

"Imagine a class so powerful that it allowed you to understand the past, see the future, and realize your potential to make a difference in the world - today."



**UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...**



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Alternative Spring Break 2013 Emergency Contact List

MS State Contacts:

Courtney Allen, Alternative Spring Break Co-Coordinator 601.622.0892
Chris Turner, Alternative Spring Break Co-Coordinator..... 864.554.6313
Heather Black, Alternative Spring Break AmeriCorps VISTA..... 601.209.6003
Lacy Jaudon, Volunteer Starkville AmeriCorps VISTA.....662.654.0530
Cade Smith, Student Leadership and Community Engagement, Director.....662.418.0140

Ole Miss Contacts:

Ryan Parsons, AmeriCorps VISTA.....601.270.5881
Erin Mauffrey, AmeriCorps VISTA.....228.547.2858

The physical addresses for Greenwood Baptist Church and the Wesley Foundation are:

North Greenwood Baptist Church
615 Grand Boulevard
Greenwood, MS 38930 US

DSU Rec Center
Delta State University
1003 West Sunflower Road
Cleveland, MS 38733

This information is intended to provide your family members or significant others with emergency contact information in case they are unable to contact you.

Group Rules and Reminders

- 1) Students are expected to abide by state and federal laws, as well as the Mississippi State Student Code of Conduct.
- 2) Everyone will participate in all of the group activities.
- 3) We will travel together on the vans as a group.
- 4) Please be on time and respectful of others during the trip.
- 5) Be mindful that quiet time is from 10 p.m. – 6 a.m.
- 6) Don't forget to bring your camera and have lots of fun!

Sunday Service Group Assignments

Van A- LEVEE RUN FARM	Van B- LEVEE RUN FARM	Van C- LEAD CENTER	Van D- LEAD CENTER	Van E- LEVEE RUN FARM	Van F- LEVEE RUN FARM
Hannah Humphrey	Holly Porter	Ashley Reed	Tommy Acy	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Blake Schrouf
Sarah Rutland	Larra Pruitt	Elim Kim	Matthew Storey	Hyunseok Park	Santana Bean
Karl Lauten	Joan Rodriguez	Hyungguk Ryu	Anna Murphy	Kukill Lee	Victoria Mathias
Tyeisha Moore	Michael Burgess	Matthew Campbell	Sean Ray	Austin Flint	Mary- Kay Belant
Brett Taylor	John Spann	Lauren Hammons	Mackenzie Widder	Thomas Moncrief	Alyson Thompson
Anas khalaf Anas Al abri	Aditya Khare	Jesse Ingram	Tishawn Polk	Sultana Ababtin	Abdullah al- Siyabi
Joshua Rawls	Marlon Palihena	Stace Sievert			
		*Lacy Jaudon			
*Cade Smith	*Heather Black	**Lauryn DuValle	*Carmen Wilder	**Ryan Parsons	**Erin Mauffrey

Monday Service Group Assignments

Van A- DELTA TOUR	Van B- DELTA TOUR	Van C- DELTA TOUR	Van D- DELTA TOUR	Van E- DELTA TOUR	Van F- DELTA TOUR
Hannah Humphrey	Sarah Rutland	Karl Lauten	Michael Burgess	Tyeisha Moore	Mary- Kay Belant
Holly Porter	Larra Pruitt	Joan Rodriguez	Hyungguk Ryu	John Spann	Austin Flint
Ashley Reed	Lauren Hammons	Elim Kim	Aditya Khare	Anna Murphy	Jesse Ingram
Tommy Acy	Matthew Campbell	Matthew Storey	Blake Schrouf	Hyunseok Park	Alyson Thompson
Brett Taylor	Sean Ray	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Santana Bean	Victoria Mathias	Abdullah al- Siyabi
Marlon Palihena	Kukill Lee	Anas khala Anas Al abri	Mackenzie Widder		Sultana Ababtin
Joshua Rawls	Tishawn Polk	Thomas Moncrief			
Stace Sievert		*Lacy Jaudon			
*Cade Smith	*Heather Black	**Lauryn DuValle	*Courtney Allen	**Ryan Parsons	**Erin Mauffrey

Tuesday Service Group Assignments

Van A- QUAPAW	Van B- QUAPAW	Van C- MARKS, MS	Van D- MOUND BAYOU	Van E- MARKS, MS	Van F- QUAPAW
Hyunseok Park	Matthew Storey	Anna Murphy	Lauren Hammons	Tyeisha Moore	Austin Flint
Elim Kim	Holly Porter	Joan Rodriguez	Tommy Acy	Matthew Campbell	Hannah Humphrey
Larra Pruitt	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Sarah Rutland	Ashley Reed	Aditya Khare	Joshua Rawls
Anas khalaf Anas Al abri	Hyungguk Ryu	Karl Lauten	Kukill Lee	Jesse Ingram	Santana Bean
Mackenzie Widder	Michael Burgess	John Spann	Victoria Mathias	Marlon Palihena	Brett Taylor
Alyson Thompson	Blake Schrouf	Stace Sievert	Mary- Kay Belant		Sultana Ababtin
Thomas Moncrief	Sean Ray	Abdullah al-Siyabi	Tishawn Polk		
*Cade Smith	*Lacy Jaudon	*Heather Black			
*Chris Turner	*Courtney Allen	**Lauryn DuValle	*Charlie Anderton	**Ryan Parsons	***Erin Mauffrey

Wednesday Service Group Assignments

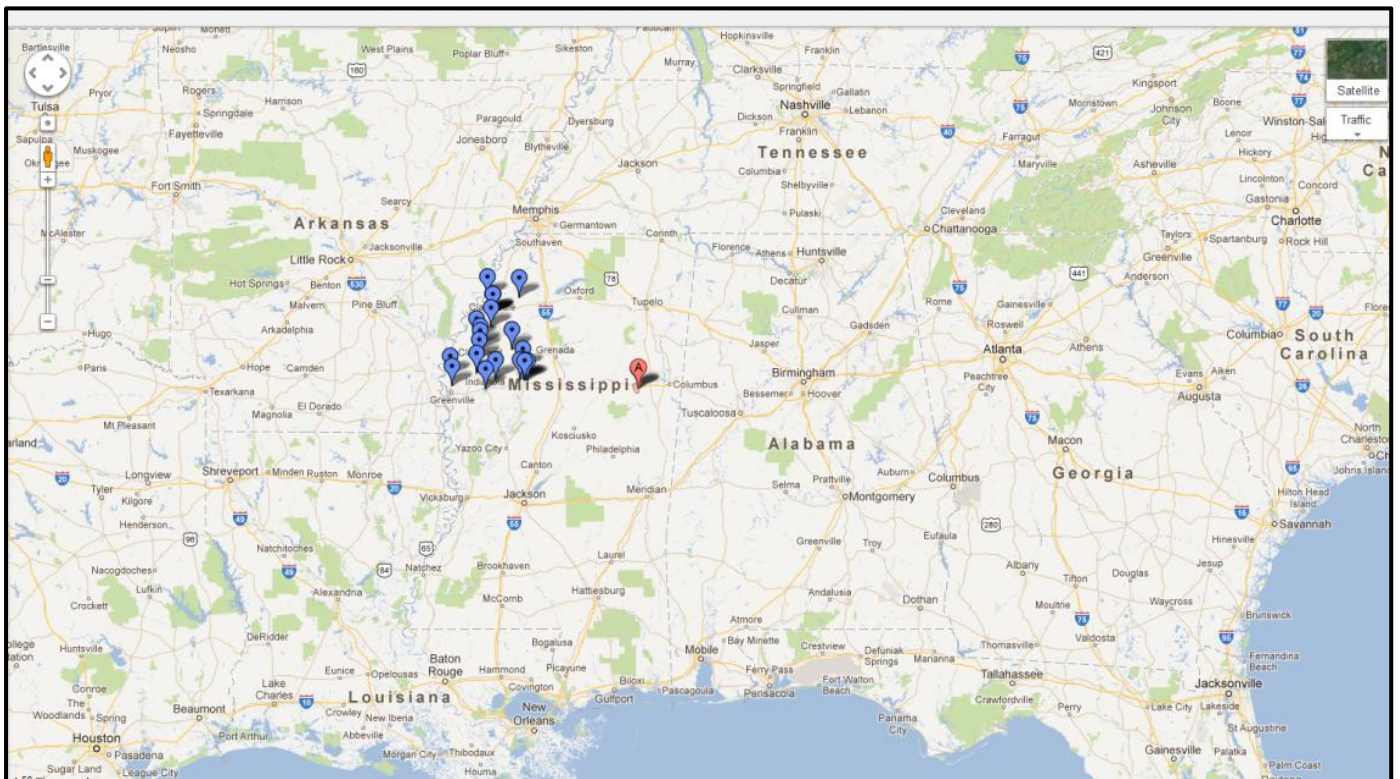
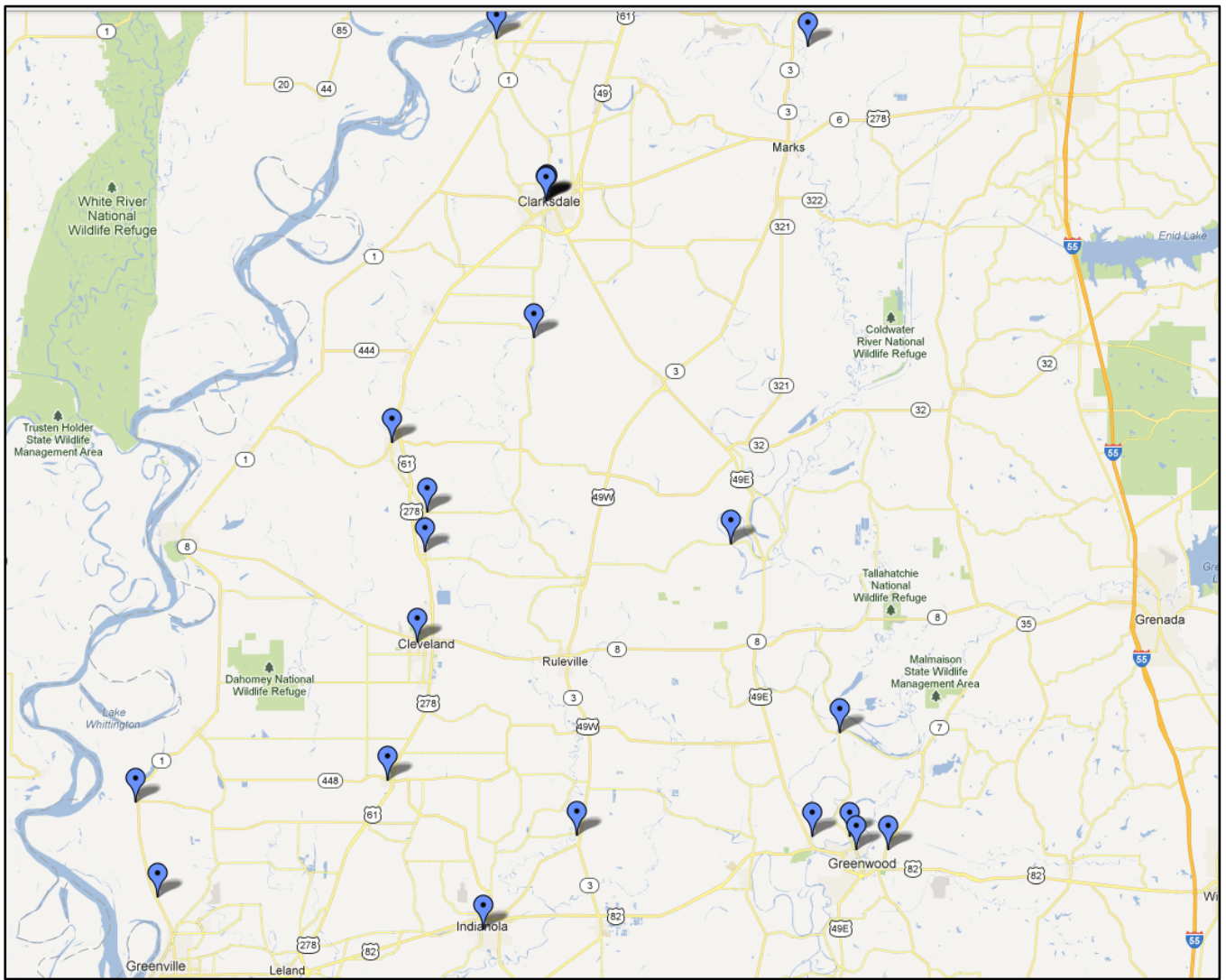
Van A- MARKS, MS	Van B- FRIARS POINT	Van C- BEN PINION	Van D- QUAPAW	Van E- QUAPAW	Van F- QUAPAW
Michael Burgess	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Alyson Thompson	Lauren Hammons	Matthew Campbell	Mary- Kay Belant
Hannah Humphrey	Elim Kim	Hyunseok Park	Tyeisha Moore	John Spann	Jesse Ingram
Hyungguk Ryu	Holly Porter	Matthew Storey	Tommy Acy	Kukill Lee	Joan Rodriguez
John Spann	Blake Schrouf	Mackenzie Widder	Sarah Rutland	Aditya Khare	Marlon Palihena
Larra Pruitt	Joshua Rawls	Brett Taylor	Ashley Reed	Anna Murphy	Tishawn Polk
Anas khalaf Anas Al abri	Thomas Moncrief	Santana Bean	Karl Lauten	Victoria Mathias	Abdullah al-Siyabi
Sean Ray	Sultana Ababtin	Austin Flint	Stace Sievert		
	*Lacy Jaudon		*Charlie Anderton		
*Cade Smith	**Erin Mauffrey	*Courtney Allen	*Heather Black	**Ryan Parsons	**Lauryn DuValle

