

Old Independence



Fall 2011 Annual Report & Newsletter

Building Stones

The museum's new exhibit titled "From Local Quarries to Buildings Across America" had its official opening on June 12. Three stone quarrying businesses are featured in the exhibit: Pfeiffer Stone Company, Wolford's three companies, and McBride Stone Company. Large panels of photographs show stories of each of the family businesses. Samples of their marble, limestone and sandstone in raw state and in polished form are displayed.

Glass cases holding each company's stones, and photographs of buildings in which the stones appear, are showcased. Of particular note is the beautiful dark red marble from Wolford's Cartney quarry named Red Ark Fossil. It was used to cover Abraham Lincoln's tomb in Springfield, Illinois.

The Pfeiffer Stone Company was earliest of the three companies. It began operating the Batesville, Arkansas, quarry in 1903. Stone from it was used in building the Arkansas State Capitol and in buildings throughout Arkansas and Missouri.

The Wolford Stone Company is featured in the exhibit, but was also the focus of a well-attended program titled "What do the White House, the Lincoln Memorial and Batesville Have in Common?" presented by Rene Jordan. The Answer? Wolford Marble.

The Oran McBride Stone Company has been providing stone for structures across the United States and Canada since 1948. More quarries were purchased. Currently, they operate 10 sandstone, 9 limestone, and 3 marble quarries. Their main headquarters are in Bethesda, just west of Batesville.

In one corner of the exhibit, slabs of pink marble, Batesville Gray marble, and White Limestone stand upright showing marks from a quarry drill, a wire saw, channel machines, and a Myers quarry saw. A pneumatic drill stands with them.

This exhibit was created by Twyla Gill Wright, Kay Wolford Longenbach, and Diane McBride Harbin, with help from other family members.



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Special points of interest:

- Museum receives new sign with assistance from Citizens Bank
- Museum awarded grant from Arkansas Humanities Council
- Check out the new items in our gift shop and get a head start on your Christmas shopping!

Finding the Way to Our Museum

Isn't our new sign at the corner of Vine Street and St. Louis fine? It clearly shows visitors where to turn to find us easily. For years visitors, both local and those from out of town, have voiced their frustration at not being able to find the museum.

When John Dews of Citizens Bank offered to fund a sign for us, we set to work and found the process a bit long and complicated. We persevered and navigated the winding path through the Planning and Zoning Commission, found that restrictions prevented placing signs in the historic residential district, then looked for an existing sign pole and found just the right one in the commercial zone.

Curator's Column

So far this year, we have received 75 collections of items from donors. Over the past 13 years we have gathered, processed, preserved, and made accessible to the public over 26,000 items. This does not include hundreds of photograph negatives and other smaller collections waiting to be accessioned. The breakdown is: 10,300 documents, 11,450 photographs, 1,551 books in the library (not including hundreds of county historical society journals on the shelves), and 2,716 artifacts. We are proud to now have 16 volunteers who regularly work these collections!

Just a few of these collections that have come in during the last few months are:

Craig Ogilvie — The Ozarks Mountaineer magazines 1998-2010

Diane Carter — World War II Army papers and a watch fog belonging to William K. Grice.

Sandra Sayers Cox — History and Genealogy of the Thomas Todd Tunstall family

Dr. Bob Slaughter — Many medical instruments, medicine bottles and other items

Diane Arnold — 5 medical journals kept by Dr. C.A. Churchill of Batesville

Terry Swaim gave us permission to use his empty sign pole on the corner of Vine Street, and we applied for a City Permit that allowed us to erect an off-site sign. Once we gained that, we asked Mark Rorie to design the sign, and with that in hand, plus making a map showing the exact location of the pole, we went through the Arkansas Highway Beautification Department for state permission to put up the off-site sign. They did an on-site visit and at last gave us an official permit. Quickly, we took that and our design to Dodd Signs for the sign installation.

Tom Dodd refurbished the pole and up went the sign. Hooray!



Polly Livingston — Many newspaper articles and family photographs. She also allowed us to make an oral history recording of her life.

Revs. Bob and Kay Burton — created a man's black top hat from felted beaver and rabbit fur for the museum to match the 1840s era.

Richard Dahlquist — Soft drink bottles that were bottled in Batesville, a stone-ware bowl with the "Crouch" name, items from Mack-Farm Dairy, a sewing machine used in the Batesville Shoe Company, plus many other artifacts.

An Old Fashioned Family Christmas!

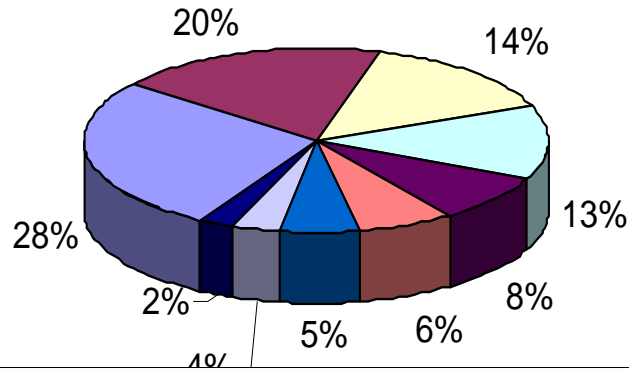
Old Independence Regional Museum continues its popular Family Day series of the events with *An Old Fashioned Family Christmas*. This is the fourth year for this event and it continues to draw visitors of all age. Please join the museum staff and volunteers as we get into the Christmas spirit by making hand-made ornaments, listening to Christmas stories, and enjoying Christmas treats.

Daycamp

Old Independence Regional Museum held its 4th Annual Day Camp in June. Through games, crafts, and living history, 3rd-6th graders learned about the Civil War in our region. Each morning began with a story or living history presentation featuring a local historical figure. Some of these historical characters included: Clinton Earls, a free African American from Independence County, W.E. Bevens, a Confederate soldier from Jackson County, William Monks, a Union soldier from Fulton County, Emily Weaver, a Batesville resident who was convicted of spying, Fanny Hill, a college student, and Violet Lewis, an enslaved African American who ran a confectionary shop. In addition, campers learned military drills, made signal flags, learned Morse code, sewed haversacks, pieced freedom quilts, made hand fans, and many other crafts to help reinforce the things they learned.

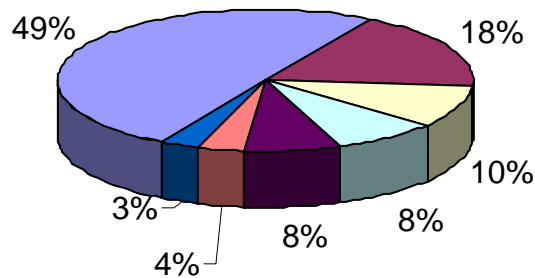
Plans have already begun for the Museum's 5th Annual Day Camp in July 2012. Native Americans will be the focus!

2010 Revenues



- 28% Special Project Window Renovation Grant Revenue
- 20% Other Grant Revenue (Local, State, Federal & Private)
- 14% Membership and Day Sponsors
- 13% Bequests
- 8% Memorials, Honors, Donations & Pledges
- 6% Admissions, Archives, & Gift Shop Revenue
- 5% Interest Income
- 4% Benefits and Fundraising
- 2% Workshop Fees, Special Projects, Rental Fees and Other Income

2010 Expenses



- 49% Salaries, Payroll Taxes, Benefits & Professional Fees
- 18% Utilities and Security Fees
- 10% Maintenance & Repair Costs
- 8% Exhibit, Collections, Grant and Special Event Expenses
- 8% Postage, Office Supplies, Travel & Other Miscellaneous Expenses
- 4% Insurance
- 3% Advertising

Museum Membership

Day Sponsor Members are individuals and businesses that support a day of operating costs at the Museum. For each day sponsored, the member can "name the day". Many choose to honor a birthday, anniversary, friendship or express support of a local business.

Seven or More Days

First Community Bank
Jane Jameson
Yellowbook

Four or More Days

Arkansas Lime Company
Batesville Preservation Association
Judge & Mrs. John Norman Harkey
Mary Kaufman
LaCroix Optical Co.
Anne Strahl

Two or More Days

Dave & Cindy Allen
Charles & Betty Barnett
Faye Bone
George Lankford
Steve & Ellen Massey
Lisenne Rockefeller
Dennis & Twyla Wright
Midwest Lime Company
Lyon College
Futurefuel Chemical Company
MaryAnn Marshall

