

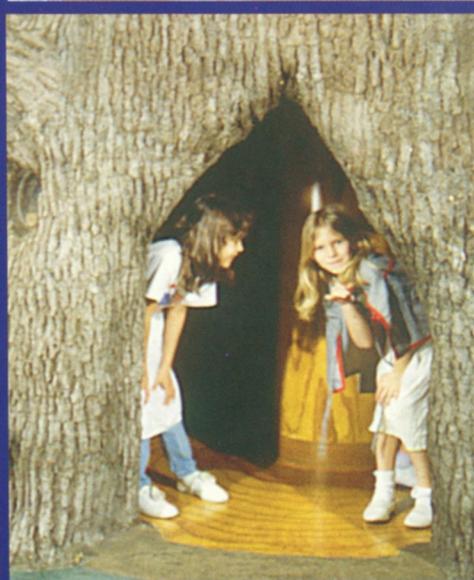
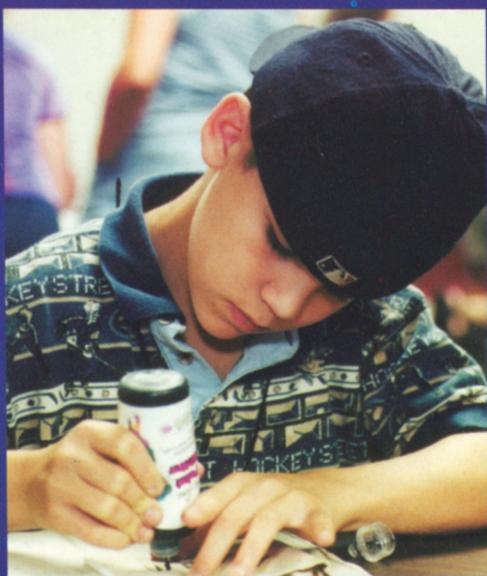
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VOLUME XVII / Number 2

images

summer 2001

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Summer fun!

Executive Director to Retire

Dr. Overton G. Ganong, known to everyone as “Tony,” will retire at the end of June. He has been a vital part of the State Museum ever since he first walked into a small office in Columbia 24 years ago. Here are some thoughts and memories from those who have worked with him:

Dr. Ganong was one of the first managers hired by the management committee in the formation of staff for our State Museum. His background made us believe he would be a real asset in this effort. We have not been disappointed. We have found him very dedicated and dependable in the several decades we have worked with him to bring about what we all know is an outstanding State Museum. He has exhibited fine character realizing his responsibility for directing the three disciplines outside of his history background. He has made few mistakes. He is a very respected leader in the museum world, and South Carolina has gained greatly from his work in bringing about what we all enjoy – The South Carolina State Museum.

Guy Fleming Lipscomb, founding chairman, S.C. State Museum Board of Trustees

He greets you with a pleasant smile and hello at all times. He will be missed.

Tonia Johnson, director of public safety

Tony Ganong is a strong advocate for life-long learning, an educator with a true passion for and amazing knowledge of all things South Carolinian. With his wonderful sense of humor and special gift for listening, he has the ability to excite and involve others about museums and all they have to offer. His special writing skills will continue to be an invaluable tool as he serves in a consulting role for the Foundation.

Louise Slater, chairman, S.C. Museum Foundation Board of Directors

As we began to develop plans for South Carolina’s new state museum, we traveled extensively, studying other museums so we could incorporate the best ideas into our plans. On one memorable trip, the great Midwest expedition, we visited more than 12 museums in five states in less than a week. With eight staff members packed into one van, we quickly “bonded.” As most of us know, Tony is very meticulous and methodical. He also drives that way, carefully obeying the speed limit. As we neared home, the other members of the group conspired to keep Tony out of the driver’s seat so we could get back to Columbia faster!

Rodger E. Stroup, director, S.C. Department of Archives and History

Tony’s knowledge of a vast number of subjects is not only astounding to contemplate, it has been extremely valuable to the museum. In addition, he led the museum through the huge building renovation to its opening and in more recent times has provided leadership in the effort to expand the museum through its planned OPT project. For these and other efforts both the museum and the public owe him many thanks.

Tut Underwood, director of public information and marketing

The irony of Tony Ganong is that while he is the most truly intellectual person at the museum, he is also the one most committed to making it a place for all South Carolinians. In 14 years of discussing label copy with him, I’ve always been impressed by the breadth and depth of his knowledge of the museum’s disciplines. At the same time, Tony really wants this to be what he once described as a “people’s museum.” To the extent that this place reflects and serves, however imperfectly, all the people of South Carolina, it is in large part because of his vision.

Nancy Higgins, editor/public information specialist

Tony made a real contribution to the museum, and he took over during a very difficult time. Through his leadership the museum reached accreditation and new heights. He was always fair and courteous to me and to other members of our commission. I hate to see him go.

Isadore Lourie, chairman, S.C. State Museum Board of Trustees

We’ll Miss You, Tony!

Tony Ganong through the years (Top to Bottom): with Nobel laureate Dr. Kary Mullis; with laser pioneer and Nobel laureate Dr. Charles Townes; receiving a suit earlier this year from rhythm and blues legend Bill Pinkney; showing former Governor Carroll Campbell through an exhibit; with former State Museum Commissioner Walter Cox at Verner Awards ceremony. Photos by (Top to Bottom): Joanne Barham, Dan Smith, Tut Underwood, Jason Wallace (last two).

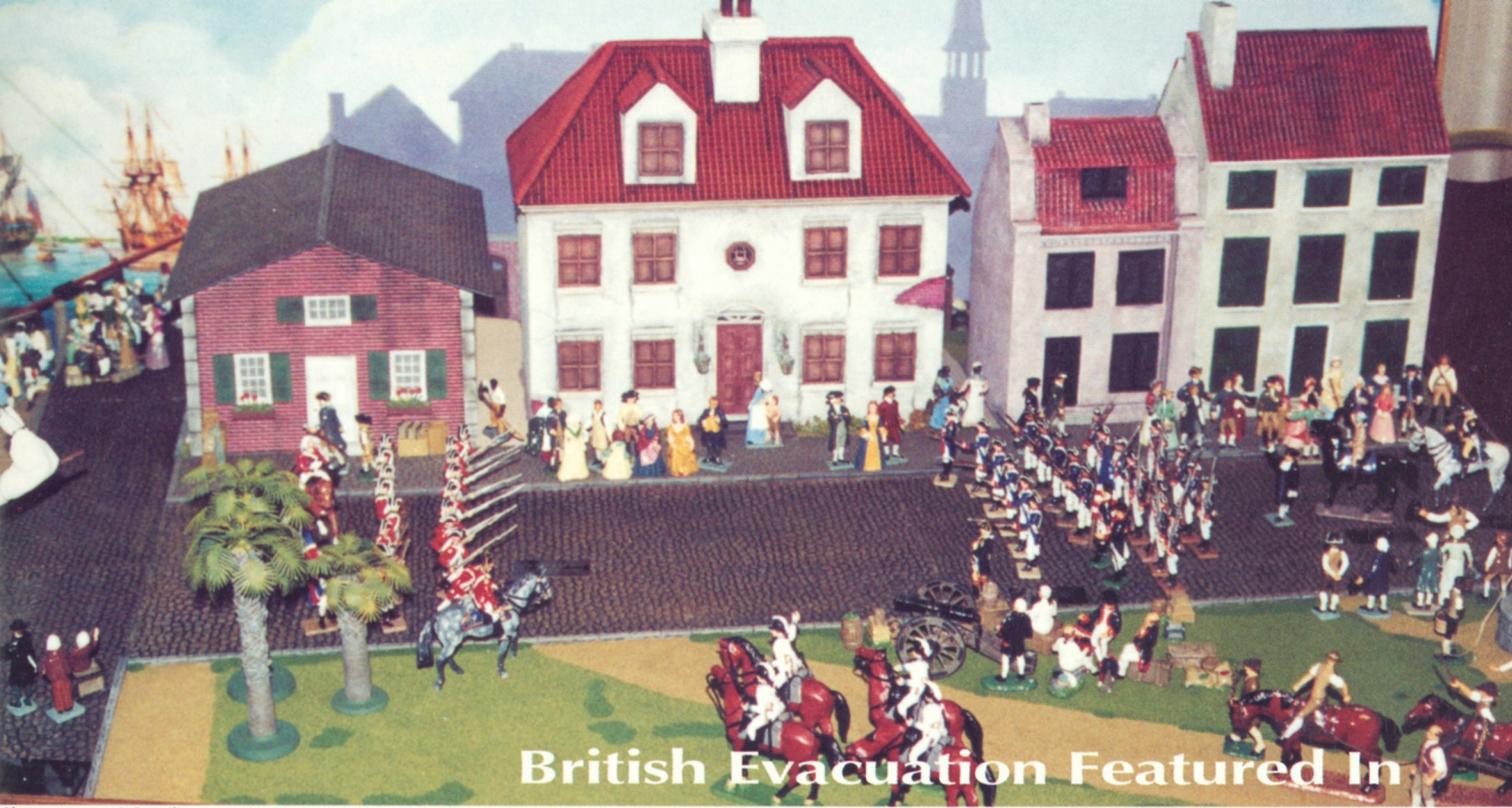


Photo courtesy S.C. Military Miniature Society.

British Evacuation Featured In

Miniature Diorama

The British evacuation of Charleston, a gentlemanly end to a gentlemanly occupation, will be portrayed in a diorama on display June 8 - Sept. 8 at the State Museum.

Created by the South Carolina Military Miniature Society, it will be one of the highlights of the Southeastern Toy Soldier Show on Aug. 11. As usual, society members took on the challenging task of depicting one event with many dimensions. "It gives you the feeling of what happened. It's as if you were looking down at an instant in time," says Duan Sinclair, chairman of the show and society member.

About 300 ships came to Charleston Dec. 14, 1782, to rescue the troops and any Americans who wanted to go with them. The diorama shows them leaving the city from Gadsden's Wharf at the foot of Calhoun Street.

