



WEST VIRGINIA Archives and History NEWS

From the Editor:

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

We wish everyone a happy holiday season, with lots of good food and fellowship, remembrance of old family traditions and creation of new ones. We hope sharing family stories is one of those traditions. You seasoned family historians will no doubt be ready to preserve the tales, images and genealogical information from long familiar relatives, and to add those newly born or recently married into the clan. If your family does not have someone obsessed with genealogy, give it a try yourself. Even the most basic family tree chart will prove valuable over time. Family medical histories have become very important in recent years, and we urge you to gather information on everyone's past and current health issues for the benefit of all, but especially for the enlightenment of future generations. Use the search terms "family medical history" online to find Web sites of well-known medical institutions and organizations that provide questionnaires, guides, forms and more to assist your family.

15th Annual Hoot Owl to be March 28-29, 2014

The very popular annual Hoot Owl night in the West Virginia Archives and History Library is scheduled for March 28-29, 2014, at the Culture Center in Charleston. The Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF) and the Archives and History section of the Division of Culture and History are co-sponsors for the evening. Researchers will enter the library at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, March 28, and will be able to stay and research to their hearts' content until 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 29. Experienced, well-known genealogists and local historians from around the state will be present to assist with genealogy "brick walls" and to help beginners get started. Usual copy fees will apply. Refreshments will be provided in the Archives and History conference room. Bring a pillow and a sleeping

bag if you don't think you can last the whole night!

The event is limited to 50 participants, with registration and the \$25 fee due by March 14. If room is available after that date, late registration will be accepted with a \$35 fee. For more information and an application to print and mail, visit <http://www.wvculture.org/history/hootowl2014brochure.pdf>, or come by the Archives and History Library to pick up a brochure. You may also contact Joe Geiger, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230, joe.n.geiger@wv.gov; Gerald Ratliff, MYHF, ratliffgsfm@hotmail.com; or Esther B. Warner, MYHF, ebw104@juno.com.

**WV Culture and History Facilities To Close
Holidays in 2014**

The Division of Culture and History will close all offices and operations on state holidays in 2014, with the exception of West Virginia Day, June 20, 2014. Facilities to be closed on state holidays include the West Virginia State Museum and the West Virginia Archives and History Library in the Culture Center (Charleston),

Independence Hall (Wheeling), Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex (Moundsville), Camp Washington Carver (Clifftop) and Museum in the Park (Chief Logan State Park, Logan). Jenkins Plantation Museum (Lesage) continues to be closed.

Battle of Charleston Lecture

Terry Lowry, author and West Virginia Archives and History historian, spoke about the Battle of Charleston, particularly the officers involved, on November 5, 2013, as the Archives and History First Tuesday lecture for November. Lowry also displayed documents and relics from the State Archives and from his



own collection. For more photos from the evening, visit our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/workshop110513.html>.

For Your Reference

A monthly column discussing the Reference Collection of the West Virginia Archives and History Library

Census Index and Transcription Books

Patrons may wonder why the Archives and History Library keeps census transcription and index books on the Reading Room shelves when we have Ancestry and HeritageQuest available on the computer with search engines. Well, the books still have a role in family history research. While the number is lessening, many researchers are still uncomfortable using the Internet sites. Others have difficulty reading the cursive handwriting of the original records, or become frustrated with the overwhelming number of results they often get in an online search, especially when searching without specific names and dates. Even for library staff members, using a book for a quick lookup is faster and easier than going to a computer, bringing up a site, then dealing with search engine results that may involve pulling up multiple records for a closer look until the desired one is found.

A name, age or relationship incorrectly recorded by the census taker can make an online search very difficult and time-consuming. The researcher may peruse a county census transcription book or a statewide index and quickly spot the entry sought despite an error or spelling variation, then use the exact recording of the information to search an online database for the full census record. The transcribers who decided how to enter a name or number into the database for searching have made many, many errors, and some of the user-submitted corrections are worse than

Continued on the next page

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
January 7, Tuesday	Betty Rivard	<i>"The 'Other' West Virginia: Positive Images of the State from the 30s and 40s"</i>
January 23, Thursday	Dr. Michael Workman	<i>"Parkersburg: Guarding of the Union during the Civil War"</i>
February 4, Tuesday	Patti Hamilton	<i>"West Virginia Courthouses"</i>
February 20, Thursday	Terry Lively	<i>"Covered Bridges of West Virginia"</i>
March 4, Tuesday	Steve Cunningham	<i>"Loyalty They Always Had: The 7th WV Cavalry in the U.S. Civil War"</i>
March 20, Thursday	Dianne Anestis	<i>"Women's Role in Native American Society"</i>

Registration for these free workshops is helpful but not required.

Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov.

Lectures are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, Culture Center, Charleston, West Virginia.

Check out Archives and History's YouTube and Facebook Pages

<http://www.youtube.com/user/wvarchivesandhistory>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/West-Virginia-Archives-and-History/168933289812323>

the original interpretations. Census transcriptions prepared by people still living in or associated with the county and/or state being transcribed, such as county genealogical society members or local historians, are less likely to have errors in interpretation of a surname or place name, and, in cases of regionally popular names and nicknames, given names as well.

That special local knowledge comes into play as a helpful bonus in some census transcription books in the form of annotations. Annotations, or notes, with additional information supplied from the knowledge and research of the compiler conveying information about a person not found in the census record itself, can lead the researcher to other records and family connections otherwise unknown. The note may indicate differences between this census entry and previous or subsequent census records, or may include marriage, death, nicknames, additional children born later, place of burial, etc. (Be sure to record the source of the annotation, then verify the information given by locating the actual records that support it.) Not all books indicate annotation with a statement on the title page, but the library catalog record may note the fact.

We have a few census books where the compiler has pulled

out census listings for only those geographical areas that were subsequently to be annexed into a new county before the next census. William Marsh did this in his series of 1880 West Virginia census books, actually pulling certain records from the Logan County census and compiling a "Mingo County" census for 1880, although Mingo County would not exist until 1895.

Census books with entries that are arranged alphabetically, with all households of the same surname listed together, are helpful in determining whether an extended family was present in a county in a census year. Seeing listings beside each other helps make relationships and possible relationships apparent to an observant researcher, more so than skipping back and forth to the various pages where they may be listed. For example, when the researcher sees only one family of a particular surname with a sixty-year-old male head and a similarly aged female, presumably wife, and then sees three or four other households of that surname headed by young men aged in their twenties and thirties, the researcher may have found parents and sons. Similarly, by looking at pages arranged by household number, looking at that same older household with young

wives of different surnames living on either side, the researcher possibly may have found married daughters of the couple.

You will find census transcription books in the Voyager online catalog (<http://archives.lib.wv.us/>) by using the county name and the word "census" as subject search terms. You could add a specific census year as well. Census books in the Archives and History Library Reading Room are in the Reference section, under R 929.3, alphabetically by county. West Virginia and Virginia counties are intermingled. We also have statewide indexes and some county transcription books for various census years for other states, mostly our border states of Ohio, Maryland, Kentucky and Pennsylvania.

Weirton Festival Programs Donated

Special thanks to Dennis Jones, Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center, Weirton, WV, for donating copies of the 2009, 2011 and 2013 programs of their annual "Festival of Nations." The West Virginia Archives and History Library now has a program from each year of the festival. We also expected to receive a donation of a full set of Mountain State Forest Festival programs, which we will tell you about when the time comes.

If you are the chair or a director of a festival presented annually in West Virginia, please consider donating copies of your festival program to the West Virginia Archives and History Library. Festival programs are a rich source of cultural information, biography, history and genealogy for West Virginia and West Virginians. Don't know if we already have your festival's programs for specific years? Check our online catalog at <http://archives.lib.wv.us/> or contact

Continued on the next page

Peyton and the Modern Era of Charleston

Dr. Billy Joe Peyton presented "History of Charleston: The Modern Era" as the Thursday Evening lecture in the West Virginia Archives and History Library on November 14, 2013. Picking up where he left off at the end of his previous lecture, "The History of Charleston," on March 5, 2013 (watch it on

YouTube, <http://www.youtube.com/user/wvarchivesandhistory>), Peyton described post-Civil War growth and expansion of Charleston, including the building of the present Capitol, development of industrial plants such as Kelly Axe and Libby Owens, and Charleston's various residential neighborhoods.



Continued from the previous page
 Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230,
 susan.c.scouras@wv.gov.

Much Information in Legislative Petitions

Virginia Legislative Petitions from counties that became West Virginia counties, and for parent counties in Old Virginia, are available on microfilm in the West Virginia Archives and History Library. Much historical and genealogical information can be gleaned from these petitions by citizens (including women and slaves) to the Virginia Legislature for legal action on matters of personal and community concern.

December 15, 1831, Preston County, Box 204, Folder 33:

John Conrad Holstein petitioned for a divorce from his wife, Wilhelmina, on the grounds of desertion. He emigrated with her from Germany to the United States eleven years previously, and had settled with her in Preston County about four years ago. Three or four months ago, she left him and traveled to Baltimore, where she took passage to return to Germany. "Your petitioner represents that they have had no children [and] that he is now left alone in the world deprived of all domestic comforts whatever in a country where the language spoken is one that he is almost entirely ignorant of, deprived thus of his wife without an interpreter he may almost be said to be as he really feels himself a stranger in the midst of the world." His petition was denied on December 29, 1831.

A genealogist would learn from this petition that John Conrad Holstein and his wife married in Germany sometime prior to their emigration to the United States around 1820. Passenger lists could be

Continued on the next page

Clarification Regarding *Genealogies of the Black People of Pendleton County*

In "New Titles" column in the November 2014 issue of *Archives and History News*, the title *Genealogies of the Black People of Pendleton County, West Virginia, Books I and II*, by Harmon J. Moats, appeared with a note that said a printed and bound copy of the text from the CD would be available soon. This is not a published paper book and will not be available to the public in book form. The Archives and History

Library has printed a single copy of the text from the CD and has bound it in a library binding for use by our researchers in the Archives and History Library only. Buyers of *The Black People of Pendleton County, West Virginia: A History*, by William D. Rexroad, will receive the CD version of Moats' work accompanying the book. We apologize for any confusion caused by our lack of clarity.

New Titles

- The Journal of Major George Washington:** Facsimile edition, Colonial Williamsburg, 1959.
- Olde Time Camp Meetin' Songs:** [shape notes] Albert E. Brumley, 1971.
- Spirits of the Passage: The Transatlantic Slave Trade in the Seventeenth Century:** Madeleine Burnside, 1997.
- Hardesty's History of Lincoln County, West Virginia:** Howard Osburn, 2010.
- Wayne County Births: 1853-1900:** Howard Osburn, 2011.
- News of Our Men and Women in Uniform: World War II: Wayne County, West Virginia:** Howard Osburn, 2012.
- Minute Book No. 1: Forks of Cheat Baptist Church, Union District, Monongalia County, W. Va.: November 5, 1775 to October 2nd 1830:** "Copied under direction of Thomas Ray Dille, Morgantown, W. Va.," 1912.
- A History of Churches of Christ in 38 West Virginia Counties:** Sandra Alderson, 2012.
- 1910 Census: Upshur County, West Virginia:** Karon Janel King and E. J. Childress, 2006.
- The Making of a World War II Marine:** Joseph C. Ahmer, 2013.
- Coalfield Resistance: The Role of Environmentalism in the Movement to Abolish Surface Mining in Appalachia, 1960-2010:** Emily Blye Arons, 2010.
- Slaves of Monroe County, Virginia:** Sandra White, 2013.
- Addendum, April 2013, to: George Muse and George Washington: a curious relation:** Don W. Hoover, 2013.
- Today We Honor Charles "Boone" Maxwell:** Maxwell family, 2003.
- Virgil's Great-Grandpa: Unraveling an Obsession:** Herb W. Depke, 2008.
- Early Churches of Wood County:** Inez Roberta Sheppard, [1947?].
- Reflections of Life on 4-Mile Creek:** by the children of Hilbert and Virgie Isaacs, 1990.
- A Treasury of Tales:** Helen Bramos, 1997.
- Doc Williams: Looking Back:** Mal Williams, with Barbara D. Smik, 2006.
- The Samuels Family of Pa., Va. and W. Va. (1650-2013):** Harry Edgar Pontius II and Harry Edgar Pontius III, 2013.
- Yeater Descendants:** Kevin Andrew and Sarah Lynn Yeater, 2013.
- The First World War: A Photographic History:** Laurence Stallings, 1933.
- Between the Days:** Martha Carpenter Miller, 1958.
- Fifth Year Book of the Huntington Poetry Guild, 1944-1945:** 1945.

Listening to the Land: Stories from the Cacapon and Lost River Valley: Jamie S. Ross, 2013.

The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook: Emily Anne Croom, 1994.

Gifts of John Lilly, Goldenseal Magazine

In addition to the titles listed here, about 40 books were cataloged into the Archives Library book collection as "Copy 2" of books important to the collection.

Upper River: Skip Johnson with Rob Johnson, 2005.

Stories of a West Virginia Doctor's Son: Greenbrier Almond, 2012.

Butternut Moon: Robin L. Ramey, 2012.

Hellraiser: Mother Jones: An Historical Novel: Jerry Ash, 2013.

Wild and Wonderful: The Wildlife of West Virginia: Steve Shaluta and Edwin Daryl Michael, 2012.

Along the Kanawha River: Joseph M. Phillips, 2013.

West Virginia Narrow Gauge: Mann's Creek Railway: Ron Lane and Ted Schnepf, 1999.

Coal History of Southern West Virginia: Teacher's Guide: Raleigh County Board of Education, 1985.

Memories of Use-ta Days: James C. Rush, 1998.

A Study of the Mountain State for Young Mountaineers: Sally Egan and Sally McCune, 1985.

Lewisburg 2013 City Directory: R. L. Polk, 2013.

Gifts of Mining Your History Foundation

Obituaries, Marriages and Births from the Weston Independent and/or Weston Democrat: 1939-1940: Betty Mayfield, 1996.

Obituaries, Marriages and Births from the Weston Independent: 1951: Matha Byrd, 1996.

Obituaries, Marriages and Births from the Weston Independent and/or Weston Democrat: 1958: Betty Mayfield, 1996.

Obituaries, Marriages and Births from the Weston Independent and/or Weston Democrat: 1959: Betty Mayfield, 1996.

Obituaries, Marriages and Births from the Weston Independent and/or Weston Democrat: 1962: Betty Mayfield, 1996.

Tyler County WV 1820, 1830, 1840 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1991.

Wood County WV Deaths: 1896-1905: Wes Cochran, 2011.

Wood County WV Deaths: 1887-1902: Wes Cochran, 2010.

Wood County WV Deaths: 1902-1905: Wes Cochran, 2011.

Ohio County WV 1840 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1991.

Monongalia County WV 1810 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1992.

Monongalia County WV 1830 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1992.

Monongalia County WV 1840 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1992.

Pendleton County WV 1900 Census: Wes Cochran, 1996.

Braxton County WV Obituaries: 1883-1899: Michael Elliott, 1999.

Braxton County WV Obituaries: 1900-1910: Michael Elliott, 1999.

Braxton County WV Obituaries: 1911-1920: Michael Elliott, 1999.

Braxton County WV Deaths: 1956-1969: Wes Cochran, 2002.

1920 Webster County, WV Census: Nettie Gregory, [no date].

searched for their arrival. Between approximately 1820 and 1827, they lived somewhere outside of Virginia, coming to Preston County, Virginia around 1827. They had no children. Wilhelmina booked passage to Germany out of Baltimore, so passenger lists from Baltimore could be searched. John could not speak English, but Wilhelmina could.

December 10, 1818, Preston County, Box 204, Folder 1:


Citizens of the new county of Preston were quite happy to have had the new county formed that year from Monongalia, but unhappy that Kingwood was designated the county seat. They listed the undesirable qualities of the Kingwood area that would make it difficult to use as a county seat, and identified another area they thought would be much better. Their petition was denied, and Kingwood remains the county seat to this day. What makes this legislative petition potentially valuable to local historians and family researchers is the appended petition list with about 300 men's signatures.

Continued on the next page

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Archives and History homepage
or go to
<http://archives.lib.wv.us/>.*

New Titles

- 1900 Census Lewis County, West Virginia:** Jay and Ann Newman, 1996.
Marshall County WV 1840 Census: Elizabeth Estlack Mullett and Helen J. Estlack, 1991.
Indian Wars Along the Upper Ohio: A History of the Indian Wars and Related Events Along the Upper Ohio and Its Tributaries: William M. Garbarino, Jr., 2001.
Along the Monongahela: A History of the Early Events Along the Monongahela and Its Tributaries: William M. Garbarino, Jr., 2000.
Cemeteries of Lewis County, W. Va. and Adjacent Counties: Volume XII: Burials at Weston State Hospital Cemeteries: Marlene Tenney, Joy Stalnaker and Hartzel Strader, [no date].
Lewis County, West Virginia Obituaries: 1910-1919: Anna and Jay Newman, 1996.
Colonial Records of the Upper Potomac: Volume 3: 1748-1750, Settlement Expansion: William H. Rice, 2013.

Gifts of Janet Orndorff, Pocahontas County Genealogy Group

- In Loving Memory: First in a Series of Cemetery Listings in Pocahontas County West Virginia: Volume 1:** Revised edition, 2007.
In Loving Memory: Volume 2: Oak Grove Cemetery and Coffin Sale Records of Asbury R. Smith: Updated edition, 2012.
In Loving Memory: Volume 3: Mountain View Cemetery: reprinted with improved index, 2011.
In Loving Memory: Volume 4: Back Mountain Road, Durbin to Cass: 2008.
In Loving Memory: Volume 5: Frost to Dunmore: 2010.
In Loving Memory: Volume 6: Little Levels: 2011.

Gifts of William D. Wintz Family

- Confederate Cemeteries, Volume 1:** Mark Hughes, 2006.
The Second Division American Expeditionary Force in France: 1917-1919: Second Division Association, 1937.
Moms: J. Dennis Deitz, 1996.
History of the Conspiracy of Pontiac: Francis Parkman, 1929.
The Long Hunter: A New Life of Daniel Boone: Lawrence Elliott, 1976.
44th Virginia Infantry: Kevin C. Ruffner, 1987.
Biographical Memoir of Daniel Boone: Timothy Flint (first published 1933), James K. Folsom, editor, 1967.
Rea of Hope: The Story of Betsy Fletcher Rea: Sally Fletcher Holliday, 2008.
The Brown Connection: Roots Along the Great Kanawha & the James Rivers: Helen Brown Nichols, 2003.
Christopher Gist's Journals: with Historical, Geographical and Ethnological Notes and Biographies of His Contemporaries: William M. Darlington, 2006, c1893.



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Continued from the previous page

For more information about researching Virginia Legislative Petitions in the Archives and History Library, read articles in past issues of *West Virginia Archives and History News*, March 2009, April 2009, December 2010 and May 2011, posted at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>.

Books Have Returned from Bindery

Works sent to the bindery have returned in their colorful library hardback bindings and have been cataloged, labeled and shelved in the Archives and History Library. Many of the order titles were new to our collection and are listed in "New Titles" or as donations from the Mining Your History Foundation.

Do You Have One of These?

We recently found an interesting item tucked inside a donated coffee table-type book. About the size of a placemat, the single large sheet of paper has a color or color-tinted photograph of the West Virginia Capitol on one side, and "History of the West Virginia Capitol" on the other. To our surprise, we saw that the handout was "Compliments of Dept. of Archives and History, Bess E. Harrison, Archivist." (Mrs. Harrison served as State Archivist from 1941 to 1946.) The Archives government publications collection did not have a copy, nor has one turned up in any of our other collections so far. We do not know if they were printed for a special occasion or in a limited quantity, given to visitors to the Archives or the Capitol, or perhaps mailed out upon request. Probably a significant number were framed

Continued on the next page

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.

CHRISTMAS ON THE FRONTIER, December 7: Fort Randolph, Pt. Pleasant.

MAYORS' RECEPTION AND HISTORY DISPLAY/REDEDICATION OF WEIRTON WELCOMES YOU SIGN, December 7: Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center, Weirton.

ANNUAL VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR AND TEA, December 7-8:
Julia-Ann Square Historic District, Parkersburg.

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24: Archives Library will be *closed one-half day*.

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25: Archives Library will be *closed*.

DEADLINE FOR HISTORY HERO NOMINATIONS, December 31: Must be postmarked or hand-delivered to Archives and History by this date.

NEW YEAR'S EVE, December 31: Archives Library will be *closed one-half day*.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1, 2014: Archives Library will be *closed*.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY, January 20: Archives Library will be *closed*.

DEADLINE FOR HISTORY DAY DISPLAY SPACE REQUESTS, January 22: Must be postmarked or hand-delivered to Archives and History by this date.

HISTORY DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE, February 13: Capitol Complex, Charleston.

PRESIDENTS DAY, February 17: 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 Culture Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

as attractive prints of the Capitol.
Let us hear from you if you have a

copy or know where a framed one
is hanging today. Contact Susan

Scouras, susan.c.scouras@wv.gov,
(304) 558-0230, ext. 742.



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 and **History NEWS**

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 The Culture Center
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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.c.scouras@wv.gov.

www.wvculture.org/history

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