Archives & History

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#### From the Editor

We at the West Virginia Archives and History Library are looking forward to those of you who will visit us during your spring and summer travels. For some the Archives will be a destination, and for others a brief side trip or hurried pit stop. We have to grin when a visitor rushes in, declaring the driver for their journey has allowed them an hour to find great-grandma's birth record, when we know the visit will stretch to at least twice that most times, if not a full afternoon. Many evenings we will be handing over the phone book for a motel search, or answering questions about restaurants or the nearest Wal-Mart. If you are a first time visitor or have not visited us in awhile, be sure to read the article in this issue regarding parking.



**DIVISION OF CULTURE & HISTORY** 

### **Not-So-Buried Treasures, Part I: Manuscripts and Special Collections**

The West Virginia Archives and History Library has a wealth of primary resources to explore. Anyone searching for an academic topic for a thesis, a journal article, a documentary or a book, or for accurate background and color for fictional stories, novels, and scripts should investigate the papers, letters, documents and more housed in our many and varied collections. Several collections have drawn "repeat customers" over the past few years, including the Kanawha Textbook Controversy (Sc2002-053) scrapbooks, the Boyd B. Stutler Collection (Ms78-1 and online at as part of the West Virginia Memory Project) of John Brown materials, and the William H. Edwards (whom our staff refers to as "the butterfly man") Collection (Ms79-2) of entomological research materials. Last year Dr. Kenneth Bailey's fascination with the correspondence he found while browsing for a bit of information in the James H. Ferguson Collection (Ms78-8) resulted in a book, Alleged Evil

Genius: The Life and Times of Judge James H. Ferguson. Following are specific examples chosen from our collections more or less at random that we hope will pique your curiosity and your imagination—and bring you to the Archives and History Library for a closer look.

• Alderson-Hamilton Collection, 1828-1941 (Ms83-23): personal and business correspondence, photographs, assorted personal documents and writings, poems and more. Much about Alderson Academy and Jr. College, founded in 1901 by Emma Alderson, which through merger became part of Alderson-Broaddus College in 1932.

· Harry Brawley Collection (Ms85-50 and Sc85-5): public radio broadcasting and historical Continued on the next page

#### **Conference for Religious Archivists** on March 24

A free conference for church archivists will be held March 24, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in The Cultural Center. Speakers will be Fredrick H. Armstrong, Director of Archives and History, and Pam LeRose, Grants Director at the West Virginia Humanities Council. Topics include the importance of archives, grant writing, oral histories, confidentiality, organization, resources, and more. Mr. Armstrong will conduct a tour of the West Virginia State Archives. Cosponsors of the event are the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia Mini-Grant Program, the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, the West Virginia Humanities Council, and St. John's Episcopal Church, Charleston, West Virginia. Registration is preferred but not required. For additional information or to register, contact St. John's Episcopal Church at (304) 346-0359. Ext. 10. or e-mail bdearien@ stjohnswv.org.



Continued from page 1

- materials, including transcripts of radio talks from 1945–48, correspondence, broadcast publications and clippings, and the Humphrey-Kennedy debate of May 4, 1960.
- Danske Bedinger Dandridge Collection (Ms80-133): correspondence and poems, 1887–1901.
- Howard K. Sutherland Papers, 1909–1924 (Ms 83-2): hundreds of letters concerning business and political affairs written by and to this prominent leader in the coal, railroad and timber businesses. Sutherland also served as a state senator, U.S. Congressman and U.S. Senator.
- New Kanawha Power Company, Hawks Nest Project, 1929–1933 (Sc86-40): 204 items.
- General Charles R. Fox Collection (Sc96-53): 1936–1973 scrapbook of career of World War II pilot who served with Chennault's Flying Tigers, and later served as West Virginia Adjutant General 1946–1951.
- Herschel W. and Thelma M. Burford Collection (Sc87-182): steamboat materials, including scrapbooks, photos, slides, publications and audiotapes, 1865–1987.
- John Peter Hale Papers, 1840–1902 (Ms79-170): correspondence, archaeology and history, speeches of a West Virginia historian.
- Ellis Dungan Collection (Ms2003-181): six boxes of correspondence, speeches, research materials, photographs and other material of a West Virginia filmmaker who specialized in India and other Near and Far Eastern subjects, 1919–1998.
- Marine T. Wickman (Ms79-195): papers of a Harpers Ferry Armory gunsmith, 1811–1832.

