



**Shiloh Museum of Ozark History**  
*2009 Annual Report*

## National Accomplishments

Collections assistant Heather Marie Wells presented a program at the American Association of Museums (AAM) annual conference in May and authored an article which appeared in *The Public Garden*.



Director Allyn Lord is serving the third year of a four-year term on the governing board of AAM. She presented the keynote address to the Missouri Museums Association, served as a grant panelist for the Institute of Museum and Library Services Museums (IMLS), and attended the first AAM Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill.

Photo archivist Marie Demeroukas co-authored *Nomenclature 3.0 for Museum Cataloging* for the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) and authored a chapter in *The New Museum Registration Methods* for AAM.

To celebrate the upcoming Civil War sesquicentennial, museum staff worked with the Springfield-Greene County Library and Missouri Digital Heritage to make regional Civil War documents available on-line: <http://www.ozarkscivilwar.org/>

The museum launched its Twitter feed in April, tweeting about news and happenings at the museum. Join us: <http://twitter.com/ShilohMuseum>

The museum's photo collection, largest in the state, had many uses in 2009, including books on UA football, Wal-Mart, and children's play.

## State and Local Accomplishments

Readers of *CitiScapes* magazine chose the museum as 2009's "Best Museum in Northwest Arkansas," the fourth year in a row.

Two awards came from the Arkansas Museums Association (AMA): Best Adult Education Program (iTunes U), and Museum of the Year, the fourth such win in 28 years.



An Arkansas Humanities Council grant of \$4,803 allowed the museum to assist the Northwest Arkansas Sacred Harp Singers in producing a DVD about Sacred Harp singing in the Ozarks.

Thanks to gratis work by Ozark Film and Video, a PSA was completed at the end of 2009 and will soon be introduced to the public.

Outreach coordinator Susan Young worked with the Tontitown Historical Museum to publish *So Big, This Little Place*, a history of early Tontitown.

Uses of the museum's photo collection in 2009 included books, journals, the online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, maps, newspapers, restaurant decor, family genealogical documents, calendars, videos, and church directories.

## General Accomplishments

In 2009 the museum served 48,863 people, the largest number since statistics have been kept, a whopping 47% above 2008's count. Eight of the twelve months had the largest monthly numbers to date.

There were 145 new members in 2009, the largest number in at least two decades. Teachers and board members LuAnn Little and Dianne Kellogg led a membership campaign in Springdale schools, with three schools – George, Shaw, and Smith Elementary – boasting 100% faculty membership.

A total of 478 researchers requested services from our research library and/or photo archives in 2009. This number represents the second-highest total since records of research requests were kept.



To celebrate the museum's reopening after four months' closure in 2008 for roof repairs, the "Cabin Fever Reliever" welcomed 575 guests with music, performances, "Community Photo Album" photographs, tin-roof ice cream, games, and a food drive.

Other special events the museum participated in and/or sponsored included History Day, Pettigrew Day, Tontitown Centennial, Old West Film Fest, Juneteenth, Ozark Quilt Fair, Sheep to Shawl, and Tontitown Polenta Smear, which in total attracted over 2,750 people.

The museum produced 19 podcasts in 2009, seven of which were videos.

## Facilities Improvements



Two of the museum's historic buildings (the Steele General Store and the Dr. John Carter Office) were re-roofed using \$7399 in state grants.

The devastating 2009 ice storm resulted in the loss of 40 trees, with another 24 trees needing care. An Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Grant from the Arkansas Forestry Commission/U.S. Forest Service is helping to purchase native trees for replanting.

## Financial Accomplishments

To deal with decreased revenue, the museum took an 11% budget cut for 2009. A renewed emphasis on recycling, elimination of our weekend position, no staff raises, new strategies for doing more with less, help from the museum board of trustees, and (thankfully) increased donations all helped us through the year.

The economic downturn caused the museum's endowment to continue losing ground in the first quarter of 2009, but by the end of the year it had rebounded to \$926,303. Memorials helped increase the endowment, showing an 18% increase over 2008.

Grants totaling \$14,631 were received in 2009. Sources included the Arkansas Forestry Commission, the Arkansas Humanities Council, IMLS, and the Arkansas Department of Education.

## Education and Interpretive Accomplishments

As an Arkansas Department of Education Authorized Provider for professional development, the museum's education department developed and presented nineteen in-service workshops for 467 teachers.

A grant from the Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation provided 100 \$25 bus stipends to help students attend programs at the museum.

The museum continued a partnership with Har-Ber High School's EAST students to create a museum website for teens and young adults.



Summer events featured three Saturday family programs and two week-long day camps.

The museum hosted the annual Regional History Day competition at the Jones Center for Families, with 246 students participating. Five of the teams won at the state level.

Our podcasts and iTunes U content continued to be downloaded at record levels. There were 9,356 downloads of iTunes U materials, representing a 95% increase over 2008. Even more impressive, 15,724 museum podcasts were downloaded, representing a 157% increase over 2008.