Thursday Service Group Assignments

Van A	Van B	Van C	Van D	Van E	Van F
Hannah Humphrey	Holly Porter	Ashley Reed	Tommy Acy	Lauren Hammons	Anna Murphy
Sarah Rutland	Larra Pruitt	Elim Kim	Matthew Storey	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Sean Ray
Karl Lauten	Joan Rodriguez	Hyungguk Ryu	Jesse Ingram	Hyunseok Park	Mackenzie Widder
Tyeisha Moore	Michael Burgess	Matthew Campbell	Joshua Rawls	Kukill Lee	Alyson Thompson
Brett Taylor	John Spann	Santana Bean	Marlon Palihena	Aditya Khare	Abdullah al-Siyabi
Anas khalaf Anas Al abri	Mary- Kay Belant	Austin Flint	Tishawn Polk		Sultana Ababtin
Blake Schrouf	Victoria Mathias	Thomas Moncrief	Stace Sievert		
	*Lacy Jaudon				
*Cade Smith	**Lauryn DuValle	*Heather Black	*Charlie Anderton	**Ryan Parsons	**Erin Mauffrey

Friday Service Group Assignments

Van A- Sunflower	Van B- Sunflower	Van C- Sunflower	Van D- Indianola	Van E- Indianola	Van F- Indianola
Hannah Humphrey	Holly Porter	Alyson Thompson	Tommy Acy	Anna Marie Huerkamp	Austin Flint
Sarah Rutland	Larra Pruitt	Joshua Rawls	Matthew Storey	Hyunseok Park	Lauren Hammons
Karl Lauten	Joan Rodriguez	Hyungguk Ryu	Anna Murphy	Kukill Lee	Elim Kim
Tyeisha Moore	Michael Burgess	Matthew Campbell	Sean Ray	Aditya Khare	Ashley Reed
Brett Taylor	John Spann	Thomas Moncrief	Mackenzie Widder	Victoria Mathias	Tishawn Polk
Anas khalaf Anas Al abri	Mary- Kay Belant	Marlon Palihena	Jesse Ingram	Abdullah al-Siyabi	Sultana Ababtin
Blake Schrouf	Santana Bean		Stace Sievert		
					**Erin Mauffrey
*Cade Smith	*Lacy Jaudon	*Charlie/ Courtney	*Heather Black	**Ryan Parsons	**Lauryn DuValle



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Trip Itinerary



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
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	Sunday 3/10 Van A- Cade	Sunday 3/10 Van B- Heather	Sunday 3/10 Van C- Lacy	Sunday 3/10 Van D- Carmen	Sunday 3/10 Van E- Ryan	Sunday 3/10 Van F- Erin	Sunday 3/10 Logistics- Chris			
6:00	Travel to North Greenwood Baptist Church				Rendezvous with MSU		Travel to NGBC			
6:30										
7:00										
7:30										
8:00	North Greenwood Baptist Church Service									
8:30										
9:00	Fellowship/Unload									
9:30										
10:00										
10:30	Travel to Salem Baptist Church - Greenwood, MS						Walmart trip/Set up lunches			
11:00										
11:30	Salem Baptist Church Service									
12:00										
12:30										
1:00	Bag Lunch/Travel						NGBC to prepare dinner			
1:30	Levee Run Poultry Farm - Greenwood, MS	Sunflower County Service at Annie Mae Strong Building - Sunflower, MS		Levee Run Poultry Farm - Greenwood, MS						
2:00										
2:30										
3:00										
3:30										
4:00										
4:30										
5:00										
5:30										
6:00	Travel to NGBC	Travel to NGBC		Travel to NGBC						
6:30										
7:00										
7:30										
8:00	Eat Lasagna, Salad, Bread and Watch Documentaries									
8:30										
9:00										
9:30										

NORTH GREENWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

GREENWOOD, MS



Dr. Jim Phillips,
Senior Pastor



North Greenwood Baptist Church will be our first stop on our week long trip. We will be attending the traditional worship service beginning at 8:00 A.M. on Sunday morning. NGBC will also be our living quarters for four nights, Sunday through Wednesday.



Small Common Room



Large Common Room



Small Common Room



Kitchen



Dining



Bathroom



Bathroom



Showers

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LEVEE RUN FARM- GREENWOOD, MS



We are a diversified pastured poultry operation . Member American Pastured Poultry Producers Association. We raise heritage breeds for sale as ready to lay and laying pullets and hens-some become delicious pastured poultry. We grow other fowl such as Khaki Campbell ducks, Pekin ducks, guineas, geese, and heritage turkeys. Youngsters are grown in our moveable, bottomless pasture pens. Older meat birds and egg layers free range during daylight hours and are penned at night for safety. Our brown egg layers are Plymouth Barred Rocks, Dominiques, Ameraucanas, Delawares, Gold Comets, French Wheaten Marans, and Black Comets. Our Blue Andalusians lay lots of white eggs. We selected these breeds since they are dual purpose meat and excellent egg producers.

All are active foragers! We welcome farm tours by appointment. We sell on the farm, to local restaurants, and take orders at the MS Farmers Market in Jackson and at Downtown Greenwood Farmers Market.



SUNFLOWER, MS

Sunflower County is a county located in the Mississippi Delta region of the U.S. state of Mississippi. As of 2010, the population was 29,450. Its largest city and county seat is Indianola.

Sunflower County was created in 1844. The land mass encompassed most of Sunflower and Leflore Counties as we know them today. The first seat of government was Clayton, located near Fort Pemberton. Later the county seat was moved to McNutt, also in the Leflore County of today. When Sunflower and Leflore Counties were separated in 1871, the new county seat for Sunflower County was moved to Johnsonville. This village was located where the north end of Mound Bayou empties into the Sunflower River. In 1882 the county seat was moved to Eureka, which was later renamed Indianola (Hemphill, Marie M. 1980. *Fevers, Floods and Faith—A History of Sunflower County Mississippi, 1844–1976*).

The Boyer Cemetery, located in Boyer, goes back to the early days of Sunflower County.

After the U.S. Civil War, across several decades African Americans migrated to Sunflower County to work in the Mississippi Delta. In 1870, 3,243 black people lived in Sunflower County. This increased to 12,070 in 1900, making up 75% of the residents in Sunflower County. Between 1900 and 1920, the black population almost tripled.

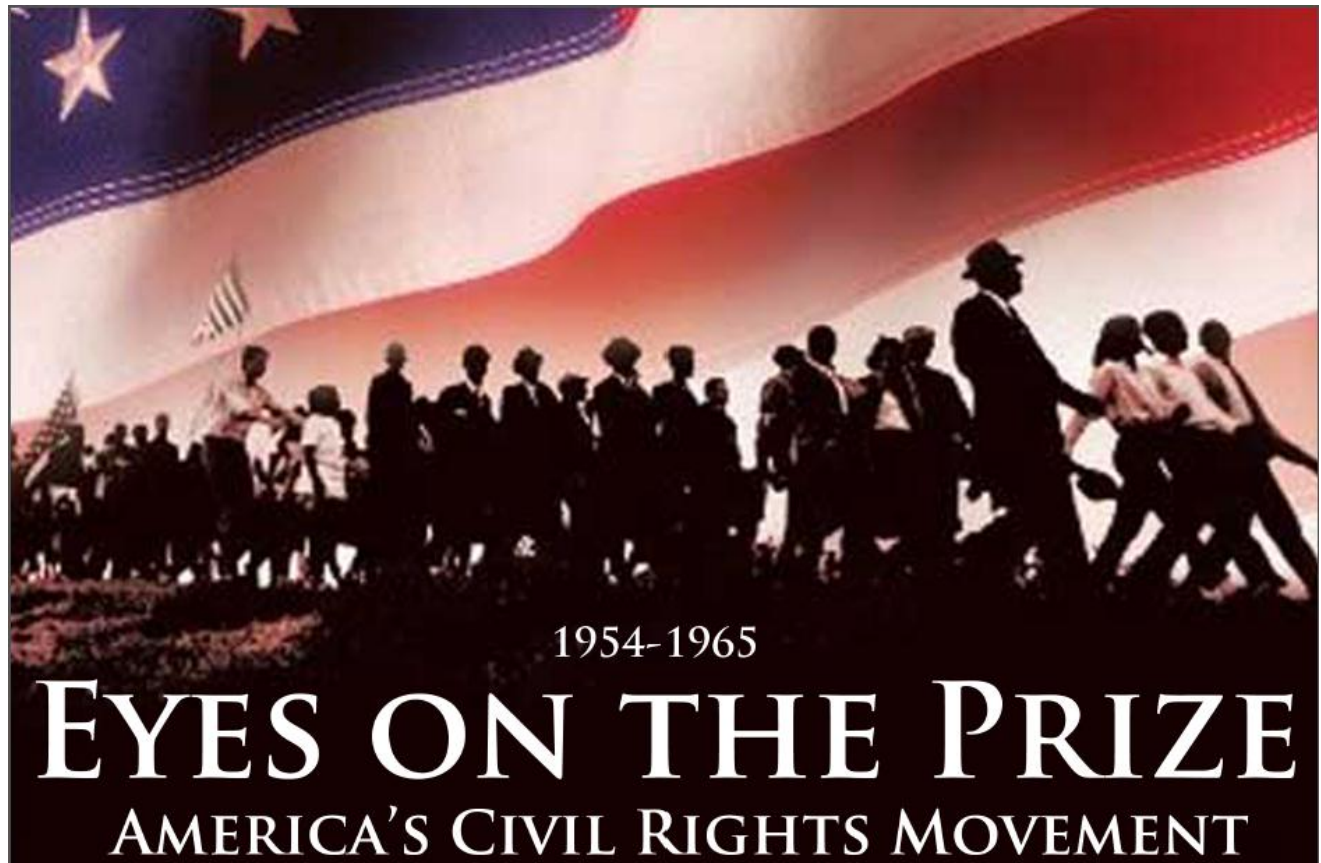
After many African-Americans who had migrated to the north from the 1940s to the 1970s failed to find job and socioeconomic opportunities there, they began to send their children back down to the Mississippi Delta to live with their relatives in the 1980s and 1990s. As a result gang and drug trade activity began to appear in the Mississippi Delta. As a result of this trend, crack cocaine began to be distributed in Sunflower County.

The median income for a household in the county was \$24,970, and the median income for a family was \$29,144. Males had a median income of \$26,208 versus \$19,145 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$11,365. About 24.60% of families and 30.00% of the population were below the poverty line, including 39.50% of those under age 18 and 24.10% of those age 65 or over.

Sunflower County has the ninth lowest per capita income in Mississippi and the 72nd lowest in the United States. In December 2011, Sunflower County's unemployment rate was 16.2%. The Mississippi statewide rate was 9.9%, and the U.S. overall unemployment rate was 8.3%. As of 2012 it was one of the poorest counties in the state, and one of the poorest in the United States.



SUNDAY EVENING DOCUMENTARIES



1954-1965

EYES ON THE PRIZE

AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The Murder of Emmett Till

In August 1955, a fourteen-year-old black boy whistled at a white woman in a grocery store in Money, MS. Emmett Till, a teen from Chicago, didn't understand that he had broken the unwritten laws of the Jim Crow South until three days later when two white men dragged him from his bed in the dead of night, beat him brutally and then shot him in the head. Although his killers were arrested and charged with murder, they were both quickly acquitted by an all-white, all-male jury. Shortly afterwards, the defendants sold their story, including a detailed account of how they murdered Till, to a journalist. The murder and the trial horrified the nation and the world. Till's death was a spark that helped mobilize the civil rights movement. Three months after his body was pulled from the Tallahatchie River, the Montgomery bus boycott began.

Mississippi: Is This America? (1962-1964)

Medgar Evers... Freedom Summer... The Civil Rights Act. Mississippi becomes a testing ground of constitutional principles as activists focus on the right to vote. Key participants recount the state's resistance to the movement and the equally strong determination of black and white organizers to bring blacks into the political process. NAACP leader Medgar Evers is assassinated and three civil rights workers are murdered. Amidst the horror, the Civil Rights Bill of 1964 is passed.

	Monday 3/11 Van A- Cade	Monday 3/11 Van B- Heather	Monday 3/11 Van C- Lacy	Monday 3/11 Van D- Courtney	Monday 3/11 Van E- Ryan	Monday 3/11 Van F- Erin	Monday 3/11 Logistics
6:00	Breakfast at NGBC						
6:30							
7:00							
7:30							
8:00	Travel to Delta State University - Cleveland, MS						
8:30							
9:00	Dr. Brown's Tour						
9:30							
10:00							
10:30							
11:00							
11:30							
12:00							
12:30							
1:00							
1:30							
2:00	Travel to and Visit Bryant's Grocery, Money, MS (Arrival time 5:00)						
2:30							
3:00							
3:30							
4:00							
4:30	Travel to Little Zion Cemetery (15 min.) (Departure time 5:30)						
5:00							
5:30							
6:00							
6:30	History of Robert Johnson & Grave / Eat at Little Zion Missionary Baptist Church						
7:00							
7:30	Travel to NGBC (Departure time 7:40 if needed)						
8:00							
8:30	Facilitated Discussion						
9:00							
9:30							

DR. LUTHER BROWN- DELTA HERITAGE TOUR



Dr. Luther Brown, Director of Delta State University's Delta Center for Culture and Learning, was honored by the Mississippi House of Representatives. Brown was cited for his years of service to the state as founding director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at DSU. Brown is also the associate dean for the Delta Regional Development at Delta State. He accepted the commendation of the Mississippi House of Representatives after being honored in the chamber on March 25.

"It is an incredible honor to have been presented with the commendation from the House especially since I'm not from Mississippi," said Brown. "It was a very humbling and nervous moment for me." Brown is originally from Illinois and taught in Virginia for 22 years before coming to the Mississippi Delta. He's been at Delta State since 2000. "I was very shocked when I received the call from Rep. Linda Whittington (Greenville)," he said. "I didn't know it was going to happen. She called and informed me that I needed to be present." The resolution commends Brown's devotion to the advanced development of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at DSU and his commitment to the development of the student mind and matriculation as associate dean for Delta Regional Development. "She (Whittington) said the resolution had already been voted on and I just needed to show up," Brown said. "It was amazing to be there and stand in front of all the representatives and everyone. It's just hard to describe the emotion." Brown said one of the reasons he moved to Delta was because of its rich heritage. "There are incredible heritage stories here in the Delta," he said. "The Delta Center for Culture and Learning supports the Mississippi Blues Commission and all kinds of efforts geared toward the Blues. The amazing history of the Blues is one of the reasons the center was founded."



