



WEST VIRGINIA Archives and History NEWS

From the Editor:

VOLUME XII, No. 7
SEPTEMBER 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)**

With September comes the end of summer and the anticipation of a return to more normal routines. It has been a busy summer at Archives and History. In addition to the familiar faces, new visitors from more than thirty states, including a few from as far away as Oregon and California, have used our library since the first of June. The youthful faces and engaging laughter of our governor's interns, Jimmy Fauss and Caroline Kaufman, and Virgil Lewis Fellow, Amanda Adams, brightened the hallways over the last few months as well. They now have returned to school, though not without leaving their mark on Archives and History and its staff. Looking ahead, planning for the third annual Showcase, set for Monday, December 5, will soon commence; and the first mailing for History Day 2012 comes a month before the Showcase. Fall, with its "more normal routines," looks to be just as busy as summer has been, after all.

Update on Release of the 1940 Census

By Mary Johnson

In the February 2010 issue of *Archives and History News*, newsletter editor Susan Scouras wrote about the April 2, 2012, release of the 1940 United States census. As she noted, there was much that was uncertain at that time, but one thing that was known was that the census would be released in digital format online only. While there are still unanswered questions, recent events have shed light on some aspects of how the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) hopes to make the census available.

On June 1, 2011, NARA issued a Request for Information (RFI) "seeking industry input to award a no-cost contract to provide managed hosting and online access to digital images" of the census. NARA has already digitized the 1940 census schedules and maps, creating 3.8 million JPEG images, and also has

created XML (extensible markup language) files of metadata. (For West Virginia, almost 52,200 images were created.) Based on the RFI and the subsequent question-and-answer amendment, NARA is looking for

hosting and online access that will:

- provide free public access to the census records
- allow users to search by state, county, city or township, and/or

Continued on page 3

State Park System History Scheduled for September Tuesday Night Lecture Program

On September 6, 2011, Robert Beanblossom, district administrator in southern and eastern West Virginia for the state's Division of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Section, will present "History of the West Virginia State Park System" 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.

Beanblossom will discuss the development and history of the state's park system as well as the

broader, nationally based movement for preserving natural areas that arose in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The park system in West Virginia had its beginning in 1925 with the acquisition of timberland in Pocahontas County that later became Watoga State Park. Two years later, additional areas were recommended for purchase, and in 1928 Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park became the state's first historical park. Today, the state park system

Continued on the next page

Continued from page 1

consists of approximately fifty parks, forests, wildlife management areas, and rail trails.

Robert Beanblossom holds a bachelor's degree in forest recreation. He has a lifelong interest in forests and conservation; as a youth in 1971, he was one of fifteen winners nationwide of a National Conservation Award sponsored by the Isaac Walton League of America and spent the summer working at Monongahela National Forest. After working part-time as a forest fire tower observer while in college, Beanblossom became a forest ranger in his native Mingo County. He later spent nine years as a park superintendent, first at Panther State Forest and later at Watters Smith Memorial State Park, before becoming district administrator in 1989. Beanblossom has written articles about the park system for several publications, including *Goldenseal* and *Wonderful West Virginia*, and is the editor of the third edition of *Histories of the Southeastern State Park Systems*, published in 2011.

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

Genealogy Club

Archives and History Library

**Every Thursday Evening
6:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Once a month,
on the second Thursday,
there will be a special
program with a speaker.
6:00-7:30 p.m.**

On September 6, 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.

State Park Drawings at State Archives

By Debra Basham

In 2008, officials with the Parks and Recreation section of the Division of Natural Resources contacted the Archives and History staff regarding their upcoming move from Building 3 during its renovation. They had a large collection of blueprints, plans, and maps for the various state parks, which they wanted to transfer to the State Archives. They began the process of digitizing some of the ones they used the most and transferring all the drawings to the Archives after that, park by park. Over the past three years, they have transferred materials for 21 parks to us, totaling 5,127 sheets.

Among the materials are plans for roads, campgrounds, cabins, recreation areas, and golf courses. Plans for unique parks such as the Cass Scenic Railroad are part of the collection, with its plans for the cars, shop, and railroad track surveys. Many parks had plans created during the Civilian Conservation Corps period of the late 1930s, which have survived the last 70-75 years in good condition and with wonderful details for many of the earliest cabins.

