



# MCSS NEWSLETTER

## MCSS FALL CONFERENCE HELD AT PEARL RIVER RESORT

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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!
- Pre-register to obtain your MCSS group discount number for the Drury Inn & Suites in Meridian
- 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 2009 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference was held at Pearl River Resort on October 19-20. The theme of the conference was *Embrace the Future*. The two-day event began on Monday morning with an optional pre-conference clinic entitled *Mississippi Teachers On the Road Again - True Experiential Learning*. The workshop featured thirteen past participants of the Mississippi Studies Summer Institute, who shared lesson plans, resources, and their experiences at the institute. Other MCSS members enjoyed an optional pre-conference Civil Rights Driving Tour to notable locations in Neshoba County, in tribute to the local heroes of the Civil Rights movement.

The conference proper kicked off Monday afternoon with the General Opening Session. President Kim Este 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 Strange Things in Geography. Other sessions offered tips on teaching geography creatively, teaching U.S. history through the Presidents, and using tech-

nology in social studies classrooms.

On Monday evening, MCSS members were treated to a welcome reception sponsored by the Mississippi Geographic Alliance, with Mississippi author Neil White attending as a special guest. On Tuesday, plenary session keynote speaker Melanie Auth of the Close Up Foundation provided MCSS members with a thought provoking presentation on *The Close Up Experience - Democracy in Action*. During the Business Luncheon, members enjoyed an abundant spread of Southern favorites. MCSS was honored to have Phil Hardwick, the Coordinator of Capacity Development at the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University as the keynote speaker. Other highlights of the conference included Vendor Alley, Coffee with Your District Coordinator and the announcement of the 2009 Jesse Palmer Social Studies Educator of the year Christy Walker.

Contact MCSS President Bill Patrick at [bolep02@aol.com](mailto:bolep02@aol.com) for information on the 2010 MCSS Fall Conference, or visit the website at [www.msstate.edu/org/mcss](http://www.msstate.edu/org/mcss)

## Ponderings from the President

### Motto

“Fold, Spindle and Mutilate,” for those of you who are too young to remember, applied to punch cards utilized with our first generation of computers. Cards that did not conform to the norm were ejected from the machine. MCSS has followed the same traditions and customs and conformed to the norm for a lot of years and our membership growth has plateaued—see, even as I coin a new term, the computer redlines it. It’s time to do something different, to think outside the box.

### Membership

The Board requests that you pay your 2010 dues (student/retired \$15/Active \$25) at this time. This entitles you to the hotel reservation number and the MCSS special rate. Conference fee may be paid later.

### Meridian

The 2010 Conference will be held in Meridian on October 14-15 (Thur.-Fri.). This coincides with the city’s sesquicentennial and we have been able to schedule some unique and exciting events otherwise not normally available. Stay tuned to our **Facebook** page as details are announced.

### Facebook

Members, please join the MCSS Facebook page. Encourage all Social Studies, Geography, Government, Economics, and other interested teachers to join. It’s free.

### Hotel

We have reached agreement with the Drury Inn and Suites for a special room rate. The Drury also offers such amenities as free drinks and food during happy hour. Just send Joyce Newell your check for dues to receive your reservation number.

### Riley Center

We were fortunate to procure the use of Mississippi State University’s Historic **Riley Center** for our conference. The recently restored “Grand Opera Stage” was one of only four in the country with that designation.

### en passant

The stage is set! It only needs you to complete the picture. I once read a book entitled The Seven Last Words of the Church: “We Never Did It That Way Before!” Let’s not allow that to happen to MCSS. *It’s time to color outside the lines. Let’s “fold, spindle and mutilate” and do what it takes to make the Meridian Conference one to remember.* In keeping with the NCSS theme *Vistas, Visions, & Voices, MCSS 2010 Conference will offer::*

- 1) *VISTAS not yet explored*
- 2) *VISIONS of 200 attendees*
- 3) *VOICES from the past*

See You in Meridian!

THINK 200!



*If people are good only because they fear punishment, and hope for reward, then we are a sorry lot indeed.*

Albert Einstein  
(1879-1955)



*True teachers are those who use themselves as bridges over which they invite their students to cross; then, having facilitated their crossing, joyfully collapse, encouraging them to create their own.*

Nikos Kazantzakis  
(1883-1957)

## And the Award Goes to...

The annual MCSS awards ceremony was held during the Business Luncheon at the Fall Conference in Choctaw. The Past President Award was presented to Steven White, the 2008 MCSS President. The Jesse Palmer Social Studies Educator of the Year Award was presented to Christy Walker of Madison Central. Congratulations to Steven and Christy on their accomplishments!

## News From the National Council for the Social Studies

The 89th National Council for the Social Studies Conference was held in Atlanta on November 13-15. MCSS members in attendance included Susie Burroughs, Bill Patrick and Whit Grace. While in Atlanta, MCSS President Patrick served as the MCSS House of Delegates representative.



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

The 2010 NCSS Conference will be

held in Denver on November 12-14 at the Colorado Convention Center. The theme of the conference will be *Vistas, Visions, & Voices*.

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).



*Just think of the tragedy of teaching children not to doubt.*

Clarence Darrow  
(1857-1938)

### 2010 MCSS Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS

*President:* Bill Patrick—Jackson

*President Elect:* Marlo Hendrix—Tupelo

*Vice President:* Clay Purvis—Morton

*Secretary:* Bettye Chamberlain—Charleston

*Treasurer:* Joyce Newell—Tupelo

*Past President:* Kim Este—New Orleans

*Executive Director:* Susie Burroughs—Ellisville

*Ex Officio:* Chauncey Spears—MDE Specialist  
Pam Smith—MCEE Executive Director  
David Rutherford—MGA Executive

#### DISTRICT DIRECTORS

*CD 1:* Judy Doolittle (10-11)

James Reed (09-10)

*CD 2:* Sarah Dickerson (10-11)

Martha Hutson (09-10)

*CD 3:* David Houston (10-11)

Jim Johnson (09-10)

*CD 4:* Cathy Lee (10-11)

Barbara Boone (09-10)

*At-Large:* Sebrina Esters (10-11)

Whit Grace (09-10)

### Call for 2011 Board of Directors Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2011 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

Bill Patrick, Chair

228 Melbourne Rd  
Jackson MS 39206

#### 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 2010 Conference Call for Proposals**  
**Conference Theme: *Vistas, Visions & Voices***  
**MSU Riley Center Meridian MS**  
**Thursday & Friday—October 14-15, 2010**

(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:  
**Bill Patrick**  
**228 Melbourne Rd**  
**Jackson MS 39206**

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



**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 2010 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  
Clay Purvis, Chair  
Morton High School  
238 East 4th Ave  
Morton, MS 39117**

**Questions about this application process should be e-mailed  
to Clay Purvis at [cpurvis@scott.k12.ms.us](mailto:cpurvis@scott.k12.ms.us).**

## Introducing Your Officers...

**President** Bill Patrick has been a member of MCSS for 8 years and has previously served as the Congressional District 2 Director. Currently in retirement, Bill taught social studies for 15 years.

**President Elect 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. Marlo is the yearbook advisor and cheerleader coach.

**Vice President Clay Purvis** is the Assistant Principal at Morton High School

and will become Principal beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. The married father of 3 has been at Morton High for 9 years, teaching social studies for 8 of those years.

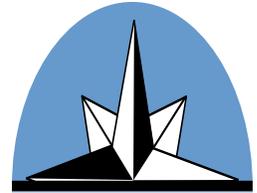
A 37-year veteran teacher and MCSS member for over 27 years, **Secretary Bettye Chamberlain** teaches history and geography at Charleston Junior High. Bettye has served as the organization's secretary for over a decade.

A member of MCSS since the 1990s, **Treasurer Joyce Newell** teaches geography and history at Saltillo High School and Itawamba Com-

munity College.

**Past President Kim Este** is Director of Auxiliary Programs at Trinity Episcopal School in New Orleans. She has been an active member of MCSS since joining the teaching profession.

**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 in the College of Education at MSU.



*Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake. Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way.*

Martin Luther King Jr  
(1929-1968)

## 2010 Calendar of Events

- May 1 : 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 14-15: MCSS Annual Conference—MSU Riley Center, Meridian
- November 12-14: NCSS Annual Conference—Denver, CO

**For information about these and other MCSS/NCSS events, contact Bill Patrick at [bolep02@aol.com](mailto:bolep02@aol.com) or Susie Burroughs at [susie.burrough@msstate.edu](mailto:susie.burrough@msstate.edu) or visit the MCSS web site at [www.msstate.edu/org/mcss](http://www.msstate.edu/org/mcss)**

## MCSS on Facebook



Check out our new MCSS Facebook page for up to the minute information on our organization and the upcoming Fall Conference. Our Facebook page will provide an important networking opportunity for social studies educators around the state, a place where you can post your ideas and tips for effectively teaching social studies content. The on-line forum is a great place to start a conversation among other teaching professionals about what does and does not work in the classroom. But remember, the site is only as good as we make it! So go on-line today and join the conversation. Share lesson plans and ideas for powerful, authentic social studies education. Share your passion with dedicated professionals just like you. We look forward to hearing what you have to say!

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

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

- Enhance economics education in your classroom! Register for the Stock Market Game at [www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org) or register for workshops at [www.mscee.org](http://www.mscee.org). For more information contact Dr. Pam Smith at 601-974-1325 or email her at [mscee@millsaps.edu](mailto:mscee@millsaps.edu).
- The Mississippi Geographic Alliance is offering a FREE two-day GeoRetreat April 30-May 1 at Henry Jones Camp in Utica, Miss. Room and board is included and a \$25 travel stipend is available for the first 50 applicants. For more information, call 662-915-3776 or e-mail [mga@olemiss.edu](mailto:mga@olemiss.edu)
- A 3-day We the People... The Citizen and Constitution training will be held on the campus of MSU June 15-17. 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](mailto:susie.burroughs@msstate.edu). Meals and lodging will be provided at no cost to the participants.
- A 3-day We the People... Project Citizen training will be held on the campus of MSU June 8-10. 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](mailto:susie.burroughs@msstate.edu). Meals and lodging will be provided at no cost to the participants.
- MGA is sponsoring a FREE one-day workshop entitled *Improving Literacy Scores With Geography* at EMCED, Inc in Meridian, Miss. Learn about the wonderful world of geography and its cross-curricular applications! Register at [www.emced.org](http://www.emced.org)
- MGA is offering a FREE Pre-Service Workshop September 10-11 at the Summit Conference Center in Tupelo, Miss. Learn the basics of geography, its importance to K-12 education, and how to integrate it across curriculum in hands-on workshops. Room and board is included. For more information, call 662-915-3776 or e-mail [mga@olemiss.edu](mailto:mga@olemiss.edu)