HISTORIAN

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OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi

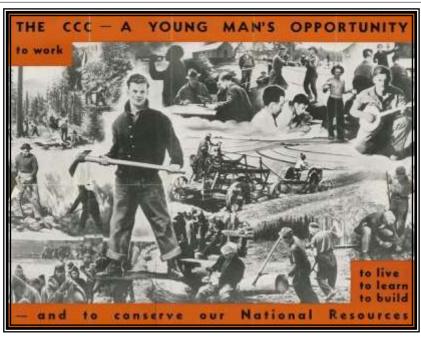
January 2018

COMING EVENTS AT LOBRANO HOUSE

The monthly luncheon meeting will be held on Thursday. January 18, 2018, at noon at the Kate Lobrano House. Guest speaker will be Al Saucier, who will speak on the development of the Kiln from the European inhabitants to the present day and on the making, development, and marketing of white lightning. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 467-4090. Respectfully we must request that you please call by noon on Wednesday, January 17, to make your reservation in order to help us plan seating which is limited to forty-eight people and to apprise us of the number of lunches to order. Lunch is \$12.00, payable at the door, and it is catered by Almost Home Catering, Michelle Nichols, chef.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

It's time for current members to renew their memberships in the Historical Society and to encourage family and friends to join us, too. The price of membership is \$30.00 per year. If your membership is due, your address label will read "Time to renew your membership." Please mail your renewal checks to Hancock County Historical Society, P. O. Box 3356, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.



The above photo shows a publicity poster for the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The Civilian Conservation Corps

By Eddie Coleman

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was established on March 31, 1933, as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" under the name Emergency Conservation Work Act of 1933 (ECW). Its aim was to provide jobs for young single men between eighteen and twenty-eight years old, but special provisions were placed in the act for veterans. The enlistment for each volunteer in this peacetime army

ran for six months; however, reenlistment was possible after this initial period. Within three months of its establishment, the CCC volunteers numbered 270,000 working in 1330 camps.

The idea of such a conservation corps was not original with Roosevelt and was not even an idea with U. S. origins. "In 1850 the Scottish essayist Thomas Carlyle wrote that unemployed men should be organized into regiments to drain bogs and work in wilderness areas for the betterment of Society." In the United States in 1910, William James, Harvard philosopher, suggested that young men be drafted to work in environmental programs rather than in the military—the one to substitute for the other. In 1915 George H.

THE

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OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Eddie Coleman, Editor James Keating, Publisher

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LOBRANO HOUSE HOURS

MONDAY — FRIDAY 10:00AM — 3:00PM Closed: 12:00—1:00 (lunch)

MISSION STATEMENT

"TO PRESERVE THE GENERAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF HANCOCK COUNTY AND TO PRESERVE THE KATE LOBRANO HOUSE AND COLLECTIONS THEREIN; TO RESEARCH AND INTERPRET LIFE IN HANCOCK COUNTY; AND TO ENCOURAGE AN APPRECIATION OF AND INTEREST IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION."

Maxwell suggested much the same thing as Thomas Carlyle with the inclusion of fighting forest fires and floods.

With national unemployment at over twenty-five percent in 1932 and with thirty percent of the employed working at part-time jobs, the country seemed ready for President Roosevelt's bill. In addition, another impetus for the establishment of such a program came in 1932 when the Society of American Foresters put forth and supported a program for conservation of national and state parks.

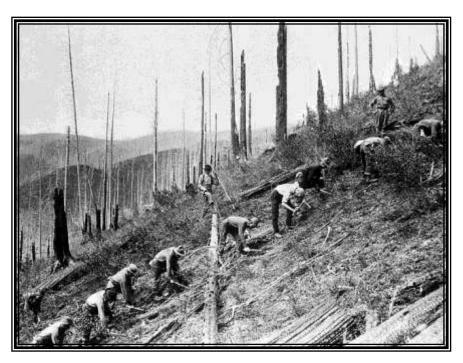
Initially, the US Congress wrote only one requirement into the Emergency Conservation Act of 1933. It was that all applicants must be US citizens. However, in implementing the act, three others were included. The applicants had to be unmarried men—white, black, Native American, Latino— between eighteen and twenty-six years old in sound physical health. Additionally, camps were to be established in all states and U. S. Territories.

The director of ECW was Robert Fechner. Four departments—Labor, Agriculture, Interior, and the Army—worked together to establish and operate the camps. Labor helped select the enrollees and provided their work standards, and the Army ran the camps. The US Forest Service from the Dept. of Agriculture and the National Park Service from the Dept. of the Interior were the technical advisors since most of the work was done on their land.

To prepare the young men for the extensive manual labor required of them, preliminary conditioning camps were established to evaluate the health and condition of the volunteers. Each young man was given good food, exercise, and lessons on physical hygiene and medical care.

Yet, it was soon discovered that physical training alone was not enough; many of the young men needed educational training. Even though provisions for education were not included in the original ECW Act, by 1934 such provisions were included and provided at each





Civilian Conservation Corps members planting trees in one of the western states as part of a reforestation project and soil conservation

camp. In addition to basic skills such as reading and writing, vocational training in truck driving, mechanics, cooking, carpentry, masonry, forestry, and other related vocations was provided as camp personnel and the neighboring communities could provide. Further, college

level classes were also available. However, all of these classes were conducted *after* the work day—in the late afternoons or evenings and anywhere one "could find a chair, blanket, or tree stump."

Much of the work done by the men of the CCC was in soil and forestry conservation. Volunteers helped with disease and insect control and with building more than 3,470 fire towers and 97,000 miles of fire roads. In addition they built drainage systems for more than 84,400,000 acres of They also planted farmland. more than three billion trees. In vein. thev another built campgrounds with picnic shelters, swimming pools, fireplaces, and Most of the state restrooms. parks we have today owe their beginnings to the CCC.

The young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps did not become wealthy because of their efforts. For their work they were paid thirty dollars per month. Of this amount twenty-five dollars was automatically sent home for the families of the men.

The Civilian Conservation Camps had one of five designations: state park camps (SP); military park camps (MP); park camps (P); soil conservation service camps (SCS); and forestry camps (F). The camp located in



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Hancock County was Company 1484 at Camp P-52. It was located fifteen miles north of Bay St. Louis in the Kiln area. The mission of this camp was road-building, fire trail construction, and running telephone lines through Hancock Count and surrounding counties.

The Civilian Conservation Corps received great support from the general public, and for seven years or so was instrumental in providing jobs for thousands of young men. Nonetheless with the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the need for the CCC came to an end. Most of the men enrolled in the program enlisted in the military or were drafted into military service. The CCC program had fulfilled its mission to put young American men to work and in doing so helped prepare them for many of the challenges they would face in war.

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Morris, Gene. "Re: CCC Records."

E-mail to Katharine T. Ohman forwarded to Hancock
County Historical





Even though modern heating has been installed, the 1930s cabins still contain the original stone fireplaces.



Original cabin built by the men of the CCC at Clarkco St. Park in Clarke County, Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI STATE PARKS BUILT BY CIVILIAN CONSERVA-TION CORP

Clarkco in Clarke County
Holmes in Holmes County
Legion in Winston County
Leroy Percy in Washington County
Percy Quin in Pike County
Roosevelt in Scott County
Tishomingo in Tishomingo County
Tombigby in Lee County
Wall Doxey in Marshall County

NEW MEMBERS

Joanne Lang Cassidy Folsom, LA

Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Lacoste *Jackson, MS*

George J. Saucier Bay St. Louis, MS

Michael Warner Bay St. Louis, MS



Gary Noto bought the winning ticket for the bicycle given away at the Christmas Tea held on Thursday, December 7, 2017.

The Annual Christmas Tea and Installation of 2018 Board of Directors

The annual Christmas Tea with the installation of the 2018 Board of Directors was held on Thursday afternoon, December 7, from 3:00—5:00 P. M. at the Kate Lobrano House, the home of the Hancock County Historical Society at 108 Cue Street, Bay Saint Louis.

After brief opening remarks Charles Gray, Executive by Director of the Hancock County Historical Society, the 2018 Board Directors was introduced. Serving as President is Jackie Allain, First Vice President is Jim Thriffiley, Second Vice President is Bryan Frater, Treasurer is Georgie Morton, Secretary is Beverly Frater, Chairman **Publicity** is James Keating, Historian is John Gibson, and Member at Large is Ames Kergosien.



The 2018 Officer of the Hancock County Historical Society are (front row, L to R) Executive Director, Charles Gray; President, Jackie Allain; First Vice President, Jim Thriffiley; (back row, L to R) Treasurer, Georgie Morton; James Keating, Publicity; Second Vice President, Bryan Frater; and Secretary, Beverly Frater. Not pictured: Historian, John Gibson; Member at Large, Ames Kergosien.



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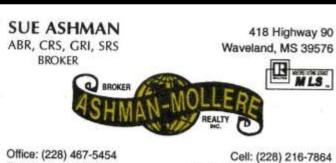
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Hancock County
Historical Society
for its continuing work in preserving the history of Hancock County.

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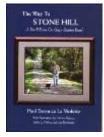


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