# 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.

#### Inside this issue:

Missouri After Hours 1

Director's Message

Interpretive Programming

Dates to Remember

Collections Corner

Rozier Gallery 2015

Jefferson Landing 9 State Historic Site

What am I? 9

# Missouri State Museum The Museum Muse

Volume 6, Number

Winter 2015

### **Museum After Hours 2015**

The Missouri State Museum launched its 2015 "Museum After Hours" season on Jan. 7. Since the program coincided with the opening week of session for the Missouri General Assembly, the topic of "Capitols of Missouri" was appropriate. Despite icy winds and filled parking lots, the program drew 38 attendees. Henry Gensky, local historian, presented the program. His vast knowledge of local and state history kept the audience engaged as he lead them on a virtual tour of the buildings that have housed our seat of government.

The launch of the after-hours season was the first of several successful programs. The February "Missouri River Relief" program brought a guest speaker with photos and videos of volunteers cleaning the banks of the Missouri River. The March "Rural Missouri" program explored our state's agricultural past and present with special guests from Lincoln University Cooperative Extension and MoBARN (Missouri Barn Alliance and Rural Network). Upcoming program topics include mammoths, mastodons and birds of prey. Oh, my! Whether you're a history buff, a lover of nature, or are curious about the culture and resources of Missouri, there's something for you at "Museum After Hours."

"Museum after Hours" is held on the first Wednesday of each month when the museum galleries are open until 9 p.m. and special programs are offered. To find out what is coming up in the next few months, visit our website at <a href="missouristatemuseum.com">missouristatemuseum.com</a> or follow us on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you "after hours" this year!



Henry Gensky discussing the "Capitols of Missouri."



# From The Director

I am the luckiest person in Missouri. No, I haven't won the lottery. I *did* hit the job jackpot. Since November 2014, I've had the honor and privilege of being the director of the Missouri State Museum and Jefferson Landing State Historic Site. Every day, I work with a staff of talented and creative professionals with a passion for connecting people with the history and resources of the state. We also have really cool stuff here! (Note: "Cool stuff" is a highly technical term used by museum professionals for awesome artifacts and exhibits.) For this Missouri girl, it doesn't get much better.

I am not the only new name and face you'll see in this newsletter or in your next visit to the Missouri State Museum. I'm joined by the new assistant director, Lisa Chastain, and by interpreter Meagan Duffee-Yates. We're stepping into some big shoes. My thanks go out to Linda Endersby and Muriel Anderson, the previous director and assistant director, for their leadership.

This year, 2015, is a time of transition and planning for the museum as we prepare for new programming, milestone anniversaries, and special events. You'll see hints of what is to come in this newsletter. We're also always interested in hearing what our visitors and stakeholders have to say about our exhibits and programs (hint, hint, that's you). We welcome comments and ideas so



Left to Right: Meagan, Tiffany & Lisa

that we can better tell the story of Missouri and its people. It's your history!

To stay on top of events at the museum and Jefferson Landing, visit our website at <u>missouristatemuseum.com</u> and follow us on Facebook. You can also reach us by phone or e-mail at 573-751-2854 or DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov.

I'm looking forward to hearing from *and* seeing you at the Museum and Jefferson Landing.

Tiffany Patterson, Director

# Interpretive Programming

#### "Story Time Saturdays"



Starting in March and continuing until the end of May, our interpretative staff will host "Story Time Saturdays." These early childhood programs are aimed at children aged three to six, but all ages are welcome. Programs will start at 11 a.m. and meet in the Missouri State Museum classroom. From there, participants will hike to our final destination within the museum.

Keep an eye on our website or contact us for details at 573-751-2854 or feel free to email us at

<u>DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov</u>. Our staff is looking forward to this year's programming and can't wait to see everyone!

#### Dates to Remember:

- March 28- Story Time Saturdays: Ever wonder why plants and flowers are important? Come learn and play.
- April 1 Museum After Hours: "Ice Age in Missouri." Come explore the world of large mammals that once dwelled here.
- April 4 Story Time Saturdays: Learn about life on the Underground Railroad.
- April 11- Story Time Saturdays: Come along with Charlie Parker and learn all about this musician.
- April 14 Folk Arts at the Capitol: Missouri Folk Arts
  Program participants will demonstrate the art of
  black powder horn making and engraving.
- April 18 Story Time Saturdays: Rocks and minerals abound in Missouri. Learn, feel and hold these ancient stones.
- April 25 Story Time Saturdays: Humans were not the only beings to serve in the Civil War. Learn about our animal companions, dogs, and their roles.

(continued on page 8)....



#### 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 or 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.

# Collections Corner

## The Centennial of WWI

As the sesquicentennial of the Civil War winds down in 2015, the centennial of the First World War (1914-1918) will be in full swing across the globe. The Missouri State Museum is gearing up to commemorate America's involvement in the "war to end all wars" starting in 2017.

In order to prepare, the State Museum is shifting its conservation efforts from the Civil War battle flags to the regimental flags and county blue/ gold star banners associated with the Mexican-Border War (1916) and WWI. There are 37 WWI regimental flags, 92 blue/gold star WWI county banners and eight Mexican Border War regimental flags in the collection. Museum staff is identifying flags that have a critical need for conservation. Additionally, four WWI flags went to the conservator in the fall of 2013 and returned in June 2014. As funding allows the museum hopes to continue the conservation program ensuring that our collection of flags are preserved for another 100 years.