- Kanawha Coal Operators Association Records, 1905– 1984 (Ms2006-046): 46 boxes of records.
- West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company Collection (Ms 2007-005): documents and records, including time books and asset statements from 1923-1944.
- William Whittaker Diary (Ms79-5): diary of an early Kanawha County salt maker discussing travels abroad 1795– 1846.
- Girl Scout Collection (Sc87-191): 11 boxes of scrapbooks, publications, clippings and more regarding Girl Scout activities in West Virginia ca. 1923–1989. [Editor's note to Senior Girl Scouts: There's bound to be plenty of material in here for a Girl Scout Gold Award project.]
- William W. Trent Collection (Ms2006-040): 18 boxes of correspondence, clippings, programs, speeches and reports relating to education in West Virginia amassed by the man who was West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools from 1933 to 1957.

#### 12th Annual History Day Set for February 21, 2008

Mark your calendars! History Day 2008 is scheduled for February 21. The History Day display registration and History Hero nomination forms will be mailed to the organizations and societies on our mailing list in November 2007, and also will be posted on the Archives and History Web site, http://www.wvculture.org/history. Please include History Day announcements and planning in the meeting agendas and calendar of your organization, and be sure to notify us of any change in address.

- U.S. Postal Service Bicentennial Post Office Histories Collection (Ms79-181): histories of West Virginia post offices written under direction of the U.S. Postal Service for the United States bicentennial in 1976.
- Oral interview transcripts, including New River Oral History Collection, 1980–1985 (Sc83-28) and oral history interviews with elderly West Virginians conducted by Dr. Fred Barkey for the West Virginia Commission on Aging, 1971–1973 (Sc2003-021). If audio tapes of the interviews are in the Archives audio collection, it is so noted.
- Sc86-90 contains 110 items of ephemera regarding Charleston hotels and businesses ca. 1860–1893, including programs, trade cards, dance invitations and letterheads.
- Blueprint drawings for various historical buildings (Sc2002-052) around the state, including Graceland, Mannington Round Barn, Thurmond Depot and others, 1985–1994, 338 sheets.
- WMMN family album program from Fairmont radio station, 1948 (Sc91-5): 1 item.
- Religious tracts, 1860–1946, (Sc82-250): 9 items.
- Children's books, scrapbooks and Easter cards, 1892–1947 (Sc85-38): 16 items.

You will find listings of the Manuscript Collection on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/manuscripts.html and of Special Collections at http://www.wvculture.org/history/specialcollections.html. Collections with online finding aids will have links connecting to those pages.

Coming next month: Not-So-Buried Treasures, Part II: Governors Papers.



# **Eighth Annual Hoot Owl Research in the Archives Night Set for March 30-31**

The popular annual "Hoot Owl" research all-nighter in the West Virginia Archives and History Library begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. March 30, and continues non-stop until 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 31. Registered researchers will be "locked in" for events planned to include tours of the Closed Stacks and Processing areas of the Archives, as well as advice and assistance from recognized West genealogy Virginia experts. Although food and drink are not allowed anywhere in the Library and Collections areas, light refreshments, coffee and soft drinks are included in the \$25.00 registration fee and will be available in the staff conference room, plus a late night pizza delivery is usually arranged for those who care to contribute toward

# Palatines to America Updates

Palatines to America, the German genealogical society focusing on ancestors from all German-speaking lands, has redesigned its Web site at http://palam.org. If you are a user of their library, be advised that the email address for the Palatines to America Library is now library@palam.org.

# Weaving the Past and the Present: A Creative Writing Workshop

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History is conducting a free creative writing workshop in The Cultural Center on April 13 and 14, beginning with Friday sessions at 6:30 p.m. and concluding at 4:45 p.m. on Saturday. The focus of the workshop, entitled *Weaving the Past and the Present*, is assisting writers of all types of works in effectively

employing history, historic detail and geographical detail in their writing. One Friday evening workshop session will focus on the collections of the two libraries housed in The Cultural Center, the West Virginia Archives and History Library and the West Virginia Library Commission Library, and the other will delve into creative non-fiction. Pre-registration

the cost.

"Hoot Owl" night offers participants an opportunity to meet and talk with other West Virginia researchers, many of whom live out-of-state or who live in-state but seldom travel to Charleston. A prize will be given to the person traveling the farthest. The event is limited to fifty participants, who must register by March 17, 2007. (If spots are available, late registration will be accepted with a \$10.00 surcharge, for a total fee of \$35.00.) For additional information or registration, contact

#### Rediscover Virginia: 400 Years of Family History

The National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2007 Conference and Family History Fair will be held May 16-19 in Richmond, Virginia. Virginia Genealogical Society, Fairfax Genealogical Society and Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia are co-hosting the conference with NGS in celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. For a complete conference program and registration information, see www.eshow2000. com/ngs/2007.

