

The Three R's of the Delta:

Roads, Rivers, and Rails

GEOGRAPHY WORKSHOP



The Delta Center for Culture and Learning

With Special Thanks To

Mississippi Geographic Alliance

The Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board

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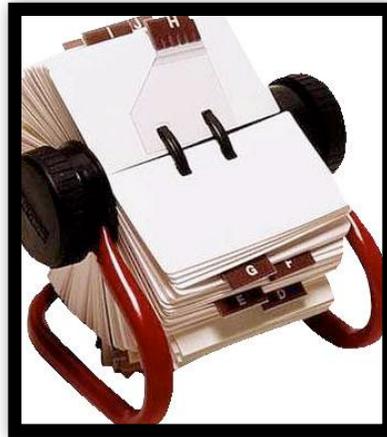
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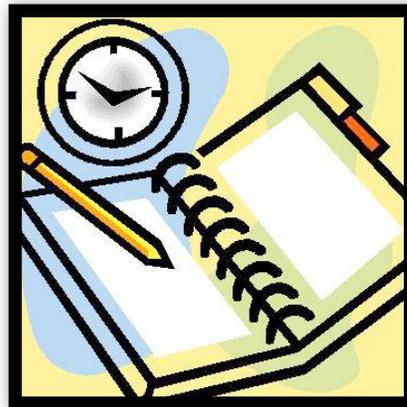
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With Special Thanks to
THE MISSISSIPPI GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE &
THE YAZOO MISSISSIPPI DELTA LEVEE BOARD

Program Summary



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The Delta and the River

DAY 1: TUESDAY MAY 26, 2009

Introductions

Delta State University

8:00-12:00

Dr. Mark Bonta and Dr. Luther Brown

Participants arrived at Delta State University and received their course binders, which included a schedule of events, extensive reading material, and several guides to the region. They were welcomed by Judson

Thigpen of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce. He encouraged participants to experience Cleveland's Historic downtown and enjoy the great Southern restaurant

options. The teachers introduced their fellow participants to the group. The Mississippi teachers were from all three major areas of the state: the Hills, the Coast, and the Delta. After a short introduction to the Delta from Dr. Bronta and Dr. Brown, participants were divided into five groups based on grade level. The participants will work in these groups throughout the conference to develop lesson plans that incorporate the geography of the Delta in Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. Teachers began brainstorming ideas to implement their new knowledge on the Delta in the classroom. Their ideas were numerous. Some teachers hope to provide a week's worth of instruction on the Delta, which

could be cleverly titled "Delta Daze" while others hope to getting students interested in the Delta blues by explaining their significance to rapping.

Tour of the Port of Rosedale

Rosedale, Mississippi

1:00-4:00

David Work, Leslie Jenkins

David Work, director of the Port of Rosedale, gave participants an overview of the history and current operations of the Port of Rosedale. Mr. Work has an extensive knowledge of the area, having lived in the area for many years and served as Cleveland's mayor. Mr. Work explained how barges are pulled into the port using satellite images. He stressed that barges were the most efficient means of transportation in the United States today. The teachers toured the dock before heading downstream to JanTran, a commercial towing company. Leslie Jenkins, manager for JanTran, provided a brief overview of the commercial tugboat business. The teachers boarded the Waxham tugboat for a tour of the Mississippi river. It was many of the teachers first time riding a boat on the Mississippi. We left the Port and saw the Mississippi river just in time to be caught in a thunderstorm! Although many of the teachers boarded the bus more wet than they had left, they seemed to have enjoyed seeing the river and chatting with the boat crew.

After a brief overview of the course and some time to get to know one another, the Mississippi teachers were introduced to the Delta, or the "Most American Place on Earth", through a tugboat tour of the Port of Rosedale.



Utopia, Gambling, and the Flood

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY MAY 27, 2009



Historic Mound Bayou and Highway 61

Mound Bayou and Merigold

8:00-9:00

Dr. Luther Brown

Dr. Luther Brown briefed the participants on the rich history of Mound Bayou and Highway 61 while we toured these locations by bus. At the turnoff to Merigold, participants were able to see the historic location of

Highway 61, its first relocation, and its current location.

Merigold, a small town on the way to the larger Mound Bayou, was home to an aviation camp and a Prisoner of War camp during WWII.

Prior to the Civil War, Joseph Davis, brother of Jefferson, had adopted Robert Owen's socialist philosophy on his plantation. Slaves were treated comparatively well and found the model so successful that the Montgomerys, an African-American family, founded Mound Bayou according to the same principles in 1887. Mound Bayou is historically an all-black community.

Mound Bayou is home to several pioneering medical institutions. The Taborian hospital, located downtown, was one of the few



hospitals to treat blacks in the area during the early to mid-20th century. During the height of its service, it had an x-ray, dispensary, and surgery rooms. The Taborian Hospital is recognized in medical literature as the first HMO. The hospital was closed in the 1980s. One of the two initial Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) centers was also established in Mound Bayou. Its exclusively white



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staff were the first white residents in the community.

With the departure of the railroads from the area and the relocation of Highway 61, Mound Bayou, like many southern towns, has dried up in recent years.

Showing of *Fatal Flood*

9:00 - 10:30

Fatal Flood, a PBS Production, provided the history of the devastating 1927 Flood in Greenville, Mississippi. Besides detailing the extreme weather and the levee breach that led to the flood itself, the documentary explored the ways that social and cultural factors affected the disaster. The interests of wealthy plantation owners in Greenville, Mississippi led to a disproportionate loss of black citizens during the flood itself and the creation of a large African-American refugee population. The teachers were excited to learn more about the flood, as many had heard stories of it throughout their lives but had never known the full story.

The Tunica Museum

Tunica, Mississippi

9:00 - 10:30

Dick Taylor, executive director of the Tunica Museum, greeted participants and encouraged them to help their students find a rich answer to the question, "Where are you?". The teachers then explored the museum's exhibits. The exhibits followed the chronological history of Tunica, beginning with natural ecology and Native Americans of the region and ending with the establishment of the Casino industry in the mid-1990s. Many of the teachers were also interested by the museum's most recent exhibit, an interactive children's museum that teaches the six simple machines. After visiting the museum, one teacher commented that she had

always thought of the Delta as just poor and underprivileged. Through this workshop, however, she found that she was beginning to understand its rich history.

Lunch at Fitzgerald's Casino

Robinsonville, Mississippi

12:00-1:00

The RiverPark Museum

Robinsonville, Mississippi

1:00-2:00

Participants enjoyed exploring the state-of-the-art Riverpark Museum. The museum includes an aquarium and many exhibits on the region's terrestrial flora and fauna. Teachers had the opportunity to watch a short film on the area, go inside a simulated diving bell, and enjoy a panoramic view of the Mississippi from an observation deck.

Showing of *Wrath of God*

2:00-3:30

Dr. Mark Bronta

Wrath of God, a History Channel production, provides another documentary interpretation of the 1927 flood. In addition to exploring the Greenville, MS experience during the flood, *Wrath of God* also details the effect of the flood on New Orleans, Louisiana. After viewing the film, Dr. Bonta invited participants to compare the two films they had watched on the flood. *Wrath of God* had included the New Orleans experience but did not discuss how societal structure had impacted many of the most devastating consequences of the flood. He reminded that all history is simply a narrative of the past and that no account of an event can be comprehensive.

Yazoo Pass

3:30

Dr. Mark Bronta

En route to Clarksdale, the bus made a quick stop at the Yazoo Pass Civil War plaque. Dr. Bonta explained how General Grant had flooded the delta in order to provide clear passage for Union boats to Vicksburg.

Yazoo/Mississippi Delta Levee Board

Clarksdale, Mississippi

3:30-4:30

Bruce Cook

Bruce Cook, Administrative Assistant to the Chief Engineer for the Yazoo/Mississippi Delta Levee Board, provided the teachers information on the history and operations of the Board. The Board is responsible for maintaining, protecting, and managing the levees of the upper Mississippi Delta. The Mississippi contains 41% of the nation's water, from 33 states, by the time it reaches the Mississippi Delta. Teachers were provided with T-shirts, water bottles, bags, and book covers for their students. Many teachers were enthused about taking their students on the levee tours the board provides.





