

*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.

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Missouri State Museum

The Museum Muse

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Missouri 6th Cavalry Flag Comes Home!

After 150 years, a flag that once led the men of the 6th Missouri Cavalry during the March 1862 Civil War battle at Pea Ridge, Ark., has returned to Missouri. In a ceremony on March 20, 2014, at Pea Ridge National Military Park, the Arkansas History Commission transferred the regimental flag of the 6th Missouri Cavalry to the Missouri State Museum. The flag joined more than 125 other Missouri Civil War flags preserved by the Museum.

For three days in March 1862, the 6th Missouri Cavalry clashed with the Confederate army threatening Missouri's southern border. The regiment's flag was not captured at Pea Ridge but remained with the regiment. Col. Thomas Clark Wright, the regimental commander, took the flag home, and it was handed down to his granddaughter, Ada Wright Van Sickle. In 1961, she donated the flag to the Garland County Historical Society in Arkansas, and it later found its way to the Arkansas History Commission.

In the ceremony at the Pea Ridge National Military Park, Missouri State Museum Director Linda Endersby and dignitaries from Arkansas spoke about the history of the flag and the significance of its repatriation. The symbolic transfer of the banner from the holdings of the Arkansas Historical Commission to the care and custody of the Missouri State Museum was conducted by Civil War re-enactors in authentic period attire. Members of Arkansas Reenactors Education Association presented a symbolic replica to re-enactors of a color guard from Company

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Linda Endersby, Director
Missouri State Museum



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

From The Director

After nearly 10 years with the Missouri State Museum, I often think back to “the way things were.” As we continually look for how we can improve, we sometimes forget to look back at how far we have come.

When I arrived, the museum interpretive staff simply provided tours of the Capitol Building. Now, they have implemented more than one successful ongoing programming series. In June,

our successful “Tuesdays@2” programming series will have a “spin-off” with “Learning@11” for younger children. Audiences for our “Museum after Hours” series (open late the first Wednesday of the month) continue to grow to a point where we are outgrowing the classroom space where the special programming is presented.

In terms of exhibits, the Lohman Building general store and warehouse exhibit is a new, more interactive experience – based on the success of the *Civil War Missouri* “hands-on history” area of the History Hall.

And there is so much more. Over the past 10 years, the museum staff have been innovative and passionate about ways to present “your history” – both cultural and natural. I have felt privileged and proud to lead such dedicated individuals. So, it is with a tinge of sadness that I will leave the museum at the end of June. But, it is with confidence that the museum has built a strong foundation for continued improvement and growth. Thank you to my staff and to community members who have supported our work.




Early display at Missouri State Museum



The Missouri State Museum is one of more than 2,000 museums across America designated as a Blue Star Museum.

Blue Star Museums is a partnership among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, Joining Forces, MetLife Foundation, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation’s active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2014. The Missouri State Museum, as the museum of all Missourians, offers free

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Interpretive Programming



Interpreter Stan Maxson leading the group

“Tuesdays@2” Presents “Learning@11”

Tuesdays have become a little busier and a little more focused with our new Learning@11 this year. Learning@11 will focus on kids four to seven with more hands-on activities yet keeping with the overall theme of our traditional Tuesdays@2 programs. For the last couple of years, staff have had requests to do programs for different age groups because it was too much for the younger children or not challenging enough for the older children. By splitting up the age groups, staff can focus more on a subject but still keep the same topic for both programs. Our Tuesdays@2 programs will not change except they will be for children eight-12.

Keep checking our website or contact us for the topics at 573-751-2854 or email DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov. We are looking forward to this year’s programming and can’t wait to see everyone.

