From the Editor:

The West Virginia Archives and History Library seems lighter and brighter these days with new tweed carpeting installed. We hope the closing of the Library necessitated by the renovation did not unduly inconvenience anyone. The offices of the Archives section on the main floor of The Cultural Center received new carpet and some areas were painted by our director, Mr. Armstrong, as well. We look forward to seeing you in our refurbished surroundings on History Day, February 16, if not before.

Division of Culture and History Publications and Periodicals

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History publishes several periodicals and produces books and other works on occasion. A new feature of the Division’s Web site, http://www.wvculture.org, is an Online Store for books, magazines, music, photographs and more. Among the publications that can be ordered online with credit card payment are titles issued by Archives and History and Goldenseal.

In addition to the issues available through the Online Store, back issues of Goldenseal magazine and West Virginia History may be purchased from the relevant section. A list of back issues appears both in the current Goldenseal issue and on the Goldenseal Web site. (Some back issues are in quantities too small to advertise, so if you do not see the issue you want on the list, call the Goldenseal office at 304-558-0220, Ext. 153, to see if it is still available.) A complete list of extant back issues of West Virginia History is posted on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/journal_wvh/backiss.html and copies may be ordered from Archives and History.

A small selection of photographs in the collection of the West Virginia State Archives is posted in the Online Store as an introduction to the many thousands of images available for purchase. If you see a photograph credited to the West Virginia State Archives on our Web site or elsewhere, and would like to purchase a copy, call Archives and History, (304) 558-0230, or e-mail debra.basham@wvculture.org, to see if that photograph is available.

Continued on the next page
Family Tree Magazine Lauds West Virginia State Archives Web Site

Family Tree Magazine, August 2005, in the article entitled “Sites Unseen,” by David A. Fryxzell, page 14, included the West Virginia Memory Project of the West Virginia Archives and History Web site in their 2005 annual list of 101 Best Undiscovered Web Sites. You can see the article, and links to the sections of the list, online at http://www.familytreemagazine.com/101sites/2005/index.asp. More specifically, the Memory Project is listed under “State Secrets” at http://www.familytreemagazine.com/101sites/2005/states.asp. If the Vital Research Records Project had been online when they were researching their article, no doubt we would have received even more raves!

Museum in the Park Expands Hours

The Museum in the Park at Chief Logan State Park is expanding its operating hours to 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday; and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, beginning February 1. The museum is closed Monday through Wednesday. The Museum in the Park is a regional cultural center showcasing the best in West Virginia history and the arts. It features changing exhibits and displays of artwork and historical items from the collections of the West Virginia State Museum and State Archives. One area of the museum is dedicated to local and regional history. For more information, contact Ryan Burns, assistant director of museums, (304) 558-0220, Ext. 172.

Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online

Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online subscription databases on the Internet are both provided free of charge to patrons in the Archives and History Library. Users do not need to register with either service in order to use them on the Library computers. Information found may be printed at $.25 per page. Remote access from patrons’ home computers is not available. In fact patrons around the country who have had remote access to these subscription services through their public library memberships or through paid memberships in special libraries or genealogical societies, such as the Godfrey Memorial Library, recently may have lost their ability to access these databases remotely. Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest

Continued from page 1

Several publications in whole or in part are available free online:

- Selected articles from *ArtWorks*, published quarterly by the Arts section, http://www.wvculture.org/arts/Artworks/index.html
- *An Introduction to West Virginia Ethnic Communities*, published by Goldenseal, entire text (also downloadable) at http://www.wvculture.org/arts/ethnic/index.html
- *West Virginia Archives and History News*, current issue and all back issues, with subject, title and review indexes, http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews.html
- Selected articles from issues of *West Virginia History* journal, as highlighted in the Subject Index, http://www.wvculture.org/history/journal_wvh/subjects.html, and Author Index, http://www.wvculture.org/history/journal_wvh/toc-aut.html
- Selected articles relating to cemeteries from issues of *Details*, http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/cemeteries.html

Historic Preservation Development Grants

Applications are now being accepted for historic preservation development grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Approximately $400,000 will be available for grant awards, contingent upon appropriation of funds from the West Virginia Legislature or the United States Congress. Eligible projects include the restoration, rehabilitation or archaeological development of historic sites listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places. Properties owned by church organizations or used exclusively for religious or governmental purposes are not eligible for funding. Privately owned properties are eligible only in instances where there is evidence of Continued on page 5
New Titles

Most titles listed were gifts of the authors or societies named, while others were donated by Mining Your History Foundation, Pauline Haga, and Goldenseal magazine. As always, we are very grateful for your generosity.

Index to Roane County Cemeteries I-V: Judy Hildreth, 2005.
Williams Family of Little Creek, WV: compiled by Danny Campbell with contributions by George Allen, 2005.
The Most Accurate Book to Date of Dickenson County, Virginia Marriage Records 1880-1909: Karen (Crabtree) Adams, [no date].

Where Can I Read West Virginia Archives and History News?

We are frequently asked how one can subscribe to West Virginia Archives and History News. Unfortunately, we are unable to handle mailing or e-mailing of personal copies of the newsletter; however, West Virginia Archives and History News is posted each month on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews.html. If you do not have personal access to the Internet, please visit your local public library, most of which provide free Internet access to the public. Single paper copies of the newsletter are available in the Archives and History Library in The Cultural Center. A limited number are mailed to genealogical and historical societies in West Virginia. Some societies maintain libraries or reading rooms that are open to the public. Societies may also photocopy all or part of Archives and History News issues to share with their membership, and may reprint articles in their own newsletters as long as they properly credit the source.

Subject and Title Indexes, as well as a list of Reviews, are posted Continued on page 5

West Virginia Humanities Council Little Lecture Series

The West Virginia Humanities Council 2006 Little Lecture Series commences on February 26 with Ed Rabel, Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist, speaking on Whither Journalism in a Jaundiced Age. Marc Harshman, West Virginia poet and author, will speak March 26 on A Life with Children’s Books; Jill Deiss, a Virginia rare book conservator, will give a slide presentation entitled Books with a History regarding restoration of early 17th century books on April 30; and Raymond W. Smock, former U.S. House of Representatives historian, will present History on the Hill on May 21. The Sunday lectures begin at 2:00 p.m. at MacFarland-Hubbard House, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. East, Charleston. Admission is $10.00 and includes a reception with the speaker following the program. Reservations accepted with advance payment. For additional information, contact Mark Payne, Program Officer, at (304) 346-8500, payne@wvhumanities.org.

Archives and History News is available on the Archives and History Web site http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews.html
It’s “HOOT OWL” Time Again!

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 31, and continues non-stop until 8:00 a.m., Saturday, April 1. 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 Virginia genealogy 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 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. For more information and for a registration form to print and mail in, visit the MYHF Web site at http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/hootel.html. The event is limited to fifty participants, who must register by March 20, 2006. (If spots are available, late registration will be accepted with a $35.00 fee.) If you do not have access to the Internet at home, we suggest you visit your local public library. You may also call Elaine Gates, Archives and History, at (304) 558-0230, Ext. 703, or Wes Cochran, MYHF, (304) 422-1774.

If you are not a MYHF member, we hope you will consider joining. Mining Your History Foundation functions as a “Friends of the Library” group for the West Virginia Archives and History Library by providing both monetary and material donations, and by supplying volunteers who assist in many capacities. MYHF’s other goals include networking among genealogical societies in West Virginia, and dissemination of information pertaining to research in and about West Virginia. Annual dues of $15.00 for either a society or an individual include the following benefits:

- Mountain News newsletter four times a year
- Submission of three queries per issue of Mountain News
- Notice of workshops and programs in West Virginia
- Publication of member societies announcements in Mountain News
- Distribution of member societies’ flyers and brochures at State and National genealogy conferences attended by MYHF representatives

MYHF’s Web address is http://www.rootsweb.com/~myhf/, and their mailing address is P. O. Box 6923, Charleston, WV 25362-0923.

Slavery and the Making of America on PBS

Slavery and the Making of America, a four-part series, will be broadcast from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on February 9 and 16 on the Public Broadcasting System. Produced by Dante James and narrated by Morgan Freeman, the series tells the story of slavery from the point of view of the slaves. For more information, visit http://www.pbs.org/slavery.

“Unplug & Unwind”

The West Virginia Library Commission Library in The Cultural Center is now offering “Unplug & Unwind,” wireless Internet access in their reference room at no cost. For more information, drop by the WVLC Library, or call (304) 558-2045.

Gifts of the Roane County Historical Society


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.

WEST VIRGINIA DIOCESAN TREASURE,
January 18–April 7: Exhibit featuring documents, artifacts and photographs, West Virginia Catholic Heritage Center, Wheeling.

WEST VIRGINIA ARCHIVES AND HISTORY COMMISSION MEETING, February 3: Louis Bennett Hall Conference Room, Glenville State College, Glenville.

GRAVE CREEK MOUND BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION, February 5: Includes jazz concert, art exhibition and a History Alive presentation of Booker T. Washington, Grave Creek Mound Archaeology Complex, Moundsville.

LINCOLN’S BIRTHDAY, February 12:
No longer a West Virginia state holiday.

“BEYOND THE RIVER: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE HEROES OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, THROUGH MUSIC AND WORDS,” February 15:

HISTORY DAY, February, 16:
The Capitol Complex, Charleston

HISTORY DAY PROGRAM, February, 16:

PRESIDENTS’ DAY, February 20:
Archives Library will be open.*

“WHEN MINERS MARCH: THE STORY OF COAL MINERS IN WEST VIRGINIA,” March 22:

“HOOT OWL” RESEARCH NIGHT, March 31–April 1:
The Cultural Center, Charleston.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY, May 9:
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.
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

This newsletter is a publication of: The West Virginia Division of Culture and History