

## THE MUSEUM MUSE

### More Moon Rocks

Good news everyone, the Apollo 17 moon rock has been found. Sen. Kit Bond discovered the plaque while cleaning out his Washington D.C. office this past year. He re-presented the plaque with the moon rock and flag attached to it to Gov. Nixon. The Governor's Office displayed the moon rock and Missouri flag in their reception area in January. Then they transferred it to the State Museum for safekeeping. Moon rocks from the Apollo 11 and 17 missions that were presented to the state of Missouri will be together at last in the museum. We are very

excited to have a great artifact added to our collection. The two artifacts, along with one from the shuttle *Challenger* will be on display in the museum starting in March.



"The flag of your state was carried to the Moon aboard Spacecraft America during the Apollo XVII mission, December 7-19, 1972. Presented to the people of the state of MISSOURI by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



Close up view of the moon rock

### **In This Issue:**

Moon Rocks	1
Director's Message	2
Collections Corner	2
Interpretive Programming	3
Exhibits	4
More news	5
Trivia	6
Behind the Scenes	6

**Director’s Column**

The Missouri State Museum has started out 2011 strong and has much planned for the year. In January, we hosted an event for Missouri legislators to tour our new Riverside Collections Facility and learn more about museum operations. We also held our annual informational meeting, which was followed by a “behind-the-scenes” tour. Our collections staff continues to inventory artifacts and move artifacts slowly over to Riverside.



Intense construction began for the new exhibit, “Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing,” which opens on May 10, 2011. Our interpreters have taken programs “on the road,” such as “A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier.” While March, April and May keeps them busy with school tours, they have new programs on tap for the second half of 2011.

While Missouri State Parks has not yet named a permanent director, museum staff continues to make amazing progress on several fronts and allowed the museum to keep improving. I cannot say enough to thank them for their efforts over the last nine months.

As always, if you want a “behind-the-scenes” tour, want to join the Friends of the Missouri State Museum or have suggestions for our continued improvement, please contact us at [DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov) or 573-751-2854.

It’s Your History! Be involved.

Sincerely,

*Linda Endersby*, Acting Director

## Collections Corner

### Framing Three Civil War Flags

The State Museum recently framed the 1st Regiment Artillery Missouri Volunteers Co. H Veterans’ flag, the 13th Regiment Infantry Missouri Volunteers flag and the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment Missouri Cavalry Volunteers flag.

The flags, made of dark blue silk with gold fringe and emblazoned with paint and embroidery, were first sent to a conservator in order to stabilize and repair the fragile material. The conservator encapsulated the flags in an inert mesh fabric called Stabiltex, which keeps the silk fragments in place and helps protect against further damage. Although the conservator offers framing services, the Museum opted to frame the flags in-house in order to reduce costs. The frames we used were specifically designed and made by the conservation company and several Museum staff members were trained on proper framing techniques. With them as our guides, we set out to frame three flags in three days at the Riverside Collections Facility.

Each frame consists of a two-part aluminum frame, a padded backing, a Plexiglas sheet and lots of screws. First we un-wrapped a frame from its packaging and then took it apart screw by stubborn screw.

*(Continued on page 5)*



Collections Assistant Courtney Titus focuses on getting it just right while framing a Civil War flag.

# Interpretive Programming



Jocelyn Korsch talking with kids during a "Packing for the Trail" program.

## Out-Reach Programs

This winter we started new out-reach programs: "A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier" and "Packing for the Trail." These programs are designed to focus on 4th and 5th graders to help meet the Missouri Standards. The "A Day in the Life" program can be focused for any age bracket children or adults. We have had some great success with interest in the programs. Please contact us if you are interested in one of these programs. Email either Jocelyn Korsch at [jocelyn.korsch@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:jocelyn.korsch@dnr.mo.gov) or Chris Fritsche at [christopher.fritsche@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:christopher.fritsche@dnr.mo.gov) or call either one at 573-751-4127.

## NEW CIVIL WAR-RELATED TOURS

We have new tours to offer everyone coming to the Museum. These tours will be offered on Fridays at 3 p.m., starting May 13. The tours will include the new Civil War exhibit and other spaces throughout the Capitol Building related to the Civil War. Although all the tours will have the theme of "The Civil War in Missouri," they will be presented by three different interpretive staff, and each interpreter will focus on different aspects of the War. So, you can come back multiple Fridays. So make some time, and come experience our new tours.

## Follow the Cannon

Our Civil War "Nerf" Cannon program — "Ready, Aim, Fire" — is going to be very busy this summer at many different locations. We have two events already scheduled with more coming all the time.

May 7, 2011: Missouri State Museum, 1 - 4 p.m.

Aug. 12, 2011: Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Battle of Boonville, Boonville, 11 a.m.- 4 pm.

Call or email the Museum to see get new dates and locations as they are added. 573-751-2854 or [DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov).

Chris Fritsche giving a program on "Taste of Tradition"



## "Wednesday @ One" Programs

On June 8, 2011 we will present our first "Wednesday @ One" program. We will run these programs every Wednesday at 1 p.m. for one hour. With the 150th anniversary of the Civil War beginning in 2011, several of our programs will relate to the Civil War; however, we will have other programs in the mix as well. Here is our June line up of programs.

- June 8 "Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier"
- June 15 "Walkie-Talkies of the Civil War"
- June 22 "Clothing Fashions during the Civil War"
- June 29 "The Pony Express"

More dates to come in our next newsletter.

