

IT'S YOUR HISTORY

The mission of the Missouri State Museum is to interpret Missouri's cultural and natural history, and to sustain them for its citizens and visitors through research, exhibitions, preservation and public outreach.

Missouri State Museum The Museum Muse

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One Night Only!!!!!! *Exploring Missouri Waters*

Have you ever noticed how much water is in Missouri? Rivers, streams, springs, lakes and so much more. We have lots of water, but where does this water come from and why is it here? These are some of the questions staff at the Missouri State Museum asked themselves. We found some very interesting answers and want to share them with you. We could just have a simple program on water in Missouri but we would rather **SHOW** you instead. **One Night Only**, Friday, Nov. 8, the Resources Hall of the museum will be transformed into the Waters of



Big Spring, Ozark National Scenic Riverways

Missouri. Come explore Missouri's wetlands and float down the river with us. Just like last year's cave program, you will hear experts in the field of rivers, streams and wetlands explaining the importance of our waters and even bringing in some water "friends." There will be an area for the kids to help create a large river scene on paper to post in our education classroom. There will be artifacts from the museum collection (normally not on display) highlighting the importance of the water resources in our state. *If you came to the cave program last year, you don't want to miss this year's program. If you haven't been to our big annual program, this would be a great tradition to start with you and your family. The Missouri State Museum staff hope to see you here for this special **One Night Only** event.*



Meramec River, Meramec State Park

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Missouri State Parks—a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

From The Director

As the Missouri State Capitol approaches its 100th anniversary, so does the Missouri State Museum. The earliest plans for the new Capitol included a "Historical Museum" and a "Resources Museum." However, after the experiences of World War I, the historical museum opened in 1919 as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Hall to honor those who served and died. In 1921, the Resources Museum opened in the west wing as planned. In 1923, the two were combined to become the Missouri State Museum, focusing on history and natural resources. This remains the mission of the museum today in the History Hall and the Resources Hall.



So this brings up a question: When was the Missouri State Museum founded? 1919? 1923? In many circumstances, answers in history are not as easy or as black and white as they seem. For example, when was the computer invented? Well, it depends on how you define the "computer"? If you think you know the right year the museum was founded, send me an email and win a prize. You need to send a year and the reason why you chose that year to Linda.Endersby@dnr.mo.gov.

So what should the Missouri State Museum do to celebrate its 100th birthday?

It's Your History! Be involved.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Endersby". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Collections Corner

Quilts and the Home Of the Brave

The museum's quilt collection will be featured in the last "It's Your History" behind-the-scenes tour of the museum for 2013. Our November "Museum after Hours" program will focus on World War I service banners made by Missouri counties to honor those who fought and died. The two themes come together in a project that will "visit" the museum at these two events.

Members of a southern California quilters guild started the project in 2004 to honor those killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan by presenting their families with a quilt. Quilts found in a local museum, sewn by Northern women during the Civil War, inspired the project. *(continued on page 5)*



Home of the Brave Quilt, courtesy Mary Feind

Interpretive Programming



Karla Strain's ice age program

“Tuesdays@2”

What a year the museum has had during “Tuesdays@2;” we learned things from storytelling and map creation to bells and whistles. The year will end with a bang with the cannon program on Sept. 24. While this year’s “Tuesdays@2” is coming to end, staff are already excited about next year.

Remember when making your 2014 summer plans to include our “Tuesdays@2” programs.



Showing off one of the story quilts

Outreach Programs

Staff are currently offering four different outreach programs for schools and groups. These programs are A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier, Packing for the Oregon Trail, Signal Flags of the Civil War, and The Pony Express. While the programs target fourth and fifth graders, staff can adapt some of these for general audiences.

For any questions or to schedule a program, please email either Jocelyn Korsch at jocelyn.korsch@dnr.mo.gov or Chris Fritsche at christopher.fritsche@dnr.mo.gov or call either one at 573-751-4127.

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 2—Museum After Hours, *Early Hotels of Jefferson City*

Nov. 6—Museum After Hours, *World War I County Banners*

Nov. 8—*Exploring Missouri Waters*

We want to hear from you

The education staff at the museum would like to know what interests you for future programs. Maybe you are a homeschool group and need a certain program for your curriculum. Maybe you are a civic group that would like a guest speaker. As long as staff can associate the program with the museum, we can help you fulfill your needs. Please contact either Jocelyn Korsch at jocelyn.korsch@dnr.mo.gov or Chris Fritsche at christopher.fritsche@dnr.mo.gov or call either one at 573-751-4127.

Exhibits

Successful Season at the Landing and Gearing Up for 2014

It's been a busy year at Jefferson Landing State Historic Site. The season started in February at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery. The grant-funded traveling exhibit, "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War," opened just in time for one of those great snowfalls that happened late in the season. In March, (remember all that snow?) staff hosted two events in conjunction with the exhibit. The first was a scholarly talk given by Justin Dyer, University of Missouri professor. Next was acclaimed musician Chris Vallillo who performed in the Capitol rotunda. After the warm summer months, it might be hard to remember winter but we are thankful to both invited guests and intrepid museum visitors who braved the elements to join us at both events.

