

The third new project, the Endorsement Program, is a media partnership designed to support local organizations hosting their own bicentennial activities. The Endorsement Program provides promotion of their events and projects. Numerous ideas for partner projects are also developing from meetings with people across the state, including a bicentennial quilt, a film festival, and a statewide reading program. The Bicentennial Alliance, a group of statewide agencies planning bicentennial-related projects and programs, was also formally established in 2017–2018. It includes the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy; Missouri Arts Council; Missouri Council for History Education; Missouri Folk Arts Program; Missouri Historical Society; Missouri Humanities Council; Missouri State Archives; and the State Historical Society of Missouri.

“SHSMO exists to help Missourians explore their place in history, and this is not one person’s story. The bicentennial is an important opportunity to celebrate Missouri’s vibrant past while looking ahead to the next hundred years.”

–Brent Schondelmeyer, SHSMO trustee
Annual Awards
Each year, SHSMO honors individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to its mission to collect, preserve, and share Missouri history. In the fall of 2017, John Bradbury, retired associate director of the Rolla Research Center, received the State Historical Society's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. Bradbury dedicated more than thirty-seven years of service to the Society, while also contributing approximately one hundred outstanding scholarly articles and books on the Show-Me State's history.

United States Senator Roy Blunt, a SHSMO trustee, received the 2017 Trustee Appreciation Award for his continued and consistent support of the State Historical Society of Missouri, including the Center for Missouri Studies building project. SHSMO also acknowledged outstanding scholars for their work related to Missouri history by presenting the following annual awards:

- Missouri History Book Award: Christopher Phillips, *The Rivers Ran Backward: The Civil War and the Remaking of the American Middle Border*
- Eagleton-Waters Book Award: Micah W. Kubic, *Freedom, Inc. and Black Political Empowerment*
- Missouri Historical Review Article Award: Taylor Desloge, “Creating the Lung Block: Racial Transition and the ‘New Public Health’ in a St. Louis Neighborhood, 1907–1940”
- Mary C. Neth Prize: Sharon Romeo, “‘First Morning of Their Freedom’: African American Women, Black Testimony, and Military Justice in Civil War Missouri”

At the 2017 annual meeting, the Society announced that grants from the Brownlee Fund, named in memory of longtime executive director Richard S. Brownlee, would again support projects throughout the state. SHSMO received an overwhelming response to its call for applications, with fifty-five submissions from thirty-three different Missouri counties requesting funding from the available pool of $5,000. Ten institutions received funding in 2018, largely for the purchase of archival supplies. They included the Cape River Heritage Museum in Cape Girardeau; the Rusche Park Board of the City of Marthasville; the Friends of Historic Boonville; the Hallsville Historical Society; the Harrison County Genealogical Society in Bethany; Historical Society of Lee's Summit Museum; the Macon County Historical Society Museum in Macon; the Missouri Pacific Historical Society in St. Louis; the Reynolds County Museum in Ellington; and the Stone County Historical and Genealogical Society in Galena.

Center for Missouri Studies Fellowships
Two Center for Missouri Studies fellowships were awarded for the 2018 calendar year. Heidi L. Dodson, a historian at the Marian Cheek Jackson Center for Saving and Making History in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, received a fellowship in the environmental history of rural or small-town Missouri for her proposed study, “Rivers, Bayous, Swamps, and Ditches: The Significance of Waterways to African American Communities in the Missouri Bootheel, 1937-2011.” Angela Firkus, a professor of history at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, was awarded a fellowship in Greater Kansas City business or economic history for her proposal, “‘Girls Wanted, Experience Unnecessary. Good Pay’: Child Labor in Kansas City during the Progressive Era.” The Center fellowships promote scholarship in underexplored Missouri history fields and offer opportunities for publication in the *Missouri Historical Review.*
In 2017–2018, SHSMO reached a new milestone—over one million unique visits to the Society’s four major websites: shsmo.org, digital.shsmo.org, missouri2021.org, and shop.shsmo.org. This accomplishment is due to the support of donors and the tireless work of staff and volunteers who digitize materials, making them searchable through transcription and metadata so that they are easier to navigate and more accessible to users.

Among the resources added are 4,888 letters, maps, diary pages, postcards, and business and organizational records. A group of 4,197 images from the *Missouri Ruralist* (P30) was added to the Photographs Collection online. Local newspapers in the Missouri Digital Newspaper Collection now total over 1.8 million pages. The research centers also contributed 445 new or improved finding aids, recently donated photographs of covered bridges and mills, 133 oral history transcripts, and the glass plate negatives of the Edd Ingram (P279) and John D. Cooper (P165) photograph collections.

SHSMO’s digital archive has grown at the same time that the staff has begun preparing for the move to the Center for Missouri Studies, and while it has continued to provide services to 4,203 in-house researchers at SHSMO’s six centers across the state. The Society’s staff also supported the off-site explorations of an additional 6,259 patrons. In a new survey designed to learn more about researchers’ interests and garner feedback on how SHSMO could improve, 97 percent of the respondents had a positive experience using a research center.

