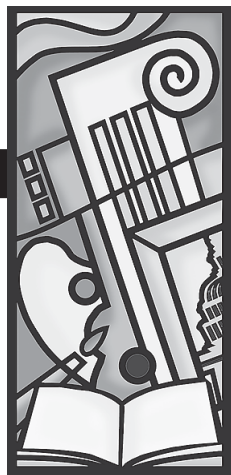


West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

VOLUME VI, No. 7 SEPTEMBER 2005



WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

History lovers have a veritable banquet of speakers and programs to choose from this fall, many of them offered in the continuing celebration of the centennial of the West Virginia State Archives. Please take advantage of at least one of these opportunities to plant and nurture a love of history and an appreciation of our culture in our youth by bringing a youngster with you. Before the event, read aloud, or give to the young person to read, portions of a book or article either by the speaker or relating to the program's topic. As always, one of the quickest ways to get anyone interested in history is to introduce them to their own family history, and to connect personal history with historical events, people and places. The West Virginia Archives and History Library and the many historical and genealogical societies around the state are ready to help you do so.

Mining Your History Foundation

Are you and the West Virginia historical and genealogical societies you participate in members of the Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF)? Goals of MYHF include networking among genealogical societies in West Virginia; supporting the West Virginia Archives and History Library with financial donations, volunteers and donation of books to the collection; and dissemination of information pertaining to research in and about West Virginia. Benefits of membership in MYHF include four issues of *Mountain News* newsletter per year; ability to submit three queries per newsletter issue; notice of workshops and programs in West Virginia; publication of member societies' announcements in the newsletter; and distribution of member societies' publications, flyers and brochures at state and national conferences by MYHF representatives. Dues for individuals and societies are \$15.00 per year, with the dues year beginning with the date of the membership.

For additional information, contact Wes Cochran at wescochran@juno.com or Kellis Gillespie at Kellisgill@aol.com; write Mining Your History Foundation, P.O.

Box 6923, Charleston, WV 25362-0923; or visit the MYHF Web site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/>.

Ulster Historical Foundation Seminar at The Cultural Center on November 5

Dr. Brian Trainor and Fintan Mullan, of the ever popular Ulster Historical Foundation of Belfast, Ireland, will present a seminar on tracing your Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors as the workshop portion of the annual meeting and workshop of the Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF) on November 5, 2005. Co-sponsored by the West Virginia State Archives, all activities will take place in The Cultural Center in Charleston, in the Great Hall and the Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater. The West Virginia Archives and History Library will be open regular hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., as well.

Registration is required, with a pre-registration fee of \$15.00 and an

optional \$7.00 for lunch due by October 25, 2005. Registration at the door will be \$25.00, with no option to order lunch. For additional information about the seminar or MYHF, contact Wes Cochran at wescochran@juno.com or Kellis Gillespie at Kellisgill@aol.com, or write:

Mining Your History Foundation
P.O. Box 6923
Charleston, WV 25362-0923.

Visit <http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/> for more details and a registration form.

The Four Goff Brothers of West Virginia Wins National Award

The Four Goff Brothers of West Virginia, by Phillip G. Goff and Roy L. Lockhart, published by Masthof Press, 2003, has been honored by the National Genealogical Society (NGS) with its 2005 Award for Excellence: Genealogy and Family History, given yearly by the NGS at its annual conference. An article in the *NGS News Magazine*, July/August/September 2005 issue, says: "The example set by this book is what family historians should strive for when publishing their research results. This was a team effort with Lockhart doing much of the extensive research and photography. Goff compiled the research and his own research into an award-winning

book. There were many others who contributed to this work and they are acknowledged in the preface. It is evident from the extensive citations that the researchers were very diligent and that the research spanned many years."

The staff of Archives and History, West Virginia Division of Culture and History, congratulates the authors on both their hard work and the resulting honors. *The Four Goff Brothers of West Virginia* is available in the West Virginia Archives and History Library. For more information, including a list of libraries and societies holding the book, visit <http://home.comcast.net/~philgoff/GoffBook.htm>.

Henry Louis Gates Jr. to Speak October 14

As part of the celebration of the centennial of the West Virginia State Archives, the Division of Culture and History and the Department of Education and the Arts are hosting a lecture on "The Importance of History" by one of today's most prominent historians, West Virginia native Henry Louis Gates, Jr., in the Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater in The Cultural Center, Charleston, on October 14, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Gates is expected to speak also about *The Bondswoman's Narrative*, by Hannah Crafts, a novel by an African American slave, discovered as a handwritten manuscript and edited for publication by Gates. Seating will be limited. Professor Gates will be available to sign copies of his books during the reception in the Great Hall following his presentation.

