



From the President

Laura
McCarty



Social Studies All Year Long!

What did you do this summer? As we are on the cusp of the 2013-2014 school year, this is a question that is probably on your mind. If you are like me, civic, geographic, historical and economic perspectives shape your views of what you did and what you are going to do.

I attended the National Council for the Social Studies Summer Leadership Institute and enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about how other state councils are emphasizing the key role of social studies in preparing students for college, career, and civic participation. Whether it's the Georgia Performance Standards, the Common Core, or 21st Century Skills, social studies content and skills will be central to making these curricular frames work. This is something to celebrate.

Another exciting thing: I just spent a week in LaGrange with a great group of teachers at the Georgia Humanities Council and LaGrange College's National History Day 2013 workshop. Some of those teachers were recently back from Teaching American History grant trips to New York, San Francisco, or Washington DC. It was great to see them sharing photographs and memories of the places they'd gone and the stories they'd learned. Their students will be better students and they will be better teachers

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2013 GCSS Conference THE PAST INFORMS THE FUTURE

Echoes of the past may be experienced in the Classic Center, in Athens, where GCSS holds this year's conference.



2013 marks the beginning of a significant year in the history of the Georgia Council for Social Studies. Fifty years ago, in 1963, a group of educators met for the first time to discuss how they could help classroom teachers with the study of the social sciences in the schools. The group decided that gathering educators from across the state to share ideas and strategies would be an important first step. The idea was discussed to emulate the National Council for Social Studies on a smaller scale, and the first GCSS conference was held the following year. In 2014 GCSS will celebrate fifty years of conferences. Let's begin the celebration NOW!

The 2013 GCSS Annual Conference, held on October 17-18, will offer more session choices, expanding from 80 to 90. On Thursday, the 17th, participants will be able to attend at least 10 separate sessions on a variety of topics including economics, assessment, common core, global studies, Georgia studies, U.S and World history, methods and literacy. At the annual Awards luncheon, free to every attendee, GCSS will recognize individuals, schools and organizations who model excellence in social studies education. On Friday a keynote address by a well-known scholar will be available.

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because of their experiences.

It was also great to see these teachers working on their own historical websites and performances so that they'll be more ready to mentor students. The National History Day 2014 theme is "Rights and Responsibilities in History." We had presentations on school desegregation in Boston, Attaturk and the rise of modern Turkey, and Franklin D. Roosevelt and rural electrification. If you are interested in learning more about National History Day, a good place to start is www.lagrange.edu/NHD.

I hope that you are planning to attend the GCSS Conference in Athens during October. There will be sessions that will share all kinds of materials, strategies, and ideas. We'll kick-off the celebration of GCSS' 50th anniversary, too! See you there!



Many hands make light work...GCSS leaders, led by President Laura McCarty, pitched in to prepare for the 2012 conference. This year's leaders will do the same.

Did you hear the news?
The 2013 GCSS Conference will feature A RAFFLE with the prize of the latest mini IPAD. Tickets are only \$5.00 with prize awarded on Friday, Oct. 18th!

(2013 GCSS Conference, from pg. 1)

Diane Sloan, GCSS Conference Coordinator, enthusiastically highlighted some of this year's conference features, including:

- Over 90 hands-on sessions (50 on Thursday, 40 on Friday)
- Keynote address *(see article on p. 3)*
- Awards luncheon for all registered attendees
- Exhibitors displaying the latest in social studies materials
- The ArchaeoBus ready to be explored
- Door prizes
- Breakfast each morning
- A workshop at the Russell Library/UGA on Thursday
- Edmodo with session handouts available to attendees
- A beautiful conference program brochure outlining session and events, contributors, and highlighting participants
- A tote bag full of goodies
- A chance to meet and share with fellow educators
- Suggestions for exploring the town of Athens
- Unveiling of the new GCSS website

Stated GCSS President Laura McCarty, "We hope to see everyone in Athens on October 17 and 18 to kick off the next 50 years of this fine organization."



Conference Coordinator Diane Sloan oversees the myriad details that go into making the annual conference a success.

**Like GCSS
on
Facebook!**



Keynote Speaker for 2013 Conference: Margaret Crocco



Author and teacher Margaret Crocco will share her thoughts on teachers and teaching. Her talk is a highlight of Friday, October 18, GCSS conference events.

Margaret Smith Crocco's research and teaching have been rooted in the belief that the more we understand the past, the better able we are to deal with the present and anticipate the future.

As a high school social studies teacher in New Jersey, Margaret Crocco taught American History and government. She has also taught American History, American Studies, and Women's History at colleges in Maryland, New Jersey, and Texas. She was on the education faculty of Columbia University and the University of Iowa. Born in Illinois, Professor Crocco did her undergraduate studies at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and her graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania.

The author or editor of eight books as well as numerous chapters and articles for journals such as *The Social Studies* and *Social Education*, her writing addresses issues of diversity, curriculum, social justice, and the use of digital media.

In 2007, she and a team from Teachers College created an award-winning curriculum keyed to Spike Lee's *When the Levees Broke*, which was entitled "Teaching The Levees."

Join Professor Crocco as she discusses "Pedagogies of resistance: What lessons do we take from past struggles against demoralization and de-professionalization?"

GCSS TIMELINE

The 2013 GCSS Conference will kick off a 50th Anniversary celebration spread over the next few years as we recognize the following landmarks:

- * 1963 - First meeting of GCSS
- * 1964 - First GCSS Conference
- * 1966 - The organization of the Council

Stay tuned for BIG celebration news in coming months!

Now is the time to make sure your GCSS membership is current. To renew your membership, go to www.gcss.net/memberform.pdf.



Teacher Opportunities & Resources

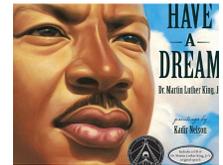
The Georgia Center for Civic Engagement is launched: As of August 1, the Georgia Center for Civic Engagement is up and running. Developed by the State YMCA of Georgia, Inc, the new interactive website resource for teachers, georgiacivics.org, features links to the Youth in Government programs as well as a Teacher's Resource Center. The Teacher Resource Center contains a database of Activities (searchable by grade and/or standard) as well as a database of Lesson Plans* (again searchable by grade, subject, and/or standard). These lessons (about 40 at this time with others forthcoming) are complete with interactive activities and supporting resources and were written by outstanding Social Studies teachers from around the state. *Note: Because the site is accessible by both students and teachers, access to the Lesson Plan Database requires that the teacher register with our site. State Executive Director of the YMCA, Randell Trammell reiterated that his organization supports civic engagement, stating that "That mission is NOT in recession." The stated mission of the YMCA of Georgia is to provide programs and opportunities for our youth which promote self-esteem, leadership skills and moral and civic responsibility.

50th Anniversary of the March on Washington is August 28th: Don't miss this critically important teachable moment surrounding the historic March, a pivotal event in the Civil Rights Movement. When asked what they know about the March, most of us respond, "The dream speech, Dr. Martin Luther King, the Lincoln Memorial..." Digging into primary sources tied to the event can uncover the planning, the logistics, the spirit in the place, as well as highlight the role of many others who participated in the program. Here are some resources that can help you bring this event to life for your students, k-12:

🎧 *Smithsonian Magazine* - The July/August 2013 issue has a cover story on the March on Washington, accompanied by an online oral history with the text of interviews, photos, and video clips of reflections on the March by many who attended. See www.smithsonian.com/march for details.

📖 A number of fine picture books, suitable for any age student and often including primary source images and documents, are available about the event, including:

- * Alcorn, Stephen. *Odetta, the Queen of Folk* (2010) 978-0-439-92818-2
- * Evans, Shane. *We March* (2012) 978-1-59643-539-1
- * Haskins, Jim : Benson, Kathleen. *John Lewis in the Lead* (2006) 978-1-58430-250-6
- * King Ferris, Christine. *March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World* (2008) 978-0-545-03537-8
- * King, Jr, Martin Luther & Kadir Nelson. *I Have a Dream* (Book & CD of speech) (2012) 978-0-375-85887-1
- * Levine, Ellen. *Freedom's Children* (1993) 0-69- 8.11870-7
- * McWhorter, Diane. *A Dream of Freedom: The Civil Rights Movement from 1954 to 1968* (2004) 0-439-57678-4
- * Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Let it Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters* (2000) 978-0-547-90604-1
- * Rappaport, Doreen. *Martin's Big Words* (2001) 0-7868-0714-8
- * Rappaport, Doreen. *Nobody Gonna Turn Me 'Round: Stories and Songs of the Civil Rights Movement* (2006) 0-7636-1927-2
- * Shore, Diane Z. & Diane Alexander. *This is the Dream* (2006) 978-0-06-055519-1
- * Stotts, Stuart. *We Shall Overcome: A Song That Changed the World* (2010) 978-0-547-18210-0
- * Swain, Gwenyth. *Riding to Washington* (2008) 978-1-58536-324-7



Mark Your Calendar:

🌐 **State Social Studies Fair** – Last year’s fair was held on Saturday, March 24, at Clayton State University. See highlights at www.gcss.net and plan to participate this year!

🌐 **GCSS Conference** – Begin the celebration of the 50th year of GCSS at the conference, **October 17-18**, at the Classic Center in Athens, GA. Details at www.gcss.net

🌐 **NCSS Conference, November 22-24, 2013** More details at www.ncss.org



Get connected:

🌐 *Georgia Social Studies Journal* - The current issue can be found at www.coe.uga.edu/gssj/current-issue/

🌐 Think about becoming more active this year:

- 🌐 Participating in this year’s Social Studies Fair
- 🌐 Attending the GCSS conference
- 🌐 Becoming a more active GCSS member and recruiting new members
- 🌐 Sharing your idea for *News & Notes*.

🌐 GCSS Edmodo - Join Edmodo for free at <http://edmodo.com>, then use the GCSS group code 8iv5ty

Need to contact GCSS? Please notify Eddie Bennett of changes in contact information at gcss1964@gmail.com or send notice to P.O. Box 675, Avondale Estates, GA 30002



News & Notes is published three times a year. Announcements and information should be sent to JoAnn Wood, Editor, Cobb County Schools, 514 Glover St., Marietta, GA 30060, or e-mail: joann.wood@cobbk12.org

