



# MCSS NEWSLETTER

## MCSS FALL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN JACKSON

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### Conference Notes...

- Pre-register before October 1 and save \$10!
- A block of rooms will be held at the Hilton Hotel until September 23. To make your reservation, call 1-601-957-2800. Be sure to ask for the MCSS conference rate of \$99.
- CEU's will be offered to interested conference participants. The cost will be \$10 for .5 CEU's. In order to receive the CEU's, individuals must attend all conferences sessions. No partial credit will be awarded.

The 2007 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference will be held on October 15-16 at the Hilton Hotel in Jackson. The theme for this year's conference is *Crossing Borders, Building Bridges*.

On Monday morning, early bird arrivals will be given the option to participate in one of three excursions or to take part in a pre-conference workshop. The optional excursions will include visits to the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum, and Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum. Information about the pre-conference workshop will be available on the web site in September.

The conference will officially begin at 1:00 with the Opening General Session. All conference participants should attend this important session as information about obtaining CEU's will be disseminated and candidates for the Board will be introduced. In addition, Marshall Ramsey, cartoonist with the Clarion Ledger, will address the membership.

Concurrent sessions and vendor displays will run throughout the afternoon

on Monday. A reception will be held that evening in the Hilton's Penthouse Suite. Concurrent sessions and vendor displays will continue on Tuesday morning. Hank Holmes, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, will address the membership during the morning plenary. The conference will conclude on Tuesday with a luncheon and business meeting, during which time officer and director elections will be held. Justice James Graves will be the luncheon keynote speaker.



For more information about the conference, see the preliminary program inside, or e-mail [jenniferfnance@hotmail.com](mailto:jenniferfnance@hotmail.com) or [susie.burroughs@msstate.edu](mailto:susie.burroughs@msstate.edu).

## Holmes to Address the Council

Hank Holmes, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, will be the MCSS Fall Conference plenary session speaker. Holmes received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Millsaps in 1973 and a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1982.

In addition to serving as the Archives and History Director for the state, he serves as the State Historical Records Coordinator; Chair of the State Government Records Committee, the Local Government Records Committee, and the State Records Committee; State Historic Preservation Officer; and Secretary of the Foundation for Mississippi History. He is a member of the Historical Societies, the Mississippi Heritage Trust Executive Committee, the Advisory Committee for the Federation of

Mississippi, the Mississippi Blues Commission, the Mississippi Main Street Association Board of Directors, and Governor Barbour's Commission to Establish a National Civil Rights Museum Executive Committee.

Holmes will provide members an overview of the history, mission, and work of Mississippi's Department of Archives and History, which is headquartered in the William F. Winter Archives and History Building in downtown Jackson. Established in 1902, the Department is the nation's second-oldest state department of archives and history. It collects, preserves, and provides access to the archival resources of the state, administers museums and historic sites, and oversees statewide programs for historic preservation government records and publications.



*The man who thinks he can do without the world is indeed mistaken; but the man who thinks the world cannot do without him is mistaken even worse.*

Francois,  
duc de La  
Rochefoucauld  
(1613-1680)

## Update from the MDE Social Studies Specialist

There are many exciting things happening with Social Studies Education in the state. The entering ninth graders in the 2008-2009 school year will be required by the state to have a semester of economics and a semester of geography for graduation. This is part of an overall push in the state to help ensure civic-minded, globally-aware, economically-knowledgeable high school graduates. The Mississippi Council on Economics Education, the Mississippi Geographic Alliance, and others are offering professional development opportunities for teachers in these fields to help enhance instruction and content knowledge. Senate Bill 2718, which was passed in 2006, calls for the Mississippi State De-

partment of Education to make civil rights and human rights education a part of the K-12 curriculum instruction in the state of Mississippi. It also establishes a Mississippi Civil Rights Education Commission to inventory civil rights exhibits and resources and coordinate civil rights awareness and education in the public schools. The commission is meeting monthly to compile a list of resources and to discuss strategies for incorporating civil rights into the K-12 social studies curriculum. The goals of civil rights education are to create more civically-engaged, socially-responsible, and culturally-aware students and to enhance their overall educational experience.

