



WEST VIRGINIA Archives and History NEWS

From the Editor:

**VOLUME XII, No. 6
AUGUST 2011**

**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)**

Has your West Virginia historical, genealogical, or preservation society been getting West Virginia Archives and History News in the mail every month? If it's on the list we maintain (<http://www.wvculture.org/history/histsocs.html>), it should be. However, if your society's mailing address has changed and we haven't been notified, the newsletter is still going to the old address. Recently, we have had our mail returned for two different societies. In one case, we made a local contact. In the other, the post office had no forwarding address and we have received no reply to our e-mail inquiry. The society list is used not only for the newsletter but also for our History Day mailing in the fall. If you are a member of a group listed on our Web site, please check the information we have. If it is incorrect, let me (Mary Johnson) know. I can be reached at mary.e.johnson2@wv.gov or (304) 558-0230. We don't want to lose contact with you!

Records Management and Preservation Board Statewide Preservation Project

By RMPB Staff

The statewide records preservation project was initiated by the Records Management and Preservation Board (RMPB) to create and/or preserve off-site microfilm of county clerks' deed books. When the project was in its planning stages, a statewide survey of county officials was conducted to determine county microfilm and digital holdings. Personnel, space, and equipment requirements were determined, and the RMPB approved purchasing equipment and hiring personnel.

The initial equipment, consisting of an archive writer (digital image to microfilm camera) and a microfilm scanner (microfilm images to a digital format), was purchased in January 2010. Later, in January 2011, a large document scanner (paper documents to a digital format) was acquired.

Putnam County records served as a pilot project, which involved taking digital images of the county clerk's records (1992–2009) and creating rolls of microfilm. Filming began on March 22, 2010, and took just over six months to complete.

During the pilot project, 364 rolls of microfilm containing nearly one million images were generated. By creating preservation microfilm, staff have preserved the records for hundreds of years to come.

Continued on page 5

Henline to Discuss Eastern Band Cherokee at August Tuesday Night Lecture Program

On August 2, 2011, Travis L. Henline, site manager at West Virginia Independence Hall, will present "The Resurgence of Anikituhwa: Language and Cultural Revitalization among the Eastern Band Cherokee" 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.

Henline will base his presentation

on experiences working with the Eastern Band of the Cherokee. The program will involve an introductory lesson in speaking the Kituhwa dialect of the Cherokee language using the Total Physical Response method of teaching second languages, an interactive method that utilizes non-verbal cues.

Travis Henline holds a bachelor's

Continued on the next page

Continued from page 1

degree in English and anthropology and recently received his master's degree in history. Before coming to Independence Hall, he worked as an interpretive park ranger at Fort Necessity National Battlefield, an interpretive historian at Pricketts Fort, and the manager of public history development for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. At Williamsburg, Henline coordinated the American Indian Initiative, a programmatic endeavor to include Native Americans in the history of 18th-century Williamsburg.

On August 2, the library will close at 5 p.m. and reopen at 5:45 p.m. for participants only. Advance registration for the workshop is not required, but is encouraged to help plan seating arrangements and supplies for the session. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, 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.]

<p>Genealogy Club</p> <p>Archives and History Library</p> <p>Every Thursday Evening 6:00-7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Once a month, on the second Thursday, there will be a special program with a speaker. 6:00-7:30 p.m.</p>
--

Slaves and Free People of Color in Western Virginia to be Focus of Genealogy Program

Archives and History staff historian Greg Carroll will present "Slaves and Free People of Color in Western Virginia from 1800 to 1860" at the meeting of the Thursday evening Genealogy Club on August 11, 2011. The club will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library in the Culture Center in Charleston. Meetings of the Genealogy Club are free and the public is invited to attend.

Carroll will look at the political and legal lives of both slaves and free people of color. Slavery did not exist in western Virginia in anywhere near the numbers that it did in the east. In a few areas, such as the Eastern Panhandle and the Kanawha Valley, slaves were more numerous. The panhandle was primarily an agricultural area having more in common with its eastern neighbors than with counties to the west. In the Kanawha Valley, slaves were

mainly used in the salt industry and were the first to commercially mine coal in this area. Free people of color were often freed slaves or mixed race people who were slowly being driven from the eastern Virginia counties by oppressive racial laws. This was especially true after Nat Turner's Rebellion in 1831. These issues will be discussed and questions are invited.

Advance registration for the program is not required but is encouraged to help plan seating arrangements. To register in advance, contact Robert Taylor, library manager, 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.]

July's Carr China Lecture Informative

On July 5, James R. Mitchell, chief curator for the West Virginia State Museum, presented "Decorating Carr China" at the monthly Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library. Mitchell reviewed the history of the company before showing examples of the company's product and cylinders used in creating the dishware patterns. Images



from the program are available at

<http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/wkshp070511.html>.

[This article is a shorter version of one prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site.]

Meet Volunteer Pat McClure

By Mary Johnson

For a little more than a year and one-half, Archives and History has been fortunate to have Patricia Richards McClure as a volunteer. Pat is working with the West Virginia Veterans Memorial Archives project to prepare biographies of the men and women whose names are on the memorial at the Capitol Complex.

Pat hails from Ohio—just across the river—but she has roots in West Virginia. Her father was from Ritchie County, and she has lived here for a number of years. She spent her professional career in education. After teaching high school for a few years, she taught at West Virginia State University, where she was an associate professor of English, for about twenty years before becoming a writer/editor for an educational research and development firm. Now retired, Pat divides her time between her condominium association board (she is a board member) and preparing biographies for the Veterans Memorial.

Pat was drawn to the memorial biography project because she has a close friend whose father was killed at Normandy. At first, she thought she would edit biographies, but Archives and History Director Joe

Geiger asked if she would like to research and write them as well. Since then, she has prepared nearly three dozen for the Web site. (The Veterans Memorial biographies are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/wvmemory/vets/vetbios.html>.)



Because she had brothers in service during the Second World War and because returning servicemen and women left a big impression on her, Pat's particular interest is World War II. However, when a recent news article draws her attention to a particular name, she will prepare a biography for an individual from one of the other 20th-century conflicts. Often, it's a bridge being named for

someone who died during one of the wars that will get her attention. As Pat notes, the legislative resolutions usually include the name of kin and preparing a biography is easier when family members are available as a resource.

For Pat, it has been gratifying to reach out to families. Once, she was able to help a half-sister find out why her brother had gotten a Bronze Star, something the woman had not known in the forty years since her brother's death. Her most recent contact has resulted in some material coming to the West Virginia State Archives.

One of Pat's goals is to get other people involved with the Veterans Memorial biographies. After all, with more than 11,000 men and women included on the memorial, there is more work than she and the staff on the project can hope to finish in one lifetime!

Rehoboth 225th Anniversary Celebrated in June

The 225th anniversary of the Rehoboth Church, the oldest extant Protestant church west of the Alleghenies and the only United Methodist Heritage Landmark in West Virginia, was celebrated on June 25, 2011. About 200 people gathered outside the log church building, located on a 5-acre site near Union in Monroe County. Several individuals, including Archives and History Director Joe Geiger, made remarks, and the Reverend Dr. Joseph Kenaston gave a portrayal of Bishop Francis Asbury, one of the most important figures in the early history of the Methodist Church in America. Asbury dedicated the Rehoboth Church building in 1786 and visited the church on several occasions. The church was rededicated near the end of the 2011 ceremony.

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
August 2 Tuesday	Travis Henline	<i>The Resurgence of Anikituhwa: Language and Cultural Revitalization among the Eastern Band Cherokee</i>
September 6 Tuesday	Bob Beanblossom	<i>History of the West Virginia State Park System</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.

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.

A Look at West Virginia State Archives' Audio-Visual Collection

By Debra Basham and Dick Fauss

In 1982, the West Virginia State Archives established the Harry Brawley Collection of Broadcast Media, named in honor of West Virginia Educational Broadcasting pioneer Harry Brawley, to collect and preserve the moving image history of the state. The early collection consisted of WSAZ-TV film and videotape produced by the Charleston bureau for 1957–1971, WCHS-TV (Charleston) film for 1954–1976, and WTRF-TV (Wheeling) film for the years 1955–1980. WSAZ and WCHS have continued their donations of film and later videotape, with WSAZ donations to the year 2007 and WCHS to 1999. These stations have been joined by WVVA-TV (Bluefield) with film for 1974–1982 and WOWK-TV (Charleston) videotapes for 1981–2002.

West Virginia Public Broadcasting also is part of the collection in a variety of formats. Some of the 2-inch videotapes from WNPB (WVU) for 1969–1985 have been transferred to Beta SP, and there also are 3/4-inch videotapes donated by a WNPB producer. The WPBY collection contains mostly 3/4-inch videotapes with some Beta SP and more recent DVC Pro videotapes. In the past six months, we have taken in a collection of 1990s broadcast programs on 1-inch videotape from the Beckley studio (formerly WSWP).

In addition to broadcast television, private individuals and groups have also shared their collections with the West Virginia State Archives. Among them are Bill Kelley, who worked in broadcasting for over forty years for WCHS, WSAZ, and WPBY and who volunteers one afternoon a week at the State Archives to identify old newsfilm. Also included is Emil

Varney who worked for WSAZ and WOWK. Wheeling filmmaker Ellis Dungan made several documentaries about the state while Sam Moore of Charleston shot and collected old home movies. The Reverend Ottis Snodgrass shot a silent film, *West Virginia, the State Beautiful*, taking the viewer on a trip across U.S. Route 60, the Midland Trail, in 1929.

The challenge of keeping up with the variety of ever-changing formats and equipment is the responsibility of audio-visual archivist Richard Fauss. Having joined the Archives and History staff in 1982 when the Brawley collection was established, Fauss has overseen the tremendous growth of the collections and their increased use by documentary researchers and local television stations. A long-time member of the Association of Moving Image Archivists and founding member of the group's Local Television Task Force Steering Committee, he was honored by AMIA in 2002 with its Dan and Kathy Leab Award for service to

the archival community. In 2001 he presented a paper at the Society of American Archivists conference entitled "Working Within a Larger Institution to Promote Access" for a panel on "Marketing and Promotion: Raising Community Awareness of Moving Image Archives."

In 2005, Allen Fowler began working part-time with the collection, making DVD reference copies from newly made digital video tapes and capturing JPEG images, both of which can be used to create a reference tool for footage in the collection. Allen also has taken some video clips from the audio-visual collection and prepared them for posting on the Archives Web site, starting with a number of items for our "On This Day in West Virginia History" feature and now including our YouTube and Facebook pages.

Over the years, a number of projects have used footage from the West Virginia State Archives, including the West Virginia Public Broadcasting documentary *West Virginians in War* and *West Virginia, A Film History*. Currently, WVPBS programs feature archival footage

Continued on the next page

Hechler Was Speaker at Genealogy Program

At the July 14 Thursday night Archives and History genealogy program in the library, Ken Hechler, author, historian, and political figure,



made a presentation on his new book *Soldier of the Union*, which contains letters written by his grandfather and great uncle during the Civil War. However, much of the evening

was a question-and-answer session, and Dr. Hechler addressed questions on a variety of activities in his life, ranging from his work as a combat historian during

World War II to his efforts against mountaintop removal. Images from the program are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/2011julygenclub.html>.

[This article is a shorter version of one prepared by Mary Johnson for the Archives and History Web site.]

on many of their historic programs, such as the upcoming documentary *The Winding Gulf: Stories From West Virginia's Coalfields*. In addition,

footage from the West Virginia State Archives has appeared in a number of programs on the History and Discovery channels.



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.

Continued from page 1

The RMPB project has expanded to more than 19 counties, with county deeds being its main thrust. Several counties are loaning the State Archives their original deed books to scan on the large document scanner. This allows the best possible images to be preserved for microfilming and eventually downloaded to the county digital storage system for county clerks' office usage. Several counties also have transferred microfilm that is onsite at the county courthouse to the State Archives for eventual digitization.

Staff members have been traveling back and forth to county courthouses to collect and return loaned materials. For the county deed books, they use the large format digital scanner to digitize the records. For county microfilm, staff first determine whether the film has "vinegar syndrome," an irreversible form of decay that affects older microfilm with a cellulose acetate base when acetic acid is released. (For anyone who has opened a drawer of newspaper or other microfilmed records and gotten a whiff of vinegar, that is what is happening to the film.) At this point, the only thing to do is to replace the film. If caught early enough, the microfilm can be carefully duplicated. If not, the books must be scanned and new microfilm created.

One aspect of the project is creating digital images of microfilm records for public access. This involves taking rolls of microfilm that various counties already have and running them through the microfilm scanner, which automatically converts each film frame to a digital image. After the images are saved, each roll is proofed, image by image, to be sure that it is readable and that no edges are cut off. Once a roll is completed, a computer program compresses the image size and renames each image for each roll of film. The digital files are then made available to the county.

The RMPB presently has three full-time staff: Kyle Campbell, Randy Marcum, and Denise Ferguson. Kyle initially came to Archives and History in February 2009 as an intern from West Virginia State University, and he was involved in several projects prior to being hired full-time as a cultural program specialist with the RMPB statewide preservation project in July 2010. After graduating from college in August 2009, he also worked on the RMPB pilot project and was involved in the set-up and trial runs of the equipment acquired to begin the project.

Randy Marcum was brought onboard in January 2011 as a cultural program associate. Previously, he worked as the file clerk for the Kanawha County Public Defender's

Office and had been a volunteer at Archives and History for a number of years. Randy graduated from the University of Rio Grande in 1994.

Denise Ferguson is the county records archivist. She reviews, monitors, and makes recommendations and site visits on behalf of the RMPB grant program to ensure compliance with the grant contract, laws, and records program policies. She also has initiated a project to assist circuit clerks with processing their chancery files. Denise has an M.L.I.S. from the University of South Carolina and has worked with the RMPB program since 2005.

Jimmy Fauss, a summer intern under the Governor's Internship Program, has been working with Kyle Campbell and Randy Marcum. Jimmy is a 2010 graduate of Charleston Catholic High School and is attending West Virginia University-Institute of Technology in Montgomery. He, Caroline Kaufman, another governor's intern, and Amanda Adams, the Virgil Lewis Fellow, were the focus of an article in the July issue of *Archives and History News*.

Carlile at the Second Wheeling Convention

On August 8, 1861, John Carlile, U.S. senator from Virginia, made a speech on the division of the state at the Second Wheeling Convention. Carlile would prove to be one of the most controversial statehood leaders, lauded early on but later despised when he voted against West Virginia statehood. Below is an extract from his speech, available in its entirety on the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/statehood/wheelingconvention20808a.html>.

We have entered upon a war such as heaven and earth never saw

Continued on the next page

before, and such as I trust in God never will be witnessed again. What is to be its end nobody knows; no man can tell. And what, when peace shall at last come, with a tired and oppressed people, ground down by taxation and oppression, legitimate and natural consequences of war—what consideration would they bestow, the 28,000,000 of people, when coming upon terms and ratifying and concluding a peace upon the 308,000 people who inhabit the counties set forth in the resolution? How long would they let that people stand in the way of a settlement at the termination of this war? It is a question I throw out as a suggestion to be resolved by gentlemen in their minds when they rest upon their pillows. God grant that a separation of these States never may take place! I hope it never may; and as far as it depends on my action, it never shall. But, sir, I am but a grain of sand on the sea shore; and you are but a grain of sand, and we are all but grains of sand on the shore of our country's destiny. It is a duty we owe to the people who have confided all their

interests to guard and protect them against every possible contingency; and while I admit with you that it is improbable that this war shall ever be terminated in any other way than by maintaining the integrity of the Union, and the supremacy of its laws, yet you must admit with me that there is a possibility of its terminating in some other mode. I, therefore, feel it incumbent upon me as one of the representatives of a people who have ably sustained me upon any and all occasions to guard them against a possibility—and it is a possibility—where, in case of a settlement, if we remain inactive, would we go? Where would we be? Then if we act and that possibility does not take place, we are where you and I and our people wish us to be—disconnected from the rest of the State, the connection being an unnatural one, . . . My opinions, formed years ago, in a time of profound peace, have been strengthened by every day's experience. It will be remembered by the members of this Convention that in our last meeting in June, while I was then behind

some of my friends in this movement, and while I was pointed at as having abandoned what I had uttered before, in the former Convention, as the matured convictions of my mind, I pledged gentlemen that if they would wait until their purpose really could be accomplished, that then we had no recognition, no Legislature known to the Federal authorities as such, that then we had no Legislature that could give us the assent provided for and required by the Constitution to be given to a separation—but that the moment we had a Legislature, recognized as such, speaking in the name of the State, whose assent should go to the Congress of the United States and be respected as the assent of a constitutional Legislature, then I promised you, gentlemen, I would go with you at the earliest possible moment for this division. I am here to redeem that pledge to-day.

For more information on West Virginia statehood and wartime activities, visit <http://www.wvculture.org/history/sesquicentennial.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.

WHICH SIDE WERE YOU ON?: UPSHUR COUNTY PERSONALITIES AND EVENTS DURING THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR, 1861–1865, SUMMER 2011 EXHIBIT, through September 25: The History Center Museum, Buckhannon.

75 YEARS OF THE MOUNTAIN STATE FOREST FESTIVAL EXHIBIT, through October: The Culture Center, Charleston.

AN AMERICAN TURNING POINT: THE CIVIL WAR IN VIRGINIA EXHIBIT, through December 30: Virginia Historical Society, Richmond. Exhibit includes West Virginia.

“FRONTIER FORTS,” August 4: Drs. Stephen and Kim McBride, speakers, New River Community Technical College Auditorium, Lewisburg. Call (304) 645-3398 to register.

“THE FINAL DAYS OF WEIRTON STEEL: COULD THE COLLAPSE HAVE BEEN PREVENTED?,” August 9: Thomas Zielinsky, speaker, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

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.

HACKERS CREEK PIONEER DESCENDANTS 30TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL GATHERING, August 11–14: Hackers Creek Library and John Sleeth Trading Post, Horner. Registration deadline August 1.

FILM “HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY: BENEATH KENTUCKY’S FIELDS AND STREAMS,” August 25: Andrea K. Keller and David E. Rotenizer, hosts, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville. For more information, visit <http://www.wvculture.org/eventdetail.aspx?Id=1428>.

LABOR DAY, September 5: Archives Library will be *closed*.

“REMEMBERING ROSIE GACIOCH” September 16: Barbara Gregorich, speaker, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

CHARLES TOWN HERITAGE FESTIVAL, September 17: Charles Town.

ROANE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL FAIR, September 24: Heritage Park Community Building, Spencer.

“THE SULTANA DISASTER” September 27: Kate Quinn, speaker, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

“ERIE COUNTY [PA] HISTORIC CEMETERY SURVEY,” September 29: Dr. Mary Ann Owoc, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

“ELEANOR ROOSEVELT (BAYARD YOUNG PHOTOS) AT ARTHURDALE” October 4: Judi Tarowsky, storyteller, Ohio County Public Library Lunch with Books, Wheeling.

COLUMBUS DAY, October 10: Archives Library will be open.*

WEST VIRGINIA BOOK FESTIVAL, October 22–23: Civic Center, Charleston.

“TO BE OR NOT TO BE: THE PUBLIC VOTE ON WEST VIRGINIA STATEHOOD,” October 24: Independence Hall, Wheeling.

“THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY IN THE MIDWEST,” October 27: Josh McConaughy, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

GUYANDOTTE CIVIL WAR DAYS, November 4–6: Huntington.

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

“AN ASTRONOMER’S LOOK AT THE GRAVE CREEK MOUND AND ITS ENVIRONS,” November 17: Dr. Francis Graham, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

**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.

WEST VIRGINIA
Archives
and **History NEWS**

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
The Culture 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.c.scouras@wv.gov.

www.wvculture.org/history

Archives and History Staff

Joe Geiger Director
Bryan Ward..... Assistant Director
Debra BashamArchivist (photographs, special collections)
Constance Baston Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
Kyle CampbellCultural Program Specialist (county records preservation project)
Greg Carroll..... Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
Dick FaussArchivist (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)
Susan Holbrook Secretary
Mary Johnson.....Historian
Terry LowryHistorian (Veterans records)
Randy Marcum Cultural Program Associate (county records preservation project)
Cathy MillerLibrary Assistant (WV State documents)
Harold NewmanLibrary 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
Interns/Part time..... Amanda Adams, Jimmy Fauss, Caroline Kaufman, James Balch
Volunteers..... Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, James Wilburn, Sue Shank,
Jerry Grady, Charlotte Thurston, Patricia Richards McClure, and Ken Bailey