

MISSOURI TIMES

The State Historical Society of Missouri

August 2014 Vol. 10, No. 2



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In 2013 the annual meeting program was opened to the public. These grandparents and their three grandsons were in the crowd to learn about Missouri's fiddle heritage from featured speaker Howard Wight Marshall and his fellow musicians.

2014 Annual Meeting Speaker to Explore Missouri's 'Ignoble Grape'

Join the State Historical Society of Missouri on Saturday, October 18, at the Broadway Columbia, a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, for the 2014 annual meeting. Featured speaker Todd Kliman will present "The Ignoble Grape: The Rise and Fall and Rise Again of the Outsider Norton" after the noon luncheon.

The Norton is Missouri's state grape, which rose to international prominence when a wine from Hermann won a gold medal at the World's Fair in Vienna in 1873. A hybrid developed from native stock to withstand North American climates, the Norton was cultivated by Missouri winemakers to produce a full-bodied wine that pleased European connoisseurs. It is the cornerstone of Missouri's wine-making tradition.

Registration is now open at shs.umsystem.edu/annualmeeting or by phone at 573.882.7083. Please reserve a space for yourself and additional attendees by **October 10** for the luncheon: \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers.

Prior to the luncheon, join SHSMO for the 11:00 a.m. business meeting, which will include a presentation of highlights from the past year made possible by contributions from members of the Society. A silent auction will also be held to support the James W. Goodrich Graduate Research Assistantship, National History Day in Missouri, and the Oral History program.

Get started on your own Norton adventure by ordering Kliman's book, *The Wild Vine: A Forgotten Grape and the Untold Story of American Wine* at

573.882.7083 or shsofmo@umsystem.edu. The book is priced at \$22.50 for members and \$25 for nonmembers, shipping excluded. After the presentation, Kliman will sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase.

About Todd Kliman

Kliman is the food and wine editor and restaurant critic at the *Washingtonian*. His work was recently nominated for a 2014 James Beard Foundation Award; he won the award previously in 2005 for his column in the *Washington City Paper*. An accomplished author, his writing has also been featured in the *New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Men's Health*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Washington Post Magazine*, and the *Best Food Writing* anthologies. Kliman also blogs for NPR.org.

The State Historical Society of Missouri's

ANNUAL MEETING

10.18.14

Schedule

- 10 a.m.** Silent Auction Opens
- 11 a.m.** Business Meeting
- 12 p.m.** Luncheon
- 1 p.m.** Program – Open to the Public

Associate Director, Editor Lynn Wolf Gentzler Retires after 42-year Career in Missouri History

After a 42-year career with the Western Historical Manuscript Collection (WHMC) in Columbia and the State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO), Lynn Wolf Gentzler retired in June. A native of rural DeKalb County, Gentzler started work as a manuscript specialist at WHMC–Columbia in 1972 and earned promotions as a senior manuscript specialist and as assistant director over the course of the next 18 years.

In 1990 Gentzler moved to the other side of Ellis Library to assume the positions of assistant director of the State Historical Society of Missouri and associate editor of the *Missouri Historical Review*. The next year she became associate director of the Society and continued as associate editor of the *Review*. In 2013 Gentzler's title at the *MHR* was elevated to editor.

Executive Director Gary Kremer said that Gentzler is the secret behind the *Missouri Historical Review's* success.

"She has been the principal reason that the *Missouri Historical Review* has become widely recognized as a journal characterized by high scholarly standards and impeccable attention to detail with regard to the mechanics of writing," Kremer said.

At its April 25 meeting, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State Historical Society of Missouri recognized Gentzler's contribution to SHSMO and to the *MHR* by naming her editor emerita of the journal. This honor was endorsed by the full board on June 6.



At the 2013 annual meeting Becky Schroeder, left, visits with Lynn Wolf Gentzler while getting Ike Skelton's signature on *Achieve the Honorable*. Over the past decade, Gentzler edited all of the books published by SHSMO, including Skelton's autobiography copublished with Southern Illinois University Press.

Yet Kremer said her leadership went well beyond the *MHR*. When James W. Goodrich, then the Society's executive director, faced a sudden illness in 2003, Gentzler answered the call of the SHSMO Board of Trustees and assumed the role of acting executive director.