The Levee, the Mounds, and the Blues

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY MAY 27, 2009



Mississippi Delta Levee Board

Greenville, Mississippi

9:00-10:30

Peter Nimrod

We began our day by visiting Peter Nimrod, Chief Engineer of the Mississippi Delta Levee Board, in Greenville. The Board maintains and monitors the Levees in the Southern Mississippi Delta. Mr.

Nimrod elaborated on a number of the Board's functions, such as minor levee maintenance, berms, revetments and the Yazoo pump project. Mr. Nimrod described the difference between mean sea-level river height measurements and location-specific river gauges. For example, the Greenville measurement is approximately 75 ft less than the mean sea level measurements.

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Mr. Nimrod also discussed the Yazoo Pump Project, a planned project supported by both the Levee Board and the Army Corps of Engineers. The project uses pumps to clear the Southern Mississippi Delta of floodwater caused by backing up of the Yazoo River. Mr. Nimrod discussed why the EPA vetoed the project by citing environmental concerns and then described why he felt the EPA incorrectly assessed the situation.

Delta and Pine Land

Scott, Mississippi
11:00- 2:00
Jay Mahaffrey

After being provided with lunch, Mr. Mahaffrey provided an overview of the functions of the Delta and Pine Land. He discussed the changing role of cotton, the history of the facility, and the facility's breeding capabilities.

The facilities were founded in 1915 by foreign investors. The flood of 1927 and the subsequent migration north profoundly affected Delta and Pine Land, like all business in the area. The company was mechanized in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Delta and Pine Land became a public corporation in 1993 and was bought by Monsanto in 2007.

Many of the participants were interested in the reasons for the decreasing presence of cotton in the Delta. Mr. Mahaffrey explained that much of the cotton industry has moved overseas, where labor is cheap and textile mills are in close proximity.

Visit to the Mississippi Levee

Near Scott, Mississippi
2:00-2:30
Dr. Mark Bonta

Although the teachers were not able to visit the historic Mound Landing due to high water, the bus drove on top of the levee near Scott. The levee visit provided the teachers an opportunity to see the levee design that Mr. Nimrod had described earlier in the morning. Although the participants weren't on site, Dr. Bonta also described why the Mound Landing levee had broke.

Winterville Mounds and State Archeological Park

Winterville, Mississippi
2:30-3:00

After arriving at the State Park, we scaled the 55-foot high Mound made by Native Americans during the Mississippian period. Once we climbed the 88 steps of the Mound, a museum guide explained that archeologists presume that the mounds were used as a site for religious worship. The Mound builders lived in a hierarchal society and only the most elite priests would have resided at the site.

B.B. King Blues Museum

Indianola, Mississippi
3:15-4:30

At the entrance to the B.B. King Museum, we viewed a short video on B.B. King. It discussed his Delta roots, his move to Memphis, and subsequent musical career. The video culminated in his annual homecoming.

We then entered the museum to view displays on B.B. King's young life, his rise to fame, and his musical influence. The museum included many historical

artifacts as well as personal possessions of Mr. King and his family.

Po' Monkey's Jook Joint

Merigold, Mississippi
8:00

After watching a video on the trip back from the B.B. King Museum on Po' Monkeys, some of the teachers went to the authentic Jook Joint for live blues concert with Howlin' Mad. Besides having the opportunity to listen to some great Delta blues and socialize in a more informal setting, the teachers got to meet Monkey, the owner of the club. Throughout the night, the teachers were entertained by Monkey's constantly changing wig and brightly colored suits.

Here, the teachers had the opportunity to experience the atmosphere that shaped the rich blues history of the Delta. They were living part of the history they had recently learned.



Farming, Civil Rights and the Crossroads

DAY 4: FRIDAY MAY 29, 2009

Showing of *Raising Cotton*

Delta State University
8:00-9:00
Dr. Luther Brown

Emma Knowlton Lytle, a plantation resident, filmed *Raising Cotton* in the 1940s. The

originally silent footage documents the process of raising cotton, the baptisms that occurred in a nearby lake, and the daily life of a sharecropper. In *Raising Cotton*, the elderly Knowlton narrates the film she made in her youth. Knowlton is able to capture the great transition of the cotton industry during the era with her film as she included

footage of both human labor and mechanical prowess. Dr. Brown detailed the historical background of the film for the participants, explaining the cotton growing process and emphasizing the importance and symbolic nature of hands in cotton production prior to mechanization.



Dockery Farms

Dockery, Mississippi
Dr. Luther Brown
9:15-10:15

As we drove west to Dockery Farms, Dr. Brown explained some of Cleveland's history. Downtown Cleveland has two main streets as the railroad used to bisect the town. The Genesis hospice on the outskirts of town was once a Chinese Baptist Church. Chinese immigration to the Delta began in the 1820s. The immigrants were well known for their grocery stores.

Upon arriving at Dockery Farms, the participants watched a short video of young B.B. King who explained the historical significance of the Farms to the music industry. Dockery Farms were the childhood home of Charlie Patton. Patton was the first Blues artist to record his music and therefore is dubbed the "Father of the Blues". Will Dockery established Dockery Farms in 1895 to produce cotton. Dockery, a company town, included three churches, a stop on the famous Pea Vine Railroad, a full-time doctor, and a cotton gin at the height of its sharecropping production.

The participants were able to explore the Dockery grounds. The artesian well, cotton gin, and seed house are still standing today.

The Crossroads

Near Dockery, Mississippi
Dr. Luther Brown
10:30

The bus made a quick stop at the crossroads of Dockery Road and Ruleville Road. It was here that Robert Johnson is rumored to have sold his soul to the devil. Robert Johnson

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transformed from a mediocre guitarist to an excellent slide guitarist so quickly that it was speculated that he used impure methods. Johnson was murdered in Greenwood, Mississippi at the age of 29. He was buried so quickly that his grave was never officially recorded. Three sites are currently marked with his name.

Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial

Ruleville, Mississippi

Dr. Luther Brown

10:45-11:15

Participants toured the grave and memorial of the legendary Civil Rights Activist, Fannie Lou Hamer. Hamer was a bookkeeper at a sharecropping farm in the 1950s. In her middle age, Hamer registered to vote. Consequently, both she and her husband were fired from the farm and lost their home on the farm property. She became a prominent member of the African-American led Mississippi Democratic Freedom Party and attended the Democratic National Convention in 1964. She also established Freedom Farm in order to feed the many African-American families that had lost their family gardens at the end of sharecropping. One of the conference participants had marched with Ms. Hamer in the 1960s and the group enjoyed listening to her story. The people of Ruleville continue to fundraise for the Fannie Lou Hamer memorial and add to the site when they acquire sufficient funds.

Lunch at Senator's Place

Cleveland, Mississippi

11:30-12:45

Yazoo- Mississippi Joint Water Management District

Stoneville, Mississippi

1:30-3:00

Shane Powers, a Water Resource Scientist, explained the Yazoo-Mississippi Joint Water Management

District's supervision of groundwater usage in the Delta. Specifically, the District is responsible for groundwater monitoring, project planning, and water use permitting. Many of the region's crops are irrigated with groundwater. Farmers must pay a minimal charge to receive a permit to drill a well and pay for the pump. Currently, the Delta is using water from their aquifer more quickly than it is being recharged. Therefore, the District is also exploring more efficient water usage. They advocate efficient irrigation systems, develop methods to increase surface water usage, and are considering the possibility of instituting a water rights policy. The teachers were interested by the paradox posed by this presentation on the Delta's lack of groundwater. Although the two levee boards we visited struggle with managing the flooding of the Mississippi river, farmers are no concerned about the vitality of the aquifer in supplying their future irrigation needs.

Stoneville, Mississippi is a prominent research center for water and land management in the Delta. It is operated by Mississippi State University.

Aguzzi Farms

Yale Street Cleveland, Mississippi

3:30-4:30

John Aguzzi's great-grandfather immigrated to the United States from Italy in 1895. He bought 100 acres of land near Cleveland and started a family farm. Nine members of the Aguzzi family now farm 10,000 acres of farmland. Although the Aguzzi family cultivated primarily cotton in the past, they now grow rice and soybeans with some corn. Aguzzi detailed the many gambles farmers must take: the weather, the volatile crop prices, and the rapidly changing agricultural industry. Many of the teachers came from farming families

and could identify with the challenges the Mr. Aguzzi described.

The teachers enjoyed perusing the farm's high-dollar planting and harvesting machinery. Teachers were able to see combines, land graders, sprayers. They even had the opportunity to watch an air show provided by a nearby crop duster and to climb into a tractor.

Mr. Aguzzi provided the teachers with stickers, recipes, and a pound bag of parboiled rice each.



Work Day #1

DAY 5: SATURDAY MAY 30, 2009

Showing of Lalee's Kin

Delta State University

9:00-11:30

This powerful documentary about LaLee Wallace, her kin, and the West Tallahatchie school district superintendent Reggie Barnes, explores the conditions of some of the poorest students and schools in the Mississippi Delta.

The documentary approaches this subject by first examining LaLee Wallace, an elderly woman who takes care of a number of her grandchildren and great grandchildren in a home with a lack of basic infrastructure. Lalee never managed to gain an adequate education due to the agricultural culture in the Delta. In the early to mid-twentieth century, it forced African-Americans into a vicious cycle of illiteracy and poverty. This cycle continues despite the removal of the cotton pickers and the sharecropping system.

Much of Lalee's extended family lived below the poverty line and had limited access to adequate educational opportunities and amenities such as a shower, running water, and pencils. These children had been caught in this cycle because their parents and grandparents, like LaLee, had received little or no education. Therefore, the older children were required to stay home and look after the younger ones rather than going to school and completing their homework.

The second aspect of the documentary dealt with Tallahatchie county's superintendent Reggie Barnes and his quest to improve the quality of schools in his Tallahatchie district. This section of the documentary focused on the lack of resources in the schools. Reggie Barnes discussed his struggle in trying to raise the test scores of his school district.

This documentary inspired passionate discussion among our teachers who discussed parallels within their own

schools, potential solutions, and the effects of the Cotton culture on Delta society in the present. These discussions included an analysis of the poor reading comprehension skills of both younger and older Delta students, curriculum weaknesses, and the difficulties motivating children whose families may not value education highly.

Lesson Plans

Delta State University and Cleveland, MS

1:00- 3:30

The teachers spent the afternoon working on their lesson plans within their smaller groups. Dr. Bonta encouraged the groups to think of ways to present the information they had acquired during the conference to their students in interactive ways, rather than the standard lecture format. The groups dispersed across town and campus, some choosing to stay in Jobe Hall while others explored the library and Cleveland's coffee shop. Cody Schumaker, the graduate assistant, checked on the groups throughout the afternoon.



Railroads, Catfish, and Mississippi Heritage

DAY 6: MONDAY JUNE 1, 2009



Illinois Central Railroad

Greenwood to Yazoo City

9:00-9:45

Lee Aylward and Mark Bonta

about 45 minutes.

Triangle Cultural Center

Yazoo City

10:00-11:00

Bob Bailey

Participants of the Three Rs Workshop had the chance to experience a critical aspect of the Delta's history, as they rode the Amtrack train to Yazoo City. They boarded the train in Greenwood. During the ride, the participants had the opportunity to watch the multitudinous cornfields out of the train's windows, chat with the conductor, and adventure through several cars to the snack bar. The group encountered several passengers from England who were traveling in the Delta. The trip lasted

Bob Bailey of the Yazoo City Historical Society welcomed the teachers to the Triangle Cultural Center. Yazoo City is quintessentially Mississippian with all three of the Rs: Rails, Rivers, and Roads. Mr. Bailey provided a some history on the town including how it had been occupied six times during the Civil War and was the home to the highly successful General Pershing of WWI.

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The museum exhibits included dioramas of Native American villages, fossils of dinosaurs found in the region, and grade school primers that were half a century old. Many of the teachers were excited to discover that many of the things that they taught as part of their curriculum had local roots in the Delta.

Lunch at Stubb's Restaurant

Yazoo City
11:30-12:30

Catfish Capital Museum

Belzoni
1:00-1:45

The Catfish Capitol Museum in Belzoni details the Catfish industry in Mississippi. Catfish are in Mississippi's top four agricultural products along with corn, rice, and soybeans. The catfish industry started in the 1960s and flourished quickly. In 2000, Mississippi had 115,000 catfish ponds. However, the catfish industry has contracted in recent years due to high feed prices and international competition.

The teachers enjoyed the visual representations of the catfish industry; the museum had made pie graphs and used marbles to represent the number of catfish in the world. Several math teachers thought that they might be able to include similar activities in their classrooms.



Jaketown Museum

Belzoni
1:45- 2:15

The Jaketown Archeological Museum detailed the Jaketown Archeological site of the Native American Mississippian culture. The small museum included a replica of a hut that would have been used during the Mississippian period, artifacts, and displays explaining the culture of the



period.

Catfish Hatchery

Outside Belzoni
Jim Steve (?)
2:30-3:30

Jim Steve, from the Mississippi State Extension service, took the Three Rs participants to a catfish hatchery just outside Belzoni. After spawning, which usually occurs during the period from April to early July, the eggs are taken to the fish hatchery where they grow to minnow size. The teachers enjoyed walking through the fish hatchery and seeing the development of the eggs. When first brought to the hatchery the eggs are white and float on the surface of the water. After about a week, they turn a brown and sink to the bottom of the hatchery pools. Soon afterwards, they hatch. After several days in the hatchery, the tiny fish are taken to a pond where they grow to market size. It usually takes

about two years for a catfish to become ready for market. About 100,000 catfish are grown per acre.

Cottonlandia Museum

Greenwood
David Freeman
3:30-4:30

The Cottonlandia Museum in Greenwood covers the Five As of the Delta: Arts, Antiques, Archeology, Animals, and Agriculture. David Freeman, interim director of the museum, and two other curators guided the teachers through the museum exhibits. The museum included some of the furniture from the home of Greenwood LeFlore, the last great chief of the Choctaw Indians, exhibits detailing the military and civil war history of Greenwood, and Indian beads and pottery. The museum included a room for children to learn and play. The elementary school teachers were interested in the way the museum presented the information in their interactive exhibits.

On the way to the Cottonlandia museum to Belzoni, the bus passed by the historic Ft. Pemberton. Ft. Pemberton was the site of a critical battle in the Civil War. The Union was trying to ambush Vicksburg, the last Confederate stronghold. The Confederates were able to hold off the Union troops a little longer however by sinking the Star of the West, a ship, at Ft. Pemberton.

Walking Tour of Howard Street

Greenwood
4:45-5:30

The presence of the Viking Corporation and its Alluvial Hotel has revitalized downtown Greenwood. The teachers enjoyed exploring several Mississippi gift shops, the TurnRow bookstore, and the Viking Cooking store and school. After a long day,

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many of the teachers rested their feet for a couple of minutes at the Alluvian Hotel's large fountain.

Robert Johnson's Grave

Little Zion Church: Money Road
5:45-6:00

The Three Rs Conference bus stopped at Little Zion church where Robert Johnson is buried. Johnson was murdered at the age of 29 when someone poisoned his whiskey. He was buried so quickly after his death that his grave was never marked. Although there are three sites that bear Robert Johnson's name, according to an eyewitness account the grave at Little Zion church is s\ the actual place where Johnson is buried. Johnson's burial place is now marked with a modern tombstone. The group enjoyed looking at the memorabilia left at the site by traveling blues lovers and meeting a New Mexican author who was researching Robert Johnson for a new fiction book.



The Bryant Store

Money
6:15-6:30

Emmett Till whistled at Caroline Bryant in the Bryant Store in Money, Mississippi. This childish act prompted Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam to brutally murder the fourteen year-old boy. The store stands in disrepair today and is at risk for falling down unless preserved.

Showing of *The Murder of Emmett Till*

Delta State University Bus
6:30-7:00

The Murder of Emmett Till is a PBS documentary follows the story of Emmett Till. Till was born in Chicago and lived with his mother, Mamie Till Mobley. Mamie, a Mississippi native,

sent her son to stay with her family and work the cotton fields the summer of his fourteenth year. Till, having always been somewhat of a class clown, whistled at Caroline Bryant in the Bryant store. Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam took Till from his house several nights later. Till was missing for several weeks until his corpse, brutally maimed, was found floating in the river.

Till's body was returned to Chicago, where Mamie insisted on an open casket funeral so that the world could see what Bryant and Milam had done to her son. Up to 50,000 people viewed the body and photographs circulated the news.