Fredrick H. Armstrong, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230 or fharmstrong@wvculture.org, or Wes Cochran, MYHF, (304) 422-1774, wescochran@juno.com.

# NARA Special Programs in April

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is featuring a series of programs beginning in April highlighting records from the National Archives holdings, including a genealogy fair, a book club discussion, a presentation relating to the Freedom of Information (FOIA) and Privacy Acts, and an update on the National Archives Electronic Records Archives (ERA). All programs are free and open to the public, and will be held in the National Archives Building Research Center and at Archives II in College Park, Maryland. For more information, visit the Calendar of Events on the Web site at http://www.archives.gov/ calendar/, or call 1-866-272-6272.

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for the Friday evening segment of the workshop is necessary due to seating limits of the libraries, and is available by e-mailing Pat Cowdery at pat.cowdery@wvculture.org or Bethany Cline at bethany.cline @wvculture.org, or calling them at (304) 558-0220.

Workshop topics include: When History and Creative Writing Meet;
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## Researching 18th Century American Indian History Topic of April Evening Workshop

On April 26, the West Virginia Archives and History Library is pleased to present an Evening Workshop with a guest speaker rather than a staff member. Doug Wood will discuss *Researching 18th Century American Indian History*, a topic he has researched extensively for over two decades, often using the resources of the Archives Library.

Date

Wood is a living history hobbyist who portrays Ostenaco, a Cherokee leader, both in independent activities and in association with the West Virginia Humanities Council *History Alive* program [http://www.wvhumanities.org/Ostenaco.htm]. He and his wife Dianne teach 18th century American Indian lifeways and interpretation skills throughout

Archives and History Library Evening Workshops Schedule

Conducted by:

guest speaker

Susan Scouras

**Bob Taylor** 

Tuesday

Tuesday

the southern Appalachian region.

Wood says the following about his research and the Archives Library: "A wealth of information is available from the West Virginia Archives Library on 18th century American Indians. Many of the sources available at the library are transcribed compilations of documents from the English and French colonial period, and the early American national period. These transcriptions of

**Subject** 

Newspapers in Genealogical and Historical Research

Preserving Cherished Memories

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		Conducted by.	Subject
March 8	Thursday	Greg Carroll	How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal
March 13	Tuesday	Susan Scouras	Cemetery Research in West Virginia
March 15	Thursday	Dick Fauss	Home Movie and Video Preservation
March 22	Thursday	Greg Carroll	How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal
March 27	Tuesday	Dick Fauss	Home Movie and Video Preservation
March 29	Thursday	Debra Basham	Care of Your Photographs and Documents
April 10	Tuesday	Terry Lowry	Researching Your World War II Soldier: Finding Your Father's War
April 12	Thursday	Greg Carroll	Slavery in the Kanawha Valley
April 17	Tuesday	Bob Taylor	Care and Conservation of Books
April 24	Tuesday	Joe Geiger	West Virginia Statehood
April 26	Thursday	Doug Wood,	Researching 18th-Century American Indian Histor

Registration for this free workshop is helpful but not required. Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail bobby.taylor@wvculture.org.

Workshops are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston, West Virginia.

May 8

May 15



primary source materials are just one or two steps away from the original documents recorded in the 18th century. If you can't travel to remote locations to study the original documents, then the Archives Library offers you a good alternative for researching American Indian treaty negotiations, interpreted speeches, trade requests, and records of movements into western Virginia in the historic period. Numerous journals and correspondences of early European explorers give us windows on the daily lives of 18th century First Americans in our region." Wood also will emphasize research of the

2007 History Heroes

Since 1997, West Virginia's history, museum, and preservation-related groups and organizations have recognized the grassroots efforts, dedication and service of their major contributors by nominating them for a special annual award. The 2007 West Virginia History Heroes were honored History Day, February 22, in the Norman L. Fagan State Theater in The Cultural Center. Following presentation of their certificates and photographs with the presenters. First Lady Gayle Manchin and Archives and History Commission Chairman Dr. Robert S. Conte, the group proceeded to the House of Delegates Chamber in the State Capitol where they were recognized in a House session for their accomplishments. Visit the Archives and History Web site at http:// www.wvculture.org/history/ hisher07.html to view the list of 2007 honorees, with a description of their accomplishments and their presentation photos. Information on all History Heroes is available through links to each year's list, as well as a combined alphabetical list of all winners from 1997 through the current year.

historical and cultural contexts in which 18th century authors worked, in order to be "better equipped for judging the validity of statements made in their records—statements made about cultures they were less familiar with than their own."