"During my decade as the State Historical Society of Missouri executive director, Lynn has been the person to whom I have

turned most for wise counsel and a greater understanding of the Society's rich past," Kremer said. "Her sense of commitment to her profession, to her coworkers, to the *Missouri Historical Review*, and to the State Historical Society of Missouri is a model that all of us who work with her would do well to adopt as our own."

Contact the Society

E-mail

shsfo@umsystem.edu

Website

shs.umsystem.edu

Telephone

800.747.6366

573.882.7083

MISSOURI TIMES

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Managing Editor

John Brenner

Editor

Mary Ellen Lohmann

Assistant Editor

Kimberly Harper

Bond Papers Added to State Historical Society Collections



Christopher "Kit" Bond, left, then a US senator, with a pilot at McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis in October 1987.

Former Missouri Governor and US Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond recently signed a deed of gift donating his political and personal papers to the State Historical Society of Missouri. Bond served as governor from 1973 to 1977 and 1981 to 1985 before being elected to the US Senate, where he held office from 1987 to 2011.

Bond's papers measure more than 480 cubic feet and include gubernatorial and senatorial material such as campaign and legislative records, press releases, correspondence, speeches, travel logs, subject files, clippings, photographs, and audiovisual material.

Bond served as vice chairman of the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and was a longtime supporter of the Parents as Teachers program. He also worked to promote a strong military and biotechnology.

Missouri Digital Newspaper Project Adds Over 350,000 Pages, Prepares for Statewide Bookmark Blitz

The State Historical Society of Missouri continues to build partnerships with libraries to expand the scope of the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project. The collection now includes 135 newspaper titles representing 71 of Missouri's 114 counties and the city of St. Louis. With the addition of 350,000 pages, the program has digitized approximately 600,000 unique pages to date.

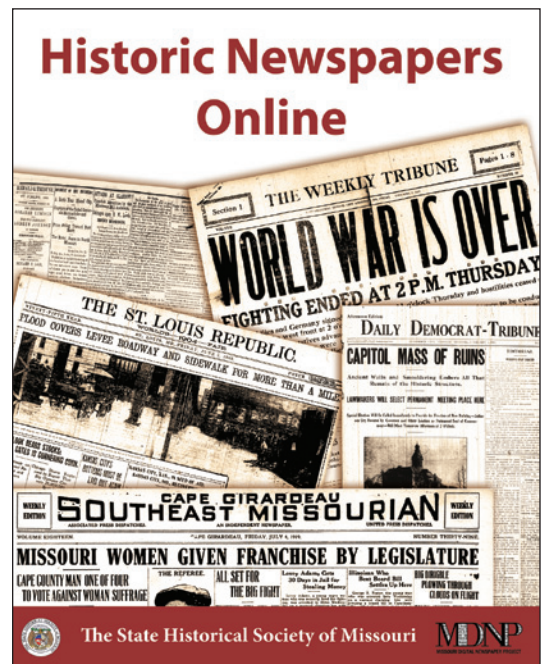
Now SHSMO is gearing up to get the word out. Libraries in St. Louis and each of the 71 counties that are home to these historic newspapers will receive care packages containing posters and bookmarks to promote the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project and *Chronicling America* as resources for library patrons. The materials feature newspaper headlines from influential moments in American history. If you would like to request bookmarks and

posters for your area, contact SHSMO at shsofmo@umsystem.edu or 573.882.7083 for details. Shipping charges may apply.

About the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project and *Chronicling America*

The Missouri Digital Newspaper Project was created to coordinate the digitization of historic Missouri newspapers. The goal is to provide a free, searchable database of newspapers from every county. Papers currently accessible on SHSMO's website (<http://shs.umsystem.edu/newspaper/mdnp>) have been digitized with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library.

Many of Missouri's digital newspapers are also available through the Library of Congress's *Chronicling America* site (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>).



National Tour Featuring *Watching the Cargo* to Open in Fall 2014

The State Historical Society of Missouri's famous painting *Watching the Cargo* by George Caleb Bingham will tour the nation in a multi-city exhibition that opens at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, Texas, on October 2. The exhibition, *Navigating the West: George Caleb Bingham and the River*, will explore the integral role that waterways played in the nineteenth century. Sixteen paintings and 50 drawings will highlight Bingham's artistic process at a time of dramatic change for American art.

The works are being shown together for the first time.

After its stint at the Amon Carter, *Navigating the West* will be on display at the Saint Louis Art Museum from February 22 to May 17, 2015. The last stop will be at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York from June 15 to September 20, 2015. The exhibition was organized by the Amon Carter and the Saint Louis Art Museum. It is supported in part by the Henry Luce Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Event Highlights Southeast Missouri's Love of State, Personal History

On May 22 trustees Riley Bock and Ned Matthews hosted a State Historical Society of Missouri reception in Sikeston. Attendees learned about the Society and its mission to preserve, protect, and share Missouri's history. Bock, Matthews, SHSMO President Stephen N. Limbaugh Jr., and others shared personal stories about their connections to the state and its vibrant past.

Matthews, whose family has lived in southeast Missouri for over 200 years, spoke of how Frank Nickell, associate director of the Research Center-Cape Girardeau, encouraged him to write his family history. The work resulted in an award-winning book, *Matthews: The Historic Adventures of a Pioneer Family*, published by the Southeast Missouri State University Press.

Limbaugh expressed his love of Missouri history and his joy in serving the state as a Society trustee. Bock described his pride in giving to SHSMO as a George Caleb Bingham Society donor each year.

Nickell shared many stories of people in the area who have entrusted their personal and

family papers to the Society. Donations to the Cape Girardeau center's collection, including recent gifts from attendees, will help scholars, family historians, and other researchers study and understand the region's history in greater detail than ever before.

Consider your investment in the state's history and contact Ms. Severin Roberts at 573.882.7083 about a contribution. You may also contact the Research Center-Cape Girardeau at 573.651.2689 to share your materials.



JOIN IN THE CONVERSATION!

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NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN MISSOURI

www.nhdmo.org



Eighth-grader Erin Lowe of Kansas City during her performance of *Where Are Our Rights? The Repatriation of Mexican American Citizens during the Great Depression*. She took second place in the national contest.

Missouri Students Shine at National Contest in Maryland

Congratulations to the Missouri National History Day students who rocked the final round at nationals. Show-Me State students brought home two medals, two special prizes, two outstanding entries, and had a total of seven finalists at the national contest June 15-19 in College Park, Maryland.

Eighth-grader Erin Lowe of Kansas City received the silver medal for her junior individual performance, *Where Are Our Rights? The Repatriation of Mexican American Citizens during the Great Depression*. Lowe also received the Latino American History Prize. Ninth-grader Hannah Scott of Odessa received the bronze medal for her individual exhibit, *Women of Steel: The Rights and Responsibilities of America's Arsenal for Production*. Tenth-grader Barrett Young of Nixa won the World War II in Europe History Award for his paper, *The*

Responsibility to Protect Liberty Abroad: Franklin Roosevelt and the Death of Isolationism.

Missouri's outstanding entries went to Maycie Mayfield of Princeton for her exhibit, *Lewis Hine: Turns Picture into Law*, and to Brandon Splitter of Joplin, Taylor Vaughn of Carthage, and Jason Ogle of Carthage for their senior group website, *Wounded Knee: Silencing the Betrayed*. Other finalists were Alli Reaves and Ruth Skolnick-Schur of Springfield for their junior group website, *No Place to Call Home: Rights Lost by Japanese-Americans during WWII*, and Amanda Morrison of Springfield for her senior individual performance, *Andrew Jackson, John Ross and the Rights of the Cherokee*.

The National History Day students who participated in this year's contest represented the best of Missouri and made the state proud.

Launching Leadership and Legacy for the 2015 Contest

National History Day is introducing a new theme for its 2015 contest: Leadership and Legacy. The National History Day in Missouri staff is sure the state's students will leave their stamp on history with creative, exciting projects!

National History Day in Missouri piloted the new theme with educational partner Missouri 4-H in May at the 69th Annual State 4-H Congress. In the "Presidential Think Tank: Leadership and Legacy" session, students were asked what it means to be a leader. One response was that leaders are "instilled



with integrity, lead by example, don't push to be first, and are willing to help others."

After a discussion of Harry S. Truman's leadership qualities, 4-H students

learned how they can participate in the National History Day in Missouri program and leave their own legacy with their documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website projects.