*Chauncey Spears*



*If you want something really important to be done you must not merely satisfy the reason, you must move the heart also.*

Mahatma Gandhi  
(1869-1948)

## NCSS Annual Conference to be Held in San Diego, California

The 87th NCSS Annual Conference will be held in San Diego, California on November 29 through December 2 at the San Diego Convention Center, which is located on San Diego Bay. The theme for the conference is *Crossing Borders, Building Bridges*.



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

as advocacy, curriculum connections, diverse learners, effective instructional strategies, human rights, language and literacy, and migration. Special features will include elementary outreach, international encounters, novice teacher workshops, professional credits, urban educator seminars, and a technology showcase.

The more than 500 interactive sessions at the 87th Annual Conference will cover a wide range of relevant topics and emerging trends in such key areas

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



*I shall allow no man to belittle my soul by making me hate him.*

Booker T. Washington  
(1856-1915)

## Justice Graves Keynote Speaker

The Honorable James Graves will deliver the keynote address during the annual MCSS business luncheon. Appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court in the fall of 2001 by Governor Ronnie Musgrove, he was elected by the people in 2004. Justice Graves has earned a number of awards during his distinguished career. In 1992, he was named The National Conference of Black Lawyers' Judge of the Year. In 1993, he was selected Millsaps College Black Student Association's Alumnus of the Year. The National Bar Association awarded him their first Distinguished Jurist award in 1996. In 2000, he received the Hinds County Bar Association's Innovation



Award for establishing the first state of the art high-tech courtroom, and in 2004 he received the NAACP Legal Award.

He says, however, that as a father of three, he is most proud of being named the 2000-2001 Parent of the Year by the Jackson Public Schools. Graves received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Millsaps, a Master of Public Administration degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and a law degree from Syracuse University. His teaching experiences include serving as an instructor at the Harvard Law School and as an adjunct instructor at Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, and Millsaps.



*Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?*

T. S. Eliot  
(1888-1965)

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
Conference Theme: *Crossing Borders, Building Bridges*  
**Hilton — Jackson**  
**October 15-16, 2007**

(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 \_\_\_\_\_  
\$65.00 on this line. Lifetime MCSS Members enter \$45.

**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 \$75 on this line. Lifetime MCSS members enter \$55.

**\*\*\* 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 2008.

**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 2008 year, enter the appropriate amount  
on this line. (Regular: \$20—Retired or Student: \$10—Lifetime: \$150)

**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: *Crossing Borders, Building Bridges*

Hilton — Jackson

October 15-16, 2007

**Monday, October 15**

- 8:30-9:30 MCSS Board Meeting  
9:00-12:00 Vendor Set-Up (displays not open for viewing)  
9:30-11:30 Optional Field Trips  
9:30-11:30 Pre-Conference Workshop  
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

**Tuesday, October 16**

- 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

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**Concurrent Sessions**

- First Timer's Session
- Going Beyond the Ordinary: Teaching History Creatively
- A New Look at the Great Depression
- Civil Rights Education in Mississippi
- Strange Things in Geography
- What is Geography
- New Requirements in Geography
- Have a World of Fun Using Maps and Globes
- Teaching the Constitution Across the Curriculum
- We the Jury: Involving Students in the Jury System
- We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution
- Project Citizen: Teaching about Public Policy-Making
- Money, Money, Money: New Currency and Fascinating Facts
- Virtual Economics: Bringing Practical Lessons to Your Classroom
- Mississippi Economics Movers and Shakers: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- The Real World at Rosa Scott School: Economics and Student Financial Literacy
- Meeting the Diversity Challenge: Hispanic Students in Mississippi Social Studies Classrooms
- Using Literacy Strategies to Enhance Your Social Studies Class
- Social Studies Update from the Mississippi Department of Education
- Professional Development Opportunities for Social Studies 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 2007 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  
Kim Este, Chair  
1066 Lake Front Drive  
Summit, MS 39666

