National Accomplishments

The museum received the American Association of Museums’ MUSE award for our video podcast, finishing third behind the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian.

Podcast producer Heather Marie Wells received the inaugural “Emerging Museum Professional” award from the Southeastern Museums Conference, recognizing young professionals who have demonstrated excellence and leadership in museums.

Director Allyn Lord served on the governing board of the American Association of Museums. In February Lord presented the keynote address to the Mississippi Museums Association.

Photo archivist Marie Demeroukas worked on a museum nomenclature book to be published in 2009 for the American Association for State and Local History.

The museum worked with Heritage Trail Partners and the Arkansas Trail of Tears Association to get the Fitzgerald Farmstead in Springdale certified as a location on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

State and Local Accomplishments

The Arkansas Museums Association presented the museum with three awards:
- Staff Member of the Year: Susan Young
- Publication of the Year: Color the Ozarks
- Exhibit of the Year (honorable mention): Tech-Knowledge-Gee!

The museum received a $5,924 grant from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Progragm to re-roof the General Store with wood shakes.

The Bella Vista chapter of the Questers awarded the museum a $1,475 grant for exterior repairs on the roof of Dr. Carter’s Office.

Readers of CitiScapes magazine chose the museum as 2008’s “Best Museum in Northwest Arkansas.”

General Accomplishments

In 2008 the museum served 33,242 people, the largest number since at least 1999, despite the museum being closed to the public for one-third of the year.

In 2008 volunteers worked 3,349 hours at the museum, 16% more than in 2007 despite our 4-month closure. The dollar value of those hours? $65,339, greater than any individual museum staff member's salary!

Membership was down slightly in 2008, but members stepped up their donations, with 60% paying more than they did in 2007.

398 researchers requested services from our research library and/or photo archives in 2008.

Education Accomplishments

The museum became a professional development Authorized Provider by the Arkansas Department of Education for the 2007/08 and 2008/09 school years. In 2008, 21 teacher in-service trainings were provided for 622 teachers.

Northwest Arkansas Community College instructor Jami Forrester had her “History of Arkansas” summer school students, most of whom were teachers in local schools or studying to become teachers, evaluate and write lesson plans for the museum’s discovery boxes.

Eleven “Shiloh Sandwiched-In” presentations were given, including such topics as the telegraph, the evolution of the Northwest Arkansas Naturals, chinquapin trees, the effect of the Hispanic population on the Catholic church in Northwest Arkansas, and early Madison County.

The museum joined the ranks of many universities and colleges, but just a few museums, on iTunes U. From this free site you can access our podcasts, teacher resource materials, lesson plans, and many other educational items.
A land acquisition policy was drafted.

Savings account and reserve funds were used to house staff in temporary offices during renovations, restore the WPA mural, buy a photocopier, add gutter caps to the roof, and wallpaper the meeting room.

Heather Marie Wells received scholarships to attend national, regional, and state professional meetings.

Three new staff members were added in 2008: Jacqueline Burnett, library assistant; Marty Powers, maintenance; and Jenny Vego, weekend assistant.

**Exhibit Accomplishments**

Three major exhibits opened in 2008:
- Play Ball, on the history of baseball in Northwest Arkansas, to celebrate the inaugural season of the Northwest Arkansas Naturals in Springdale.
- Ozark Voices: Personal Stories from Northwest Arkansas, an audio exhibit featuring interviews with area residents recorded by StoryCorps®.
- First Things First, featuring some of the first artifacts donated to the museum, celebrating our 40th anniversary.

Two photo exhibits were produced in 2008:
- Following the Crop on Springdale’s migrant labor camp, 1940s-60s.
- Good Eats, featuring images of Ozark foodways.

**Collections Accomplishments**

Six volunteers from a quilt study group researched and upgraded the storage for 102 quilts in the museum’s collections, donating 125 hours and $2,500 in services.

As a side effect of the roof project, the 1939 “Local Industries” WPA mural by Natalie Henry was taken off exhibit and stabilized, as seen on the cover of this report.

Photo information from more than 10,000 catalog cards was added to the database.

More than 80 donations of collections were made to the museum, numbering more than 225 artifacts.

**Facilities Improvements**

The roof and condensation project was started and completed in 2008 at a cost of over $280,000: $250,548 from Springdale CIP funds and over $28,000 from Shiloh Museum Board funds. The museum was closed for 19 weeks during construction, while offices were temporarily moved to the basement and into a next-door duplex. Upon reopening on Dec. 8, the museum had three new metal roofs; blown insulation beneath roofs and in eaves; above-ceiling heat and air movement; gutter caps; and a major mold problem remediated.

The 1871 Shiloh Meeting Hall exterior and roof were completely restored. Just over $190,000 was spent on the project, thanks to grants from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Community Development Block Grants, and Shiloh Museum Board funds. Archeological investigations were undertaken on the grounds. The renovation of the interior now awaits funding.

**Financial Accomplishments**

The museum’s two endowment funds were combined into one at the Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation, resulting in $27,500 being awarded us by NWACF for the move.

$67,629 in state and local grants were received.

Thousands of dollars worth of materials and services were donated in response to our newsletter wish lists, including a chainsaw, which was much appreciated following the January 2009 ice storm.

**Board and Staff Accomplishments**

A land acquisition policy was drafted.

Savings account and reserve funds were used to house staff in temporary offices during renovations, restore the WPA mural, buy a photocopier, add gutter caps to the roof, and wallpaper the meeting room.

Heather Marie Wells received scholarships to attend national, regional, and state professional meetings.

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**Our Partners in 2008**

Accident School alumni  
Arkansas Archeological Survey  
Arkansas Boston Mountain Chapter, National Railway Historical Society  
Arkansas Community Foundation  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
Arkansas Historical Association  
Arkansas History Day  
Arkansas Humanities Council  
Boger's Petting Zoo  
Botanical Garden of the Ozarks  
Clements & Associates, Architects  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art  
Dogwood Lace Guild  
Experience Works  
Fishback School alumni  
Har-Ber High School EAST Lab  
Heritage Trail Partners  
Homestyle Assisted Living  
Jones Center for Families  
KIDCARE  
KUA F radio  
Life Writers  
Marion Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution  
Mobley Architects  
*The Morning News of Northwest Arkansas*  
Newton County Library  
NWA Civil War Roundtable  
NWA Community College  
NWACC College at the Crossings  
NWA Education Renewal Zone  
NWA Handweavers Guild  
NWA Museums Consortium  
NWA Quilt Study Group  
NWA Radio Relay League  
NWA Sacred Harp Singers  
*Northwest Arkansas Times*  
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Arkansas  
XX Division of Continuing Education  
Ozark Wireless Society  
Pea Ridge National Military Park  
Pettigrew community  
Q.U.I.L.T.  
RBAA Films  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Springdale Chamber of Commerce  
Springdale City Planning Department  
Springdale Kiwanis  
Springdale Public Library  
Springdale Public Schools  
StoryCorps©  
Tellers of Tales  
TheatreSquared  
Tontitown Historical Museum  
Trail of Tears Questers  
Washington County Arkansas Genealogical Society  
Washington County Historical Society  

*Cover photo: The 1939 WPA mural “Local Industries” is removed from the exhibit hall by professional conservators and museum staff in the fall of 2008. Photo by Don House*

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Dr. Dwight Heathman  
Maudine Sanders  
Stephen Taylor

*deceased

**Staff**

Betty Bowling, secretary  
Jacqueline Burnett, library assistant  
LuAnn Clarkson, library assistant  
Marie Demeroukas, photo archivist and research librarian  
Pody Gay, education coordinator  
Don House, photographer  
Allyn Lord, director  
Alma Lyle, education assistant  
Curtis Morris, exhibit designer  
Marty Powers, maintenance  
Carolyn Reno, collections manager and assistant director  
Jenny Vego, weekend assistant  
Heather Marie Wells, collections assistant and podcast producer  
Susan Young, outreach coordinator

**Volunteers**

Ethna Billings, David and Vonita Carpenter, Karen Cordell, Beverly Cosby, Leslie Coston, Susan Dewey, Tom Duggan, Martha Estes, Regina Gabel, Jonathan Garrison, Danielle Hansen, Bill Jones, Mary John Jones, Mitsy Kellam, Mada Knight, Jim and Marie Langford, Mira Leister, Marilyn Meek, Oda Mulloy, Barbara Parks, Pam Redfern, Debbie Reed, Don Reynolds, Barbara Roberts, Larry Shivel, Jeanne Tackett, Ray Toler, Bruce and Mary Vaughan, Edward Vogt, Ryan Wells, Kendall Wood

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Shiloh Museum of Ozark History serves the public by providing resources for finding meaning, enjoyment, and inspiration in the exploration of the Arkansas Ozarks.  
[Adopted by the Shiloh Museum Board of Trustees, July 13, 2006]**