The Rozier Gallery in the Union Hotel hosted two photography exhibits to round out the season. The first, "CCC Photographs," was an exhibition produced by museum staff to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps. In celebration, the exhibit highlighted the lasting contributions of CCC to Missouri state parks and historic sites by featuring both historical photographs and modern images of structures in parks. The exhibit also featured the museum's CCC traveling exhibit panels. The exhibit was so successful that it was featured in three state parks after it closed at Jefferson Landing.

Noppadol Paothong's photographs rounded out the summer at the gallery. Paothong was joined by his wife and young daughter when he hosted an artist's reception in late July. Guests that day were given an opportunity to enjoy live music and refreshments and hear the artist discuss his work.

Across the street from the gallery, "Lohman's Landing," the new exhibit in the Lohman Building, made its debut. People were waiting outside the building the morning the exhibit opened to the public! It's been great hearing everyone's suggestions. We've actually been collecting comments from visitors all season, and those will help us make improvements and changes.

With the closing of Jefferson Landing for the winter, staff are busy behind the scenes preparing for an exciting 2014 season.

(continued on page 5)





Noppadol Paothong and guest

Exhibits

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In the Rozier Gallery, the exhibit "Souvenirs and Remembrances: The 1904 St. Louis World's Fair," will showcase much of the museum's Louisiana Purchase Exposition collection. Curatorial assistant Amy Cantone's work has been invaluable as development begins on the construction and fabrication of the exhibition. She has been our resident 1904 World's Fair researcher, tirelessly pouring through newspapers, books, letters, diaries and photographs.

In the Lohman Building, we're getting ready to "stock" the shelves and add even more goods to the store and warehouse. Our interpreters are preparing for some amazing events and programs related to Lohman's Landing. The year 2014 is the 175th anniversary of the Lohman Building so come join us next summer to celebrate!

Collections Corner

(continued from page 2)

Today, the Home of the Brave quilt project is in all 50 states, many U.S. territories and several foreign countries. Volunteers donate time, money and their skills to produce quilts fitting specifications drawn from those few existing Civil War quilts. This includes designing them using reproductions Civil War-era prints and fabrics.

The Missouri State Museum learned of the project in 2011 when contacted by Mary "Dee" Feind. Feind is the current coordinator for the project in the state of Missouri and has been since she volunteered to make her first quilt a decade ago. She is a military wife and mother; her husband served two tours of duty in Vietnam and her daughter is active duty military. She was also the first volunteer quilter from Missouri.

In the past decade, Feind has recruited other volunteer quilters and together they have produced over 100 quilts, 75 of which have been presented to Gold Star families. According to Feind, she is in charge of providing a quilt for "soldiers that have a Missouri Home of Record, that is that they entered the service from Missouri, and are casualties of the war in Iraq or Afghanistan." She has documented each quilt made and presented, and often includes the stories of the soldiers they honor in addition to pictures of them and their families.



Home of the Brave quilt square,
Courtesy Mary Feind

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Collections Corner (continued from page 5)

Feind is currently working on one very special quilt with the names of all of those from Missouri who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. When completed, this quilt will be donated in their memory to the Missouri State Museum. Staff feels honored that she has chosen the museum as the repository for the quilt.

She is always looking to get the word out about the Home of the Brave project. In many cases, Feind relies on the public's help to identify and get contact information for the families of the fallen soldiers. If you have information regarding a Missouri Gold Star family, would like to volunteer or to support the project in other ways, please contact

her at willmakit@embarqmail.com.



Home of the Brave Quilt, courtesy Mary Feind

Dee Feind will attend two upcoming Missouri State Museum programs to show samples of the quilts and speak with museum visitors.

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013: "It's Your History" Tour featuring quilts from the Missouri State Museum's collection. The tour is held at the Riverside Collections Facility, 117 N. Riverside Dr. in Jefferson City. The tour will include a World War I-era quilt with a Red Cross design made by the Broadview Community Club in Macon to honor locals who served in the war.

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2013: "Museum after Hours" when the museum is open until 9 p.m. A brief program will be held at 7 p.m. highlighting the museum's collection of Blue/Gold Star service banners from Missouri counties honoring those who served in World War I.

More information on the Missouri State Museum upcoming programs can be found at missouristatemuseum.com, on Facebook, e-mail at dsp.state.museum@dnr.mo.gov or by calling 573-751-2854.

For more information on the National Home of the Brave project, visit homeofthebravequilts.com/index.php.



Jefferson Landing State Historic Site

100 & 101 Jefferson St.



The Lohman Building will reopen March 1, 2014. Come help us celebrate this building's 175th birthday!

The Union Hotel will reopen March 1, 2014, with an exhibit on the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis.

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 2—Museum After Hours, *Early Hotels of Jefferson City*

Nov. 6—Museum After Hours, *World War I County Banners*

Nov. 8—*Exploring Missouri Waters*

Interested in supporting the Museum? Contact the Friends of the Missouri State Museum and become a member today! Find them at friendsofmsm.org or on Facebook.



What Am I?

Try to Identify the object from the picture. This item can be found in the museum. The answer will appear in the next newsletter. Good Luck.

Last Issue's "What Am I?" Answer: Tip of an old rock hammer used for mining in Missouri

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