CHINESE MISSION SCHOOL

Mississippi School Segregation of Chinese: Gong Lum v Rice (1927)

Mississippi defined WHITE as "Caucasian" and everyone else as "Colored" so that Chinese were not allowed to attend the better funded white schools. In 1927, a Chinese grocer, Gong Lum, filed a court case to force Rosedale schools to admit his daughters. However, the Mississippi Supreme court overturned the initial favorable ruling. The case was appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court, but it sided with the Mississippi decision. Undaunted in his efforts to get the best possible education for his daughters, Gong Lum moved his family to Arkansas where they could attend white schools. It was not until after WW II that Chinese could attend white schools in most communities, although local districts varied in their actual admission policies.

Chinese Mission School, Cleveland, MS.

Chinese raised funds to build a mission school with the support of the Baptist church in Cleveland. It provided two white teachers for the standard English curriculum, one for lower grades and one for higher grades. Later in the day, a Chinese teacher provided instruction in Chinese language. Started in 1937 with about 60 students, some that lived in Cleveland and others from distant towns that lived in a dormitory, it continued for less than a decade when white schools began to accept Chinese students.



DOCKERY FARMS



Dockery Farms was established in 1895 to produce cotton, America's biggest export at the time. African Americans who worked at Dockery, including blues pioneer Charley Patton, created a culture that inspired the music we know as the blues. Their songs influenced the development of popular music all over the world.

"...You might say it all started right here." - B.B.King

1865

- The Civil War ends when General Lee surrenders the Confederate Army to General Grant at Appomattox.



- Abraham Lincoln is assassinated.
- The 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery, is ratified.
- Will Dockery is born in Mississippi.

1870



- Mississippi restored to the Union. Regains representation in Congress.
- Henry Sloan, often cited as the original bluesman, is born in Mississippi. Not much is known about him, but he is named as a key influence by every delta blues musician.

1890



- Mississippi ratifies a new constitution that disenfranchises most blacks and undoes gains forced by Reconstruction.
- Willie Brown is born in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

1891

- Charley Patton is born near Bolton, Mississippi.

1895

- Will Dockery buys 40 square miles in the wild Mississippi Delta and establishes Dockery Farms. Offers fair contracts to laborers and even allows some to prosper.



Tommy Johnson is born in Mississippi.

1900

- Mississippi state government effectively eliminates civil rights with Jim Crow laws, but northern delta plantations like Dockery continue to treat workers better.
- Bill and Annie Patton move to Dockery Farms with young Charley Patton seeking the fairer treatment and better pay that the plantation offered.



1902

- Son House is born near Riverton, Mississippi.

1905

- Charley Patton learns to play from resident blues man Henry Sloan.



1910

- Willie Brown and Tommy Johnson move to the Cleveland area and start playing with Charley Patton.
- Chester Burnett, later known as Howlin' Wolf, is born in White Station, Mississippi.



1911

- Robert Johnson is born in Hazlehurst, Mississippi.

1915

- Honeyboy Edwards is born in Shaw, Mississippi.



1917

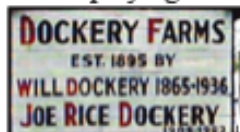
- U.S. Declares war on Germany and some blacks, including Patton's brother Willie, fight for their country in segregated units.

1920

- 18th and 19th Amendments ratified. Prohibition becomes law and women gain the right to vote.

1925

- Robert Johnson moves to the Cleveland area and starts playing with Willie Brown.



1926

- Will Dockery retires. Joe Rice Dockery takes over the farm.



1927

- The Great Mississippi Flood puts 27,000 sq miles underwater, leaves more than half a million homeless and kills at least 500.
- Charley Patton writes High Water Everywhere Part 1 and Part 2 as a response.

1929

- Charley Patton records 14 songs for Paramount Records. These are his first known recordings. Almost instantly, he becomes the best-selling blues artist.

1930

- Howlin' Wolf moves to the Cleveland area and starts playing with Charley Patton and Willie Brown.

1934

- Charley Patton dies at age 42.

1935

- Son House moves to the Cleveland area and starts playing with Robert Johnson and Willie Brown.

1936

- Will Dockery dies at age 70.

FANNIE LOU HAMER- RULEVILLE, MS



Fannie Lou Townsend was born October 6, 1917 in the Mississippi Delta on a plantation where sharecropping was the norm. She was tricked into picking cotton at the age of six in exchange for a few items from the "Boss Man's" Store. By the time she reached age ten, Fannie was picking as much cotton as some adults. She earned the position of Timekeeper. To help calm her people down after a lynching, shooting or KKK riot, Mrs. Hamer would sing like "ain't no tomorrow." Fannie Lou married Perry "Pap" Hamer in 1942. In 1962, Mrs. Hamer decided she wanted to try to register to vote after attending a SNCC voter registration meeting at William Chapel Church in Ruleville, MS pastored by the late Rev. J. D. Story. It would turn out to be just another way of asking to die. After returning home, Mrs. Hamer was ordered to go and take her name off the registrar's book. If she refused to do so, she would have to move. Refuse she did and move she did. I didn't go register for you sir, I did it for myself", replied Fannie Lou to her boss. Mr. W. D. Marlowe. She was kicked off the plantation where she had

lived for the past eighteen years. Sixteen shots were fired into The Tuckers home over the bed Mrs. Hamer slept where she had fled for safety. "God had already told me to move on, so I wasn't there that night," Fannie said. Fannie Lou Hamer, June E. Johnson, James West, Euvestor Simpson, Annelle Ponder and others were jailed in Winona, Mississippi. Two black prisoners were ordered to beat Mrs. Hamer. She was beaten so badly she no longer had feelings in her legs. Mrs. Hamer's passion for her people and her interest and understanding of how powerful the political process was in America led her and others to create the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party to challenge the Credential Committee in Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1964 to be seated rather than the regular Democrats who they exclaimed were "illegally elected" based on discriminatory practices against blacks statewide. "We Will Not Accept The Compromise", stated Mrs. Hamer. She had consulted with Bob Moses and Mrs. Uinita Blackwell and others prior. Mr. Lawrence Guyot (Chairman MFDP) was in jail and couldn't make the trip.

President Johnson interrupted the nationally televised convention in order to keep Fannie Lou and her views from spreading like wildfire. All of the major networks later ran her speech in its entirety and the whole country was spellbound to hear such convictions coming from a Southerner who felt she had nothing left to fear but fear itself. "If the Freedom Democratic Party isn't seated today, I question America", Fannie told the Credentials Committee. "Is this America where we have to sleep with our phones off the hooks because we be threatened daily just cause we want to register to vote to become first class citizens". Mrs. Hamer's efforts did not stop there. She challenged Black Educators to "teach our children more about our history since school books left it out". She started a daycare center with the assistance of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) under the leadership of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height (President). Mrs. Hamer also, organized approximately, 640 acres of Freedom Farm land. June E. Johnson gets very emotional when speaking about Mrs. Hamer. I gave BLOOD with this lady,

do you understand me?" I love Mrs. Hamer and she discussed with me her "Unfinished Business" while she lay on her death bed, continues Johnson. June was beaten in jail with Fannie Lou for voter registration activities as a teenager. Fannie Lou Hamer's labor ceased at 5:15 p.m. on March 14, 1977 in Mound Bayou, Mississippi due to Breast Cancer and complications from her jail house beating. Fannie Lou Hamer worked with and sought assistance from Student Non Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), National Association of Colored People (NAACP), The Delta Ministry and numerous others. She was co-founder of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP). It was the Delta Ministry under the leadership of Mr. Owen H. Brooks along with Mr. Charles McLaurin and June E. Johnson that assured Mrs. Hamer a proper burial. Mrs. Hamer was the recipient of many awards and honors. She received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities from Tougaloo College and Shaw University. She, also, received honorary degrees from Columbia



College and Howard University. Fannie was honored with the National Sojourner Truth Meritorious Service Award, The Paul Robeson Award from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and The Mary Terrell Award from Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. Delta Sigma Theta made Mrs. Hamer an Honorary member of their sorority. Fannie Lou was inducted into the National Women Hall of Fame. On February 18, 1995, The United States Post Office in Ruleville, Mississippi was named in Fannie Lou Hamer's honor thanks to Congressman Bennie Thompson.

There is a Fannie Lou Hamer Day Care Center in Ruleville, Mississippi that Mrs. Hamer started, a Fannie Lou Hamer Library located in Jackson, MS, a Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School in Bronx, New York, The Fannie Lou Hamer Political Institute founded by Dr. Leslie McLemore at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi and The Fannie Lou Hamer "Women of Faith" Learning & Cultural Center. Mrs. Hamer's speech from the 1964 Democratic Convention is inscribed on column 10 in the Civil Rights Garden in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Several people do dramatic shows re-enacting "The Life & Times of Fannie Lou Hamer" and many books and documentaries are written and produced on her.

SENATOR'S PLACE- CLEVELAND, MS



The Senator's Place is a family owned and operated soul food restaurant that is located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta. The restaurant was established June 20, 2003, by Senator Willie Simmons and his wife, Rosie at 233 North Street, Cleveland, Mississippi. In April 2006, the owners relocated the restaurant to 1028 South Davis Avenue in Cleveland. Since opening, The Senator's Place restaurant has become a local favorite that brings satisfaction to every mouth fed.

Designed to seat 160 for lunch and dinner or 225 guests banquet style, The Senator's Place offers a daily lunch buffet along with Friday evening buffets allowing customers to dine-in or take-out. Our goal has always been one of providing a variety of southern soul foods such as fried chicken, smothered pork steaks, turnip greens, cornbread, peach cobbler and banana pudding prepared like mama and grand mama, using the wood stove.

Senator Simmons is hands on in creating a tasty soulful menu to be enjoyed in a family friendly environment. We endeavor to maintain consistency in our cooking so that returning customers will find the same taste and quality in our cabbage, butterbeans, chicken dressing, candied yams, chicken 'n' dumplings, and our special signature Â...smoked chicken and finger-lickin' ribs.

ROSENWALD SCHOOL- CLEVELAND, MS



Rosenwald Schools in Mississippi

By: Jennifer Baughn

Public schooling in Mississippi did not become commonplace until after the American Civil War. After the United States Supreme Court decided in its 1896 *Plessy v. Ferguson* ruling that states could require separate public facilities for blacks and whites as long as they were equal (the so-called “separate but equal” doctrine), white-dominated school boards began concentrating more of their efforts and funding on schools for white children, rather than for black. By the early 1900s, while many white children studied their textbooks in new functional buildings, black students were often left to make do in churches, lodges, and poorly constructed buildings that barely kept out the wind and the rain.

Beginning in the 1910s, however, new school buildings for African Americans began to spring up on the Mississippi landscape. The schools, constructed as a partnership between the Julius Rosenwald Fund and local citizens, represented a leap forward for black southerners who wanted to ensure an education for their children. When the philanthropic program ended in 1932, a victim of the Great Depression, more than 5,000 school buildings had been constructed under its auspices in fourteen southern states. Mississippi’s Rosenwald program constructed six hundred and thirty-three schools and ancillary buildings and was the South’s second-largest state program.

The Rosenwald Fund

The Rosenwald Fund — the product of an alliance between Booker T. Washington, president and founder of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, and Julius Rosenwald, president and chief executive officer of Sears, Roebuck & Co. in Chicago — was the only philanthropic effort in the early 20th century to concentrate on improving the learning environment of black students in the South. The fund accomplished this by giving grants to black communities to cover about a third of the cost of a building. The communities were expected to match the Rosenwald money with either cash or in-kind contributions of labor and materials and to gain financial support from the public school system. While the communities gained a quality building, they also lost a measure of control over their children’s education when the school, which had usually been run by its own board of trustees, came under the control of the county superintendent of education.

Begun at Tuskegee in 1912 and initially focused on the few counties surrounding that campus, the Rosenwald Fund's fame grew through the extensive personal networks of southern blacks. By the end of the 1910s, several states surrounding Alabama had a few Rosenwald schools. But after Washington's death in 1915, Rosenwald lost confidence in the fund's new leaders at Tuskegee Institute. He moved the fund's management away from Tuskegee and set up a new office run by foundation professionals in Nashville. During the 1920s, the Rosenwald Fund became increasingly standardized and efficient, approving thousands of grants in all of the southern states.

In Mississippi, only a dozen or so schools obtained help in the early years under Tuskegee's management. The early buildings were not built to standard plans and often were not much better planned than non-Rosenwald schools. A major shift occurred after the Rosenwald Fund's reorganization in 1919-1920. By 1922, the Rosenwald Fund reported that one hundred and forty-one Rosenwald schools had been built in Mississippi, including fifty-eight three-teacher schools and five houses for teachers.

A new school building

A primary focus of the newly reorganized Rosenwald Fund was the quality of the construction of school buildings that would be built with its funds. The fund wanted to build the most schools it could, but it also wanted them to meet current building standards and to be solidly constructed of good materials. Rosenwald also wanted to incorporate knowledge gained during a decade of careful study into lighting levels and ventilation. At the time, rural schools, and even some town schools, did not have electricity to provide lighting or heat. Thus, lighting needed to come into the building through windows, and studies had shown that schools needed many more windows than had previously been thought in order to give students sufficient light. In addition, new research showed that good ventilation prevented the spread of germs and diseases.

Using the findings from a survey of the existing Rosenwald schools by consultant Fletcher B. Dresslar, a recognized authority on the topic of school hygiene and good school planning, the fund, led by its new director Samuel L. Smith, drew a new set of standard plans that would be used to construct almost all Rosenwald schools in the 1920s. From 1920 onward, the Rosenwald Fund's emphasis moved from funding "better schools" to encouraging "model schools" that could be standards for both black and white schools in the South.

The new plans allowed for a broad variety of schools, based on the number of teachers per school. Ranging from one-classroom structures with a gable front — a common school form in all areas of the country — to large twelve-classroom buildings with auditoriums, the plans relied on simple forms and construction techniques that would be accessible to the many volunteer laborers who built these schools. Several new features of the schools did in fact become models for school architecture in the 1920s, such as:

- One-story construction, which required slightly more land but was easier to build and was considered a safety improvement following several deadly school fires in two-story buildings.
- Large groupings of windows, concentrated on the east and west elevations of buildings, became the hallmark of schools for both black and white students in the 1920s. Previously, rural school buildings would have a few scattered windows, with windows on several walls of each classroom. Studies showed, however, that light from many directions caused a glare that could damage a student's eyesight.

- Two school forms, the H-plan and the T-plan, became standard for rural and town schools alike in the 1920s. The Rosenwald standardized plans used these two forms almost exclusively for schools of four classrooms or more. Both plans contained an auditorium for school and community gatherings, but the H-plan was designed to face north or south, with its windows on the sides facing east and west, while the T-plan was designed to face east or west with its windows on the front and back. These simple but effective plans show the ingenuity and flexibility of the Rosenwald Fund's program and the emphasis on quality even in difficult circumstances.

Only fifteen of the original five hundred and fifty-seven schools aided by the Rosenwald Fund are known to still stand in Mississippi. Of these, about half are either greatly altered or in a deteriorated state. The sole surviving one-classroom school is the Bynum School, built in 1926, in Panola County. Two good examples of the H-plan form are the concrete-block building (1926) at the Prentiss Institute in Jefferson Davis County, a six-classroom building constructed according to Rosenwald Plan #6-A, and the Brushy Creek School (circa 1930) in Copiah County, a clapboard Rosenwald Plan #4-A. The Drew Rosenwald school in Sunflower County began as a substantial T-plan Rosenwald, and grew over the years into a sprawling building with a large student population. The T-plan especially was popular because it could easily handle any needed expansion.

In addition to the known Rosenwald schools, Mississippi has some "ghost schools," a group of schools that were supposed to have received Rosenwald Funds but the money was fraudulently diverted for personal use between 1923-1928. The Rosenwald agent at the Mississippi Department of Education, Bura Hilbun, who was responsible for overseeing the Rosenwald Fund in Mississippi and sending in final reports to the Nashville office, was later found to have falsified records and pocketed the money meant for certain schools. Hilbun's fraud was found after he left the education department. He was convicted of embezzlement in 1931 in the Hinds County Circuit Court, after two hung juries. Hilbun appealed to the Mississippi Supreme Court but it upheld the lower court's decision.

As a result of Hilbun's falsified records, the historical records of the Rosenwald Fund at Fisk University Archives in Nashville list some schools that were not actually built, thus the "ghost schools." One of those ghost schools has survived. Poplar Hill School is a rare two-classroom black school in rural Jefferson County, and while the school appears in the Rosenwald Fund database on the Fisk website, it is not, in fact, a Rosenwald plan and did not receive any Rosenwald funding. This was distressing news to a group of interested alumni who in 2009 pursued a National Register of Historic Places listing for the building as a Rosenwald school. Nonetheless, the building is still significant as a rare surviving rural African-American school, once one of thousands that dotted the Mississippi landscape.

Building school communities

The Rosenwald Fund did not stop with just building new classroom buildings for students. Located in rural areas with poor road systems, the schools came to be somewhat self-sufficient campuses, eventually including not only houses for teachers but also separate buildings for vocational and home economics education.

The Rosenwald Fund understood well the challenges of rural schools, and the first and most important one was attracting qualified teachers. School trustees often found it necessary to build a teacher's house on the campus as a way to entice a principal who could oversee the school's functioning. Not only did a teacher's house keep principals and teachers longer at the school, but it provided security for the campus and an on-

site alarm in case of fire. As it did with school plans, the fund offered several different house plans for teachers to accommodate families of various sizes. The Rosenwald Fund helped build fifty-eight teacher houses in the state, and many school boards built houses for teachers as well. At least two of the Rosenwald houses still stand in the state, the John White School teacher's house (1925) in Forrest County and the former president's house (circa 1930) at Coahoma Community College north of Clarksdale, a campus that began as one of only two agricultural high schools for African Americans. The other school was Hinds County Agricultural High School in Utica (1946).

Vocational buildings or shops were also seen as a way to improve both the campus and the school's educational program. The Rosenwald Fund emphasized vocational education not only because of its origins at Washington's Tuskegee Institute but because training in agricultural and mechanical skills was thought to be the best way to educate rural children of both races for much of the first half of the 20th century. Indeed, backed by sufficient funding, white consolidated schools of the same period far outstripped black schools in providing buildings and teachers for vocational and home economics education and were considered better schools because of it. Only eighteen vocational buildings for black schools were constructed in Mississippi under the Rosenwald program, primarily because of lack of matching funds and because building a vocational building also meant hiring an extra teacher to teach the classes. This was often out of reach for the Rosenwald schools struggling to survive on limited funding from the public school boards.

By 1932, two years after Rosenwald's death and three years after the stock market crash slashed the value of its endowment, the Rosenwald Fund ceased its building program, leaving southern blacks and southern progressives to find another solution for black education.

McCARTY'S POTTERY OF MERIGOLD

"You can have my mule barn."

With that offer from "Aunt" Margaret in 1954, Lee and Pup McCarty moved the animals out, moved themselves and one tiny kiln into "The Barn," and began what was to become an internationally recognized and award winning pottery business.

Almost 50 years later, the McCartys, recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, have had their work shown in museums and galleries around the world. Some recent retrospectives took place at the Lauren Rogers Museum, the Samuel P. Horn Museum at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and one titled "The Masters of Merigold - Forty Years of McCarty Pottery" at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. A recent international showing took them to Japan for a three week exhibition.

The popularity of the McCartys has come not only from their original pottery and glazes but also from their outlook on life. Keeping things simple yet elegant has always been the strong focus: your McCarty pottery will be wrapped in newspaper and placed carefully in a heavy brown paper bag, with "McCarty's" written on the front by Pup or Lee. When you come to The Barn and are welcomed by "Uncle Lee" and "Aunt Pup" you feel welcomed. The simple elegance, along with Lee's boundless energy and steady stream of conversation, will be readily apparent as you may be steered through the Gardens, an amazing oasis in the middle of the bountiful fields of the Mississippi Delta.



PETER'S POTTERY OF MERIGOLD

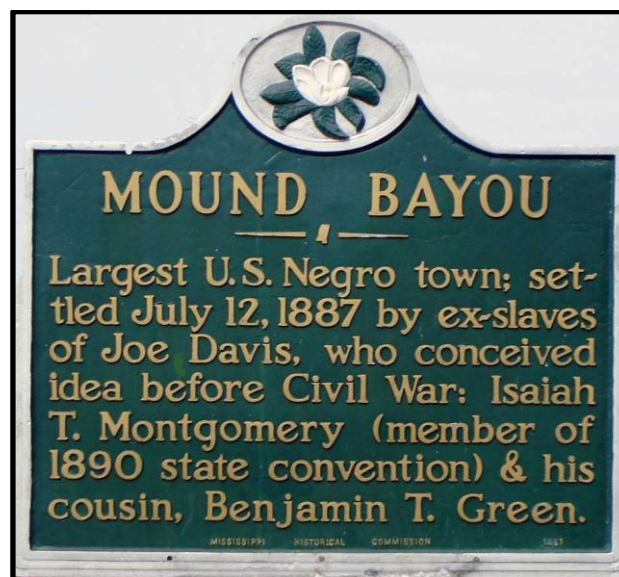


From the small historic town of Mound Bayou comes Peter's Pottery. The Woods brothers come together to create unique works of art by combining talents and responsibility. Peter's Pottery captures the rich earth tones of the Mississippi Delta in the glazes and textures of their unique and renowned pottery.

MOUND BAYOU, MS

Mound Bayou was an all-black town in the Yazoo Delta in Northwest Mississippi. It was founded during the spring of 1887 by twelve pioneers from Davis Bend, a fledgling black colony impacted by falling agricultural prices, natural disasters, and hostile race relations. This migration movement was led by Isaiah Montgomery, former patriarch of Davis Bend. Purchased from the Louisville, New Orleans, and Texas Railroad (L, NO & T), Mound Bayou bordered a new rail line between Memphis and Vicksburg. From 1890 to 1915, Mound Bayou was a land of promise for African Americans. Encapsulated in this “promise” were self-help, race pride, economic opportunity, and social justice, in a self-segregated community designed for blacks to have minimum contact with whites until integration was a viable option to black freedom.

Mound Bayou had a U.S. Post Office, six churches, banks, stores, and several public and private schools. Its economy depended on the production of cotton, timber, and corn, and being an agent for the L, NO & T Railroad. Politically, Mound Bayou’s mayor Isaiah Montgomery protected it from white violence through political accommodation. Montgomery also ensured Mound Bayou’s growth by working closely with Booker T. Washington after 1900, through his “lieutenant” Charles Banks. Socially, Mound Bayou had an exceptionally low crime rate, high morals (i.e., no gambling or sale of alcohol), and everyone had to be a useful member of the community. Through outlets like the town’s newspaper, *The Demonstrator* (1900), Mound Bayou promoted education as an essential path to community survival, in particular vocational education in scientific agriculture through the Mound Bayou Normal and Industrial Institute. From 1907 to 1915, this infrastructure, along with Mound Bayou’s function as a railroad center, allowed it to flourish and grow to 8,000 people by 1911. Its noticeable decline occurred during the Great Migration period (1915-1930), in which cotton prices fell, Booker T. Washington passed away, and the black path towards freedom was redirected from independent towns towards the major cities of the United States.



TABORIAN HOSPITAL

MOUND BAYOU, MS

Historic Hospital to Become Pulse of Community Once Again **By Chance Wright**

Thursday was a special day for U.S. Congressman Bennie Thompson and the Mound Bayou community. Working hand and hand with the rural development division of the United State Department of Agriculture to secure funding, Thompson announced on Thursday that the Taborian Hospital will once again open its doors and receive patients.

The USDA announced earlier in the week that a Rural Development Grant has been approved in the amount of \$2,993,954 to restore the dilapidated building and open the Taborian Urgent Care Center of Mound Bayou. "This project has been somewhat of a dream for me since taking office," said Thompson. "A major concern of mine has always been centered around providing adequate health care to everyone in Mississippi. Many residents in rural towns across the state live everyday with the realization that they will have to travel elsewhere in the case of a medical emergency. That should not be the case and here in Mound Bayou, residents will once again have access to a quality medical facility."

The Taborian Hospital of Mound Bayou, a facility developed and financed by the Knights and Daughters of Tabor organization, first opened its doors in 1942. Focused on attainment of a better life for the people of Mound Bayou, the Taborian Hospital secured adequate medical treatment for the all black community.

Founded by Rev. Moses Dickson, the Knights and Daughters of the Tabor is an African-American fraternal order. The society explains that there was an antislavery secret organization of Negroes in the South that numbered nearly 147,000 fighting for the Union during the Civil War. After the war, an organizational roll call showed that only seven members survived the war effort. From these seven men, Dickson formed the International Order of Twelve, Knights and Daughters of Tabor. This name originated from the original Knights of Liberty and a mountain in Galilee, Mount Tabor.

Mississippi's chapter of the Tabor organization began in 1889 under the leadership of Mound Bayou native and Chief Grand Mentor Perry Monroe Smith, who was instrumental in bringing the Tabors to the Mississippi Delta to promote African-American progress.

"Upon completion, this hospital will be the area's first urgent care medical facility," said Trina George, state director for the USDA Rural Development agency. "Currently, there are no urgent care facilities within an 80 mile radius of the Mound Bayou area."

According to the Academy of Urgent Care Medicine, Urgent Care Medicine is the provision of immediate medical service offering outpatient care for the treatment of acute and chronic illness and injury. It requires a broad and comprehensive fund of knowledge to provide such care. Excellence in care for patients with complex and or unusual conditions is founded on the close communication and collaboration between the urgent care medicine physician, the specialists and the primary physicians.

The Taborian Hospital was the first medical institutions of health with hospital facilities and equipment wholly owned and operated by the black race. It was also the first medical institution in America that had an all black staff. "The Taborian Urgent Care Center will offer residents extended hours, including evenings and weekends, as well as other expanded services," said George. "It will also provide walk in access for acute illness and injuries as well as physical and occupational therapy."

This is a glorious day for the people of Mound Bayou and Bolivar County," added Thompson. "It is our hope that restoring the old Taborian Hospital will also improve and encourage more economic development projects in the area. So today I am excited to be in Mound Bayou and I cannot wait to see this project begin to move forward." The Taborian Hospital is on the list of Mississippi Historic sites and at one time was on list of the 10 most endangered historic places in Mississippi.



U.S. Congressman Bennie Thompson, Miss. Sen. Derrick Simmons, Rural Development State Director Trina George, Mound Bayou Mayor Kennedy Johnson, newly elected supervisor Preston Billings and descents of the founding fathers of the Taborian Hospital were on hand Thursday for the announcement of a \$2,993,954 grant bringing the Taborian Urgent Care Center to Mound Bayou.

Taborian Hospital and the Delta Health Center: The Role of Health Care in Social Change and Community Empowerment

Posted By Suzassippi

The Mississippi unit of the Sir Knights and Daughters of the Tabor was established in 1889 for the purpose of providing insurance—burial, life, and health care (Hodding Carter, Saturday Evening Post, February 23, 1946). Membership in 1946 had increased to 40,000 and the director, P. M. Smith, began the task of raising \$100,000 in order to build a hospital in Mound Bayou.

At that time, there was little in the way of hospitalization for African Americans in Mississippi. If they were admitted at all to white facilities, it was usually in a basement and care was substandard (David T. Beito, 1999). The Taborian Hospital officially opened February 12, 1942. Prior to the Taborian, health care had been provided by a mobile clinic.

Dr. Phillip Moise George, a Mound Bayou physician, was recruited as medical director and internist for the Taborian Hospital, and Dr. T.R.M. Howard was selected as Chief Surgeon (Dr. Matthew Walker of Meharry Medical School, 1973). Mrs. Katherine Dandridge was the director of nursing. Other personnel were hired from the community or nearby area and trained for the position. Dr. Howard not only treated patients' disease, he cared for their nutrition and social needs as well. Among the things he helped engender for the community was the Good Will Park, with its tennis courts, swimming pool, and zoo. Dr. Howard asserted "This little town has a symbolism for many...without restraints imposed because of race" (Carter, 1946). This symbolism was recently validated by Dr. D. J. Moore, originally from Tupelo, who said of it, "Growing up, it was like this mythical place to us. We heard stories about it."



