river discovery CENTER

FALL 2010

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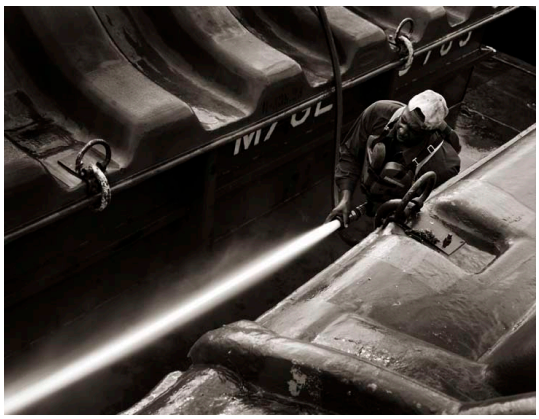


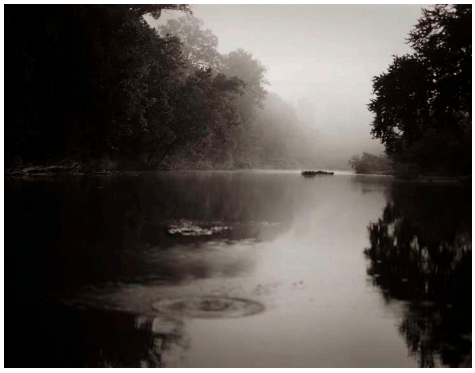
GUIDER BRINGS PHOTOGRAPHIC RIVER EXHIBIT TO RDC

John Guider is a successful Nashville commercial photographer who decided he needed a challenge He stepped away from the comfortable, predictable routine of his life, and with no camping or paddling experience, he bought a canoe and set off on an artistic adventure from the creek behind his farmhouse, to the Cumberland, the Ohio and eventually the Mississippi River all the way to New Orleans The journey lasted 3 months, but upon returning he realized he needed to finish the trip, and set off for the headwaters of the Mississippi at Lake Itasca, MN

John's life changing journey brings us a stunning visual narration, *The River Inside*, with 70 platinum prints on display beginning November 30th through January 25th in the gallery at the back of the River Discovery Center

also known as the Maiden Alley Cinema gallery Guider's images and words offer a revealing perspective on the natural and controlled inland waterways that bisect this country

You can meet John at the opening reception on Wednesday, December 1st from 5-7pm and he will be available to sign his wonderful book of his journey and the accompanying photographs



Holiday Schedule

Closed:
Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day.

Closing at 3PM New Years Eve

Open New Years Day

Director's Notes!

Julie Harris,
Executive Director

The Power of You, the member!

Typically, my comments in the newsletter are devoted to what is happening at the RDC and I will do so briefly in this newsletter at the end of my comments.

I want to talk about how important you, our members are to the River Discovery Center. You all know about receiving "ask" letters requesting you to join one organization or another.We all have to make choices since joining everything wouldn't be possible.You each have made the conscious decision to support the River Discovery Center with a membership.More than just a financial contribution, your membership means much more.With your membership, you are stating that you believe in what we are doing here and think it is of value to the community.We thank you for that.Your benefits of membership (guest passes, discount in the gift shop, etc.) can extend beyond the usual. I have a request.I ask that you do one simple thing.Visit the River Discovery Center. Even if you have been here before as most of you have, I am sure there are many things you missed.There is so much for us to learn by just spending time inside these walls.Not only is there a rich history in the buildings here, but our story speaks of this vibrant river system which has such an influence on all of us. And, since you are a member, it is FREE!

In December begins a wonderful photographic exhibit in the Maiden Alley Cinema gallery called "The River Inside, by John Guider, a Tennessean. Come enjoy! Also check our Holiday schedule.

Birthday Parties
at the River Discovery Center
Celebrate your special day in an unforgettable way!
Call for details.
270-575-9958

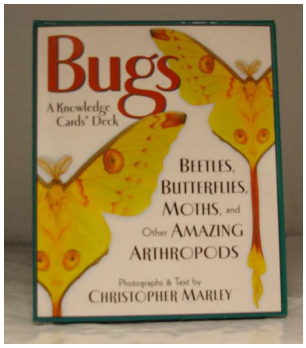
OSCAR CROSS BOYS CLUB TOURS RDC
COURTESY OF THE PROPELLER CLUB

The Paducah Propeller Club is sponsoring over 100 kids from the Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club to come tour the River Discovery Center. What a great afternoon activity for them! They now have the opportunity to learn about our great asset, the river while having a great time! The kids will come in small groups throughout the school year. Thank you to the Propeller Club!

