



MCSS NEWSLETTER

MCSS FALL CONFERENCE HELD AT THE OXFORD CONFERENCE CENTER

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To begin making your plans **now** to attend this year's Fall Conference...

- Send in your pre-registration **now** and save \$10!
- Reserve your room **now** by calling the Silverstar Hotel at Pearl River Resort at 1.866.44PEARL.
- Submit a session proposal **now** to share teaching resources and strategies!
- Invite your colleagues **now** to come along!
- For more information, see the pre-registration form on page 5.

The 2008 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference was held at the Oxford Conference Center on October 16-17. The theme of the conference was *Embrace the Future*. The two-day event began on Thursday morning with an optional pre-conference clinic for members only. Hosted by the Mississippi Geographic Alliance, Martha Hutson presented a workshop entitled *The Future is Here: Teaching Geography Now!* MCSS members also enjoyed an optional pre-conference tour aboard an authentic Oxford Double Decker Bus.

The conference proper kicked off that afternoon with the General Opening Session. President Steven White welcomed the group and provided an overview of the program. A number of conference sessions provided information about social studies programs, including Representative Democracy in America, We the People, Project Citizen, Virtual Economics, and the Mississippi Heritage Trust Historic Preservation Curriculum.

Other sessions offered tips on teaching geography creatively, exploring West Africa's literary heritage, using primary sources in the history classroom, and using technology in social studies classrooms.

On Thursday evening, MCSS members were treated to a welcome reception sponsored by the Mississippi Geographic Alliance at the Downtown Oxford Inn and Suites. Mississippi author John T. Edge attended as a special guest. On Friday, plenary session keynote speakers Susan Glisson and David Molina of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation provided MCSS members with a thought provoking presentation on *Putting the Movement Back into Civil Rights Teaching*. An added bonus to the conference was a stop by the C-SPAN Presidential Campaign Bus.

During the Business Luncheon, sponsored by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education, MCSS was honored to have historian Ted Ownby, Ole Miss professor of history and Director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, serve as the keynote speaker. Other highlights of the conference included Vendor Alley, Coffee with Your District Coordinator and the announcement of the 2008 MCSS Educator of the year.

For information about the 2009 MCSS Fall Conference, contact Kim Este at kimeste@bellsouth.net.

Why What We Teach is Important

Students, and adults alike, oftentimes question the importance of the social studies. Due to misperceptions, the discipline is often seen as irrelevant. When asked why studying social studies subject matter is important, the short answer is that it prepares students to become good citizens. For a more elaborate answer, one can defer to the National Council for the Studies, which in 2001 approved the following position statement on citizenship education.

Creating Effective Citizens

The National Council for the Social Studies believes that a primary goal of public education is to prepare students to be engaged and effective citizens. NCSS has defined an effective citizen as one who has the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to assume the "office of citizen" in our democratic republic.

To accomplish this goal, every student must participate in citizenship education activities each year. These activities should expand civic knowledge, develop participation skills, and support the belief that, in a democracy, the actions of each person make a difference. Throughout the curriculum and at every grade level, students should have opportunities to apply their civic knowledge, skills, and values as they work

to solve real problems in their school, the community, our nation, and the world. These opportunities should be part of a well-planned and organized citizenship education program.

Citizenship education is as important today as at any other time in our history. Citizens in the twenty-first century must be prepared to deal with rapid change, complex local, national, and global issues, cultural and religious conflicts, and the increasing interdependence of nations in a global economy. For our democracy to survive in this challenging environment, we must educate our students to understand, respect, and uphold the values enshrined in our founding documents. Our students should leave school with a clear sense of their rights and responsibilities as citizens. They should also be prepared to challenge injustice and to promote the common good.

The National Council for the Social Studies is committed to revitalizing citizenship education in our schools and to empowering all students with a positive vision of their role as citizens in a democracy.

To learn about the characteristics of effective citizens and effective citizenship education programs, visit <http://www.socialstudies.org/positions/effectivecitizens>.



This country will not be a permanently good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a reasonably good place for all of us to live in.

Theodore Roosevelt
(1858-1919)



The souls of emperors and cobblers are cast in the same mould. The same reason that makes us wrangle with a neighbor creates a war betwixt princes.

Michel de Montaigne
(1533-1592)

And the Award Goes to...

The annual MCSS awards ceremony was held during the Business Luncheon at the Fall Conference in Oxford. The Past President Award was presented to Jennifer Nance, the 2007 MCSS President. The Jessie Palmer Social Studies Educator of the Year Award was presented to Jan Stringer of Madison. Congratulations to Jennifer and Jan on their accomplishments!

News From the National Council for the Social Studies

The 88th National Council for the Social Studies Conference was held in Houston on November 14-16. MCSS members in attendance included Susie Burroughs, Kim Este, and Chris Harth. While in Houston, MCSS President Este served as the MCSS House of Delegates representative.



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

The 2009 NCSS Conference will be

held in Atlanta on November 13-15 at the Georgia World Congress Center. The theme of the conference will be *Dreams and Deeds: the Civic Mission of Schools*.

With over 25,000 members, NCSS is the leading professional organization for social studies educators. To learn more about the annual conference and other member benefits, visit www.ncss.org.



Men build too many walls and not enough bridges.

Isaac Newton
(1642-1727)

2009 MCSS Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President: Kim Este—Summit

President Elect: Bill Patrick—Jackson

Vice President: Marlo Hendrix—Tupelo

Secretary: Bettye Chamberlain—Charleston

Treasurer: Joyce Newell—Tupelo

Past President: Steven White—Madison

Executive Director: Susie Burroughs—Ellisville

Ex Officio: Chauncey Spears —MDE Specialist

Pam Smith —MCEE Executive Director

David Rutherford—MGA Executive

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

CD 1: TBA (08-09)

James Reed (09-10)

CD 2: Sebrina Esters (08-09)

Martha Hutson (09-10)

CD 3: David Houston (08-09)

Jim Johnson (09-10)

CD 4: Angela Sanders (08-09)

Barbara Boone (09-10)

At-Large: Clay Purvis (08-09)

Whit Grace (09-10)

Call for 2010 Board of Directors Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2010 MCSS Board of Directors. To nominate yourself or someone else for consideration by the Nominating Committee as a potential candidate for the MCSS Board, submit the following information:

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

Mail this information to:

Nominating Committee

Dr. Susie Burroughs, Chair

Dept of Curriculum, Instruction, & Special Education
Box 9705

Mississippi State, MS 39762

Deadline for nominations: September 1

New and pre-service teachers, coaches, and members of diverse ethnic and racial groups are especially encouraged to consider running for a board position. For information on the responsibilities of officers and directors, please contact any member of the current BOD.

MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES
Fall 2009 Conference Call for Proposals
Conference Theme: *Dreams and Deeds - The Civic Mission of Schools*
Pearl River Resort-Choctaw, Mississippi
October 19-20, 2009

(Please type or print.)

Title of session: (10 words or less)

Abstract: Provide a description of the session (i.e., purpose and content) as you would like it to appear in the conference program. Be brief (30 words or less).

Audience: ____ elementary ____ middle ____ high school ____ college/university ____ general

Strand: ____ history ____ geography ____ civics ____ economics ____ general

Equipment needed: _____ overhead projector & screen _____ VCR & TV

Lead Presenter _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Co-Presenter _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

(If more than two presenters, attach a second page.)

Statement of Agreement to Present: Should this proposal be accepted, I agree on behalf of all presenters to conduct the session on the date and time scheduled. I understand that as presenters for the conference, we will serve on a contributing basis and **each presenter will be required to register for the conference.** I further understand that session presenters will not be reimbursed for travel expenses, equipment fees, or conference registration.

Lead Presenter's Signature _____ **Date** _____

*** **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CONFERENCE PROPOSALS: JUNE 1*****

Mail completed proposal to:
 Susie Burroughs, Ph.D.
 Department of Curriculum, Instruction, & Special Education
 Box 9705
 Mississippi State, MS 39762

**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, Mississippi

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 School High School
 College/University Pre-service Teacher Other

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

SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

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

To pre-register for the fall conference, enter **\$70.00** 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, enter **\$80** on this line _____
 (Lifetime MCSS members enter **\$55.**)

***** Please note: Conference registration includes the welcome reception, all conference sessions, the luncheon and business meeting, and membership dues for 2010.**

**Mail this form along with a check, money order, or pre-approved purchase order to:
 Joyce Newell; MCSS Treasurer; 1209 Winwood Cove; 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
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 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. Vitae

- 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@tupeloschools.com.**

Introducing Your Officers...

President Kim Este teaches at the Mississippi School of the Arts in Brookhaven. She has been an active member of MCSS since joining the teaching profession nine years ago. An avid traveler, Kim has conducted numerous sessions around the state informing teachers of fellowships, grants, and other opportunities for teacher travel. She is also a Mississippi Department of Education consultant.