Dr. Howard owned a private clinic across the street from the Taborian, and this caused friction between Howard and the Knights and Daughters of Tabor (Beito). Howard was dismissed, the Knights and Daughters of Tabor split, and Dr. Howard became chief of surgery at Friendship Clinic, founded by the United Order of Friendship of America in 1948. Some reports (Dr. Walker, 1973) indicated the clinic was later named Sarah Brown Hospital. It was built across the street from the Taborian. Fraternal hospitals were the original self-help and mutual aid model in the segregated south. (During those years, there were many self-help programs in black communities, one of the most well-known being Lt. Lawrence

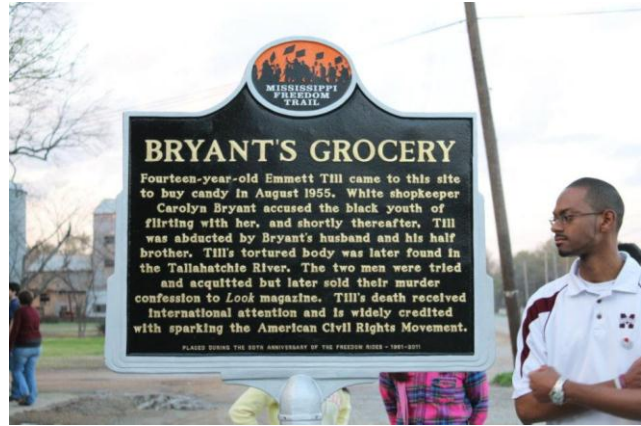
Oxley's work in child welfare in North Carolina). Both hospitals merged into the federally funded Mound Bayou Community Hospital in 1967 with the establishment of the Delta Health Center (Beito). The hospital finally closed in 1983, in large part due to loss of federal funding.



The Delta Health Center also had a significant role in both providing quality health care, and holistic environmental change. The Delta Health Center was grounded in a belief that (1) health care could be a point for social change, (2) health care was a right, not a privilege, and (3) it could promote empowerment by giving community members control of services (Dr. Jack Geiger, one of the founders of DHC). Geiger first learned these principles while studying community-oriented primary health care in South Africa. Dr. Sydney Kark served impoverished black communities by focusing on primary care, preventive medicine and health promotion. In addition to medical services for disease, the South African model focused on the environment: sanitation and nutrition. Geiger implemented these methods in Mound Bayou, and the health center was as likely to drill wells for access to clean water or build sanitary privies as they were to dispense medication and treatment.

It is interesting to note that at about the same time Dr. Geiger was in South Africa studying Kark's model for community-oriented health care, Dr. Howard and the Taborian Hospital, in conjunction with support from Meharry Medical College, were implementing a similar approach in Mound Bayou. At least part of the decline of the fraternal hospitals resulted from the infusion of federal monies and the inability of fraternal hospitals to compete due to loss of membership base and increased cost of technology. With the loss of federal dollars during the cutbacks of the Reagan years and later, but no longer with the self-help mutual aid that had been part of the foundation of the community, what is next?

BRYANT'S GROCERY- MONEY, MS



Two Accounts of the Incident at Bryant's Grocery & Meat Market

by Simeon Wright from *Simeon's Story: An Eyewitness Account of the Kidnapping of Emmett Till* (Lawrence Hill books, 2010)(pp.50-51)

As we reached Bryant's store, we continued our usual small talk and banter. We were still excited about the day's events and happy to be in town together. We all got out of the car and were milling around in the front of the store when Wheeler went in to buy a pop or some candy. Bobo [Emmett Till] went in after him; then Wheeler came out, leaving Bobo in there alone. Maurice immediately sent me into the store to be with Bobo. He was concerned about Bobo being in the store alone because of what had happened on the previous Sunday, when Bobo had set his fireworks off inside the city limits. He just didn't know the Mississippi rules, and Maurice felt that someone should be with Bobo at all times.

For less than a minute he was in the store alone with Carolyn Bryant, the white woman working at the cash register. What he said, if anything, before I came in I don't know. While I was in the store, Bobo did nothing inappropriate. He didn't grab Mrs. Bryant, nor did he put his arms around her – that was the story she later told to the court. A counter separated the customers from the store clerk; Bobo would have had to jump over it to get to Mrs. Bryant. Bobo didn't ask her for a date or call her "baby." There was no lecherous conversation between them. And after a few minutes he paid for his items and we left the store together. We had been outside the store only a few seconds when Mrs. Bryant came out behind us, heading straight to her car. As she walked, Bobo whistled at her. I think he wanted to get a laugh out of us or something. He was always joking around, and it was hard to tell when he was serious. It was a loud wolf whistle, a big-city "whee wheeeee!" and it caught us all by surprise. We all looked at each other, realizing that Bobo had violated a longstanding unwritten law, a social taboo about conduct between blacks and white in the South. Suddenly we felt we were in danger, and we stared at each other, all with the same expression of fear and panic. Like a group of boys who had thrown a rock through somebody's window, we ran to the car. Bobo, with a slight limp from the polio he'd contracted as a child, ran along with us, but not as panic-stricken as we were. After seeing our fright, it did slowly dawn on him that he had done something wrong.

by Hugh Whitaker from *A Case Study in Southern Justice: The Emmett Till Case* (Master's Thesis, Florida State)(1963)(pp. 103-105)

On Wednesday, August 24, a carload of eight young Negroes – seven boys and a girl – set out for a “jook” in a ’46 Ford. Since it was only 7:30 P. M., they stopped in front of Roy Bryant’s store in Money. Till and the seven others got out to talk to the dozen or so Negroes who were joking and playing checkers in front of the country store which catered almost exclusively to the Negro trade.

In the week he had been in the Delta, Emmett “Bobo” Till had excited his Negro cousins with his “Yeah” and “Naw” to local whites. But his “most fascinating claim to distinction” was the picture of the white girl he carried in his billfold. Bobo insisted this was “his girl” back in Chicago. That night, he once again passed the picture around and bragged about his relations with this girl. His boasts caused one Negro youth to taunt, “You talkin’ mighty big, Bo. There’s a pretty little white woman in there in the sto’. Since you Chicago cats know so much about white girls, let’s see you go in there and get a date with her.”

Bobo now had to act or lose face. While fascinated Delta Negroes lined the store window, Till entered the front door. Inside, alone, was pretty, twenty-one-year-old Carolyn Bryant. She was five feet, two inches tall and weighed 103 pounds. Young Till, only fourteen years old, was four inches taller and nearly sixty pounds heavier. Till asked Mrs. Bryant for candy, and when she extended her hand for the money, he grabbed it tightly and said, “How about a date, baby?”

She jerked her hand away and turned and walked toward the living quarters at the back of the store, where her sister-in-law Juanita Milam was. Till caught her at the cash register, and put his hands on her waist to restrain her. “You needn’t be afraid of me, baby I’ve _____ with white women before.” One of Till’s cousins ran in and grabbed him and pulled him from the store. As he went out the door, he turned and said “Good-by”. Carolyn Bryant ran out the front door to get a pistol from under the front seat of her sister-in-law’s car. As she crossed the road, Till gave what sounded like a long, two-note “wolf whistle.” Then the Negroes drove away.

Mrs. Bryant told her sister-in-law about the incident. They were determined to keep it from their husbands. Roy Bryant was then hauling shrimp from New Orleans to Brownsville, Texas: when J. W. Milam picked his wife and Mrs. Bryant up an hour later, to take them to Glendora, they did not tell him what had happened.

ROBERT JOHNSON'S GRAVE AT LITTLE ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The church property on Money Road borders the Tallahatchie River about 2 miles north of Greenwood, MS. Thousands of graves are located within this isolated, tree lined, and peacefully secluded spot. Pastor McArthur McKinley says it's both a blessing and a curse that the popular bluesman Robert Johnson is buried in this cemetery. Hundreds of people visit the cemetery and leave behind an assortment of trash, including liquor bottles, drugs, and beer cans. Johnson, most legendary of all the Delta Bluesmen, purportedly sold his soul to the Devil at a crossroads in Mississippi, in exchange for superior musical ability. Johnny Shines, before his death, stated that Robert was a religious man and the crossroads referred to in song was probably where the Southern (railroad) crosses the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley (railroad) in Moorhead, MS. Shines stated that the selling of his soul came from all the BS stories and that Robert Johnson was just poking fun at the crossroads myth in his song, as Johnson was known for a lot of jive.



	Tues. 3/12 Van A- Cade	Tues. 3/12 Van B- Lacy	Tues. 3/12 Van C- Heather	Tues. 3/12 Van D- Charlie	Tues. 3/12 Van E- Ryan	Tues. 3/12 Van F- Erin	Tues. 3/12 Logistics	
6:00	Breakfast @ NGBC							
6:30								
7:00								
7:30								
8:00	Travel to Quapaw Canoe - Clarksdale, MS		Travel to Dulaney Farm - Clarksdale, MS				Travel	
8:30							Travel to Quapaw Canoe -	
9:00	Quapaw Canoe & Service (Logistics Team goes)		Visit Dulaney Farm				Farm	
9:30			Travel to Blues Museum - Clarksdale, MS				Travel	
10:00			Visit Blues Museum				Museum	
10:30			Lunch and Travel to Judy Belue - Clarksdale, MS				Travel	
11:00							Quapaw Canoe & Service (Logistics Team goes)	
11:30								
12:00								
12:30								
1:00								
1:30								
2:00								
2:30								
3:00								
3:30								
4:00								
4:30								
5:00								
5:30								
6:00	Travel to Stone Pony - Clarksdale, MS							
6:30								
7:00	Eat at Stone Pony \$8.23 + Tip							
7:30								
8:00	Travel to NGBC							
8:30								
9:00								
9:30								

QUAPAW CANOE COMPANY WITH JOHN RUSKEY

In its 11 years of operation Quapaw Canoe Company has demonstrated the viability of safe canoeing on the Lower Mississippi River with countless expeditions involving churches, schools, boy scouts, girl scouts, families, couples and individuals. Quapaw has successfully & safely guided over 1,000s of people on the river. Quapaw Canoe Company is underwritten by Lloyd's of London through Worldwide Outfitters & Guides Association. All expeditions are outfitted with first-aid kits, rescue ropes, life preservers, cellular communication, and VHF marine radio. Life Jackets are best quality US Coast Guard approved type III Life Jackets. Guides stringently practice safe canoeing and are knowledgeable in all aspects of wilderness survival and canoe rescue. Please remember that river travel is always somewhat dependent on river level and prevailing weather.

Founder/Owner John Ruskey has been paddling the river since 1982, and is probably its most knowledgeable guide. Quapaw Canoe Company provides custom-guided canoe & kayak expeditions, day floats and other paddling adventures along the Lower Mississippi River from Cairo Illinois to St. Francisville, Louisiana. Spectacular reaches include the Kentucky Bluffs, Bessie's Bend (20 mile bend of the river to go one mile), the 4 Chickasaw Bluffs, Memphis to Vicksburg (300 miles of remote river, only 2 bridges, only one town), Confluence of the Arkansas River & surrounding wilderness areas (rich habitat for the Louisiana Black Bear), Vicksburg to Natchez-Under-the-Hill, Natchez to St. Francisville. Long stretches of river, almost no industry or point-source polluters, few towns, few bridges, big islands, big forests, most varied inland fishery in North America, 60% of America's songbirds, 40% of its migrating waterfowl. Longest free-flowing River (1160 miles). No dams. No schedule: we go whenever our clients are ready. Apprenticeship program for Clarksdale youth, the Mighty Quapaws. Friends of the Sunflower River established 2005.



DULANEY SEED- MARKS, MS



Dulaney Seed is managed by brothers Wayne and Terry Dulaney. Dulaney Seed is committed to developing and selling the highest quality corn, soybean, rice, and wheat seed in the Mid-South. Located in Clarksdale, MS, Dulaney Seed has worked with producers in the area since 1991. Rice Seed is a key focus of our business in which we rely on our decades of experience in rice production and seed conditioning.



DELTA BLUES MUSEUM

CLARKSDALE, MS

Mission Statement

The Delta Blues Museum is dedicated to creating a welcoming place where visitors find meaning, value, and perspective by exploring the history and heritage of the unique American musical art form of the blues.

History

The City of Clarksdale, located at the intersection of Highways 61 and 49 (“the crossroads”), and the surrounding Delta region are known as “the land where the blues began.”

Since its creation, the Delta Blues Museum has preserved, interpreted, and encouraged a deep interest in the story of the blues. Established in 1979 by the Carnegie Public Library Board of Trustees and re-organized as a stand-alone museum in 1999, the Delta Blues Museum is the state’s oldest music museum. A five-member board appointed by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Clarksdale governs the museum. Funded by the City of Clarksdale, admissions, memberships, gift shop revenue, granting agencies and donations, the museum uses public and private funds to carry out its mission.

Museum Sites

Since 1999, the Delta Blues Museum has been housed in the historic Clarksdale freight depot, built in 1918 for the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad. The building was designated a Mississippi Landmark Property in 1996. The former freight area- about five thousand square feet of ground floor space – is devoted to permanent and traveling exhibits.

The Delta Blues Museum Stage is adjacent to the museum classroom, which hosts a year-round music education program as well as lectures and symposia. The Delta Blues Museum Stage serves as the main venue for local festivals such as the Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival in August and the Juke Joint Festival in April.



DELTA FRESH FOOD INITIATIVE

Delta Farm to School Team Celebrates First Sale to Schools

Local farmer, Keith Benson, completed his first sale of more than 1,000 pounds of watermelon to seven schools in the Mound Bayou and Coahoma County School Districts on August 9, 2012! Benson, who manages the work of the Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture Production (ASAP) in Holmes County, was on hand to talk with students as staff at IT Montgomery Elementary served up sweet, juicy bowls of fresh picked melon. The kids were excited to meet their “farmer” and gave the melons two thumbs up!

Delta Fresh Foods School Coordinator, Ryan Betz, and Judy Belue, grower liaison for DFFI, connected Food Service Directors, Rose Tate of Mound Bayou Schools, and Eddy Johnson of Coahoma County schools, with Mr. Benson and facilitated this first purchase. The melons were grown without pesticides and chemicals on the ASAP demonstration farm in Goodman, MS. A competitive bid process for both school districts was used and all parties were pleased with the transaction, counting it as a “win-win” for the school, the students, the farmer, and the local economy!

DFFI staff is gathering information from numerous school districts about what fruits and vegetables they are most interested in purchasing fresh from local growers. As Farm to School in the Delta gains momentum, local farmers will be able to incorporate products from the food service directors’ “wish lists” in their fall and spring plantings.

Delta Fresh Foods will continue to connect local schools with local growers and work to provide educational resources to students and staff that coincide with future local food purchases. The Delta Farm to School project will also benefit from the Farm to School Purchasing Guide compiled by Harvard Law students working with Delta Directions, which will be published soon.



STONE PONY- CLARKSDALE, MS



In June 2009, the idea of a gourmet pizza restaurant, located in the heart of Historic Downtown Clarksdale, Mississippi was born. We are proud of the history of Clarksdale and the new possibilities that await. We wanted to create a place where kids and families would feel comfortable dining and relaxing. Second, we wanted to create a location that visitors to Clarksdale would enjoy and experience our local fare. Our number one goal is to make you feel as though you are dining with us as our friend. One should expect the same sincere feel you experience at a friend's home in the Mississippi Delta. Please, make yourself at home and ask plenty of questions.



	Wed. 3/13 Van A- Cade	Wed. 3/13 Van B- Lacy	Wed. 3/13 Van C- Courtney	Wed. 3/13 Van D- Charlie	Wed. 3/13 Van E- Ryan	Wed. 3/13 Van F- Lauren	Wed. 3/13 Logistics			
6:00	Breakfast @ NGBC									
6:30										
7:00										
7:30										
8:00	Travel to Sturdivant Farms			Travel to Quapaw			Travel -			
8:30	Visit Sturdivant Farms						Visit Sturdivant			
9:00	Travel to Blues						Travel to Blues			
9:30							Visit Blues Mus			
10:00	Visit Blues Museum			Quapaw Canoe & Service			Walmart Trip/Travel to NGBC to prepare dinner			
10:30										
11:00	Travel to Judy/Lunch									
11:30	School - Friars Point, MS							Clarksdale Public Library		
12:00								Travel		
12:30								Spring Initiative		
1:00	D&D Farms - Sledge, MS									
1:30										
2:00										
2:30										
3:00										
3:30										
4:00										
4:30										
5:00										
5:30										
6:00	Travel to NGBC									
6:30										
7:00	Eat Tacos/etc.									
7:30										
8:00										
8:30										
9:00										
9:30										

John Ruskey - River Guide



John Ruskey has been paddling the Mississippi River since 1982 and is the most knowledgeable guide on its Lower reaches, with extensive canoeing & kayaking experience on the Arkansas, the Yazoo, the St. Francis, the White, the Big Sunflower and the Big Black Rivers. In 1998 he founded the first wilderness outfitting business on the entire Lower Mississippi River, Quapaw Canoe Company. John has guided National Geographic Adventure, Outside Magazine, the BBC, Irish Public Television, the Food Network, ESPN Outdoors.com and other media in various river adventures & expeditions on the Mississippi, as well as prominent authors John Barry (Rising Tide) and Tony Horwitz (Blues Latitudes, A Voyage Long & Strange). John builds voyageur style stripper canoes for use on the wild waters of the Lower Mississippi River, and is one of the most experienced builders of dugout canoes in the

country. 2002-2006 John oversaw the construction of 3 dugout canoes for the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Re-enactment, and helped the twenty-first century Corps of Discovery paddle those canoes up and down the Missouri, the Yellowstone, the Clearwater, the Snake, the Columbia, and other rivers of America. In 2007 Chinook elder & master canoe builder George Lagergren (94y/o) asked John to renovate 2 of his traditional Chinook dugouts which are now ceremonially housed in tribal headquarters, Wilapa Bay Washington. John is a musician, painter and writer. He was the first curator of the Delta Blues Museum (1992-98) and is co-founder of the Delta Blues Education Fund. In 1998 he established Quapaw Canoe Company to provide guided canoe & kayak expeditions on the Lower Mississippi River & its muddy tributaries. Simultaneously he founded the Mighty Quapaws Apprenticeship Program for the youth of the Mississippi Delta, most of whom come from severely distressed neighborhoods. Please visit www.island63.com for more information about the Mighty Quapaws and Quapaw Canoe Company.



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...

STURDIVANT FARM- DUE EAST PLANTATION- GLENDORA, MS

Precision Ag Payoff Mississippi's Mike Sturdivant Makes Technology Work

By Tommy Horton

There was a time when Mike Sturdivant Jr. probably wasn't that excited about anything connected to precision ag on his Mississippi Delta farm. In those early days, it was deemed too expensive. Or too risky. Or something that only wealthy farmers could afford. Not anymore. Ten years ago, Sturdivant might have even been reluctant to buy a personal computer for his office. That also is a distant memory. Suffice it to say that after many years of "taking baby steps," he has completely immersed himself in the sometimes misunderstood world of precision agriculture. Don't look for him to return to being a conventional farmer anytime soon. This fifth-generation farmer who works alongside his father, Mike Sturdivant Sr., and brothers Sykes and Walker, knows that every farm environment is different. And, for that reason, technology on his farm might not be adaptable somewhere else. Having said that, it's obvious he believes technology is an important key to future profitability for all cotton farmers – regardless of where they're located in the Cotton Belt. "We started off slowly about five years ago with some variable rate fertilizer applications," Sturdivant recalls. "And that led us into some decisions about GPS and auto steering. If I had any advice for other farmers, it would be to go slowly and don't bite off too much."

Perfect Timing

The decision on variable rate fertilizer application made perfect sense to Sturdivant. After doing some testing on smaller grids in his field, it was proven efficient to apply fertilizer where it was needed – as opposed to a blanket application. That saved money on fertilizer costs. And, as mentioned, it led to Sturdivant becoming convinced that GPS technology could help his family's operation cut overall costs. It was also about this time when he invested in AutoFarm's RTK technology, which made it possible to produce precise row spacing while running the machinery 20 hours a day, if necessary. Sturdivant's friends will attest to the fact that he isn't afraid to try new technology on the farm – if it is an efficient and profitable strategy. "It was nice being able to use the AutoFarm GPS technology and go to the field anytime we wanted," he says. "We could even work at night and have the rows in the same precise location every time. Even I can get on the tractor now and create a straight row."

Looking To The Future

Anyone who is remotely familiar with precision ag technology knows that the possibilities are endless for cotton production. For example, while Sturdivant has embraced GPS guidance systems and variable rate fertilizer applications, he is now adopting aerial and ground imagery through In-Time and Greenseeker data. He believes the two systems perfectly complement each other. One system (In-Time) gives a precise aerial image of a farm's acreage, while the other allows a closer look from the ground. "There are other things we could be doing," Sturdivant adds. "We know that there is variable rate seeding technology out there, but we're comfortable with what we're doing right now."

Sturdivant is a big believer in doing his homework and studying a technology before trying to implement it on his farm. That means analyzing the technology and observing it on a neighbor's farm. In the case of In-Time technology, he visited Kenneth Hood's farm in nearby Gunnison, Miss. He saw how the aerial imagery worked in a production environment. Then, he was ready to use it on his own farm. The acreage breakdown on the Sturdivant farm is 43 percent cotton, 40 percent corn and 17 percent soybeans. The value of a corn-cotton rotation program on this farm means that efficiencies are needed in all aspects of production for these three crops. "There is no doubt that this is where our future lies in cotton production," he adds. "But it pays to go slow, and a farmer needs to do something to get into this technology. "Sooner or later, you have to make a decision on this and jump on the bandwagon. You have to pull the trigger, but you've still got to make smart decisions along the way."

Good Advice & Support Make Precision Ag Work Better

Two persons who have watched Mike Sturdivant Jr. make the transition into precision ag technology are Tucker Miller and Robert Mehrle. Miller is a veteran cotton consultant who has worked with Sturdivant for two years on variable rate applications in defoliation and plant growth regulators. This year he will assist Sturdivant with some similar technology on variable rate fertilization with nitrogen. Mehrle is the owner and manager of Agricultural Information Management in Lambert, Miss., and is advising Sturdivant on how to use Greenseeker equipment which generates ground images and supports various variable rate application programs for crop production. "He's very knowledgeable about this technology," says Miller. "And he's done it the right way by going slowly and seeing what would work on his farm. Even though a lot of people have helped him, he was already pretty savvy on a lot of this." Although Miller has worked with Sturdivant for only a short time, they have known each other for a much longer period of time.

Potential Savings

While it's hard to quantify how much these various precision ag programs are saving in production costs, Miller contends that it's a considerable amount. He recalls implementing a similar variable rate insecticide application for another farmer, and the savings amounted to \$2.50 per acre on spraying costs. "Seeing is believing," he says. "When you see the potential of this technology, it's easy to see how it can help a farm's bottom line." Meanwhile, Mehrle says working with Sturdivant on implementing the Green-seeker technology has been a mutually beneficial arrangement. "Mike is one of those rare individuals committed to making the technology work the way it's supposed to on the farm," he says. "I think I usually learn more from him because he is so committed to making the equipment work correctly. "One of the reasons why Mike likes Greenseeker is that he's in control and can gain the data quickly while he's in the field. Like I said, he is sold on the technology, and he is very thorough in doing his homework and making sure everything works well on his farm. We feel fortunate to have him as a customer."

DELTA BLUES MUSEUM



Mission Statement

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History

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DELTA FRESH FOOD INITIATIVE

Community Grown: A Mississippi Delta Tradition

By Brooke Smith, WhyHunger

In the cycle of things, it's not uncommon for traditional to become modern again. Physicists explain that it's normal for time-bending relativity to reverse concepts like "old" and "new," what we once thought to be embedded in the past, suddenly appears ahead of us as a way forward into the future. That might be the best way to understand why we're seeing traditional agricultural methodology creeping back into our modern farming practices and shaping our current conversations about sustainability. For many growers and consumers, organic, small-scale farming is the wave of the future; yet, crop cultivation predates synthetic chemicals and factory farming by thousands of years, and so it follows that our ancestors were the original organic-loving locavores. But is the new traditional better than the old modern?

The flat shimmering expanse of the Mississippi Delta is just about the perfect setting to ask this question. The fields stretch off into the horizon much the same as they have for hundreds of years—and without the signature noise of contemporary development—strip malls, traffic, billboards; it feels literally timeless to stand in the middle of a sweltering patch of organic summer vegetables listening to farmers swap traditional tips: "Spray water, Murphy's Soap and cayenne pepper on the okra leaves to prevent moths from laying eggs," and "A light dusting of flower laced with cayenne pepper keeps the insects off watermelon."

"That's how they always did it," says Dorothy Grady-Scarborough, founder of Mississippians Engaging in Greener Agriculture (MEGA) and board member of the Delta Fresh Foods Initiative. Dorothy is a transformational force in the Delta's burgeoning community agriculture movement. "It's not new. The older folk already know how to grow organic. I just tell them to 'do like you used to.'"

Dorothy started MEGA's demonstration farm and regional support network as an answer to the question of old versus new—encouraging local farmers to grow organic food crops that improve the health of their families, their congregations, their schools and their communities. Her career as a nurse, her commitment to her faith community as well as her own family, and her deep historical roots in the local agriculture of this sharecropping community, make the choice between traditional (smaller scale, organic) and modern (larger scale, chemical-dependent) agricultural development a problem of simple math.

On one side of the Delta equation: rising health problems (obesity, hypertension, diabetes) resulting from lack of access to nutritious food in stores and a generational departure from the once-ubiquitous backyard garden, increasingly mechanized production of commodity crops like ethanol corn and soybeans, and rising poverty and unemployment rates have debilitated the quality of life for many residents, stripped the nutrients from the rich soil, forced farmers into debt-driven relationships with corporate agriculture giants who control pricing of both seeds and products, and drastically reduced the once-reliably plentiful job opportunities.

On the other side: a strong sense of community connection rooted in geographic longevity, the deeply relational nature of rural value systems, the life-or-death need for local access to fresh, healthy food, and the free time on the hands of both the unemployed and the younger generations are all invaluable assets for leveraging change. When Dorothy balanced that equation, the answer to many of her community's needs

was clear: convert available vacant land into small-scale organic agricultural production, and feed the neighborhood with fresh, chemical-free food grown on a whole lot of team work.

And Dorothy isn't alone in this effort. She spends much of her time spreading the good word, consulting with churches and youth groups and building regional networks. WhyHunger is currently partnering with her and many others on the Delta Fresh Foods initiative to build a regional food system in the Delta. It's all part of her grand plan to share her passion and vision for healthy community. And while it's true that Dorothy has the Southern gift for graceful persuasion and genuine friendship, there's also something else at play here—a profound sense of outreach inherent in the concept of community-based agriculture. Many hands are needed to produce food from the earth—from the labor to the distribution, it's too much work to cultivate, plant, tend, harvest and cook food alone. And just ask any grower who has had the awe-inspiring experience of harvesting mid-summer bushels of beans and multiple baskets of tomatoes—you can't possibly eat it all alone.

SPRING INITIATIVE- CLARKSDALE, MS



Spring is an after school program located in Clarksdale, Mississippi, serving 15 students in grades 6 through 8.

Vision Statement

Young people develop to their full potential and have the freedom to choose their paths in life according to their talents and desires.

Mission Statement

Spring empowers youth to discover and unleash their potential through a holistic educational approach by promoting personal well-being, global exposure, social connectedness and creative expression. Spring functions as a daily after-school program that provides educational support and focuses equally on strengthening the academic prowess and confidence of its students and on building loving and enriching relationships between all Spring staff and student participants.