Dates to Remember:

- June 17—Learning@11 : “1850s Days”
- June 17—Tuesdays@2 : “1850s School”
- June 21—175th Birthday Picnic at Lohman’s Landing
- June 24—Learning@11 : “Bear Aware”
- June 24—Tuesdays@2 : “Bear Aware”
- July 1—Learning@11 : “What Is In the Earth”
- July 1—Tuesdays@2 : “Digging Up Our Past”
- July 2—Museum After Hours : “Trunk Full of Treasures”
- July 8—Learning@11 : “Wild, Wild Missouri!”
- July 8—Tuesdays@2 : “Trackers!”
- July 15—Learning@11 : “Primitive Times”

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We want to hear from you

The education staff at the Missouri State 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 us at 573-751-2854 or DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov.

Exhibits

Traditional Arts Come Alive During *Tuesdays at the Capitol*

This spring, the Missouri State Museum welcomed artisans from the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program. Deborah A. Bailey, folk arts specialist for the Missouri Folk Arts Program, coordinated hands-on demonstrations that took place in the Capitol the first and second Tuesday in April.

On April 1, Irene Livingston of Columbia and her apprentice Gretchen Seifert of Centralia demonstrated the art of rag rug “twining” or weaving. They brought with them samples of finished rugs and works in progress, to the delight of visitors. Twining is a traditional style of rug weaving that uses a large frame loom and scrap fabric such as sheets or old jeans. This type of weaving involves twisting weft strands around warp (vertical) strands. The result is strong and durable fabric.



Apprentice Gretchen Seifert demonstrates rag twining on a tabletop loom.

On April 8, Pat McCarty of Washington, Mo. displayed a variety of hand-forged objects ranging from cooking utensils to decorative flowers made from repurposed steel. McCarty has worked 25 years as a full-time blacksmith and is an active member of the Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America and the Blacksmith Association of Missouri. He was joined by his wife Mary Jo, who displayed a few of her baskets, collaborative projects between husband and wife. Mary Jo weaves the baskets and Pat crafts the hand-forged iron handles.

For video of Mr. McCarty at work, check out his website washingtonforge.net/.

Since 1984, the Missouri Folk Arts Program (MFAP), with annual funding from the Missouri Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, has fostered over 340 apprenticeships through the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program. This initiative pairs master folk artists with apprentices to pass on skills and cultural traditions to a new generation of artisans. The Missouri State Museum is proud to celebrate its 26th year collaborating with the Missouri Folk Arts Program.

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Missouri 6th Cavalry Flag Comes Home!

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C of the 5th Missouri Cavalry Regiment (Wayne Sampson, Flint Smith, and Paul Shetley).

When the Civil War broke out, Thomas Clark Wright organized a cavalry squadron of 240 men from Polk and Dade counties and was commissioned captain of the Dade County mounted home guard in July 1861. In February 1862, Wright's battalion was consolidated with two others to form the 6th Missouri Cavalry, and Wright became the new regiment's colonel. The 6th Missouri Cavalry scouted in advance of the Army of Southwest from Rolla to the battlefield at Pea Ridge, Ark. Most of the regiment later fought at Vicksburg, Miss.



The Regimental Flag of the 6th Missouri Cavalry is a blue silk flag that is hand painted with a Union Coat of Arms on it (The Eagle and Shield) that has a red banner with no words painted below the eagle and 13 gold stars above the eagle. The flag has gold tassel fringe on three sides. The flag was accompanied by currency notes, photographs and information on Thomas Clark Wright. After necessary treatment to conserve the flag for long-term preservation, the flag will be on display in the Missouri State Museum.

admission to all visitors including military personnel every day we are open. The Museum honors veterans in a special way with the "Missouri Veterans Gallery." Because the Missouri State Museum was founded in 1919 as the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Hall," the Museum feels a special responsibility to honor those who have served and continue to serve.

Please share this with as many people you know who are either in the military or have family members in service. Invite them to come explore the Missouri State Museum and the Missouri Veterans Gallery.

The Blue Star Museums Program provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at <http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>.

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MFAP is administered by the Museum of Art and Archaeology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The program's mission is to build "cross-cultural understanding by documenting, conserving, and presenting the state's living folk arts and folk life in collaboration with Missouri's citizens." The Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program, is just one several of the programs MFAP coordinates.



The warp (vertical strips) shown here is denim, while the weft is in shades of red and cream.



Pat McCarty speaks to a captive audience about the art of blacksmithing.

For more information about what the Missouri Folk Arts Program does, visit the website at: <http://mofolkarts.missouri.edu/index.shtml>

Interpretive Programming Continued...



Quilt Tales with Anna Offutt

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July 15—Tuesdays@2 : “Primitive Hunting”

July 22—Learning@11 : “The Battleship Missouri”

July 22—Tuesdays@2 : “Don’t Mess with the Mighty MO”

July 29—Learning@11 : “Busy Beavers”

July 29—Tuesdays@2 : “Nature’s Engineers, Trappers Treasure”



Digging to find some History



175th Birthday of Lohman Building

The Missouri State Museum will host a picnic at Jefferson Landing State Historic Site on Saturday, June 21, to celebrate 175 years for the Lohman Building, which was built in 1839. Come join in the fun - 1850s-style. This celebration will also showcase the interactive 1850s-era general store and warehouse housed on the ground floor of the Lohman Building, which now includes retail items for sale.

The picnic will begin with live music and dancing from the Loehnig German Band and Dancers at 10 a.m. Other activities during the day include blacksmithing and rope-making demonstrations, 1850s-era games and potato sack races on the south lawn of the Lohman Building. You can also bring your picnic baskets and have a lunchtime picnic on the south side of the Union Hotel just across Jefferson St. where there is lots of shade. Activities will run until 4 p.m.

No birthday celebration would be complete without a cake, so there will also be an old-fashioned cake contest that would have been popular at 1850s-era picnics. This is a chance to show off those old family recipes. For contest rules, please contact the State Museum. Recipes from 19th-century cookbooks will be available.

In between outdoor activities, check out the exhibit inside the Lohman Building, which reflects its early uses as general store and warehouse. The retail area includes heirloom seeds as well as crafts and hand-made, Missouri-made items for sale. "Lohman's Landing" is one of the oldest buildings in Jefferson City so join us as we celebrate and start a new tradition.

This event will also include an open house for the Missouri State Museum and Jefferson Landing State Historic Site. Museum staff will be on hand to discuss the accomplishments and future plans for the museum and site. Visitors are invited to share comments and suggestions about services and operations. This informational meeting is part of an ongoing effort by Missouri State Parks to ensure citizens have input regarding the facilities and services offered in state parks and historic sites.

The Missouri State Museum, which is part of Missouri State Parks, is located on the first floor of the Missouri State Capitol. Jefferson Landing, which is administered by the Missouri State Museum, is at 100 Jefferson Street. For more information, contact the museum at 573-751-2854. For information on state parks and historic sites, visit mostateparks.com. Missouri State Parks is a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Jefferson Landing State Historic Site

100 & 101 Jefferson St.



The Lohman Building is open until Aug. 31, 2014. Come help us celebrate this building's 175th birthday!



The Union Hotel is open until Aug. 31, 2014, with an exhibit on the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis.



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.

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.



**Last Issue's "What Am I?" Answer:
Hub to the Wheel on the Weasel in the Civil War Display**

State Museum Staff

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- Muriel Anderson, Assistant Director
- Katherine Keil, Curator of Collections
- Michele Blackmore, Curator of Exhibits
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- Chris Fritsche, Interpretive Resource Specialist

- Karla Strain, Interpretive Resource Specialist
- Patricia Chambers, Interpretive Resource Spec.
- Rick Edwards, Maintenance/Exhibit Fabrication
- Connie Grellner, Support Staff
- Jennifer Wood, Support Staff

For more information, contact the Missouri State Museum at 573-751-2854 or DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov. Find out more on [Facebook](#) and at missouristatemuseum.com.