President Elect Bill Patrick has been a member of MCSS for 8 years and has previously served as the Congressional District 2 Director. Certified in English and social studies, Bill taught for 15 years. Currently in retirement, he was certified to teach Advanced Placement courses in literature and social studies.

Vice President Marlo Hendrix has taught 8th Grade history and Pre-AP History for 13 years at Tupelo Middle School. In 2005 Marlo was named Mississippi Historical Society History Teacher of the Year. She has attended several workshops and seminars across the country, including the George Washington Teacher's Institute at Mount Vernon. Marlo is the yearbook advisor and cheerleader coach.

A 37-year veteran teacher and MCSS member for over 27 years, **Secretary Bettye Chamberlain** teaches history and geography at Charleston Junior High. A devoted member of MCSS, Bettye has served as the organization's secretary for over a decade.

A member of MCSS since the early 1990s, **Treasurer Joyce Newell** teaches geography and

history at Saltillo High School and Itawamba Community College. As treasurer, Joyce has the important task of overseeing the organization's fiscal matters.

Past President Steven White is involved with the Mississippi Youth Legislature and the Mayor's Youth Council. He teaches at Rosa Scott School in Madison. Steven was the recipient of the 2003 Palmer Award.

The MCSS Executive Director, Susie Burroughs, is the interim department head of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education at Mississippi State University. Susie taught social studies and social science courses at the middle, secondary, and two-year college levels prior to joining the faculty at MSU.



There are two things to aim at in life; first to get what you want, and after that to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second.

Logan Pearsall Smith
(1865-1946)



Too often I would hear men boast of the miles covered that day, rarely of what they had seen.

Louis L'Amour
(1908-1988)

2009 Calendar of Events

- April 18 : Board of Directors' Meeting
- June 1: Deadline for Conference Session Proposals
- September 1: Deadline for Palmer Award Applications
- September 15: Deadline for BOD Nominations
- October 1: Deadline for Conference Pre-Registration
- October 19-20: MCSS Annual Conference—Pearl River Resort
- November 13-15: NCSS Annual Conference—Atlanta, GA

For information about these and other MCSS/NCSS events, contact Kim Este at kimeste@bellsouth.net or Susie Burroughs at susie.burrough@msstate.edu or visit the MCSS web site at www.msstate.edu/org/mcss.

Perry Wins Laptop



Dr. Perry L. Montgomery, Pastor of the First New Hope MB Church in Grenada, was the winner of the laptop computer in the MCSS 2008 raffle. The winning ticket was sold by MCSS Secretary Bettye Chamberlain. Thanks to all who helped make our 2008 raffle a success!

Dr. Susie Burroughs
MCSS Newsletter Editor

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MISSISSIPPI
COUNCIL FOR THE
SOCIAL STUDIES,
AN AFFILIATE OF
THE NATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR THE
SOCIAL STUDIES

Visit us on the web at:
www.msstate.edu/org/mcss

F.Y.I.

- The Stock Market Game is an educational program for teachers of grades 4-12 which teaches fundamental saving and investing concepts while providing opportunities for students to practice core academic skills in real and meaningful ways. Register for the Stock Market Game at www.stockmarketgame.org or register for workshops at www.mscee.org. For more information contact Dr. Pam Smith, at 601-974-1325 or email at mscee@millsaps.edu.
- NCSS and Farmers Insurance Group are offering complementary copies of *The American Promise Teaching Guide* with accompanying video cassettes. To order The American Promise Teaching Kit, visit <http://www.farmers.com/FarmComm/AmericanPromise/index.html>.
- A two-day We the People... The Citizen and Constitution training will be held on the campus of MSU June 16-18. The training is for social studies teachers. There will be no cost for the training, and 2.0 CEU'S will be made available to interested teachers. For information on how to apply, contact Dr. Susie Burroughs at susie.burroughs@msstate.edu. Meals and lodging will be provided at no cost to the participants.
- A two-day We the People... Project Citizen training will be held on the campus of MSU June 23-25. The training will be for social studies teachers. There will be no cost for the training and CEU'S will be made available to interested teachers. For information on how to apply, contact Dr. Susie Burroughs at susie.burroughs@msstate.edu.
- Free International Travel Opportunity! The International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) is seeking applicants to participate in a fully-funded exchange program. Apply at www.irex.org by April 27, 2009. For more information, contact Anne Milazzo at tea@irex.org.
- Nominations for the Gilder-Lehrman *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year Award are due April 15. For information about the nomination process, contact Dr. Susie Burroughs at susie.burroughs@msstate.edu.