	Thurs. 3/14 Van A- Cade	Thurs. 3/14 Van B- Lacy	Thurs. 3/14 Van C- Heather	Thurs. 3/14 Van D- Charlie	Thurs. 3/14 Van E- Ryan	Thurs. 3/14 Van F- Erin	Thurs. 3/14 Logistics
6:00	Breakfast @ NGBC						
6:30							
7:00							
7:30	Travel to Delta & Pine Land						Pack and Load Van
8:00							
8:30							
9:00	Delta & Pine Land Tour with Catfish Lunch (3 Hrs. Including Lunch)						Travel to DSU
9:30							
10:00							Unpack/Setup at DSU
10:30							Travel to DPL
11:00							Lunch @ DPL
11:30							
12:00	Travel to Winterville Indian Mounds						
12:30							
1:00	Tour Museum and Mounds (2 Hrs.)						
1:30							
2:00							
2:30							
3:00	Travel to Griffin Farm						
3:30	Visit Griffin Farm						
4:00	Travel to DSU Rec Center						
4:30							
5:00	Shower/Change if needed (Departure time 6:15)						
5:30							
6:00							
6:30	Travel to Ground Zero Blues Club (45 Min. Total)						
7:00							
7:30							
8:00	Ground Zero (2.5 Hrs.)						
8:30							
9:00							
9:30	Travel to DSU Rec Center (45 Min.)						

DELTA & PINELAND COMPANY - LEARNING CENTER

SCOTT, MS

What is Monsanto's "Scott, MS Learning Center?"

The Learning Center at Scott, Mississippi provides growers and producers the ability to tour our research and demonstration plots focused on presenting advanced agronomic studies.

At a Glance

- Scott, MS
- 130 acres of research and demonstration plots
- Showcases all three of Monsanto's core crops: corn, cotton and soybeans
- Rain-fed, and furrow irrigation systems
- Soil types from rich, river-deposited silty loams to heavier clays
- State-of-the art classroom facilities

What will I see on a visit to The Learning Center?

Visitors to the Learning Center will see research and demonstration plots with the latest corn, cotton and soybean germplasm and technologies from Monsanto from a systems perspective. While specific Monsanto germplasm and traits are utilized, determining the best agronomic practices for these products is the focal point for our investigations. In addition to these studies, visitors will be able to view the newest technologies from Monsanto which are currently in the development pipeline.



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...

WINTERVILLE INDIAN MOUNDS

GREENVILLE, MS



Winterville Mounds, named for a nearby community, is the site of a prehistoric ceremonial center built by a Native American civilization that thrived from about A.D. 1000 to 1450. The mounds, part of the Winterville society's religious system, were the site of sacred structures and ceremonies. Archaeological evidence indicates that the Winterville people lived away from the mound center on family farms in scattered settlement districts throughout the Yazoo-Mississippi River Delta basin. Only a few of the highest-ranking tribal officials lived at the mound center.

The Winterville ceremonial center originally contained at least twenty-three mounds. Some of the mounds located outside the park boundaries have been leveled by highway construction and farming. Twelve of the site's largest mounds, including the 55-foot-high Temple Mound, are currently the focus of a long-range preservation plan being developed by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the University of Mississippi's Center for Archaeological Research.

Archaeological evidence indicates that the Indians who used the Winterville Mounds may have had a civilization similar to that of the Natchez Indians, a Mississippi tribe documented by French explorers and settlers in the early 1700s. The Natchez Indians' society was divided into upper and lower ranks, with a person's social rank determined by heredity through the female line. The chief and other tribal officials inherited their positions as members of the royal family. The elaborate leadership network made mound building by a civilian labor force possible.

A great fire during the late 1300s consumed the original building on the Temple Mound at Winterville. According to archaeological evidence, the cause of the fire remains a mystery. The site continued to be used afterwards, but no more mounds were built or maintained. Even though the site continued to be occupied after the fire, the general population declined at Winterville while increasing at settlements and mound sites 50 miles to the south, in the lower Yazoo River basin. By 1450 A.D. the Winterville Mound site appears to have been abandoned completely.



GROUND ZERO BLUES CLUB

CLARKSDALE, MS



Clarksdale, Mississippi has long been described as "Ground Zero" for blues aficionados from around the globe. It all started here. That's why Ground Zero Blues Club® was created — to celebrate the area's rich blues heritage and to provide a forum in which it can continue.

Located at Ø Blues Alley next door to the Delta Blues Museum in the heart of historic downtown Clarksdale, Ground Zero Blues Club® opened in May 2001. Owned by local attorney and businessman, Bill Luckett; Academy Award-winning actor and Mississippi Delta resident, Morgan Freeman; and Clarksdale native and Memphis entertainment executive, Howard Stovall; Ground Zero Blues Club® is the place for anyone looking for an authentic Delta Blues experience.



Our mission is to showcase the best of today's Delta Blues musicians. Although some national acts perform from time to time, visitors are more likely to find the "real deal" at Ground Zero Blues Club® — those musicians who live in the Mississippi Delta and continue in the tradition of their musical forefathers Charley Patton, Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker. Wednesday through Saturday there is always live music at Ground Zero Blues Club® (and even on a few Sundays when the occasion arises). We serve a "down home" menu ranging from plate lunches featuring the freshest vegetables and traditional Southern dishes to juicy hamburgers and - of course — crispy fried catfish and slow-cooked pork barbecue.

Ground Zero Blues Club® has been featured on CBS' 60 Minutes, CNN, Turner South, The Food Network, The Travel Channel, and The Discovery Channel and was the site for filming of Last of The Mississippi Jukes and Blues Divas. Named in 2005 as one of the "Top 100 Bars and Nightclubs in America" the club has been featured in publications such as National Geographic Traveler, Southern Living, USA Today, Esquire Japan, Food and Wine, The Washington Post and TV Guide — to name but a few.



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...

POOR (PO') MONKEY'S LOUNGE

MERIGOLD, MS

Inside Poor Monkey's
By Luther Brown, Delta State University



Transformed in the 1950s from a sharecropper shack that was built probably in the 1920s, Poor Monkey's Lounge is the one of the last rural jook joints in the Mississippi Delta. There are several remaining urban jooks, and some modern reincarnations designed to reflect old time places, but virtually no rural jooks remain. These places were once common. Before the Great Migration to the North and the exodus to towns and cities, hundreds of thousands of sharecroppers and small farmers peopled the countryside in the days when one person and one mule worked ten acres. Today, on this depopulated countryside, one tractor works a thousand acres. The effects of TV, and the appeal of casinos, recorded music, iPods, and restaurants have also drawn customers away.

Poor Monkey's epitomizes the jook, the kind of place where the Blues was incubated until it gelled into a recognizable art form. As one local woman told me recently, when you go to a jook, you feel like everyone there is all one person, all sharing the same feelings.

Introduction

Poor Monkey's sits in a cotton field in Bolivar County, west of the town of Merigold on the Hiter farm, land worked by members of the same family for generations. Monkey's is the only surviving sharecropper shanty on this land, although there are remains of a few others nearby. In the early 1950s, Willie Seaberry, known as Poor (Po') Monkey, began to operate the unused sharecropper house as a lounge.

The building is made of unpainted cypress planks, roofed with corrugated galvanized steel that is often referred to as a "tin." It is windowless, but has three doors. The front sports several faded, hand-painted signs. One describes the dress code by saying "not like this" next to a picture of a man with his cap on backwards, and "not like that" next to an image of a man with his underpants showing above his waist. Other signs tell patrons not to bring beer inside, "no loud music" (consistently spelled "lounld"), and "no dope smoking."

Lounge

In the early twenty-first century, Poor Monkey's is only reliably open Thursday nights, starting around 8:30 and closing in the early hours of Friday morning. This is the night Po' Monkey calls "Family Night," and many people in the Delta will tell you that the weekend starts then. Guests are met at the door, either by Monkey or one of his regular greeters. Admission is normally \$5. A DJ plays soul blues, R&B, and soul. Beer and soft drinks are sold from the kitchen through a Dutch door. Many customers bring their own Crown Royal, which is acceptable as long as they buy mixers. By ten o'clock, although the lounge grows smoky and raucous, a code of behavior operates: no drugs, no violence, and no disrespect.

The Poor Monkey crowd is made up almost entirely of local regulars, and is usually integrated. It is not uncommon to meet an American travel or blues writer or a visitor from Europe or Asia, and these special guests are taken around the room by Mr. Seaberry and introduced to the regulars, who are generally eager to talk. Crowds rarely exceed two dozen at any given time. Traditional blues bands as well as fraternities from nearby Delta State University sometimes book the lounge, but these uses don't interfere with the Thursday night routine.

Seaberry's small space has also made a mark on the global landscape. Poor Monkey's Lounge has been featured as a cover photograph of the Oxford American, a two-page spread in Annie Leibovitz's American Music, photos in Vanity Fair and Esquire magazine's Japan edition. Newspapers from the Memphis Commercial Appeal to the New York Times have published descriptions and photos. The floor plan of the lounge has been analyzed as an example of vernacular architecture in Mississippi Folklife. The Lounge and Willie Seaberry were featured in a two-hour Japanese television show, and a Voice of America television broadcast to Chinese viewers. Bluesman Floyd Lee filmed a portion of his bio-pic here, and websites feature the Lounge in English and French.

The Hiter family gave Mr. Seaberry a lifetime lease on the property. There are some locals who would prefer to see the place end after Seaberry's death, since he is personally so much a part of it. Others would like it preserved, and some have even suggested that it should be moved and "cleaned up" as was done to the log cabin that Muddy Waters grew up in. The Delta Center for Culture and Learning is filing preliminary paperwork to have the building added to the National Register of Historic Places, and the Bolivar County Board of Supervisors renamed the nearby road, "Poor Monkey's Road." Tour groups stop here regularly, as do college students on field trips from around the United States.

NOTE: In early spring 2006, Seaberry started calling the Lounge, "Poor Monkey's Social Club."



Poor Monkey

Since 1963 Willie Seaberry has lived in a tiny single room of the building, filled almost completely by his bed. A slightly larger kitchen serves as a bar when the lounge is open, and the rest of the building includes space for several large tables, a pool table, and a stage area for live bands or a disc jockey. Sixty to seventy people can dance, move around, or sit.

Seen from the outside, the lounge is a shanty. Inside, the space opens into an array of colors and sounds. Three mounted TV sets display different programs. Strings of Christmas and rope lights flash. A disco ball reflects

a rainbow of colors off walls covered either with foil or loud floral prints. Large, cut-out letters spell “Season’s Greetings” year round, and tinsel in multiple lengths and shapes hangs from the ceiling. Walls are carpeted with photographs of images ranging from school graduation to promotional shots of strippers. Stuffed or sculptural monkeys, some amended with a plastic banana or a lifelike dildo, hang from beams or sit in corners, along with a few naked plastic baby dolls. A sign over the Dutch door separating the kitchen from the main public space, through which beverage purchases are passed, reads, “This is a high class place. Act respectable.”

In one corner stands a large, welded-metal sculpture of Willie Seaberry holding a guitar, made by Monkey’s friend Larry Grimes. From the sculpture’s mouth protrudes a bolt with a red end, representing Monkey’s signature cigar. Attached to the sculpture’s waist is a pair of handcuffs, perhaps indicating that he is the local “law.” A monkey sits on the sculpture’s head. At the far end of the main room is the DJ’s booth, surrounded by large speakers and a huge sign advertising Heineken beer.

On most Thursdays, an elderly man sits quietly behind the DJ on a stool. This is “Dr. Tissue,” who has been a fixture at the Lounge “from the beginning” according to Mr. Seaberry. On Halloween, 2005, a wooden military surplus coffin was added to the outside of the Lounge with the words “Rest in Peace Poor Monkey” painted on it and a stuffed toy gorilla sticking out of one end.

The metamorphosis that changes the shanty into a party-land affects its proprietor and his regulars. Most days, as he drives a tractor or operates a cotton picker, Seaberry wears overalls. In his lounge he favors bright, color-coordinated suits, with matching belt buckles, derby or cowboy hats, and boots. If he’s feeling up to it, he changes clothing in his bedroom every hour or so and emerges, strutting as if on a fashion show runway, in baby blue, bright white, crimson, yellow, plaid, or even highly reflective silver. Seaberry sometimes further accessorizes his wardrobe with large signs around his neck. One reads “For Sale” on one side, and is flipped over to reveal “Private Property.” Another reads “Beer Drinkers Make Better Lovers,” with “3 Way or 4 Way” on the reverse.



	Friday 3/15 Van A- Cade	Friday 3/15 Van B- Lacy	Friday 3/15 Van C- Heather	Friday 3/15 Van D- Courtney/Charlie	Friday 3/15 Van E- Ryan	Friday 3/15 Van F- Heather	Friday 3/15 Logistics	
6:00	Breakfast @ DSU, pack, and LOAD vans							
6:30								
7:00								
7:30								
8:00	Travel to MEGA - Shelby, MS							
8:30	MEGA Service & Lunch							
9:00								
9:30								
10:00								
10:30								
11:00								
11:30								
12:00								
12:30								
1:00								
1:30	Travel to Sunflower, MS		Travel to Indianola, MS					Travel to Sites
2:00								
2:30	Sunflower County Service & Dinner		Service in Indianola, MS					
3:00								
3:30			Travel to LEAD Center					
4:00								
4:30			Service and Dinner @ LEAD Center					
5:00								
5:30								
6:00								
6:30	Travel Back to MSU			Travel to Ole Miss		Travel to MSU		
7:00								
7:30								
8:00								
8:30								
9:00								
9:30								

MISSISSIPPIANS ENGAGED IN GREENER AGRICULTURE (MEGA)

SHELBY, MS



Dorothy Grady-Scarborough, MEGA Director

“I grew up less than 100 yards from here,” Dorothy says from her modest ranchhouse’s backyard in Shelby. “We lived on a plantation as sharecroppers. I picked cotton out the front door of my house. The owner gave us a place to live and about a football-size plot where we grew our food.” Dorothy is now 55 years old. She’s a soft-spoken woman, cool as a cucumber. But despite her quiet demeanor, she represents the power of community and the importance of building a network of shared knowledge among the growers in the Delta. She’s a registered nurse for the Coahoma County Schools, so she understands the community’s health needs. And she farms 6 acres, 1 in her backyard and 5 more in the county, so she knows about cultivating good food. In 1996, after serving on the board of a short-term Tufts University program aimed at developing food gardens in backyards, churches, and schools, Dorothy decided to expand that project’s scope into a larger vision for the greater community. She called her new project MEGA— Mississippians Engaged in Greener Agriculture. The organization now encourages and supports small-scale, high-yield growing projects and hosts training sessions in Dorothy’s backyard garden and other county locations.