National History Day: Opportunities, Strategies, Rewards to Be Presented in Kansas City

Whether you are a National History Day (NHD) veteran teacher or are stepping into the program for the first time, join coordinators Maggie Mayhan and Mark Adams plus NHD teacher and Patricia Behring award winner Maureen Funk at **"My students learn more from their NHD projects than from any other project we do."**

—Maureen Funk

Missouri and Kansas Councils for History Education will introduce you to the opportunities, strategies, and rewards of the student-centered NHD program. The conference, including the NHD session, will be held at the World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial in Kansas City.

the Best Practices in History Education Conference, September 25-26. This event cohosted by the

Conference attendees may pick up the National History Day in Missouri teacher packet, designed to introduce educators to NHDMO and provide a how-to guide for getting started in this innovative program that puts students in the driver's seat.

Can't wait until September? Visit: nhdmo.org to download a packet and get started today.



Thank you to the Missouri Humanities Council, which serves as cosponsor for National History Day in Missouri.

Warren Harber: From the Missouri Bootheel to the World War II Italian Campaign

In November 1942, Warren Harber of Matthews, Missouri, boarded a bus in New Madrid and went off to war. He left behind Jewel, his wife of six months, as well as friends, relatives, and his students.

Harber received training at Camp Wolters in Texas as well as Fort Benning and Camp Wheeler in Georgia. He rose from a private to the rank of captain, benefiting from high exam scores and his experience teaching at Fairview School, a three-room elementary school. In February 1944 he recorded in his journal, "I guess I am about as near ready for overseas and combat as I can expect to be. I have had much more training than most of the men. I have really been through three cycles of basic training...so I guess I am ready to go."

On March 23, 1944, Harber and several hundred other young men boarded the USS *Breckinridge* and headed out to sea. After a 27-day voyage across the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea, the *Breckinridge* docked at Naples, Italy, and the men were dispersed among various units as replacements for those killed or wounded in the Italian campaign. Harber was assigned to the 135th Infantry Regiment and moved through Anzio and Rome to the front lines in northern Italy.

Although there were strict rules against officers keeping a diary while in a combat zone, Harber kept one, making daily entries that he expanded during breaks and periods of rest. In June 1944 he wrote, "I think we are the front. There is no one between us and the enemy."

German troops were retreating to the northern Italian high ground, while US forces pursued them in trucks. Harber wrote, "I did not know a war could be fought on trucks."

Harber and his men spent the remainder of 1944 and early 1945 engaged with the enemy, holding them in Italy so they could not support the Nazi efforts in France or Germany. He wrote that his unit was in a holding pattern, watching and observing: "I know somewhere there is quite a war going on. We are not in it, but someone is."

Throughout the war, Harber and his wife observed a close and dedicated correspondence. They wrote daily, when possible. In spite of military action and frequent relocation, he received remarkably reliable mail service. On one occasion a package of 18 letters from Jewel reached Harber as he came off the battle line in February 1945.

A few years ago, Harber sat down with this personal diary and wrote an expanded set of journals covering his World War II experience. Seldom does an entry pass without reference to his wife. Although he was close to death on several occasions, Harber believes his faith in God and the strong relationship he maintained with Jewel carried him through the storm of war and brought him safely home.

After the war, Harber secured a position with the US Postal Service, and he and Jewel settled in Sikeston. Together they raised a family and ardently protected the physical record of their World War II experiences. The preservation of the Harber

diary, letters, photographs, journals, and interviews will now be continued by the State Historical Society of Missouri. This collection in the Research Center-Cape Girardeau will provide insight into the brutal nature of the often overlooked war in northern Italy, and into the sensitive and enduring love of Warren and Jewel Harber.



Above Warren and Jewel Harber in September 1943 before he deployed to Europe.
Below Forces in Italy in December 1944.



September

Fall 2014 Educator Open House

September 10 4 - 6 p.m. National Churchill Museum

Visit with State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO) staff and discuss ways the Society and the National History Day in Missouri program may be incorporated into your classroom at this fun event designed to showcase mid-Missouri historical resources. Bring your colleagues and questions to the National Churchill Museum at 501 Westminster Avenue in Fulton.

Making Every Leaf Count

September 16 6 - 9 p.m.

Hannibal Free Public Library

Explore new avenues in finding, documenting, and citing sources and learn about organizing and storing the materials produced from research. In this free workshop, *Making Every Leaf Count: Researching, Organizing, and Protecting Your Genealogy*, the Society's Amy L. Waters, reference specialist, will provide tips for finding your family's history and organizing it for future generations. Join the Society at 200 South Fifth Street in Hannibal. Registration is encouraged. Contact the library at 573.221.0222 or hallieys@hannibal.lib.mo.us.

MU Art-i-Fact Gallery and Museum Crawl

September 18 4 - 8 p.m.

Research Center-Columbia

The MU Art-i-Fact Gallery and Museum Crawl invites you to celebrate the Columbia campus's 175th anniversary by exploring several MU galleries and museums and enjoying an evening of music, snacks, prizes, and art. Famous works by George Caleb Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton will be on display as well as two exhibitions, *Missouri and World War I* and *Thomas Hart Benton's American Mythologies*. Thanks to a partnership with MU's Museum of Anthropology, the Benton exhibition features artifacts that complement the artist's vivid imagery.



October

2014 Annual Meeting

October 18 The Broadway Columbia

Registration is now open for the Society's annual meeting. Make sure to secure your spot for the featured program, "The Ignoble Grape: The Rise and Fall and Rise Again of the Outsider Norton" by author and journalist Todd Kliman. See details on page one or visit shs.umsystem.edu/annualmeeting.

F Trick or Treat through Missouri History

October 28 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Research Center-Columbia

Come in costume to this fun and educational family event. Candy will be available, as well as crafts, activities, and information about topics such as Missouri ghosts, pumpkins, and bats. Brave visitors can also explore the Kid's Cave and the Ghostly Gallery and enjoy a tour guided by the "spirit" of Eliza Bingham, second wife of Missouri's famed painter George Caleb Bingham.

November

Art for a World at War Walk-Through

November 8 1:30 p.m. Main Gallery Research Center-Columbia

Experience World War I through the eyes of artists! Join Joan Stack, curator of art collections, for a tour of the exhibition *Art for a World at War: WWI Posters and Editorial Cartoons*. See original wartime posters and editorial cartoons and learn how art reflected the hopes, fears, and patriotic devotion of Missourians. As a way to celebrate all US veterans, Society military artifacts from a variety of time periods will be on display at the event. The exhibit will run from October 14 to February 14, 2015.

An Evening of Fiction Set in Missouri

November 13 7 - 8:30 p.m. Research Center-Columbia

Join two Missouri authors for readings from their latest projects followed by a discussion on writing with topics ranging from choosing historical fiction to literary license and historical accuracy.

Catherine Underhill Fitzpatrick will read highlights from *Going on Nine*. Set in St. Louis in 1956, the novel depicts a coming-of-age summer for Grace Townsend that leads her and the reader to new understandings of life, equality, and belonging. Fitzpatrick is also an award-winning journalist whose papers are in the Society's National Women and Media Collection. Marlene Lee will read from *Limestone Wall*, a novel that traces widow Evelyn Grant from New York to Jefferson City. Once in mid-Missouri, Evelyn is confronted by the wall of the Missouri State Penitentiary, where her mother has been imprisoned for 40 years. A former court reporter and educator, Lee is a SHSMO member and volunteer.



New Workshops: Turning Personal History into Marketable Fiction, Nonfiction, and Film

December 8 Research Center-Columbia

Turning Personal History into Film - Explore a new avenue for telling your story-film! This workshop will be led by Brian Woodman, SHSMO film and video specialist at the Research Center-St. Louis. Woodman holds a PhD in film, cinema, and video studies. He will provide tips for taking your personal history from primary sources and papers to audiovisual works that resonate.

Turning Personal History into Marketable Fiction and Nonfiction - Glean wisdom from a panel of experts on how to take your project from concept to publication. Special guests will provide stories of firsthand experience with writing, editing, and publishing works for journals, academic presses, publishing houses, and more. Watch for more information at <http://shs.umsystem.edu> or call 573.882.7083 for details.

Looking ahead



Left Jean Gaddy Wilson takes a break in Tokyo, Japan, where she delivered a speech on women in media for the International Group for the Study of Women in 1988. **Right** Wilson, second from the left, attends the American Society of News Editors Conference in Dallas, Texas, April 1995.

