View from the Chair

I am again happy to report that the department continues to grow and prosper. I direct you to the Faculty News section of this newsletter to read about the many scholarly and professional accomplishments of our faculty. I think you will agree with me that our department has a truly outstanding faculty, one that is equally committed to excellence in teaching, research, and service to the profession and the community.

Our ranks will be strengthened further this fall when Dr. Jurgen Buchenau joins us. He is a Latin American specialist with a Ph.D. from North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1993) who is the author of the book: In the Shadow of the Giant: The Making of Mexico’s Central American Policy, 1876-1930, published by the University of Alabama Press in 1996. Jurgen, his wife Anabelle, and infant son Nicolas, are a most welcomed addition to the department.

After many years as Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Bolton has resigned to concentrate more fully on the many activities of the Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage. Under Dr. Bolton’s leadership, our graduate program has grown in size and quality. I am grateful to him for his many contributions and for the grace and good humor with which he carried out his duties. Dr. Bolton’s successor is Dr. Jon Sensbach who has been at USM for three years and who has served as the program’s assistant director for the last year. Dr. Sensbach is a Colonial America scholar with a Ph.D. from Duke University. He is a very popular teacher and a sought-after graduate student adviser.

As I informed you last year, the department has established the Aubrey K. Lucas Local History Graduate Fellowship to fund research in Mississippi history. The first recipient of this coveted fellowship is Mr. Michael Vaughn, a doctoral student writing a dissertation on Greene country. He should receive his degree by August, 1998.

Allow me to direct your attention to the Awards section of the newsletter. As you can see, we have increased the number of awards conferred by the department to reflect our growth and the diversity of our offerings. I am particularly proud of the addition of the Jay Washam Dissertation Award given this year to Karen Cox. You may remember that Jay was a new graduate student from Iowa who was tragically killed in a traffic accident while traveling to Hattiesburg to begin graduate work in history. We established an endowment in his name to honor a doctoral student whose dissertation is deserving of special recognition. I am very pleased that a growing number of you are letting us know what you are doing. Please stay in touch with us and, through us, with old friends and classmates.

Orazio A. Ciccarelli

History on the Coast

Overall enrollments in USM’s junior-senior-graduate programs on the Gulf Coast hit new record levels in excess of 1700 students this year, and USM Gulf Coast alone graduated more certified teachers than Ole Miss. Our history department course enrollment also remained at record high levels. Dr. Smith was promoted to associate professor rank and was granted tenure. Eighteen upper level history courses were taught on the Coast this year, and a thriving master’s program serving mainly secondary social studies teachers is developing among our “Beach Eagles.” The first-ever USM graduation ceremony on the Gulf Park Campus was held this spring and included the awarding of an M.A. in history to Rus Barnes.

Tough competition for the department’s John Wallace Award to the outstanding undergraduate history major on the Coast brought us to a decision to make a joint presentation of the Wallace award to Robin Danielle Spencer and Timothy Ladner, both of whom plan public school teaching careers.

The Coast history program continues to set a high priority on responding to the service demands of the growing Gulf Coast urban strip and its nearly 400,000 people. Dr. Smith presented programs to fourteen different Coast groups last year. With the approach of the three-hundredth anniversary of French settlement on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Dr. Smith has found his one-man show “Pierre Le Moyne D’Iberville, the Canadian El Cid” in demand throughout the Coast and state. Dr. Smith’s portrayal of Iberville, the 1699 founder of Fort Maurepas on Biloxi Bay, even made its way to the state capitol in January where both houses of the legislature invited Dr. Smith’s Iberville to speak. This program is scheduled to go on the road throughout the state this summer as part of the Mississippi Humanities Council’s Chautauqua Series.

The administration has recognized our need for a second history position on the Coast, and the department has been assured that filling that second position will become a high priority if the University is successful in bringing the state’s financial reimbursement level for USM Gulf Coast up to the same appropriation per student that exists on the main campus.
1997 History Awards

This year, nine students received awards for exceptional achievement in the study of history. The Phi Alpha Theta Award for the best graduate student went to Glenn Robins and the John E. Gonzales Award for the best undergraduate major graduating this year to Robyn Curtis. Ronald Morgan was voted the Outstanding Student Teacher in Social Studies. Gary Barton, the best freshman in the World Civilization courses, received the Treadwell Davis Award. Timothy Ladner and Robin Danielle Spencer were cowinners of the John E. Wallace Award, given to the best undergraduate major at the Gulf Coast campus. Two scholarship awards, the Ann Hubbard Allen Award and Claude E. Fike Scholarship went to Tracey Dabbs and Michael Mitchell respectively. A new award in 1997 was the Jay Washam Dissertation Award, which the History Department will give periodically as circumstances warrant to writers of especially excellent doctoral dissertations. The first winner is Karen Cox. Congratulations everyone!

