Cemetery clean up time is here, as many folks remove the debris of winter in preparation for Easter and/or Memorial Day remembrances. Please be careful in working around grave markers of all types (string weedcutters are no-nos, for example), in cleaning markers (no abrasives, no chemicals), and in choosing suitable plants (no clinging vines or deep roots). Several back issues of *Archives and History News* address this subject, with both specific tips and recommended resources. You can find them by visiting http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html, selecting the Subject Index, and looking at the entries for “Cemeteries.” You can also go directly to the Web site of the West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and click the “Cemetery Information” link. If your cemetery has not been recorded, please take time to print out the SHPO Cemetery Survey form and complete as much of it as you can.

**History Day 2012 Photos**


**Presidential Whistle Stops in West Virginia To Be Discussed on April 3**

On April 3, 2012, former newspaperman Bob Withers of Huntington will present “Presidential Whistle Stops in West Virginia” at the Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

In 1996, Bob Withers was aboard the train that President Bill Clinton rode from Huntington, West Virginia, to Indiana during the president’s whistle-stop trip to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. As a young boy, Withers watched as presidential candidate Dwight Eisenhower passed through Huntington by train in 1952. These are among the journeys that Withers is expected to discuss during the program.

Bob Withers has written and edited several books, dozens of free-lance magazine articles, and hundreds of newspaper articles about railroads, steamboats, and...
Continued from page 1

They have three daughters and four grandchildren. In addition, Withers was the recipient of a History Hero award during a ceremony at the Culture Center in 2011.

On April 3, the library will close at 5 p.m. and reopen at 5:45 p.m. for participants only. For planning purposes, participants are encouraged to register for the program, but advance registration is not required to attend. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, by e-mail at bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov or at (304) 558-0230, ext. 163. Participants interested in registering by e-mail should send their name, telephone number and the name and date of the session. For additional information, contact the Archives and History Library at (304) 558-0230.

[This article originally was prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site based on information provided by Bob Withers.]

Martin Robison Delany 200th Anniversary

The Jefferson County Black History Preservation Society has organized events and lectures to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Martin Robison Delany, 1812-1885, called the “Father of Black Nationalism.” The text of the West Virginia Highway Historical Marker honoring him, located on State Route 51 just west of Charles Town, states: “Free African American, born 1812 in Charles Town. Died 1885. Ability to read forced family to move to PA in 1822. Studied medicine and attended Harvard in 1850. Published Mystery, first black newspaper west of Allegh. 1843-47, & co-edited North Star with Frederick Douglass to promote and aid abolitionist cause. Comm. major, highest ranking African-American field officer in Union Army, in 1865.” A brief biography of Delany can be read at http://www.wvculture.org/history/delany.html, and the West Virginia University Libraries have an information-packed Web site for Delany at http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/delany/home.htm. The calendar of this newsletter will include some of the main anniversary events. For a complete list of activities, visit the society’s Web site at http://www.jcblackhistory.org/.

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conducted by:</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Jack Dickinson</td>
<td>Every Blood-Stained Mile: The Building of the Norfolk and Western in West Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Dr. Cicero Fain</td>
<td>Black Contribution to the Building of the C&amp;O Railroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>Larry Rowe</td>
<td>Malden and the Salt Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Gilbert Casto</td>
<td>History of the Kanawha Valley, Focusing on Fort Lee</td>
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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.

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

More from Confederate Receipt Book

Confederate Receipt Book: A Compilation of Over One Hundred Receipts, Adapted to the Times, West & Johnston, Richmond, Va., 1863. [Text available online at http://docsouth.unc.edu/imls/receipt/menu.html, reprints available from Amazon.com and other sources.] This 28-page booklet offers substitutes and “make do” hints for items made scarce due to the war or due to lack of money.

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
Lessons Learned in Genealogical/Historical Research To Be April 12 Program Topic

On April 12, 2012, Dr. Charles Ledbetter will present “Lessons Learned by a Lay Person about the Joys and Frustrations of Genealogical/Historical Research” at the Thursday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library in the Culture Center in Charleston. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Ledbetter will reveal some of the pitfalls he has found in researching the history of individuals and organizations that have caused him much distress and will share the lessons he has learned from that research. Among the topics he will address are using online genealogy programs, working with librarians and archivists, using census data and official documents, conducting interviews, translating the language of the past, and interpreting myths and stereotypes. Ledbetter will also share specific examples of lessons learned in researching African Americans and Native Americans.

Born in Muskogee, Oklahoma, Charles T. Ledbetter holds an undergraduate degree from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri; a master’s from Golden Gate University in San Francisco; and a Ph.D. from Kent State University in Ohio. Retiring as a lieutenant colonel after a 20-year career in the U.S. Army, he spent almost 30 years at West Virginia State University where he retired as Professor Emeritus in Education. Ledbetter is the author of three books and a number of published articles including his award winning two volume Alliance Against the Odds: The Manual Training High School Story (2008), From Segregation to Desegregation: A Major Flaw In Implementing The Brown Decision (2005), and Tuskegee Airmen and the West Virginia State College Aviation Program Connection (2002). Ledbetter is currently vice chair of the Archives and History Commission for the State of West Virginia.

For planning purposes, participants are encouraged to register for the program, but advance registration is not required to attend. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, at bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov or at (304) 558-0230, ext. 163. Participants interested in registering by e-mail should send their name, telephone number and the name and date of the session. For additional information, contact the Archives and History Library at (304) 558-0230.

[This article originally was prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site based on information provided by Charles Ledbetter.]

New Titles

Veterans Reign in Their Own Parade: 5th Grade, Rainelle Elementary School, with Martin and Delia Wach, 2007.
West Virginia Facts and Symbols: [juvenile], Kathy Feeney, 2003.
Southern West Virginia and the Struggle for Modernity: Christopher Dorsey, 2011.
West Virginia: [Juvenile], Nancy Hoffman and Joyce Hart, 2008.
Whitewater Rafting on West Virginia’s New & Gauley Rivers: Come on in, the Water’s Weird: Jay Young, 2011.
The Surnames of Wales: John and Sheila Rowlands, 1996.
“I Recollect”: A Collection of Memories from Three Generations of Eversons: [no date].
Those Incredible Scotts...and Clays: Daniel L. Scott, 2008.
“At a Place Called Buckingham”: Joanne L. Yeck, 2011.
Barns of Summers County: Phyllis Campbell Whitley, 2011.
Huntington East High School: Class of 1945: 50th Reunion: [1995].
Reading Appalachia from Left to Right: Conservatives and the 1974 Kanawha County Textbook Controversy: Carol Mason, 2009.
Mac Day, Crusader: William Grant Burleigh, 1925.
Bless Your Little Heart: The Story of Buddy Starcher: Marion R. Goddard, [195-?].
Hillbilly Entertainer Converted to Christ: Buddy Starcher, [195-?].
The Voices of Hunger in West Virginia: Christine L. Bean and Margaret W. Miltenerberger, 1996.
New Titles

Gifts of Mining Your History Foundation

Obituaries and Other News: Berkeley County, West Virginia: 1880-1888: Volume 1: Berkeley County Historical Society, [no date].
Obituaries and Other News: Berkeley County, West Virginia: 1889-1894: Volume 2: Berkeley County Historical Society, [no date].
In and Around Gerrardstown, West Virginia: James V. Hutton, Jr., 1999.

H.E. Howard series titles donated by the late Echols A. Hansbarger, Jr., M.D.
The Battles of Appomattox Station and Appomattox Court House: Chris M. Calkins, 2011.
First Manassas Battlefield Map Study: Ed Bearss, [1997].
The Battle of Seven Pines: Steven H. Newton, 1993.
Charlottesville and the University of Virginia in the Civil War: Ervin L. Jordan, Jr., 1988.

Local 1940 Census Indexes Sought

Since searchable online indexes for the 1940 Census will not be available for an unknown period of time, individuals and societies may compile indexes for their own counties or individual enumeration districts as done for census records in years past. The West Virginia Archives and History Library would appreciate receiving copies of any indexes you are willing to share with our genealogy research patrons. If you post it on a Web site, please e-mail or call us (304-558-0230) to provide the url or a link. You can e-mail a document to Susan Scouras at susan.c.scouras@wv.gov, or drop off or mail a photocopy to her in care of the WV Archives and History Library, The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East, Charleston, WV 25305-0300.

Web Sites of Interest

• Cagey Consumer Web site with page of links supplying information about Halbert’s “heirloom” books, including the various titles under which these compiled surname books are published, and descriptions of their actual content, sources, provenance and bindings: http://cageyconsumer.com/heirbook.html. These books are considered fraudulent by most knowledgeable genealogists and are seldom cataloged into library genealogy collections.
• Tips for using the census and obituaries in two blog posts on the New York Public Library Web site:
  • Everyone Counts: Using the Census in Genealogy Research, by Carmen Nigro, December 8, 2011: http://www.nypl.org/blog/2011/12/08/everyone-counts-using-census-
Continued on the next page
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.

**CONSERVING OUR TEXTILES EXHIBIT**, through April 30: North House Museum, Lewisburg.

**“COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY,”** April 2: Ken Hechler, speaker, Erma Byrd Higher Education Center, Beckley.

**INTERNET GENEALOGY CLASS**, April 7: Kanawha Valley History Center Library, Rand Community Center. For more information contact Linda Hoskins, kvhc06@yahoo.com or (304) 205-7962.

**INTERNET GENEALOGY CLASS (REPEAT),** April 12: Kanawha Valley History Center Library, Rand Community Center. For more information contact Linda Hoskins, kvhc06@yahoo.com or (304) 205-7962.

**“WEIRTON’S TITANIC CONNECTION,”** April 21: Janet White, speaker, Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center, Weirton.

**“BETTER HOMES FOR LESS MONEY: KIT HOMES OF CHARLESTON,”** April 22: Dr. Billy Joe Peyton, speaker, McFarland-Hubbard House, Charleston.
### 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.

#### “MAKING SENSE OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR” READING AND DISCUSSION SERIES, April 23:
Greg Carroll, leader, Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston.

#### “FIRE ON THE WATER: A NEW HISTORY OF THE WHEELING STEEL CORPORATION,” April 24:
Raymond L. Boothe, speaker, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

#### “TELLING A BIG STORY: PRESERVATION AND PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE MEADOWCROFT ROCKSHELTER,” April 26:
David Scofield, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

#### “TOWN RUN: ECONOMIC HEARTBEAT OF EARLY SHEPHERDSTOWN,”
April 26: Dr. Keith Alexander, speaker, Shepherdstown. **Note date change.**

#### MARTIN R. DELANY 200TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, May 5:
Forum discussion of Delany’s early years and life in Charles Town, Fishermen Hall, Charles Town.

#### PRIMARY ELECTION DAY, May 8:
Archives Library will be **closed**.

#### MARTIN R. DELANY 200TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, May 18:
Joe Bundy portrayal of Delany, Fishermen Hall, Charles Town.

#### “ROBERT E. LEE IN WEST VIRGINIA,” May 20:
Hunter Lesser, speaker, McFarland-Hubbard House, Charleston.

#### MARTIN R. DELANY 200TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, May 21:
Forum discussion of Delany’s life between leaving Charles Town and the Civil War, Charles Town Library.

#### “BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION AND INTEGRATION IN SHEPHERDSTOWN,”
May 24: Hannah Geffert and others, panel discussion, Shepherdstown.

#### MEMORIAL DAY, May 28:
Archives Library will be closed.

#### “MAKING SENSE OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR” READING AND DISCUSSION SERIES, May 28:
Greg Carroll, leader, Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston.

#### “A COMPANY OF BOYS IN BLUE—THE CIVIL WAR THROUGH THE EYES OF A SOLDIER,” June 12:
Mark Paul, speaker, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

#### WEST VIRGINIA DAY, June 20:
Archives Library will be open.*

#### “STORMING HEAVEN AT 25: A RETROSPECTIVE,” June 24:
Denise Giardina, speaker, McFarland-Hubbard House, Charleston.

*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.
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