Jean Gaddy Wilson Papers Highlight Women’s Changing Roles in Journalism, Society

The Jean Gaddy Wilson Papers (WUNP4877) illustrate the career of a journalist, author, researcher, organizer, and teacher. Wilson grew up on a farm near Marshall, Missouri, in the 1940s and 1950s, a time when women’s roles were narrowly defined as either nurturing or educational. She married and had children, as was expected of women at that time, but she also pursued a career in journalism that encouraged her to speak her mind, ask hard questions, find solutions, and inspire people to expand their own horizons. Through her varied positions over the years, Wilson became a news media expert, and she continues to help people solve problems today as a consultant.

Wilson began studying journalism at the University of Missouri in 1962. While completing her undergraduate and graduate degrees, she also worked in public relations at both Columbia College and Missouri Valley College. Over the next three decades, Wilson wore numerous hats as a wife, mother, teacher, writer, editor, and research assistant. She also conducted her own research on women in news organizations. To fulfill her

The collection reflects decades of transformation in the news media and helps document the ever-changing role of women in the field of journalism.

master’s degree requirements, Wilson embarked upon a decade-long survey of women in print, radio, and television journalism. This work culminated in a research paper, “Taking Stock: Women in the News Media 20 Years before the 21st Century.” It also produced one of the highlights of the Jean Gaddy Wilson Papers: her interviews of more than 100 journalism professionals.

During her teaching career at MU’s Missouri School of Journalism, Wilson managed New Directions for News, an organization geared toward helping media leaders stay abreast of changing trends in the industry. She played a role in establishing the National Women and Media Collection, housed at the State Historical Society of Missouri, and the Journalism and Women’s Symposium (JAWS).

Throughout her career, Wilson has contemplated the future of journalism and women’s role in it, writing on the topic and traveling widely to give lectures and speeches. Upon retiring from New Directions for News in 2000, Wilson became a consultant for Weiner, Edrich, Brown, a futurist consulting firm. She now leads



Jean Gaddy Wilson, journalist and consultant.

her own company, Position the Future Consultants, which helps companies plan for the challenges of tomorrow.

In addition to the journalism school and teaching files, the Jean Gaddy Wilson Papers include her early work as a reporter and organizer, her research on women and minorities in journalism, and her articles, speeches, and book chapters. The collection reflects decades of transformation in the news media and helps document the ever-changing role of women in the field of journalism.

The State Historical Society of Missouri Honors Archivist and Historian David Boutros

The State Historical Society of Missouri celebrated the 34-year career of David Boutros at a July 9 ceremony on the University of Missouri–Kansas City campus. Boutros is retiring this summer from his dual role as SHSMO Research Center–Kansas City assistant director and UMKC university archivist.

About 130 guests attended the reception to honor Boutros for his devotion and commitment to preserving the history of Kansas City and UMKC. SHSMO trustees William W. Sellers, Brent Schondelmeyer, and Brian K. Snyder as well as members of the board of the Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City (JCA-GKC) were on hand to show their appreciation for Boutros's work. The gathering also included Boutros's wife, Kathy, and daughter Jennie.

Speakers at the ceremony shared personal stories about working with Boutros, highlighting his multiple roles as archivist, historian, author, educator, colleague, and friend.

Alan Perry, retired National Archives staff archivist and records preservation officer for the Central Plains Region, emphasized Boutros's leadership role in preserving Kansas City history. "David was instrumental in forming the Kansas City Area Archivists," Perry said. "He was a top character that made it happen." The KCAA is a regionally based professional organization of archivists, historians, librarians, and others who seek to support the preservation of Kansas City history.

Boutros's work with the Kansas City center's donors earned four-time contributor Irene Stiefel Starr's praise. "You made donating papers that I thought were worthwhile so much easier," she said.

Laurel Rogovin, JCA-GKC board member, stated that Boutros's list of attributes was too long to recite. "We have all learned so much from you and your staff," Rogovin said.

Guests enjoyed viewing an informal exhibit of images selected from the Kansas City center's collections, including the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City Records and the William L. Fambrough, Sr. Photographs. Many of the



David Boutros is retiring this summer from his dual role as SHSMO Research Center–Kansas City assistant director and UMKC university archivist.

architectural renderings, maps, photographs, and art pieces displayed were from collections acquired during Boutros's tenure.