Glenn Robins (left), winner of the Phi Alpha Theta most outstanding graduate student award and Robyn Curtis (right) recipient of the John E. Gonzales best undergraduate major award.

Karen Cox (left) winner of the Jay Washam Dissertation Award and her dissertation advisor, Marjorie Spruill Wheeler (right).

Phi Alpha Theta Review

The 1996-97 academic year was a productive one for USM's Phi Alpha Theta chapter. The history honor society hosted four "brown bag" lunch lectures over the course of the year, dealing with a number of diverse topics, including local history on the Mississippi coast and modern perceptions of the First World War. Phi Alpha Theta also dealt with current events during last fall's election season, hosting a talk by one of south Mississippi's congressional candidates, Dennis Dollar. On a lighter note, Phi Alpha Theta also hosted a number of social get-togethers over the past year, including the "Welcome Back" party at Cuco's, three home football tailgates, a Christmas party, and a spring picnic in which we treated a group of graduate students from Wisconsin-Madison to some South Mississippi hospitality.

Along with Phi Alpha Theta's activities, the organization also began work on an electronic journal to be sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta and the USM History Department. The "E-Journal" will be published three times a year on the World Wide Web as part of the USM History Department's Web site (http://www.usm.edu/history) and will serve as a forum for graduate students. We hope that the "E-Journal," which is slated to debut this September, will not only provide a vehicle for graduate students at USM and elsewhere to publish their works, write book reviews, and share research information, but that the journal will also bring a measure of prestige to USM's History Department and graduate program. For more information on the "E-Journal," please contact Theron Davis (theron.davis@powercrr.com) or Tom Ward (tjward@ocean.st.usm.edu).

Finally, a number of our members have distinguished themselves academically this past year. This spring we were very proud to have sent six representatives from our chapter to deliver papers at the state Phi Alpha Theta Graduate Conference, held at Oxford. At the conference our own Mary Elizabeth McLain won the award for the best graduate paper for her paper entitled "Mississippi's Farmer's Alliance and the Formation of the Populist Party." Congratulations Mary! Back at USM, this year's Phi Alpha Theta Graduate Award went to the always amiable Glen Robins. This year's awards banquet, where the new members were inducted, was held on May 1 at the Walthall School.
Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage

The Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage has had a busy year. The Mississippi Oral History Program continued to document the state’s history by conducting interviews with a wide variety of Mississippians on a number of diverse topics. Processing work on fifty-seven interviews was completed during 1996, and these interview tapes and transcripts were added to the oral history collection at the McCain Archives. The program recently received a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council to conduct an oral history of the Council, which is celebrating twenty-five years of promoting the study of the humanities in Mississippi. For the first time, a graduate seminar on oral history was offered at USM during the fall semester of 1996. Students in the class conducted fieldwork on a number of topics, including Vietnam veterans, African-American educators, and lumber camps in south Mississippi. The new program of the Center, the Pine Hills Culture Program, completed its first project in 1996—a summer field school attended by twenty-two people from twelve south Mississippi counties and five USM graduate students. During the summer and fall, these community scholars and graduate students documented more than sixty people in nineteen of Mississippi’s Pine Hills counties, on topics ranging from fiddling to barbershop story-tellers to Fifth Sunday gospel singing and dinner on the grounds to folk medicinal practices of the region. Based on this research a travelling exhibit, “A Taste of Pine Hills Traditions,” was created, which began touring ten Pine Hills towns in February 1997 (a schedule of the remaining exhibit sites is listed below). The grand opening for this new program of the Center will be held on November 8, 1997, at the renovated Walthall School, the future home of the program. For more information about either of these programs, visit the Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage in McCleskey Hall, Suite J, or contact us at 266-4575, or visit our Web site at www.usm.edu/~ocach.

EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

FOR
A TASTE OF PINE HILLS TRADITIONS

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The Graduate Program

For academic year 1996-1997, fifty-eight students were enrolled in the graduate program; twenty-five of these students were funded through graduate assistantships. The doctoral program, which has been growing in recent years, is beginning to produce more graduates. During 1996-1997, two students completed their doctoral degrees. Deanne Nuver completed a dissertation on the history of the yellow fever epidemic of 1878 in Mississippi, while Karen Cox finished her dissertation on the history of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. In addition, five doctoral students were awarded McCain Fellowships for the 1997-1998 academic year: Kathy Barbier, Glenn Robins, Greg Mattson, Ashley Vaughan, and Tom Ward. The McCain Fellowships provide financial support to allow these students to work on their dissertations full-time. So, we have to report on a number of other newly minted Ph.D.s from our department in the coming years.

An increasing number of graduate students are taking advantage of the Natchez Internship program, which is a project to process and archive a massive collection of Adams County, Mississippi, records, some dating back to the eighteenth century. This summer six students from USM’s History Department will participate in the program: Christopher Barrels, Wendy Clark, Catherine Janik, Greg Mattson, Amy McPhail, and Robert Seibert. These students will join students from other institutions around the country to gain hands-on experience about archival practice while also learning about the history of the Natchez district.
Mississippi History Day

Mississippi History Day, held on the USM campus on April 5, 1997, attracted talented students from all over the state; they competed through projects, papers, performances, media presentations, and quiz bowls. Each year our first and second place winners are eligible to compete at the National History Day contest in College Park, Maryland. The cost of attending the contest (registration fees, room and board) is approximately $250.00 for each student, plus transportation costs ($250.00 to $500.00 depending on airfare prices). It would be a shame if any of these academically talented students missed a chance to represent our state due to lack of funding!

If you are interested in sponsoring a student or group of students, please contact Mary Beth Farrell, State Coordinator for Mississippi History Day/Junior Historical Society of Mississippi, at (601) 266-4333. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. Donors will be listed in the state contest program and in the National History Day program next June.

History Day 1997 contest winner, Matthew McLendon (right), and contest judges, Jerri Whitecotton (center), and Dr. Andy West (left).

Tricentennial Symposium Planned

1999 marks the three-hundredth anniversary of the building of Fort Maurepas at modern-day Ocean Springs, Mississippi. In February 1999, the Department of History will cosponsor a symposium at Biloxi to commemorate the establishment of French colonial rule in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

The symposium will serve as the annual meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society, and Dr. Bradley G. Bond is coordinator for the event. Approximately twenty scholars from the United States, France, Africa, and Canada will make oral presentations at the meeting. In addition to the symposium, a host of other events (ranging from an art exhibit to a living history exhibit) will also take place.

Alumni interested in attending the event or aiding in the fund-raising activities that will soon start should contact Dr. Bond.

History and English Propose Institute for the Study of Modern Life

Douglas Mackaman (History) and Michael Mays (English) will soon propose the establishment of the Institute for the Study of Modern Life to be based in the College of Liberal Arts. To demonstrate the viability of such an institute annually since 1995, Mackaman and May have organized symposia on such themes as the "Place of Leisure in Modern Life," "Sports and Society," and "Racialized Identities in the Theory and Practice of Modernity." Well attended by USM faculty and graduate students, the symposia have become a vital forum for the interdisciplinary exchange of ongoing research.

In the fall of 1996, Mackaman and Mays hosted the first of its biannual conferences in cultural studies. Entitled "World War I and the Cultures of Modernity," the conference featured a five-day interrogation of the legacy of World War I. The conference was held on the campus of USM and welcomed more than thirty scholars from all over the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. Some of the institutions which sent faculty or graduate students were Yale University, Stanford University, the University of California, the University of Chicago, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Minnesota, the University of Toronto, Sandhurst Royal Military Academy, the United States Military Academy, the University of Texas, the University of Alabama, Florida State University, the University of Mississippi, and Tulane University. Also delivering scholarly papers at the conference were three faculty from The University of Southern Mississippi, as well as one graduate student from our Department of History. More than a dozen additional faculty and graduate students from The University of Southern Mississippi participated in the scholarly sessions as chairs and commentators.

Future programming includes an international conference for the spring of 1999, on the theme "Cities and Urban Life in Modernity," as well as both a graduate seminar in cultural studies, to be coordinated by Dr. Mays, and a year-long predoctoral/postdoctoral fellowship in the humanities, to be awarded biannually and based in the College of Liberal Arts at USM.

For information contact Dr. Mackaman (History) or Dr. Michael Mays (English).

