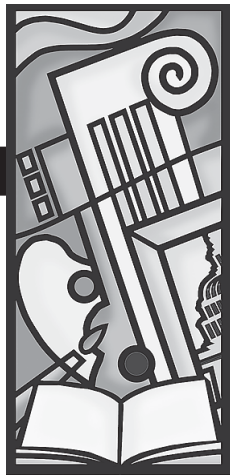


West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

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WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

In this issue we call your attention to the most recent Records Management and Preservation Board grants recipients. You may wonder why we have given so much space to these grants when only county officials may apply for the money. First, we want you to be aware of all of the activities of Archives and History, not just those associated with the Library. Second, we want you to be knowledgeable about your county's records, their preservation and their accessibility. In some counties volunteers with historical and genealogical interests are assisting with the management and preservation process in their local county clerks' offices. We hope you as individuals and as organizations will offer your services in your county.

Governor Unveils Archives and History Online Exhibit

By Mary E. Johnson

Archives and History celebrated West Virginia Day (June 20) one day early with the unveiling of the new Archives online exhibit "A State of Convenience: The Creation of West Virginia." During the June 19 celebration, which took place in the Great Hall of the Cultural Center, Governor Joe Manchin III and First Lady Gayle Manchin introduced the exhibit to a group that included staff of the Division of Culture and History and members of the press. "We are so proud of our heritage," the governor said, "and this exhibit showcases our state's past—highlighting the work of our forefathers as well as the important events that make West Virginia and West Virginians what we are today." Governor Manchin closed with a quote from President Abraham Lincoln's opinion on the admission of West Virginia into the Union. In signing the statehood bill, Lincoln had concluded that admitting the

new state was an expedient wartime measure, an opinion that inspired the online exhibit's title "A State of Convenience."

After the governor ended his remarks, he and the first lady were given a demonstration of the statehood exhibit by Archives and History Director Fredrick H. Armstrong and Assistant Director Joe Geiger, who also oversees the Archives Web site. During the reception that followed, Governor and Mrs. Manchin cut a cake honoring the state's 143rd

birthday. A few original statehood documents were on display at the exhibit announcement and reception.

One of the pivotal events in the history of the United States, the Civil War was also momentous to Virginia for the rending of the state into two parts, east and west, and the formation of a new state called "West Virginia." It is the events that led to the creation of West Virginia in 1863 that are the focus of "A State of Convenience." Divided into sixteen

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Archives and History News Welcomes Randall Reid-Smith as Commissioner of WVDCH

Randall Reid-Smith, a native of Barboursville, West Virginia, has been appointed commissioner of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History (WVDCH) by Governor Joe Manchin III, effective July 1, 2006. Reid-Smith has been working as an advancement officer for the Division

since November 2005. He replaces Troy O. Body, who resigned as commissioner in December 2005. The full text of the press release is posted on Governor Manchin's official Web site at <http://www.wv.gov.org/FullArticle.cfm?id=1396>.

Records Management and Preservation Board Announces Grant Recipients

The Records Management and Preservation Board (RMPB) awarded \$335,070 in grant funds to 24 West Virginia county commissions for county records management and preservation projects through its County Records Management and Preservation Grants program. The board reviews submissions and made its recommendations in January for projects to improve management, storage conditions, access and preservation of public records. Following official letters announcing the successful grants in early March, technical assistance and site visits were conducted by Archives and History staff members Fredrick H. Armstrong and Denise Ferguson to help with setting the grants up to start with the beginning of the new

fiscal year July 1. Grant awards range from \$4,000 to \$34,000. Six of the 24 counties receiving funds are third-time successful grant applicants; eleven counties are second-time grant applicants; and seven counties are first-time recipients. A complete list of the recipients and their projects may be viewed at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/rmpb/rmpbgrants2006.html>.