Blue Star Museums
A partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more than 800 museums across America
www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums

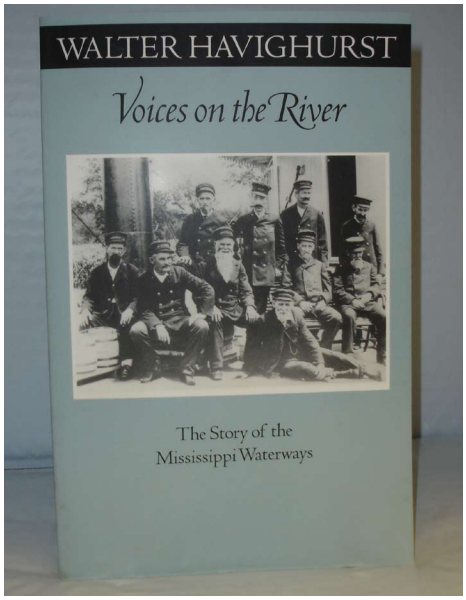
The River Discovery Center was proud to participate in the National Endowment for the Arts Blue Star Families program. This initiative over the summer allowed active duty military families to come visit the RDC free of charge. The River Discovery Center saw many members of the military and their families come through and enjoy the experience and learn about the river.

New in Museum shop:



Pictured Left to Right:
Gourd ornament from Peru

Knowledge Card Decks on topics ranging from Water to Trees to Bugs. Great stocking stuffer!



Voices on the River relates 2 centuries of tales of famous steamboats and of the men who piloted them, from the renowned Mark Twain to the trailblazing Captain Henry Shreve.

REMEMBER YOUR
MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT
WHEN VISITING THE MUSEUM SHOP, OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT **LAURIE LATHAM**

Q. Where were you born and raised?

A. I was born in Radford, Virginia near the Blue Ridge Mountains. We later moved to Richmond where I attend elementary school and part of middle school. At the age of 12, our family moved to Charleston, Illinois.

I attended Murray State where I received a B.S. and an M.B.A. My first job was as a Federal Deposit Insurance Bank Examiner.

Q. Tell us about your family?

A. I have been married to David for 19 years. He works for DWI - Distributors Warehouse Inc. an automotive part distributorship. We have two teenagers, Ashley 16 and Jeremy 13, and they both attend Lone Oaks schools. Our family enjoys hiking and boating together. We spend a great deal of time on KY Lake. Both kids play soccer and we often travel on weekends to soccer tournaments.

Q. How did you end up in Paducah and what has been your career path?

A. I accepted a position with Citizens Bank in the early 90's shortly after I married David. During this time, I learned a great deal about acquisitions, change management, and regulatory compliance. With a strong desire to remain in Paducah, I joined the management team of Western Baptist Hospital in 2001. I currently serve as the Director of Development and Compliance. I also manage the hospital's foundation.

Q. What do you like best about working with the RDC?

A. I have learned much more about the river culture and maritime industry since serving on the RDC board. The RDC plays an important role in the development of our community. Not only does it help educate our youth about the river industry, it also serves as a tourist destination for visitors to our city. I feel strongly about the need to continue to educate our youth about the importance of the river as it has, and always will be, vital to our region.

Q. What are your favorite books?

A. I rarely have time to read, but did just finish a book that I really enjoyed – "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

Q. Favorite Vacations?

A. Our family often vacations in the Smoky Mountains over the Christmas holidays and we head to the pearl white beaches over Spring Break. We love nature – and frequent State and National Parks. Two summers ago, our family went west and visited 10 National Parks. Our children became Junior National Park Rangers – lots of fun.

CONNECTIONS TO OUR PAST

Henry Rankin Dallam, the great-great grandson of Adam and Sophie Rankin recently visited the River Discovery Center. Adam, the cashier of the Branch Bank of Louisville, the first known use of our historic structure in 1843, lived upstairs with his wife Sophie in what is now called our Founders Room.

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