Kansas City Star journalist Brian Burnes featured Boutros in an article aptly titled, "Archivist Wraps Up Career of Saving KC's Past from Dustbin (Literally) of History." The story can be read online at kansascity.com/news/local/article691699.html.

A national search will be conducted to find Boutros's successor, and SHSMO will seek to honor his accomplishments while beginning the next chapter for the research center in Kansas City.

Contacting the Research Center–Kansas City

Reference requests should be directed to shsofmo-kc@umksystem.edu or 816.235.1543.



The board of the Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City with David Boutros, fourth from right, at his July 9 retirement celebration in Katz Hall.



Above Missouri Southern motorcar at the Leeper depot, 1940. **Below** Missouri Southern timetable showing the extension to Bunker, 1911.

History of the Missouri Southern Railroad Company Showcased in Local Historical Programs

Retired Amtrak Conductor Norbert Shacklette and John Bradbury, assistant director of the Research Center–Rolla, recently presented a series of programs on the Missouri Southern Railroad at Bunker, Ellington, and Rolla. One of the last lumber roads to operate in the Ozarks, the Missouri Southern began in 1884 as the narrow-gauge Mill Spring, Current River, and Barnesville Railroad. Using as its nucleus a logging pike serving the Clarkson Lumber Company sawmill at Leeper, the line began at a switch off of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain, and Southern (later the Missouri Pacific and now the Union Pacific). It took 11 years for the track construction to reach Barnesville, 30 miles west in Reynolds County, and by then the line had been reorganized as the Missouri Southern Railroad and the town renamed Ellington.

Ellington was the line's terminus for a decade. The intent was to push into the forests of the Current River valley, but the Missouri Lumber and Mining Company, the biggest lumber concern in the region, and its subsidiary the Current River Railroad. Consequently the Missouri Southern line angled northwest into Reynolds County and the Black River hills, serving sawmills along the main line and logging operations along temporary branches known as trams.

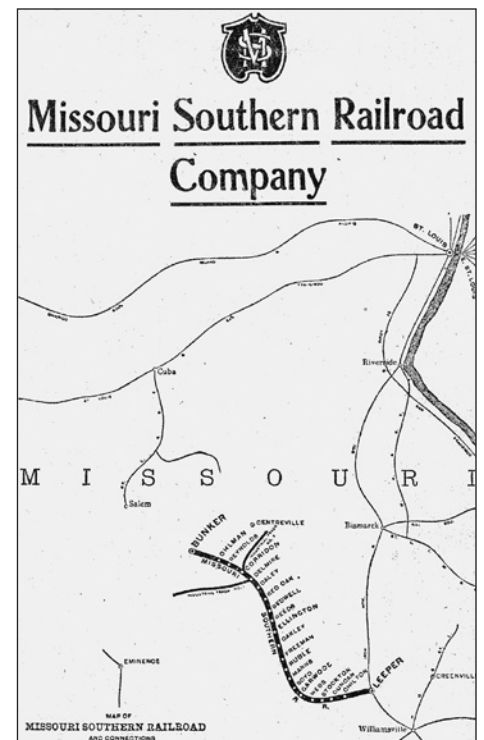
In 1906–07 the Missouri Southern was revitalized when capitalist Frank D. Stout of

Chicago bought the railroad. The Bunker-Culler Lumber Company also built a large sawmill on the Reynolds-Dent County boundary at Bunker, the new town named after Sylvanus J. Bunker. In addition to building the 30-mile extension from Ellington to Bunker, Missouri Southern management converted the line from narrow to standard gauge, eliminating costly transloading. Greek and Italian laborers completed the extension in 1909, and although the road was projected to meet the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway branch at Salem, milepost 52 at Bunker was as far as it got.

After 1929 the Missouri Southern declined despite innovations including the early use of internal-combustion motive power (instead of steam) and organization of a connecting bus line. It deferred maintenance through the Depression until a complete rebuilding was necessary. After the Missouri Pacific rejected an offer to buy the Missouri Southern, operations ceased in May 1941 and the 52-mile line was scrapped.

Daily passenger schedules, regional promotions, and innovative practices made the Missouri Southern more than just another lumber pike in the Ozarks. It was folksy and picturesque enough to draw the attention of newspaper writers, historians, and railroad fans. As Reynolds County's only railroad, it still garners considerable local interest.