The RMPB, with its continuing interest in addressing records storage and management issues in

the courthouses, announced three grant criteria in its invitation to county commission applicants last September. The three criteria were: remove non-records and accumulations of records having reached or exceeded required retention periods; provide proper and improved storage of permanent or long-term records; and conduct a complete records inventory and condition assessment, and develop a master records management plan for county records. In the third round of grant announcements, the board also considered funding projects for reformatting

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Society Newsletters

By Cathy Miller

The Archives and History Library manages a collection of past and current issues of journals and newsletters published by West Virginia non-profit organizations. These genealogical, historical and preservation societies are dedicated to preserving and circulating family history and genealogy. They provide researchers a vital link to important research resources that may otherwise be overlooked in general research. For your convenience we have compiled a ready reference list of the West Virginia Genealogical and Historical Associations newsletters currently available at our library. You may also search our periodical holdings through the Periodicals database in the West Virginia Memory Project, which is available on the Archives and History Web site at www.wvculture.org/history/wvmemory/index.html.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Society</u>
Allegheny Regional Ancestors	Allegheny Regional Family History Society P.O. Box 1804 Elkins, WV 26241
Berkeley Journal Newsletter of the Berkeley County Historical Society	The Berkeley County Historical Society P.O. Box 1624 Martinsburg, WV 25402
The Journal of the Braxton Historical Society	Braxton Historical Society 226 Birch Street Gassaway, WV 26624
Boone County Genealogical Quarterly	Boone County Genealogical Society P.O. Box 306 Madison, WV 25130
Lines and Links	Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society P.O. Box 242 Grantsville, WV 26147-0242
Appalachian Springs The Journal of the Greenbrier Historical Society	The Greenbrier Historical Society 301 W. Washington Street Lewisburg, WV 24901
News Notes	Fayette & Raleigh Counties Genealogical Society 303 Patterson Ave. Oak Hill, WV 25901-2701
Gilmer County Historical Society Newsletter	Gilmer County Historical Society P.O. Box 235 Glenville, WV 26351
Hackers Creek Journal	Hackers Creek Pioneer Descendants, Inc. 45 Abbotts Run Road Horner, WV 26372
Harrison County Genealogical Society Newsletter	Harrison County Genealogical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 387 Clarksburg, WV 26302-0387

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 (converting) records scheduled as permanent, which require a high rate of access, and for which an eye-readable format (microfilm) exists or will be created and maintained as a security backup in proper environmental conditions.

Funding for the County Records Management and Preservation Program is through legislative appropriation of funds deposited in the public records and preservation revenue account from records filing fees collected by county clerks. The funds serve as incentives to equip county officials to improve the management and preservation of their public records. The RMPB was created by the West Virginia Legislature in 2000 to develop uniform county records management programs. Its primary focus is to establish guidelines and provide technical assistance to address the needs of the records of county governments through a uniform records management system, and to further encourage adoption of these goals through the county records grant program. In pursuit of these goals, the RMPB issued legislative rules for the management of records and the records grant program, as well as a County Records Management Manual for county offices, and sponsors records management workshops for county officials and staffs. The next grant cycle and priorities will be announced September 1, 2006, for fiscal year 2007-08.

For more information about the RMPB's annual grant program or the

work of the board, contact Fredrick H. Armstrong, state archivist of the West Virginia State Archives and director of Archives and History in the Division of Culture and History, by telephone at (304) 558-0230, e-mail at fharmstrong@wvculture.org,

or by regular mail at Records Management and Preservation Board, West Virginia Division of Culture and History, The Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E, Charleston, WV 25305-0300. To learn more about the RMPB, visit www.wvculture.org/history/rmpb/

New Titles

- Then and Now at Duval, 1914–2006:** Duval High School, 2006.
A Good Gene Pool of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland: Robert Leland Johnson, 2006.
A Census of Cemeteries, Center District, Gilmer County, West Virginia: Doris M. Radabaugh and Mary E. Radabaugh, 2006.
A Sesquicentennial History: Mount Tabor Lutheran Church, 1839–1989: [1989?].
The Christian Philosophy of Patrick Henry: James M. Wells, 2004.
Wyoming County: Ed Robinson, 2005.
Andrew Livick and Sarah G. Keller: Alan Smith, Sr., 2006.
Ambassador of Air Travel: The Untold Story of Lindbergh's 1927–1928 Good Will Tours: Ev Cassagneres, 2006.
John Kennedy of County Donegal, Ulster, Ireland and His Descendants: Kathryn Chambers Torpey, 2006.
A Line of Rexroad in America: William D. Rexroad, 2006.
Reminiscences of Three Quarters of a Century: Thomas Harris "Pat" McGovran, 1980.
Benedictus Townsend of South Carolina: A Genealogy: Joseph T. Burval and Clarice T. Burval, 2006.
A Historical and Commemorative Statement of St. Andrew Methodist Church on the Occasion of Moving to the New Location on Kanawha Terrace: The church, [1956].
The Membership of St. Andrew United Methodist Church, St. Albans, West Virginia, 25177: The church, [1975].
The Return to Glory: The Saga of Ben Rod Jordan: Keith Honaker, 1996.
The Hammered Dulcimer: Treasury of Tunes: Sally Hawley, 2002.

