



MISSISSIPPI  
Museum of  
Natural  
Science

FOUNDATION



ANNUAL  
REPORT

2008-2009

## AT A GLANCE

# 156,897

visitors hosted at Museum

# 45,659

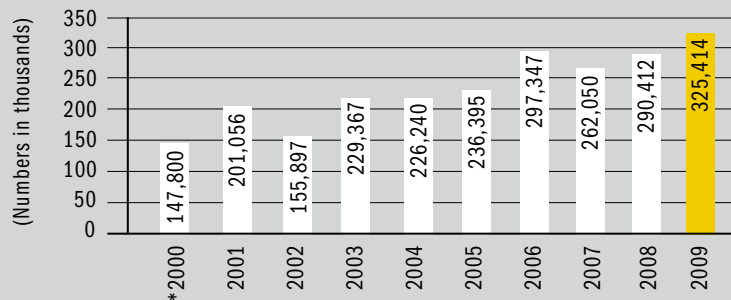
people used object kits, information, and materials

# + 122,858

Mississippians served in statewide outreach

# = 325,414

people served through Museum services



\*Attendance records for the Museum at our LeFleur's Bluff State Park location began in Spring of 2000.

Each year as we begin this letter, we are amazed by the variety of things accomplished by the Museum's staff, even in this recession atmosphere. This past year, on the public side, the Museum has hosted two successful exhibits: *Sustainable Choices* and *Monsters of the Deep*. More than 156,897 visitors passed through our doors, and as a result, we were named the Travel Attraction of the Year by the Mississippi Tourism Association and the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Our education staff tailors presentations to each group, helping visiting teachers supplement their lesson plans. Basic science facts are also reinforced by our four outreach educators who travel in special vans to schools in the outlying counties, bringing live animals and natural objects to educate students about Mississippi's unique environments. Project WET and Project WILD teacher workshops also coordinate with the state science standards.

The MMNS Foundation sponsors "Creature Comforts" each Thursday on MPB radio, hosted by Museum Director Libby Hartfield. MPB estimates 20,000 listeners in Mississippi and neighboring states are educated and entertained each week.

Our extremely active volunteers help the staff by doing such varied tasks as greeting our visitors, reconstructing fossil skeletons, or cleaning aquarium glass in full SCUBA gear. Boy and Girl Scouts use our grounds for camping as well as projects. The Museum endeavors to be an active part of the community as well as an educational and scientific resource for our state.

The research side of the museum has been equally exciting. Paleontologist George Phillips discovered, or rather uncovered, the intact thighbone of a duck-billed dinosaur, approximately 70 million years old, in North Mississippi. Our new DNA lab, with its state-of-the-art ultra-cold freezers, continues its vital work in documentation of samples of the state's flora and fauna. The scientific collection holds over one million objects, all housed in our site on Riverside Drive. These preserved specimens allow researchers from all over the world the opportunity to further their knowledge about Earth's past, present, and future.



We continue to move forward in our plans for the expansion of the scientific areas of the Museum. The funding needed to proceed has been secured and the plans to expand our specimen and research laboratories are moving forward. Another way to contribute is through the Museum's new designated giving fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson.

The Foundation exists to support the Museum and its goals. All of this works because of you. Thanks for making it all possible.

*Christine Zachow*

Christine Zachow  
MMNS FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

*Libby Hartfield*

Libby Hartfield  
MMNS DIRECTOR

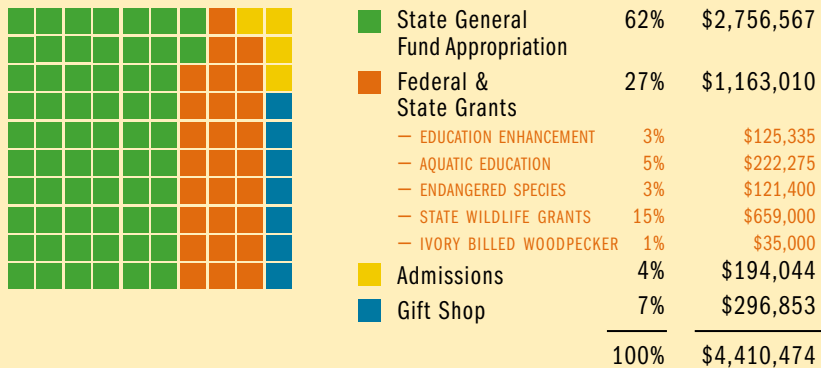


# MUSEUM FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES

The charts below illustrate the Museum's state and federal funding, revenue from admissions and gift shop sales, and operating expenditures.

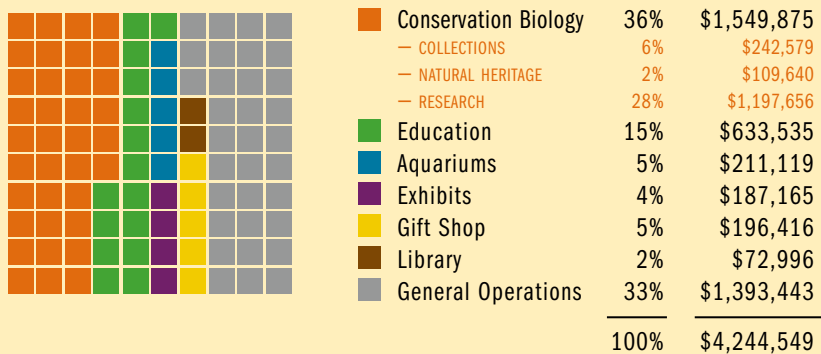
## FUNDING BY SOURCE

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009



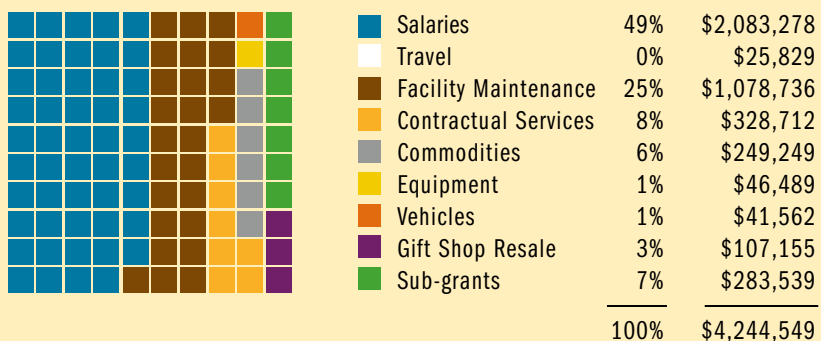
## EXPENDITURES BY SECTIONS

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009



## EXPENDITURES BY BUDGET CATEGORIES

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009



The mission of the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science is to promote understanding and appreciation of Mississippi's biological diversity through collections, research, scientific databases, education, and exhibits and to inspire the people of our state to respect the environment and to preserve natural Mississippi.

The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated exclusively to improving the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science (MMNS). This goal is primarily accomplished by providing and encouraging funding for the Museum from a variety of public and private sources. Private funding may come in many forms, including tax-deductible dollar donations, as well as the energy and expertise donated by laypeople and professionals.

Without the Foundation and its dedicated leaders, volunteers and membership, the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science as we know it today would not be possible. Whether through inspiring financial support for the Museum's extraordinary exhibits, recruiting manpower for the Museum's activities and research projects, or accomplishing any number of other fundraising and volunteer functions, the symbiosis between the Museum and the Foundation represents the strongest of natural relationships.

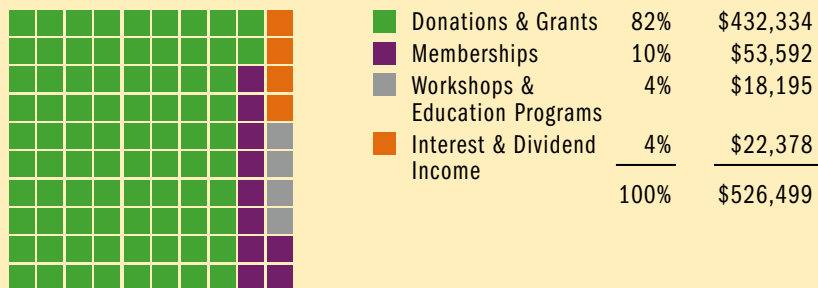




## FOUNDATION REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

These charts illustrate the private donations and grants received by the MMNS Foundation and the expenditures made with the funds.

### MMNS FOUNDATION REVENUE January - December, 2008



### MMNS FOUNDATION EXPENDITURES January - December, 2008



## FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

These dedicated volunteer leaders give the Museum their time and expert advice in the areas of site development, planning, exhibits, education and fundraising.

### OFFICERS

Chris Zachow  
PRESIDENT  
Alex Alston, Jr.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Janice Larson  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Allen	Sean Wesley Ellis	Gabrielle Ott
Alex Alston, Jr.	Dick Hall	Avery Rollins
Paul Benton	Dick Harding	Ollye Brown Shirley
Betsy Creekmore	Libby Hartfield	Sheila Smith
Opal Dakin	Matt Holleman III	Phillip Street
Marianne Dempsey	Janice Larson	Chris Zachow
Halla Jo Ellis	Jennie McIntosh	



## STEADFAST SUPPORTERS

Steadfast supporters are donors who have contributed to the Foundation with years of funding through a variety of projects and interests.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **\$485,926** donations this year to all projects
- **\$3,680,044** total donations to date over **8** years

#### \$100,000 - \$200,000

Abe Rotwein Family  
The Chisholm Foundation  
Regions Bank  
Deposit Guaranty/AmSouth Foundation  
Ergon  
Bryant Mather  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### \$50,000 - \$100,000

BellSouth  
Magalen O. Bryant & Tara Wildlife Management  
Community Foundation of Greater Jackson  
Chevron  
Entergy  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Friede Goldman  
Gannett Foundation/The Clarion-Ledger  
Gertrude C. Ford Foundation  
Phil Hardin Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Dudley Hughes  
Irby Companies  
Richard McRae, Jr., Family  
Mississippi Chemical Corporation  
Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation/Shell Marine Habitat Program  
Dr. & Mrs. Steve Zachow

#### \$25,000 - \$50,000

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi  
Bureau of Land Management  
Delta and Pine Land Company  
Foundation for the Mid South  
Georgia-Pacific Corporation  
International Paper Foundation  
Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Merrill Lynch  
Mississippi Power Company  
Mississippi Valley Gas Company  
Molpus Woodlands Group  
Paul T. Benton  
Plum Creek Foundation  
Pruet Companies  
Trustmark National Bank  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
U.S. Forest Service  
Mr. & Mrs. William J. Van Devender  
Walker Foundation  
Dr. & Mrs. Julian Wiener  
Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation  
Yazoo Mississippi Delta Levee Board

#### \$10,000 - \$25,000

The Armstrong Foundation  
BancorpSouth Foundation  
Betsy & Wade Creekmore  
Cellular South Foundation  
Feild Cooperative Association  
Howard Industries, Inc.  
Mississippi Arts Commission  
MS Department of Environmental Quality  
Mississippi Forestry Association  
Mississippi Forestry Foundation  
National Geographic Society Education Foundation  
Nissan of North America, Inc.  
Sanderson Farms  
Soterra LLC  
Sprint PCS/US Unwired  
St. Dominic Health Services  
The Straddlefork Foundation  
Wild Turkey Federation



## EXHIBIT SPONSORS

Exhibit sponsors are donors who have given money to enable our Museum to host special exhibits. It takes funding and commitment to secure traveling exhibits that will relate to our educational mission and attract public attention. Museum staff work diligently for months in advance to prepare for, install, and promote visiting exhibits. This year's lineup included the contract coordination and display of three nationally acclaimed exhibits.

### SPECIAL EXHIBITS/VISITORS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **DINOSAURS!:**  
**80,449** visitors, July 1, 2008 - January 4, 2009  
**106,475** total visitors  
 exhibit duration May 23, 2008 - January 4, 2009
- **SUSTAINABLE CHOICES:**  
**47,270** visitors, January 24, 2009 - May 10, 2009
- **MONSTERS OF THE DEEP:**  
**13,300** visitors, June 13, 2009 - June 30, 2009  
 exhibit duration June 13, 2009 - January 8, 2010



CANDACE SIMMONS (REGIONAL MARKETING DIRECTOR),  
 LIBBY HARTFIELD, AND  
 ALON BEE (PRESIDENT OF REGIONS BANK)

### DINOSAURS!

Janet & Luther Ott Charitable Fund  
 of the Community Foundation  
 of Greater Jackson  
 Gertrude C. Ford Foundation  
 Paul T. Benton  
 The Chisholm Foundation  
 Ergon  
 Trustmark National Bank  
 The Walker Foundation  
 Nissan of North America, Inc.  
 Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes  
 Dr. & Mrs. Steve Zachow  
 Avery & Jackie Rollins

### MONSTERS OF THE DEEP

Gertrude C. Ford Foundation  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dudley Hughes  
 Janet & Luther Ott Charitable Fund  
 of the Community Foundation  
 of Greater Jackson  
 The Walker Foundation  
 The Chisholm Foundation  
 Feild Cooperative Associates, Inc.  
 Nissan of North America, Inc.  
 Sanderson Farms, Inc.  
 Regions Bank  
 Dr. & Mrs. Steve Zachow  
 Dr. Ollye B. Shirley  
  
 The Natural Resource Initiative (NRI)  
 Environmental Coalition of MS  
 MS Council for Agriculture &  
 Natural Resources Education (MSCAN)  
 Mississippi 2020

### SUSTAINABLE CHOICES

Entergy  
 MS Department of Environmental Quality  
 Jackie & Avery Rollins  
 MS Wildlife Federation  
 National Wildlife Federation



Libby Hartfield, Stoney Thomas (NISSAN), Gloria, Alley, and Will Walker (The Walker Foundation), Gabrielle Ott & Chris Zachow

## MEMORIALS

Six longtime Museum supporters and MMNS Foundation members recently passed away: Mrs. Mildred (Mimi) Peterson Murray, husband and wife R.C. and Mary Roberts, Catchings B. Smith, Cavett Taff, and Mrs. Harriet Trubman.

Mimi Murray, a member of the Jackson Audubon Society and Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, shared her passion for nature with those she knew and instilled the gift of science, art, and natural history in her son, Steve Peterson.

R.C. Roberts was a Founding and Board member of the Mississippi Science Teachers Association, active in the Mississippi Academy of Science, and an early member of the MMNS Foundation. Mary Roberts, was one of the Museum's first Education Coordinators and taught school in the Jackson area.

Catchings Smith was a member of the MMNS Foundation Board of Directors, a Sustaining Donor, and influential in solidifying Steadfast Supporters for the Museum.

Cavett Taff, a Lifetime Member of the Museum, exhibit sponsor, and active leader in The Boy Scouts of America, provided creative inspiration through his love of the outdoors.

Harriet Trubman, a longtime member, volunteered in many areas of the Museum, but particularly enjoyed helping with preschool workshops.

Our friends will be dearly missed.

## GENEROUS GIFTS

Donations and gifts to the Museum come in all shapes, sizes, and purposes. It is gifts like these that make very special collections, undertakings and commemorations possible.

### BIOBULLETIN

Cellular South Foundation

### PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES

James Patterson (JP)

### MEMORIALS

In memory of Rosalie Rotwein  
*by Dale & Doris Anderson*  
*by Mary Evelyn Bell*  
*by Opal Dakin*  
*by Marianne Dempsey*  
*by Halla Jo Ellis*  
*by Sean Wesley Ellis*  
*by Sylvia Finman*  
*by Virginia D. Foster*  
*by Dick Hall*  
*by Libby Hartfield*  
*by Janice Larson*  
*by Linda B. Levy*  
*by Jennie McIntosh*  
*by Jacqueline & Avery Rollins*  
*by Ellan Vavrck*  
*by Chris Zachow*

In memory of Brandyce Jenkins,  
 granddaughter of Mary Jenkins  
*by Paul Benton*  
*by Halla Jo Ellis*  
*by Sean Wesley Ellis*  
*by Foundation for Wildlife,  
 Fisheries and Parks*  
*by Dick Hall*  
*by Libby Hartfield*  
*by Mary Margaret*  
*by Sam Polles*  
*by Holly Wagner*  
*by Chris Zachow*

In memory of Marian Griffith,  
 Mother of MMNS Foundation  
 President Chris Zachow  
*by Libby Hartfield*  
*by Holly Wagner*

## FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

MMNS Foundation membership is more than 1,500 strong and provides vital energy and resources for Museum activities.

### MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **376** new members welcomed
- **1,574** total members

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Jan A. Allinder  
 Alex Alston, Jr.  
 John E. Ashcraft, Jr.  
 Sam Beibers  
 Katie Briggs  
 Polly Briggs  
 Magalen O. Bryant  
 Kevin Caldwell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Cook  
 Opal H. Dakin  
 Marianne & Jack Dempsey  
 Theo Dinkins  
 Halla Jo Ellis  
 Billie M. Ellison  
 Sylvia Ann Finman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Goings  
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hall  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Harding  
 Paul Hartfield  
 Emily Hartfield  
 Matthew Holleman, III  
 Michael & Janice LeBlanc  
 William L. Lee  
 Jennie McIntosh  
 Mr. & Mrs. David McMillin  
 John Palmer  
 Jackie & Avery Rollins  
 Suzanne Rotwein  
 Rosalie Rotwein  
 James E. Stary  
 Carol & Cavett Taff  
 Richard Vavrick  
 Ellan Vavrick  
 Robert & Janice Whitehead  
 William Roberts Wilson, Jr.  
 Dr. & Mrs. Steve Zachow

#### SUSTAINING MEMBERS

(\$1,000 OR MORE)  
 Magalen O. Bryant  
 Betsy & Wade Creekmore  
 Hiram & Elizabeth Creekmore  
 Deborah J. Dawkins  
 Robert Fairbank, Jr.  
 Dr. Ronald A. Javitch  
 Renee Lichtenhan  
 Melissa & David Patterson  
 Catchings B. Smith  
 Scott & Joye Steele  
 Lance & Beth Stevens

#### PATRON MEMBERS

(\$500 OR MORE)  
 Sidney & Holt Crews  
 Charlotte Icardi  
 Hap & Hilda Owen  
 Eddie L. Pope  
 Dr. Ollye B. Shirley  
 Catchings B. Smith  
 Karen & Neil Whitworth

#### DONOR MEMBERS

(\$250 OR MORE)  
 Frederick & Marian (Cissy) Anklam  
 Steven & Erin Chevalier  
 Louisa Dixon & Jerry Johnson  
 Terry & Deanna Ellis  
 Christopher & Jennifer Gedemer  
 Commissioner Dick Hall  
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hall  
 Catherine Klipple  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alan Lange  
 Mary G. Lockhart  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Montgomery  
 Eddie L. Pope  
 Don & Becky Potts  
 Dan Smith & Kristi Sather-Smith  
 Ernest & Beth Taylor  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Weaver  
 Kathryn Wiener  
 Dr. & Mrs. Frank Wiygul, Jr.

#### FRIEND MEMBERS

(\$100 OR MORE)  
 Murphy & Ruth Adkins  
 George Allen  
 Cassie & Sheldon Alston  
 David Bowen  
 Liz & Steve Brandon  
 LeAnne & Allen Brewer  
 Charles & Becky Brasfield  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ramon Callahan  
 C.B. Carroll & Jeanne Lockett  
 Jay & Martha Cooke  
 Kane & Betty Ditto  
 Dr. Edgar Draper  
 Terry Dwyer & Marcy Petrini  
 Sean Wesley Ellis  
 Jane & Ed Emling  
 Larry & Rhea Estes  
 Dees R. Faucett

Haley Fisackerly  
 Sara Fore  
 John & Ann Fournet  
 Dr. Nola Gibson  
 Donna R. Godwin  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Harding  
 Alice Harper  
 Mr. & Mrs. William A. Hays  
 Mrs. Norman A. Johnson, Jr.  
 Joan M. Kaye  
 Ernest A. Klatt, Jr.  
 Ms. Penny Kochtitzky  
 Dr. & Mrs. T.W. Lewis, III  
 Chester O. Martin  
 Verneda Mason  
 John & Melody Maxey  
 Timothy C. McCowan, MD  
 Glade & Emily McInnis  
 Don & Mary Sue Mitchell  
 Mrs. Jeannette Morgan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice A. Murray  
 John Nabors  
 Bill Osborne  
 Ashley & Wheeler Parker  
 Michelle Pharr  
 C.H. Phillips, II  
 Sandra Price  
 Ruth & Tom Pullen  
 Joy Rhoads  
 John L. Rings  
 Mr. & Mrs. E. Barney Robinson, III  
 Dr. Lewis F. Rogers  
 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Roughton  
 Mike Schmitd  
 Ray & Dardanella Shenefelt  
 Dr. & Mrs. J. George Smith  
 Margie L. Smith  
 Mary Elizabeth Smith  
 Dr. & Mrs. Steven Speights  
 Bill & Hiabba Storey  
 Stacey Stracener  
 William B. Stripling, Jr.  
 Ed Swiatlo  
 Granville & Sue Allen Tate  
 Stephen L. Thomas  
 Harriet & Aaron Trubman  
 Don & Patsy West  
 Dr. & Mrs. Christopher Wiggs  
 Beth & Fred Wilson  
 Dr. & Mrs. John D. Wofford  
 Steve Zary

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteers are an essential part of the Museum's workforce.

Volunteering at the Museum is an opportunity for teens, college students, professionals, and retirees to interact, share, learn, teach, and serve in a stimulating environment.

The Museum's volunteer program provides many enrichment opportunities on-site through training led by our own education and research staff, as well as guest speakers. Museum-sponsored travel to natural areas around Mississippi gives volunteers first-hand awareness of the species and habitats we continually work to preserve and protect.

Exploring the Museum trail system connects our volunteer community with the "inside-out" nature of this Museum, emphasizing a deeper awareness of the relationship between our indoor exhibits and the natural environment of Lefleur's Bluff State Park. Through new "Hike and Learn" seasonal weekly

staff-guided hikes, volunteers are gaining understanding of the Museum's work as a whole.

Museum volunteers have also begun collecting regular data on the abundance of butterfly species in the park, and maintaining that data with the guidance of our Natural Heritage Program staff.

The rich variety of the volunteers' own natural science knowledge and past experience creates a dynamic atmosphere



YOUTH VOLUNTEERS KELVIN DOSS & HENRY MURPHY III INSPECT THEIR CATCH AT BUTTERFLY SURVEY

of on-going learning within the volunteer program. That knowledge, energy and enthusiasm is delivered directly to our visitors. The Museum's 118 current active adult and youth volunteers daily inspire visitors to appreciate, respect, and preserve natural Mississippi.

### VOLUNTEER SERVICE FOR FY 2008-2009

- **6,459** hours of service – a dollar value of **\$126,019!**
- **118** active volunteers on our rolls ranging in age from **13 - 80**
- **Outdoor Projects:** Trail repairs and improvements, introduced species removal, gardening, and trash pick-up
- **Museum Services:** Including greeting visitors, assistance in gift shop, exhibits interpretation and maintenance, informal programs, assistance with events, research, special projects, general office functions, and aquarium diving for public fish feeding and cleaning.
- **15** volunteers have each devoted more than **1,000** hours (see list below) in the past **20** years. **2** volunteers, Joy Rushing and John Davis, have devoted more than **3,000** hours in the past **6 ½** years.

### MORE THAN 1000 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Martha Boone Cooper  
 Marianne L. Dempsey  
 Gladys Gurman  
 Jean Headrick  
 Mary Bea McArdle

Mike McNeese  
 Michael A. Stegall  
 Halla Jo Ellis  
 John D. Davis  
 Billie Ellison

John Suedel  
 Judith T. Davis  
 Joy Rushing  
 Lou F. Moore  
 Peter Kuchirka



Offering something for everyone, the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science hosted within its doors 156,897 visitors from all 82 Mississippi counties, all 50 states, and 47 foreign countries this year.

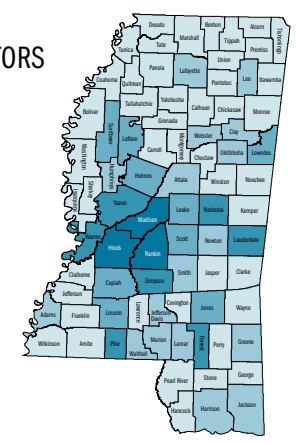
With more than 30,000 square feet of display space, 100,000 gallons of aquatic attractions, and over two miles of flora and fauna-filled walking trails, these masterpieces of science, education, and entertainment are enough to keep people coming back to the Museum all year and every year.

- **156,897** visitors hosted at the Museum
- **52,281** visitors accessed information at [www.msnaturalscience.org](http://www.msnaturalscience.org)
- Travel Attraction of the Year—Mississippi Tourism Association
- SUMITT Award for Attraction of the Year (Superlative Merit in Travel & Tourism)—Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Family Favorite-Best Museum for Kids Award—Jackson's *Parents & Kids Magazine 2008 Family Favorite*
- Best Museum—*Jackson Free Press Best of Jackson 2008* (9th year in a row)
- Gold ADDY Award (for Museum website)—American Advertising Federation, Jackson
- Regional Emmy Nomination for Mississippi Public Broadcasting's production of *Fossil Road Show 2008*
- Reached **20,000** listeners per week through "Creature Comforts", a call-in radio show about Mississippi's critters on MPB Thursdays at 9:00 am with Museum

**NUMBER OF MUSEUM VISITORS**

- 0 - 250
- 251 - 500
- 501 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 5,000
- 5,001 - 96,138

Out-of-State Visitors:  
 14,145 from 49 states  
 436 from 47 countries





## PERMANENT AND CHANGING EXHIBITS

Much of the Museum's public appeal comes from its collection of carefully crafted permanent exhibits within the Museum walls and throughout its grounds at LeFleur's Bluff State Park. These installations give the Museum's educational mission substance and give the public something they can see, hear, touch and explore.

### AQUARIUM HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Aquarium staff maintained more than **300** different species of aquatic animals.
- Staff and volunteers performed more than **200** SCUBA diver fish feedings and visitor touch tank live animal demonstrations.
- New lighting was installed in several tanks to improve animal health and provide a more natural appearance.
- Aquarium staff began installing ultra-violet light units to the aquarium filtration systems to prevent the spread of some animal diseases.
- **1,016** participants enjoyed "Got FISH? / Something's Fishy" and **657** "Katfishin' Kids" received hands-on instruction from professional anglers.

### TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Students from Benton Academy and our adult volunteers helped plant **600** cypress, oak, and ash trees along the newly opened water supply pipe right-of-way for the City of Jackson. The pipeline project opened up a **200** foot wide swath  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile long through our swamp. We lost some trees, but we planted new ones; and as the swamp recovers we will encourage native species and work to control exotic pest plants like tallow and privet. The work area looked barren last fall when the pipeline crew finished, but now we can use it as a teaching opportunity - to talk about plant succession, wildflowers and pollinators.
- The Boy Scouts of the Andrew Jackson Area Council continue to solve trail problems with their Eagle Scout projects: retaining walls, safety railings, bridges, benches, bollards; and added amenities like fire rings, picnic benches, port-a-john platforms and bat houses for the LeFleur's Ridge camping area just off the purple trail along the Pearl River.
  - A scout project provided nature journal boxes on **2** of our slough platforms. These journals are a hit - filled with nature observations, drawings and even poetry. Trail users have taken numerous opportunities to express themselves in writing and say how much they enjoy the Museum's trails and natural area in the middle of Mississippi's largest city.



### EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- The Two-Headed Snake Exhibit Case was designed and built.
- Two antique hanging boats were added in the aquarium area and aquarium steps were designed and built to help smaller children enjoy the aquatic life up close.
- A plan was developed and implemented adding a series of cables for more dynamic suspended exhibitions in the Lower Atrium.
- High definition video projectors and players were added to the exhibit department for enhancing traveling exhibitions and permanent exhibits.
- Exhibit staff designed and built a new fan-forced thermostatically controlled central heating unit for the bee exhibit and the bees are thriving.
- The Museum also hosted four temporary exhibits:
  - The 2009 *Mississippi Federal Jr. Duck Stamp Art Competition* exhibit
  - *Dinosaurs!* exhibit from Kokoro Dinosaurs
  - *Sustainable Choices* exhibit from NRG Exhibits
  - *Monsters of the Deep* exhibit from PaleoFun, Inc.

- The Museum's trail system received considerable attention during the last year. Improvements along the trails came in the form of volunteer projects by students, scouts and adults and via additions funded by grant money from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The MMNS Foundation provides the **20** percent match money that makes it possible to write RTP grants.
  - The trails receive steady foot traffic, and our gravel is always moving down slopes with the combined effects of footsteps, rainfall and gravity. Staff and volunteers help rake gravel back up hill to cover bald spots, fix squeaky steps on stairs, and clear branches and trees that fall onto the trails in storms. The trails require routine maintenance but we also look for ways to improve form and function of our "outdoor exhibits."
  - With RTP/Foundation money we added some nice outdoor signs that help interpret the ecology of bluff and slough habitats. One of these signs merited its own platform - halfway down the bluff stairs. This created a new educational rest stop/overlook.
- **2nd** place for Best Nature Walk (Museum's trails)—*Jackson Free Press Best of Jackson 2009*





## SPECIAL EXHIBITS

Thanks to our generous sponsors, the Museum is able to share special traveling exhibits three times a year for entertainment and educational purposes.

### DINOSAURS!

**(80,449** visitors, July 1, 2008 – January 4, 2009)

**(106,475** total visitors, exhibit duration May 23, 2008 – January 4, 2009)

Amazing and lifelike robotic creatures roared into the Museum Summer 2008 to delight visitors until January 4, 2009 and welcomed 106,475 total visitors. From a *Protoceratops* with hatchlings to a *Tyrannosaurus rex*, these realistic, robotic dinosaurs fascinated children and adults alike in record numbers. Visitors heard them roar, watched them feed and care for their young and learned which beasts may have been fighters and active hunters of other dinosaurs as prey and which creatures fed on tender plants.

- Gold ADDY (*Dinosaurs* exhibit campaign)—American Advertising Federation, Jackson
- Gold ADDY (*Dinosaurs* exhibit ad series)—American Advertising Federation, Jackson

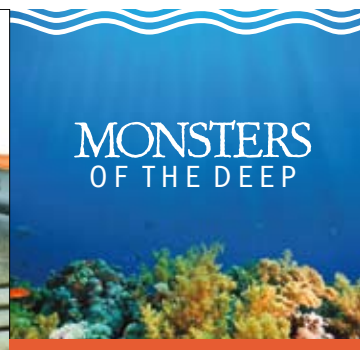
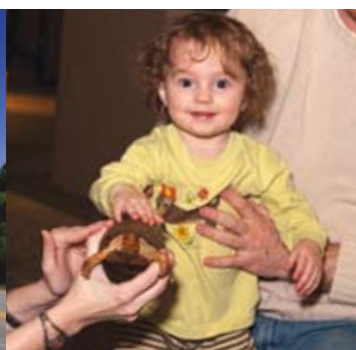
### MONSTERS OF THE DEEP

**(13,300** visitors, June 13, 2009 – June 30, 2009)

(exhibit duration June 13, 2009 – January 8, 2010)

*Monsters of the Deep* transported 13,300 visitors into the underwater world of prehistoric creatures and modern-day aquatic giants in the first two weeks. Exhibits feature skeletons and realistically fleshed-out models. With their incredible teeth, gaping jaws, and long snake-like necks, the bizarre monsters of the ancient seas were unlike anything known today. In this fascinating prehistoric world, huge carnivorous, marine reptiles filled the oceans alongside sea turtles the size of a car. Although the creatures of the deep have changed over the past 65 million years, we are still fascinated with the modern marvels of present day monsters, such as the elusive Giant Squid and amazing whales.

- AAA Southern Travel Treasure Award (for the *Monsters of the Deep* exhibit)—The American Automobile Association



### SUSTAINABLE CHOICES

**(47,270** visitors, January 24, 2009 – May 10, 2009)

*Sustainable Choices*, a new interactive exhibit organized by NRG! Exhibits, premiered at the Museum on January 24, 2009 and engaged more than 40,000 visitors with thought-provoking content, interactive exhibits and live animals. This exciting exhibit explored the concept of sustainability and the choices that each of us make everyday.

Museum Educators used live animals in the exhibit, including box turtles and alligators, to help visitors link their daily choices with how they affect our habitat and wildlife.



LEARNING TO CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES AT THE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES EXHIBIT



The Museum's exhibit supervisors, Norton McKeigney and Ray Terry, transformed the Museum into a marine experience.



learn  
—  
teach

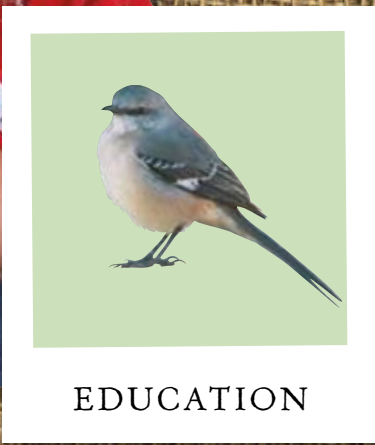
The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science creates hands-on programs and activities every year—all centered on the Museum’s mission and the Mississippi Department of Education Frameworks. The demand for conservation education and outdoor educational experiences is increasing. School systems’ curriculums are focusing on hands-on, inquiry based learning in the classroom. The Museum offers valuable educational programs for school children grades K-12.

The Museum’s twelve person education staff is comprised of coordinators, naturalists, and outreach educators. The staff draws on their diverse backgrounds to educate teachers, students, and the general public about natural Mississippi and its inhabitants. In addition, the Museum draws upon staff scientists and the scientific community at large to inspire staff and visitors through lectures, panels, and literature.

The Museum designs and distributes many educational resources, including printed materials, videos and object kits for loan and online activities.

Educational programs at the Museum and in statewide outreach come in many forms:

- Age-appropriate, curriculum-coordinated, hands-on programs (Museum campus & statewide outreach programs)
- Instructional resources: printed materials, videos, object kits, and web-based activities
- Teacher workshops: Project WILD, Project WET & Preschool Teacher Workshops
- Answers to information requests and technical guidance
- Professional contributions to scientific publications
- Lectures



EDUCATION



## MUSEUM PROGRAMS

Visiting groups to the Museum can choose from a number of activities, depending on their objectives and time schedules.

Every year the Museum provides age-appropriate, curriculum coordinated, hands-on programs in many subject areas for grades K through 12. Teachers can choose from these topics: mammals, birds, reptiles, endangered species, fish, invertebrates, plants or fossils. The Museum also offers an in-depth, hands-on wetlands program in which students become wetland researchers and learn to appreciate the importance of wetlands. We also offer fun and learning for preschoolers. Our Preschool Discovery Room was filled all year long with children ages 3 through pre-kindergarten 5 and their caregivers for age-appropriate hands-on learning.



Junior Naturalists camp overnight at the Museum.

Our summer program showcases Camp WILD, an annual summer camp adventure that puts kids in the middle of nature for an amazing week of educational experiences. Camp Wild's theme this year was Eco-Kids!

This summer also included the Junior Naturalist Camp designed to allow aspiring naturalists to learn what it is like to scientifically study nature. The theme this year was Ecology, focusing on animal populations and sampling and included an overnight in the museum on the last night of camp. Our Preschool summer camp theme was Ocean Wonders. Camp activities included hands-on, age-appropriate centers and activities, an interactive group time, adventures in the Museum and on the trails, and a variety of art projects.

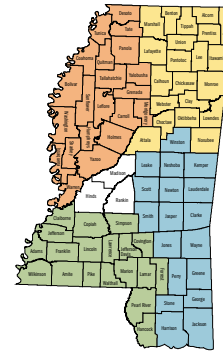
### STUDENT PROGRAMS AT MMNS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **6** Camp WILD summer sessions with **144** in attendance
- **3** Stewpot Kids summer camp sessions with **67** in attendance
- Junior Naturalist Camp program with **25** in attendance
- **329** preschool group classes with **3,882** in attendance
- **12** preschool summer camp sessions with **171** kids and caregivers in attendance
- Junior Duck Stamp Art Competition sponsorship, exhibition, and reception with **454** entries
- Got Fish/Something's Fishy annual hands-on activity day with **1,016** participants
- **778** in-house, hands-on programs with **25,523** participants



## STATEWIDE OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Through a wide range of specially designed programs, projects, and events, the outreach educators bring the Museum's unique hands-on approach to learning to schoolchildren and adults statewide. Over the last seven years, our outreach naturalists conducted 5,984 programs with 246,626 participants. We now provide outreach to all 82 counties of the state of Mississippi.



□ Central Mississippi Counties access Museum programming directly

### OUTREACH EDUCATION MISSISSIPPI COUNTIES

■ Northeast counties	<b>229</b> classes ( <b>10,558</b> students)
■ Northwest counties	<b>278</b> classes ( <b>12,339</b> students)
■ Southeast counties	<b>301</b> classes ( <b>15,213</b> students)
■ Southwest counties	<b>236</b> classes ( <b>16,415</b> students)

### EDUCATION OUTREACH FOR FY 2008-2009

- **1,044** interactive classroom programs taught statewide
- **54,525** students instructed directly
- **45,659** people used object kits, information, materials, and technical guidance (this includes Research)



Corey Wright (MMNS Naturalist) and Caroline Odom holding our hardworking alligator at Jackson's Fourth of July Celebration.

## TEACHER WORKSHOPS

The Museum maximizes its staff expertise and extends its influence by providing workshops all over the state that prepare teachers to fulfill state curriculum requirements in their own classrooms.

Project WILD is an interdisciplinary conservation and environmental education program emphasizing wildlife. Project WILD educational materials are provided to educators through practical, interactive 6-hour workshops. The program, designed for educators of grades K-12, capitalizes on the natural interest that children and adults have in wildlife by providing hands-on activities that enhance all subject and skill areas.

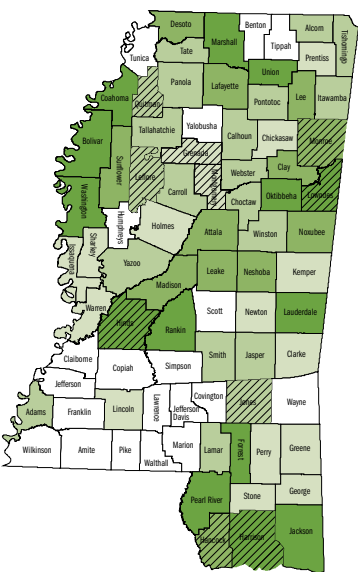
Project WET is an interdisciplinary water science and education program for formal and non-formal educators of K-12 students and also is taught in 6-hour workshops. The mission of this program is to teach responsible water stewardship through excellent and effective water education. The *Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide* is a collection of innovative, water-related activities that are hands-on, easy to use, and fun! Providing a thorough water education program, the guide also addresses the chemical and physical properties of water, quantity and quality issues, aquatic wildlife, ecosystems, and management strategies.

### TEACHER SERVICES AT MMNS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **33** six-hour teacher workshops for Project WILD & Project WET (organized and conducted for **527** participants)
- **2** preschool teacher workshops for **78** participants
- **1** Back-to-School Night teacher resource event
- Megan Ellis, MMNS Outreach Educator, named Mississippi's Project WILD Facilitator of the Year

### NUMBER OF OUTREACH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TEACHER WORKSHOPS

- 0
- 1 - 200
- 201 - 500
- 501 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 6,108
- ▨ Teacher Workshops



## COMMUNITY AND STATEWIDE EVENTS

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Museum hosts a number of ongoing and annual events that present unique opportunities for learning. Adult programming with dynamic lectures, live animal demonstrations, and creative activities adds spice to a family-focused menu of educational topics, including fishing, fossil collecting, and bird watching.

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AT MMNS FY 2008-2009

- **10** Naturalist Lectures presented by experts including our annual Snake Day event
- **7** Fun Fridays for families
- **150** interactive Fish Feedings
- **9th** annual NatureFEST! - a celebration of all things natural
- **8th** annual Make a Splash water awareness day
- **6th** annual Fossil Road Show
- **9th** annual Got Fish? fishing seminars with the experts
- **24th** annual Snake Day hands-on reptile showcase
- International Migratory Bird Day celebration
- **3** Christmas Programs with **220** participants



### STATEWIDE EVENTS

The Museum provides an array of educational and entertainment opportunities to the broader community through lectures and live animal demonstrations. It also holds a variety of popular annual events designed to bring special audiences together to enjoy activities centered around specific topics, such as fishing, fossil collecting, bird watching, and family fun.

For instance, this fiscal year, through partnerships with the Mississippi Wildlife Federation and Wal-Mart, Katfishin' Kids provided kids with the chance to get their feet wet in learning the skills of fishing and engaged more than 657 parents and adults!

### STATEWIDE COMMUNITY OUTREACH FY 2008-2009

- Educational materials: provided to Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP) Conservation Officers for programs
- Participated in Mississippi Wildlife Extravaganza, Bass Pro Extravaganza, Strawberry Plains Hummingbird Festival, Outdoorama on the Rez, Waterfest, National Hunting and Fishing Day at Enid Lake, MS Science Teachers Association Annual Conference, Farm Safety Days, Envirothon Trainings, Pascagoula River Nature Festival, Celebrate the Gulf, Earth Day Festivals, Natchez Trace Wildlife Festival, Endangered Species Days, Conservation Carnivals, Garden Clubs, Women's Clubs, Boys and Girls Clubs and Science Fairs around the state
- **657** "Katfishin' Kids" received hands-on instruction from professional anglers with baiting hooks and fishing for stocked catfish
- **2** issues of Natural Newline newsletter published



## THE LIBRARY

In 1965, Miss Fannye A. Cook, the Museum's founding director, donated her private collection of research materials to the Museum. Since then, that donation has grown into the Museum's marvelous Research Library housing more than 15,000 volumes. These volumes chronicle Mississippi's natural history in detail.

### LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **15,000** volume Research Library maintained and open to the public
- **1,258** visitors used the library
- **1,570** reference requests answered: phone, interlibrary loan, library use, and conference
- **125** journal volumes were bound for the Library's permanent collection
- **500** newly acquired reports and books were cataloged for the in-house Library Online Catalog
- **10** Naturalist Lectures presented by experts including our annual Snake Day event attended by more than **1,000** visitors

### NATURALIST LECTURE SERIES

The lectures are on the first Tuesday of each month in the Museum's Rotwein Theater from NOON until 1 PM.

### NATURALIST LECTURE SERIES FOR FY 2008-2009

- **July 2008** *How YOU Can Prevent Dinosaurs from Going Extinct!!*  
Speaker: John Davis, Retired, Science Educator, St. Andrews Episcopal School and Volunteer Research Entomologist, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
- **August 2008** *How the Dinosaurs Came to the Shores of Mississippi in the Late Cretaceous Period*  
Speaker: Dr. David Dockery, Chief, Surface Geology Division, Mississippi Office of Geology
- **October 2008** *Resurrecting the Long Gone and Almost Forgotten Open Woodlands of North Mississippi: Challenges and Opportunities*  
Speaker: Dr. Steve Brewer, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Mississippi



Photo credits: 1. Sinotnithosaurus artwork by Steve Peterson 2. Ecological Restoration of Open Oak Woodlands 3. Hatchling Yellow-blotched Sawback photo by Mary Perez 4. Baltimore Oriole photo by Bill Stripling 5. Crawfish photo by Chris Likhaup 6. Rattlesnake



The Library collection is available for on-site use by the public.

- **November 2008** *A Tale of Two Rivers: A Look at Two Populations of Yellow-blotched Sawback Turtles*  
Speaker: Will Selman, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Southern Mississippi, Biological Sciences Department
- **February 2009** *The Secret Language Of Birdsong*  
Speaker: Matt Smith, GIS Analyst, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Mississippi Natural Heritage Program
- **March 2009** *Mississippi Crawfishes: Moving Beyond Etouffée*  
Speaker: Susan B. Adams, Ph.D. USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, Oxford, MS
- **April 2009** *Sustainability And The Intrinsic Value Of Mississippi's Natural Capital*  
Speaker: Larry Jarrett, Co-Founder, Natural Resources Initiative of North Mississippi & Consultant on Sustainability and Natural Resources
- **May 2009** *Sustainable Building Practices*  
Speaker: Ann Somers, AIA, Cooke Douglas Farr Lemons Architects and Engineers, Jackson, MS
- **June 2009** *De-mystifying Mississippi Snakes at Snake Day: Live displays of Mississippi venomous and non-venomous snakes*  
Speaker: Bryan Fedrick, Biologist, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Aquariums

seek  
—  
study

The Museum's Conservation and Biodiversity Section consists of three broad and overlapping programs: Natural Heritage, Biological Collections, and Research. The team of 18 is made up of coordinators, biologists and technicians. Their primary mission is to facilitate conservation by studying, documenting and monitoring Mississippi species and ecosystems. Staff also participate in planning and management to promote conservation through the Museum's South Mississippi Conservation Program and other initiatives.

Among the Conservation and Biodiversity Section's many accomplishments are the partnerships that it has formed with others. Over the past year the team has worked side by side with individuals, organizations and other state and federal agencies, providing information, insight and support for conservation efforts. In FY 2008-2009, they handled more than 3,120 requests for information about non-game species and their habitats and management.



Piping Plover - Photo by Bill Stripling



SCIENCE



## NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

The Natural Heritage Program manages a comprehensive database of Mississippi species, communities, systems and natural areas of conservation concern. A primary objective is ensuring that the database is scientifically current and accurate. Information contained within the database is readily available to resource managers and land developers, and provides guidance for species conservation and wise use of land and water resources.

### NATURAL HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **920** elements (rare species and biological communities) tracked
- **2,920** new records relating to elements added
- **821** environmental project reviews performed



## BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

Since their beginning in 1935, our Biological Collections have grown to contain more than 1,026,000 specimens, representing the largest single reference for Mississippi vertebrate animals, freshwater mussels, crayfish, and fossils. In addition, the MMNS curates collections of plants, insects, and DNA specimens. These irreplaceable specimens document the species diversity, distribution, ecology, conservation status and heritage of Mississippi. They are an essential source of information for use by resource managers, biologists and educators.

### COLLECTIONS HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- **407** new collections added through staff efforts or donations
- **87,439** new specimens cataloged
- **1,026,000** specimens curated
- **57** loans to other museums or education institutions



Photo by Bill Stripling

## SCENIC STREAMS PROGRAM

The Scenic Streams Program encourages landowners to voluntarily protect special habitats and streamside areas either through non-binding conservation agreements or long-term conservation easements. State and Federal income tax incentives exist for landowners who protect these areas through the creation of conservation easements.

### SCENIC STREAMS HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Escatawpa River successfully nominated in 2009 Legislative Session as **11th** Scenic Stream
- Natural Area Registry agreements created on Foster Creek in Copiah County by Resource Management Service Timber Corporation, and on the Old Cove hardwood sites in Webster County by Weyerhaeuser Company
- Andrew Whitehurst, MMNS Scenic Streams Stewardship Program Coordinator, named 2008 Informal Science Teacher of the Year—Mississippi Science Teachers Assoc.



Libby Hartfield (Museum Director) and Joy Rushing (MMNS Volunteer) kneeling next to a 70 million-year-old juvenile hadrosaur (duck-billed dinosaur) femur, or thigh bone, discovered by George Phillips (MMNS Paleontologist) near New Albany, Mississippi. The femur debuted at Fossil Road Show 2009 and is part of the Museum's biological collections.



