

# West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

VOLUME IX, No. 7 SEPTEMBER 2008



WEST VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF  
CULTURE & HISTORY

## From the Editor:

*We have been trying to schedule activities for National Archives Month in October, only to find that the calendar is already very full of history and genealogy related activities here in The Cultural Center and across the state throughout the fall months. We hope you will take advantage of the many excellent lectures, exhibits, films and celebrations being offered to learn about not only your individual heritage, but about people and places other than your own family and town. While early Scots-Irish and German settlers represent the strong backing of our West Virginia cultural quilt, past and present immigrants have added colorful patches of their own cultures to the design, united with the thread of our shared history as mountaineers.*

## Archives and History Library Holiday Schedule Changes

While the Archives and History Library has been consistent for several years now regarding the holidays on which the Archives and History Library remains open to the public, several factors have led to some changes in 2008. The Library was closed on Primary Election Day this year, and will close again on General Election Day on November 4. The Archives and History Library also will close this year on the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving Day, November 28–29. Current plans are for the Library to remain open on Columbus Day and Veterans Day. Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are half-day holidays, with the Library closing at 1:00 p.m., but that is always subject to change. When the Archives and History Library remains open on a holiday, only the Archives Library and The Cultural Center Great Hall will be open. All business offices of the Division of Culture and History, and the offices and library of the West Virginia Library Commission will be closed.

We suggest you contact us or check our Web site before coming on any

holiday, in case the schedule has changed on short notice.

### Capitol Complex Visitor Parking

While the employee parking garage is being repaired August 18 through November 30, employees with parking garage permits will be parking at Laidley Field as needed during this time. When the Laidley

Field parking lots are being used for staff parking, they will not be open for visitor parking. Visitor parking will be available only at the meters on the Complex on those days.

### Evening Workshops Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
September 18 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>Native American Resources in the West Virginia Archives and History Library</i>
September 25 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>Applying for a West Virginia Civil War Medal</i>
October 16 Thursday	Greg Carroll	<i>African American Resources in the West Virginia Archives and History Library</i>

*Registration for these free workshops is helpful but not required.*

Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail [bobby.taylor@wvculture.org](mailto: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.

## Donations to the Archives and History Library

Although not mentioned in recent months, the Archives and History Library continues to receive many generous donations of books and other materials from individuals, societies and institutions. Recent donors include Mining Your History Foundation, West Virginia Genealogical Society, West Liberty State College, and many individual authors who have provided us with copies of their county histories, family

histories, cemetery survey and county record transcription books. Others, such as Boone County Genealogical Society, who recently sent us Volume 31 of *Kith and Kin*, routinely forward their serial publications to us. We are especially appreciative of the donation by Wes Cochran of Parkersburg, WV, of a very large collection of family history books, surname genealogies and manuscripts.

## 4th Annual Paden City Labor Day Film Festival

The Paden City Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the Paden City Public Library are co-sponsoring the 2008 Labor Day Film Festival. The free film festival is endorsed by the West Virginia Labor History Association. The following films will be featured:

- *Widen Film Project*
- *Mother Jones—The Most Dangerous Woman in America* [[http://](http://motherjonesmuseum.org)

[motherjonesmuseum.org](http://motherjonesmuseum.org)]

- *Monongah Remembered* [<http://www.monongahmovie.com>]

- *Experience Fenton* [<http://www.fentonartglass.com>]

For more information, contact Jesse King, (304) 337-2327 (cell), (304) 337-9495 (club), or [aerie2281@verizon.net](mailto:aerie2281@verizon.net).

