Education Coordinator Retires

Deanna Dismukes, education coordinator, is retiring June 30, 2010. Since September 2001 Deanna has added and expanded HP education programs to include: Young Authors, a weekly after-school program for Piggott fourth, fifth and sixth grade writers; Creative Writers’ Retreat for Adults, a five-day retreat for adults with a creative writing professor (recently expanded to two sessions per year); and Summer School Programs. Deanna was awarded the Arkansas Museum Association 2008 Educational Program of the Year Award, Honorable Mention, for Creative Writers’ Retreat for Adults.

A reception was held in her honor Tuesday, June 8, in the Pfeiffer-Janes House. We will greatly miss her and wish her well in her retirement.

Book Signing

Elizabeth Foster of Hot Springs Village signed her book, Follow Me: The Life and Adventures of a Military Family, in the Hemingway Barn Studio, Monday, June 7. The book is a memoir of the author’s 25 years as a military wife as she follows her Army officer husband along with four kids and a dog. The story begins in late 1949 with their marriage and ends with his 1975 retirement.

Foster also had a book signing for her book, Southern Winds A Changin’, in November 2008. She has participated in seven of the nine Creative Writers’ Retreats offered at HPMEC.

Creative Writers’ Retreat NEWS

HP Creative Writers’ Retreat was held June 7-11, 2010, in the Educational Center and the Hemingway Barn-Studio. Fourteen eager writers attended for the week. Their mentor, Rob Lamm, Ph.D. ASU-Jonesboro, has mentored the Retreat for eight summers.

Highlights of the week included a book signing by Writers’ Retreat participant Elizabeth Foster, Hot Springs Village, and the completion of a novel by another participant, Pat Laster of Benton. Pat wrote the last two chapters of her novel while at the retreat.

The Retreat’s anthology, entitled Deanna’s Garden, was dedicated to Deanna Dismukes, HPMEC Education Coordinator, who is retiring at the end of June.

Retreat participants wish to thank Arkansas State University, D & G Plumbing and Heating, Dallas Wagster (participant scholarship), Carolyn Caldwell and Pat Laster for their donations in support of the retreats. The next Creative Writers’ Retreat for adults is scheduled for November 1-5, 2010, with Roland Mann, Oxford, MS, as the mentor. Those who prepay by October 15, are invited to submit, by email, 10 pages of material to Roland for editing prior to the Retreat. Cost for the November Retreat is $150 if received by October 15, $175 after October 15; lunches are included. For more information, call 870-598-3487 or email drsanders@astate.edu.
Museum Awards
HPMEC and Dr. Ruth Hawkins, director of Arkansas Heritage SITES at Arkansas State University and HPMEC, received awards at the Arkansas Museums Conference Awards Banquet, March 25, at the Cooper Alumni Center, ASU-Jonesboro.

For the category of In-House Exhibits, honorable mention was awarded to HPMEC for The Piggott Connection: A Timeline of Ernest and Pauline Hemingway’s Visits to the Pfeiffer Home, installed in the Barn Studio. The Peg Newton Smith Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Hawkins. The award is named in honor of the late Mrs. George Rose (Peg) Smith of Little Rock, known statewide for her contributions to the museum community and for preserving Arkansas’ heritage.

Hawkins is responsible for the development and operation of the HPMEC, the Southern Tenant Farmers Museum at Tyronza, Lakeport Plantation near Lake Village, and Arkansas Delta Byways Inc.

Celebration of Quilting
Visitors’ Choice awards were awarded in multiple categories during the eleventh annual Celebration of Quilting on Saturday, May 22.

Visitors’ Choice ribbons and certificates were awarded in multiple categories. Award recipients were: Wilma Dale, Pollard, Art & Photo; Viola Jones, Pollard, Hand Quilted; Lillian Pittman, Paragould, Special Sizes; Linda Wells, Greenway, Quilts of Age; and Dian Reno, Poplar Bluff, MO, Machine Quilted. Starr Fenner, Jonesboro, was awarded the Oldest Quilt certificate for a quilt owned by a Civil War bride.

Art Show Winners
Winners of the Young at Art VIII are Showtime by Charles Gage (left), a junior at Kennett (MO) High School, first place and Tropical Poinsetta by Trevor Blanchard, a junior at Marmaduke High School, second place. Third place was Potted Plants by Rachel Beeman, a sophomore at Corning High School.

Young at Art VIII featured 50 works by students, grades seven through 12, from school districts within a 30-mile radius of Piggott. Awards, sponsored by D & G Plumbing and Heating, Inc. of Piggott, included $35 for first place, $25 for second and $15 for third place. Winners were announced Monday, May 10, in an awards reception in the Pfeiffer-Janes House. This annual event is to celebrate the Paris wedding of Ernest Hemingway and Pauline Pfeiffer, May 10, 1927.

HPMEC On Facebook
Look for HPMEC on facebook for great photos, news and events! Search for Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum and press the Like button.

HP Keepsake at Museum Store
A wood cut-out of the house and barn-studio is available at the HP Museum Store. The 8” x 4” block features the house and barn studio on the front and the HPMEC story printed on the back.

For more information call the Museum Store at 870-598-3487 or email to jredman@centurytel.net.

July 4, 1928
Mary Pfeiffer in Piggott to “Dear Ernest” in Kansas City.

“..We have received notice today to be ready for another rampage of the St. Francis on July 4th. The citizens of Piggott had planned a celebration for that day but now will doubtless hold it on the banks of the river. We have had thirteen inches of rain in June. The highest on record.”

HPMEC Arkansas Heritage Month 2010

Winners in the HPMEC Arkansas Heritage Month Essay Contest received a certificate and cash prizes: first place $15 and second place $10. Piggott Elementary students in the HP Young Authors program submitted essays on the 2010 theme, Roads Less Traveled: The Enduring Heritage of Rural Arkansas.

Arkansas Heritage Month, an annual program sponsored by the Department of Arkansas Heritage each May, is designed to increase awareness and support of our state’s natural and cultural heritage.

Essay winners are: Noah Gregory, fourth grade, first place; Sarah Wilkowsky, fifth grade, first place; Erika Smart, fourth grade, second place; Courtney Krouse, sixth grade, second place; and Adrianna Walker, sixth grade, first place.