New Titles: Gifts of Patricia Pleska

- Tracing Your English Ancestors: A Manual for Analysing and Solving Genealogical Problems in England and Wales, 1538 to the Present Day:** Colin D. Rogers, 1989.
Chicago and Cook County Sources: A Genealogical and Historical Guide: Loretto Dennis Szucs, 1986.
Discovering Your Family Tree: A Pocket Guide to Tracing Your English Ancestors: David Iredale, 3rd ed., 1977.
A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors: Special Strategies for Uncovering Hard-to-Find Information About Your Female Lineage: Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, 1998.
My Family Tree Workbook: Genealogy for Beginners: Rosemary A. Chorzempa, 1982.
Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Translation Guide: Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman, 1994.

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

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chapters, the online exhibit begins with the decades-long divisions between the eastern counties of Virginia and their sister counties to the west. Subsequent chapters trace the road to statehood from the formation of a loyal Virginia government by western counties after the state government in Richmond seceded from the Union, through the meeting of various conventions, to the inauguration of Arthur Boreman as West Virginia's first governor.

The chapter divisions and brief explanatory text provide the structure for the exhibit's most important feature—primary documents on the statehood period from the State Archives collections. "A State of Convenience" is an educational tool that offers historians, students, and others interested in West Virginia statehood the opportunity to read the actual words of the participants themselves. As one example, the online exhibit offers the December 3, 1861, proceedings of the First Constitution Convention, when delegates decided what to name the new state. Students and historians can follow the debate as delegates consider whether to keep the name "Kanawha," which had appeared on the statehood referendum approved by voters the previous October, or adopt another name. Congressional debate over slavery and West Virginia statehood is another example where the participants' words are available through the exhibit.

Transcriptions of the day-to-day proceedings of the First and Second Wheeling conventions, President Abraham Lincoln's opinion on the admission of West Virginia, and the state's first constitution are some of the other primary-source documents through which individuals can learn about the process by which West

Continued on the next page

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Society</u>
The Guardian Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society	Jefferson County Historical Society P.O. Box 485 Charles Town, WV 25414
The Journal	Kanawha Valley Genealogical Society P.O. Box 8555 South Charleston, WV 25303-8555
Up and Down the Valley	Kanawha Valley Historical & Preservation Society P.O. Box 2283 Charleston, WV 25328
Newsletter KYOWVA	KYOWVA Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1254 Huntington, WV 25714-1254
Lincoln Lineage	Lincoln County Genealogical Society 7999 Lynn Avenue Hamlin, WV 25523
Ancestry	Logan County Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1959 Logan, WV 25601
Genealogy Gleanings	Marion County Genealogical Club Marion County Library 321 Monroe Street Fairmont, WV 26554
Marshall Messenger	Marshall County Historical Society P.O. Box 267 Moundsville, WV 26041
Mercer Dateline	Mercer County Historical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 5012 Princeton, WV 24740
Mountain News	Mining Your History Foundation P.O. Box 6923 Charleston, WV 25362-0923
Quarterly Newsletter	Monroe County Historical Society P.O. Box 465 Union, WV 24983
Morgan County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter	Morgan County Historical & Genealogical Society P.O. Box 52 Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
Nicholas County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter	Nicholas County Historical & Genealogical Society P.O. Box 443 Summersville, WV 26651
Now and Long Ago	Preston County Historical Society P.O. Box 113 Bruceton Mills, WV 26525-0113
Roane County Journal	Roane County Historical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 161 Spencer, WV 25276-0161
St. Albans Historical Society Newsletter	St. Albans Historical Society 404 4th Avenue St. Albans, WV 25177

