

Preserving Old History . . . Making New History

2008 Annual Report

Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum



The mission of the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret artifacts that relate to the life and accomplishments of Tishomingo County with emphasis on the period from 1888 to 1971.

The John Marshall Stone Research Library housed in the Museum serves as an archival depository to collect, preserve, index, and make records of the history of Tishomingo County, Mississippi, available to researchers.

P.O. Box 273, 203 E. Quitman Street
Iuka, Mississippi 38852
Tel.: (662) 423-3500

E-mail: tcarchives@nadata.net or tishomingocountymuseum@yahoo.com



Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum

Division of Tishomingo County Historical & Genealogical Society
203 East Quitman Street, P.O. Box 273, Iuka, Mississippi 38852

(662) 423-3500
www.rootsweb.com/~mstchgs/

July 7, 2008

Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors
1008 Battleground Drive
Iuka, Mississippi 38852

Re: 2008 Annual Report

By any measure, it has been an extraordinary year for the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum. This year may most fittingly be described as “a year of firsts” for the Museum. Some of the “firsts” include:

- Two Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation grants were awarded to the historic courthouse facility to aid in its renovation and restoration;
- The Museum was awarded the 2008 Frank E. Everett Award for outstanding contributions to the preservation and interpretation of Mississippi history;
- A monetary donation was received from TVA’s Community Connections grant program;
- The Museum was chosen to participate in the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) to identify the Museum’s conservation needs;
- The Museum had its first-ever African-American program;
- A memorial scholarship was awarded in honor of a County citizen killed in action in Iraq;
- The Museum received an impressive donation of personal papers from the late Senator Cecil Lamar Sumners’ estate; and
- Jan Anglin, Executive Director, meet with Mr. Mingo Tingle with the Mississippi Department of Archives & History to discuss the courthouse renovation.

The Museum anticipates many more “firsts” and looks to the County’s continued support as staff and volunteers preserve our County’s history and create a remarkable learning environment for young children, their families, and their communities.

If the Museum’s members, supporters, and visitors expected progress to slow down as the renovation project proceeded, they were more than pleasantly surprised by everything the staff and volunteers were able to accomplish while still operating under what can only be described as difficult circumstances. The Museum is typically open to the public four days a week due to budgeting restrictions; however, construction workers require entry into the Museum six days a week. It has been necessary for staff and volunteers to open the Museum early for workers and stay late many evenings. Although the closed sign is displayed on the Museum door, many brave individuals continue to visit. Museum staff and volunteers always accommodate any visitor, even assisting in library research and tours of the facility. This proves that attendance will continue to soar if the courthouse museum is open six days a week.

Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors
Page 2
July 7, 2008

The Museum also, much to the delight of the community, continues to share some of the great strengths of our collection through its displays. The strength of the Museum's collection and all it enables us to do is something staff and volunteers do not take for granted. It represents the cumulative efforts of dedicated staff, volunteers, and directors and, even more significant, the sustained commitment of a community of citizens who have understood the value of acquiring, retaining, and sharing their antiquities and history with the public. We continue to honor that commitment today through the focused development of a collection that is proudly displayed and remains our single most important resource.

Finally, the courthouse museum has continued to build for the future. Although the most important story of this year is undoubtedly the continuing progress of the facility's renovation, none of this would be possible without the support of our members, our many generous donors, and the enlightened leadership of our Board of Directors. To all of them, we owe our deepest thanks.

Therefore, the Tishomingo County Historical & Genealogical Society (TCHGS) is pleased to submit the following report for its 2008-2009 operation of the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum (TCAHM) housed in the historic County courthouse. This report includes the 2008 budget, exhibiting expenses through the month of June with budget comparisons, the income statement through July, an outline of scheduled events for 2008, and a summary of future plans. We hope you will look at our progress with the same pride we share.

Respectively submitted,

Jan M. Anglin
Executive Director
Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum

Table of Contents

Highlights & Accomplishments	5
Publications	6
Events & Programs	7
Tourism within County	8
Visitor Statistics	9
Staff & Volunteer Development	10
Financials	12
Board of Directors	13
Photographs – Grant	14
Photographs – Events	16
Budget report	17

Highlights & Accomplishments

The Museum has attained innumerable accomplishments during the year. Some of these are:

- ✓ The Museum was awarded the 2008 Frank E. Everett Award for outstanding contributions to the preservation and interpretation of Mississippi history by the Mississippi Historical Society.
- ✓ The Museum was selected as a recipient of the Institute of Museum and Library Services's *IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a key component of *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action* during the first round of competition. The donated Bookshelf is a crucial and permanent collection of books and resources to assist the old courthouse museum in providing the optimal environment and care of its historic collections.
- ✓ The Museum received a monetary donation of \$750 from TVA's Community Connections grant program.
- ✓ Two Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation grants were awarded to the historic courthouse facility. The first grant CHPG#2006-027 — Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation Round V grant, allocated under the provisions of House Bill No. 1634, Laws of Mississippi, 2006 — awarded \$35,000 to replace broken roof tile, re-tar roof area on the annex wing, remove and replace gutters with leaf guards, install caps over chimneys to assist in keeping bats away, assist in the reparation/replacement of end vents, and replacement of fascia and soffits as needed. The second grant CHPG#2007-016 — Mississippi Community Heritage Preservation Round VI grant, allocated under the provisions of Senate Bill No. 3190, Laws of Mississippi, 2007 — awarded the County \$55,000 for the restoration of the structure of the building.
- ✓ The Museum was chosen to participate in the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP), supported through a cooperative agreement with the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. CAP assists museums by providing funds for professional conservation and preservation specialists to identify the conservation needs of their collections and historic building.
- ✓ The Museum received the prestigious Risk Management Evaluation grant. This Federal grant funds a team of inspectors to assess safety risks at the facility. The Museum was one of five grantees within the State of Mississippi and one of 15 within the nation.
- ✓ From August 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, the Museum welcomed more than 156 visitors; over 50 percent of whom came from around the State of Mississippi.
- ✓ This year, 52 volunteers contributed more than 12,000 hours of volunteer service to the Museum's programs, special events, and educational activities.
- ✓ The Museum's gift shop was named Woodall Mountain Market to bring attention to the fact that Tishomingo County boasts the highest point in Mississippi at 806 ft. above sea level. For the first time, the Woodall Mountain Market offers its unique selection of products in an on-line gift shop.
- ✓ More than 500 school children toured the Museum's exhibits, including Boy Scout troops and Girl Scout troops, to learn about their heritage.
- ✓ The Museum received an impressive donation from the late Senator Cecil Lamar Sumners' estate, including photographs, scrapbooks, and an unpublished book.

- ✓ The Museum's first-ever African-American program debuted in February 2008 in tandem with Black History Month.
- ✓ Students from Mr. James Monroe's class in History volunteer at the courthouse museum.
- ✓ The Tishomingo County High School is offering its first County history class. Mrs. Sheila Thorne is the assigned instructor, and she is working with the history museum to assist her in developing the curriculum for the class.
- ✓ Mrs. Jan Anglin, Executive Director, of the Museum now holds a prestigious seat on the Mississippi Museum Board.
- ✓ Mrs. Jan Anglin participated in an 8-day museum management class at Jekyll Island, Georgia. The 8 days of intensive training were paid for with a \$500 scholarship from SEMC and a grant from Tri-State Educational Foundation for travel expenses. This class was attended by 19 other museum professionals from all over the country.
- ✓ The Sgt. Jason Vaughn Memorial Scholarship was established to commemorate the first (and only) Tishomingo County resident lost in combat during Iraqi Operation Enduring Freedom.
- ✓ Museum personnel have assisted Angela Deaton of Belmont in trying to identify the individual buried under her grandmother's house, including how to handle the situation.
- ✓ Contributed greatly to Holcut's anniversary in 2007, including recording the event.

Publications

Many publications were transcribed and compiled during the year by volunteer staff to sell through the Museum's gift shop and generate funds for the facility. These items include:

- ✓ An index was created for the BLO Land Book (Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Record). This document is invaluable to the County; it contains land patents sold at the Pontotoc Land Office in old Tishomingo County, which includes Ranges 6 East to 11 East, and Townships 1 South to 6 South. Therefore, some land patent records are listed as being in Alcorn and Prentiss Counties. Tishomingo County's portion of Township 7 South is included.
- ✓ Museum staff created new and improved covers for the publications that are advertised on the Internet.
- ✓ Volunteer transcriptionists are currently working on obituaries, newspaper clippings of importance, customs in rural Northeast Mississippi at the turn of the century, and various other documents.
- ✓ Census booklets covering the 1837 and 1845 Census and the 1860 Agricultural Census.
- ✓ School records covering 1894 Educable School Children, 1908 Educable School Children, 1912 Educable School Children, 1929 Educable School Children, and 1931 Educable School Children.
- ✓ Funeral records covering the 1929-38 Cutshall Funeral Home records and the 1976-79 Cutshall Funeral Home records.
- ✓ A recipe book depicting recipes from the 1920s to the 1940s.
- ✓ A document listing Civil War pension applications on CD.
- ✓ A booklet compiled on Dr. Claude C. Cromeans, one of Tishomingo County's beloved physicians.

- ✓ WPA’s source material for Mississippi history — “100 Years with Old Tishomingo County Physicians, 1836-1936.”
- ✓ A \$150 scholarship each to Tishomingo County High School and Belmont High School in honor of Jason Walter Vaughn, an Army veteran killed in action in Iraq.

Events & Programs

The Tishomingo County Historical & Genealogical Society, a volunteer organization, continues to strive to preserve, protect, and share the heritage of different areas and aspects of the County with minimal funding. The museum’s hours of operation have been maintained at 28 hours per week; however, the executive director continues to work approximately 40 hours per week on site and volunteers a large amount of time offsite. Additionally, the executive director and librarian donate approximately 388 hours each month in order to maintain the administrative needs of the facility. A recent seminar for volunteers stated that the value of a volunteer hour is \$18.47. Calculating the volunteer hours donated to the County’s historical museum with the stated value, an amount of \$74,397.16 has been donated in time to the County from January to June of this year. In 2007, a total of 10,853.75 hours were volunteered; this calculates to be \$200,468.76. The amount of time and energy donated to the historical courthouse demonstrates pride in the County’s heritage. This organization is an integral part of the County’s tourism.

The events schedule for 2008 is listed below. Most of these events are staffed by volunteers that simply desire this County’s heritage to prevail. In addition, events and programs are continuously reviewed in an effort to offer better and more worthwhile programs. The Society and its historical museum provide value to all of the County’s communities by preserving everyone’s heritage, not to mention the educational aspects of the museum and activities for residents and visitors. The Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum benefits everyone, with increased commerce and goodwill. The facility is a source of pride for the community, and is a local landmark structure in need of continual preservation.

2008 Event Calendar

Date	Activity
January 21-30	Jan Anglin attended SEMC Jekyll Island Management Institute training
February	<i>Chronicles & Epitaphs</i> published
February 2	“African American Genealogy Workshop” presented by Mr. Earnest E. Lacey of Oakland, Tenn.
February 9-12 Sat. p.m. — Tues.	Mississippi Museum Association Meeting in Vicksburg
February 14	Society meeting, 6 p.m. Lee Freeman, speaker from Lauderdale Co. Library; “Servants of Gray: Black Confederates”
February 21	Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m.
April 9	Jan Anglin spoke to the Iuka Rotary about the Museum.

Date	Activity
April 10	Society meeting, 6 p.m. Program by Mr. Clayton Stewart, United Laboratories, on "How to Clean Tombstones"
April 27-28	Mississippi Federation meeting in Jackson
May	<i>Chronicles & Epitaphs</i> published; National Museum month
May 15	Board meeting, 6 p.m.
May 18	International Museum Day
May 31	2nd Annual Family History Fair was held at the Tishomingo County High School on Highway 72 West in Iuka
June	Camp Courthouse, Ages 6-9 Great Outdoors month ; Flag Day Program
June 12	Society meeting, 6 p.m.; "Genealogy Dig"
June 24	Museum Come to Life Day
July	Camp Courthouse, Ages 10-13
August	<i>Chronicles & Epitaphs</i> published
August 14	Society meeting, 6 p.m.
August 21	Board meeting, 6 p.m.
September 10	Swap Ideas Day
October	National Family History month
October 9	Society meeting, 6 p.m.
October 13	American Indian Heritage Day/Fraternal Day
October 14-18	2008 SEMC Annual Meeting, Birmingham, Ala.
November	<i>Chronicles & Epitaphs</i> published
November 11	Veterans Day
November 20	Board meeting, 6 p.m.
December	Christmas at the Courthouse (in conjunction with Iuka's Christmas Parade)
December 11	Society meeting, 6 p.m. (Christmas social; date is flexible)

Tourism within County

Interest in history and genealogy is North America's fastest growing hobby. A 2000 Maritz Marketing Research poll found that up to 60 percent of the American population is interested in their family history. Just within the State of Mississippi, historical societies grew from 177 in 2006 to 193 in 2007. Visitors at the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum reflect this interest. On several occasions, Museum personnel met with visitors from out of town on days that the Museum was not open to the public. This is a frequent occurrence; tourists are often on a schedule, and we desire them to leave with a positive impression of Tishomingo County. Among the "special" tourists within this past year that have desired information from the Museum were the Peel family from Texas and the granddaughters of famed aviator Henry "Dick" Merrill.

Dick Merrill was a Tishomingo County man who “made it good.” He was the highest paid air mail pilot, flew the first round-trip transatlantic flight in 1936, set several speed records, and served as Dwight D. Eisenhower's personal pilot during the 1952 presidential elections. Dick became Eastern Air Lines' most experienced pilot with over 36,000 hours until his retirement in 1961. In total, he flew over 45,000 hours as pilot in command, covering over 8 million miles. Tishomingo County needs to capitalize on its many famous citizens to reach out to the tourists that hunger for history.

Tourism Statistics

Tourism Expenditures	\$9,435,824
Direct Tourism Employment	160
Tourism Employment*	2.9%
Taxes Returned to Cities Attributed to Tourism	\$99,260
Tourism Capital Investment	\$2,205,233

Sources: Center for Policy Research and Planning, Mississippi IHL, 2007
 Mississippi Department of Employment Security, LMI Department, 2007
 MDA/Energy Division, 2007
 MDA/Tourism Division, 2007
 Mississippi State Tax Commission, 2007

According to tourism sources noted above, the entertainment/recreation component of tourism includes Marina Services; Public Golf Courses; Motion Picture Shows; Dance Halls, Night Clubs; Parks; Bowling, Billiards & Pool; College Athletics; Skating Rinks; Race Tracks; Aquariums, Botanical Gardens; Museums; State Parks, and Federal and Private Outdoor Recreation. The items for tourists in Tishomingo County, according to this list are marina services, museums, state parks, and outdoor recreation.

The gross tax revenue in Tishomingo County for FY 2007 is \$18,187. It is obvious that the Tishomingo County History & Archives Museum contributed to that amount.

Visitors Statistics

Visitors to the museum and genealogical library include tourists, genealogical researchers, and County residents. In the past seven months, the historical courthouse museum has hosted visitors from Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas; Illinois, California, New York, Indiana, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Nevada, Missouri, Maryland, Idaho, Wyoming, and Arizona. The Society boasts a membership from at least 22 states and throughout the State of Mississippi. Many of these people desire to visit Tishomingo County to view the geographical area where their ancestors settled and to perform genealogical research; however, it is not always feasible or cost effective to visit. Therefore, the Society is in place to represent visitors, including County residents, by supplying research assistance. More than 200 visitors who live within Tishomingo County have visited the historic County courthouse since January 2008. When current and former Tishomingo County residents return for a visit, they are enthusiastic about the historical courthouse museum. They reminisce and share positive

memories about their Tishomingo County experiences. Usually some special memory stands out—a great teacher, a close friendship, deceased family members, old family customs, or former places of residence. These visitors display the same pride that is shared by staff and volunteers.

Statistics	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Jan.-June
Library Researchers	Combined with museum	186	154	188	80
In Mississippi		61	76	94	45
Outside Mississippi		56	78	94	35
Museum Visitors	4,461	2,297	2,048	2118	746
Returning		474	578	685	380
New		854	1029	1055	357
Unknown		969	441	378	9
Programs			20	27	8
Museum Donations	150	361+	176	1008+	1,348+
Museum Entrance Fees	\$1,486	\$1,333	\$571	\$926.72	\$295.97
Volunteer Hours (on/off site)	6,944	9,084	7011	7,210	4,025

Staff & Volunteer Development

In order for the collections of the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum to be properly maintained, staff and volunteers must continue to stay abreast of evolving technologies. Through continued education, staff and volunteers tap into their creative potential, and through a variety of experiences, obtain the knowledge to enhance their perceptive, imaginative, and expressive potential to market Tishomingo County to visitors and residents alike through the museum.

The table below lists the seminars and workshop that staff and volunteers have attended in 2008, including currently scheduled workshops for the near future. The list will continue to grow whenever time and monies allow future attendance at a workshop. Please be aware that many of the workshops are attended at the personal expense of staff and volunteers.

2008—Seminars and Workshops Attended

Date	Workshop	Location	Sponsor	Attendees
01/21-30/2008	Management Institute Training	Jekyll Island	SEMC	Jan Anglin
02/09-12/2008	MMA Meeting	Vicksburg, MS	MMA	Jan Anglin, Christina Goss
03/24-25/2008	Telling your Story	Oxford, MS	MS Hills Alliance	Jan Anglin
6-5-2008	Grant Writing Workshop	Jackson, MS	MDAH	Jan Anglin, RaNae Vaughn
10/14-18/2008	2008 Annual Meeting	Birmingham, AL	SEMC	Jan Anglin, RaNae Vaughn

MDAH = Mississippi Department of Archives and History
MMA = Mississippi Museum Association
SEMC = Southeastern Museum Conference

Future Plans

- To continue to learn and develop skills in conservation and preservation of the records and histories of the entire County.
- Battle of Iuka – To continue to learn and educate tourists and citizenry about the Battle of Iuka, including histories of the skirmishes that occurred in this County that are not always recognized.
- Historical Markers – To start a plan for interested citizens to erect historical markers throughout the County.
- Home School Program – To assist home-schooled students in obtaining extra credit with educational programs.
- Increase African-American Artifacts – To locate and obtain artifacts from the County that reflect African American culture; thereby, increasing interest from African Americans.
- Historical Home Tour – To increase pride in the area’s heritage and increase tourism by offering a tour of the homes and businesses to demonstrate the County’s architecture.
- Develop program on Chief Tishomingo and Chief Iuka – To conduct educational program for schools, Scouts, and clubs.
- Governor Stone Program – To share aspects of the life and career of one of Mississippi’s most esteemed Governors.
- Native American Program – To help educate citizenry about the Native Americans that came from this County.
- Veterans Program – To continue working on a veterans’ book with concentration on World War II veterans from this County.
- Grants – To continue to seek additional funding through grants, etc., for the restoration of the historic courthouse museum facility.
- Marriage Book Program – To compile the stories from people that obtained marriage licenses and/or were married in the historic courthouse.

- Harold Lomenick reported the possibility of a driving tour for the Iuka Battlefield Commission. There should be 10-12 pieces of property on the driving tour. Various stops along the tour can be (1) Eastport and its raid, (2) location of Henry Little's fall, (3) location of Mineral Springs Hotel, (4) location of 36th Miss and 37th Ala engagement, etc. A brochure will need to be developed.
- Acquisition of "new" photocopier(s) handed down from the hospital is in progress.
- A new and revised brochure is in the planning stage.
- An endowment fund for the future operation of the historic museum is under consideration.
- Jan Anglin is weighing the options with MEMA about becoming CERT certified.

Financials

Accumulative Expense Log

<i>Expenses</i>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Water/Power	3,250.90	2,580.07	2,672.09	3,547.35	2,440.98
Telephone/Internet	1,374.02	946.83	996.30	936.48	904.99
Equip. Rental/Alarm	275.00	275.00	684.48	741.76	352.74
Supplies/Postage	4,051.00	2,552.02	1,569.05	2,702.24	455.66
Insurance/Legal/Acct.	1,080.00	1,616.00	3,241.96	1,571.04	834.60
Salaries	12,370.77	11,958.82	17,675.00	18,749.00	8,507.37
Payroll Taxes	1,065.58	914.85	1,352.56	1,434.28	696.13
Other	3,898.75	8,663.05	5,630.89	3,096.01	4,905.22
Total	\$27,366.02	\$29,506.64	\$33,822.33	\$32,778.16	\$19,097.69

Income, Visitors & Volunteer Hours' Log

<i>Income</i>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Door Donations	\$1,486.07	\$1,326.53	\$912.55	\$926.72	\$295.97
Gift Shop	\$3,366.00	\$9,804.00	\$7,584.00	\$5,658.53	\$1,927.35
Grant Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$450.00	\$2,000.00
Private Donations	n/a	n/a	\$3,169.91	\$3,043.34	\$3,146.92
Internet Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,133.29	\$2,209.76	\$500.10
Board of Supervisors	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
Copies	\$35.00	\$127.00	\$226.00	\$193.73	\$60.20
Memberships	\$2,840.00	\$3,410.00	\$2,994.00	\$2,480.00	\$1,090.00
Reseachers	53	186	154	188	80
Visitors	1242	2272	2048	2118	746
Volunteer Hours	6944	9083	10854	7209.05	4205

A detailed 3-year-budget analysis is in the appendix.

Board of Directors

The Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum's Board of Directors are:

Dustin Lambert
Harold Lomenick
Cindy Nelson
Johnny Southward

Janice Switcher
RaNae Vaughn
Helah Wilson

The Museum is . . . Connecting and Sustaining

Connecting

As a resource for lifelong learning, the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum continues to connect with audiences of all ages. The community's youngest history lovers will grow into adult history lovers and cement the permanence of the historic courthouse.

Through an ever-expanding network of partners, the Museum is eliminating barriers to learning and creating a community embraced by citizens throughout Tishomingo County.

Central to the Museum's mission is making the courthouse museum accessible, both on-site and to its communities. The Museum is open to the public at no charge; therefore, the Museum's visitorship embraces families of all income levels.

The Museum's first-ever African-American program debuted in February 2008 in tandem with Black History Month.

Sustaining

With the generous support of individuals, corporations, foundations, and government agencies, the Museum continues to provide a dynamic learning environment, an essential resource for Tishomingo County's children and families.

Generous-minded citizens of Tishomingo County continue to donate and/or loan innumerable artifacts, including photographs, school annuals, and other historical memorabilia.

Public support is one of the critical factors that determines the ability and success of the Tishomingo County Archives & History Museum. We offer numerous options through which anyone may personally contribute. In fact, we feel that we have something available for everyone! Your support is welcomed, valued, and sincerely appreciated by everyone including our officers, board members, staff, and volunteers.

Grant Photographs



Office fireplace (before)



Office fireplace (after)



Office floor (before)



Office floor (after)



Front wall mortar (before)



Front wall mortar (after)

Roof Photographs



Whole in roof



Annex roof



Chimney problems



Replacing fascia boards



Chimney needs flashing



Bad roof

Event Photographs



2nd Annual Family Fair



Brownie Troop works on badge



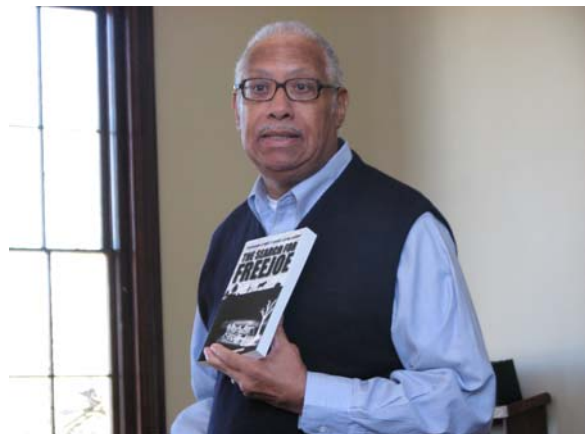
Rheta Johnson signs her book



Boy Scouts visit



Mark Hunt receiving the Jason Vaughn Scholarship



Mr. Lacey teaches about Free Joe