## Historic Preservation Survey and Planning Grants Available

Applications are now being accepted for historic preservation survey and planning grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. State or local government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, for-profit organizations or firms, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. Eligible projects include architectural and archaeological surveys, preparation of nominations to the National

## Jenkins Plantation Museum Closed for Preservation Work

The historic Jenkins Plantation Museum, located in the Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area of Cabell County, has been closed for preservation actions being taken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE anticipates

## Jefferson County Jail Re-Dedication

In conjunction with Charles Town Heritage Days, a formal dedication of the restored historic Jefferson County Jail will take place on September 20. Following a County Commission vote in 2000 to demolish the jail, an organized preservation effort resulted not only in saving the structure, but a 2.3 million dollar restoration. The building now houses the Circuit Clerk's office, the Circuit Court, and a repository for Jefferson County documents. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the jail held miners and labor leaders on charges of murder, treason and more as a result of the Battle of Blair Mountain. The history associated with the jail will be celebrated with several events. For more information, contact Doug Estep, (540) 436-2939, [estep@shentel.net](mailto:estep@shentel.net).

that the work project will take 12 to 18 months to complete. For more information, contact Adam Hodges, Director of Museums for the Division, at (304) 558-0220, ext. 127, or Lisa Morgan, USACE Project Manager, at (304) 399-5545.

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Register of Historic Places, heritage education programs relating to preservation activities, pre-development activities, and comprehensive planning documents and development projects. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2008. For more information, contact Pamela Brooks, grants coordinator

for the SHPO, at (304) 558-0240, ext. 720, or by writing: SHPO, West Virginia Division of Culture and History, The Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0300, or at the SHPO website at [www.wvculture.org/shpo/forms.html](http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/forms.html).

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

## 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.

**THE STORY OF NEWSPAPERS IN UPSHUR COUNTY, June 8–September 28:**  
Summer Exhibit, Upshur County Historical Society, The History Center Museum, Buckhannon.

**LABOR DAY, September 1:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**2008 PADEN CITY LABOR DAY FILM FESTIVAL, September 1:**  
Paden City Fraternal Order of the Eagles.

**“BEGINNING YOUR GENEALOGY,” September 9:** Free workshop,  
Kanawha Valley History Center, Rand Community Center, Rand.

**“THE CONTROVERSIAL CONFEDERATE FLAG,” September 19:** Lecture by  
Dr. John M. Coski. Sponsored by Rich Mountain Battlefield Foundation, Beverly.  
For reservations, call (304) 637-7424, or e-mail [richmt@richmountain.org](mailto:richmt@richmountain.org)

**JEFFERSON COUNTY JAIL RE-DEDICATION, September 20:** Charles Town.

**“WRITING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY,” September 22:** Free workshop,  
Kanawha Valley History Center, Rand Community Center, Rand.

**14TH ANNUAL ROANE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL FAIR, September 27:** Roane County  
Historical Society, Heritage Park Community Building, 110 Church Street, Spencer.

**BERKELEY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL FAIR, September 27:** Berkeley County Historical  
Society, Trinity United Methodist Church, 220 West Martin Street, Martinsburg.

**FALL FESTIVAL AT WEST VIRGINIA INDEPENDENCE HALL, October 11:**  
West Virginia Independence Hall Museum, Wheeling.

**COLUMBUS DAY, October 13:** Archives Library will be open.\*

**2008 BETSY L. MCCREIGHT LECTURE IN THE HUMANITIES**  
**“LINCOLN AT 200: THE MEASURE OF ALL PRESIDENTS,” October 30:**  
Richard Norton Smith, speaker, Norman L. Fagan Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.  
For more information, visit <http://www.wvhumanities.org/mcreight.htm>, or call (304) 346-8500.

**ELECTION DAY, November 4:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

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

**THANKSGIVING DAY, November 27:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**THANKSGIVING FRIDAY, November 28:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**THANKSGIVING SATURDAY, November 29:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

*\*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



**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](mailto:susan.scouras@wvculture.org).

## Archives and History Staff

**Joe Geiger** ..... Acting Director (Historian, Web page)  
**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)  
**Ed Hicks** ..... Photo Archivist (archival photography, darkroom)  
**Mary Johnson** ..... Historian  
**Terry Lowry** ..... Library Assistant (Veterans records)  
**Cathy Miller** ..... Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)  
**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  
**Bryan Ward** ..... Acting Assistant Director  
**Intern/Part time** ..... James Balch, Matt McGrew  
**Volunteers** ..... Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, James Wilburn, Sue Shank, Charlotte Thurston, Ken Bailey, Mary Alice Johnson, Maggie Powers, and Carol Vandevender

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