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Society</u>
Profile	Taylor County Historical & Genealogical Society P.O. Box 522 Grafton, WV 26354
POW	Tri-State Genealogical & Historical Society P.O. Box 454 Newell, WV 26050
Tucker County Historical Society Newsletter	Tucker County Historical Society P.O. Box 13 Hambleton, WV 26269
Heritage Windows	Tyler County Heritage and Historical Society P.O. Box 317 Middlebourne, WV 26149
Upper Vandalia Historical Society Newsletter	Upper Vandalia Historical Society 224 Beechwood Estates Scott Depot, WV 25560-9724
An Occasional Newsletter & Journal	The Upshur County Historical Society P.O. Box 2082 Buckhannon, WV 26201
Wayne County Genealogical & Historical Society Newsletter	Wayne County Genealogical & Historical Society P.O. Box 787 Wayne, WV 26670-0787
West Augusta Newsletter	West Augusta Historical & Genealogical Society 2515 10th Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101-5829
WV Chapter Palatines to America Newsletter	West Virginia Chapter, Palatines to America c/o Norma Davis RD 2, Box 114 Pennsboro, WV 26415
Ledger of Genealogy Quarterly Publication (LOG)	West Virginia Genealogical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 249 Elkview, WV 25071
West Virginia Historical Society Newsletter	West Virginia Historical Society P.O. Box 5220 Charleston, WV 25361-0220
W.C.G.S. Newsletter	Wetzel County Genealogical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 464 New Martinsville, WV 26155-0464
Lookout	Wheeling Area Genealogical Society P.O. Box 6450 Wheeling, WV 26003-6450
Upper Ohio Valley Historical Review The Wheeling Times	Wheeling Area Historical Society P.O. Box 283 Wheeling, WV 26003
History and Preservation	Wood County Historical and Preservation Society P.O. Box 565 Parkersburg, WV 26102

A special note to societies: If your newsletter is not listed please consider adding the Archives and History Library to your mailing list. As always we thank you for assisting our efforts to preserve our state's history.

Virginia became the thirty-fifth state in the Union. Dozens of illustrations of participants in the process, as well as secondary resource materials, are also available as part of the online exhibit, which is available on the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/statehood/statehood.html>.

“A State of Convenience” is a work in progress, and additional documents will be added in the future. West Virginia Archives and History welcomes donations to its collections. Individuals who would like to donate original statehood materials, or items that document other aspects of the state's history, should contact Fredrick Armstrong at fharmstrong@wvculture.org or at (304) 558-0230.

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.

Free Copies of *Seward and Related Families* Offered to Libraries

George C. Seward, author of *Seward and Related Families*, has donated a copy of the most recent edition of his family history to the Archives and History Library. Mr. Seward has informed us that he is offering a complimentary copy of the third edition of his work to all libraries with genealogy or history sections by request on library letterhead. (The value of the book is \$34.50, postpaid.) Letters may be addressed to George C. Seward, 48 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583.

Archives and History Library Evening Workshops Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
July 13	Thursday Greg Carroll	<i>How to Apply for West Virginia Civil War Medals</i>
July 18	Tuesday Susan Scouras	<i>Newspapers in Genealogical and Historical Research</i>
July 20	Thursday Greg Carroll	<i>Native American History in West Virginia</i>
July 25	Tuesday Joe Geiger	<i>Exploring the West Virginia Archives and History Web site</i>
July 27	Thursday Susan Scouras	<i>Newspapers in Genealogical and Historical Research</i>
August 22	Tuesday Constance Baston	<i>World War I: West Virginians on the Front and on the Home Front</i>
September 14	Thursday Debra Basham	<i>Care of Your Photographs and Documents</i>
September 26	Tuesday Debra Basham	<i>Care of Your Photographs and Documents</i>

No charge, no registration.

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

SHPO Offering Conference Scholarship Funds

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History (WVDCH) is accepting applications for scholarships up to \$700 for individuals to attend the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 31–Nov. 5. The funding is available on a reimbursement basis to support registration and lodging expenses for the conference. Members of historic landmark commissions will be considered first, but elected officials, planning staff, Main Street Program volunteers, community leaders, other organizations involved in historic preservation efforts, and owners or developers of historic properties in West Virginia also are encouraged to apply for the scholarships.