One Day

Judy Babcock
I.N. Barnett Family
Nelson & Sandy Barnett
Batesville Kiwanis Club

Batesville Rotary Club
Steve Bell
Wayne Boyce
Nancy Britton
Paul & Joni Bube
Sylvia Crosby
Econo-Mart Pharmacy
Robert & Gayla Griffin
Trudy Hall
Bill & Sandra Hughes
Independence County Historical Society
Ketz Family
Raymond & Diane LaCroix
Polly Livingston
Matthew Luoma
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Montgomery
Barnett Moore
Margie Pettersen
John & Joyce Richey
Bob & Mary Slaughter
Stanley Wood Chevrolet
Jack & Barbara Stevenson
Robert & Deborah Stroud
Charles & Rachael Taylor
Bill & Janis Walmsley

Friend Memberships

Jim Barnett
Dr. & Mrs. R.E. Bell
Jean Blankenship
Faye Bryant
Woody & Melissa Castleberry
George & Marilyn Chlebak
Sam & Kate Cooke
George & Della Mae Dortch
Boris & Pamela Dover
John & Mary Lue Eskew
Gerald Fullbright
Jon & Martha Healey
Sherry Chilton-Hayes
Carolyn Craig Keeble
Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Ketz, Jr.
Pat & Mary Lea

Rebecca Alyson Low
McCann Family
Marian P. Milum
Jack & Anne Griffin Moore
Guy & Sara Moseley
David & Sharan Pittser
Robb & Amanda Roberts
Mark Rorie
Carl & Amy Shaver
Frank & Loretta Shell
Mr. & Mrs. Carter Yeatman

Family Memberships

Fred & Elsie Blankenship
David & Suzanne Blair
Armilda P. Brodie
Alan Bufford
Jim & Jean Crouch
Shirley & Mickey Coe
Betty Crutcher
Tom & Dorothy Dodson
R.B. & Nona Floyd
James & Rose Marie Hankins
Donald & Emma Hedden
Virginia & Paul Henry
Margaret Henley
W. A. & Bettye Jones
Dr. & Mrs. Aubrey Joseph
Guy & Charlotte Lacy
Curtis & Marcia Martin
Jay & Cathy Shell
Doug Lee & Jan Smith
Kay Longenbach
Charles & Shirley Marable
Dick Nelms
Gary & Tommie McDonald
Max & Susan McElmurry
Virginia Moser
Joe & Kay Pool
Judy Purnell
Paul & Ann Rhodes
Carol Robertson
James Rutherford

Membership Continued...

Charlie & Ruby Schaaf
John & Martha Taylor
Clinton & Mayfan Thomas
Roy Thomas
Fran Troy
Hal & Mary Vandiver

Individual Membership

Blair Arnold
Paulette Arnold
Denise Baker
Batesville Collectors Club
Jo Blatti
Ernestine Boyce
Marilyn Brewer
Robert Dody Broussard
Rev. Bob Burton
Rev. Kay Burton
Lola Caraway
Rosemary Catton
William Coe
John Davis
Dwight Ford
William Carl Garner
Kenny Gerhardt
Carol Gifford
Lois Goff
Doris Harper
Barbara Hoover
Stephen D. Kearbey, Jr.
Barbara Keedy
Owen Kelley
William Leach
Carolyn McClure
Anna Mae McSpadden
Michael Moser
Joseph Parks
Bertha Perkey
Robbie Purdom
Jane Putle
Sue Richmond
Estell Rucker
Julie Sandy

Kay Southerland
Dianne Taylor
Jerry Taylor
Mrs. Franklin Williams

Senior Memberships

Amanda Ashby
Betsy F. Benton
Jimmie Jean Pate Bowman
Joanna Buchanan
Robert Carius
Kenneth & Connie Crymes
Sandy Deckard
Janice Eddleman
Lois F. Etheridge
Janet Galvan
Velma McSpadden Gould
Mary Gail Harley
Mary Harmon
Jack Helm
James A. Hester
Theodora Hightower
Ed & Valerie Holler
Davidson Justus Hughes
Charles & Evelyn Hunt
Frances Jernigan
N.E. Johnston
Lorene Kilbreath
Kathryn Lemon
Dean & Leann Lindsey
Anne Luster
Bill Luster
LaVerl Mason
Earlene Meachum McMullin
Beth Meacham
Larry & Jaydine Morton
Craig Ogilvie
Jane H. Parker
Violet Reed
Connie Schirmer
Joan Sellers
Sarah Maxfield Smither
Hope Spragins

Katherine Stokes
Linda Sutton
Dorma Talburt
Mary Lee Thessen
Phyllis Terhune
Betty Weaver
Alice Whitterman
Beverley Wilkins
Neil Wilkins, Sr.

Grant Awarded & Rain Leaks Fixed!

We were thrilled to receive a \$2,500 operating grant for small museums from the Arkansas Humanities Council. This was in response to our request for monies to repair interior damage from seasons of roof leaks.

In July M & A Jones and Jerry Richardson Roofing inspected the roof and then started the repair. Once it was fixed, and a subsequent rain proved the leaks had been fixed, M & A Jones' workmen stripped and filled the damaged dry wall surface in the library and in the curator's and educator's offices.

In August they repainted the north wall, plus repaired the wall in the women's restroom. They also did extensive repair to the damage on the inner wall at the side door. We are so pleased!



A New Milestone

The museum's governing board has established its first Advisory Board. Excitement has been generated as a total of 15 persons have readily accepted the invitation to become members of this new board. Its purpose is to serve as public relations ambassadors, to gather ideas and opinions from the public, to provide fresh perspectives on museum-related issues, and to aid the governing board in strategic and financial planning to insure the museum's future. It will convene at least twice a year.

We proudly announce the following members:

Nelson Barnett
Jo Cargill
Dale Cole
Sam Cooke
Deborah Frazier
Jane Jameson
George Latus
Polly Livingston
Mike Low
Steve Massey
Hayes Olson
Kay Southerland
Frank Tripp
Fran Troy
Bill Walmsley

OIRM 2011 Board of Directors

Jan Smith - President
Charles Barnett - Vice President
Dwight E. Ford - Treasurer
Anne Moore - Secretary
Sylvia Crosby
Kenny Gerhardt
Kay Longenbach
MaryAnn Marshall
Arthur Montgomery
Mark Rorie
Diane Tebbetts
Sandy West

Annual Volunteer Awards Presented

The Reed Family and Cheryl "Sherry" Matthews were recently honored with the Dennis Wright Award and Twyla Gill Wright Award by Old Independence Regional Museum at the Annual Meeting of the Museum's Membership on Sunday, September 11, 2011.

The Dennis Wright Award was created in 1999 and recognizes a volunteer, or group of volunteers, whose work behind the scenes has been exceptional. The Reeds have volunteered as a family since the fall of 2007. In 2008, Brianne and Cheyenne began serving as docents. Since then, they have taken on many roles: assisting with crafts and craft preparations, home school days, and day camp. The entire family often helps with special events. Eric has been very good to find educational displays for many of the events and has helped repair display items for the exhibits. Laura often prepares food for programs and events at the museum and, along with Brianne, takes on sewing projects. This summer they made many of the Civil War costumes for our volunteers to wear during day camp.

The Twyla Gill Wright award was created in 2009 and named after its first honoree. This award recognizes a volunteer who shows an outstanding dedication of time and service to Old Independence Regional Museum. Cheryl "Sherry" Matthews has been a volunteer for many years. She works as a docent, living history interpreter, researcher, and school program leader. She regularly helps with special programs and events and has recently taken on the job of helping Dody Pouliot with the obituary project. Sherry is willing to help whenever and wherever she is needed.

The Museum Gift Shop has several new items available for the upcoming Holiday Season. Our new selection of children's books would look great under your tree, and our old fashioned toys make great stocking stuffers. Our selection of Hardy Pottery, handcrafted cutting boards, cook books and embroidered tea towels would be the ideal gift for your favorite cook. In addition, we have a wide selection of regional books, jewelry, and the ever popular McCoy knives.



2011 Volunteers

Scott Blackwell
Tia Broadway
Clara Bufford
Marilynn Chlebak
Alice Clark
Sylvia Crosby
Jean Crouch
Nona Floyd
Janet Gray
Beverly Grigsby
Mary Gail Harley
Bill Hoskins
Bertha Hughes
Trenton Johnson
Ron Karg
Becki Kelley
Kay Longenbach
Frances Mathis
Cheryl Matthews
Mary Ann Marshall
Steve Massey
Greta McCann
Josie McCann
Ronnie McCann
Fern McMahan
Mary Miller
Ann Mobley
Lillian Murrell
Clara Nikkel
Claudia Nobles
Limuel Parks
David Pittser
Sharan Pittser
Dody Pouliot
George Pouliot
Brianne Reed
Cheyenne Reed
Eric Reed
Laura Reed
Ann Rhodes
Mary Slayden
Barbara Stevenson
Phyllis Terhune
Esther Thomas
Linda Wann
Dennis Wright
Twyla Wright
Thank you volunteers!