The plans are still being transferred to us periodically, as Parks and Recreation prepare another group for us. These plans join earlier materials transferred from the Natural Resources staff over the years, including photographs and negatives of the parks in their earliest years, more recent photos from both Parks and Tourism staff, as well as some records of Seneca State Forest and superintendents' meetings. From the creation of Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park as the first park in the system, to the more recent parks, including

Continued on page 6

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
September 6 Tuesday	Bob Beanblossom	<i>History of the West Virginia State Park System</i>
October 11 Tuesday	Phil Sturm	<i>Slavery in the Ohio and Kanawha River Valleys: Using Local Primary Sources to Uncover the Past</i>
November 1 Tuesday	Merle Cole	<i>History of the West Virginia State Police</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.

Continued from page 1
enumeration district

- provide access to digital JPEG images, with zoom and pan capabilities
- allow single- or multiple-image (enumeration district) downloading at full image size (4 MB)
- support up to 25,000 concurrent users and up to 10 million hits per day, “while providing response times of less than three seconds for keyword searches of the descriptive metadata”
- provide uninterrupted service

In its RFI, NARA appears to be trying to determine what options are realistically available, so it is possible that all of the criteria listed in the RFI will not end up as part of the final product.

One thing seems certain: National Archives intends the 1940 census to be available to the public free of charge. In response to a question about whether access could be provided through a membership-based fee, the question-and-answer amendment states, “No. NARA’s intent is to provide free access to the 1940 Census records.” NARA also states on its Web site that people will be able to access the images free of charge not only on public computers at NARA facilities but also from personal computers via the Internet. That would mean that, unlike previous censuses, people with personal Internet access will be able to view the 1940 census from their own homes. Use of the public-access computers in the Archives and History Library will, of course, be an option for those without computer access at home.

Initially at least, those who know the addresses of the people they are looking for on the 1940 census will have the easiest time accessing the digital files because a name index will

Schust to Discuss McDowell County at September Genealogy Program

On September 8, 2011, Alex P. Schust, will present “The Genealogy of West Virginia’s Leading Coal Producing County” 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.

Schust will base his presentation on his three books about McDowell County—*Gary Hollow*, *Coalwood*, and *Billion Dollar Coalfield*. Collectively, in more than 1,500 pages, these three books illustrate how coal mining built McDowell County from a frontier outpost in 1888 to become West Virginia’s second largest county in population by 1920. McDowell County ranked third in population in 1930, 1940, and 1950 behind Kanawha and Cabell counties, with the 1950 population reaching nearly 100,000. The presentation will cover the contributions of the land owners, coal operators, railroad companies, and laborers to the growth of the county as coal operations built 106 of the 125 named communities in McDowell County. Schust will also discuss how changing energy consumption patterns reduced the 2010 McDowell County population to 22,113.

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

not be part of the April 2012 release. Maps with enumeration district numbers for the census are already available in the National Archives ARC catalog (<http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/>), and information on NARA’s 1940 census page (<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/start-research.html>) explains how to search. For example, to find the enumeration district (ED)

Alex Schust grew up in McDowell County’s Gary Hollow, which contained over 21 coal mining operations and the largest coal preparation plant in the world. After graduating from Gary High School, Schust earned a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering from Virginia Tech and a master’s degree in engineering management from George Washington University. He spent nearly 40 years in aviation and international air traffic management and provided seminars around the world on the applications of data communications and satellite technology to air traffic management. Since retiring in 2006, Schust has begun a second career of documenting the contribution of West Virginia coal to the industrialization of America.

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.

for a street address in Charleston, I entered “1940 census maps Kanawha Charleston WV,” which produced two results—Charleston and South Charleston. Clicking on the link for Charleston and then on the tab to digital copies, I found two images for the city. By selecting an image, I was able to scan the map until I found the street I wanted. The

Continued on the next page

handwritten enumeration district lines and numbers weren't extremely clear, but it was readable. As NARA's informational page notes, some towns may not have their own maps, instead being on the county maps, and, of course, the enumeration district for anyone not living in a town would also be on a county map. NARA's page also provides a link to a non-NARA site that apparently will be able to convert an ED number from the 1930 census to one for the 1940 census in cases where a family did not move between censuses.

