



And the answer is...this is **Monte the Muskrat!**

The Gasconade County Historical Society Museum in Owensville has an excellent Native American exhibit presently on display. In locating materials for this project, the museum has borrowed a taxidermied muskrat from Dan Slais. Kiddingly the volunteers at the museum asked, "Who is that?".

Upon suggestion by Shirley Lindroth of the Museum staff, a "lets name the muskrat" contest could be held. After setting up a program with Laurie Duncan of the Owensville Elementary School, Dan Slais presented a program to the fourth grade classes.

Part of the presentation included methods of trapping, items created from furs, and discussion of some of our famous Missourians who were mountain men and fur trappers. At the conclusion of the presentation, students were asked to help name the muskrat.

The name **Monte** was chosen by several in the class and now has become the name of this exhibit which can be seen at the Museum.