

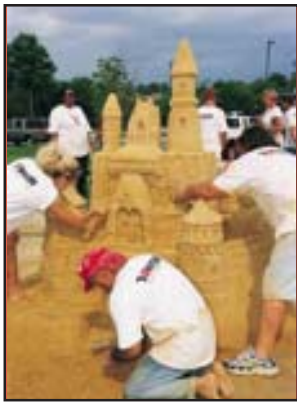


Explore the Rivers

Spring 2005

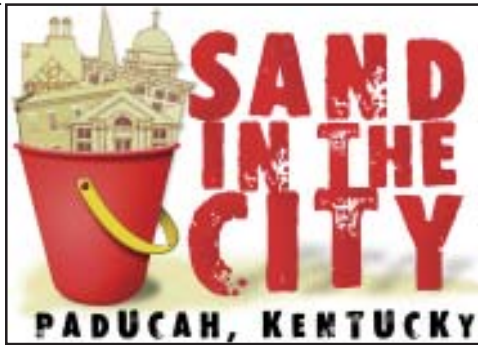
SAND IN THE CITY

What can you do with over 250 tons of sand, 4,000 gallons of water and hundreds of competitors? How about build giant sand sculptures at **Sand in the City**.



Sand in the City is Paducah's first amateur sand sculpting competition featuring local companies, churches and school teams. Each team is trained in the art of sand sculpting by master sand sculptor and Sand in the City founder Bert Adams.

The giant sculptures will be on display from July 22nd through July 24th in the Farmers Market parking lot. **Sand in the City** will act as a kickoff event to the Paducah



Summer Festival. **Sand in the City** is free for the public to attend.

If your company, school or church would like to participate in this inaugural event, please contact marketing director, Nate Heider at 270-575-9958 or email nheider@riverheritagemuseum.org.

Sand in the City is a unique event and a great marketing opportunity for your company or organization.

Governor Ernie Fletcher Presents Check to RHM

The museum board and over 100 supporters gathered to welcome Governor Ernie Fletcher on March 17th when he arrived to present a check to the museum for our future expansion. While at the museum he signed legislation to streamline tax collection on barge shipments along the state's watersays.

This \$878,850 is the same TEA 21 grant that was announced to the museum back in November 2004 for phase II of our expansion. Museum board chairman Ken Wheeler said, "the federal grant will allow the museum to double its floor space, allowing room for more interactive and traveling exhibits, including possibly some from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C."



Pictured above: Governor Ernie Fletcher, Ken Wheeler, Julie Harris, Mayor Bill Paxton and Judge Executive Danny Orazine

Museum Tours Helps with CATS Test



5th Grade Students from Sharpe Elementary

The River Heritage Museum was recently visited by the 5th grade class from Sharpe Elementary School. The visit was a "customized" tour which included a guided tour of the interactive exhibits with a focus on pertinent areas of study. The school came for enrichment to enhance their studies before CATS testing. Mrs. Bertha Wenzel, niece of Miss Mary Wheeler who has preserved music from the Roustabout era, came in period dress to tell the students about "Steamboat'n Days". Afterwards, one of the teachers reported "There were 3 questions on our CATS test that you covered in the museum."

Education is the thrust of our mission here at the museum. Thank you, Sharpe Elementary, for allowing us to share our wonderful museum with you.

Directors Comments

Julie Harris

Executive Director

As we reflect on all of our achievements at the River Heritage Museum in the past year, we are filled with a true sense of accomplishment—and gratitude. Under the guidance of board of directors and the unwavering dedication of the staff, the River Heritage Museum continues to raise the bar. Today, the museum is on the brink of “seismic” change. With anticipated demand for ways to meet curriculum requirements with area schools to eventually surpass our capacity, we move toward a major expansion in order to enhance our educational programs and become a **destination** in and of itself. We are beginning our work with a renowned museum planner and exhibit designer and will keep you up to date on what is happening.



On another note, please remember the museum when you are looking for ways to entertain your out of town guests.

