

Tishomingo County Archives & Historical Society

Tishomingo Archives & History Museum

2003-2004 Annual Report

December 2003

Nelson met with city officials at Iuka City Hall on December 8th to introduce to Tishomingo County Archives and History Museum. Keys were relinquished to Nelson on the 12th. Nelson began clean up activities at the courthouse. Inmates were used on Saturdays for clean up activities. Private donation was received for the purpose of setting up the gift shop and the library. Shelves were ordered for the library and additional locks were placed on doors. Fire and theft alarm contract was secured and file drawers were requested from county storage. Cindy Gardner from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History visited the courthouse to hear Nelson's proposal and offer key contacts for the department and surrounding area.

January 2004

Callie Daniel began working as a student employee on January 6th. Interviews for a secretary were conducted from January 8th till 16th. Connie Murray was selected. Connie began work on the 20th at \$6.00 per hour, Wednesday to Friday, for a total of 24 hours per week until further notice. Cindy Nelson continued with clean up and inmates were used on Saturdays. Friends of the Archives meeting was held to announce plans for the courthouse and solicit ideas and helpers. Jessie Williams signed on as student volunteer.

February 2004

Clean up activities by were continued by Nelson and inmates. George Pearson signed up to volunteer 20 hours per week. Nelson met with Belmont city officials on February 3rd. A temporary start up board was established. Planned press released began advertising March 6th open house. Friends of the Archives meeting was held to plan open house activities. Jessie and Lisa Williams assisted with developing educational programs to be taught to school age students and adults.

March 2004

Nelson met with Burnsville city officials on March 2nd. Educational seminars began in the Mississippi room on March 6th. Three classes were offered on this. Ruth Dawson assisted with these classes. Local Retired Teachers Association met at the courthouse, Brenda Whitfield was in charge of program. Nelson was key note speaker for the NARFE meeting in Corinth on March 18th. Ten students from the 7th Day Advent School attended a workshop Women's History in Mississippi on March 30th. Lisa and Jessie Williams conducted the class. Weekly columns began in two local papers; Historically Speaking in the Daily Corinthian and Southern Corner Stones in the Tishomingo County News. Connie began working 40 hours per week, Lisa Williams was hired as a replacement for Connie in her absence.

April 2004

Chief Tishomingo DAR met at the courthouse on Sunday, April 4th. Educational programs on Chief Tishomingo and the Chickasaws were conducted by the Williams. Alcorn Central Special Ed met on the 8th. The 7th Day Advent School attended on the 13th. First Baptist Kindergarten of Corinth was here on the 14th and again on the 15th. Eagle Home School Association met on the 16th. The Williams traveled to Tupelo on behalf of Nelson and the Courthouse to a live WTVA broadcast in promotion of the educational

programs. Nelson was keynote speaker for the Iuka Pilot Club at the Iuka Public Library on April 12th. Eight local cub scouts toured the courthouse on the 24th. Cindy Grubbs was employed to replace Murray.

May 2004

Cindy began work on the 1st at \$6.00 per hour for 40 hours per week. Daniels accepted full time employment at the local bank. Grubbs, believing she could manage the work of the two part time workers (Williams and Daniels), did not recommend replacements. In return, her salary was increased to \$7.00 per hour for 40 hours per week.

June 2004

Weekly staff meetings began.

July 2004

Mission Quilters presented TCHGS with a handmade string quilt to use as a raffle fund raiser. The Nelson Family reunion was hosted at the courthouse as a trial to see if the facility could accommodate this type of activity. Thirty-five people were in attendance. The multi-purpose room was set up for food and gathering and the adjoining area was used for a meeting location.

August 2004

Nelson, Pearson and Grubbs met with the Board of Supervisors on the 2nd for a budget review meeting. Election of new officers took place on August 10th. The new board will begin meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm. The following elections were made: Cindy Nelson, President, Executive Director and Treasurer; Greg Woodruff, Vice-President and Ways-N-Means Chairman; Brenda Whitfield, Historic Preservation and Research Chairman; RaNae Vaughn, Membership and Public Relations Chairman; Cindy Grubbs, Secretary to the Board.

September 2004

Nelson and Pearson met with the City of Iuka officials on September 7th. The official grand opening was held on September 10th and 11th with an estimated 650? People in attendance. The first annual Iuka Battlefield Reunion was held on the 10th and 11th with a candle lighting ceremony taking place on the evening of the 11th. Nelson attended the Mississippi Hills Alliance Meeting at Blue Mountain College. (CG WHEN DID YOU ATTEND THE FIRST MEETING)? Walt Grayson from Jackson, Mississippi visited the courthouse on the 24th. The Museum Committee held its first official meeting on the 28th with Greg Woodruff as chair.

October 2004

Nelson met with Lisa Stevens of the Mississippi Economic Development Foundation on October 1st to review ongoing grant search and possible funding avenues. Pearson, Woodruff and Nelson sponsored a Tiger Cub Scout. The Museum Committee met on the 7th. The Research Team met on the 7th for their first team meeting.

November 2004

Grubbs and Nelson sponsored a two day yard sale on the 5th and 6th to raise funds to purchase Christmas decorations for the courthouse. The publications committee kicked off a new "Veteran's Project". Sue Perry began volunteering as Educational Coordinator. Nelson and Perry met with the Tishomingo County High School students on April 12th to kick off future plans for Courthouse Trial Re-Enactments. Pearson reported that he now has 150 items inventoried in Past Perfect. Kristy Watson began volunteer service to assist her with a school scholarship. Watson was later added as a part-time student worker. Pearson resigned from volunteer service.

December 2004

First annual Christmas at the Courthouse was celebrated on the 3rd. The Magnolia Dulcimer Club entertained the visitors free of charge. Chief Tishomingo Chapter DAR met at the courthouse on the 12th. Stephanie Marlar was added as volunteer Research Assistant and will be employed to work as a replacement for Grubbs when needed.