MISSISSIPPIANS ENGAGED IN GREENER AGRICULTURE (MEGA)

MEGA: Mississippi Delta

Knowing people on a southern road trip is especially important on Sunday. That's when the food spreads across tables like an edible flea market. After the Hoxie situation, we had caved and slept in our first motel, the Scottish Inns of Jonesboro, AR. We wake up with a shower and head straight for Memphis and a good friend, Ellen Rolfes. There we whip up a Kansas-City-farm egg scramble with dill, spinach, and garlic shoots. We brew Sumatra coffee. Ellen, who has packaged and published numerous books celebrating southern food and its storytelling power, has buttery biscuits, a fruit salad, and an orzo dish of shrimp and dill and feta. We feast and talk, the French Open finals playing in the other room.



Highway 61 through the Delta is all about blues, corn, and soybeans.

Meanwhile, about a hundred miles south via Route 61 (aka The Blues Highway), Dorothy and Owen Grady-Scarborough attend church before sitting down to their own Sunday Supper. We find them after the meals have settled.

Dorothy and Owen stay beside Country Road 32, a half-mile and one left turn out of downtown Shelby. They live in a simple one-story ranch house with similar homes on either side. Yellow-green coco grass covers the front yards with the greater landscape a mono-color green of soybean or corn. This is the Mississippi Delta, home of the Harvard of high-tech agriculture research stations, Leland's Stoneville, and to the highest rates of diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease in the nation.

Dorothy believes one of the answers to these communities' health issues lies in the backyards and sideyards and churchyards. Behind the Grady-Scarborough's house lives part farm, part folk art installation. On one acre, Owen and Dorothy raise rabbits (in cages suspended over a compost pile), chickens, and a few goats that climb up and down the upturned baptismal tub that welcomed both Dorothy and Owen into the church as infants.

Peaches, plums, apples, and pear trees offer occasional shade and their trunks support a series of life-size hip-hop celebrities (50 Cent, Beyonce, Eminem) on wood paintings salvaged from a shuttered juke joint. There are rows of okra, butter beans, squash, cucumber, spinach, watermelon, grapes, lavender, lemon balm, oregano, basil, sage. And, of course, tomatoes.

“Back in the day, you could find tomatoes out there in the cotton fields,” Owen says. “You just go pick you some tomatoes, brush it off and eat it right there. We used to pick okra in the middle of the cotton field. They’d just grow wild. Now they’re spraying this stuff and killing it out. I used to like walking through those fields.”

Dorothy and Owen, like most Delta residents over the age of 50, grew up on sharecropper farms. They chopped rows of cotton for twelve hours a day and made \$3 to \$12 for the work. The families never got ahead. That’s just how it worked until they started leaving for city jobs in the north.

“There was no option but to work in the fields,” Dorothy says. “That’s why a lot of people left the south – to get away from the fields.” “To get away from this,” Owen holds out the hoe he’s been leaning on. “I did. Moved to New York and didn’t come back ‘til I met this lady.” Dorothy has been backyard gardening for almost twenty years. In a town as small as Shelby, people notice and people listen to someone as strong, proud, and rooted as Dorothy, especially when she speaks through the ten churches in town. But even the churches hesitated back in the mid- 90s.

“The churches weren’t ready (for farming/gardening),” she says. “Our minister said, ‘Isn’t that what we’re getting away from?’ I said we’ve already gotten away from it. It’s been a lost art. I tell them now it has nothing to do with sharecropping. It’s for you. It can save you money and can make you money when you sell at market. This isn’t working in the fields. This is bettering your family and your health. People are getting into it.”

And Dorothy’s ripples reach outside of Shelby. A national leader in the urban farm movement, Will Allen of Milwaukee’s Growing Power organization, has christened Dorothy and her MEGA operation (Mississippians Engaging in Greener Agriculture) as the first ROTC program in the country. What began as a gift of chickens from Heifer International to Dorothy and Shelby has become the next satellite demonstration garden for a national movement aimed at teaching individuals about backyard and community gardening.

We meet Richard Coleman, the County Supervisor, at his ranch house in town. The family crowd is just leaving from their Sunday supper – a big one since there was a birthday. Richard shows us his plot out back – about 120 feet by 50 feet and full of okra, squash, butter beans, peas, tomatoes.

“I just sit indoors in an office,” he says. “I didn’t know what sweat was. So it’s a two-fold thing for me – it provides vegetables for my family and a pastime for me. I’ve already lost ten pounds this season. “You have to travel to Cleveland south or Clarksdale north to get what you need and that gets expensive, just with gas bills. It’s no comparison to get it right here.”

About twenty yards away, a smaller plot of the same produce thrives in a small square amid the coco grass. A dozen kids stay cool in a large inflatable pool nearby. Sean Jefferson walks over. Sean’s 32 years old and lives in the trailer next to Richard’s home. He works at Nature’s Catch, a bass-raising plant in Clarksdale, 20 miles north. His wife and four kids stay in the trailer with his mom and step-dad. “My grandfather used to raise food. I was about 11 or 12 when I had my first garden. I try to grow one every year. I usually just shovel it out but this year I tilled it. It cost me about \$7 or \$8 for seeds plus one bag of fertilizer. I grew it all from seed except for the tomato plants – bought those at a nursery.” He tends to it every day. Comes home after work and chops a little bit, does it all by himself.



We visit a few other gardens. Louise, Dorothy's sister, shares a long row with two other gardeners. She describes some of the local lingo – "choppin'" means weeding down the rows with the hoe. "Rippin' and runnin'" means staying busy and getting things done. Nearby we see the Shiloh Baptist Church's garden where members of the church work a rotational schedule to grow produce that's available for pick-up from the church fridge. Listen to Louise choppin'.

And our final stop takes us to Cornelius Toole's rambling property down in Mound Bayou, five miles south of Shelby. It's like the backyard, down-home version of Stoneville's "Big-Agriculture" experimental research station.

Maybe an answer to the Delta's and the nation's food deserts lies somewhere here among Toole's mad-farmer-scientist laboratory of tilapia tanks, hand-built backyard irrigation pipes, chicken coops, greenhouses, and one huge, faded-green John Deere sinking into the weeds.



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...

LEAD CENTER - SUNFLOWER COUNTY FREEDOM PROJECT

SUNFLOWER, MS



MISSION

Our mission is to create a corp of academically capable, socially conscious, and mentally disciplined young leaders in the Mississippi Delta.

VISION

We envision the day when young people growing up in Sunflower County, Mississippi, have access to the same educational opportunities as children anywhere in America.

VALUES: COMMITMENT TO LEADERSHIP

At the Sunflower County Freedom Project, we believe that education is the seed of freedom. Without a challenging, achievement-oriented education, children in the Mississippi Delta will be as powerless in the future as were illiterate sharecroppers in the twentieth century.

- Love – Responsible leadership and lasting change starts with love and respect; Freedom Fellows commit to loving and respecting themselves, their teachers, their classmates, and their communities.
- Education – In the words of Malcolm X, “Without education, you’re not going anywhere in this world.” Freedom Fellows commit to pursuing educational excellence despite any challenges presented to them.
- Action – Knowledge without action is an opportunity lost; education without social conscience is a tragedy. Freedom Fellows commit to personal and social action to make themselves better people and to make the world a better place.
- Discipline – Self-control is vital to leadership; thus, Freedom Fellows must learn to be in control of their thoughts and actions at all times. Freedom Fellows commit to practicing and performing personal and mental discipline.



UNDERSTAND THE PAST,
SEE THE FUTURE,
& MAKE AN IMPACT...

LEAD CENTER - SUNFLOWER COUNTY FREEDOM PROJECT

SUNFLOWER, MS



Why is it Called the 'Freedom Project'?

The “freedom” in the Sunflower County Freedom Project honors both the past and the future. Inspired by the “Freedom Schools” that were established in Sunflower County and throughout Mississippi during Freedom Summer in 1964, our organization uses the history of the 1960s civil rights movement to motivate our students to become capable and compassionate leaders in their communities.

Beginning in their first summer, all students are immersed in a curriculum that emphasizes the civil rights movement, and the leaders of the freedom struggle stand as historical models for our students to follow. From reading about the movement, interviewing movement veterans, and visiting movement sites, students learn that to live up to their heritage and make freedom real today, they must take advantage of the opportunities available to them — opportunities won through their ancestors’ struggles. They learn that they must push themselves to become educated and disciplined enough to make positive changes in themselves and their communities.

Where We Work

The Freedom Project’s LEAD Center is located in the Town of Sunflower (population approximately 1000, located roughly 100 miles north of Jackson and 150 miles south of Memphis). Freedom Fellows come from Sunflower and the surrounding towns of Indianola, Moorhead, Ruleville, and Leland. Despite its cheery name, Sunflower County can be a tough place to grow up. Sunflower has a median family income that is roughly half the national average, while the teenage pregnancy rate is roughly triple the national average, according to the Census Bureau. Local public schools struggle to provide an adequate education. The average ACT score in Sunflower County is 16.3, nearly 25% lower than the national average. Nearly 41% of students will leave high school without earning a diploma. Compounding these already daunting problems is the difficult truth that the Mississippi Delta continues to be one of the most racially segregated and racially charged regions in America.

Despite these obstacles, the community in Sunflower County is a dynamic force primed for change and willing to work hard to create a better future for children. The Freedom Project is a resource for public school students and their families who are motivated to achieve more than their situations have afforded them, and who are willing to do so by striving toward higher education. We are continually working toward creating a corps of academically capable, socially conscious and mentally disciplined young leaders in the Mississippi Delta.



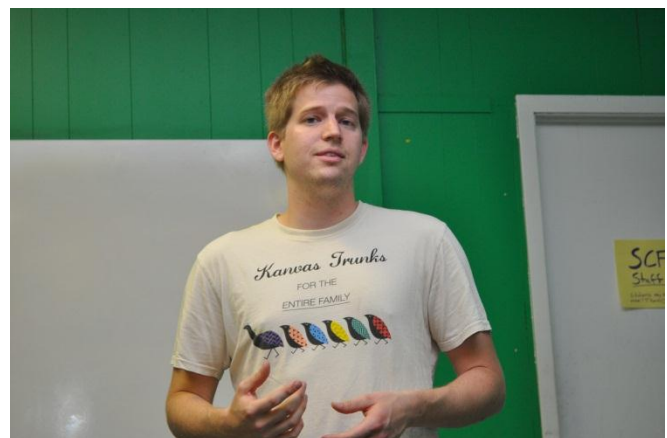


History

The Freedom Project is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to educational excellence and leadership development in Sunflower County, Mississippi. We use the history and spirit of the 1960s freedom struggle to motivate young people to become capable and compassionate leaders in their communities.

The Freedom Project was founded by Chris Myers Asch, Shawn Raymond, and Gregg Costa in 1998. All three had served as Teach for America/Americorps teachers in Sunflower County and were thus acutely aware of the need for an educational program that would challenge and engage young people in the area. Initially a summer program held at Mississippi Delta Community College, the Freedom Project grew into a year-round fellowship with a residential summer program at the University of Mississippi. In 2002, we purchased two abandoned buildings in Sunflower, Mississippi, and built the LEAD Center, a permanent home for all our programs.

Now in its 13th year, the Freedom Project offers middle and high school students intensive academic enrichment, mentoring, educational travel, physical education, drama performances, and art classes. Four consecutive classes of Freedom Fellows have graduated from Sunflower County high schools and enrolled in colleges around the country. We develop our students' confidence and leadership ability by demanding genuine achievement and performance — we accept no excuses for anything less.





Daily Reflections



DAILY REFLECTIONS

Sunday, March 10, 2013

- 1) After watching *The Murder of Emmitt Till* what was something you learned from watching this documentary? What was something you already knew? What other questions do you have after watching this documentary?
- 2) After watching *Mississippi: Is This America* what was something you learned from watching this documentary? What was something you already knew? What other questions do you have after watching this documentary?

Monday, March 11, 2013

Group discussion on *The Murder of Emmitt Till* and *Mississippi: Is This America* facilitated by Becky Smith and Jason Ward.

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

Groups A, B, F

- 1) What did you do today? How did this experience impact you? How did Mississippi River Clean Up project make an impact in the local community? Share a personal highlight from today's experience and explain why it was significant to you.
- 2) What did you learn about the role that the Mississippi River played regarding the creation of the MS Delta? What is the River's current influence and what does it mean for the future?

Groups C, D, E

- 1) What did you do today in terms of service? What are two things that you learned today while doing this service project? Share a personal highlight from today's service and explain why this was significant to you.
- 2) How did this service project make an impact in the local community? Will what you did today have a lasting impact on improving conditions in the Delta?

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

Groups A, B, C

- 1) What did you do today in terms of service? What are two things that you learned today while doing this service project? Share a personal highlight from today's service and explain why this was significant to you.
- 2) How did this service project make an impact in the local community? Will what you did today have a lasting impact on improving conditions in the Delta?

Groups D, E, F

- 1) What did you do today? How did this experience impact you? How did Mississippi River Clean Up project make an impact in the local community? Share a personal highlight from today's experience and explain why it was significant to you.

2) What did you learn about the role that the Mississippi River played regarding the creation of the MS Delta? What is the River's current influence and what does it mean for the future?

Thursday, March 14, 2013

- 1) What did you do today? Share a personal highlight from today's experience. Why was this significant to you?
- 2) What are some of the historical remnants of the Delta that are still present? Do you think these are liabilities that will prevent progress or assets to be captured for a brighter tomorrow? Justify your answer.
- 3) What are your thoughts concerning how each farm helps us understand the Delta's past and its future opportunities?

Friday, March 15, 2013

- 1) What was the most rewarding part(s) of the Alternative Spring Break experience? Why is this significant to you?
- 2) Is there an opportunity for these Mississippi Delta communities to work together as a state- region to improve conditions? Are there broader opportunities for "Delta" regions in Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana to collaborate across state lines? What would the intrastate and interstate collaborations look like?
- 3) How did the Alternative Spring Break experience deepen your understanding of the MS Delta, its history, current conditions, and future opportunities? Explain.