In terms of preparing now for the release of the 1940 census, NARA has an excellent piece of advice: "Make a list of all the people you want to look for in the 1940 census. Think broadly—ancestors, their siblings, cousins, etc.—anybody to whom you are related." If you don't know where they lived in 1940, check city directories, World War II draft records, or naturalization petitions filed around 1940. Other clues to area of residence circa 1940 might be found on birth, death, or marriage records. And, if your family lived in different places, don't forget to ask living relatives who might remember the state and county where family members lived in 1940.

Archives and History has city directories from the 1940 period for Charleston, Fairmont, Huntington, and Wheeling. The library also has microfilm of county birth records from that time period (which are not yet available in our online Vital Research Records database) and of World War II draft registrations for men born between 1877 and 1897. We also have a number of West Virginia newspapers from that period. Staff member Elaine Gates suggested that if you know when and where one relative died about 1940, an obit might provide clues as to where others were living.

The subscription-based Ancestry.com is available at our public-access computers as well. Until the census is released and someone undertakes the task of creating a name index or

online name-search capability, this type of detective work will be the only way of getting to the records you want.

Additions to Microfilm of Out-of-State Civil War Era Newspapers

Archives and History has acquired additional rolls of Civil War era newspapers from Ohio to go with those that were purchased earlier this year (see the April 2011 issue of *Archives and History News* for a

listing of those acquisitions). In a few cases, the desired newspapers were on rolls of miscellaneous papers; however, only those dating to the Civil War are included in the list below.

OHIO

<i>Cincinnati Daily Press</i> , Cincinnati	September 1860–June 28, 1861
<i>Cincinnati Daily Times</i> , Cincinnati	May 22, 1844-August 23, 1862; March 7, 1863-November 1, 1878 (scattered issues)
<i>Cincinnati Dollar Weekly Commercial</i> , Cincinnati	December 17, 1846-July 25, 1861 (pre-war scattered); August 1-January 1862; January 1, 1863-December 28, 1865; December 26, 1866-June 10, 1871 (scattered issues)
<i>Gallipolis Dispatch</i> , Gallipolis	August 1, 1861-December 30, 1863; February 3, 1864-November 2, 1866; April 3, 1868-November 5, 1869
<i>Home News</i> , Marietta	January 1859-June 20, 1862; September 30, 1865-August 22, 1866
<i>Marietta Intelligencer</i> , Marietta	January 2, 1861-June 4, 1862
<i>Marietta Republican</i> , Marietta	September 7, 1860-November 5, 1863
<i>Meigs County Telegraph</i> , Pomeroy	August 2-December 27, 1859
<i>Pomeroy Weekly Telegraph</i> , Pomeroy	January 3, 1860-November 29, 1861
<i>Toledo Blade</i> , Toledo	January 2-June 29, 1861; July-December 18, 1861; December 19, 1861-June 30, 1862; July-December 19, 1862; December 20, 1862-June 27, 1863; June 29-December 31, 1863; January 2-June 11, 1864; June 13, 1864-June 13, 1865
<i>Washington County Register</i> , Marietta	June-October, December 1858
<i>Xenia Sentinel</i> , Xenia	August 25, 1863-June 16, 1865

Archives and History Web Site Offers Resources for Teachers

By Mary Johnson

Archives and History has made additional materials available for teacher use on its Web site. A "Teacher Resources" page was created some months ago, providing on a single page links to parts of the Web site that were thought likely to be of most interest to teachers and students. Included are links to the Daily Trivia, Quick Quizzes, and online exhibits, among others. Bryan Ward, assistant director of Archives and History, also developed lesson plans and exercises to accompany two of our online exhibits: *"His Soul Goes Marching On": The Life and Legacy of John Brown* and *A State of Convenience: The Creation of West Virginia*.

Recently, Bryan developed additional lessons for teachers that draw upon other primary source materials and offerings on our Web site. There are exercises using our "On this Day in West Virginia History," political cartoons and images from the 1960 West Virginia Democratic Primary campaign and from the Civil War and statehood periods, and population graphs. Bryan also has developed a unit activity on school integration in West Virginia that utilizes various primary source materials. Also available are JPEG images of charts, graphs, and maps that can be printed or downloaded for classroom use. The "Teacher Resources" page is

available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/teacherresources.html>. A link under Lesson Plans and Exercises will take you to a separate page where these materials can be accessed.

