

Spring 2012

# THE MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES . . .

*Where History Begins*



## ***The 1940 Census Indexing Project***

Page 4

*Published by Robin Carnahan, Secretary of State  
in partnership with the Friends of the Missouri State Archives*

*Friends of the  
Missouri State Archives*

# THE MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES . . .

## *Where History Begins*

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Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### **On the Cover**

Roosevelt High School Marching Band, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1940 – 1941. From the Collection of the Missouri State Archives

### **The Friends of the Missouri State Archives**

The purpose of the Friends of the Missouri State Archives is to render support and assistance to the Missouri State Archives. As a not-for-profit corporation, the Friends organization is supported by memberships and gifts.

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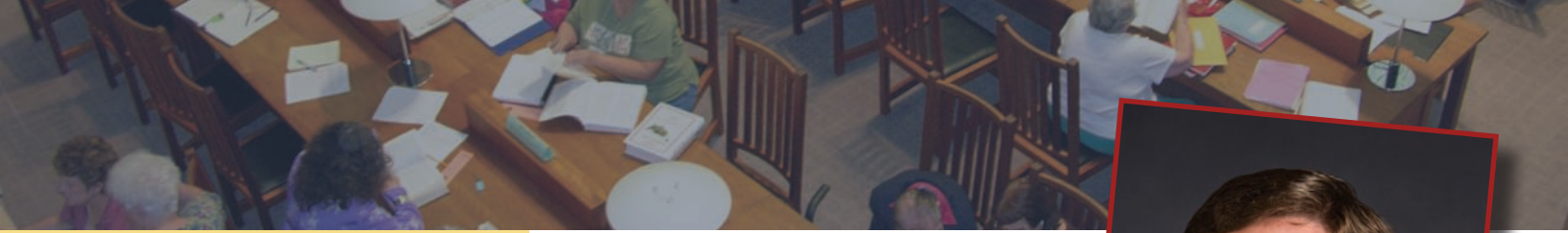
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*Friends of the*  
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## Brian Rogers named as new Archives Principal Assistant for Boards and Commissions

Missouri State Archivist John Dougan announced in late February that Brian Rogers will be the archives' new Principal Assistant for Boards and Commissions.

Brian has been affiliated with the archives since 2005, when he was a Supreme Court of Missouri Historical Society intern. Since that time, he has held positions as Reference Specialist and

Archival Specialist. He has worked most recently as a Research Analyst in the archives' reference room.

Among his many other responsibilities, Brian has coordinated the activities of a pool of e-volunteers that has more than doubled in number since 2005. Today, he oversees the work of more than 500 e-volunteers who transcribe historical records for archives' online databases.

Brian earned BA degrees in both history and geography from the University of Missouri and is completing a Masters of Public Administration degree at the university's Truman School of Public Affairs.

As Principal Assistant for Boards and Commissions, Brian will serve as the archives' liaison with the Friends of the Missouri State Archives. He began his new duties on March 1st.



# From the State Archivist



I am sure you may have noticed the new look of our newsletter. This change is an attempt to provide more information in the newsletter, while at the same time making it more compact, readable and accessible.

Access is vital to information. Without access, records are truly not worth the paper or microfilm on which they are printed. A number of current and recent projects illustrate how diligently the Missouri State Archives' staff and volunteers work to ensure this goal of access.

This spring's *Archives Alive!* Program, now in its eighth season, will be our biggest and best ever. Almost 6,000 students from across the state are already scheduled to see Missouri's Civil War resources come to life in our Interpretative Center. Our newest exhibit, *A Legacy of Conservation*, will display the history of the Missouri Department of Conservation, which turns 75 this year, as seen through the rich collections held by the archives. Our next newsletter will spotlight the digitization of over 400,000 pages of Missouri Supreme Court cases from 1820 – 1865.