Topics to be covered in the April 26 Evening Workshop include: Requesting staff assistance, American Indian reference materials available in the Archives Library, understanding how authors' historical and cultural contexts influenced their writings, and properly substantiating information and recording references. Note that Wood prefers to use the term "American Indian" rather than

the more recently developed term "Native American," and his research focuses on Eastern Woodland Indians of the 1700s. Genealogical research of individual families will not be covered.

As for all Archives and History Evening Workshops, attendance is free and registration (just name and phone number) is preferred, but not required. If you plan to attend, please call or e-mail Robert Taylor at (304) 558-0230, bobby.taylor@wvculture. org. To learn more about Doug Wood, his research and his re-enactments, visit his Web site at http://mypeoplepc.com/members/chingwe/trailsinc18thcentury/index.html

#### **Capitol Complex Parking Woes and Options**

Parking is a major problem for many research facilities, especially those in busy government facility clusters where activity peaks during mid-day on work days. The West Virginia Capitol Complex area is no different in this regard, but Archives and History Library patrons have an option that few Complex visitors have—come during non-business hours Monday through Thursday evenings until 8:00 p.m, Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m, and the six to eight state holidays (May Primary Election Day and November General Election Day varies from year to year) per year that the Library is open. One caveat: Although patrons are always requested to contact the staff regarding use of Special Collections. Manuscripts, Audio-Visual Photograph or Collections, etc., prior request is imperative for visits during off-peak hours when the full Archives staff is not available.

Parking considerations to keep in mind when visiting the West Virginia State Capitol Complex:

 Parking space in government lots is limited. The parking garage and all unmetered parking areas are reserved for state employees. Since the closing and subsequent demolition of the old parking garage, sections of metered space have been assigned to employees who formerly parked in that garage and the meters have been covered by bags. In addition, during legislative sessions and for special events, meters will be "bagged" and those areas reserved for temporary permit holders or event participants. Usually a security guard is on location on those occasions. In addition to the parking on the Capitol grounds, visitor parking is available in the Laidlev Field lot.

• Parking spaces in all Complex lots are metered, currently charging \$.25 per half hour, with a four-hour limit in coin acceptance. Be sure to park only in spaces with meters—unmetered spaces are reserved for employee parking. Bring quarters, dimes and/or nickels: No change is available in the lot areas. Once you are in the Archives Library, you may obtain

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- change for small bills and dollar coins from the Copy/Security Desk to feed the meter throughout the day. (We are not able to provide change for the general public, only for our patrons.)
- Although no informational signs are posted anywhere and no information is on the meters themselves, we have been told by General Services that the meters should be fed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on workdays, and do not need to be paid on weekends and state holidays.
- Be sure to pay the meter in a timely manner. Violators will be ticketed. for unpaid or overtime parking and for parking in a restricted or permit space. Red drop boxes are available in the lot areas for depositing fine payments. Parking tickets are under the jurisdiction of the Kanawha County Magistrates Court.
- Handicap spaces are available in several areas and are metered.
   Unmetered handicap spaces are permit-only employee spaces.
- Phuttle buses from Laidley Field parking lots run from 7:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on workdays, but more frequently during legislative sessions. Buses do not come very near the Cultural Center. You will need to ride the bus all the way around the Complex block and disembark at the Greenbrier Street stop near the Governor's mansion, walk to the Washington Street entrance to the Complex, then walk to the front entrance of the Cultural Center.
- The walk from Laidley Field to the Cultural Center is approximately three blocks.
- Parking for oversize vehicles such as buses and RV's is limited to Laidley Field during regular work hours and most events.

- Two free, short-term parking spaces near the West Virginia Veterans Memorial are reserved for visitors to the Memorial.
- On-street parking in the residential areas east of the Capitol Complex is extremely limited, with designated areas limited to residents with permits only. On-street parking on the west side of the Capitol Complex is generally scarce since most residents park on the street themselves, but residential permits are not issued in this neighborhood at this time.

Anywhere you park on the street, be sure to check for signs indicating days and times for alternate side of the street parking for street cleaning from April through October. Be careful not to block driveways and watch out for bus stops, handicap parking signs, yellow curbs and fire hydrants.

Archives and History News
is available on the
Archives and History Web site
http://www.wvculture.org/history/
ahnews/ahnews.html

### Preservation Works for West Virginia Annual Conference

Preservation Alliance of West Virginia presents an annual preservation conference, *Preservation Works for West Virginia*, May 17-19 in Wheeling. The keynote speaker will be Augie Carline, Rivers of Steel National Heritage Areas. Topics include West Virginia's industrial and labor history sites, working to

preserve your historic home, and working to communicate your preservation message. Activities will include tours of historic Wheeling, receptions and more. For more information, visit the Preservation Alliance Web site at www.pawv.org, e-mail info@pawv.org, or call (304) 345-6005.