Bryan is already at work on additional lessons. If you have questions, comments, lessons of your own that you would like to share, or subject areas for which you would like lesson plans, please contact Bryan Ward by phone at (304) 558-0230 or by e-mail at bryan.e.ward@wv.gov.

150 Years Ago in September 1861

By Mary Johnson

Sept. 2: Union and Confederate forces skirmished in Fayette, Jefferson, and Marion counties

Sept. 10: Union and Confederate forces fought at Carnifex Ferry

Sept. 13: The last member of the Washington family to own Mount Vernon was killed near Elkwater

Sept. 17: Confederate rangers captured Unionists at Pond Fork

Sept. 21: Guerrilla Zach Cochran was killed at his home in Taylor County

Sept. 25: Francis Pierpont and John Carlile spoke at a mass meeting in Wheeling

To learn more about these and other events from September 1861, visit the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/sesquicentennial/186109.html>.

Events for 1861 are currently online, and several staff are working on 1862 and other years. In addition to the timeline, each week a new sesquicentennial trivia question is posted. Check out all the Archives and History online sesquicentennial projects at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/sesquicentennial.html>.



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.

Audience Participation Part of August Tuesday Night Lecture Program

On August 2, Travis Henline presented "The Resurgence of Anikituwaha: Language and Cultural Revitalization among the Eastern Band Cherokee" at the monthly Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library. After reviewing the history of the Cherokee and their language, Henline opened the program to audience participation, giving attendees a small sample of the Total Physical Response method of teaching

second languages. Images from the program are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/wkshp080211.html>.



Continued from page 2

Chief Logan, the history of more than eighty years of welcoming West

Virginians to the various outdoor activities is documented in these collections.

Slaves and Free People of Color Focus of August Genealogy Program

At the August 11 Thursday night Archives and History genealogy program in the library, Greg Carroll of the Archives and History staff made a presentation on slaves and free people of color in western Virginia. Among other things, Carroll looked at the impact of the black laws in Virginia. He also noted some of the materials available for research on African Americans in West Virginia but indicated a need to collect more information, such as oral histories. Images



from the program are available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/2011augustgenclub.html>.

Hardy County Petitions Jefferson Davis, 1861

The following is an extract from a September 10, 1861, petition to Jefferson Davis from Hardy County.

The undersigned, citizens of Hardy County, Virginia, desire to call your attention to the exposed and suffering condition of our county. We have been invaded for the past two months by Northern thieves. Our houses have been forcibly entered and robbed. Our horses, cattle, and

sheep in large numbers driven off. Our citizens arrested, carried off, and confined, only because they are loyal citizens of Virginia and the Southern Confederacy. Our cattle, sheep, and horses, to the amount of \$30,000, have been forcibly taken from us and appropriated to the support of the Army of the United States.

Our county, unfortunately, is divided, the western portion being disloyal. The Union men, as they call

themselves, have called upon Lincoln for protection. He, in answer to their call, has sent amongst us a set of base characters, who not only protect the Union men, but under their guidance are committing acts unheard of in any country claiming civilization. . . [W]e would suggest whether the interest of the Confederacy, apart from the large private interest involved, does not require the protection of our beef, our pork, and our corn for the use of the Southern Army. General Lee is now drawing his supply of corn from us. . . . Our enemies, not content with driving off our cattle and sheep by hundreds and our horses in numbers, are to-day, we are most reliably informed, engaged in thrashing out the crops of wheat of some of the farmers of Hampshire. . . .

We now would most earnestly call upon you, the chosen head of the Confederacy, for relief and continued protection, if not inconsistent with more important interests.

Jacob Van Meter et al.

The complete petition is available at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/sesquicentennial/18610910.html>. 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.

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.

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.

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

“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.*

**“A NEW HOME FOR LIBERTY’: HUMAN RIGHTS, SLAVERY, & THE CREATION
OF WEST VIRGINIA,”** October 18: Living history program, as well as pre-show panel with historians,
Civic Center, Charleston. Sponsored by the J. R. Clifford Project of Friends of Blackwater.

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.

THANKSGIVING DAY, November 24: Archives Library will be *closed*.

THANKSGIVING FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, November 25–26: 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.

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
Part time James Balch
Volunteers..... Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, James Wilburn, Sue Shank,
Jerry Grady, Charlotte Thurston, Patricia Richards McClure, and Ken Bailey