

IN MEMORY:

1992 Medal for Excellence winner in administration **Marvin Stokes**, of Byng, died Sept. 6, 2005. Stokes, who was 91, served 62 years in education and 33 years as superintendent of Byng Public Schools.

Friend and supporter **William "Bill" Talley II** of Oklahoma City died Oct. 7, 2005, in Dallas. Talley, who was chairman of RAM Energy Inc., was a national leader in the oil and gas industry.

CONGRATULATIONS

to these Oklahoma teachers who have received Teacher Scholarships for Professional Development from the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. Teachers are listed by the districts in which they teach.

Ingrid Ahrens, *Tulsa*
Osa Coleman Brown, *Oklahoma City*
Julia Cook, *Edmond*
Sharon Culver, *Oologah-Talala*
Karen Dale, *Union*
Robin DeVere, *Putnam City*
Brenda Ferguson, *Union*
Harriet Figures, *Oklahoma City*
Lucinda Francis, *Norman*
Pamella Garvin, *Jenks*
James Hampton, *Clinton*
Donna Hardway, *Union*
Rebecca Harris, *Tulsa*
Sanford Jackson, *Oklahoma City*
Cindy Jolley, *Owasso*
Claudia Jones, *Oklahoma City*
Lisa Jones, *Oklahoma City*
Sudonna Jones, *Oklahoma City*
Kay Leslie, *Union*
Jennifer Lynch, *Oklahoma City*
Rogene Mahoney, *Mustang*
Debbie McClellan, *Union*
Tina Nunn, *Putnam City*
Stephen Prilliman, *Oklahoma City*
Gwendolyn Prudom, *Oklahoma City*
Sandra Quinton, *Union*
Sofia Rodriguez, *Oklahoma City*
Shelia Rogers, *Owasso*
Sandra Segebart, *Oklahoma City*
Heather Sparks, *Oklahoma City*
Sharon Trogdon, *Union*
Kay Williams, *Oklahoma City*

Students Become Tradesmen During Virtual Field Trip to Williamsburg

For the children in Deji Dugger's fifth-grade social studies class, one of the most exciting highlights of their history lessons is a monthly field trip to Colonial Williamsburg.

"I actually feel like I get to be part of history," said Jessie, an enthusiastic participant from Fairview Elementary School in Moore.

Dugger's students are among thousands in Oklahoma who are being transported – virtually – to Williamsburg each month through Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trips administered by the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. The field trips, produced by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, bring early-American history to life through a series of live broadcasts, web site activities and opportunities to interact with historians. Thanks to the OFE program, Oklahoma now leads the nation in the number of electronic field trip subscriptions.



Teacher Deji Dugger watches as students call Colonial Williamsburg historians during a national broadcast of "The Industrious Tradesmen," part of their electronic field trip. While all students have their questions answered, some are selected to share their questions on live TV.



In December, Dugger's students began their two-day excursion to Williamsburg from their schools' computer lab, where they journeyed via the Internet to explore the theme "The Industrious Trades." Through an activity called "What's Your Trade?" children were asked a series of questions, ranging from work habits to favorite school subjects, to match them to a colonial trade based on their interests. Once matched, students were directed to the Trades Explorer section of the web site, where they could learn through video clips and other resources what it was like to be an apothecary, a blacksmith, a wig maker or other tradesman. Students also had the opportunity to meet – through historical interpreters – actual Williamsburg citizens who worked in their assigned trades.

Students also went on a web-based adventure through Williamsburg as a journeyman carpenter in an

activity titled "A Journeyman's Life." Each would-be carpenter had the opportunity to interact and do business with townspeople. Based on the choices they made, they could increase (or decrease) their on-screen levels of savings, tools, skills and reputation. The goal of the game was to become a successful businessman and start one's own shop.

"This was my favorite electronic field trip so far," said Garrett, another of Dugger's students. "It was so much fun. I liked going around the town and trading with people."

Dugger said the online activities not only taught students about history, but also addressed character education and life skills, such as the importance of saving money and the value of hard work.

On the second day of their electronic field trip, Dugger's students gathered in the school library to watch a live, national broadcast of "The Industrious Tradesmen." The show featured pre-recorded video segments tracing the lives of three journeymen – a tailor, a silversmith and a carpenter. Between the video segments, electronic field trip subscribers had the opportunity to call a 1-800 number and talk to Williamsburg historians. During the broadcast, students from Prague, Sentinel and Blanchard, Okla., were all featured on the program.

About one-third of Dugger's class called in and had questions answered that day, though not on national TV. After the broadcast, the children returned to their classroom to discuss what they had learned and to share answers gleaned from Williamsburg experts.

"I asked them whether an African-American slave could do a trade," Ashley reported to her classmates. "They said it was the decision of the slave's owner."

Dugger, who has used the electronic field trips for four years, said they are an invaluable resource for teaching colonial American history. "My school is a Title I school, and a lot of these kids don't get to have these kinds of enrichment experiences outside the classroom," she said. "This opens a new world to them. They went to Williamsburg today and they got to be citizens of the community and to be a part of history."

Electronic Field Trip funding is made possible by individuals, corporations and foundations, led by Oklahoma City businessman Edward C. Joullian III, an active supporter and former board member of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, and through a grant from the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Additional support is provided by JPMorgan.