French Studies

As the Department of History has increased its concentration on Europe generally over the last number of years, its programming related to France and French culture has been augmented, too. Dr. Kathryn Edwards and Dr. Douglas Mackaman are the department's French historians for the medieval/early modern and modern periods, respectively. New programming has led to the creation of a summer study session in France, in conjunction with USM's College of International and Continuing Education. "French Studies," which begins its second year of operation in Paris this summer, has grown.
from the seven students who went in its first year to the sixteen who are going in 1997. To further highlight the study of France, the department will administer an academic minor in French Area Studies and will offer in the spring of 1998 a course on France in the era of Louis XIV, together with faculty from departments of Music and Art, a continuing education course in support of the “Splendors of Versailles” art exhibition, to open in Jackson, Mississippi, in April of 1998. For information on the minor in French Area Studies or the French Studies Program in Paris, contact Dr. Mackaman.

**Tales of Two Interns**

**Lawrence Knight-Natchez**

My experience as a Natchez Historic Foundation Intern was a profoundly personal one. However, before I describe our work in the archives I want to tell a story that will show how my interest in history, when combined with my first exposure to historical preservation, enriched my life with a powerful sense of place.

A short while before I was accepted into the graduate history program at USM, I worked a handful of jobs in New Orleans. These jobs paid little but they often had great fringe benefits. One job in particular, as a porter for the Delta Queen Steamboat Company, enabled me to travel up and down the Mississippi River pretending to be Mark Twain. When I wasn’t scratching notes in my journal or standing about trying to look like an able-bodied riverboatin’ man o’ the world, I ‘lugged’ tons of luggage from dock to stateroom and back again. I also helped to unload the Mississippi Queen’s endless supply of garbage. In fact, unloading ship’s garbage was one of my first experiences in the much fabled city of Natchez.

My first real port of call, I arrived in Natchez on a humid March morning. Following an all too quick walk around the historic district, I returned to the boat and reported for work with the other porters. Soon, we were given the task of unloading two days of garbage. Within sight of the shadowy, cool interior of the Under The Hill Saloon and as banjo river tunes played over the Queen’s loudspeakers, we handtruck’d load after load of trash across the stage and to a dumpster on shore. In order to escape the drudgery of the task, I found myself daydreaming about the many men and women who had once lived and worked in Natchez. In my romantic imagination I could see these people around me as we loaded and unloaded the boats and visited the nearby saloons and hotels. Later that evening, as the Queen departed for Vicksburg, I wondered if I would ever get another chance to explore the history-filled town on the bluffs again.

As luck would have it, the dual history/library science master’s degree program at USM gave me that chance. So when the coordinator of the Historic Natchez Foundation Internship at USM, Dr. Charles Bolton, approached me about working in Natchez again, only this time with a bit more dignity, I couldn’t resist. In the offer I saw the rare opportunity not only to learn more about the real former inhabitants of Natchez, but also the chance to protect their fragile legacy.

When I, along with fellow dual master’s degree candidate Wendy Stewart-Clark, arrived to begin work, the commitment of the Natchez community to the project was obvious from the beginning. In fact, the widespread support helped to make our part in the daunting task an enriching and enjoyable experience. While many people in the community have contributed to the project, the work of Ron and Mimi Miller on behalf of the Historic Natchez Foundation, and the leadership of Dr. Ron Davis, a University of California at Northridge Professor of History, appear to have provided the backbone of the preservation effort. Incredibly, without the involvement of Ron, Mimi, and Dr. Davis, these records, which were kept in the flood-prone basement of the courthouse, might have been lost forever. Dr. Davis, however, has prevented these records from being lost through an ongoing effort using the energy and enthusiasm of students from California and Mississippi. During what he calls the “Natchez Experience,” these students not only learn more about the history of an amazing city and state but also save for posterity a large part of that history in the process. While good things are happening in Natchez, the county records of many other Mississippi communities are at great risk of being irretrievably lost through neglect or a lack of community foresight. Although most communities do not have histories as romantic as Natchez, each does have a unique and meaning-filled past worthy of preservation. Indeed, the sense that a community has of its shared history is often its only defense against the boring sameness of strip malls and burger joints. If a sense of place is central to being a true Southerner, as some writers claim, then surely the preservation of Mississippi’s county records must be given a higher priority by the state’s communities.

As a Southerner with a special interest in history, I have often been amazed at how a strong sense of place can enhance a person’s day-to-day life. My “Natchez Experience” reminded me of how an awareness of the lives of those who have gone before can enrich our lives, which often seem to lose their sense of purpose during the struggle to live in a modern world that is quite often uninterested in the buried dreams of ordinary people.

One day in particular stands out in my memory. Late one afternoon after a long day of sorting courthouse records, I went for a walk on the high bluffs overlooking the river. While walking, I happened to come upon my old ship, the Mississippi Queen, as she slowly made her way up river into a dark sheet of rain. At that moment, as I looked wistfully at a living relic of a bygone era, the imagined hopes and dreams of Natchezians long gone mixed with my own hopes and dreams. At that moment, I knew that I was in one of the most unique places in America. At that moment, with my romantic notions perhaps getting the better of me, my heart swelled with pride in the knowledge that I was contributing to the historical preservation of so wonderful a place.
Wendy Clark-Gulfport and Biloxi

As many of you may know, I have been hard at work in Harrison County this academic year. I was awarded an assistantship offered by USM in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors of Harrison County. I have worked closely with John McAdams, the Chancery Clerk and his staff.

Like most Mississippi Courthouses, Gulfport and Biloxi have accumulated many years of important public records in special vaults. However, unlike many other counties, the records have increased approximately 20% in the past five years. This has resulted in serious storage problems for the Court House vaults.

I have spent most of this year traveling to Gulfport twice a week to the Sand Beach Department, a building that houses two county departments and has been the dumping ground for unwanted or inactive records for approximately six years. I have sorted records and completed a brief inventory. Also, I have worked with volunteer groups to clean, wrap, and label books for more appropriate storage. I have worked with Dr. Antonio Rodriguez-Buckingham’s Document Preservation class and with over thirty Perkins Community College students for three Saturdays. I had the extreme pleasure of working with four very talented honors students from Perkins Community College on a special project, preserving court records dating back to the 1840s. In addition, I was instrumental in writing seven retention schedules for Harrison County and in helping the county write specifications for a new inactive storage facility. I have attended meetings of the Local Government Records Committee in Jackson, of which Dr. McCarty is a member, and represented the Gulf Coast.

This has been a long but fruitful year. I owe much to the county officials who were very cooperative, to John McAdams, Dr. McCarty, Charles Sullivan, and the History department and the School of Library Science for their help and support.

Faculty News 1996-97

KARL BAHM (Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1993) delivered a paper entitled “The Uses of Community: Social Democrats and the Bourgeoisie in Bohemia, 1867-1918” at the annual conference of American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Boston, November 1996. He edited, with Mary Beth Farrell, Geoffrey Jensen and Orazio Ciccarelli, the History 102 Reader: Exploring the Sources of World Civilizations, 1650 to the Present (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1997). He has also done several book reviews for scholarly journals.


CHARLES C. BOLTON (Ph.D., Duke University, 1989) completed work on an edited autobiography entitled, The Confessions of Edward Isham: A Poor White Life of the Old South, which will be published in 1998 by the University of Georgia Press. Professor Bolton will be on sabbatical leave during the fall semester of 1998 to continue research for a book on the history of public school desegregation in Mississippi.

BRADLEY BOND (Ph.D., Louisiana State University, 1993) presented a paper at the Mississippi Historical Society meeting in February titled “Mississippi Political Parties During the Mexican War.” He is working on a second monograph tentatively titled: “Southern Intellectuals in the Age of the Civil War.” To conduct research on the latter project, he has received grants from USM (the Aubrey K. and Ella Ginn Lucas Faculty Research Endowment fund), an Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship from the Virginia Historical Society, and a Lynn E. May Study Grant from the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

RICHARD H. BOWERS (Ph.D., Mississippi State University, 1965) continues to edit the history newsletter and work on several other departmental projects.

ORAZIO CICCARELLI (Ph.D., University of Florida, 1969) is beginning his eighth year as chair of the department. He is still enjoying the job, thanks largely to the camaraderie that exists among the faculty. He is also still trying to complete revisions of his manuscript on Italy and Italians in Peru from the 1840s to the post-World War II period.