# Exhibits



Start of the framing for the new Civil War Exhibit

## Building, Building, and more Building

These next couple of months will be a building frenzy to get everything ready for the opening of our newest exhibit: **Civil War Missouri, A House Divided**. The ribbon-cutting day will be May 10, 2011.

On **Sat., May 7**, there will be a “family-friendly” opening with activities for kids of all ages.

We look forward to seeing everyone coming out to experience the Civil War in Missouri.

### May 7, 1-4 p.m.

- Union and Confederate re-enactments groups, including drills
- Civil war “nerf” cannon program
- Civil War era music
- Living History presentation on secession



Dry wall is up and getting ready for its fresh coat of paint



Ron Baker and Alan Laboube, our master carpenters, creating new exhibit cases

*("Collections – Framing" continued from page 2)*

Once the outer frame was removed, we had to carefully lift the Plexiglas and set it aside without scratching or cracking it. The largest flag we framed was 5 ½ feet by 6 feet, so it took several people to maneuver the large sheet of Plexiglas. Next, the team carefully picked up a flag and centered it on the padded muslin backing, making sure there were no wrinkles in the material. When the flag was positioned correctly, we sewed the top of the Stabiltex to the padding, vacuumed off the dust, and meticulously straightened the fringe. Finally, we lifted the Plexiglas and placed it on top of the flag, put the outer frame back and screwed everything in place.

If you would like to see the finished product, please visit the Civil War exhibit, opening May 10, 2011, where several of the framed flags will be on display.



Curator Julie Kemper and Registrar Heather Rudy working on a Civil War flag to be framed.



Curator Kate Keil takes informational meeting attendees behind the scenes to see artifacts in storage, such as one of Ella Ewing's shoes (the "Missouri Giantess").

### Annual Informational Meeting

On Sat., Jan. 29, 2011, the State Museum hosted an annual informational meeting for the public. After a presentation on highlights from 2010 and plans for 2011, the audience asked several questions on various museum areas of operation. Highlights for 2010 included: opening the Riverside Collections Facility and moving approximately 7,000 artifacts, inventorying over 14,000 artifacts; hosting 3 exhibits in the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery; opening an education room in the History Hall; and receiving a federal Connecting to Collections Statewide Planning Grant to form the Partnership for Missouri Heritage with several other heritage institutions in the state to promote preservation of our heritage collections.

Major projects for 2011 include opening the exhibit, "Civil War Missouri: A House Dividing" and completing the 2-year full inventory of the artifact collection (funded by a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services).

Attendees were invited "behind the wall" to see construction for the new exhibit. The behind-the-scenes tour continued with a visit to the museum's artifact storage area in the Capitol basement.

### Museum hosts information event at Riverside Collections Facility

On Jan. 24, 2011, the museum hosted an event for the new Missouri legislators at the Riverside Collections Facility. It provided a rare opportunity for museum staff to talk one-on-one with legislators and their staff about the preservation of Missouri's history. Staff and displays also informed attendees about other Missouri State Parks' operations.

This event also brought in other stakeholders, such as the Director and two Deputy Directors for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the home state agency for Missouri State Parks and the Missouri State Museum. Also, members of the Missouri Parks Association attended. As a cultural institution within an agency with a major focus on natural resources, the museum took the opportunity to "show off the cool stuff" in its collection and educate them regarding what it takes to preserve the "cool stuff."



Museum curator Julie Kemper discusses preservation of fragile Civil War flags to Director and Deputy Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.



**Jefferson Landing State Historic Site**

Just a reminder, the Union Hotel and Lohman Building will be opening on March 1, 2011. The Rozier Gallery will feature metal sculpture from Jim Adams ("From the Scrap Pile").

**TRIVIA WINNER**

We have a winner for our first ever newsletter trivia game, his name is Mr. Charles Brader of Webster Grove, MO. For being the first person to email back the correct answer, he won the all new "It's Your History" water bottle.

The question was "What year was the Natural Resource Museum added on the first floor of the Capital in the west



**NEW TRIVIA QUESTION**

So for our next Trivia Question: How many Civil War flags does the museum currently have?

Be the first to email the correct answer to our Curator of Collections, Katherine Keil. Katherine.keil@dnr.mo.gov

Our next winner will win our new "It's Your History" bag.

**Behind the Scenes**



Hi! My name is Chris Fritsche, and I am an interpretive resource specialist for the Museum as well as the current editor of the Museum Muse. I have been with the Museum for one year and have had a wonderful time. I came from California where I was a Park Ranger on an Indian Reservation. I grew up in Missouri and was very excited to be able to move back to show my family where I grew up. Currently, I am doing outreach programs on the Civil War and a Cannon program. I even have a Civil War uniform to wear to give it a little more authenticity.

**State Museum Staff**

Linda Endersby, Acting Director  
 Julie Kemper, Curator  
 Katherine Keil, Curator  
 Rachel Jeffries, Collections Inventory Manager  
 Courtney Titus, Collections Assistant  
 Ryan Klompenhower, Collections Assistant

Chris Sterman, Tour and Gift Shop Manager  
 Jocelyn Korsch, Interpretive Resource Specialist  
 Chris Fritsche, Interpretive Resource Specialist  
 Karla Strain, Interpretive Resource Technician  
 Troy Wolken, Maintenance



**Missouri State Museum**  
 201 W. Capitol Ave, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
[DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov)  
[www.missouristatemuseum.com](http://www.missouristatemuseum.com)

**573.751.2854**