The annual indexing of newly available death certificates again was an overwhelming success. Completed in record time by in-house volunteers and online e-volunteers, indexing took only three days, and the 1961 certificates were available on our website by the end of January. Literally dozens of new collections from across the state are being added to Missouri Digital Heritage, providing online access to the records of numerous institutions. That development is mirrored by the archives' Local Records Preservation Program's work with community groups in numerous counties around the state. These cooperative projects are producing hundreds of reels of indexed microfilm that allow genealogists and historians alike access to these valuable resources.

Our next major access project, indexing the 1940 Missouri Census, begins in early April. This undertaking, possibly our largest initiative ever, will need every interested volunteer to devote as much time as possible to see that the Missouri portion of the census is indexed as quickly as possible. With close to four million residents at that time, this project will be even more ambitious than our original death certificate project. We appreciate all the support you have provided in the past and hope you will help make these records available as well.

# The Missouri State Archives Joins the 1940 U.S. Census Indexing Project

by Christina Miller

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will release the 1940 U.S. Federal Population Census online April 2, 2012. The digital images will be accessible free of charge through [1940census.archives.gov](http://1940census.archives.gov). However, when the records are released there will be no index available to search the 132 million people who were living in the United States, or the 3,784,664 people living in Missouri.

To help alleviate this problem, the Missouri State Archives is joining forces with genealogy societies and historical organizations around the state and country as part of the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project. The index created will allow the public to easily search, without charge, every person found in the census and view digital images of the original

census pages where they are listed. The highly anticipated 1940 U.S. Census is expected to be one of the most popular record collections released to date, second only to the Missouri Death Certificates.

The Missouri State Archives is partnering with the Missouri State Genealogical Association (MoSGA), the St. Louis Genealogical Society and other local societies to focus the efforts of Missouri researchers on collectively indexing the Missouri portion of the 1940 Census. The Census is the largest, most comprehensive and most recent record set available that records the names of those who were living in

the United States. The 1940 Census also serves as a bonus enumeration, listing where people resided on April 1, 1935.

For each individual enumerated, the standard questions of location, name, relationship, race, gender, marital status, education, occupation, income, nativity and citizenship are answered. Additional features include the enumerator,

indicating who in each household responded to the census questions, the income of each individual in 1939 and whether the person worked for a New Deal agency the week of March 24, 1940.

Three leading genealogy websites, [Archives.com](http://Archives.com), [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org), and [findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com), are providing the support and technical expertise to allow online indexing

of the entire United States. The Missouri State Archives is recruiting volunteers to help index this invaluable resource as quickly as possible. To participate go to <https://indexing.familysearch.org> to create a FamilySearch account and select Missouri State Archives on the profile screen.

Visit [www.the1940census.com](http://www.the1940census.com) for more information on the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project. Additional information will be available at [www.sos.mo.gov/archives](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives) and on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/missouristatearchives#](http://www.facebook.com/missouristatearchives#)) as it becomes available. Questions about the project can be e-mailed to [archvol@sos.mo.gov](mailto:archvol@sos.mo.gov).



# Picture This

by Amy Moorman, Visual Materials Archivist

The Missouri State Archives acquired a collection of black and white photographs from the Missouri Department of Conservation in March 2011. The collection contains over 4,200 historic 8 x 10 prints documenting the department from 1941 – 1998, although they mostly date from the 1950s and 1960s. Many of these photographs were used in conservation publications, including *The First Fifty Years*, which documents the agency's impressive history.