Chattanooga Star Returns



All Aboard!!! As you step onto the Chattanooga Star for a cruise down the Ohio River you are stepping back in time.. This 65-foot reproduction side paddlewheeler will arrive at the Port of Paducah and be available for cruises during the month of May. Public cruises will take place each Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 pm and will board at the Paducah riverfront. The public cruises will last for about a hour long as Captain Mike and Pete take passengers on trip

around Owens Island where the Tennessee and Ohio Rivers converge. Schools are encouraged to take a trip aboard the Chattanooga Star on a special cruise called *RiverTrek*. This educational 1 hour cruise is only offered to students and is available 3 times daily Tuesday through Friday.

The **RiverTrek** mission is for a passenger vessel to travel our nation’s waterways to rural communities and provide students and the public with local cruises, with an emphasis on sustainable economic and environmental management of our waterways and water resources.

The Chattanooga Star can be chartered for a private cruise during the day or night for you special event or for just a party on the river.

Call today to schedule your cruise or private charter aboard the Chattanooga Star. For more information, call E.J. Abell at 270-575-9958 or email ej@riverheritagemuseum.org.

Flood Filming Has Begun

After requesting memories from survivors of the 1937 flood, the museum has been “flooded” with people wanting to tell their story. Stories are coming from people as far away as California who lived in Paducah during that cold January of 1937. A majority of the stories are still coming from long time residents of Paducah and the surrounding area.

Our first round of filming began with some assistance from the WKCTC Television production staff consisting of Tom Butler, Dan Sheppard and Tammy Thompson. The first day of filming was coordinated by historian, John Robertson and Education Director, E.J. Abell. The documentary will be called “Outside the Banks”. Future film dates are scheduled.



John Robertson interviews Mary Margaret Hoffman as she recounts her memories of the 1937 flood.

If you know of someone who has a story to tell have them contact E.J. Abell at the River Heritage Museum (270) 575-9958 for more information.

Back from the Boat Yard

The Delta Queen has come alive inside the museum--with the help of Paducah Water employees Ricky Gilbert, Tee Vinson and Dennis Collins. The 7-foot long replica was given an over haul and now has moving parts and working lights.

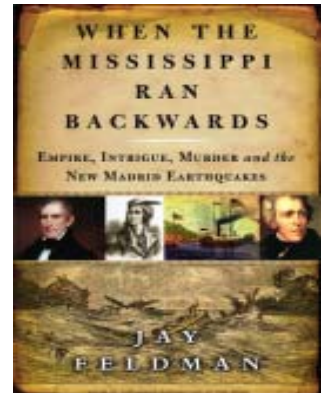


Pictured above: Dennis Collins and Ricky Gilbert. Not Pictured Tee Vinson

Jay Feldman Signs Book

On April, 14th, Jay Feldman arrived in the museum to sign copies of his book-*When The Mississippi Ran Backwards: Empire, Intrigue, Murder, and the New Madrid Earthquakes*. Feldman’s writings have appeared in *Smithsonian* magazine, *Newsweek*, *Sports Illustrated*, *The New York Times*, *Gourmet*, *Whole Earth Review*, and a wide variety of other national, regional, and local publications. A number of his pieces have been anthologized. He has also written for television, film, and the stage.

Feldman’s book can be purchased in the museum shop and some copies are autographed.



www.riverheritagemuseum.org

On Your Mark Get Set Go!

As the museum grows, so must our endowment. One way you can support the museum is by participating in the Fund Run for Charities. This annual event continues to grow every year and last year we were able to raise over \$13,000 toward our endowment.

The Fund Run for Charities is once again sponsored by UBS Financial and the Community Foundation of West Kentucky. As this race continues to grow, so does the participation.

This year's race is set for 8:00 a.m. on July 23 in front of Paducah Bank on Jefferson Street. The course will be a flat 3.2 miles (5k) run or walk. **New this year is a 1 mile race for youth 12 and under.** The Kid's Race will start at 9:30 a.m. before the awards ceremony.

The Fund Run for Charities provides funding for 16 non-profit agencies in the



Paducah-McCracken County area through donations raised by the agencies and \$100,000 provided by an anonymous donor to the Community Foundation in matching funds.