The centers in Rolla and St. Louis received physical improvements, with both locations installing new microfilm cabinets and St. Louis also incorporating updated furniture. The updates have allowed for strategic relocation of high-use collections from offsite to onsite, which is reducing patron wait times.

Grants helped support efforts to better preserve SHSMO’s resources across the state as well as enhance access to them. The Kansas City Research Center received $21,000 from the William T. Kemper Foundation to buy a large-format scanner and related supplies. With the new equipment, oversize materials such as the center’s large collection of architectural drawings dating back to the late nineteenth century can be scanned to make digital files that are more easily accessible to patrons within and beyond the Kansas City area. The Kansas City center also began identifying materials for digitization and new archival storage in the Jewish Community Archives collection after receiving a Jewish Leadership Education Action and Development (J-LEAD) grant. A $10,000 grant from the Clifford Willard Gaylord Foundation enabled the St. Louis Research Center to purchase a new dehumidifier, nitrile gloves and respirators, and archival boxes and storage supplies.

**Conservation**

Proper treatment and storage is crucial for the long-term preservation of historical collections. In Fiscal Year 2018, the conservation lab completed treatments on 323 objects, including stabilizing fragile materials, repairing tears, and removing unsuitable items such as tape. Conservator Erin Kraus, with assistance from interns, is also hard at work on projects associated with the move to a new building. Rehousing projects have included stabilizing seventy-five boxes of glass plate negatives and nearly three hundred other individual objects. Three large-scale move projects were completed: cleaning, wrapping, and boxing oversize manuscript volumes; cleaning and housing miscellaneous oversize objects; and rehousing panoramic photographs in the manuscript collection. Sixty custom boxes were also constructed for library volumes, and one hundred newspapers were humidified and flattened for microfilming.
Art

The State Historical Society’s collection of twentieth-century and contemporary artworks was strengthened through the donation of 124 new pieces. Of special significance are:

- One hundred photographic prints by Oliver Schuchard donated by the artist
- Two ceramic pieces by Robert Bussabarger donated by the family of Robert Habenstein
- Woman by the Stove by Nancy Oakley Klapp donated by Byron Smith
- Mullein Stalk, a painting by Trew Hocker donated by Louise A. Jackson
- Six large photographic prints by Jon Luvelli donated by the artist
- Ten watercolors of birds by David Plank donated by Louise A. Jackson
- Homage to Bingham: Fur Traders on the Missouri, a sculpture by James Froese donated by the Froese family

In the past year, 1,875 people visited the art gallery in Columbia independent of the numerous group tours that frequent the Society’s galleries. Audiences outside of SHSMO were able to view items from the nation’s best collection of Missouri regional and westward expansion art through loans of thirty-seven artworks to other institutions. The Missouri State Museum displayed twenty-seven Daniel Fitzpatrick cartoons at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery in Jefferson City as a part of the collaborative exhibition Sketches of War.

The Society also exhibited artworks related to Missouri’s cultural heritage that were made available by other individuals and institutions. SHSMO borrowed thirty-six photographs of courthouses taken by Dennis Weiser from the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation for the exhibition Missouri Courthouses: Building Memories on the Square Revisited. This show is expected to begin touring the state in 2018. The Society is also still proudly displaying two prestigious long-term loans: Chester Harding’s Daniel Boone from the National Portrait Gallery, and George Caleb Bingham artworks from the Mering family.

Art Exhibitions

The Society offered the following art exhibitions in 2017–2018. All shows were at the Columbia Research Center unless otherwise indicated:

- Sketches of War: Editorial Cartoons Representing WWI by Daniel Fitzpatrick (March 6–May 19, 2018), Elizabeth Rozier Gallery, Jefferson City
- War, Peace, and Black Progress: Images from the Collections of the State Historical Society of Missouri and the University of Missouri Libraries (February 5–April 2, 2018), Ellis Library Colonnade, University of Missouri
- Heroines on the Home Front (February 2–June 20, 2018)
- Missouri County Courthouses: Building Memories on the Square Revisited (January–September 2018)
- Being Bussabarger: Ceramics, Paintings, Sketchbooks, and More (October 31, 2017–June 9, 2018)
- Missouri Souvenirs of WWII (July 2017–February 2018)
- Painted Personas: Portraits by George Caleb Bingham (March 11–October 14, 2017)
- Kansas City Cartoonists S. J. Ray and Lee Judge: Cartoonists from Two Millennia Critique Culture (March 4–November 11, 2017)
Manuscripts

With every day that passes and each new experience, Missouri’s story expands, which means that the record of its history grows as well. In the past year, the State Historical Society’s holdings increased by 187 manuscript collections totaling 382 cubic feet of materials. SHSMO’s staff at all six research centers processed and made accessible to patrons 269 collections totaling 602 cubic feet, while also providing research services, expanding educational programs, and tackling projects associated with the move to a new building such as adding names from the 496 drawers of the Missouri Surname Index to a database that will eventually be searchable online.