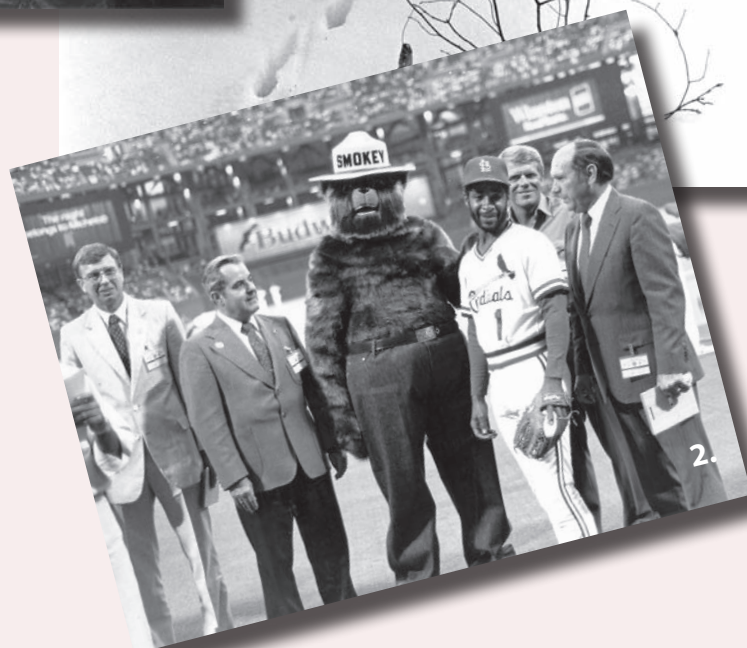
This photograph collection documents the Department of Conservation's mission, which is defined in three parts:

(1) To protect and manage the fish, forest and wildlife resources of the state. Nearly one half of this collection depicts the animals and plants that make Missouri home: from spiders to eagles, raccoons to deer and dogwood flowers to fungi. (See photo 1).

(2) To serve the public and facilitate their participation in resource management activities. The Department of Conservation conducts programs to educate and inform Missouri visitors and residents about the importance of conserving the state's resources. The photograph collection highlights informational exhibits at the Missouri State Fair and radio and television segments as well as educational activities like Fishing Clinics, Arbor Day or Smokey Bear Day. (See photo 2).

(3) To provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy and learn about fish, forest and wildlife resources. Images of outdoor recreation, including hunting, fishing, bird watching, hiking and canoeing are also represented in the photograph collection. These activities are facilitated by the Department of Conservation's stewardship of Missouri's diverse resources. (See photo 3).

The Department of Conservation Photo Collection is an important acquisition for the Missouri State Archives because of its comprehensive coverage of the legacy of this state agency and outdoor Missouri.



Since 1999, the Missouri State Archives has worked with the St. Louis Circuit Court to preserve its historic records, 1804 – 1875. These materials had been used sparingly over the years by court staff and the public for inquiries, but were generally inaccessible and not available to researchers. The project, housed in the Globe Building, on Tucker Avenue, was dedicated as the Missouri State Archives – St. Louis in 2006. While still an active project site, the facility welcomes patrons and has hosted researchers from all over the world.

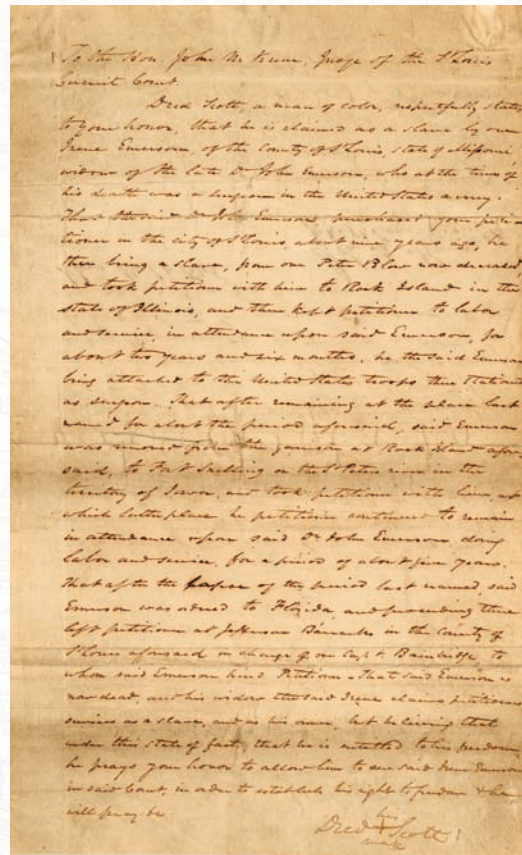
Prior to the launching of the St. Louis Circuit Court project, researchers had to rely on newspaper accounts, oral tradition and external records when researching prominent historical events such as the Dred and Harriet Scott case. As the project got underway, many significant cases and themes were uncovered that opened an unexplored set of sources to researchers. The Scott case, which was a suit for freedom, was found to be important for an entirely different reason than some supposed. It was not that it was a freedom suit, more than 300 such suits have been found in St. Louis alone, rather, it was the legal rationale behind the decision that was new and significant.