Carpet Installation in The Cultural Center

The carpeting in the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the West Virginia Library Commission libraries and offices housed in The Cultural Center in Charleston soon will be replaced over a several month period, September 2005 through January 2006. We anticipate closing the Archives and History Library sometime in January for an as yet undetermined number of days. While the staff will have to vacate their usual offices at some point, most will be working elsewhere

in the building during the installation. Throughout the process we will be available by telephone and e-mail. Please check our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history> or or call (304) 558-0230 before visiting to verify which facilities and offices will be open on a given date. We

**Don't Forget History Day,
 February 16, 2006**

appreciate your patience during the necessary disruption.

Permission to reprint articles from *West Virginia Archives and History News* is granted, provided:

(1) The reprint is not used for commercial purposes, and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the reprinted material: Previously published in *West Virginia Archives and History News*, [Volume and issue numbers], [Month, Year], a publication of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

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.

LABOR DAY, September 5: Archives Library will be *closed*.

CIVIL WAR LECTURE "DR. JONATHAN LETTERMAN: THE FATHER OF AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD MEDICINE," September 28: Gordon C. Dammann, D.D.S., speaker, West Virginia Independence Hall, Wheeling.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY COMMISSION MEETING, October 7: Organ Cave Community Center, Ronceverte.

FAMILY HISTORY FAIR, October 8:
 The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, Sissonville.

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.

COLUMBUS DAY, October 10: Archives Library will be open.*

“THE IMPORTANCE OF HISTORY,” October 14: Henry Louis Gates Jr., with reception and book signing, The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

**MUSEUM IN THE PARK CLOSED TEMPORARILY,
October 10-28:** New exhibit installation, Logan.

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND PROGRAM: “AMERICAN INDIAN SKILLS FROM THE PAST,” October 15 and 16: Grave Creek Mound Archaeology Complex, Moundsville.

CIVIL WAR SCHOLARS LECTURE “THE BLOCKADE WILL BE BROKEN: THE UNION BLOCKADE OF THE EAST COAST DURING THE CIVIL WAR,”

October 18: Dr. Robert Browning Jr., speaker, sponsored by the Kanawha Valley Civil War Roundtable and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ULSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEMINAR,

October 25: Mining Your History Foundation Annual Meeting and Workshop to be held November 5, Charleston.

2005 BETSY K. MCCREIGHT LECTURE IN THE HUMANITIES “OUR FOUNDING BROTHERS: THE POLITICAL VALUES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GENERATION,”

October 27: Joseph J. Ellis, speaker, sponsored by the West Virginia Humanities Council, with reception and book signing, The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

MUSEUM IN THE PARK REOPENS, October 29: New exhibit opens, Logan.

MINING YOUR HISTORY FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP,

November 5: The Cultural Center, Charleston.

VETERANS DAY, November 11: Archives Library will be open.*

CIVIL WAR LECTURE “THE CIVIL WAR IN GREENBRIER COUNTY,

WEST VIRGINIA,” November 15: Tim McKinney, speaker, sponsored by the Kanawha Valley Civil War Roundtable, South Charleston Public Library, South Charleston.

THANKSGIVING DAY, November 24: Archives Library will be closed.

FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING DAY, November 25: Archives Library will be open.*

SATURDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING DAY, November 26: Archives Library will be open.*

**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.

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

West Virginia
Archives & History
NEWS



We would love to hear from you.

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
- Debra Basham** Archivist (photographs, special collections)
- Constance Baston** Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
- Greg Carroll** Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
- Dick Fauss** Archivist (microfilm and moving images collection)
- Denise Ferguson** County Records Archivist
- Allen Fowler** Special projects
- Elaine Gates** Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)
- Joe Geiger** Assistant Director (Historian, Web page)
- Ed Hicks** Photographer (archival photography, darkroom)
- Mary Johnson** Historian (*West Virginia History*)
- Terry Lowry** Library Assistant (Civil War)
- Cathy Miller** Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
- Sharon Newhouse** Secretary
- Harold Newman** Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
- Pat Pleska** Manager of the Veterans Memorial Archives
- Susan Scouras** Librarian (cataloging, Kentucky, library collection, newsletter editor)
- Jaime Simmons** Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)
- Bobby Taylor** Library Manager
- Nancy Waggoner** Secretary
- Volunteers** Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, Shari Haywood, Angela Tolbert, Bob and Lucile Foster, John McClure, Carol de la Riva, Lorene Mullins, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie