



# MCSS NEWSLETTER

## MCSS FALL CONFERENCE HELD AT THE JACKSON HILTON

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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 Oxford Inn and Suites at 1.800.606.1497. Be sure to ask for the special MCSS rate of \$79.
- Submit a session proposal **now** to share teaching resources and strategies!
- Invite your colleagues **now** to come along!

The 2007 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference was held at the Jackson Hilton on October 15-16. The theme of the conference was *Crossing Borders, Building Bridges*. The two-day event began on Monday morning with an optional pre-conference clinic for members only. Hosted by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education, the topic of the workshop was *U.S. History: Eyes on the Economy*.

The conference proper kicked off that afternoon with the General Opening Session. President Jennifer Nance welcomed the group and provided an overview of the program. Attendees were then treated to a special appearance by Marshall Ramsey. The Nobel Prize finalist and syndicated cartoonist with the Clarion-Ledger provided a humorous look at Mississippi politics as depicted in his cartoons.

A number of conference sessions provided information about social studies programs and projects, including We the Jury, We the People, Project Citizen, Virtual Economics, and Civil Rights education in Mississippi. Other sessions offered tips on teaching history creatively, meeting the new geography requirements, teaching student

financial literacy, and identifying quality professional development opportunities for social studies teachers. Chauncey Spears, MDE Social Studies Specialist, conducted a session on recent initiatives at the Department.

Hank Holmes, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, addressed the group during the Tuesday morning plenary session. His presentation focused on the history of the Archives and services it provides to the state. Attendees received a wealth of information concerning resources for classroom teachers.

During the Business Luncheon, MCSS was honored to have Mr. Johnny Franklin as the keynote speaker. Currently serving as the Education Policy Advisor to Governor Haley Barbour, Mr. Franklin shared his thoughts about education in general and social studies education specifically. Other highlights of the conference included Vendor Alley; a reception sponsored by the Mississippi Geographic Alliance; and field trips to the Natural Science Museum, Agricultural Museum, and Sports Hall of Fame.

## A Message from President White

Greetings, all! As President of the Mississippi Council for the Social Studies, I am proud to be a part of an organization that welcomes any and all social science and humanities educators. Our members are captivated by the desire to make learning in depth and real-life for students, and MCSS seeks to support its membership's efforts by providing the very best ideas and opportunities for professional development. As we continue to build bridges of understanding through civic competency and social studies knowledge, we must work together with others in our schools and districts to build relationships so that we can help all of our young people learn and grow.

The Board of Directors are hard at work making plans for this year's Fall Conference, and I hope you will make plans to attend! The Conference will be held on October 16-17 at the Oxford Conference Center. The conference hotel will be the Downtown Inn and Suites. A block of rooms has been reserved with a special rate of \$79. To receive this reduced rate, you must make your reser-

vation before September 15. Mark your calendar now and invite a colleague to attend!

This year's conference theme will be *Embrace the Future*. With a goal of enhancing social studies curriculum and instruction, the conference will provide members a variety of concurrent and plenary sessions. Other conference highlights will include a welcome reception and Vendor Alley. Field trips will be made available to attendees, including a tour on a double-decker red bus that will provide members a unique perspective of historic Oxford. Local attractions that members will have the opportunity to visit will include Rowan Oak, home of Mississippi writer William Faulkner; the campus of Ole Miss; and the historic Oxford Square.

If you have suggestions for or questions about this year's conference, contact me at [swhite@madison-schools.com](mailto:swhite@madison-schools.com) or [srwhite38@hotmail.com](mailto:srwhite38@hotmail.com). I am here to serve you, and working together I know we will make 2008 a great year for social studies education in Mississippi!

*Steven White*



*Underground nuclear testing,  
defoliation of the rain forests,  
toxic waste ...  
Let's put it this way: if the world  
were a big apartment,  
we wouldn't get our  
deposit back.*

John Ross  
(?-?)



*I would rather try  
to persuade a man  
to go along,  
because once I  
have persuaded  
him he will stick. If  
I scare him, he will  
stay just as long as  
he is scared, and  
then he is gone.*

Dwight D.  
Eisenhower,  
(1890-1969)

## *And the Award Goes to...*

The annual awards ceremony was held during the Business Luncheon at the Fall Conference in Jackson. The Past President Award was presented to Wendy Tucker, the 2006 MCSS President. The Jessie Palmer Social Studies Educator of the Year Award was presented to Annie Pearl Mathews of Louisville. Congratulations to Wendy and Annie Pearl on their accomplishments!

## News From the National Council for the Social Studies

The 87th National Council for the Social Studies conference was held in San Diego on November 29-December 2. MCSS members in attendance included Susie Burroughs, David Rutherford, Jan Stringer, and Steven White. While in San Diego, Burroughs, Rutherford, and White served as the MCSS House of Delegate representatives.



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

The 2008 NCSS Conference will be held in Houston on November 14-16 at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The theme of the conference will be *Embrace the Future*. 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](http://www.ncss.org).



*It is not life  
and wealth  
and power that  
enslave men,  
but the cleaving  
to life and wealth  
and power.*

Buddha  
(c. 563-483 BCE)

## 2008 MCSS Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

*President:* Steven White—Brandon  
*President Elect:* Kim Este—Summit  
*Vice President:* Bill Patrick—Jackson  
*Secretary:* Bettye Chamberlain—Charleston  
*Treasurer:* Joyce Newell—Tupelo  
*Past President:* Jennifer Nance—Clinton  
*Executive Director:* Susie Burroughs—Ellisville  
*Ex Officio:* MDE Specialist—Chauncey Spears

### DISTRICT DIRECTORS

*CD 1:* Marlo Hendrix—Tupelo (07-08)  
Tim Carter (08-09)  
*CD 2:* Martha Hutson—Clinton (07-08)  
Sabrina Evers (08-09)  
*CD 3:* Jim Johnson (07-08)  
David Houston (08-09)  
*CD 4:* Gayle Henshaw (07-08)  
Angela Sanders (08-09)  
*At-Large:* James Reed (07-08)  
Clay Purvis (08-09)

## Call for 2009 Board of Directors Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2009 MCSS Board of Directors. To nominate yourself or someone else to be considered 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 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  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction - Box 9705  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

**Deadline for nominations: September 15**

*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 2008 Conference Call for Proposals**  
**Conference Theme: *Embrace the Future***  
**Oxford Convention Center – Oxford**  
**October 16-17, 2008**

(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/junior high \_\_\_\_\_ high school \_\_\_\_\_ 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 and Instruction—Box 9705  
 Mississippi State, MS 39762

Lead presenters will be notified (via e-mail) by September 1 concerning acceptance status of proposals submitted.

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Conference Theme: *Embrace the Future*  
**Oxford Convention Center — Oxford**  
**October 16-17, 2008**

(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

**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 and non-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 and non-members enter \$75 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 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 2007 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  
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 2008 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  
Bill Patrick, Chair  
228 Melbourne  
Jackson, MS 39206

**Questions about this application process should be e-mailed  
to Bill Patrick at [BOLEP02@aol.com](mailto:BOLEP02@aol.com).**

## Introducing Your Officers...

Having served as both a CD 3 Director and as the MCSS Vice President and President Elect, **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 TOY Award.

**President Elect 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 eight 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 an MDE consultant.

Elected as **Vice President** for 2008, Bill Patrick has been a member of MCSS for six years and served as the CD 2 Director. Certified in English and social studies, Bill taught for 15 years. He was certified to teach Advanced Placement courses in literature and social studies. He retired last October.

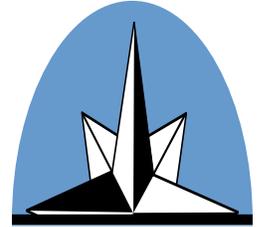
A 36-year veteran teacher and MCSS member for over 26 years, **Secretary Bettye Chamberlain** teaches history and geography at Charleston Junior High. A devoted member, Bettye has served as the organization's secretary for over a decade.

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 Jennifer Nance** teaches high school social studies at Clinton High. The 2004 winner of the Palmer Award, Jennifer has served on the MCSS Board for seven years.

**The MCSS Executive Director, Susie Burroughs**, is an Associate Professor of Education at MSU. Susie taught social studies and social science courses at the middle, secondary, and two-year college levels prior to joining the faculty at MSU. She is an active member in both MCSS and NCSS.



*Cowardice asks the question, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question, 'Is it politic?' Vanity asks the question, 'Is it popular?' But, conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
(1929-1968)

## 2008 Calendar of Events

April 5: Board of Directors' Meeting—Madison  
June 1: Deadline for Conference Session Proposals  
September 1: Deadline for Palmer Award Applications  
September 15: Deadline for BOD Nominations  
September 15: Deadline to receive the MCSS rate at the Oxford Inn  
October 1: Deadline for Conference Pre-Registration  
October 16 -17: MCSS Annual Conference—Oxford  
November 14 -16: NCSS Annual Conference—Houston

**For information about these and other MCSS/NCSS events, contact Steven White or Susie Burroughs or visit the MCSS web site at [www.msstate.edu/org/mcss](http://www.msstate.edu/org/mcss).**



*Be a lamp,  
or a lifeboat,  
or a ladder.  
Help someone's  
soul heal.  
Walk out of  
your house  
like a shepherd.*

Jalaluddin Rumi  
(1207-1273)

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

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Mississippi State, MS 39762

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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](http://www.msstate.edu/org/mcss)***

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

- Mississippi State University will be the site of an international Democracy Camp for Teacher on July 13-18. There will be no cost to attend the Camp and CEU's will be made available to interested teachers. Teachers who are interested in applying for the Camp should contact Dr. Susie Burroughs.
- The Institute of International Education application for the 2008 Toyota International Teacher Program to the Galapagos Islands is now available online at [www.iie.org/toyota](http://www.iie.org/toyota). This is a unique professional development program for teachers in grades 6–12 and Library Media Specialists. The deadline for application is May 9.
- A two-day We the People... The Citizen and Constitution training will be held on the campus of MSU the third week of June. The training will be for social studies teachers of grades 5, 8, and 12. 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.
- A two-day We the People... Project Citizen training will be held on the campus of MSU the third week of June. The training will be for social studies teachers of grades 5-8 and teachers of the grade 9 Mississippi Studies course. 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.
- The Youth Leadership Initiative at the University of Virginia Center for Politics is offering free materials to educators. All teachers who register with YLI receive a campaign simulation CD-ROM called "A More Perfect Union" in which students run a fictitious senate race. To learn about other YLI resources for teachers and the 2008 YLI Mock Election, visit [www.youthleadership.net/](http://www.youthleadership.net/).
- The Gilder Lehrman Institute's fourteenth issue of HISTORY NOW, a quarterly online journal for history teachers and students, is now available at [www.historynow.org](http://www.historynow.org). In this issue, scholars and teachers explore the years during World War II and their aftermath. Past issues of the journal are also available on the web site.