With the wealth of new, detailed information available from the court records, researchers can ask new questions or uncover details that were noted obliquely in previous scholarship. Historians from around the country embarked on new research projects or enhanced the role of St. Louis in ongoing studies. Scholars who had published on St. Louis legal history approached the project archivists to begin exploring anew the

historical “raw material” that provided intriguing details and insight to the lives of nineteenth century St. Louisans. Several books, dissertations and theses, along with dozens of articles and conference presentations have included research from the records made available at the Missouri State Archives – St. Louis.

Researchers now have access to resources that provide definitive documentation of matters that had been the stuff of legend. Among these were actions involving the aforementioned freedom suits, Native American rights, relationships among prominent businessmen and politicians, fur trappers and traders and economic and social development of a growing city. Examples of the types of stories revealed during the project include: an 1855 indictment for enticing slaves to run away, which led to the establishment of Missouri’s only recognized Underground Railroad site; a search for lawyer fees led to sales of slaves, land or property not found in any other court records; habeas corpus petitions revealed new information about the mobility of free and enslaved African

Americans, family and gender relations, interactions with military personnel at Jefferson Barracks and riots, including nativist attacks on immigrants; and an 1842 case between a St. Louis man and the captain of a ferry that blossomed into a dramatic description of a free man of color smuggling his wife and three children into Illinois and their ultimate capture in Chicago.



*Dred Scott's Petition for Freedom, 1846. Office of the Circuit Clerk – St. Louis, Missouri State Archives – St. Louis.*

Accessibility to these records opened a new path for family historians, complementing census and other genealogical sources. In addition to deciding disputes, courts registered our ancestors for emancipations, naturalizations, enrollment as attorneys and numerous other administrative actions.

Indexes enable descendants to look for the activities of their

ancestors. Hundreds of researchers have located business names, letterheads, account lists of goods bought and sold, and connections with other companies across the nation. Depositions from friends, neighbors, acquaintances, and even enemies add interesting detail to the names on the family tree.

*(continued on next page)*



Eads Bridge, St. Louis, Missouri State Archives.  
Background, Map of St. Louis, 1853, Missouri State Archives.

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Because of the availability of these court records, several researchers have been able to compile "litigation histories" of many people involved in historical issues and events. Notable among these have been the diverse commercial, social, professional and legal relationships among slave owners, slaves, free African Americans, lawyers and judges involved in the freedom suits. This material, culled from hundreds of cases, adds depth to biographical accounts available in standard printed resources. It also allows us to look beyond the freedom suits to the larger and more complex phenomenon behind the meaning of freedom.

Many local court actions illustrate national trends and issues. Widespread speculation and living on credit is not a new phenomenon. A large proportion of the court cases in the 19th century involve some form of debt. Promissory notes and accounts were the life blood of the local economy. Thousands of local suits display the individual and widespread impact of prosperity as well as financial panics and depressions. Court records dating from, and just after, the Civil War reflect the effects of the war on civilians, including: issues of loyalty, loss of property to combatants, difficulty litigating with parties/witnesses away at the war and economic disruptions, among many other topics.

### Where to find us . . .

#### The Missouri State Archives – St. Louis

is located in the Globe Building, 710 North Tucker, Room 210.

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 - 5:00.  
It is closed all State and Federal holidays,  
with sporadic closings as dictated by staffing.

It is best to contact the staff if you plan to visit

314-588-1746 or  
[archrefstl@sos.mo.gov](mailto:archrefstl@sos.mo.gov).

For more information and directions to the facility please visit our website:  
<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/msastl/>.

### Recent books using St. Louis Circuit Court resources:

Arenson, Adam. *The Great Heart of the Republic: St. Louis and the Cultural Civil War*. Harvard University Press, 2011.

Boman, Dennis K. *Lincoln and Citizens' Rights in Civil War Missouri: Balancing Freedom and Security*. Louisiana State University Press, 2011.

Boman, Dennis K. *Lincoln's Resolute Unionist: Hamilton Gamble: Dred Scott Dissenter and Missouri's Civil War Governor*. Louisiana State University Press, 2006.

Buchanan, Thomas. *Black Life on the Mississippi*. University of North Carolina Press, 2004.

Danisi, Thomas, and John Jackson. *Meriwether Lewis*. Prometheus Books, 2009.

Foley, William. *Wilderness Journey: The Life of William Clark*. University of Missouri Press, 2004.

Hager, Ruth Ann. *Dred & Harriet Scott: Their Family Story*. St. Louis County Library, 2010.

Moore, Robert J. Jr. *Tailor Made, Trail Worn: Army Life, Clothing, and Weapons of the Corps of Discovery*. Helena, MT: Farcountry Press, 2003.

Stepenoff, Bonnie. *The Dead End Kids of St. Louis: Homeless Boys and the People Who Tried to Save Them*. University of Missouri Press, 2010.

Vandervelde, Lea. *Mrs. Dred Scott: A Life on Slavery's Frontier*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Winch, Julie. *The Clamorgans: One Family's History of Race in America*. Hill and Wang/Farrar, Straus and Giroux: 2011.

### Local Records Program notes the passing of longtime volunteer Mary E. Harmon Cole

It is with great regret that we acknowledge the passing of Ray County Circuit Court Volunteer Coordinator Mary E. Harmon Cole on February 18, 2012. For nearly nine years Mary devoted over 2,100 hours to coordinating volunteer efforts and processing circuit court records. Her love of history, sense of humor, quick wit, dedication and friendship will truly be missed. She is survived by her husband Donald E., four children, 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**DIVIDED LOYALTIES**  
**A COLUMN ON THE**  
**CIVIL WAR IN MISSOURI**

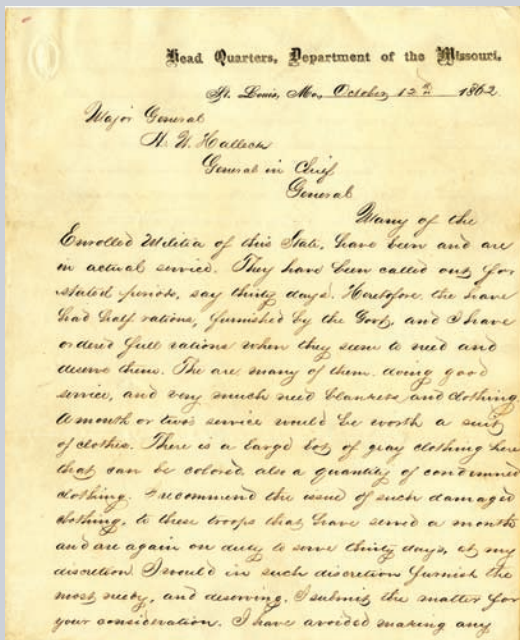
**“A month or two’s  
 service would be worth  
 a suit of clothes.”**