Among those who attended the programs by Shacklette and Bradbury was Reynolds County historian Gerald Angel, who rode the Missouri Southern back and forth to school and was aboard its last run. Shacklette, a native of Bunker, never rode the Missouri Southern, but stories of the line were part of the impulse leading to his own 40-year railroad career.



Macy's Donates May Company Collection, Art

Macy's, Inc., the former owner of the Railway Exchange Building in downtown St. Louis, recently donated a collection of records from its predecessor, the May Department Stores Company, to the State Historical Society of Missouri. In addition to financial records, annual reports, marketing materials, awards, photographs, and Railway Exchange Building blueprints, the gift includes two original pieces of art. A framed watercolor of the iconic building that housed the Famous-Barr flagship store was painted by H. S. Pitts circa 1914. The second work is a portrait of company founder David May created by Hungarian artist Baron Arpad De Paszthy.

May established the company in 1877 as a holding firm for acquiring and often merging various regional stores. Over the years, retail outfits such as L. S. Ayres, Foley's, and Kaufmann's came under its umbrella. In 1911 one of the May Company's holdings, the Famous Clothing Store, merged with the William Barr Dry Goods Company to create Famous-Barr.

The Railway Exchange Building was the tallest building in St. Louis when it opened in 1914 and the second largest in interior space. Twenty-one stories tall, it occupies the entire block bordered by Locust, Olive, Sixth, and Seventh Streets.

The Railway Exchange Building was the tallest building in St. Louis when it opened in 1914 and the second largest in interior space. Twenty-one stories tall, it occupies the entire block bordered by Locust, Olive, Sixth, and Seventh Streets. Anchored by Famous-Barr, it became a commercial center that included the May Department Stores headquarters until the company was bought in 2005 by Federated Department Stores, Inc., now known as Macy's, Inc. Macy's sold the building in 2010 and closed its store last year, moving operations into north St. Louis County.



A portrait of the May Department Stores Company founder David May by Hungarian artist Baron Arpad De Paszthy.



Mary Rhodes Russell, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri and SHSMO trustee.

International Women's Forum Provides Gift to Transcribe Oral Histories of Influential 21st Century Missourians

The International Women's Forum donated \$5,000 to the Research Center—St. Louis to help transcribe recent oral history interviews with distinguished women. Blanche Touhill, SHSMO trustee and former University of Missouri—St. Louis chancellor, conducted the interviews with 50 female leaders in fields such as business, education, government, and journalism. The transcripts are being archived and will soon be made available to researchers. A small sample of the women interviewed includes:

- Adrian E. Bracy, chief executive officer, YWCA Metro St. Louis
- Maxine K. Clark, founder, Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc.
- Major General Barbara Faulkenberry, vice commander, 18th Air Force, Scott Air Force Base
- Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge, director and chief executive officer, Lambert—St. Louis International Airport
- Amy Kaiser, director, St. Louis Symphony Chorus
- Frances Levine, president, Missouri History Museum
- Lisa Lyle, head of school, Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School
- Marylen Mann, founder and chairman emeritus, OASIS Institute
- Chris L. Nicastro, Missouri commissioner of education
- Mary Rhodes Russell, chief justice, the Supreme Court of Missouri

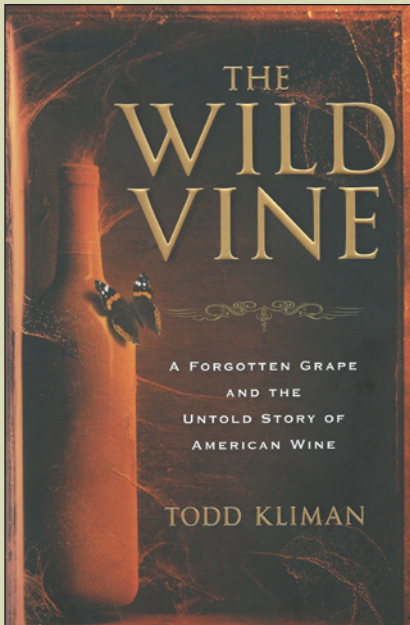
The International Women's Forum began in the United States in 1982 and now has over 5,000 members participating in its activities in 33 countries on six continents.



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