If you have not received a race entry form for this year's race, please contact Nate Heider at 270-575-9958.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Without question, the high point for the Museum in recent weeks has been the announcement of the award of our third Transportation Enhancement Grant from the Commonwealth. Equally important was the personal visit from Governor Fletcher and Finance Secretary Robbie Rudolph to award the grant. Let me assure you that awards like this don't just happen. Competition for them is intense, and the criteria that must be met in order to receive one is demanding. Hats off to Director Harris for a great job of preparing the grant application and then seeing it through to fruition!



Ken Wheeler

We should all take note of the Governor's remarks during his visit. He made much of the importance of the river industry to Kentucky's economy. Since the Museum's primary mission is to educate the public on the importance of the nation's rivers, it's gratifying to hear this theme being articulated by the Commonwealth's top elected official. I believe that Kentucky will continue to emphasize the importance of this great natural resource under Governor Fletcher's leadership. **Thanks Governor!**

Meanwhile, much more is going on at the Museum. Thanks to: Murrill Curtis for the permanent loan of our beautiful 100 year old ship bell; Tina Hayes and Barry Brown for the resumption of the Adopt-a-Towboat program which is such a great learning tool for school children; Jay Feldman for selecting the Museum as the venue for the local signing of his great new book "When the Mississippi Ran Backward"; our industry friends who manned the RHM display at the Inland Waterways Conference last month in Nashville; Paul Streigel and Buck Lay for "rescuing" the valuable maritime artifact collection from the Executive Inn; and to so many more who make the museum the living resource that it is. **Wherever your interest lies, come and join in the activities!**

Quilters Step Back Into Time

With the AQS Quilt Show in full swing, the River Heritage Museum invited quilters in for a lesson in spinning wool. Tammy Zimmerman and her spinning wheel were on hand in the Founders Room spinning wool and greeting quilters from all over.

For two days during quilt week Tammy and her baskets of wool, offered visitors a free demonstration on the art of



Tammy Zimmerman (pictured left) demonstrates her unique technique to quilters.

spinning wool.

Tammy uses wool that has been sheared from her Shetland sheep that are raised on her farm here in Paducah. The shetland sheep produce a high quality fiber in many attractive fleece colors.

The museum would like to thank Tammy for giving her time and talents to help demonstrate this unique art form.

Getting to know Board Member, Col. Don Askew

SEARCHLIGHT

has landed on Colonel Donald Askew, Ret. of Brookport, IL.

After graduating from University of Illinois in 1958, he entered the U.S. Army. While in the Army he earned the rank of Colonel before he retired in 1989.

Col. Askew is still involved with the Department of Defense and also does some consulting (*D.C. Askew and Associates, Inc.*) for institutional, industrial, private sector and governmental organizations.

Col. Askew is married to wife Judy and together they have four grown children. The Askews currently reside in Brookport, IL.

Q: What is your favorite sport to watch?

A: Automobile racing, then basketball.

Q: What are some of your hobbies?

A: Banjo playing, automobile racing, aviation, archaeology, writing and oil painting

Q: What are some of your greatest accomplishments?

A: Convincing Judy Thornberry to marry me and raising a family together.

Q: What was the best gift you ever received?

A: My children

Q: Best and worst place you have been on vacation?

**A: Best-Madrid Spain
Worst-Haven't been there yet.**



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- Governor Fletchers Visit*
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- Chattanooga Star Returns*

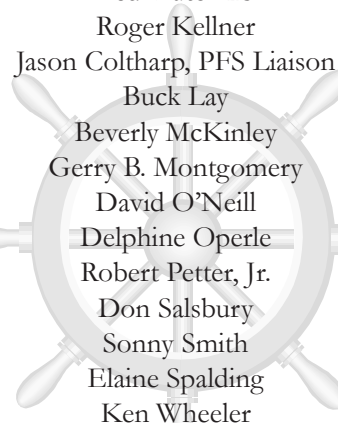
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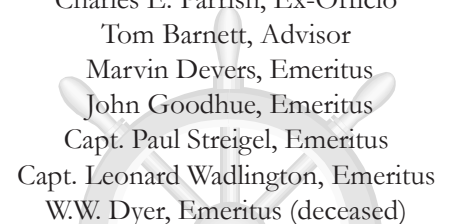
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