**A POOR  
 MAN’S WAR**

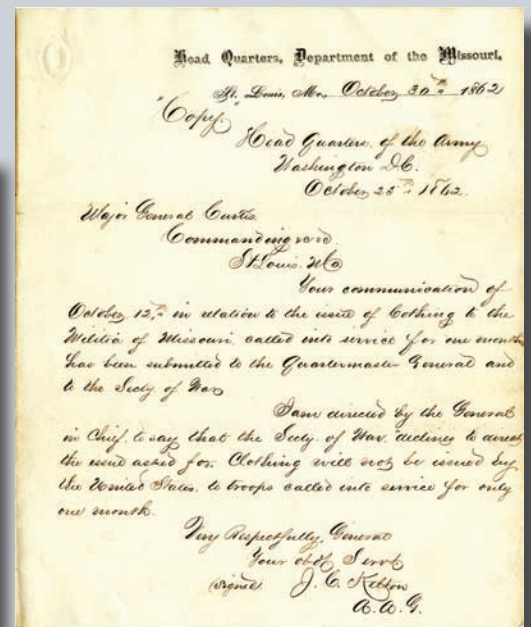
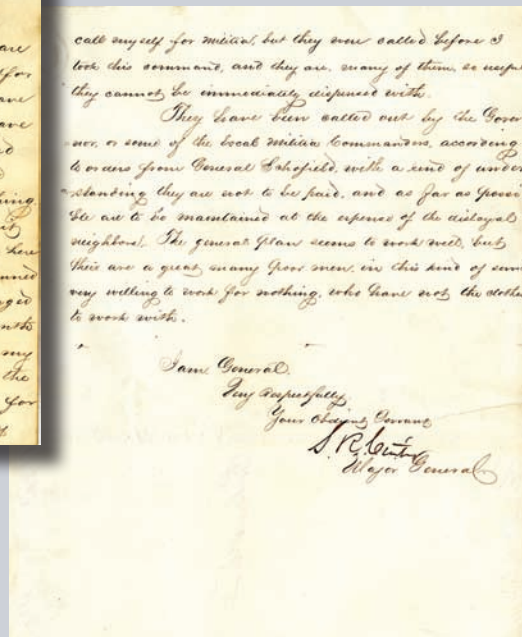
In September 1862, members of the 44th Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia (EMM) resorted to placing a white cloth band around their hats to distinguish themselves from the bushwhackers and guerrillas they were hunting. On October 12, 1862, Major General Samuel R. Curtis, commanding the Department of the Missouri, attempted to address the lack of uniforms for the EMM. Curtis wrote General-in-Chief Henry W. Halleck to explain that many of the EMM “had been and are in actual service,” often on half rations and with no pay. The militia, according to Curtis, was “doing good service, and very much need blankets and clothing. A month or two’s service would be worth a suit of clothes.”

The EMM, Curtis continued, included “a great many poor men, in this kind of service very willing to work for nothing, who have not the clothes to work with.” Curtis noted the federal government had at St. Louis a large quantity of condemned clothing and gray clothing that could be dyed. He requested the authority to issue this clothing to the troops that had already served for 30 days and had been recalled to duty for another 30 days. Curtis’s plea was referred to the Quartermaster General and the Secretary of War, whose decision was received on October 30: “. . . the Secty of War declines to direct the issue asked for. Clothing will not be issued by the United States, to troops called into service for only one month.” In the vicious guerrilla war that still lay ahead, the EMM would have to find other means of discriminating between friend and foe.

Records of the 89 EMM regiments, as well as a number of battalions and independent companies, are available at the Missouri State Archives.



Major General Samuel R. Curtis to General-in-Chief Henry W. Halleck, October 12, 1862. Missouri State Archives.



Quartermaster J. C. Kelton to Major General Samuel R. Curtis, October 23, 1862. Missouri State Archives.



# Spring 2012 Program Calendar

## Eyewitness to *Kristallnacht* – Night of Broken Glass In Recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day April 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

George Spooner, a native of Austria, was an eyewitness to *Kristallnacht* – Night of Broken Glass that occurred on November 10, 1938. In the space of a few hours, thousands of synagogues, Jewish businesses and homes were damaged or destroyed. *Kristallnacht* was a pivotal moment in Holocaust history when 38,000 Jewish men were arrested in Germany and Austria and sent to concentration camps. Because of this event, German and Austrian Jews realized it was time to flee their respective countries if they were to remain alive. Spooner's parents put him on a *Kindertransport* out of Austria to England where he lived with an English family. His mother and father also fled to England where both found work as domestics. All three lived in different homes for the time they were in England and then escaped by boat to the United States under darkness of night before the war ended.