SHSMO welcomes donations to its collections that explore all aspects of Missouri’s heritage. This year the family correspondence of Rose O’Neill (SPA32) brought new insights into the life of the famous artist, the Boller Brothers Architectural Records (K65) offered sixty-five sets of architectural drawings of “movie palaces” constructed in the Midwest from 1912 to 1953, and the Rotoscope Collection (R1499) preserved the motion-picture technology and films of Rolla-area inventors. The Missouri Broadcasters Radio Archives (CA6491), which document radio history throughout the state from the 1950s to the present, enhanced SHSMO’s journalistic holdings, which include the National Women in Media Collection.

The World War II Letters Project (C68) continued. When complete it will offer online access to the correspondence of more than three thousand military personnel. Local and national media drew attention to this important initiative, sparking an increase in donated materials. New additions included the letters of Claude Turner (SP27), a sailor from Webb City; William H. Eddleman (CG22), a prisoner of war who grew up in Cape Girardeau; Virgil Settle (CG26), a member of the Army Air Corps from Greenville; and Arthur C. Vandivort (CG25), also of Cape Girardeau, an US Army paratrooper.

An exhibit in Springfield featured local military collections. The Claude Turner materials were displayed, as well as items from collections associated with Rose Stauber (SP14, SP15), who spent thirty-one years in the Women’s Army Corps, and materials from a new accession, the Lawrence O’Kelley World War I diary (SP21).

Access to SHSMO’s manuscripts illustrating the effect of war on those not in military service was also expanded. New to the collection are World War I love letters between Eliga and Mae Dees (R1453) from Wayne County; the World War II-era papers of activist and pastor Raymond Bennett Bragg (K468) were processed and made accessible to the public.

C-SPAN traveled to Missouri to interview SHSMO archivist Jami Lewis about the Wild Bill Hickok and Davis Tutt shootout on the Springfield town square in 1865. The episode of C-SPAN’s Cities Tour, which highlights the history of cities throughout the country, aired in November 2017. Lewis’s interview delved into the historical context, including the men’s opposing sides during the Civil War, behind what is thought to be the first quick-draw gunfight in the West.

“The staff at the State Historical Society was extremely helpful. I can’t say enough. I look forward to returning in the years to come.” —Traci Lombre, patron
**Newspapers**

The State Historical Society of Missouri has more than fifty-four million pages of newspapers on microfilm, dating back to Missouri’s first newspaper title in 1808. In 2017–2018, 360 boxes of newspapers equating to roughly 468,000 pages were added to this monumental microfilm collection, thanks in part to generous donations made by members during the REEL Supporter fundraising campaign, which helped offset a portion of the growing cost to microfilm newspapers.

The Society also continued its digitization of the state’s papers. By collaborating with seven public libraries and one academic library, SHSMO added 430,000 additional pages of publications to the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project, a free, searchable database of newspapers. The addition included twenty-nine new newspaper titles, increasing the project’s coverage of underrepresented areas of the state. It also helped expand the collection’s twentieth-century holdings. These enhancements were made possible by funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act. The Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, administers the LSTA grants. To see what papers are currently included in the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project, visit shsmo.org/newspaper/mdnp.

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**Oral History**

The Society’s multifaceted Oral History Collection is quickly expanding under the direction of Sean Rost, who joined SHSMO in January 2018. Twenty new interviews augmented the collections, and two new projects have commenced. The Missouri Innovation and Exploration Oral History Project (C4352), which explores Missourians’ impact on the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, was initiated with an interview of astronaut Thomas D. Akers of Eminence.

In collaboration with the Missouri Humanities Council, SHSMO also began the Missouri German Heritage Corridor Oral History Project (C4354). It preserves the stories of Missourians who have lived in the corridor (German settlements along the Missouri River from St. Louis in the east to Lexington in the west) and worked to promote and preserve its cultural institutions. The first interview was with Anita Mallinckrodt, a retired journalist and German immigration scholar. Twenty-eight new interviews are available online in the Environment (C3966), One-Room School House (C4051), and Political (C3929) collections. Thanks to the hard work of staff members and dedicated volunteers, forty-six interview transcripts were completed.

The St. Louis–area Women as Change Agents Oral History Project (SA1207) also continued in 2017–2018, funded in part by a $5,000 grant from the St. Louis chapter of Zonta International. Conducted by Blanche Touhill, a State Historical Society trustee and chancellor emerita of the University of Missouri–St. Louis, the interviews record the thoughts of local influential female leaders, revealing how they have contributed to the changing perceptions of women’s roles. Memorable interviewees this year included Nancy Lieberman, the founder of GO! St. Louis; Korean War refugee Young-Hie Nahm Kromm; and Cecilia Nada, the founder of Gitana Productions, which uses music and theater to bring diverse cultural and economic populations together. Ninety-one transcripts from the collection are now available online.

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Honor the past
and help preserve the future

Make a gift to the State Historical Society today

The premier center for the study of Missouri history and culture

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