The State Museum has also been looking at ways to share these flags and other military objects from its collection beyond the walls of the Capitol. The museum partnered with the *Over There: Missouri & The Great War* digitization



Missouri Blue/Gold Star Banner, the blue star and numbers represent every member of the military from the state who served in WWI and the gold star and numbers represent all those who died while in the service.

project, effectively sharing some of our collection online. The collaboration's first step was scanning 118 film negatives of images from the Clifford Porth Photograph Collection. Capt. Porth of Jefferson City took these images while serving in Company L of the 2nd Missouri Infantry on the Mexican Border in 1916. In November, the project staff visited the museum and photographed all of the WWI and Mexican Border War flags in the museum's collection. During that visit, project staff also photographed some of the weapons, helmets, swords and other memorabilia soldiers brought back from the war. They utilized a turntable technology to photograph a select number of the artifacts from all directions, which will give the website visitors a 360 degree view of the artifacts.

The State Museum is also planning an exhibition to mark Missouri's contributions to the Great War. Research has begun and the plan is to open the exhibit in April 2017, coinciding with America's declaration of war. This exhibit will focus less on battles and military strategy and more on the home front. The exhibits will be examining what happened here in Missouri during this global conflict. The exhibition will also discuss the lasting effects of the war on the state. A final element of the exhibit will focus on how the conflict has been commemorated over the last 100 years, given the museum's founding as the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (1919) dedicated after WWI because of the desire to honor the sacrifices of Missouri veterans of all conflicts.



Handwritten on the top white stripe of this small (27" X 31") United States national colors is "made by an old French lady and presented to Capt. J. C. Kenady, 140th Inf. July 4, 1918". Records indicate that Capt. James C. Kenady of Dexter later died of wounds received in action on Oct. 17. His widow Lydia W. Kenady was notified. It is unknown how the flag returned to Missouri and to the Missouri Adjutant General's office. It came to the Missouri State Museum in 1993.

If you have knowledge of artifacts or other resources, particularly relating to life on the home front, that might contribute to this exhibit, please contact us at 573-751-2854 or by e-mail at DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov

# The Elizabeth Rozier Gallery 2015

Join us at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery starting Tuesday, March 3 for an exciting exhibition season featuring ceramics, paintings and photography by Missouri artists. Check out the website under "Events" for scheduled artist receptions and other events happening this year at the Rozier Gallery.

#### **Exhibits**

### "Oil & Clay"

Naomi Sugino Lear and Bo Bedilion

March 3 - April 25, 2015

This is a joint exhibition featuring pottery by Bo Bedilion and paintings by Naomi Sugino Lear. Both artists have exhibited works in mid-Missouri and nationally; both are faculty at Columbia College, Columbia.



"Covered Jars"
Bo Bedilion





"Longview III" Naomi Sugino Lear

# "Missouri River Art and Photography"

William Helvey

May 5 - June 27, 2015

William Helvey is a fine art photographer and professional artist living in Columbia. Private and corporate collectors internationally seek Helvey's work. This exhibit will feature photographs, drawings and paintings, all depicting the Missouri River.

"Stillness on the Missouri River" Southern Boone County near Easley William Helvey



### "New Regionalism - The Art of Bryan Haynes"

Bryan Haynes

June 30 - Sept. 5, 2015

Bryan Haynes is an illustrator, muralist and commercial artist. Recent commissions include the Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City, the Museum of Westward Expansion and the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. This exhibit features paintings of vibrant Missouri landscapes, populated by historical figures and local characters.



"Notes on a Scale" Bryan Haynes

Elizabeth Rozier Gallery is located in the Union Hotel at Jefferson Landing State Historic Site. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., March through Labor Day.



# Interpretive Programming Continued...



#### **Dates to Remember Continued:**

- April 25- Artist Reception for "Oil & Clay": Meet artists Bo Bedillion and Noami Sugino at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery from 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
- April 25- Folk Arts "Hammer-in" at Jefferson Landing State Historic Site: Three blacksmiths will be on the lawn of the Lohman Building to demonstrate traditional blacksmithing techniques.
- May 2 Story Time Saturdays: Insects are colorful, but also are well adapted to hiding within their habitat. Come explore the reasons why.
- May 5- Missouri River Art and Photography Exhibit opens at the Elizabeth Rozier Gallery.
- May 6 Museum After Hours: "Falconry in Missouri." Meagan Duffee-Yates, licensed falconer, will teach you about this ancient "sport of the kings" and the sport today in Missouri. A live American kestrel and red-tailed hawk will be present.
- May 9 Story Time Saturdays: Explore the world of the frogs of Missouri.
- May 16 Story Time Saturdays: Animals are adapted to survive through the most extreme conditions.

  Learn all about animal adaptations.
- May 23- Story Time Saturdays: Spiders are a very misunderstood creature. Staff will help dispel any misunderstandings on their lives.

# Jefferson Landing State Historic Site

100 & 101 Jefferson St.



The Lohman Building will open on March 3. This building features a general store and warehouse reminiscent of the 19th century riverboat landing that it was.



The Union Hotel will open March 3. See Page 7 for details on upcoming exhibits.



#### 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.

Missouri State Museum

Last Issue's "What Am I?" Answer: Wheel on the easel of the loom.

# State Museum Staff

Tiffany Patterson, Director
Lisa Chastain, Assistant Director
Katherine Keil, Curator of Collections
Michele Blackmore, Curator of Exhibits
Chris Fritsche, Interpretive Program Director
Meagan Duffee-Yates, Interpretive Resource Spec.

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 <a href="mailto:DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov">DSP.State.Museum@dnr.mo.gov</a>. Find out more on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a> and at <a href="mailto:missouristatemuseum.com">missouristatemuseum.com</a>.