## The Western Sharpshooters Regiment: Civil War Elite in the Western Theater May 17, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

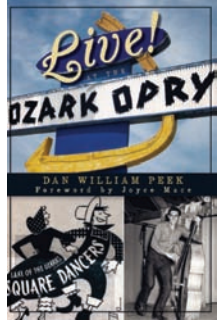


Created as an elite unit of scouts and marksmen, the Western Sharpshooters Regiment was beset by trouble at its inception but persevered to become one of the great units in the Federal Army. Mustered at St. Louis, volunteers from all the states of the Midwest had to pass an exacting marksmanship test to be allowed to enlist in the “crack regiment of the West”. Beginning the war with romantic misconceptions, the men of the unit were faced with harsh reality, fighting in many of the key battles in the Western Theater. Acting as scouts and shock infantry, the Western Sharpshooters led Grant and Sherman's armies through Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia and the Carolinas, on a 3,000 mile march to victory. Military scholar Commander James Sullivan will discuss the Sharpshooters' evolution from “uniformed civilians” into elite veterans, and the unit's vital role in such key battles as Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca and Atlanta.

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## Live! At the Ozark Opry June 21, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

Launched in 1953 by Lee and Joyce Mace, a pair of young jig dancers, the Ozark Opry was innovative entertainment. It brought together talented local and regional musicians playing violin, banjo, guitar, bass, and other instruments with old-time country singing, square and jig dancing and vaudeville comedy sketches. For over 50 years, the Ozark Opry played to sold-out audiences, six to 10 shows a week in season, in a 1,000 seat auditorium near Bagnell Dam. This behind-the-scenes story of the Maces' incredible venture by historian and former Opry performer Dan William Peek reawakens the foot tapping and fiddle scraping still clinging to the shores of the Lake of the Ozarks. Some of the most fascinating characters of the times – Ernest Tubb, Hank Snow, Roy Acuff, Chuck Foster, the Mabe Brothers, Albert Gannaway, Seymour Weiss, Scott O. Wright, Sarah Gertrude Knott and Cyrus Crane Willmore – interact with the Mace's along the way.

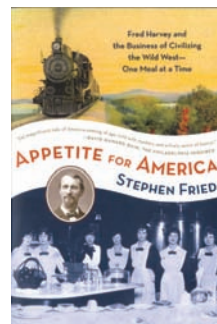


All programs will be held at the Missouri State Archives, 600 West Main Street, Jefferson City, Missouri and are free and open to the public.

## Reserve your ticket early! Friends Annual Meeting June 9, 2012, 11:30 a.m. G2 Gallery, Jefferson City, Missouri



The 2012 Friends of the Missouri State Archives annual meeting will be held on Saturday, June 9, at the G2 Gallery located inside Jefferson City's historic Lohman Opera House. The business meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon and a program by Stephen Fried, an award-winning journalist and author. Fried will be speaking about his new book, *Appetite for America*, which recreates the legendary life and entrepreneurial vision of



Fred Harvey, who helped shape American culture and history for three generations—from the 1880s all the way through World War II.

Reservations for the annual meeting are required and can be made by calling (573) 526-1981. The cost is \$25 per person, payable at the door the day of the event or mailed to the Friends of the Missouri State Archives, PO Box 242, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

# News and Announcements

## Nominations for Jonas Viles Award Due April 30

The 2012 Jonas Viles Award will be presented at the Friends of the Missouri State Archives annual meeting on June 9, 2012. The Jonas Viles Award is given to an institution or person that has made a significant contribution to the preservation of Missouri's heritage. Nominations are accepted from archives staff, board members and the general public.