### Public Meetings to be Held on SHPO's Five Year Plan

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will conduct a series of public meetings across the state to discuss future historic preservation activities in West Virginia. In 2002, the SHPO published a fiveyear statewide comprehensive historic preservation plan. It included goals and objectives for the office and for use by local government agencies, property owners, nonprofit organizations and other interested individuals. The plan will be revised in 2007 based partly upon public input through this series of public meetings. The SHPO is interested in obtaining input regarding the current plan as it relates to future historic preservation efforts and revised goals for inclusion in the plan. The current statewide comprehensive historic preservation plan is available at http:// www.wvculture.org/shpo/ fivevearplan/index.html. For more information on the plan or on meeting places and times, visit http://www. wvculture.org/news.aspx?Agency =HistoricPreservation&Id=572 or contact Susan M. Pierce, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, at (304) 558-0240, ext. 158, susan.pierce@wvculture.org.



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The Civil War: Recreating a Different Time and Place; and Flashing Forward, Flashing Back, The Past in a Song will be presented in the theater, and Denise Giardina and Diane Fisher: A Visit with Two Master Time Travelers will follow the lunch break. The morning workshops will be repeated in the afternoon. The instructors for the weekend will include novelist Denise Giardina. poet Diane Fisher, Civil War author Terry Lowry, writing coach and songwriter Kate Long, songwriter Pete Kosky, and writing coach Geoff Fuller. For more information about the workshop schedule and the presenters, visit http:// www.wvculture.org/museum/ writing070413.html.

Although the workshop itself is free of charge, private individual writing reviews and coaching sessions with Geoff Fuller are available on a limited basis for a \$20.00 fee with submission of a manuscript with a postmark deadline of March 20. For more details contact Pat Cowdery or visit the event Web site, as listed above.

#### CCAHA Offers Collection Care Workshops

The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) in Philadelphia is offering a series of individual workshops in a Collections Care Training Program. The readership of West Virginia Archives and History News includes many smaller organizations and institutions which may not have professionally trained conservation staff. These workshops provide librarians, volunteers, historians and others who find themselves with archival responsibilities introductory practical skills training on a variety of conservation topics. Understanding Archives: An

#### Calendar of Events

Please check our web site (http://www.wvculture.org/history) for genealogical and historical society meeting announcements, and for more complete information on activities listed below.

### "DOWNTOWN: LOGAN-WELCH: WEST VIRGINIA URBAN COALFIELD LIFE

**1946-2006,"** March 2–April 1: Museum in the Park, Chief Logan State Park, Logan.

#### CONFERENCE FOR RELIGIOUS ARCHIVISTS,

March 24: The Cultural Center, Charleston.

# "THE FUTURE OF MUSEUMS," WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, March 30–31:

Chief Logan State Park Lodge/Conference Center, Logan.

### "WEAVING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT": A CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP, April 13–14:

The Cultural Center, Charleston.

### WEST VIRGINIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY GENEALOGY FAIR, May 12: Blue Creek.

For more information e-mail ebw104@juno.com.

#### "PRESERVATION WORKS FOR WEST VIRGINIA,"

May 17–19: Preservation Alliance Annual Conference, Wheeling.

#### VANDALIA GATHERING, May 25-27:

Capitol Complex, Charleston.

MEMORIAL DAY, May 28: Archives Library will be closed.

WEST VIRGINIA DAY, June 20: Archives Library will be open.\*

**INDEPENDENCE DAY, July 4:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

#### HISTORY DAY, February 21, 2008:

West Virginia State Capitol Complex, Charleston.

\*Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed.

The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

Introduction to Archival Basics is the next workshop, on March 28. Subsequent topics include Saving the Image: Identifying and Caring for Photographs and Housekeeping for

Historic Interiors. For more information, visit http://www.ccaha.org, call (215) 545-0613 or e-mail ccaha@ccaha.org.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History The Cultural Center 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Charleston, WV 25305-0300

# We would love to hear from you. We have to hear from you. We would helpful in the newsletter and the helpful in the newsletter and the helpful in the newsletter.

•West Virginia

Let us know what you find helpful in the newsletter, and what new topics you would like covered.

Contact West Virginia Archives and History News Editor Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 742, or by e-mail: susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

#### **Archives and History Staff**

Fredrick Armstrong	Director
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Denise Ferguson	
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Jaime Simmons	Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)
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Nancy Waggoner	Secretary
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	Ken Bailey, John McClure, Carol Vandevender, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie