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South Carolina STATE MUSEUM

images

Winter 2007

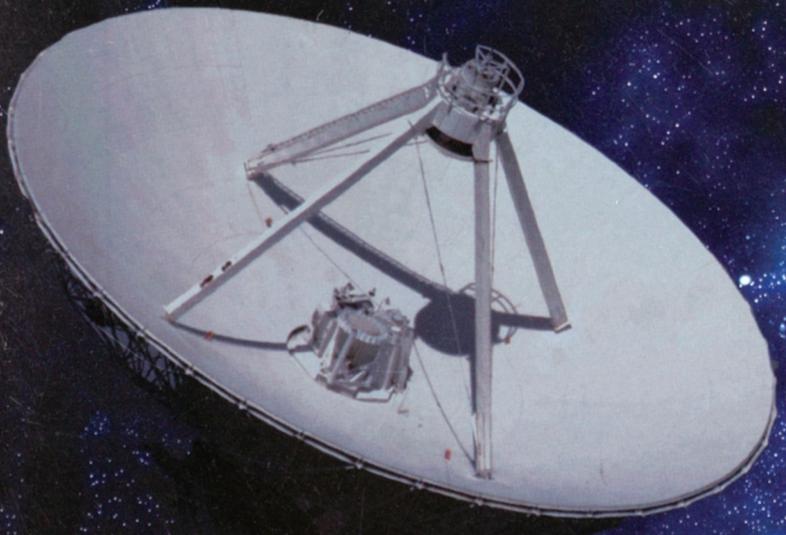
Volume XXII No. 1



ALIENS:

WORLDS OF POSSIBILITIES

Opening Feb. 9



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MUSEUM**
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Volume XXII
Number 1
Winter 2007



In ALIENS, Museum guests will encounter robotic, fictional aliens such as "Hairy Sandwalker"...



"Gusty Traveler" ...

Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities

A major new exhibit on space science and the search for extraterrestrial life will land in South Carolina Feb. 9 as the State Museum brings the blockbuster exhibit *Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities* to the Palmetto State.

Capitalizing on the public's love for science fiction and researchers' quest to discover life elsewhere in the universe, this extraordinary exhibit focuses on the solar system and introduces visitors to the basic physical characteristics of the planets. It also investigates the possibility of life existing elsewhere in the universe and takes a look at what some otherworldly creatures might be like.

"The vastness of space causes people to wonder if life exists beyond our planet," said Curator of Science and Technology Tom Falvey. "This exhibit highlights the tools and technology scientists use to search for life on planets orbiting distant stars, and speculates on what forms that life might take.

"This exhibit will be a lot of fun for young and old, but it's also packed with great science education, so we expect it to be a hit with many school groups."

The exhibit features large dioramas with animatronic creatures and one unusual Earth life form, as well as more than 20 interactive exhibit stations.

Museum guests can ponder what kinds of life forms might live in the harsh conditions found on other planets; decide whether UFOs are real based on the evidence; see a model of the solar system which provides a view of the planets in relative size; and visit the alien creature Hairy Sandwalker on his "home turf" and see how this interesting creature has adapted to his surroundings.

In addition, the exhibit demonstrates how much guests would weigh on other planets with different gravitational pulls than the Earth, and how many Earths would fit into Jupiter, the largest planet, as well as how many Jupiters would fit inside the sun.

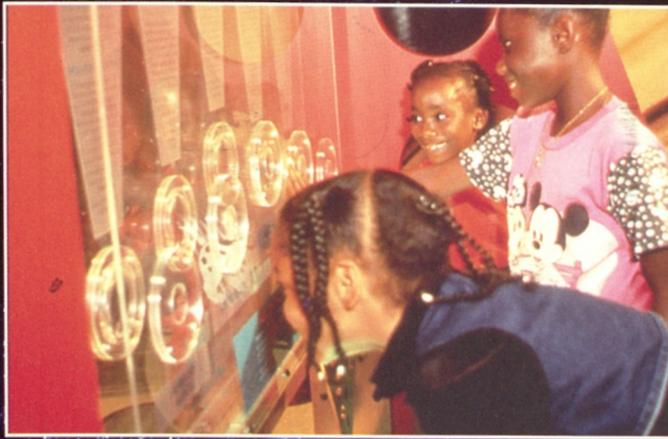
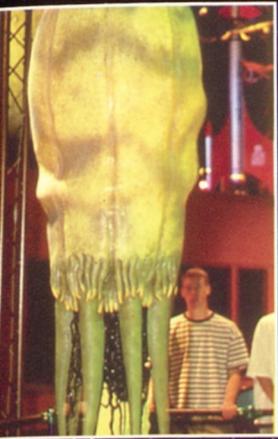
"We think this exhibit will have particular interest at this time, in light of the recent decision by astronomers to expel Pluto from the list of planets in our solar system," said Falvey.

Admission to *Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities* is \$3 for adults and children in addition to regular Museum admission.

Media sponsors include Lamar Advertising ; B-106.7 FM and WIS-TV.

Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities was developed by the Pacific Science Center in partnership with the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Institute (SETI) and was made possible through the support of the National Science Foundation. It can be seen through Sept. 4.





Photos courtesy of Pacific Science Center

learn the features of other planets...

...and alter "alien landscapes."



Some of the highlights include:



Alien Creatures - Three robotic creatures represent life forms that might develop on planets where gravity, geology, and atmosphere differ from those found on Earth. They are:

Hairy Sandwalker - Exaggerated lung size helps this creature survive on a planet with a thin atmosphere. Low gravity allows it to move on long, thin legs.

Gusty Traveler - Sucking noxious gases for sustenance, this creature floats where strong winds carry it and expels gas to maneuver about.

Phineous Palindrome - This creature "swims" on a planet with high gravity and a thick atmosphere. Its long, flat shape is a survival mechanism because the high gravity would crush a tall, thin creature.

Alien Landscape - From tornadoes and hurricanes to a gentle summer breeze, the movement of air creates some of the most dramatic and changing landscapes on Earth. Imagine the surface of a planet subjected to winds much stronger than those on Earth.





Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe

Spectacular scenes from deep space are now on view at the State Museum in the new exhibit *Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe*.

The 2500 square-foot exhibit, from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, features striking images taken by the space telescope, which orbits the Earth 370 miles above the planet's surface. "This is above the atmosphere, which allows the telescope to capture deep space more clearly than ground-based telescopes," says Curator of Science and Technology Tom Falvey. "The exhibit focuses on the images and scientific data sent back to earth over the past 16 years."

On April 25, 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope was deployed by the mission of the space shuttle Discovery, which was commanded by Columbia native Charles Bolden, then a colonel in the Marine Corps and NASA astronaut. Bolden is now a retired general, but maintains a great interest in space science, as is evidenced by his enthusiastic support of the upcoming OPT project to expand the Museum's space science offerings, which will include an observatory, a planetarium and a 4-D theater.

The exhibit includes four main areas of study: planets, stars, galaxies and the universe. Four six-by-nine foot panels feature crystal clear, back-lit images of objects both familiar and beyond

our imaginations, such as planets in our solar system, a stellar spire in the Eagle Nebula, and more than 10,000 galaxies in one small area of the sky.

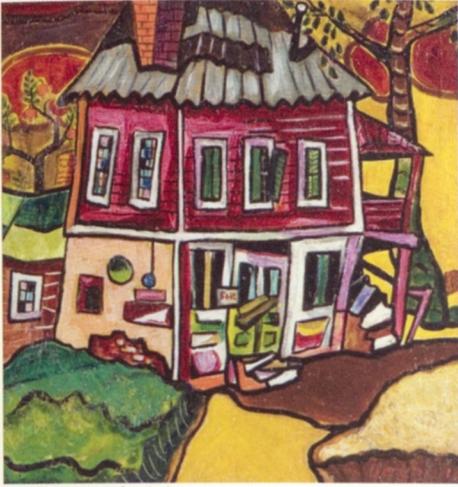
"These images are truly spectacular," says Falvey. "Not only will guests be impressed by their beauty, they also will be amazed by the science in every shot."

Hands-on components include a game that allows guests to "shoot" Jupiter with a comet, examine a hand in infrared light and estimate star distances.

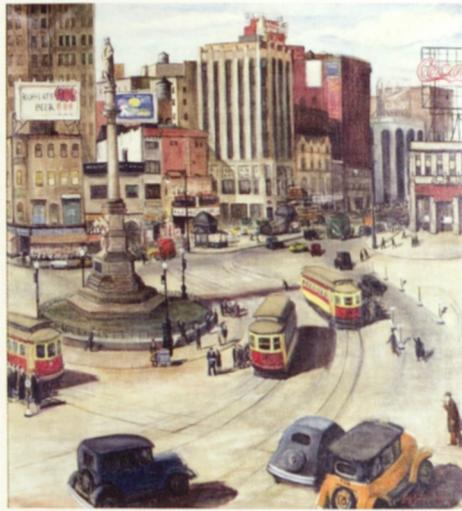
The exhibit also features a model of the space observatory and, through on-line presentations, the most current images and releases from the Space Telescope Science Institute.

"The exciting news just released about the Hubble scope is that NASA has approved a 2008 servicing mission to make improvements," says Falvey. "If you think these photographs are spectacular - and they definitely are - wait until you see pictures after the improvement. Two new instruments will be installed during the servicing mission, giving us a deeper look into the origins of the universe."

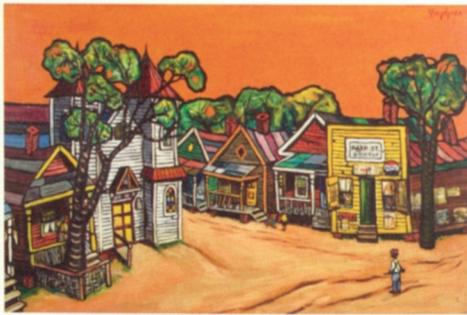
Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe can be seen on the third floor through June 30.



Corner House for Sale, 1950



Columbus Circle, 1934



Orange Sky on Park Street, circa 1970



Night at the Fair, 1970

Edmund Yaghjian: A Retrospective

Edmund Yaghjian was born in Armenia, but made his mark - literally, and with a paint brush - in America, and especially in South Carolina.

A major retrospective of Yaghjian's work can be seen March 16 through Sept. 16 at the State Museum in the exhibit *Edmund Yaghjian: A Retrospective*.

Providence, R.I. was where the two-year-old Yaghjian landed with his family in 1907, and his natural talent won him a scholarship to the Rhode Island School of Design, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1930.

Yaghjian moved to New York City after graduating to continue his studies at the famous Art Students League. "He became close friends with John Sloan and Stuart Davis, individuals who began and were greatly influenced by the Ash-Can School of painting," concentrating on depicting natural scenes of the city, says Curator of Art Paul Matheny. "He emphasized commonplace, everyday activity and the vitality and distinctiveness of urban life in the 1930s."

A number of paintings in the exhibit are from this period, such as "Subway at 57th St." and "42nd St. West of Broadway." His style is realistic to portray the feel of places he was living, which later included Ossining, N.Y., Danby, Vt. and Columbia, Mo.

Yaghjian's influence on South Carolina began when he moved to the Palmetto State in 1945 and became the first head of the art department at the University of South Carolina. "Yaghjian was one of the teachers, along with Augusta Witowsky and Catherine Rembert, to bring a level of professionalism to the department and encouraged the development of the arts in the community and across the state that, with the possible exception of Charleston during its 'renaissance' of the 1920s, had not previously existed," says Matheny.

In Columbia the artist continued to paint scenes of vernacular culture and local life, as in "Night at the Fair," "Barnwell St. Below Gervais" and "College St. Living Room."

He even painted the personal, in "Self Portrait" and "Candy and Mother Waiting for the Mail," which depicted his daughter and wife.

Moving South had its price, however. While living in the North, Yaghjian's early New York paintings were seen in important exhibitions, such as the "Portrait of America" show at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1944 and the "Painting in the United States" exhibit at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh in 1945.

"However, as his name in South Carolina blossomed, his national reputation began to fade," says Matheny. "Nonetheless, his importance as an artist is still recognized nationally, and he is one of the most influential artists and art educators from South Carolina."

Yaghjian painted his surroundings throughout his life, but over time his style shifted from realism to stylized abstraction to abstract work, says the curator.

Yaghjian's influence in the state has continued through his students, a list of which reads like a "Who's Who" of prominent South Carolina artists, including J. Bardin, Jasper Johns, Warren Johnson (aka Blue Sky), Sigmund Abeles, David Van Hook and Bill Bugge, among others.

The approximately 100 paintings and sketches in the exhibit will be supplemented with work by others whom Yaghjian influenced, Matheny says.

Edmund Yaghjian: A Retrospective can be seen in the Museum's Lipscomb Gallery through Sept. 16.



Self Portrait, 1931



Untitled (Cagnes sur Mer), circa 1928. Oil on cotton fabric.

Museum Acquires Rare William H. Johnson Painting

The State Museum has acquired a rare painting by one of the most important African-American painters in American history.

An anonymous donor has given the Museum an oil-on-cotton fabric painting by William Henry Johnson, a native of Florence, whose simplified, almost flat-color style depicted the everyday lives of blacks in the 1930s and 40s, among other topics.

"We are thrilled, needless to say, at this very generous donation," said Curator of Art Paul Matheny. "It was hard for me to believe that this significant a gift could eventually result from one phone call, which it did."

The untitled artwork, which is thought to have been created around 1928 when the artist was in Cagnes sur Mer, France, is a landscape depicting the French countryside, with houses, roads and figures typical of the artist from this period, said Matheny.

"Johnson is among the most important figures in 20th century art, and because he was from South Carolina, it is important that we have work from this artist in the Museum's collection. His paintings are difficult to locate and highly sought after."

The donor was familiar with the Museum's holdings and knew that this painting would fill a gap in the collection, said the curator. The Museum hosted a major retrospective of his work in 1995, but had no Johnson work prior to this donation.

The gift also included a snapshot of the artist in his studio in Europe with a note from Johnson on the back. The donated painting can be seen with other famous Johnson paintings in the photo.

"I was nearly in shock until I visited the donor's house and saw it for myself," said Matheny. "An unsolicited donation of this type and magnitude is an extremely rare occurrence, and we are deeply grateful to the donor."

The painting is currently being assessed for conservation needs and will be cleaned and conserved before exhibition. However, it should be on display by mid-2007, Matheny said.



Museum Road Show, Saturday, Jan. 13

Want to know more about that chair purchased from an antique store or more about great grandmother's silver? Curious guests will have their chance at the State Museum during its annual "Museum Road Show" on Saturday, Jan. 13.

Inspired by PBS' "Antiques Roadshow," the program will offer informal (verbal) appraisals of a variety of objects from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 4:30 p.m. Museum curators and local experts will be on hand not only to discuss items, but also to provide tips on caring for the objects.

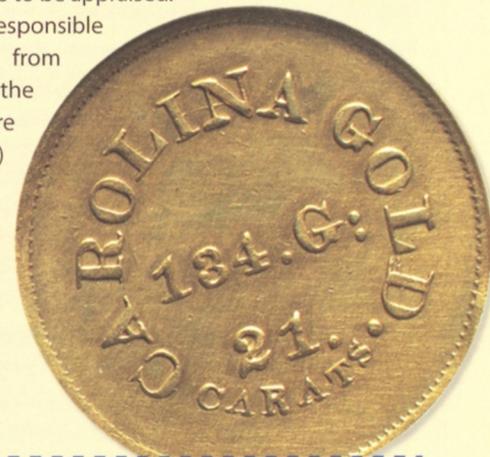
Experts will be available in the fields of fine art, silver, pottery, furniture, books, jewelry, textiles and dolls, as well as war artifacts ranging from the Civil War to World War II.

Crawford Conservation Inc. will give tips on how owners can preserve and care for their priceless artifacts. State Museum curators also will be available for general discussion, but will not give appraisals.

"The 'Museum Road Show' gives guests the opportunity to hear more about the item they've always wondered about," says Ashley Lowrimore, public programs manager. "Though some don't always hear the value they had hoped for, many are glad to walk out knowing more about their item than when they walked in."

Tickets are \$10 per item to be appraised (\$8 for Friends of the State Museum); limit five items to be appraised.

Participants are responsible for moving objects from their vehicles to the Museum's Atrium (where the event will occur) and back again. The Museum assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to any object.



"Museum Road Show" made possible by Diamond Hill Plywood!



"Museum Road Show" Appraisal Day Registration Form

Please return this form to: Museum Road Show, S.C. State Museum, P.O. Box 100107, Columbia, SC 29202-3107

Please send me _____ tickets @
 \$10 each (\$8 Friends of the State Museum)
 Membership # _____
 Total enclosed: \$ _____

Method of payment:

Check in the amount of \$ _____
 (Made payable to S.C. State Museum)

Charge \$ _____ to: Visa Mastercard

Account number _____ Exp. date _____

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (day) _____

E-mail address _____

Type of objects you plan to bring to the program:

For more information, call (803) 898-4952 or (803) 898-4902

You're Invited!

Feb. 24, 2007

Members receive FREE admission to the blockbuster exhibition . . .

Aliens: WORLDS OF POSSIBILITIES

Don't miss your chance to visit alien landscapes and see exciting extraterrestrial creatures.

JANUARY

1st - New Year's Day - Museum Open! 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last day to see the exhibit *NAPOLÉON An Intimate Portrait*.

1st - "Museum and a Movie" - Especially for the last day of the *NAPOLÉON* exhibition, the Museum is presenting all three films in the series, "The Campaigns of Napoleon" At **2 p.m.**, "The Battle of Austerlitz," **3 p.m.**, "Napoleon's Road to Moscow" and **4 p.m.**, "The Battle of Waterloo." Auditorium.

7th - KISS-FM 98¢ Sunday. General admission only 98¢ today.

13th - "Museum Road Show" appraisal program. Experts will appraise art, textiles, military memorabilia, furniture and jewelry. A \$10 ticket (\$8 for Friends of the State Museum) entitles a participant to one appraisal and \$ 1 off Museum admission. Participants wishing to have additional items appraised may purchase up to four additional tickets. Limited to five items per guest. 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 4:30 p.m., Atrium. For information, call (803) 898-4952 or 898-4902

"Museum Road Show" made possible by Diamond Hill Plywood! 

14th - Family History. Learn about researching your roots at a meeting of the S.C. Genealogical Society. 3 p.m., Red Room.

15th - Monday- Museum open! 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

15th - City Year Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Beloved Community Carnival. City Year Corps members and community members will provide activities for elementary and middle school-aged children to discuss and explore the values and ideals of Dr. King's Beloved Community. Games include a Peace art gallery, Equality Ring Toss and an MLK "Name That Speech" game. Free and open to the public. For information, call 803-254-3349. Presented by Bank of America and the S.C. State Museum. 10 a.m. - noon, Atrium

15th - City Year Young Heroes Beloved Community Ceremony and Celebration. 50 middle school students will pledge to serve the Greater Columbia community by committing to 100 hours of service. The ceremony includes a keynote address on the topic of diversity and performances from a variety of local cultural arts groups. For information, call 803-254-3349. Free with Museum admission. Presented by Bank of America and the S.C. State Museum. 1-2 p.m., Auditorium

16th - Costa Rica Presentation. Free presentation previewing the Museum's exciting trip to Costa Rica next July. Enjoy an illustrated presentation on "Costa Rica: Nature's Museum," an adventure to some of the world's most biologically rich environments, taking place in July 2007! Presented by the State Museum in partnership

with the Smithsonian Institution and Collette Vacations. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP before Jan. 11 at 803-898-5230 or e-mail tony.ganong@Museum.state.sc.us.

FEBRUARY

4th - KISS-FM 98¢ Sunday. General admission only 98¢ today.

4th - Last day to see the exhibit *Treasures by the 100s*.

9th - The aliens have landed! First day to see *Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities*.

11th - Family History. Learn about researching your roots at a meeting of the S.C. Genealogical Society. 3 p.m., Red Room.

17th - Activities Commemorating 142nd Anniversary of Sherman's March. Take a walk through history on Feb. 17 when the Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance commemorates Gen. Sherman's 1865 march on Columbia. On a bus tour of the city, participants will visit the Saluda Mill ruins inside Riverbanks Botanical Garden's grounds and will view the granite abutments of the Saluda River Bridge - burned by the Confederate army to slow the advancing Union troops. Other activities on Feb. 17 include a Civil War relic show and symposium, and re-enactments of Union cannons firing on the State House followed by the surrender of the city. A military ball will be held on Feb. 16 and a "living history" battlefield engagement between Confederate and Federal forces will take place on Feb. 17 and 18. Tickets for the bus tour and military ball can be purchased by calling 803.898.4922. To find out more info about this commemoration visit www.shermansmarch.com and click on "Tours/Info."

24th - Aliens Member Day. Members receive free admission to the new blockbuster exhibit *Aliens: Worlds of Possibilities*.

24th - "Heroes of the Underground Railroad" Stage Play. In celebration of Black History Month, Bright Star Children's Theatre presents a play combining traditional music and drama to honor the heroic figures of America's Underground Railroad. "Heroes of the Underground Railroad" portrays the stories of Harriet Tubman, Henry 'Box' Brown and also features Levi Coffin, John Parker and Frederick Douglas. 2 - 2:45 p.m., Auditorium.

MARCH

4th - KISS-FM 98¢ Sunday. General admission only 98¢ today.

16th - First day to see Yaghjian exhibit. Presentation of works by Edmund Yaghjian, former director of art at the University of South Carolina.



BIRTHDAY PARTIES

at the

STATE MUSEUM

Make all your 2007
birthday parties
fun and memorable!

Themes include:

Carolina Safari
Mad Scientists!
and Let's Talk Dino!

For more information call
(803) 898-4999

Exhibitions

Through Feb. 4
Treasures By The 100s

Feb. 9 Through Sept. 3
ALIENS
Worlds Of Possibilities

Through May 15
VISIONS OF VICTORY

Through June 30
HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE
New Views of the Universe

Through Sept. 8
CAROLINA NATURAL

On Weekends

Science Theatre

Science with Audience Participation!

2:00 and 3:30 p.m. Saturdays

3:30 p.m. Sundays

Optical Illusions

12:30 p.m. Saturdays

2:00 p.m. Sundays



Events Mark Anniversary of Burning of Columbia, Civil War

The State Museum will be part of the citywide event "Columbia's Longest Days: February 1865," marking the 142nd anniversary of Gen. William T. Sherman's march through the city.

"Columbia's Longest Days" begins Friday, Feb. 16 with a Grand Bazaar and dance at the State Museum, co-hosted by the Palmetto Soldiers Relief Society. The dance will feature live music and tables representing every Confederate state, just as the original Grand Bazaar event in Columbia did in 1865. Tickets are \$10 per person/ \$15 per couple and must be purchased in advance by calling (803) 898-4922.

Events continue Saturday, Feb. 17 at 9 a.m. A cannon will re-enact the firing on the State House from the Gervais Street Bridge in West Columbia. Following at 10 a.m. is a re-enactment of the city of Columbia's surrender located at River Drive at Beaufort Street. Both re-enactments are free to the public.

At the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., guests will see vendors of Civil War artifacts (sponsored by the Palmetto Relic Club), living history re-enactors in military uniforms, Civil War artifact appraisers and more. Tours to the Confederate Relic Room are free for the day.

Also from noon - 4:30 p.m. at the Confederate Relic Room, presentations will be given about the Battle of Congaree Creek, Wade Hampton, the Grand Bazaar, Sherman's burning of Columbia and more. The afternoon symposium is free to the public.

Narrated bus tours of Sherman's march through the city will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., leaving from the Museum's front parking lot. Retrace Gen. Sherman's march through Columbia in special narrated tours featuring accounts of Union soldiers, newspaper reporters and Columbia residents. See bridge abutments of the Gervais Street and Saluda River bridges burned by the Confederates, stand on the original earthworks built for the Confederate defense, and walk along the Saluda River to see the granite remains of one of the largest textile mills of the early 1800s, among other activities.

Tours are approximately three hours. Tickets for the bus tours cost \$15 per person and may be reserved by calling the Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance at (803) 217-0071.

For tickets to the Grand Bazaar dance or for bus tour tickets, call (803) 898-4922. For information about other events during the day, visit www.shermansmarch.com or call the GCCWA at (803) 217-0071.

Notes From Our Director, Willie Calloway

Great Expectations for the New Year!!



As 2006 draws to a close, we are busy planning ahead for the new year. I am sure that 2007 will present both challenges and opportunities. However, I am confident that with our super staff and loyal volunteers we will have another great year where close to 200,000 people will gather with friends and family to experience the wonders of the State Museum.

For some facilities the summer months attract the most visitors, but for the State Museum our busiest time will be the next six months. We will have close to 50,000 school children visit the facility during that time, and we'll kick off the summer family visit season. Additionally, we'll present a number of special programs and events that will attract new visitors to the facility.

We have planned our exhibit schedule for the next year and I am sure you will be excited about the number and diversity of our offerings. Our new blockbuster – "Aliens – Worlds of Possibilities" promises to be fresh, fun, and fascinating as we look at the science of the universe. Along with our recently opened exhibit, "Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe" and an exciting, new in-house developed exhibit "Earth from Space" that will open in June, we have planned a myriad of opportunities for school children and families to experience the wonders of space and the science of astronomy. As you know, this past year we received another \$5 million towards the OPT (Observatory, Planetarium, Theater) renovation project and through these new space-themed exhibits we will give our visitors a small sampling of the fascinating worlds

of discovery that the OPT project will allow us to see and experience when it's completed.

Not only will we open exhibits based on science and technology but we will also touch upon each of the other three disciplines of the Museum with these planned exhibits:

Cultural History

Seeds of Change: South Carolina and World War I – Part of a city-wide collaboration that has received substantial funding support from the federal granting agency the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Natural History

Carolina Natural – The Museum's first exhibit of its extensive natural history collection, which will run to the end of the summer.

Art

Edmund Yaghjian: A Retrospective – A 100-plus piece show of artwork of the Armenian-born Columbia resident who became the first chairman of the art department at the University of South Carolina. We put this exhibit together exclusively for the State Museum, and we will travel it across the country after its run here in Columbia.

We also have many programs and events that promise to be engaging and informative as well. First, in January is our annual "Museum Road Show" which gives you an opportunity to see if you have any treasures hidden in your attic. Our expert appraisers will evaluate your item and give you their best estimate of the values of the unique artifacts that you have collected over the years. Please call the Museum for times and pricing information.

Also in January, we will partner with the City Year organization to present a fun-filled day of learning and activities in conjunction with the observance of the Martin Luther King holiday and remembrance.

I hope that you and your family and friends will plan to visit the State Museum to take advantage of all the exciting plans we have in store for you in 2007.

I have great expectations that 2007 will be another fantastic year at your

South Carolina State Museum!

Volunteering At The State Museum Is Good For Your Body And Your Mind

By Jeff Powley, Volunteer Manager

Your State Museum is a good place to exercise your mind and your body. Interesting volunteer opportunities are available every day of the week and most can be customized to fit your personal schedule. And remember, when you become a Museum volunteer, you will receive a 20 percent discount at the Crescent Café and the Cotton Mill Exchange. So improve your mental, physical and financial fitness by volunteering today! Choose your level of activity:

LOW ACTIVITY:

Gallery Greeter - This is a sit-down job. Greet guests visiting our Blockbuster gallery and check to see that they have paid the special fee. Hand out brochures. Two 2-hr shifts per month required.

Education Cart Presenter - This is a sit-down job. Guide students through hands-on activities in the galleries. Morning or early afternoon 2-hr shifts – your choice!

Museum Telephone Receptionist - Answer the Museum phone line. Chat with potential visitors about exhibits, operating hours and admission prices. Weekday and weekend shifts available.

MODERATE ACTIVITY:

Gallery Monitor - Stroll through galleries and speak with chaperones. Help docents keep their groups together. Morning or early afternoon shifts available.

Membership Desk Greeter - Greet Museum guests at the front door and explain the benefits of membership. Hand out brochures. Afternoon and weekend shifts available.

HIGH ACTIVITY:

Cotton Mill Exchange Helper - Work in an exciting retail environment. Greet guests and help them find the ideal Museum purchase. Price inventory, wrap gifts, operate cash register. Many shifts available to suit your schedule.

Docent - Learn about South Carolina and share your knowledge with students of all ages. Give Museum tours covering four floors in our historic mill building. Morning and early afternoon tours available.

Group Greeter - For a good aerobic workout, greet groups as they arrive at the Museum. Help teachers organize their groups for tours. Walk groups to various Museum floors. Monitor Museum lunchroom.

Volunteer Spotlight!

When asked what he would tell his peers about volunteering at the State Museum, **Robbie Munsey** enthusiastically said, "It's a great experience. It's exactly what I want to do. I like interacting with kids and besides, it's lots of fun!"

Not a bad endorsement from a docent, especially from one who is a freshman at the University of South Carolina, a history major and who has a full load of classes.

Munsey, from Spartanburg via Long Island, N.Y., is fascinated with history. "I like to know the cause and effect of historical events. I like to know what people were thinking, how they invented things and how the actions of leaders affect their countries and, in some cases, the world. I've been a history nut since I was a kid." His future plans are to receive his teaching degree from USC, teach high school history and then work on his doctorate and teach in college.

So how did he learn about the Museum's volunteer program? "At USC I was told the State Museum was looking for volunteers so I called Jeff Powley, the volunteer manager, and the rest, as they would say, is history," said Munsey. **Welcome aboard, Robbie!**



Brightening Your Rainy Day

The drizzle of rain outside your bedroom window combats the morning alarm, making your eyelids and covers feel heavier. Your spirit is dampened as the already shortened days of fall and winter engulf you in a gray fog. Worse yet, your plans with the kids at the zoo, the playground, or the park look washed away behind wet window panes and a closed front door.

However, the threat of rain in the forecast begins a flurry of activity in the State Museum's group visits office. Last minute reservations are scheduled, school groups with bag lunches and intentions of eating outside are looking for alternatives, and the occasional unscheduled school bus shows up at the front steps. Like water on the sidewalks and streets outside, the galleries and Museum hallways are saturated with the smiling faces of students, teachers, and parents, pleased with the fun and educational alternative to a rainy South Carolina day.

Here are some suggestions if the rain is threatening your next outing with the kids. The natural habitat galleries on the second floor are a dry alternative to the zoo, with plants and animals exhibited within five different South Carolina habitats. The "hands-on" science exhibits on the third floor would be perfect substitutes for a park-bound group, letting kids learn while they use up energy. For the park-bound family, our "Cactus Room" just might be the best possible substitution for a picnic ruined by the rain. And if your toddler likes stuffed animals, tree houses, or legos, the Stringer Discovery Center is a must.

So don't let the rain hinder you from enjoying all that South Carolina has to offer. Just make your way to the State Museum and leave your umbrellas at the door!

For volunteer information or to request an application, please call Jeff Powley at 898-4912.



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Notes From Our Foundation Director *Adrienne Huffman*

As executive director of the S.C. Museum Foundation, in addition to raising funds, one of my objectives is to raise awareness among donors and potential donors about all of the unique opportunities for funding support the Museum offers.

It is standard to solicit sponsorship funding for blockbuster exhibits such the upcoming *ALIENS: Worlds of Possibilities*, which opens Feb. 9. It will also probably come as no surprise that the Foundation works to secure sponsorships for the Museum's traveling exhibits. We are excited to offer diverse sponsorship opportunities such as *Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe*, which highlights the knowledge gained by science via that amazing instrument, and *Visions of Victory*, which displays more than 100 images of memorable athletes and memorable moments in sports history. Sponsorship of our upcoming retrospective of 30 years of Edmund Yaghjian's artwork is also a great way to support the Museum.

What you may not be aware of, however, is that there are many other sponsorship opportunities the Museum offers. We are launching a new program that will allow individuals or corporations to annually sponsor parts of our permanent collection display. We also hold each year at the Museum signature events, such as the Tartan Fest celebration of Scottish heritage in April and "Tricks & Treats at the State Museum" in October. These events offer a tremendous amount of exposure in both media and to attendees. Please contact me at (803) 898-4975 or Michelle Adams at (803) 898-4992 to learn more about our signature event sponsorship opportunities.

Finally, as you begin a new year in 2007, please consider donating to the South Carolina Museum Foundation's Annual Fund. Your fully tax-deductible contribution to the Annual Fund allows the Foundation to assist the Museum in the conservation of all of the items in its collection and helps to support the Museum's exhibitions, programs, publications and events.

We appreciate your support and hope to see you soon at your State Museum!



You're Invited To Journey to Costa Rica this July!

Join us Tuesday, Jan. 16
at 5:30 p.m. for an
illustrated introduction.

Members, start planning your vacations now! Join us for an illustrated look at a Museum-sponsored trip to Costa Rica in July of 2007. This journey features visits to some of the world's most biologically rich environments. Presented by the South Carolina State Museum in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and Collette Vacations.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP by Jan. 11 at (803) 898-5230 or by email at tony.ganong@Museum.state.sc.us

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Thanks to all our Corporate Members whose support and enthusiasm helps us assure South Carolina's cultural future while preserving its past!

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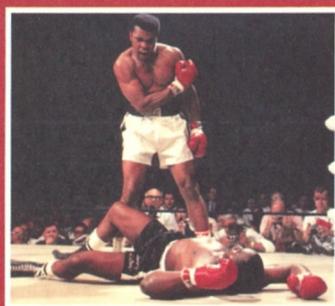
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You Make It Happen!



Beautiful music, elegant hors d'oeuvres and good friends combined with the exhibit *NAPOLEON An Intimate Portrait* to make Evenings with the Emperor special.

Spooks and special activities were the order of the State Museum.



Thank You!

Collins & Lacy, P.C.

for sponsoring

Visions of Victory

Dec. 15 - May 15, 2007

Artifact Donors

We would like to recognize the people and institutions who during the past few months have generously donated objects to our collection.

Their interest, support and generosity have measurably assisted us in our efforts to continue to build the State Museum for South Carolina.

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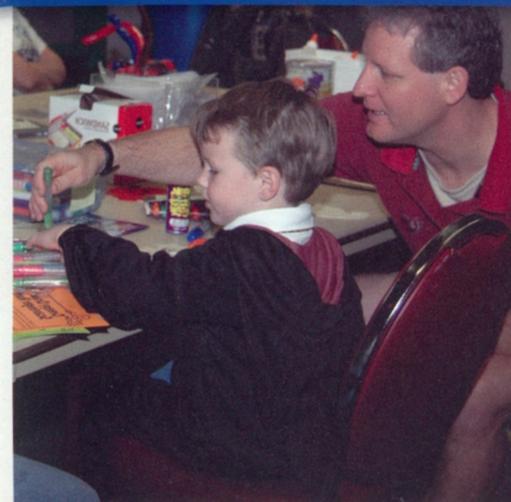
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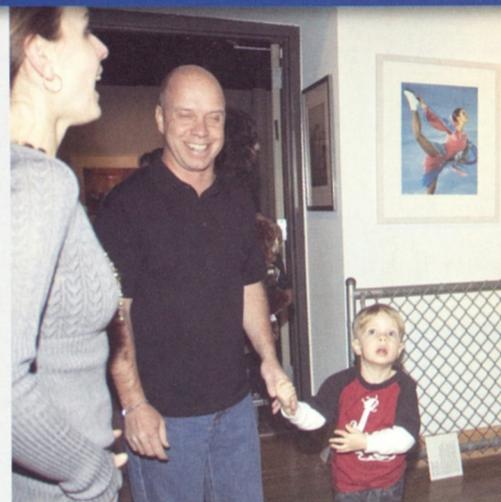
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day Oct. 21 and 28 during Tricks and Treats at the



Beautiful Christmas trees and wreaths "decked the halls" at the Museum for the annual Festival of Trees.



Professional ice skater Scott Hamilton, along with Kristi Yamaguchi and Nancy Kerrigan, relaxed with family and friends at the Museum before their show at Columbia's Colonial Center Dec 9.

Aug. 22 - Nov. 30, 2006

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Palmetto Pride!



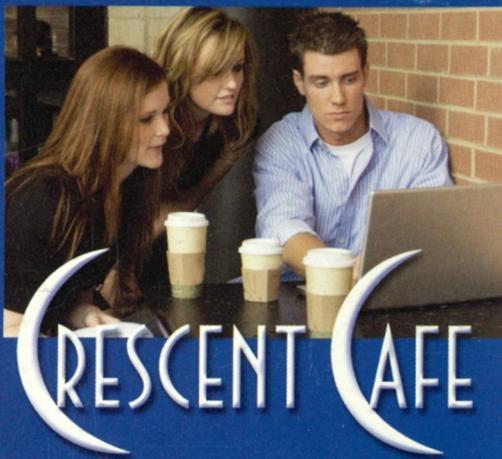
Made from copper removed from the dome of the State House during the 1991-1998 renovation, this striking ornament is a piece of South Carolina history. Cleaned and polished to reveal the natural beauty of the copper, it is a lovely memento of the distinguished South Carolina State House. The eight copper stars on the base of the ornament signify that South Carolina was the eighth state to join the Union. A keepsake for you or a gift for a special occasion, the ornament was created exclusively for the State Museum store and is just one of the many original and intriguing items available at the



Shop at home by visiting the online store at www.cottonmillexchange.com

Remember, Museum members always receive a 10 percent discount on all purchases!

Snack and Surf at the . . .



Open up your laptop and enjoy the convenience of our wireless internet access while having a light lunch or snack. Browse through your email while you linger over a freshly baked cookie and a rich coffee or flavorful tea. Then finish your afternoon with a tour through the wonderful world of the State Museum.

The holiday lights are gone, but the Museum continues to shine!

Tired of hum drum meetings and parties? Make 2007 the year your meeting or social gathering surpasses the rest. Put your event in the extraordinary space of the South Carolina State Museum for a unique experience. Behind our historic façade you will find an up-to-date catering kitchen, full audio-visual service and wireless Internet access in all of our major meeting areas. Embellished by the beautiful setting of the museum and run by our veteran event coordinators, your event will be set apart from the crowd at the State Museum.

- Convenient, free parking
- Opportunity to tour the museum galleries
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- Affordable prices
- In-house catering available



*Special spaces for exceptional events! Visit southcarolinastatemuseum.org
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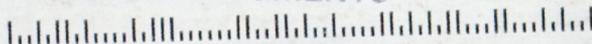


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