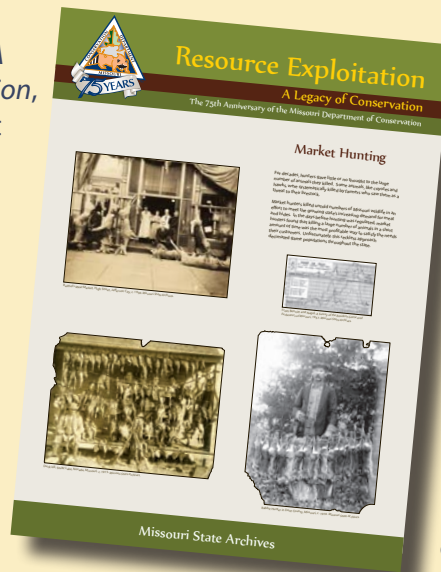
To submit a nomination for the Jonas Viles Award, please visit [www.friendsofmsa.org/news/menu.htm](http://www.friendsofmsa.org/news/menu.htm) and complete the nomination form before April 30.

## Archives To Open a New Exhibit About the Missouri Department of Conservation

July 1, 2012 will mark the 75th anniversary of the Missouri Department of Conservation. In June, the Missouri State Archives will open *A Legacy of Conservation*, a new exhibit about the history of the department.

Missouri voters approved the constitutional amendment that brought about the new Department of Conservation in November 1936. The amendment brought an end to the old Missouri Fish and Game

Department and ushered in a new era of conservation that was based on sound scientific research.



*A Legacy of Conservation* will be on display at the Kirkpatrick State Information Center at 600 West Main Street in Jefferson City through December 2012. In 2013, the exhibit will be available to travel throughout Missouri. For more information on how your organization can reserve the exhibit, contact archives' exhibit curator Greg Olson at [greg.olson@sos.mo.gov](mailto:greg.olson@sos.mo.gov) or at 573-522-2705.

## What's New at the Archives?

For a list of new acquisitions, visit us at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/accessions.asp>

## Get an E-mail, Save a Stamp.

Receive information about Missouri State Archives events and programs by e-mail and help us save time and money.

To receive e-mails, contact us at [mostarch@sos.mo.gov](mailto:mostarch@sos.mo.gov) or 573-526-1981



**Junior Group Exhibit:** Morgan County R-1 students Brenden Bauer and Brady Smith with their exhibit *Glen Roberts - Basketball Revolutionary*. Their teacher is Kim Buck.

## Region 4 National History Day in Missouri Contest

The February 25, 2012, Region 4 National History Day in Missouri Contest attracted 276 students and 184 project

entries from 10 schools in the central Missouri area. Students competed in the junior (grades 6 – 8) or senior division (grades 9 – 12) as individuals or in groups in paper, website, performance, documentary and exhibit categories. Fifty-four students and 34 projects were advanced to the April 21 National History Day in Missouri Contest at the University of Missouri. The Region 4 National History Day in Missouri Program is sponsored by the Missouri State Archives and the Friends of the Missouri State Archives.

# Donations to the Friends of the Missouri State Archives (as of February 22, 2012)

## JOSEPHINE BAKER PATRON \$500+

Evie Bresette, Kansas City  
Randy Washburn, Versailles

## THOMAS HART BENTON ASSOCIATE \$100+

Marci Bennett, St. Joseph  
Mae Bruce, Jefferson City  
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Edward Dolata, St. Louis  
Jean Ferguson, Hartsburg  
Frank Flesher, St. Joseph  
Michael D. Frost, Mission Hills, KS  
David Harrison, Hartsburg  
Clark J. Hickman, Olivette  
Wayne & Jane Goode, St. Louis  
Ralph Knowles, Pensacola, FL  
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Rita Jane Smith, Greenland, AR  
Pat Stamm, St. Louis  
Frank & Julie Thacher, Boonville  
Elizabeth Foster Tilton, Santa Barbara, CA  
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Louise Wolff, Orange, TX  
Alan Wright, St. Louis  
Joan McCauley, Newport Beach, CA  
Vicki Myers, Jefferson City

## DANIEL BOONE SUPPORTER \$75+

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Pat & Sandy Hiatte, New Bloomfield  
Jeanette Jones, Long Beach, CA  
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