Milam and Bryant were tried for murder in Sumner, Mississippi beginning on September 19, 1955. Moses W. Wright, Till's uncle and the man he was staying with for the summer, identified Milam and Bryant as the men who had abducted Till. Despite this powerful evidence, the court acquitted Milam and Bryant on the basis that the body could not be properly identified. Till's murder is often credited as the spark to the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s.



Singing, Mapping, and Painting the Delta

DAY 7: TUESDAY MAY 2, 2009



Delta Blues Breakfast

The Southern Grill - Cleveland
8:00-9:30

The Three R's Conference group met at the Southern Grill in Cleveland for a Delta Blues Breakfast. The participants enjoyed eating the the Southern food of the large buffet while listening to blues songs about food. Many of the participants were surprised, if not slightly shocked, to listen to the innuendo used by blues artists in their food-related songs.

Some of the teachers planned on using some more appropriate songs for a "Food and Blues" lesson in which their students would make traditional Southern food and later listen to blues music that talked about the food they had prepared.

Mapping the Delta

Delta State University
Scott Trapolino
10:00-11:30

The Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial Information Technologies at Delta State University provides training in the Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) The Center teaches GIS to its students as a field of knowledge rather than a tool to aid in other research to its students, unlike many other universities. Scott Trapolino, faculty of the Center, explained to the participants how GIS is revolutionizing the way we organize information. Databases now are often spatially referenced. Place and maps have important implications in nearly

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every field. Disaster control and relief relies on accurate, detailed maps of locations. The Center is affiliated with both the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). When Hurricane Gustav hit the Mississippi Coast in 2008, the Center helped to map the affected area. They also helped create the Emergency Response maps for Barack Obama's inauguration in 2009.

The teachers were interested in the various GIS instruments the Center owned and wanted to know why their in-car navigation systems weren't always accurate. They also had the opportunity to see the power of GIS systems as Mr. Trapolino played a flyby simulation of Arizona State University's campus while they wore 3-D glasses. Each teacher received a "Rivers, Rails, and Roads" map, created by the Center, to display in their classroom.

"Verbs" contained within the scene's landscape. The teachers set up easels and drawing boards on the Dockery lawn and began to paint. With a white house, blue swimming pool, and expansive green grass, the Farm grounds seemed peaceful and reminiscent of an older south as the teachers embraced their creative side. They painted many aspects of the landscape: the house, the day lilies, the trees, the house, the bird feeder...

After the teachers had cleaned up and returned to Delta State, Baird led an informal sharing period. Several of the participants chose to share their paintings with the group. Paintings ranged from classic representations of the landscape to the more abstract. Participants commented:

- "[When I was painting], I remembered climbing trees as a child and just how much fun that was."
- "It made me think of how far we've come in the last few decades [in the Delta]."
- "What we tried to do was keep it real"
- "I want to thank y'all for making us get out of our comfort zone."

Duncan Baird related the day's experience to the workshop's theme of place as he closed with by reminding participants that art creation is not the product of skill alone. It also relies on a sense of place, a sense of history, and the ability to tie personal experience with that of one's fellow man. As a whole, the experience seemed to be overwhelmingly positive for the group.



Painting the Delta

Delta State University
Duncan Baird
1:00-4:00

The participants returned to Dockery Farms to paint the Delta landscape with Delta State University professor, Duncan Baird. Baird told the participants that Dockery was a "place with spirit" and encouraged participants to think of "Nouns", "Prepositions", "Adjectives", and

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Showing of *Goin' to Chicago*

Delta State University Bus
7:30-9:30

On the bus trip to Memphis, the participants watched *Goin' to Chicago*, a documentary on a group of former Greenville residents who came together to reminisce on their experiences of migration. The group had left Greenville and moved to Chicago following World War II. The documentary depicts their struggles as sharecroppers in Mississippi and their well-paying factory jobs in Chicago through personal stories. The documentary also describes the problems created by the lack of affordable housing in Chicago and the closing of many factories.

and Ohio rivers and ended as the great Mississippi emptied into the Gulf of Mexico. The teachers were excited to find their hometowns and historical landmarks along the river model. The model provided a geographic context of the history they had been learning.

Stax Museum

Memphis, TN
2:00-3:00

The Stax Museum of American Soul Music is located on the original site of the Stax Record label. The label began in 1959 with a small record store in an old movie theater. The label grew quickly and soon launched stars such as Otis Redding, the Staple Sisters, and Isaac Hayes. Integrated from the start, the Stax label was known for unprecedented collaboration between its artists and having a family feel. Already experiencing difficulties from growing quickly and losing several of its key staff members, Stax was not able to withstand the shock of the race relations turmoil that followed Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination in 1968.

The Great Migration

DAY 8: TUESDAY MAY 2, 2009

Scale Model of the Mississippi River

Mud Island Memphis, TN
9:30-11:45

The teachers walked along the half-mile scale model of the Mississippi river. The model started with the watersheds of the upper Mississippi

Lunch at Neely's Bar-B-Que

Memphis, TN
12:00- 2:00

Neely's Bar-B-Que is the home of Pat and Gina Neely, hosts of Down Home with the Neelys, a Food Network program. The teachers enjoyed the heaping portions of authentic Memphis barbeque while participating in lively conversation with one another.

The Stax Museum today contains over 2,000 exhibits on Soul Music, including an entire church from rural Mississippi and a dance floor. The Stax Museum is the only museum in the world dedicated to Soul music. Therefore, it records the history of other soul labels such as Motown, Atlantic records, and Hi. Many of the teachers had more ideas of how to include music in their classrooms after visiting the museum.

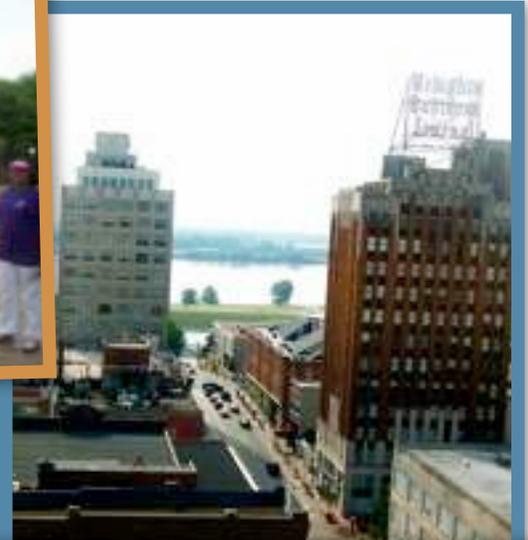


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The National Civil Rights Museum

Memphis, TN
3:00- 4:00

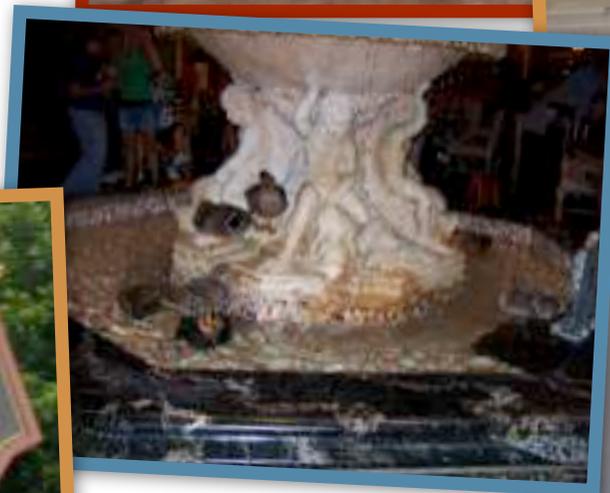
Located in the historic Lorraine Hotel where Martin Luther King Jr. was shot 41 years ago, the National Civil Rights Museum details America's Civil Rights journey. The museum is highly informative. Its exhibits begin with Civil Rights in the nineteenth century and follow the movement as it bloomed in the 1960s. The Three Rs Participants were able to walk through a bus similar to the one Rosa Parks rode on, watch video clips about the freedom riders, and see the hotel room where Martin Luther King slept on his last night.



The Peabody Hotel

Memphis, TN
4:15-5:15

After a long day in Memphis, the Three Rs participants had the chance to relax in the Peabody Hotel. The historian David Cohn wrote in 1935, "The Mississippi Delta begins in the lobby of the Peabody Hotel in Memphis and ends on Catfish Row in Vicksburg." The teachers were able to watch the Peabody's famous ducks walk down the red carpet from their fountain in the lobby to the elevator, where they are taken to their penthouse on the roof.



Religion, Ethnicity, and Interstate 69

DAY 9: THURSDAY JUNE 4, 2009

Showing of *Delta Jews*

Delta State Bus

8:15-9:15

As the bus drove to Greenville, the teachers watched a movie explaining the role Jews have played in the Mississippi Delta. Jews are “between black and white” and have often found themselves without a defined place in the South’s rigid racial hierarchy. Although some Jews were farmers, the majority formed a strong merchant class. Their stores catered to both blacks and whites. As Delta towns have dried up, the Jewish population has also dwindled.



Mt. Horeb Missionary Baptist Church

Greenville

Dr. Albert Calvin

8:15-9:15

Dr. Albert Calvin, pastor of Mt. Horeb Baptist Church, spoke to the group about the history of his church and the role he plays as the pastor. Moses B. Black established Mt. Horeb in 1864. The congregation met without a

building for four years until they built their original church in 1868. The congregation has worshipped in about seven different buildings since then. The historic 1927 Flood destroyed everything on Greenville’s Mulberry Street, where the Church was located. After the Flood, the church moved to its current location. Mr. Calvin has been pastor of the church for thirty years. He tries to build a community within in his congregation and believes in the idea that “it takes a village to raise a child.” Although his congregation was larger before the population of Greenville started to decline, his congregation is now composed of about 160 members.

St. Matthew’s African Methodist Episcopal Church

Greenville

Rev. Wilson

9:15-10:15

St. Matthew’s African Methodist Episcopal church, which is located beside the Mt. Horeb Baptist Church, is about to celebrate to celebrate its 142nd anniversary. It is slightly younger than its neighbor, Mt. Horeb. As many of the teachers were unfamiliar with the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) denomination, Reverend Wilson explained the history of both the congregation and the church. In 1816, Richard Allen founded the AME church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The church was founded by a group of people of African descent who were discriminated against by the Methodist church. The AME church continues to worship according to Methodist practices. Their church government, however, is modeled after the Episcopalian hierarchy. St.

Matthew’s, like Mt. Horeb, moved after the 1927 Flood swept away Levee Street, where it was originally located. St. Matthew’s was the flagship AME church in the Delta and has been frequented by many famous individuals. Reverend Wilson was proud to tell the group that St. Matthew’s had been active in the Civil Rights movement.



Chinese Cemeteries

Greenville

Cathy Wong

10:15-11:15

Cathy Wong, a longtime member of Greenville’s Chinese community, introduced the Three Rs participants to both the old and the new Chinese cemeteries. The Chinese began their own cemeteries as they were considered neither black nor white and thus, could not be buried with either race. The old cemetery was built on acre of land that the Chinese population bought. Buying the land was a great success for the population, as generally the Chinese population was not allowed to purchase land. The new Chinese

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cemetery, located just down the road, is much larger. A fence and pillars marked with the classic Chinese symbols of the moon and the star enclose the cemetery. The gravestones in the Chinese cemeteries have one side written in Chinese and one side written in English. Ms. Wong explained that the trinkets and food left on the graves were products of the Chinese population's reverence for their ancestors, which stems from the Buddhist tradition. Greenville's Chinese population has dwindled greatly in recent years as the children have gone to college and been unable to find opportunities to work in the Delta after graduating.

for Teddy Roosevelt in the early twentieth century. Teddy Roosevelt refused to shoot the bear saying that it was too cute. The circulation of this story led to the "Teddy" Bear craze.

Lunch at Buck's

Greenville
12:00-1:00

The Teachers ate lunch at Buck's Restaurant, a Greenville staple and the location where Barack Obama stopped to eat when he was on the campaign trail in Mississippi.



1927 Flood Museum

Greenville
2:00-2:30

Although the teachers had already been exposed to the story of the 1927 flood, the Flood Museum reinforced much of the information they had learned and provided visual references. The museum contained exhibits that explained the events leading to the flood and the way the flood was dealt with in the months following the disaster.

The Hebrew Union Temple

Greenville
Benji Nelkins
1:00-2:00

Benji Nelkins, a layperson in the Hebrew Union Temple congregation, provided the teachers with a short history of his church and of Jews in the Greenville area. The first Jewish temple in Greenville was built in 1880. The current Hebrew Union Temple was built in 1905. Greenville's first mayor was a Jew. Most of the Jews in the Delta region have German heritage. Like many of the other congregations in town, the Hebrew Union Temple has seen a decline in the size of its congregation in recent years. There are only about fifty families on the roll book now.

Mr. Nelkins also showed the Temple's Torah to the teachers and explained its significance. The teachers were interested to learn how a Jewish service differed from a Christian service and asked about the story behind Hannukah.

The Temple includes a small museum on the Jewish presence in the Delta. The teachers wandered through several rooms filled with newspaper clippings, old photos, and books.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Greenville
Mary Lynn Powers
2:30-3:30



Mary Lynn Powers, a member of St. Joseph's congregation shared some of Greenville's history and the history of the church with the participants of the Three Rs. Besides providing



Live Oak Cemetery

Greenville
Dr. Mark Bonta
11:15-11:45

Live Oak Cemetery is Greenville's historically black cemetery. As we toured the cemetery, Dr. Bonta explained to the conference's participants that history can often be better understood by studying graveyards. The gravestones and structure of the cemeteries are a reflection of society at the time they were built.

Holt Collier's grave is located in the Live Oak Cemetery. Holt Collier was a famous hunter and caught over 3,000 bears in his lifetime. He caught a bear

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religious services to its congregation, St. Joseph's started a school which is still in operation today. St. Joseph's was left an estate in the 1990s and has used the money to remodel their church. The remodel was finished in 2006. Like all of the other churches we visited, St. Joseph's has had a drastic decline in the size of its congregation.

Mississippi Highway Commission

Greenville
Claiborne Barnwell
3:30-4:30

Claiborne Barnwell from the Mississippi Highway Commission provided a brief overview of the

development of I-96 in Mississippi and the obstacles the Highway Commission has encountered. Mississippi is responsible for the building of four Segments of Independent Utility (SIU). I-96 is being built in order to spur economic development both nationally and in Mississippi. Mr. Barnwell stressed the Mississippi highway commission is constantly looking for alternative routes, trying to minimize the impacts of the new interstate on Mississippi residents, hoping to build the road in the most environmentally sustainable way, and trying to preserve archeological sites. He stated that while the highway commission could not always meet all of these goals,

they were trying to fulfill them most of the time.

This discussion proved to be the most controversial during the conference. Many of the teachers were concerned about the environmental impacts the building of the interstate would have on the Delta, particularly the removal of the topsoil for use for road base. Additionally, several of the teachers worried that I-69 would take business away from Delta towns. After participating in the three Rs discussion, one of the participants decided to attend the public hearing on I-69 later that night.

Work Day #2

DAY 10: FRIDAY MAY 5, 2009



Presentation of Lesson Plans

Delta State University

Dr. Mark Bonta

1:00-3:00

After spending the morning finishing their lesson plans, the participants of the Three Rs workshop presented their complete plans to the group. Each of the five groups had original

ideas for integrating the Delta culture and history into their existing curriculum. The K-2 group planned to center a week of learning around a "Delta Daze" theme. Each day they would learn about a new aspect of Delta culture. The third to fourth grade group planned to use Mississippi shaped cookies to teach their students about the geography of Mississippi's Roads, Rivers, and Railways. Other groups planned to incorporate Mississippi geography in Physical Education with a "Delta Relay" and in math by teaching mean, median, and mode with Mississippi River flow charts.

Several of the teachers had composed blues songs about their experience with the Three Rs workshop. Hilda Clark composed a blues song and then performed it for the group.

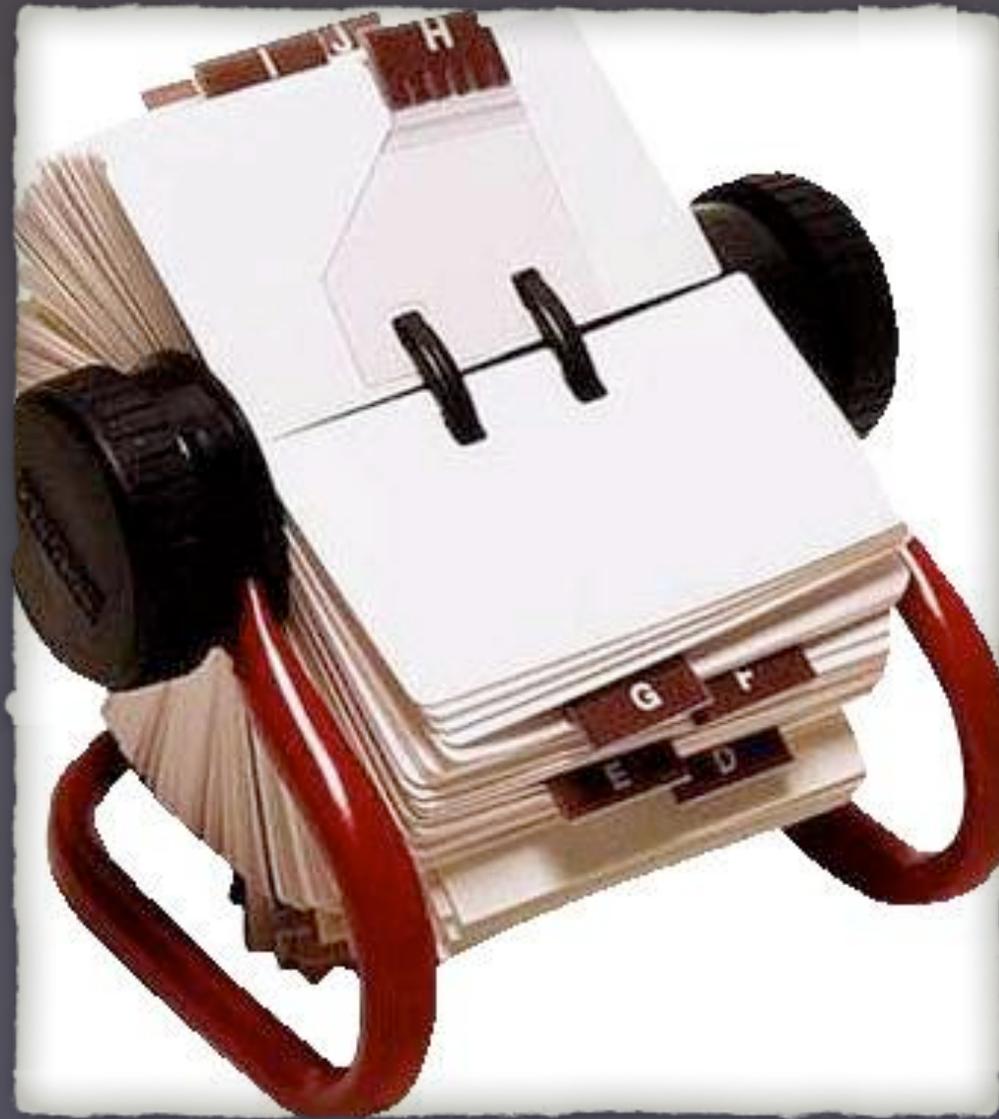
Doris Trotter led a group in performance of a blues song written



by Cynthia Herrin. It seemed very fitting to end our Delta experience with some homegrown music!



Directory



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Evaluations



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With Special Thanks to

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Participant Evaluations

The Three R's participants were asked to evaluate each of the workshop's activities. A ranking of "1" denotes the least beneficial and interesting and a ranking of "5" denotes the most beneficial and interesting.

Date	Activity	Number of Respondents Reporting Each Score					Average Score	Percent 4s and 5s
		1	2	3	4	5		
Tuesday, May 26								
	Welcome	0	0	2	9	27	4.66	94.7%
	Tour of the Port of Rosedale	0	0	2	13	24	4.56	94.9%
	Towboat Trip	0	1	2	5	31	4.69	92.3%
Wednesday, May 27								
	Showing of <i>Fatal Flood</i>	0	0	1	3	34	4.87	97.4%
	Tour of Mound Bayou	0	0	4	6	28	4.63	89.5%
	Lunch at Fitzgerald's Casino	4	3	4	10	17	3.87	71.1%
	Tunica Museums	0	1	1	6	30	4.71	94.7%
	Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee Board	0	2	2	7	27	4.55	89.5%
	Showing of <i>Wrath of God</i>	0	1	1	10	25	4.59	94.6%
Thursday, May 28								
	Mississippi Delta Levee Board	0	2	3	15	19	4.31	87.2%
	Lunch at Scott Store	0	2	4	9	24	4.41	84.6%
	Site of the 1927 Levee Break	2	1	4	6	24	4.32	81.1%
	Delta Land and Pine: Monsanto	2	2	4	11	20	4.15	79.5%
	Winterville Mounds	1	1	1	14	23	4.43	92.5%
	B.B. King Museum	0	1	1	3	34	4.79	94.9%
	Po' Monkeys Jook Joint (Optional)	0	1	0	2	16	4.74	94.7%

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Date	Activity	Number of Respondents Reporting Each Score					Average Score	Percent 4s and 5s
		1	2	3	4	5		
Friday, May 29								
	Showing of <i>Raising Cotton</i>	1	0	3	12	23	4.44	89.7%
	Tour of Dockery Farms and the Crossroads	1	0	0	6	31	4.74	97.4%
	Memorial of Fanny Lou Hamer	0	1	3	6	29	4.62	89.7%
	Lunch at the Senator's Place	2	2	0	15	19	4.24	89.5%
	Yazoo-Mississippi Joint Water Management District	0	1	5	11	22	4.38	84.6%
	Tour of Aguzzi Farms	0	0	2	7	30	4.72	94.9%
Saturday, May 30								
	Showing of <i>Lalee's Kin</i>	1	0	0	6	31	4.74	97.4%
Monday, June 1								
	Train to Yazoo City	0	0	0	1	38	4.97	100.0%
	Triangle Cultural Center	0	0	2	12	21	4.54	94.3%
	Lunch at Stub's Restaurant	2	1	3	14	18	4.18	84.2%
	Catfish-Belzoni	0	1	3	11	24	4.49	89.7%
	Jaketown Archeological Museum	1	4	7	11	16	3.95	69.2%
	Tour of a Catfish Hatchery	0	1	1	11	26	4.59	94.9%
	Cottonlandia Museum	0	0	4	11	24	4.51	89.7%
	Downtown Greenwood	0	0	0	9	28	4.76	100.0%
	Little Zion MB Church: Robert Johnson's Grave	0	1	3	8	27	4.56	89.7%
Tuesday, June 2								
	Blues Breakfast	1	0	0	6	32	4.74	97.4%
	Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial IT	0	2	3	9	24	4.45	86.8%
	Painting at Dockery Farms	0	1	0	7	31	4.74	97.4%

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Date	Activity	Number of Respondents Reporting Each Score					Average Score	Percent 4s and 5s
		1	2	3	4	5		
Wednesday, June 3								
	Showing of <i>Goin' to Chicago</i>	0	0	3	13	23	4.51	92.3%
	Lunch at Neely's Bar-B-Que	2	0	4	6	27	4.44	84.6%
	Stax Museum	0	1	0	1	37	4.90	97.4%
	Civil Rights Museum	0	0	1	3	35	4.87	97.4%
	Peabody Hotel	0	0	4	6	28	4.63	89.5%
Thursday, June 4								
	Showing of <i>Delta Jews</i>	0	2	3	15	18	4.29	86.8%
	Tour of Mt. Horeb Church	0	1	5	10	22	4.39	84.2%
	Tour of St. Matthews Church	0	1	6	11	20	4.32	81.6%
	Tour of the Chinese Cemeteries	2	0	4	13	20	4.26	84.6%
	Tour of Live Oak Cemetery	1	0	8	11	18	4.18	76.3%
	Lunch at Buck's Restaurant	1	2	0	5	30	4.61	92.1%
	Tour of the Hebrew Temple	0	1	3	12	21	4.43	89.2%
	1927 Flood Museum	1	0	3	9	25	4.50	89.5%
	Tour of St. Joseph's Church	1	1	6	12	18	4.18	78.9%
	Mississippi Highway Commission	10	3	7	12	6	3.03	47.4%

When the teachers were asked if the workshop should be offered again, all 39 of the participants who completed evaluations replied yes.

Participant Comments

My favorite experiences in the workshop were the valuable and expansive knowledge of the faculty and staff. It really was interesting and made the geography easier to understand and learn.

It has been one of the best workshops I have ever attended. The other teachers were great to get to know and I know my students will benefit from the information I have learned.

This workshop should be offered to all Mississippi teachers.

Thanks for this life changing experience. I've always been curious about the Delta and this workshop has answered so many of my questions. This experience has changed my whole perception of the Mississippi Delta. The Delta is a wonderful place to dwell and learn! Thanks a million for the opportunity.
June 06, 2009

The only advice that I have is to please continue to have this workshop. The history of the Delta is so important to pass down so that it won't die - The history is so rich! Students need to learn about their home state and develop a "sense of place"! Thanks for giving me the opportunity to learn and grow! It was so enjoyable

Like I said, we cannot thank you all enough for all the hard work you did to give us such an exceptional experience! Of all the workshops I have attended, this is #1!!

First, I would like to thank you for given me the opportunity to attend this unique workshop on The Three R's of the Delta. This was truly an educational experience for me. I leave this workshop rich with knowledge to prepare my students for the world outside the classroom. I cannot stop talking to educators, family, friends, and anyone that will listen about how wonderful this workshop is. I never expected to gain this much knowledge. Thanks!

They [the staff] were all very knowledgeable and helpful. They were great guides and facilitators of learning!

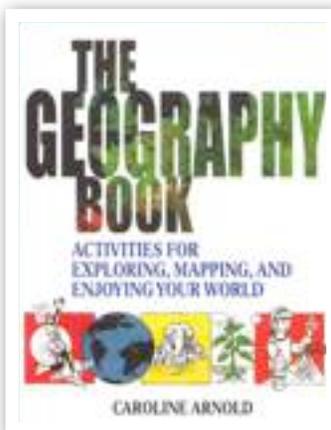
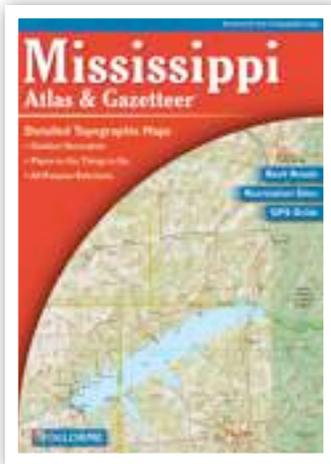
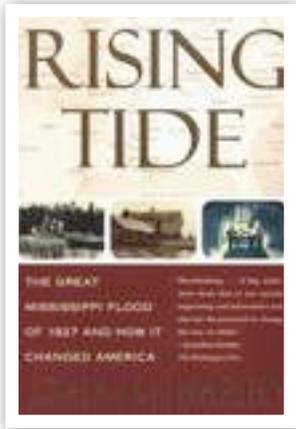
The tool kits are great! I can't wait to read everything for myself and share the information with other teachers and my students. There is so much useful information in the tool kits.

Toolkits



Toolkits

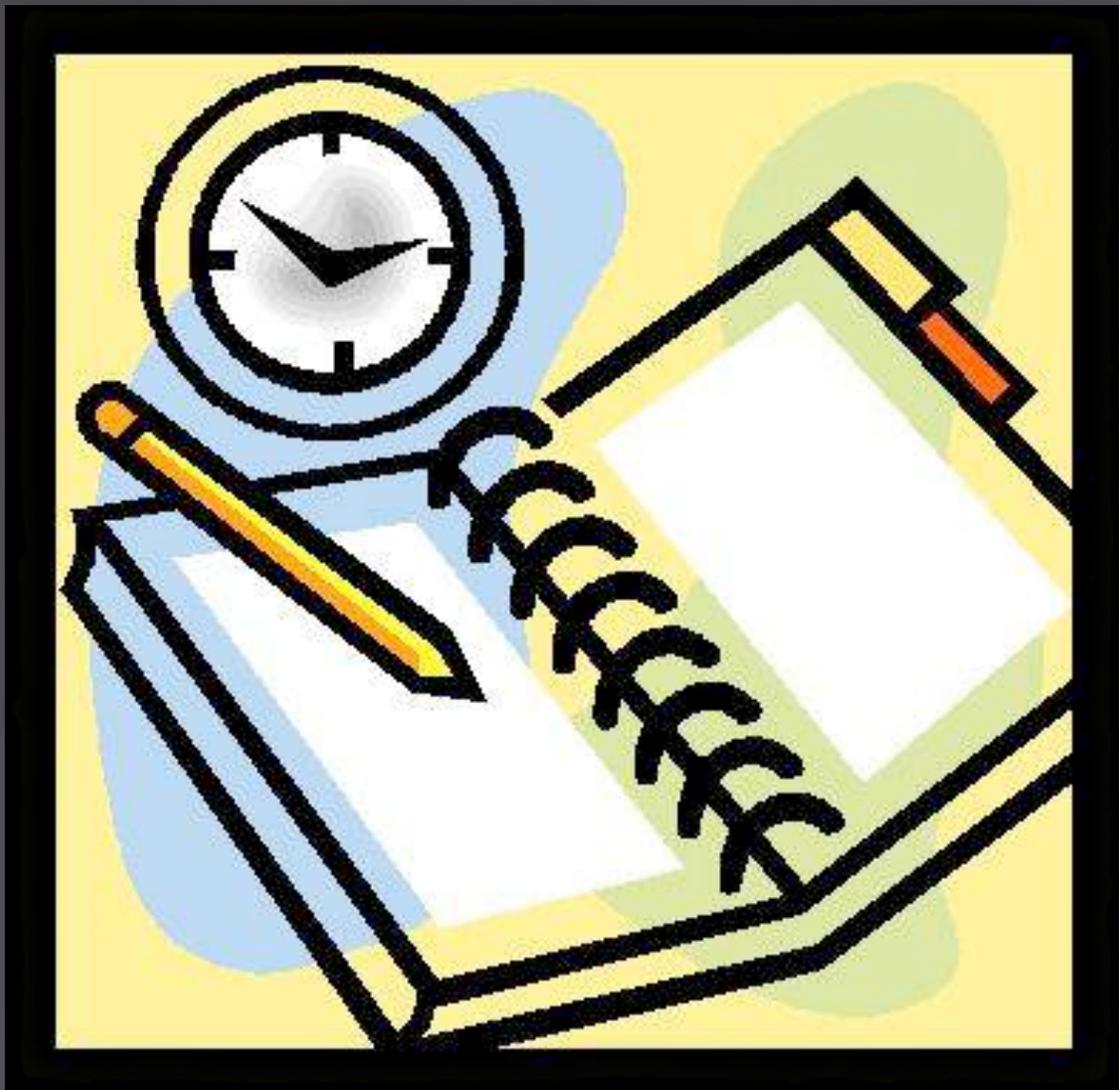
The Delta Center provided each participant of the Three R's workshop with a toolkit of materials to bring home and use in their classrooms.



THE TOOLKIT INCLUDES:

- Fatal Flood (DVD): A PBS Documentary. “Fatal Flood focuses on the devastating impact the flood wrought on the Delta community of Greenville, Mississippi.”
- Mississippi Atlas and Gazetteer by Delorme:: Includes detailed maps with outdoor recreation spots, places to go, things to see, GPS grids, back roads, and an all-purpose reference.
- Large Laminated Folio Maps of Mississippi: Maps made by the Center for Interdisciplinary Geospatial Information Technologies at Delta State University that depict the rivers, rail, and roads of Mississippi.
- *The Geography Book: Activities for Exploring, Mapping, and Enjoying Your World* by Caroline Arnold: “You’ll find out how to determine the location of the Earth, how maps can provide us with a wide range of information, how different landforms were created, how water has shaped the Earth, and much more in *The Geography Book*”
- Playground Stencils of the State of Mississippi: The participants can use these stencils to paint the state and its rivers, road, and railways on the playground.
- *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How it Changed America* by John M. Barry: “Barry presents a fascinating social history of the effects of the massive flood. More than 30 feet of water stood over land inhabited by nearly one million people. ...Barry clearly traces and analyzes how the changes produced by the flood in the lower South came into conflict and ultimately destroyed the old planter aristocracy, accelerated black migration to the North, and foreshadowed federal government intervention in the region's social and economic life during the New Deal.”
- Topographical maps of Mississippi from Raven Maps
- Copies of the lesson plans made by all the participants during the workshop

Program Schedule



DELTA CENTER FOR CULTURE AND LEARNING

With Special Thanks to

THE MISSISSIPPI GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE & THE YAZOO MISSISSIPPI DELTA LEVEE BOARD

3R's 2009

Schedule of Activities

Assignments on Page 5

May 26 (Tues) Introduction: The Delta and the River

7:30 AM –12 AM

- a. Registration (7:30 – 8 AM)
- b. Welcome from the organizers (Jobe 102) (8 AM)
- c. Welcome from the Cleveland/Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce
- d. Self-presentations
- e. Introduction to the Delta (Luther Brown, Mark Bonta)
- f. Introduction to the class (rules, guidelines, assignments, etc.)
- g. Breaking into groups

12 PM – 1 PM: *Lunch on your own*

1:30 PM: The Mississippi River

- h. Tour of the Port of Rosedale with David Work
- i. Board a Janoush towboat for a ride on the Mississippi River. Bring sunscreen and water to drink!!

May 27 (Wed) Utopia, Gambling, and the Flood

8 AM

- a. Watch *Fatal Flood* (documentary on the 1927 Flood)

9:15 AM – 5 PM: Field Trip to Tunica

- b. Historic Mound Bayou and Old Highway 61
- c. Stop at Yazoo Pass (Civil War plaque)

11:30 AM: *Lunch at Fitzgerald's Casino (\$9.85)*

- d. Self-guided tour of the RiverPark museum
- e. Walk the grounds and the nature trail (optional)

3:30 PM

- f. Yazoo/Mississippi Delta Levee Board, Clarksdale
- g. Watch *Wrath of God* (documentary on the 1927 Flood) on the bus

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May 28 (Thu) The Levee, The Mounds, and the Blues

8 AM: Leave for Greenville

9 AM

- a. Visit to Mississippi Delta Levee Board and tour of the levee at Warfield Point Park with Peter Nimrod

11 AM

- b. Visit Mounds Landing, site of the levee break during the 1927 Flood

11:30 AM: *Plate lunch at the Scott Store (Price TBA)*

1 PM

- c. Tour of Monsanto's Delta and Pine Land agricultural research center in Scott

2 PM

- d. Winterville Mounds State Archaeological Park with Jan Taylor

4 PM

- e. Tour the BB King Blues Museum in Indianola

May 29 (Fri) Farming, Civil Rights, and the Crossroads

8 AM

- a. Watch *Raising Cotton*

9 AM

- b. Visit to Dockery Farms (sharecropping, company farm, development of the blues)
- c. Peavine Railroad and Crossroads

10:30 AM

- d. Visit to Ruleville (Civil Rights leader Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial)

11:30 AM: *Lunch at the Senator's Place in Cleveland (\$8.00)*

1:30 PM

- e. Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Water Management District, Stoneville

3:30 PM

- f. Visit Aguzzi Farms (modern-day agriculture)

May 30 (Sat) Work Day # 1 @ DSU

8 AM

- a. Watch and discuss *Lalee's Kin: The Legacy of Cotton*

10:30 AM: Break

11 AM

- B. ORIENTATION FOR ACTIVITY BOOK PROJECTS**

12 PM: *Lunch on your own*

1:00 PM

- C. GROUPS WORK ON ACTIVITY BOOKS ON THEIR OWN**

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June 1 (Mon) Railroads, Catfish, and Giant Cypress Trees

7:30 AM: Travel to Greenwood

9 AM – 10 AM

- a. Illinois Central Railroad trip to Yazoo City

10 AM – 11 AM

- b. Tour historic Yazoo City: Triangle Cultural Center with historian Sam Olden

11AM: *Lunch at Stubbs Restaurant (\$8.27)*

12 PM: Leave for Belzoni

12:30 P.M. Belzoni area

- c. Catfish Capitol & Jaketown Museum

- d. Short walk at Sky Lake Wildlife Management Area (giant trees)

3 PM: Greenwood area

- e. Cottonlandia Museum

- f. Walking tour of Howard Street, Greenwood

June 2 (Tues) Singing, Painting, and Mapping the Delta

8 AM

- a. Delta Blues Breakfast with Dr. Luther Brown

10 AM

- b. Mapping the Delta at the Center for Geospatial Information Technologies (GIS, GPS, Google Earth)

12 PM: *Lunch on your own*

1 PM

- c. Painting the Delta (Duncan Baird, DSU art instructor)

3 PM

- d. CONTINUE WORKING ON ACTIVITY BOOKS

June 3 (Wed) The Great Migration

7:30 AM: Leave for Memphis

- b. Watch *Goin' to Chicago* on bus

- c. Walk along the scale model of the River at Mud Island

11:30 PM: *Lunch at Neely's Barbeque (order from the menu)*

1 PM

- d. Visit Stax Museum of American Soul Music

2 PM

- e. Visit the National Civil Rights Museum

4 PM

- f. Visit Beale Street and Peabody Hotel

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June 4 (Thu) Religion, Ethnicity, and Interstate 69

7:30 AM: Leave for Greenville

8:30 AM

a. Mt. Horeb Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Albert Calvin

9:15 AM

b. St. Matthew's African Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Wilson

10 AM

c. Chinese community and cemetery with Cathy Wong

11:15 AM

d. African American cemetery, Holt Collier's grave

12:00 PM Lunch at Bucks (Price TBA)

1 PM

e. Hebrew Union Temple tour with Benji Nelkins

2:30 PM

f. Catholic Church with Father Summers

3:30 PM

g. Meeting on Interstate 69 with Claiborne Barnwell, MS Highway Commission Agent

June 5 (Fri) Work Day # 2 @ DSU

8 AM – 2 PM

A. **FINISH ACTIVITY BOOKS**

2 PM - 4 PM

b. Wrap-up and evaluations

WORK GROUPS & GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITY BOOKS

This workshop's main goal is for participating teachers to create Geography Activity Books (Toolkits) that they can use in their schools. On the first Tuesday, teachers will be put into groups of four or five, according to the grade levels and subjects they teach. Each group will be responsible for a section of the completed activity book. Books should include activities that incorporate **geography** into the 3 Rs of Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic.

Keys to producing an excellent quality activity book:

- READ the materials in the readers. Though these are not required for day-to-day comprehension, they will be referred to during the course
- Take copious notes
- Ask questions frequently
- Ask for clarification
- Gather all free materials you find (at museums, etc.)
- Take digital photos, if you can.

On workdays – May 30th and June 5th (and on free evenings and Sunday, where possible) -- each group will design Learning Exercises and Lesson Plans that incorporate the previous days' activities. DSU resources will also be available to help—the Archives, the Library, computers, Internet, printers, etc.

Groups should design materials appropriate to their grade levels. There is no set format for the Activity Book—teachers are the experts and know what is most appropriate for their students.

The final draft of the work will be concluded on the afternoon of June 5th and will be turned in to the Delta Center. DSU will then print up the Activity Books and distribute them in a timely fashion.

GROUND RULES & SUGGESTIONS

- It is expected that all participants will take part in all activities, unless the activity is clearly identified as “optional” or “on your own.”
- Please accommodate your personal schedule to this workshop rather than the other way around.
- A bus will be provided for all trips, and all participants are expected to ride in it rather than in their own vehicles. On some stops everyone will get off the bus; on other stops, getting off will be optional; there will also be stops where no one

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gets off. PLEASE enter and exit the bus in a timely fashion, as we are full to capacity.

- Students will pay for all meals except as indicated on the syllabus. Please contact Lee Aylward for more specific price indications (laylward@deltastate.edu). If you are on a strict budget, you may want to bring sack lunches. In general, restaurant lunch costs will not exceed \$10.
- Please wear appropriate clothing on field trip days. This includes a strong sun block and mosquito repellent, long pants, drinking water, a hat, and durable footwear. Though we can't guarantee whether it will be sunny rather than rainy, we can certainly guarantee it will be hot and steamy, so please come prepared!
- We ask for some flexibility in terms of the scheduling. Though we have endeavored to define all activity times and places as accurately as possible, we realize that there may be some setbacks and program changes, and will inform you promptly of these as they come up.
- Please discuss any personal issue, complaint, suggestion, problem, etc. with Dr. Bonta, Dr. Brown, or Ms. Aylward as appropriate, in a timely fashion.

Addenda



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