**Questions about this application process should be e-mailed to Kim Este at [kimeste@bellsouth.net](mailto:kimeste@bellsouth.net).**

## MCSS to Welcome Syndicated Cartoonist Marshall Ramsey

Marshall Ramsey, cartoonist with *The Clarion-Ledger*, will be the highlighted speaker for the 2007 Fall Conference Opening General Session. Ramsey grew up in Marietta, Georgia. He received a scholarship to the University of Tennessee in Knoxville where he became the staff cartoonist for the university's student newspaper, *The Daily Beacon*. He won the top prize for the collegiate cartoonist, the John Locher Memorial Award. He graduated in 1991 with a degree in marketing.

As a professional cartoonist, Ramsey has received five Pulitzer

Prize nominations; was named a Pulitzer finalist in 2002; has appeared in *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, *U. S. News and World Report*, *The New York Times*,



and 450 other newspapers; and has been featured in *Editor and Publisher* magazine. Currently, he is the staff cartoonist for *The Clarion-Ledger* and is syndicated nationally by Copley News Service.

It is said that Ramsey who has lived in four states says he has found a home in Mississippi. He has published two collections of cartoons entitled *Marshall Ramsey's Greatest Hits* (2002), forward by Pat Fordice, and *10! Marshall Ramsey's Ten-Year Celebration* (2006), forward by Marsha Barbour.

Ramsey will conduct a book signing for MCSS members on Monday afternoon immediately after the opening session.

## Call for 2008 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: Marlo Hendrix, CD 2: Martha Hutson, CD 3: Vicki Vance, CD 4: Gayle Henshaw, and At-Large: James Reed. 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 15. Nominees will be notified of their candidacy status by October 1.

**Dr. Susie Burroughs**  
**MCSS Newsletter Editor**

Mississippi State University  
Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction  
Box 9705  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phone: (662) 325-7124  
Fax: (662) 325-7857  
E-mail: [susie.burroughs@msstate.edu](mailto:susie.burroughs@msstate.edu)



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

- The Dirksen Congressional Center has completed their Editorial Cartoon Collection project. The editorial cartoons and related lesson plans teach students to identify issues, analyze symbols, acknowledge the need for background knowledge, recognize stereotypes and caricatures, think critically, and appreciate the role of irony and humor. The collection may be found at <http://www.congresslink.org/cartoons/index.htm>.
- The Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI), a free civics and government resource for K-12 educators based at the University of Virginia Center for Politics, invites teachers to download dozens of lesson plans, participate in simulations, and gather information about Congress and their representatives – all for free! In addition, this fall they will be hosting their first ever Mock Constitutional Convention Poll. For two weeks at the beginning of October, students will have the opportunity to go to the YLI website and vote on Constitutional referenda issues that impact them and the future of America. Prior to voting, YLI will offer lesson plans about the issues up for debate as well as about the Constitution. Teachers can also add other issues and races to the online ballots for their students to use. Teachers can also order free stickers for their students. To learn more, visit [www.youthleadership.net](http://www.youthleadership.net).
- C-SPAN Classroom provides teachers access to an array of free non-partisan curriculum resources that can be used during the 2008 election cycle and beyond. The resources are developed by C-SPAN, a private, non-profit company created in 1979 by the cable television industry as a public service. C-SPAN provides coverage of a variety of public affairs events most notably the Congress, President and Supreme Court. A 2006 study by the Pew Research Center identified CNN, 60 Minutes and C-SPAN as the top three “most trusted sources” of news in the United States. By registering for a free C-SPAN Classroom membership teachers have access to a searchable database of video clips, student activities, teacher resources, student contests and periodic special offers like free classroom posters. Teachers are also sent a free DVD of 17 C-SPAN video clips that can be used to teach important and complex concepts in civics and government. To register, visit (<http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/Registration.aspx>).