The British gave up the city block by block, and the Americans, led by Gen. Nathanael Greene, entered the same way. Not a shot was fired, Sinclair says. "Those people were gentlemen in the days when that meant something."

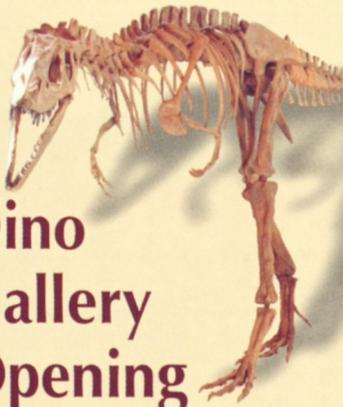
However, society members learned when they researched the diorama that the departing troops took with them the bells of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. "At the time they (South Carolinians) were probably really peeved about it," Sinclair says.

During the occupation the British instituted martial law and took over some homes for housing for their officers, but they didn't do much damage to the city, says Dr. Fritz Hamer, the museum's chief curator of history. However, he says, their condescending attitude toward the Americans offended even the Loyalists.

The society's diorama will be just one aspect of the show that attracts exhibitors from all over the United States and even from London. Many will create dioramas for a competition. The entries will be displayed in the museum's lobby on Aug. 11. At 2:30 p.m., British actor/scholar Howard Burnham will present a first-person portrayal of Lord Halifax, the British ambassador to the United States during World War II.

Toy soldiers from virtually every period in history, right up to the Gulf War, will be displayed. "We don't start with the Stone Age," Sinclair says, but he can promise troops from Greece, Assyria and ancient Egypt. Accessories and civilian figures also will be on display. One participant will sell unpainted metal castings of holiday figures. Among them will be a dragon used in the celebration of Chinese New Year.

Dino Gallery Opening Nears!



June 20 has been set as the opening date for the State Museum's new Dinosaur Gallery, as described in the last issue of Images. Visitors will be able to enjoy full-size skeleton casts, plus skull casts, dinosaur fossils and more. And don't forget the Specimen Preparation Area, where you can not only watch volunteers cleaning fossils, but ask questions of them as well!

Come join us as we open this exciting new area to the public, on the Natural History floor at 2 p.m. June 20!

new exhibitions

Conservator's Job Involves Variety of Cool Objects



Conservator Ted Monnich preserves the museum's new Revolutionary War-era cannon.

When State Museum Conservator Ted Monnich gets through with the museum's newly-acquired 18th-century cannon, it'll once again be able to fire six-pound cannonballs down the streets of Columbia.

Believe that? You shouldn't. But Monnich, who is at work on the rare artifact, will make sure that rust and corrosion don't further deteriorate the weapon. Believe it or not, even an 800-pound hunk of iron can be destroyed by the elements if it's not properly treated.

"Conservation is the preservation of art and cultural artifacts," says Monnich, who uses a variety of chemicals, solvents and polishes in his work. He will use a process called "chelation" to stabilize the cannon's iron. "It will halt the corrosion that has been and is taking place" in the cannon, after which he will coat the barrel with wax to seal and protect it from the environment.

Monnich likens the process to "treating the cannon for cancer," and says it will take two to three months to complete the work. Monnich is "doctoring" the cannon in public — a rarity — as it is displayed in the fourth-floor Recent Acquisitions Gallery. The gun eventually will find a permanent home in the museum's planned expansion of the Colonial South Carolina exhibit.

The conservator also is making recommendations for the treatment of the museum's one-ton hunk of petrified wood. The estimated million-year-old fossilized log is so heavy that "its own weight is tearing it apart," says Monnich. With his advice, the museum's exhibit staff will put a bed of foam under the log to cushion and support it to prevent further cracking.

"People often don't know or think about the existence of conservators," Monnich says. "But we're very much like doctors. We're regulated by the American Institute for Conservation, we have a code of conduct, standard practices and ethics. But our patients aren't people, they're artifacts."

Retired Engineer Gives Time

Don Garrison really doesn't like to have time on his hands — so he gave it to the State Museum.

The particular piece of time he donated is a c. 1830 wall clock that now hangs in the study in the Planter's Life exhibit on the fourth floor.

Garrison, a nuclear engineer, moved to Columbia about four years ago to be closer to his daughter and her family. Before he retired in 1993, "I think I had one or two pocket watches," he says. After retirement, repairing clocks became a full-blown hobby. "I buy basket cases," he says. He takes the clock completely apart, refinishes each piece and puts it back together. "I'm the kind of guy who has got to have something to do," he says.

The clock Garrison restored and gave to the museum he found about 1996 in a garage in Lexington County shortly after a tornado. The clock was made between 1825 and 1835, probably in Connecticut. It was shipped to the Huson Clock Company of Hamburg, now North Augusta, and sold with Huson's name on it. This was a common practice, says Dr. Fritz Hamer, the museum's chief curator of history.

"Mr. Garrison is a great example of the citizens of our state who contribute their time and artifacts to the State Museum," Hamer says. "He is also very helpful to us because of his wide knowledge of clocks and their history."

Garrison estimates the clock probably originally cost \$15 or \$20, "which would have bought you 15 or 20 acres." An interesting feature is that repairs in 1854 and 1873 are noted on the back. The first reads, "Repaired by G. Harmon Dec. 21, 1854."

Garrison enjoys repairing clocks and talking with people about them. He will be doing that from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 15, as part of the museum's quarterly artifact identification session.

There is one particular kind of clock that Garrison would really like to identify and own: a timepiece manufactured by John McKee, the only clock maker in South Carolina in the 1840s. "If I ever do, the State Museum may get it," he says.



Don Garrison used to inspect nuclear reactors for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Now he repairs clocks, such as this one he recently donated to the State Museum.

NOTES

from our director

By Dr. Overton G. Ganong



Photograph by Jason Wallace

All roads, no matter how long, must end somewhere,

and the long road I have traveled as the director of South Carolina's State Museum is nearing its end. This is the last column I will write for Images as the museum's chief executive. My tenure ends June 30, beyond which lies "retirement." Rather than a destination, retirement will mean for me just a shifting of gears and the opportunity to explore other routes and byways.

It has been a fascinating journey. Little did I realize, when I accepted a position as deputy director of the fledgling South Carolina Museum Commission in 1977, the many twists, turns and detours in the road that led to a state museum. Naively, I believed that the task of creating a new museum would require four or five years of concentrated effort, then I would be off on another project. Instead, it took three master plans and eleven years to make the museum a reality. And I never would have thought in 1977 what a magnificent showcase would result from our efforts.

The State Museum was truly a "bootstrap" project. When the General Assembly established the Museum Commission in 1973, a state museum was only an idea with potential. There was no existing collection that could serve as a nucleus for the new institution, and no organized statewide interest group to promote it. The museum had to be developed from scratch.

When I joined the State Museum, there was an enthusiastic and visionary commission led by Guy Lipscomb, the museum's founding father, and a staff of five, headed by Dave Sennema, housed in a small office suite on Devine Street. Now we have a 225,000-square-foot museum of art, natural history, science, technology and cultural history with a collection of over 60,000 artifacts and specimens, 97,000 square feet of exhibits, a broad range of educational programs, and comprehensive professional and technical services for our state's community-based museums. This achievement rests on the contributions of hundreds of talented and dedicated people: commission members and board members of our Museum Foundation, staff members, and volunteers, joined by staff of other state agencies, museum professionals from all over the United States, and interested citizens throughout South Carolina. For me, it has been a great privilege to have been part of this wonderful enterprise. Together, we have created a magnificent museum.

*And I never would
have thought in 1977
what a magnificent
showcase would
result from our efforts.*

But the museum is not "done." It can never be finished. It must change, grow, continually adapt to the new questions, interests and needs of the people it serves. Today your State Museum faces stern challenges. Massive budget cuts lie ahead, which will force us, for the first time, to reduce some services. The museum remains understaffed and under funded, especially in the areas of collections development, exhibits, educational programs and marketing. The leisure time marketplace grows ever more competitive. At the same time, opportunities abound. We know superb private collections are available. We see a huge demand for outreach services to schools statewide. We have fascinating concepts for new exhibits. We understand that community museums need more services and support. Finally, our observatory, planetarium and 3-D IMAX theater, which I will continue to work on as a consultant to our Museum Foundation, promises to make the State Museum South Carolina's major center for informal science and technology education. Both the challenges and the opportunities mean that your support, as a Friend, has never been more important. Here's to a bright future for your South Carolina State Museum.

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IMAGES, the newsletter of the Friends of the South Carolina State Museum, is published quarterly by the South Carolina Museum Foundation. The museum opened Oct. 29, 1988, as a multidisciplinary facility which tells the story of South Carolina's art, natural history, science and technology and cultural history. All material printed in IMAGES is copyrighted 2001 by the South Carolina State Museum and may not be reprinted without permission.

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Volume XVII SUMMER 2001 Number 2

museums news

You're Invited!

As a Friends member you are cordially invited to a special showing of 20th-Century Weapons

Saturday, June 16 - 2-4 p.m., Vista Room

From the collection, never before seen! This special Friends showing includes:

- S.C. native Gen. James Dozier's WWI .45 caliber pistol
- A WWII vintage Soviet 12.7 mm DShK heavy machine gun
- Two Vietnam War homemade pistols and a rifle used by the Viet Cong
- A Springfield .30 caliber and an M1 Garand rifle
- And other weapons and accoutrements, such as helmets and decorations.

Veterans and collectors will discuss these items and their uses. Refreshments will be served. **Don't miss it!**

Please RSVP by June 8 at (803) 898-4935



June

9th - Program, "Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!," story and craft hour for children. Recommended for ages 4-12. 2-3 p.m., Red Room.

10th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

11th - 15th - Art Adventure summer program, "Art in the City," for children entering grades 4-6. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$110 (\$100 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.

17th - Father's Day. \$1 admission for all dads accompanied by their children of any age.

18th - 20th - Art Adventure summer program, "Art in the City," for children entering grades 1-3. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$55 (\$50 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.

20th - New dinosaur gallery opens! Don't miss this new addition to the museum, along with the Specimen Preparation Area!

23rd - Program, in conjunction with the exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion*, featuring a talk by Louise Smith, the first female race car driver. 3 p.m., Vista Room.

23rd - Program, "Sail Away," story and craft hour for children. Recommended for ages 4-12. 2-3 p.m., Red Room.

25th - 29th - Science Adventure summer programs, "Ancient Buried Carcasses: The ABCs of Dinosaurs," for children entering grades 4-6. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$110 (\$100 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.



Joe "Mr. Knozit" Pinner, WIS-TV's award-winning children's show host, receives a lifetime membership in the Friends April 20 for his support and contributions to the State Museum.

July

8th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

9th - 11th - Science Adventure summer programs, "Ancient Buried Carcasses: The ABCs of Dinosaurs," for children entering grades 1-3. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$55 (\$50 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.

15th - Artifact Identification. State Museum curators will identify and discuss objects with visitors. 2-4 p.m., Vista Room.

16th - 20th - History Adventure summer programs, "And Sew it Goes: Clothes in History," for children entering grades 4-6. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$110 (\$100 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.

23rd - 25th - History Adventure summer programs, "And Sew it Goes: Clothes in History," for children entering grades 1-3. 8:30 - noon daily. Pre-registration required. Cost \$55 (\$50 for Friends). Call (803) 898-4902 for information.

August



British actor/scholar, Howard Burnham

11th - Living history portrayal by Howard Burnham as Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, 1940-46. 2:30 p.m., Auditorium.

11th - Toy soldier show by the S.C. Military Miniature Society. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mezzanine area.

12th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

25th - Program, "Hats." In conjunction with the exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion*, two milliners will present different approaches to making hats. 3 p.m., Red and Blue rooms.

EXHIBITIONS

THROUGH JUNE 3

BIG & SMALL: The Magic of Size

THROUGH JULY 15

THE TURNING POINT IN THE PACIFIC:
The Battle of Midway, June 4-6, 1942

THROUGH AUGUST 19

TRIENNIAL 2001

THROUGH JAN. 31, 2002

METEORITES: Windows to Other Worlds

THROUGH FEB. 3, 2002

DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION:
Making a Statement with Clothes

ONGOING

THINGS OLD AND NEW: Recent Additions to the State Museum Collection

ON WEEKENDS

Stringer Discovery Center

Every Saturday

Saturday Specials in the Stringer Discovery Center from 1 to 4 p.m.

June and July: "Fabulous Fossils." Create your own "fossil" to celebrate the opening of the Museum's new dinosaur gallery.

August: "Hat Designing." View the hats on display in *Dressed for the Occasion*, then design a hat of your own in the Discovery Center.

Science Theatre

The Big Chill

2:00 p.m. Saturdays

Optical Illusions

12:30 p.m. Saturdays &
2:00 p.m. Sundays

Light and Lasers

3:30 p.m. Saturdays &
3:30 p.m. Sundays

NOTE: Dates are subject to change without notice. Call ahead to verify weekend programs at (803) 898-4978.

Cool Summer Programs for Kids

Whether they adore art, dig dinosaurs or think sewing is swell, youngsters will have a great time at the State Museum's summer programs for children.

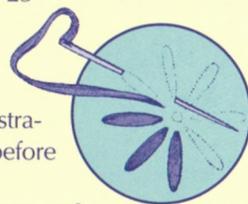
"**Art in the City**" will be offered from June 11 to June 15 for fourth through sixth grades and from June 18 to June 20 for first through third grades. Participants will have an opportunity to explore art and architecture at the State House, on Main Street and at the museum. They will design and build a miniature city inspired by L.C. Carson's "Concrete City," which is in the museum's collection.

The museum's new dinosaur gallery will be the inspiration for junior paleontologists to study "**Ancient Buried Carcasses: The ABCs of Dinosaurs.**" They will learn about meat-eating and plant-eating dinosaurs that lived in the Southeast and create an "ancient dino habitat." The program will be offered from June 25 to June 29 for fourth through sixth grades.

A professional clothing designer will guide the participants in "**And Sew it Goes: Clothes in History.**" Offered in connection with *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*, the program will give youngsters an opportunity to create and decorate their own garments. It is scheduled for July 16 to July 20 for fourth through sixth graders and from July 23 to July 25 for first through third graders.

All programs last from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Registration fees for Friends members are \$100 for grades 4-6 and \$50 for grades 1-3. The fees for others are \$110 and \$55 respectively. Completed registration forms with payment must be postmarked at least one week before each program starts.

For registration forms or more information, call (803) 898-4902 weekdays or check www.museum.state.sc.us on the Internet.



First Lady of NASCAR Recalls "Old Days"

Louise Smith never danced at her husband's inaugural ball, but like Rachel Hodges and Mary Wood Beasley, who also are honored in the exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*, she is a first lady – the first lady of NASCAR.

In 1945 the Greenville resident, who is now 84, became the first woman auto racer.

"At that time, I was the only woman, period, out there," she says. During her eight-year career, she won 38 races, mainly on the East Coast. "I proved that I could drive a race car," she emphasizes. In 1999 her achievement was acknowledged when she was inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame.

At 3 p.m. Saturday, June 23 at the State Museum, Smith will be doing one of the things she likes to do best: talking about the "old days" in racing. She also will sign autographs for visitors.

While the other first ladies in the exhibit are represented by elegant gowns, Smith loaned the museum trophies, a replica of her car and a black leather jacket she was awarded at a race in North Carolina in 1991. When Elaine Nichols, curator of the exhibit, asked her about her racing uniforms, Smith explained that "all we had for safety was a helmet and a safety belt. Ordinary clothes was what you wore. An old shirt or blouse and a pair of slacks. When we wore them out, we threw them away," she says.

That was in the days when the prize for winning a race was often only \$100, and the cars ran at 120 to 135 mph. "I don't think I would do it now at 200 miles an hour," Smith says. "I

got chicken in my old age. Used to, I didn't have no nerve."

At 3 p.m. on Aug. 25, Leigh Magar of Magar Hat Works and Jewell Mikell, both South Carolina milliners, will demonstrate their own unique approaches to making hats.

These programs are offered in conjunction with the exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*, which can be seen at the museum until Feb. 3, 2002.



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Budget Cuts

Force Museum To Close Mondays

Severe budget cuts in state government have sent shock waves through all state agencies, and unfortunately, your State Museum has been affected like the rest. Though the amount of the budget cuts has not been finalized as of this writing, it will be large enough to cause some major changes at the museum.

Beginning July 1, the museum will close on Mondays. This is similar to the hours long kept by many museums, both nationally and locally. As a consequence, no school lessons or facility rentals will be offered on Mondays. The only exception will be prescheduled programs and events. The museum's store, the Cotton Mill Exchange, also will be closed Mondays.

Also beginning in July, the museum's traditional Free Sunday, the first Sunday of each month, will be replaced by "Dollar Sunday." Admission will be one dollar per person, and not the full admission fee. "We hope that that approach will not diminish attendance too much while allowing us to make up some revenue," said Executive Director Overton Ganong of the change.

In addition, the museum will close New Year's Day, which previously had only been open a half-day, and Christmas Eve.

"I think it is very unfortunate that we are having to back away from our seven-day-a-week schedule," said Ganong. He expressed the hope "that we return to it as soon as state financial support makes it practical.

"We are the people's museum, and we should be accessible on as broad a basis as possible."

volunteer spotlight

Lula Jordan recently received a certificate of special recognition from the S.C. Federation of Museums for her work at the State Museum. "Lula's contribution demonstrates the variety of volunteer opportunities available to people with many interests," says Jeff Powley, museum volunteer manager. Jordan came to the museum in 1995 to work on the William Henry Johnson retrospective. Now she is actively participating in *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*. "Lula also helps the Foundation and is involved in the education department with recruiting volunteers," Powley says.



For information on how to become a volunteer, please call Jeff Powley at 803.898.4912.

ARTIFACT DONORS

We would like to recognize the people and institutions who during the past few months have generously donated objects to our collections. Their interest, support and generosity have measurably assisted us in our efforts to continue to build the State Museum for South Carolina.

Dr. J. Chisman
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Columbia Urban League
Mr. C. Darden
Donald L. Fowler
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Gov. & Mrs. Jim Hodges
Melissa Husser
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Hollings Secures \$2 Million NASA Grant

A big step forward for technology and a giant leap forward for teachers and students everywhere! This describes the newly formed partnership between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the State Museum.

OPT, the State Museum's \$31 million Observatory, Planetarium, 3-D IMAX Theatre project, caught the attention of Senator Ernest Hollings and the national space agency, culminating in a \$2 million grant. OPT's state-of-the-art facilities will deliver the high-level educational programs in science, math and technology developed by NASA under the guidelines of the National Science Curriculum Standards. The State Museum will distribute science education resources such as planetarium programs and exhibits over 13 southeastern states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico in partnership with the space agency's Southeast Regional Clearing House (SERCH), a division of the Office of Space Science located at the College of Charleston.

Together NASA and the State Museum will train teachers in both science content and educational methods, conduct educational programs statewide by teleconference, the Internet and ITV/ETV, and host lectures and science demonstrations by noted scientists and NASA specialists. Students will participate in virtual reality, scientific experiences; follow real-time space missions via full-dome satellite TV in the planetarium, connect to a nationwide observatory network and have access to NASA's latest science exhibits.

This endeavor is vital to the future success of our state. South Carolina ranks among the lowest states in educational achievement, yet envisions a future dependent upon high technology and research-based enterprise. South Carolina's five neighboring states have a total of 23 major science museums. South Carolina does not yet have one. The NASA partnership with OPT will have major impact in two areas: (1) It will jump start teacher training in the fields of science, math and technology in South Carolina and (2) it will make the State Museum South Carolina's first major science museum.



Flanked by Dr. Mitchell Colgan of NASA and S.C. State Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum, Gov. Jim Hodges announces the \$2 million gift from the space agency. Background: Chief Curator of Science Ron Shelton supervises the restoration of the historic Alvan Clarke telescope from atop the instrument. Photo by Darby Erd.



Former First Lady Ann Edwards (l) and former Governor James Edwards greet former First Lady Lois West at the reception for the first families' addition to the *Dressed for the Occasion* exhibit. Photo by Allen Anderson.

State Museum Salutes First Ladies

Passersby in front of the State Museum in the early evening of March 15 witnessed an impressive gathering of the state's most famous families as the museum hosted a reception for the opening of a new segment of the exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*.

Exquisitely detailed inaugural gowns were on display as South Carolina's first ladies, accompanied by their governor husbands and families, marveled at the range of the collection, including an 1859 purple and white train owned by Governor Francis Pickens' wife, Lucy, and Rachel Hodges' navy inaugural gown with matching stole. There was much reminiscing with delightful stories from first ladies recalling the glamorous nights they donned their elegant gowns. Attended by every living first lady, the assemblage included Josephine (Mrs. Robert) McNair, Ann (Mrs. James) Edwards, Tunky (Mrs. Richard) Riley, Iris (Mrs. Carroll) Campbell, Mary Wood (Mrs. David) Beasley, and Rachel (Mrs. Jim) Hodges.

The evening concluded with a tribute dinner at Seawells Restaurant where a handsome Citadel cadet escorted each first lady to her table. The evening was festive and included the presentation of a new video and book on the first ladies, the awarding of Orders of the Palmetto by Governor Hodges and the presentation to each honoree of an originally designed diamond and amethyst brooch featuring the palmetto tree and silver crescent. Future first ladies will receive this unique piece of jewelry, anticipated to become a first families' heirloom.

20th Friends' Annual Meeting

The 20th Annual Meeting of the Friends, held on Saturday, April 28, welcomed members from around the state.

Following a private, curator-led tour of the just-opened *Triennial 2001* exhibit, the Friends were welcomed to the well-attended meeting by past Chairman Jeremy Wilson. Exciting updates of the Foundation's activities over the past year included remarks from Executive Vice President Sue McLeese, Impressions President Chris Doar and State Museum Executive Director Dr. Tony Ganong.

The Friends were then adjourned to witness officials proudly unveiling the Foundation's new permanent Palmetto Wall of Fame. The beautiful trio of colorful palmetto trees presented an impressive list of corporate donors whose important financial support was recognized and appreciated.

Dr. John Bryan offered a fascinating overview of his new book, "The South Carolina State Museum: A History and Highlights of the Collection" and graciously signed copies for the Friends during the reception. The delicious food was catered by Southern Way. Friends then enjoyed mingling with *Triennial 2001* artists and special guests as the evening wound to a successful conclusion.



Foundation board member and former State Museum Commission Chairman Guy Lipscomb chats with former Foundation President Jeremy Wilson at the unveiling of the new Palmetto Wall of Fame. Photo by Bemo Prince.

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IMPRESSIONS

NEWS

CULTURE SHUCK! The Impressions had a great time on March 2 teaming up with local groups to have the "First Annual Culture Shuck Oyster Roast" at the historic Hampton-Preston Mansion in Columbia. Nearly 1,500 people came out for oysters and chicken bog, their favorite beverages, and the blues sounds of the band Elliott and the Untouchables. Fun was had by all as the group exposed a whole new segment of Columbia to the State Museum. The event was a HUGE success. If you missed it this year, make plans to attend in 2002!

PLAY BALL! On May 2 the Impressions had a great time with the Capital City Bombers! Members and their friends enjoyed a night out at "the old ballpark." Turnout was great. **Go Bombers!!**

KICK UP YOUR HEELS AND COME "DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION!" Impressions members and their guests are invited for wine, cheese, and a curator-guided tour of the State Museum's impressive exhibit *Dressed for the Occasion: Making a Statement with Clothes*. The fun will take place on Tuesday, June 19. Enjoy food and drinks served at 6:30 p.m. Guided tour to follow. Mark your calendar now, and call 898-4937 for reservations. Space is limited!

IMPRESSIONS

from the President, Chris Doar

Photo by Tar Underwood



If you are not familiar with the Impressions of the South Carolina State Museum, you should be! We are a group of volunteers bringing awareness of the fun to be had here. Whether it's a trip to dig for dinosaur bones in the Lowcountry, an oyster roast at the Hampton-Preston Mansion or a haunted Ghost Tour of Columbia, we are bringing new faces and fun events to the museum. This group is made up of all ages. The only requirement is your desire for fun.

Please call the Museum Foundation at 898-4933 for information.

Our New Friends

snap shots

Tartan Day, April 6, was filled with fun for everyone. Activities included children's games, Scottish music and stories, and much more.

Friends who joined between between Jan.1 and March 31.

CHARTER COLLECTOR

George W. Davis, Columbia
Freeda McDowell, Elgin
Paula Walker, Leesville

CONTRIBUTING

Phyllis Davis, Lexington
Alice J. George, Leesville
J. Wayne Hazelwood, Columbia
Mary Kenemur, Columbia
Robert O. Swain, West Columbia
Kathy Wright, Columbia
Johnny Zeigler, West Columbia
Cynthia G. Bair, Lexington
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Lucinda Kress, Columbia

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James D. Varn, Camden
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Elizabeth Oakman, Columbia
Wanda Vincent, Columbia

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Barbara Anderson, Chapin
Shari Lynn W. Baker, Lexington
Ann Barton, Columbia
Irene Bass, Columbia
Tonya Bates, Blythewood
Rachel Beckford, Columbia
Carolyn Lane Berry, Gaffney
Mike Butler, Irmo
Penelope L. Caughman, Columbia
Cathy Clawson, Columbia
Mitch Corbett, Columbia
Doreen Craig, North Augusta
Timothy E. Davis, Columbia
John F. Denise, Chapin
Dwight Drake, Columbia
Daniel Dreher, Lexington
Brian Dunphy, Blythewood
Thomas B. Eckert, Columbia
John Edens, Blythewood
Ronne Eldreth, Camden
Tracey England, West Columbia
Lisa Evans, Newberry
W. P. Farmer, Chapin
Greg Force, Lexington
Randy Fowler, Columbia
Brett Frantz, Columbia
James Goddard, Columbia
Francis C. Griffin, Blythewood
Frank Haas, Winnsboro
Peter Haines, Chapin
Billy Joe Hamilton, Columbia
Mollie Harley, Columbia
Lov Heinzelmann, Columbia
Will J. Hollingsworth, Lexington

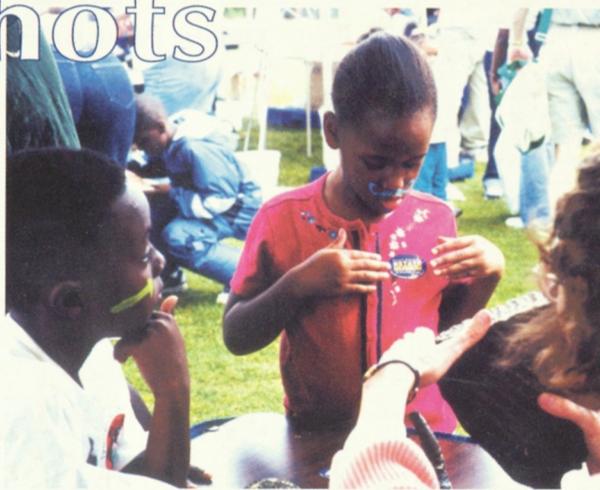
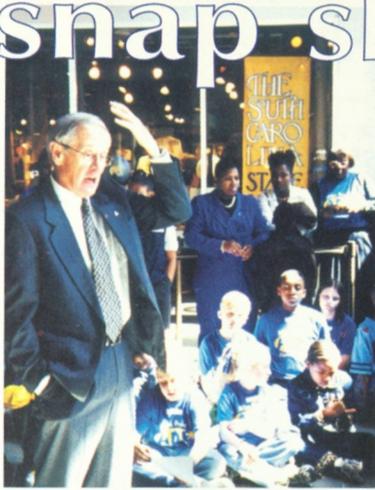
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Chad E. Kennedy, Columbia
Burl Kennedy, Lexington
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Tiffany Knotts, West Columbia
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Amy Louthian, Columbia
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Tim Winslow, Lexington
Syrees Gillens, Eutawville
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Karmaine McClary, Columbia
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Deborah Murry, Columbia
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Earl Rampey, West Columbia
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Joann Moss, Columbia
Mavis Riley, Newberry

snap shots

Photo by Tit Underwood



Left to right: Moonwalking astronaut Gen. Charles Duke talks to a group of visiting schoolchildren about space travel; kids get stickers and hands-on experience with fossils and other neat stuff at Kids' Day Columbia March 31; Spartanburg native Kitty Black-Perkins, chief doll designer for Mattel Toys, presents the State Museum with a Barbie doll with a gown she designed especially for South Carolina.

INDIVIDUAL

Beverly Brockington, Irmo
Frank H. Chapman, Lexington
Calvin Cobb, McCormick
Elaine L. Craft, Cheraw
Carl E. Derrick, Chapin
Luanne Dyer, Columbia
Glenn Farrow, Easley
L. B. Ferguson, West Columbia

Carol Hall, Columbia
Marvin Joyner, Columbia
Susan Justice, Columbia
Gloria B. King, Clinton
Raymon E. Lark, Columbia
Gina Mahoney, Lexington
Stephen Masone, Columbia
Nancy Moody, Lexington
Ernestine Player, Columbia

Sandy Simpson, West Columbia
Joyce Vincent, Columbia
Beverly Watkins, Columbia

INSTITUTIONAL (Nonprofit)
New Hope Worship Center, Gaston

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Sandra Ashdown-Turner, Whittier
Elza Hayden, Columbia

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