Three major exhibits opened in 2009, including *Squeaky Clean: Hygiene in the Ozarks, 1850-1950*, three photo exhibits, and three additional "recent acquisitions" case exhibits.

## Collections Accomplishments



Along with numerous donations of artifacts and photographs, three significant donations were made to the museum in 2009: the Berry-Braun family collections, including one of the first phones in Springdale; the Orville Hall Jr. collection of 1930s-1940s toys; and the work papers and tools of Carl Smith, Fayetteville city engineer (late 1940s-1950s).

A multi-year transfer of 24,500+ paper catalog-card records into the electronic database was completed.

More than 780 original historic photos were copied and/or rehoused to upgrade their preservation.

Primarily by donation, 100 collections were added, representing 483 artifacts, more than 11 linear feet of archival materials, and over 1,000 photos.

## Staff and Volunteer Accomplishments

In 2009, 321 volunteers worked 3,212 hours at the museum. The dollar value of those hours, according to the Independent Sector, is \$65,043, greater than any individual museum staff member's salary!

Cheri Coley joined the staff as library assistant, Amjad Faur was hired as photographer/darkroom technician, and Michelle Hearn came on staff as education assistant.

## Our Partners in 2009

Accident School alumni  
American Association of Museums  
Arkansas Archeological Society  
Arkansas Boston Mt. Chapter,  
National Railway Society  
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*  
Arkansas Forestry Commission  
Arkansas History Day  
Arkansas Humanities Council  
Arkansas Living History Association  
Arkansas Museums Association  
Crystal Bridges Museum of  
American Art  
Devil's Den State Park  
Downtown Springdale  
Fishback School alumni  
Frost PLC  
George Elementary School  
Har-Ber High School EAST Lab  
Heritage Trail Partners  
Hobbs State Park Conservation Area  
House Photoworks  
Institute for Museums & Library Services  
Jones Center for Families  
KUAF radio

LifeWriters  
Marion Chapter DAR  
Mental Health Association of NWA  
Missouri Digital Heritage  
*The Morning News*  
National Federation of the Blind  
NWA Audubon Society  
NWA Civil War Roundtable  
NWACC  
NWA Education Renewal Zone  
NWA Handweavers Guild  
NWA Historical Education Association  
NWA Sacred Harp Singers  
*Northwest Arkansas Times*  
NWA Tourism Association  
Northwest Technical Institute  
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
Ozark Film and Video  
Ozark Wireless Society  
Pea Ridge National Military Park  
Pettigrew community  
Photo Identification group  
Rodeo of the Ozarks  
Rogers Historical Museum  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Springdale Chamber of Commerce  
Springdale City Planning Department  
Springdale Kiwanis  
Springdale Public Library  
Springdale Public Schools  
Springdale Public Works Department  
Springfield-Greene County Library  
Tellers of Tales  
TheatreSquared  
Tontitown Historical Museum  
Trail of Tears Chapter of Questers  
Trike Theatre  
UA Museum Collections  
UA Press  
Uptown & PITstop School alumni  
Walton Arts Center  
Washington County Arkansas  
Genealogical Society  
Washington County Historical Society  
Wool and Wheel Handspinners Guild

Cover photo: Museum maintenance worker  
Marty Powers maintains one of the many  
flowerbeds on the museum grounds.  
*Photo by Don House*

## Board of Trustees

Carolyn Bayley  
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Stephanie Hegde, treasurer  
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LIFE TRUSTEES  
Dr. C. S. Applegate\*  
Dr. Dwight Heathman  
Maudine Sanders  
Stephen Taylor

*\*deceased*

## Staff

Betty Bowling, secretary  
Jacqueline Burnett, library assistant  
LuAnn Clarkson, library assistant  
Cheri Coley, library assistant  
Marie Demeroukas, photo archivist and research librarian  
Amjad Faur, photographer  
Pody Gay, education coordinator  
Michelle Hearn, education assistant  
Don House, photographer  
Allyn Lord, director  
Curtis Morris, exhibits manager  
Marty Powers, maintenance  
Carolyn Reno, collections manager and assistant director  
Jenny Vego, education assistant  
Heather Marie Wells, collections assistant and podcast producer  
Susan Young, outreach coordinator

## Volunteers

Ethna Billings, David and Vonita Carpenter, Karen Cordell, Beverly Cosby, Leslie Coston, Alison Demorotski, Susan Dewey, Tom Duggan, Steve Erwin, Martha Estes, Meagan Franks, Linda Fulton, Regina Gabel, Danielle Hansen, Michelle Hearn, Bill Jones, Mary John Jones, Ann Kabanuck, Mitsy Kellam, Jim Langford, Mira Leister, Marilyn Meek, Oda Mulloy, Pam Redfern, Debbie Reed, Don Reynolds, Larry Shivel, Jeanne Tackett, Ray Toler, Bruce and Mary Vaughan, Edward Vogt, Ryan Wells

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Shiloh Museum of Ozark History serves the public by providing resources for finding meaning, enjoyment, and inspiration in the exploration of the Arkansas Ozarks. [Adopted by the Shiloh Museum Board of Trustees, July 13, 2006]