The scholarship program provides individuals an opportunity to study historic preservation issues by attending the conference, learning from examples, and networking with

other people. Applications will be awarded on a competitive basis. Eligible applicants must be West Virginia residents who can demonstrate an interest in historic preservation by at least one of the following criteria: volunteering on preservation-related projects; holding a membership on a local preservation commission, planning board, Main Street organization, or other preservation-related group; holding an elected office; being a government employee dealing with planning/preservation issues; or owning or developing historic properties in West Virginia. In addition, applicants must demonstrate how they will be able to develop historic preservation in their community upon their return, agree to attend educational sessions at the conference, and provide a brief cover letter with their reimbursement application describing which conference was attended and the attendee's thoughts about it.

Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate that participation will assist in addressing a local issue, that training will be provided to a novice or professional in the field of historic preservation, and that attendance to the conference is not possible without the scholarship funds. The application deadline is the end of the business day, Thursday, Sept. 28. For more information about the conferences or to receive a scholarship application, contact Chris Knorr, Assistant Director of SHPO, at (304) 558-0240, Ext. 156, or visit the SHPO Web site at www.wvculture.org/shpo/forms.html. Mailed applications should be directed to Knorr at SHPO, WVDCH, The Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E, Charleston, WV 25305-0300. Applications may be faxed to him at (304) 558-3560.

History Day
Thursday, February 22, 2007

The West Virginia Encyclopedia

The West Virginia Humanities Council released the new *West Virginia Encyclopedia* on June 20, West Virginia Day. Edited by Ken Sullivan, *The West Virginia Encyclopedia* is a 944-page, hardbound 8½" x 11" book with 417 illustrations and a full-color dust jacket. "It is a great reference book," Sullivan says, "and it is also a great story, the story of West Virginia." Working under the slogan, "All there is to know about West Virginia," the editors packed 2,200 articles into the pages of *The West Virginia Encyclopedia*. These articles are the work of nearly 600 writers, experts in fields ranging from archeology, biography, history and literature through folklore, culture, and the arts and sciences.

The contents of *The West Virginia Encyclopedia* include articles on every county, county seat, and major cities and towns; biographies of hundreds of West Virginians, including every governor; hundreds of articles on West Virginia history, from Indian times to the present; the great story of the Civil War and the birth of West Virginia; many articles on timbering, coal mining and other industries; dozens of articles on nature and science, including flora and fauna, geography and geology; and many other articles on music and the arts, and West Virginia folklore and folk arts. *The West Virginia Encyclopedia* is available at most bookstores and also can be ordered directly from the West Virginia Humanities Council, either online at <http://www.wvhumanities.org/> or by telephone at (304) 346-8500. (The book is not available through the West Virginia State Archives or The Cultural Center.)

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.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY LIBRARY EVENING WORKSHOPS: See schedule on preceding page.

"PRODUCE FOR VICTORY: POSTERS ON THE AMERICAN HOME FRONT, 1941-1945,"

June 16-July 28: Smithsonian Institution Exhibit, New Deal Homestead Museum, Arthurdale.
(August 4-September 15: Parkersburg Art Center, Parkersburg.)

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

HACKER'S CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS 25TH ANNUAL GATHERING, August 9-13: Horner.

FALL GENEALOGY/HISTORY FAIR, BROOKE COUNTY GENEALOGY, August 19:

Beech Bottom Community Christian Church, Beech Bottom.

LABOR DAY, September 4: Archives Library will be closed.

COLUMBUS DAY, October 9: Archives Library will be open.*

WEST VIRGINIA BOOK FESTIVAL, October 21-22: Charleston Civic Center, Charleston.

ELECTION DAY, November 7: Archives Library will be open.*

"THE OLD DOMINION: TWO STATES, ONE HERITAGE," November 3-4: Lewisburg.

Conference co-sponsored by Virginia Genealogical Society, Greenbrier Historical Society, Mining Your History Foundation, and West Virginia Archives and History.
 (More details to follow.)

VETERANS DAY, November 10: Archives Library will be open.*

HISTORY DAY, February, 22, 2007:

The 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.

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
Terry Lowry Library Assistant (Veterans records)
Cathy Miller Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
Sharon Newhouse Secretary
Harold Newman Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
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, Randy Marcum, Angela Tolbert, John McClure, Lorene Mullins, Carol Vandevender, and Kellis and Virginia Gillespie

This newsletter is a publication of : The West Virginia Division of Culture and History
Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner