



# MCSS NEWSLETTER

## FALL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT PEARL RIVER RESORT

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### Conference Notes...

- Pre-register before October 1 and save \$10!
- To make hotel reservations, call the Silverstar Hotel at 1-866-44PEARL and refer to conference code MSCJ09B. The MCSS conference room rate is \$89. Deadline to receive the rate is September 27.
- Conference participants may obtain .5 CEU's for \$10. In order to receive the CEU's, individuals must attend all conferences sessions. No partial credit will be awarded.

The 2009 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference will be held October 19 - 20 at the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw. The theme for this year's conference is *Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools*.

On Monday morning, early bird arrivals will be given the option to participate in a Civil Rights Driving Tour or to take part in a pre-conference workshop hosted by the Mississippi Geographical Alliance. Information about the pre-conference workshop will be available on the MCSS web site in September.

The conference will officially begin at 1:00 pm with the Opening General Session. All conference participants should attend this important session as information about obtaining continuing education units will be disseminated and candidates for the Board will be introduced.

Concurrent sessions and vendor dis-

plays will run throughout the afternoon on Monday. A reception will be held that evening in the hotel's Ballroom, and Mississippi author Neil White will attend the evening reception as a special guest. Concurrent sessions and vendor displays will continue on Tuesday morning.

Melanie Auth, from the Close Up Foundation, will address the membership during the morning plenary. The conference will conclude on Tuesday at 1:00 pm with a luncheon and business meeting, during which time officer and director elections will be held. Author Phil Hardwick will be the luncheon keynote speaker.

For more information about the 2009 fall conference, see the preliminary program inside, or e-mail President Kim Este at [kimeste@bellsouth.net](mailto:kimeste@bellsouth.net) or Executive Director Dr. Susie Burroughs at [susie.burroughs@msstate.edu](mailto:susie.burroughs@msstate.edu).



## A Message from President Este

Dear Social Studies Educator,  
I hope that your school year is off to a wonderful start! I know that you are excited to share your love of social studies with a new, inquisitive group of students.

When I returned to school in the late 1990's to become a "history teacher," I quickly learned that "social studies" was so much more. My methods instructor, Dr. Susie Burroughs, told us on the first day of class that the job of a social studies teacher was to produce good citizens, and the National Council for the Social Studies defines social studies as "the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence." I have tried to keep these things in mind while promoting social studies in my school, community, and throughout the state.

Although each of us has our favorite social studies subject, social studies encompasses so much more than "just" history, "just" geography, or "just" economics. I think it is so important that we are advocates for the social studies as an inclusive discipline. In order for social studies to be recognized as the important part of the curriculum that it is, we must make it clear

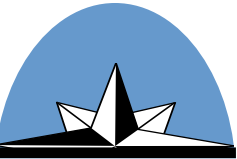
that social studies is a core discipline that will stimulate interest in academics and prepare students for their roles as global citizens.

As a member of the Mississippi Council for the Social Studies, you are taking an active role in social studies education, and I thank you on behalf of the entire organization. I want to encourage you to continue to be active in MCSS. The organization is your voice to address issues that affect social studies educators in Mississippi.

Please make your plans to attend this year's annual conference at the Silver Star Resort in Choctaw on October 19-20. The entire board and conference committees have been hard at work coordinating what we hope will be the most resourceful conference ever. I hope that you leave the conference with fresh ideas and resources that you can take back to your classroom to invigorate your students and excite them about our discipline.

I welcome any comments or suggestions from you, and I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

Kim Este  
MCSS President



*America has been called a melting pot, but it seems better to call it a mosaic, for in it each nation, people or race which has come to its shores has been privileged to keep its individuality, contributing at the same time its share to the unified pattern of a new nation.*

King Baudouin of  
Belgium  
(1930-1993)

## Close Up Foundation to Address MCSS Membership

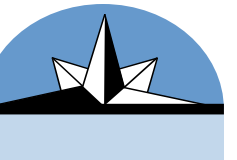
The Close Up Foundation is the nation's largest nonprofit nonpartisan civic education program. Since 1971, Close Up's mission has been "to inform, inspire, and empower people to exercise the rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy."

Each year the program welcomes over 25,000 middle and high school students and teachers to Washington D.C., Williamsburg, and New York where they explore the inner workings of Washington, meet with elected officials, policy experts and media, and live and learn with peers from across the country. Close Up parallels the Mississippi Social Studies State Standards using Washing-

ton, D.C. as a living classroom to give students insights that transcend the typical travel experience. Close Up has over 650,000 alumni and enduring support from Members of Congress, including U.S. Senator Thad Cochran and former U.S. Senator Trent Lott.

In addition to its Washington Programs, Close Up also publishes the nation's top-selling civic education resource manual, *Current Issues*. This teaching tool brings students face-to-face with the nation's most important and controversial issues. It also provides teachers with live chapter updates as new issues and policies are being decided.

Teachers can earn continuing education units or graduate credit from Indiana University by participating in the Close Up Teacher Program. For more information about The Close Up Foundation's programs for high school and middle school groups visit [www.closeup.org](http://www.closeup.org).

*Eminent posts make great men greater, and little men less.*

Jean de la Bruyere,  
essayist and  
moralist  
(1645-1696)

## NCSS Annual Conference

The 89th NCSS Annual Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, from November 13-15 at the Georgia World Congress Center and Omni Hotel at the CNN Center. The theme for the conference is *Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools*.



NCSS, founded in 1921, is devoted solely to social studies education.

The more than 500 interactive sessions at the 89th Annual Conference will cover a wide range of relevant topics and emerging trends in such key areas as curriculum connections, diverse learners, effective in-

structional strategies, human rights, and language and literacy. Keynote speakers include Representative John Lewis, Greg Mortenson, and Dr. Eric Foner. Special features will include a re-opening of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum and “Anne and Emmett,” a one-act play that draws parallels between Anne Frank and Emmett Till.

To learn about the conference and other benefits of becoming an NCSS member, visit [www.ncss.org](http://www.ncss.org).



*Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.*

Reinhold Niebuhr, theologian (1892-1971)

## Phil Hardwick is Keynote Speaker

Phil Hardwick, Coordinator of Capacity Development at the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, will deliver the keynote address during the annual MCSS business luncheon.

At the Stennis Institute, Hardwick works with communities on strategic planning and leadership development. He also provides strategic planning and leadership training services for chambers of commerce and nonprofit organizations. In his spare time Hardwick is a prolific writer. His award-winning column on real estate and economic development appears bi-weekly in the *Mississippi Business Journal*, and he is the author of the 10 volume



series *The Mississippi Mystery Series* about a fictional private eye. Hardwick is a Past-President of the Mississippi Main Street Association, the Mississippi Economic Development Association, and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum.

He is Immediate Past-President of the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education. He is also Adjunct Instructor of Management at Millsaps College.

Hardwick received his undergraduate degree from Belhaven College and his MBA from Millsaps College. He is a graduate of the Senior Executives in State & Local Government executive program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



*Perfect valor is to behave, without witnesses, as one would act were all the world watching.*

Francois, duc de La Rochefoucauld, moralist (1613-1680)

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
Conference Theme: *Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools*  
**Pearl River Resort — Choctaw**  
**October 19-20, 2009**

(Please type or print.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:     Elementary                       Middle/Junior High                       High School  
                     College/University                       Pre-service/Student                       Other

Circle the CD in which you vote:                      CD 1                      CD 2                      CD 3                      CD 4

**PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

**I. To pre-register for the conference - postmark deadline October 1:**

To pre-register for the fall conference, MCSS regular members enter \$70.00 on this line. \_\_\_\_\_

**II. To register for the conference - after October 1:**

To register by mail after October 1 or to register on site, MCSS regular members enter \$80 on this line. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Please note:** Pre-registration or registration for the conference includes the Monday evening welcome reception, all conference sessions, the luncheon and business meeting on Tuesday, and membership dues for 2010.

**III. To renew your MCSS membership only:**

If you will be unable to attend the fall conference but would like to renew Your MCSS membership for the 2010 year, enter the appropriate amount on this line. (Regular: \$25, Retired or Student: \$15) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form along with a check, money order, or pre-approved purchase order to:**

Joyce Newell; MCSS Treasurer; 1209 Winwood Drive; Tupelo, MS 38801

**\*\*\* Checks, money orders, and purchase orders must be made payable to MCSS. \*\*\***

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

To pay by purchase order, a pre-approved purchase order must accompany your registration form when it is submitted to the Treasurer. There are no exceptions to this policy. Requests for cancellation of registration and refund of monies paid must be made in writing to the MCSS Treasurer two weeks prior to the conference.

