



Classroom Gets a Workout!!



May was a busy, busy month at the River Discovery Center with 3 solid weeks of all-day school tours. We hosted approximately 15 classrooms and 500 students. These end-of-year field trips

consisted of simulator time, guided tours and special education programs utilizing the center's classroom. The students were elementary and middle school age. The center is grateful for all of the volunteers who helped with the tours. A special thank you goes out to David Varvel who spearheaded a volunteer group from Marquette Trans-

portation. We also thank United Barge and Ingram for all of their help. We also appreciate the United States Coast Guard coming "onboard" to help with the tours for the first time. And thank you to Kelly Azar for heading up our "inland" volunteers. We had a great time helping these young visitors connect to the rivers.

RDC offers Free Admission to Active Duty Military Families

River Discovery Center announced the launch of Blue Star Museums, a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 700 museums across America to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2010. The complete list of participating Blue Star Museums is available at www.arts.gov

Staff Sgt, US Army Retired, Robbie Doughty says "this is a great idea for military families. It gives them a better opportunity to go out and do something nice with their family. Having walked

a mile in those shoes, every little bit counts that the community can do for our military."

"America's museums are proud to join the rest of the country in thanking our military personnel and their families for their service and sacrifice," said National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Rocco Landesman. "I cannot imagine a better way to do that than welcoming them in to explore and enjoy the extraordinary cultural heritage our museums present.

"There have always been wonderful examples of partnerships between museums and military installations, but the scale of

this gift from the museum communities to military families is thrilling," said Blue Star Families Chairman Kathy Roth-Douquet. "Military families work hard for this country, and it is gratifying for us to be recognized for that. We anticipate that thousands of military families will participate in the program and visit museums this summer – many of them for the first time.



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

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



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Director's Notes!



Julie Harris,
Executive Director

Children's high pitched voices... something we love to hear at the RDC. As May concluded the school year, we had hundreds of school kids who came for year-end field trips. Not only do the kids have a great time, but the teachers love the opportunity of the educational enrichment that is experienced here. The varied educational components we offer have real appeal to teachers. And, Paducah's regional location brings schools from Missouri, Tennessee and Illinois as well as our very own Western Kentuckians.

In this issue of Anchor, you can read about our participation in Blue Star Museums, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts. This program offers free admission for active duty military and their families. Also, read about the Steamboat BiCentennial celebration coming up in 2011.

The Center is now offering the space for Birthday parties. What a unique way for your child to celebrate his or her birthday.

And, we will all miss longtime and dedicated board member, Jim Brockenborough who passed away.

Have a great summer and don't forget to drop by to drive the simulator!

CRAIG PHILIP AT PROPELLER CLUB MEETING

The April meeting of the Propeller Club was held at the River Discovery Center with Craig Philip, President of Ingram Barge speaking about giving back to the community. This meeting was attended by over 80 members and guests, one of the highest attended meet-

ings in the history of the local chapter. The Propeller Club donated over \$2200 in proceeds from the meeting to the River Discovery Center. Board Member Russ Lampkins spearheaded the Ingram-sponsored meeting.

Bicentennial of the Steamboat

2011 is the bicentennial of an event that changed the course of history in North America and the world. The 2011 Steamboat Bicentennial celebration is to commemorate the first successful steamboat voyage on the Ohio River by the New Orleans in 1811. The purpose of the celebration is to educate the public about the history of steamboats and their dramatic impact on the economic,

social, cultural and environmental history of the United States. The River Discovery Center will be celebrating the event with a steamboat photo exhibit, a Dixieland concert, and a poster and essay contest. Later in the year, more information will become available about the celebration. For more information visit:
<http://rivers.hanover.edu/steamboat2011/>

New in Museum shop:



Pictured Right: Khalsa Trading Company, Coral Rock Crystal and Sterling Necklace.

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

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT RUSS LAMPKINS



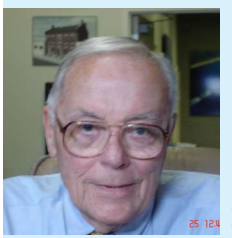
- Q. *Where did you grow up and go to college?*
A. I grew up in Evansville, IN and graduated from the University of Tennessee. Go Vols!!!
- Q. *How did you end up working in the river industry?*
A. My college roommate followed his father into the industry and let me know about a great opportunity with Ingram.
- Q. *What is your favorite thing about Paducah?*
About the River Discovery Center?
A. The residents of Paducah are good people and make the city so unique. Activity wise I love dinner and drinks at Max's with friends. As far as the Discovery Center, it's a gem that educates all ages about Paducah's greatest resource, the river. The gift shop is loaded with cool things as well.

- Q. *What is your favorite vacation place? And why?*
A. Grand Cayman has treated me well in the past. But now I consistently use my vacation time to follow thoroughbred horse racing, the Vols in the fall, and a few long weekends at the beach in between. Really it's not so much about where you go, its more about the company you bring.
- Q. *What was the last book you read?*
A. The Noticer by Andy Andrews
- Q. *If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?*
A. One day, I will experience the Mediterranean. It's just something I want to enjoy, from Gibraltar to Cyprus.
- Q. *You're a golfer, right? Will you tell us your handicap?*
A. Since coming to Paducah I haven't played as much as I would like and don't currently have a USGA Handicap. Regardless, I am a tough to sell on spotting strokes.
- Q. *Since you are single, do you cook a lot or mainly eat out?*
A. Typically I will go out for lunch each day downtown. I do enjoy cooking and entertaining in the evenings quite a bit, especially in the summer when I can use my grill. A regular week involves two cooked meals, three nights of leftovers, and two nights on the town.



New River View Exhibit

Earlier this spring, we opened the new River View exhibit. Through a camera positioned on our roof, you can zoom in and around the confluence of the rivers and see up close what is happening on our rivers. Another way to get connected to the river!



Board Member Remembered

Board Member Jim Brockenborough passed away recently and is

being remembered for his commitment to the River Discovery Center. Jim had been on the River discovery Center board for many years and was dedicated to its success and long term future. Julie Harris, center director says "Jim's expertise as an engineer and his attention to detail was so valuable to us. Most recently his tireless work on the design, installation and construction of new offices, exhibits and classroom proved so valuable. Jim caught errors and saved us so much in time and money and we are forever indebted to his commitment to the project. He will be sorely missed."

WE APPRECIATE OUR MEMBERSHIP

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