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Upcoming “First Tuesday” Lectures

Jackson, Miss. – The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science continues its’ “First Tuesday Naturalist Lecture Series” with the following guest lecturers.

- **September 2, 2008, Noon – 1:00 p.m. “Mississippi Crawfishes: Moving Beyond Etoufee”.** **Speaker:** Susan B. Adams, Ph.D., USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, Oxford, MS

Crayfish (a.k.a. crawfish, crawdad, or mudbug) live around the world and range in size from smaller than a little finger to big enough to break a person’s arm. They vary in color from dull to brilliant. With more than 63 species, Mississippi has one of the highest crayfish diversities in the world. Dr. Adams will present a brief global tour of crayfish and then bring it home to Mississippi with discussion of Mississippi species, their habitats, conservation issues, and ongoing research.

- **October 7, 2008, Noon – 1:00 p.m. “Resurrecting the Long Gone and Almost Forgotten Open Woodlands of North Mississippi: Challenges and Opportunities”**
Speaker: Steve Brewer, Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi, Biological Sciences Department

The natural landscape of north Mississippi in the early 1800s would be scarcely recognizable to Mississippians today (including the old-timers). Upland areas were dominated open-canopied oak and mixed oak-pine woodlands with species-rich groundcover plant communities. Dr. Brewer will talk about his historical research as well as ongoing attempts at ecological

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restoration of these unique ecosystems and review some of the challenges and opportunities associated with this research.

- **November 4, 2008, Noon – 1:00 p.m. “A Tale of Two Rivers: the Impacts of Recreational Boating on an Endangered Turtle of the Pascagoula River”**

Speaker: Will Selman, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Southern Mississippi, Biological Sciences Department.

Will Selman’s research centers in general on the basking behavior of turtles and life history/ecology of the Yellow-blotched Sawback, which is endemic to the Pascagoula River system. He will talk about his research pertaining to two populations of Yellow-blotched Sawback Turtles (one from the Leaf River and one from the Lower Pascagoula River) and their responses to Hurricane Katrina, as well as to recreational boating.

Museum members admitted free; otherwise regular Museum admission fees apply. Complete your visit by exploring the “Dinosaurs!” exhibit featuring nine amazing and life-like robotic dinosaurs, and the Museum’s permanent collections, aquariums, nature trails and picnic areas.

The museum is located at 2148 Riverside Drive within LeFleur's Bluff State Park. Call 601.354.7303 or visit ww.msnaturalscience.org for details.



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