KATHRYN EDWARDS (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1993) has offered two postdoctoral fellowships, one at the Folger Shakespeare Library and another at the Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah, for the 1997-98 academic year. She completed her book manuscript, “Interior Frontiers: Family and Communal Re-creation in Early Modern Burgundy,” and it is now being considered for publication. She also completed two articles: “Inquiries on the Inquisition and a Burgundian Ghost,” Proceedings of the Western Society for French History 24 (1996) and “Perrotte and the Beggar: Public Morality and Poor Relief in Early Modern Burgundy,” in Culture and Self in Early Modern Europe, ed. William Connell et al. (Berkeley: University of California Press, forthcoming). In addition she has done seven book reviews for scholarly journals and presented two conference papers: “Family Feud as Familial Strategy in Early Modern Burgundy,” for the Third International Carleton Conference on the History of the Family and “Things That Go Bump in the Night:
Ghosts, Gender, and Social Politics in an Early Modern Town," for the Renaissance Society of America. For achievement in undergraduate teaching, she was awarded membership in the Golden Key National Honor Society.

MARY BETH FARELL (M.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1986) has used an OAH grant to hold a seminar on U.S. History Standards for teachers and student teachers, acted as coordinator for the History 102 reader, supervised student teachers, coordinated Junior Historical Society, held a History Day seminar for Teachers (Triumph and Tragedy in History) in January 1997, and coordinated the Mississippi History Day competition.

THEODORE FELDMAN (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1983) has written an article entitled "Jean-Andre Deluc" for the New Dictionary of National Biography. Professor Feldman also organized a session on "The Material Culture of Science in the Enlightenment" at the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society which met in Atlanta, November 7-10, 1996, and presented a paper at this session, "How Instruments Begin: The Intellectual Construction of the Barometer." He is presently editing Solar Variability and Climate Change which will either be published as volume 8 of the History of Geophysics series or will be submitted to an academic or trade publisher. He has, in addition, been serving on the History Committee of the American Geophysical Union and is co-moderator for "GeoClio" Web site on the history of geophysics.

JOHN EDMOND GONZALES, Emeritus (Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1959) has completed his first year as emeritus professor. For this past year (1996-97) he decided to bid farewell to teaching Freshman History and to concentrate on one class, Mississippi History (HIS 341). Dr. Gonzales continues to do some book reviewing for the Journal of Mississippi History and the Journal of Louisiana History, and has several reviews forthcoming in those publications. He served as chair of the nominating committee of the Mississippi Historical Society at the March 1997 meeting. At the December 1996 commencement exercises at USM the local chapter of Phi Kappa Phi national honorary society presented him with a Centennial Medallion to honor his work with the organization. Dr. Gonzales was elected a member of Phi Kappa Phi in 1945 at Louisiana State University.

JOHN D. W. GUICE (Ph.D., University of Colorado, 1969) continues to work on his book, "The Natchez Trace: Pathway to Empire." One of the most interesting chapters deals with the controversy surrounding the death of Meriwether Lewis on the Trace in 1809: Was it suicide or murder? Last June, in Hohenwald, Tennessee, Professor Guice testified on nearly two centuries of historical interpretation at a belated coroner's inquest into the Lewis death. In February 1997 Dr. Guice read a paper on this controversy in New York City at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Science, summarizing the arguments for suicide and those supporting murder. After the inquest, a Tennessee court ordered a forensic examination of the Lewis remains on the Natchez Trace Parkway, but the National Park Service is reluctant to allow the exhumation.

GEOFFREY JENSEN (Ph.D., Yale University, 1995) presented a paper entitled, "The Great War and the Making of Modern Catalan Nationalism," at the Conference on World War I and the Cultures of Modernity, University of Southern Mississippi, November 15, 1996. He received a summer research grant to conduct research in Spain on Spanish cultural policies in North Africa. While there (summer of 1997), he plans to present a paper, "Toward Medieval Multi-Culturalism? Spanish cultural programs and policies in Morocco during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries," at the Sixth International Conference of the World History Association, Pamplona, Spain, June 20-27, 1997. Also, this past spring, he delivered a paper on "Cultural Despair, Military Rhetoric, and the Making of Modern Nationalism in Fin-de-Siècle Spain" at the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, and his article, "War, Armies, Politics, and Culture: Historiographical Approaches to the Military in Modern Spain," appeared in the spring 1997 issue of the SSPHS Bulletin. He continues revising his dissertation for eventual publication.

DOUG MACKAMAN (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1994) finished revising his book, "Doctoring on Vacation: Medicine, Culture and Class at the Spas of Nineteenth Century France," which the University of Chicago Press expects to have in print by early 1998. He has also written an article, entitled "The Tactics of Retreat: Spa Vacations and Identity in Modern France," that will be included in the anthology, "The Development of Mass Tourism: Commercial Leisure and National Identities in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Europe and America," which is being published by The University of California Press. As the first result of research on his new book, tentatively entitled "Seeking the Sublime: Tourism, History and National Identity in Modern Europe," he has written a paper, to be delivered at the annual meeting of the Western Society for French History this October, entitled "The Lost Provinces Revisited: Touristic Framings of Frenchness in Alsace-Lorraine, 1870-1914." He will continue his research on his next book this summer as a fellow in the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in French and American Collections.

KENNETH G. MCCARTY (Ph.D., Duke University, 1970) continues to enjoy teaching after thirty-seven years in the classroom and is the co-senior faculty member at USM. For the past several years, he has served as the Director of the International Studies Program, an interdisciplinary major in Liberal Arts designed to provide students with the background necessary for careers with an international dimension in government, commerce, the media, international organizations, research, and teaching. In 1996, Professor McCarty began a three-year term as a member of the State Local Records Commission, which has the responsibility to promote and oversee the preservation of local records. He also continues to edit the Journal of Mississippi History.
NEIL R. MCMILLEN (Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, 1969). completed editing the papers delivered at the USM-sponsored symposium “World War II and the American South” which have been published under the title Remaking Dixie: The Impact of World War II on the American South (Jackson, University of Mississippi Press, 1997). He also contributed an essay to this collection called “Fighting for What We Didn’t Have: How Mississippi’s Black Veterans Remember World War II.”

WILLIAM K. SCARBOROUGH (Ph.D., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, 1962) currently holds the Charles W. Moorman Distinguished Professorship in the Humanities and is nearing completion of his research for a major study of the elite slaveholders in the mid-nineteenth century South. With the aid of a sabbatical in spring 1998, he hopes to complete the bulk of the writing by the end of next summer.


JAMES PAT SMITH (Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, 1984) has had a busy year with departmental service activities on the Gulf Coast. He made fourteen presentations to various Coast groups and did several radio and television appearances. Dr. Smith delivered his one-man show portraying Pierre LeMoyne D’Iberville before the state legislature, and managed a $30,000 grant-supported community lecture series that brought twelve nationally or regionally prominent speakers to USM Gulf Coast. He also wrote an article on British West Florida which was accepted for publication in the Journal of Mississippi History, and he saw thirteen articles which he completed sometime ago appear in the two volume Historical Dictionary of the British Empire published by Greenwood Press.

YOULI SUN (Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1988) launched a successful study program in China during the summer of 1996. Although not offered every year, this is an important addition to the department’s offerings in study abroad programs. Dr. Sun spent part of the summer of 1997 in China where he continued work on two research projects.

MARJORIE SPRUILL WHEELER (Ph.D., University of Virginia, 1990) served as President of the Southern Association for Women Historians (SAWH). In November 1996, she was appointed to serve on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Southern History. She is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. She served on the Nominating Committee of the Southern Historical Association. Wheeler served as a commentator on a session at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women that met in Chapel Hill, and she chaired a session at the Southern Historical Association in Little Rock. She gave the keynote address at the Natchez Literary Celebration. Wheeler served as a consultant to the Museum of the Confederacy on its NEH-funded exhibit, “A Woman’s War,” and published an article, “Divided Legacy: The Civil War, Tradition, and the Woman Question” in the companion volume, A Woman’s War: Southern Women, Civil War, and the Confederate Legacy, edited by Edward D. C. Campbell and published by the University Press of Virginia. While on sabbatical in the fall, she completed an article, “Belle Kearney,” for the forthcoming American National Biography and made progress on a book, The South in the History of the Nation: A Reader that she is co-editing with William A. Link for Bradford Books of St. Martin’s Press.

ANDY WIEST (Ph.D., University of Illinois-Chicago, 1990) taught as a visiting senior lecturer at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst during the fall 1996. While in Britain he wrote the 1917 volume for the new Grollier’s Encyclopedia of World War I. He also contributed a chapter entitled “Haig, Gough and Passchendaele,” to Gary Sheffield’s Command and Leadership in War published by Brassey’s in April 1997. In addition he presented two conference papers, “The Naval Strategy of Passchendaele” to the War Discussion Group at the Royal Military Academy and “Investigating Vietnam” to the War Studies Conference of the Institute of Military Studies at King’s College London.

Alumni Notes

BRADLEY S. AMACKER (B.S., 1992)—157 Corinth Road, Petal, MS 39465-4102. Brad served as chair of the Social Studies Department at Columbia Academy (1992-1995) and is presently teaching geography, Mississippi Studies, and world history at Petal High School while working on an M.Ed. at USM.

RAY APPLEWHITE (B.S., 1988)—26 Inf. Drive, Bassfield, MS 39421. Retired from the U.S. Army in 1975 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and retired from farming in 1989.
JOSEPH H. BARICEV (M.S., 1970)—6205 Moreton Place, Ocean Springs, MS 39564. Joe is employed as a marine materials estimator for Trinity Marine Group in Gulfport, Mississippi. He is active in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and is researching the military career of his great, great uncle, James M. Searles, Captain, CSA.


MARTHA ANN ELLIOT (B.A., 1987)—444 Cedarwood Dr., Mandeville, LA 70471. Continues to practice law in Mandeville, Louisiana, but from a new and larger office.


MERRIT “PIC” FIRMIN (M.A., 1994)—4818 Kendall, Gulfport, MS 39507. Is presently serving as “itinerant,” adjunct instructor in history at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and at William Carey College and is the current (1996-97) vicepresident of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.

THOMAS G. FORTEENBERRY (B.A., 1993)—P. O. Box 28335, Baltimore, MD 21234. Has given up teaching for a literary career and has published poetry, fiction, and nonfiction works.

SUSAN A. GIBBS (B.A., 1988)—7209 NW 39th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32606. Susan is an attorney in private practice and serves as a consultant on managed care guidance for physicians. She recently (July 1996) published an article in Managed Care Magazine entitled “Dealing with Managed Care Contract ‘Deal Killers’.”

JERRY GUNNELL (M.A., 1966)—2 South McGregor at Old Shell, Mobile, AL 36608-1827. Jerry is the pastor of Spring Hill Baptist Church in Mobile where he has completed more than 24 years of service. He is also a curriculum writer for Southern Baptists.


JUNE HOLLIS (B.A., 1965)—108 Deletha Lane, Brandon, MS 39042. Ms. Hollis is teaching history and geography at Brandon High School. She is a recent recipient of a Phil Hardin Foundation grant that enabled her to participate in an Earthwatch project in the Amazon Basin near Iquitos, Peru, where she worked with the Amazon Katydid Project.

LARRY T. HOLMES (B.S., 1969)—168 Green Forest Dr., Clinton, MS 39056-2234. Lieutenant Colonel Holmes is the Transportation Officer for the Mississippi National Guard. He wishes it noted that he has given up golf to collect and repair clocks.


RICHARD W. LEATH (B.S., 1961)—P. O. Box 59, Naknek, Alaska 99633. Will retire this year as Superintendent of Schools, Bristol Bay Borough School District, Naknek, Alaska, after thirty-six years in education of which twenty-six were spent in Alaska.

GREG L. MCDONALD (B.A., 1994, M.A., 1996)—2514 E. 17th St., Tulsa, OK 74104. Greg is in Bonn, Germany attending the University of Bonn and is hopeful of working for the U.S. Embassy during his sojourn in Germany.

FREDDIE MCNABB, III (M.A., 1991)—2104 Bayonne Dr., Saint Charles, MO 63303. Has been working as a volunteer research/office assistant for the historic Daniel Boone Home and Boonesfield Village in Defiance, Missouri, and began employment as a substitute teacher in the Wentzville R-IV School District.

JAMES L. MONCRIEF (M.A., 1959)—School District of Pickens County, 1348 Griffin Mill Road, Easley, SC 29640. James is serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Academic Affairs for the School District of Pickens County, South Carolina. He was recently appointed by Governor David Beasley to serve as a member of the Business-Education Partnership for Excellence in Education.

JIMMY D. MYERS (Specialist, 1989)—7 East Anderson Road, Purvis, MS 39475. Assistant Librarian at William Carey College.

JOHN D. RAYBONE (B.A., 1993)—3992 Park Oaks Dr. #10, Fayetteville, AR 72703. Mr. Raybourn teaches economics, geography, and U.S. history at Rogers High School, Rogers, Arkansas.

LAMAR REYNOLDS (B.A., 1966)—110 Heron Court, Brandon, MS 39042. Is employed as a Medical Liability Claim Specialist for the St. Paul Companies. He was inducted into the USM Hall of Fame in 1994 and, as of September 1996, he has attended 167 consecutive USM football games, both at home and away.
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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