# RESEARCH AND MONITORING

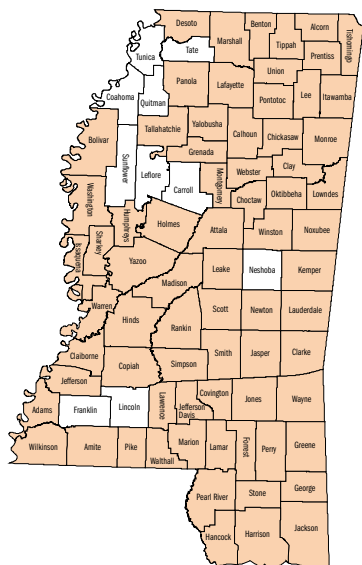
MMNS research seeks to protect Mississippi's history and heritage by contributing to the knowledge of Mississippi's species and biological communities. Much of the research at MMNS focuses on surveys for occurrence, abundance, and distribution of non-game species. MMNS paleontological research provides the background that increases our understanding of current and future patterns of species and biological communities. Information from these research activities provides the foundation for understanding and appreciating the biodiversity of Mississippi. In addition, MMNS researchers conduct ecological monitoring, and other research to provide information essential for conservation and protection of some of our state's rarest species.

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- More than **\$815,000** in federal funds awarded for research projects
- Collaboration with University of Southern Mississippi (USM), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), University of Mississippi (UM), Mississippi State University (MSU), and Audubon Society

## COUNTIES WHERE RESEARCH WAS CONDUCTED IN THIS FY

- No research
- Research conducted



## COMPLETED AND ON-GOING PROJECTS

Research and monitoring activities carried out or administered by Museum staff generally target plants, plant communities, and non-game wildlife within Mississippi. This includes living and extinct species not traditionally managed as sport game or fish, and comprises the vast majority of the fauna and flora of the state.

### COMPLETED AND ON-GOING PROJECTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Swallow-tailed kite surveys (Audubon Society)
- Bald eagle monitoring
- Piping plover habitat use
- Population trends of ringed sawback turtles
- Mississippi gopher frog monitoring (TNC)
- Eastern spotted skunk and long-tailed weasel surveys
- Distribution and habitat use by Yazoo darter (UM)
- Post-Hurricane Katrina assessment of gulf sturgeon habitat and movement of the juvenile cohort (USM)
- Small mammal, reptile, and amphibian survey on Upper Sardis Wildlife Management Area
- Ivory-billed Woodpecker and Bachman's warbler surveys in the Pascagoula River Basin (USM)
- Habitat characteristics and life history of Saltmarsh topminnow (USM)
- Population structure and trophic ecology of Alabama shad (USM)
- Mississippi amphibian monitoring—Statewide
- Conducted 17 trips to 106 localities in 33 counties during FY 2008-2009 to document localities for crayfish and freshwater mussels
- Molecular systematics of crayfish genus, *Hobbseus*
- Molecular systematics of the *Ericymba* complex
- Isotope ecology of Late Pleistocene (40,000 to 10,000 years old) vertebrate herbivores
- Systematics and distribution of Late Cretaceous (85 to 65 millions years old) sea urchins
- Distribution and ecology of Late Pleistocene (40,000 to 10,000 years old) freshwater turtles
- Mapping Late Cretaceous (75 to 65 million years old) fossil-bearing sedimentary facies in northeast Mississippi (UM)
- Documenting species diversity in Late Cretaceous (75 to 65 million years old) sediments in northeast Mississippi (MSU, UM)



CORAL HONEYSUCKLE BLOOMING IN THE MUSEUM'S NATIVE GARDENS

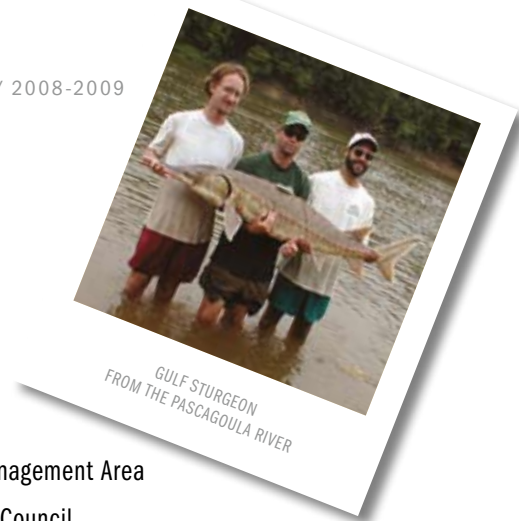


## PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Conservation staff participated in a variety of planning and management activities to address conservation of rare or declining species in Mississippi including the listed activities below.

### PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2008-2009

- Mississippi Prescribed Fire Council
- Mississippi Bat Diversity Working Group
- Mississippi Exotic Pest Plant Council
- Gulf Sturgeon Working Group
- Pallid Sturgeon Working Group
- US Forest Service Planning meetings
- Mississippi Coastal Impact Planning Meetings
- Longleaf pine restoration on Mars Wildlife Management Area
- Cogongrass Control with MS Gulf Coast RC&D Council
- Mississippi Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy Revision



Collaborative cogongrass control project with MS Coastal Plains Resource Conservation and Development Council

## PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS AND TECHNICAL REPORTS

Museum staff contribute to a variety of scholarly journals and other publications. Museum Technical Reports are cataloged and housed in the Museum Library.

### PRESENTATIONS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Bart, H.L., Jr. and W.T. Slack. 2008. SFC Desperate Dozen: Pearl Darter (*Percina aurora*). Southeastern Fishes Council Annual Meeting. Chattanooga, Tennessee.
- Lowe, M. R., M. S. Peterson, N. J. Brown-Peterson, P. J. Schofield, D. R. Gregoire, J. N. Langston and W. T. Slack. 2008. Quantification of Nile Tilapia's Ability to Survive, Grow, and Reproduce in Estuarine Waters of Coastal Mississippi. Mississippi-Alabama Bays & Bayous Symposium. Biloxi, Mississippi.
- Slack, W.T. 2009. Conservation of Southeastern Fishes- Gulf Sturgeon to Pearl Darter. Invited seminar. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers--Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- Slack, W.T. and S.T. Ross. 2008. SFC Desperate Dozen: Bayou darter (*Etheostoma rubrum*). Southeastern Fishes Council Annual Meeting. Chattanooga, Tennessee.

### PUBLICATIONS FOR FY 2008-2009

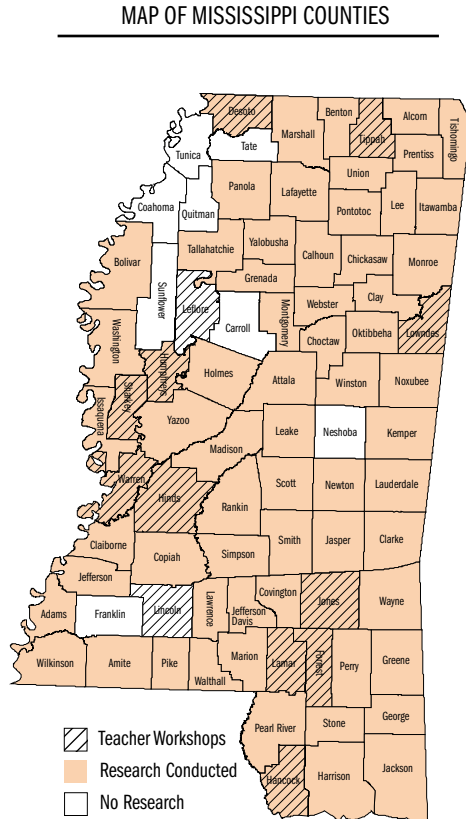
- Dockery, David T., III, and George E. Phillips. 2008. Terrestrial vertebrates from Cretaceous and Tertiary marine strata in the Gulf Coastal Plain of Mississippi. Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Transaction 58: 241.
- Jones, R. L. and Selman, W. *In press*. *Graptemys oculifera* (Baur, 1890) - Ringed Map Turtle, Ringed Sawback. In: Rhodin, A.G.T., Pritchard, P.C.H., vanDijk, P.P., Saumure, R.A., Buhlmann, K.A., and Iverson, J.B. (Eds.). Conservation Biology of Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises: A Compilation Project of the IUCN/SSC Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles Specialist Group. Chelonian Research Monographs No. 5.
- Klein, Rick, Marie Antoon, Rob McDougald, and George Phillips. 2008. "Simply Science at the Fossil Roadshow," *Emmy-nominated, MAET approved educational video production of Mississippi Public Broadcasting*. Jackson, Mississippi.
- Phillips, George E., Charles N. Ciampaglio and W. E. Hayes, Jr. 2008. A new species of faujiid cassiduloid (Echinoidea: Irregularia) from the Santonian-Campanian boundary (Upper Cretaceous) in the eastern Gulf States. *Southeastern Geology* 46 (1): 43-54.
- Phillips, George E., and Robert S. Feranec. 2008. Resource partitioning among Late Pleistocene ungulates in the Black Prairie of Mississippi and Alabama. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* 28(3): 127A.
- Ross, S.T., W.T. Slack, R.J. Heise, M.A. Dugo, H. Rogillio, B.R. Bowen, P. Mickle and R.W. Heard. 2009. Estuarine and coastal habitat use of Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*) in the north-central Gulf of Mexico. *Estuaries and Coasts* 32:360-374.
- Selman, W. and Jones, R.L. *In press*. *Graptemys flavimaculata* Cagle - Yellow-blotched Sawback, Yellow-blotched Map Turtle. In: Rhodin, A.G.T., Pritchard, P.C.H., vanDijk, P.P., Saumure, R.A., Buhlmann, K.A., and Iverson, J.B. (Eds.). Conservation Biology of Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises: A Compilation Project of the IUCN/SSC Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles Specialist Group. Chelonian Research Monographs No. 5.
- Slack, W.T., J.A. Sumners, A. P. Rooney, C.M. Taylor (Accepted, In Revision). Conservation genetics of the threatened bayou darter, *Etheostoma rubrum*, in the Bayou Pierre system of southwestern Mississippi. *Copeia*.
- Surrette, S.B. 2009. Our Future Depends on Pollinators. *Mississippi Outdoors Magazine*. June/July Issue. Publication of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.
- Surrette, S.B. and T. Mann. 2009. The Gopher Tortoise: An Endangered Species. *Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Informational Brochure*. Jackson, Mississippi.
- Stolarski, Jaroslaw, Anders Meibom, Maciej Mazur and George E. Phillips. 2008. Calcitic scleractinian corals: When, where and why? *Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Programs* 40 (6): 201A.
- Yager, L. Y. and M. Smith. 2009. Use of GIS to Prioritize Cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica*) Control on Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Mississippi. *Invasive Plant Science and Management* 2(1):74-82.
- Yager, L.Y., J. Jones, D.L. Miller (in press) Military Training and Road Effects on Cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica* (L.) Beauv.). *Southeastern Naturalist*.
- Whitehurst, A. 2009. ATVs in Streams: Harm to Landowners and the Common Resource of Stream Fisheries. *Tree Talk Magazine*. Mississippi Forestry Commission.
- Whitehurst, A. and S. Surrette. 2008. (*Updated*) Mississippi's Natural Areas Registry Program. *Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Informational Brochure*.

### TECHNICAL REPORTS FOR FY 2008-2009

- Jones, R.L. 2008. Population estimates of the ringed sawback turtle, *Graptemys oculifera*: Year One Report. Funded by USFWS, Section 6, Segment 23. MMNS Technical Report 140.
- Kreiser, B., P. Mickle, and J. Schaefer. 2008. Population structure and trophic ecology of Alabama shad (*Alosa alabamae*) in the Pascagoula drainage, Mississippi (2008 Annual Progress Report). Funded by USFWS, State Wildlife Grant T-8-R, MMNS Technical Report 147.
- Peterson, M.S., J.M. Havrylkoff, W.T. Slack. 2008. Gulf Sturgeon, *Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*, in the Pascagoula drainage, Mississippi: Post-Hurricane Katrina assessment of habitat and movement of the juvenile cohort. Funded by USFWS, Section 6, Segment 23. MMNS Technical Report 141.
- Reid, B. and M. LaSalle. 2008. 2008 survey and monitoring of swallow-tailed kite nests and pre-migration roosts in Mississippi (Final Report). Funded by USFWS, Segment 23, MMNS Technical Report 143.
- Sisson, M., M. Murphy, and J. Tupy. 2008. Recovery actions and continued monitoring of the gopher frog (*Rana sevosia*) in 2008. Funded by USFWS, Segment 23, MMNS Technical Report 142.
- Winstead, N. 2008. Wintering Piping and Snowy Plover ecology in coastal Mississippi. Funded by USFWS, Segment 23, MMNS Technical Report 145.
- Young, B. 2008. Continuation of Louisiana black bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*) telemetry study and hair sampling program. Funded by USFWS, Segment 23, MMNS Technical Report 144.

# GOING BY THE NUMBERS

COUNTY	VISITORS	OUTREACH
Adams	268	1994
Alcorn	30	236
Amite	86	0
Attala	296	685
Benton	48	300
Bolivar	228	2485
Calhoun	24	222
Carroll	84	24
Chickasaw	38	553
Choctaw	238	83
Claiborne	60	141
Clarke	49	30
Clay	254	395
Coahoma	82	1047
Copiah	816	90
Covington	162	0
Desoto	81	2681
Forrest	1585	2929
Franklin	60	0
George	74	736
Greene	266	32
Grenada	110	231
Hancock	99	310
Harrison	341	4819
Hinds	96138	6108
Holmes	915	144
Humphreys	423	44
Issaquena	6	0
Itawamba	19	99
Jackson	254	2652
Jasper	144	607
Jefferson	178	250
Jefferson Davis	280	0
Jones	647	627
Kemper	39	83
Lafayette	364	757
Lamar	370	339
Lauderdale	1920	1329
Lawrence	204	50
Leake	736	0
Lee	440	1493
Leflore	821	369
Lincoln	695	1077
Lowndes	502	1004
Madison	9956	938
Marion	342	0
Marshall	10	3400
Monroe	164	0
Montgomery	184	175
Neshoba	1100	131
Newton	314	323
Noxubee	170	480
Oktibbeha	300	123
Panola	94	240
Pearl River	140	2327



Perry	160	125
Pike	1051	54
Pontotoc	124	0
Prentiss	34	255
Quitman	5	0
Rankin	9219	2950
Scott	783	116
Sharkey	203	14
Simpson	1203	0
Smith	425	275
Stone	168	190
Sunflower	838	696
Tallahatchie	42	249
Tate	113	36
Tippah	43	23
Tishomingo	48	5
Tunica	7	0
Union	106	907
Walthall	355	0
Warren	1501	291
Washington	150	172
Wayne	139	250
Webster	272	327
Wilkinson	4	1200
Winston	240	241
Yalobusha	74	500
Yazoo	1158	309

# MUSEUM STAFF

Libby Hartfield  
MUSEUM DIRECTOR  
Charles Knight  
ASSISTANT MUSEUM DIRECTOR

## ADMINISTRATION

Mary Jenkins  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
Connie Gore  
GIFT SHOP MANAGER  
Mary Stevens  
LIBRARIAN  
Harold Garner  
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE  
MANAGER  
Charles Jeffcoat  
CUSTODIAN

## AQUARIUMS

Karen Dierolf  
AQUATIC BIOLOGIST  
Bryan Fedrick  
AQUATIC BIOLOGIST  
Eric Gregory  
AQUARIUM ASSISTANT  
John Hardy  
AQUARIUM ASSISTANT  
Mike Stegall  
AQUARIST

## EDUCATION

Angel Rohnke  
EDUCATION COORDINATOR  
Christie Baker  
OUTREACH NATURALIST  
Andrea Schuhmann  
OUTREACH NATURALIST  
Joan Elder  
PRESCHOOL EDUCATOR  
Megan Ellis  
OUTREACH NATURALIST  
Jonathan Harris  
NATURALIST  
Yolanda Hawkins  
EDUCATION ASSISTANT  
Rebecca Jones  
SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

Isabel Kelly  
PRESCHOOL EDUCATOR

Joseph M. McGee  
OUTREACH NATURALIST

Fran Noone  
RECEPTIONIST

Ann Peden  
VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Nicole Phillips  
NATURALIST

Corey Wright  
NATURALIST

## EXHIBIT MANAGEMENT

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EXHIBITS SUPERVISOR  
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Project WILD teacher workshop with Joe McGee (MMNS Outreach Naturalist)

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