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**  
Conference Theme: *Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools*  
**Pearl River Resort — Choctaw**  
**October 19-20, 2009**

**Monday, October 19**

- 8:30-9:30 MCSS Board Meeting  
 9:00-12:00 Vendor Set-Up (displays not open for viewing)  
 9:30-11:30 Optional Excursion: Civil Rights Driving Tour  
 9:30-11:30 Optional Pre-Conference Clinic hosted by the Mississippi Geographical Alliance  
 9:30-1:00 On-Site Conference Registration  
 1:00-1:50 Opening General Session  
 2:00-6:00 Vendor Alley (displays open for viewing)  
 2:00-2:50 Concurrent Sessions #1  
 3:00-3:50 Concurrent Sessions #2  
 4:00-4:50 Concurrent Sessions #3  
 4:00-6:00 On-Site Conference Registration  
 6:00-8:00 Reception hosted by the Mississippi Geographical Alliance

**Tuesday, October 20**

- 7:30-8:30 Continental Breakfast and Coffee with Your District Director  
 8:30-11:00 Vendor Alley (displays open for viewing)  
 8:30-9:20 Concurrent Sessions #4  
 9:30-10:20 Plenary Session  
 10:30-11:20 Concurrent Sessions #5  
 11:30-1:00 Luncheon, Business Meeting, and Closing Session

**Concurrent Sessions**

- First Timer's Session
- Deeds Make a Difference
- Strange Things in Geography
- Taking a New Look at the Great Depression
- Teaching the U.S. Presidents
- Teaching Children about Recession
- Mississippi Teachers **On the Road Again**, True Experiential Learning
- We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution
- U.S. History and the SAT is Everyone's Job
- Introducing Mississippi Heritage Trust's Mississippi Historic Preservation Curriculum
- Project Citizen: Teaching about Public Policy-Making
- Learn How to Achieve Economic and Financial Literacy
- *Tales from the Crypt* Demonstrates that National History is "Local History Writ Large"
- Representative Democracy in America
- Overview of 2010 U.S. History: Post-Reconstruction to the Present Framework
- The Solution for Geographic Literacy is Easy and Fun!
- Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
THE JESSE PALMER SOCIAL STUDIES  
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Mississippi Council for the Social Studies invites nominations of educators to be considered for the 2009 Jesse Palmer Social Studies Educator of the Year Award. Established in the memory of Dr. Jesse Palmer, this award is given each year to an educator who demonstrates exemplary knowledge, skills, and dispositions in promoting quality social studies education in Mississippi schools.

To be considered for this award, an educator must have at least three years of teaching experience, be currently involved in a social studies-related profession, and submit an application packet that includes the following:

**I. Vita**

- A. Name and contact information (address, phone number, e-mail)
- B. Current and past education-related employment
- C. Educational background (degrees held, specialized training, other)
- D. Positions of leadership held (professional, civic, other)
- E. Honors and awards received
- F. Participation in professional organizations (memberships, service, other)
- G. Workshops, seminars, professional development of note (organized, presented, attended)
- H. Other relevant information as deemed appropriate

**II. Questionnaire (Answer each of the following in a paragraph or more.)**

- A. Why did you choose to become a professional educator?
- B. What is your philosophy of teaching?
- C. What is your approach to social studies education?
- D. In what ways do you “go above and beyond” to be the best professional you can be?

**III. Supporting Documentation**

- A. Letter of recommendation from a current supervisor
- B. Letter of recommendation from a current colleague
- C. Letter of recommendation from a current or former student

**To be considered as an award recipient for this calendar year,  
application packets must be postmarked no later than September 1 and mailed to:**

MCSS Awards Committee  
Marlo Hendrix, Chair  
159 High Forest Lane  
Tupelo, MS 38801

**Questions about this application process should be e-mailed to Marlo Hendrix at  
mahendrix@tupelo.k12.ms.us.**

## MCSS to Welcome Author Neil White

Mississippi author Neil White is the featured guest at the Monday evening conference reception hosted by the Mississippi Geographic Alliance. A former newspaper editor, magazine publisher, advertising executive, and federal prisoner, White lives in Oxford where he operates a small publishing company, writes plays and essays, and teaches memoir writing.



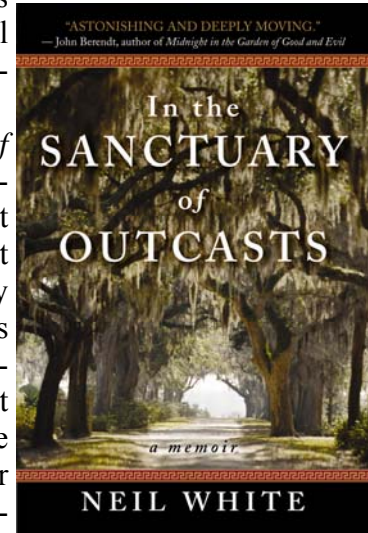
His memoir, *In the Sanctuary of Outcasts*, released in June of 2009, is about the year he lived with the last victims of leprosy in the continental United States. *Publisher's Weekly* described the book as "Brisk, ironic, perceptive . . . White's introspective memoir puts a magnifying glass to a flawed life, revealing that

all of life is to be savored and respected." Pulitzer Prize winner Robert Olen Butler added, "At once surreal and grittily naturalistic, funny and poignant,

White's tale is fascinating and full of universal resonance."

*In the Sanctuary of Outcasts* was an Indie NEXT Great Reads Selection, it has spent every week since its launch on the Southern Independent Bookseller Alliance (SIBA) Bestseller List, and it was selected for the Barnes & Noble Fall 2009 "Discover Great New Writers" program.

Neil is married to Deborah Hodges Bell, a law professor at The University of Mississippi. They have three children — Lindsay Bell, Neil White IV, and Maggie White.



## Call for 2010 Board of Directors Nominations

Elections will be held for President, Vice President, and District and At-Large Directors during the annual business meeting at the fall conference. Having been elected last year to two-year terms, the following Directors will remain on the Board: CD 1: James Reed, CD 2: Martha Hutson, CD 3: David Houston, CD 4: Barbara Boone, and At-Large: Whit Grace. Nominations are now being accepted for candidates for the fall ballot. To nominate someone to be considered by the Nominating Committee as a potential candidate for the MCSS Board, submit the following information:

- (1) the position for which the nominee would like to be considered (i.e., officer or director position)
- (2) the name and contact information of the nominee (address, telephone, e-mail)
- (3) a brief description of the nominee's qualifications for the position
- (4) names and contact information of two professional references

The Board of Directors encourages members of diverse racial and ethnic groups, coaches, new teachers, and individuals who are new to MCSS to consider taking an active leadership role in MCSS. Nominations should be submitted to Dr. Susie Burroughs; Chair, Nominating Committee; Department of Curriculum and Instruction - Box 9705; Mississippi State, MS 39762. The deadline for nominations is September 23. Nominees will be notified of their candidacy status by October 9.

**Dr. Susie Burroughs**  
MCSS Newsletter Editor

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E-mail: susie.burroughs@msstate.edu



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THE NATIONAL  
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Visit us on the web at:  
[www.msstate.edu/org/mcss](http://www.msstate.edu/org/mcss)

## ***F. Y. I. ...***

- National Council for the Social Studies and Farmers Insurance Group have joined forces to conduct outreach activities for *The American Promise*, a PBS documentary series that tells the story of individuals meeting the challenges of democracy—freedom, responsibility, participation, hard choices, and deliberation. The series, subsequent classroom materials, and a standards-based teaching guide that suggests ways for classroom teachers to capitalize on the teaching potential of the series are available. To order The American Promise Teaching Kit visit <http://www.farmers.com/FarmComm/AmericanPromise/index.html>
- Facing History and Ourselves will once again offer unique online seminars that use historical case studies to raise profound moral questions about the consequences of our actions and our beliefs. Through Facing History, teachers help their students make connections between history and the moral choices they make every day. Courses for the fall include *Holocaust and Human Behavior* (October 15 -December 16, 2009)

and *Educators in a Jewish Setting: Holocaust and Human Behavior* (October 15 - December 16, 2009). Information and the application for all online seminars are available at [www.facinghistory.org/OnlineSeminar](http://www.facinghistory.org/OnlineSeminar). Contact Tanya Lubicz-Nawrocka at [tanya\\_lubicz-nawrocka@facing.org](mailto:tanya_lubicz-nawrocka@facing.org) with questions.

- Since 1996, the Gilder Lehrman Institute has presented eminent historians discussing major topics in American history. Now you can hear these great historians on your computer or iPod. Gary Gallagher's *The Civil War in American Memory* and Henry Louis Gates, Jr.'s *Great Biographies: African American Athletes* are now available through the Institute.

- Abraham Lincoln Online is a comprehensive guide to letters, speeches, and other primary documents by and about Lincoln, with links to websites, such as the Library of Congress and the National Archives, that provide documents and other information pertaining to Lincoln. The guide can be found at [AbrahamLincolnOnline.org](http://AbrahamLincolnOnline.org).