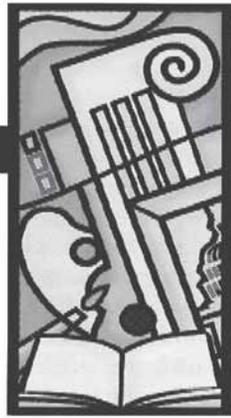


# West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

VOLUME IX, No. 9 NOVEMBER 2008



WEST VIRGINIA  
DIVISION OF  
CULTURE & HISTORY

## From the Editor:

*I would like to remind those of you who represent West Virginia genealogical and historical societies and are receiving paper copies of Archives and History News by mail that our intent is for the newsletter to be shared at your meetings and through any library or reference shelf you maintain for yourselves and/or the public. Please feel free to photocopy the newsletter to give to your membership, or to reprint any article you find relevant for your own society newsletter or Web site. (See the reprint permission notice that appears in each issue.) Don't forget that the newsletter is always available on our Web site—you can send e-mails with the link and recommend articles to your membership.*

## NARA Archivist Jefferson Moak Featured Speaker for MYHF Fall Conference

The 2008 Fall Conference and Annual Meeting of the Mining Your History Foundation (MYHF), co-sponsored by West Virginia Archives and History, will be held Saturday, November 15, and will feature Jefferson Moak, archivist for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Mid-Atlantic Region in Philadelphia. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives house historically significant federal records from 1790 to the present for Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Mr. Moak will speak about the West Virginia materials in the collection. He is known for his expertise in genealogy,

cartographic history and Philadelphia local history.

Mr. Moak will speak from 9:00 to 11:45 a.m. Following a lunch break, with a light lunch available, the MYHF Annual Meeting will convene

at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend the meeting, but only members may vote. Following the meeting, attendees are encouraged to finish the day exploring the resources of

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## It's Time for 2009 History Hero Nominations and History Day Registration!

Nomination forms for 2009 History Heroes and registration forms for exhibit space in the Capitol on History Day, March 5, 2009, will be mailed by the first of November. The mailing list is based on the 2008 History Day list of West Virginia organizations, plus any groups in the subsequent year that requested to be added. Contact persons and/or mailing addresses have been updated if information was provided by the organizations. If your organization or the contact person designated to receive your organization's mail has not received the History Hero/History Day mailing by November 15, please contact

West Virginia Archives and History, (304) 558-0230. Information and forms will be posted on the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history> as in previous years. (Check the *Latest News* column on the righthand side of the homepage for links.)

The deadline for History Hero nominations is December 31, 2008. The deadline for History Day exhibit (table) space registration is February 13. Envelopes must be postmarked or hand-delivered on or before the deadline date. For the first time, confirmation letters of receipt will be sent once nominations and

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**The West Virginia Archives  
and History Library will be  
closed  
Election Day, November 4,  
and the Friday and Saturday  
following Thanksgiving,  
as well as the holiday itself,  
November 27-29.**

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registrations are received. If a nominating or registering organization or an organization's designated contact person has not received confirmation within two weeks from the date that nomination or registration was mailed, contact Archives and History as soon as possible. Be sure to read the forms and instructions carefully. The 2009 History Hero form has been changed in order to aid in better describing the reasons for the nomination. For more information about West Virginia History Heroes and to view lists of previous honorees, visit the Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/histhero.html>.

## Book Review: *The Historical Atlas of West Virginia*

*The Historical Atlas of West Virginia*, by Frank S. Riddel, published in 2008 by West Virginia University Press, fills a major gap in West Virginia historiography. The book contains 127 maps relative to geography, history, transportation, natural resources and extractive industries, education, population, the evolution of counties, and legislative, judicial and congressional districts. Each map is accompanied by a brief essay, and references are noted for more in-depth study of the subject. Dr. Riddel's goal was to create an atlas that would provide readers with "a greater understanding of the relationship of history and geography." His publication will

Archives and History News  
 is available on the  
**Archives and History Web site**  
<http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>

## Reasons to Call the Archives and History Library Before Visiting

- *To make sure we have what you are seeking.* No matter how trustworthy or up-to-date the source, whether it is a Web site, another library or a fellow researcher, if you have been told that the West Virginia Archives and History Library has a specific resource, please check our Web site, <http://www.wvculture.org/history>; our online library catalog, <http://archives.lib.wv.us:71>; and/or call us to confirm we truly have the material before traveling to Charleston. Print and Internet resources can be out of date, and people can be mistaken about where a resource is located.
- *To see if on-going museum and*

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- (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.
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undoubtedly accomplish that, and this long-awaited publication will prove a valuable reference tool for West Virginia history teachers and students of all ages for years to come.

## Book Review: *Basics of Genealogy Reference: A Librarian's Guide*, by Jack Simpson

The author, Jack Simpson, is Curator of Local and Family History at The Newberry Library, an independent research library focused on the humanities and social sciences that is well-known for its genealogy section. He describes his work as

*Cultural Center renovations are affecting accessibility to the Library.*

- *For parking information.* If we are aware of any limitations to parking availability on the date of your planned visit, we will inform you and suggest alternatives. For instance, many metered spaces in the Capitol Complex parking lots are restricted to permit parking only during Legislative sessions. At other times, the lot adjacent to The Cultural Center is restricted to temporary permit holders for special events and meetings.
- *For information about availability of specific staff members.* For instance, if you have questions or need assistance with an application for a West Virginia Civil War medal, you will want to meet with Greg Carroll, the staff historian who handles the applications.
- *To have holdings in Special Collections, Photograph Collection, Audio-Visual Collection, Manuscript Collection or other non-book materials pulled or prepared for your use.* Our published rules for use of these collections and all of our collection guides request prior notification for use of these materials.
- *To see if we are open on a holiday.* The Archives and History Library is open on selected state holidays. The holiday schedule may vary from year to year.

"a short, beginner-friendly book aimed at librarians and library students who aren't planning on specializing in genealogy, but would like to know some of the basic tools and techniques for assisting family

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*"Moak" continued from page 1*

the West Virginia Archives and History Library until 5:00 p.m.

Mining Your History Foundation has both individuals and societies as members. Goals of MYHF include networking among genealogical and historical societies in West Virginia; supporting the West Virginia Archives and History Library with financial donations, volunteers and donation of books and microfilm to the collection; plus dissemination of information pertaining to research in and about West Virginia. Benefits of membership include four issues of *Mountain News* newsletter, the

ability to submit three queries per newsletter issue, notice of workshops and programs in West Virginia, and distribution of member societies' publications, flyers and brochures at state and national conferences by MYHF representatives. Dues for individuals and societies are \$15.00.

The conference is free, but registration is requested. For more information, contact Esther Warner, ebw104@suddenlink.net; Virginia Gillespie, vgillespie@aol.com; call Archives and History, (304) 558-0230; or check *Latest News* on the Archives and History Web site, <http://www.wvculture.org/history>.

## Microfilm Reader-Printer Changes in the Archives Library

The West Virginia Archives and History Library has two new microfilm reader-printers for public use that operate on a debit card system for payment rather than coins. Patrons of National Archives branches and many other libraries around the country will already be familiar with similar setups. Each reader-printer has a card reader that accepts pre-paid debit cards. The debit cards are sold at the Library's Security/Copy Desk in pre-loaded amounts of \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00, or in any individually determined amount requested by a patron. Copy cost remains at \$.25 per letter-size copy. Both local frequent patrons and out-of-town visitors with a lot of copying to do are finding it convenient to purchase \$20.00 cards and carry them in their wallets, eliminating the need to buy rolls of quarters, especially since the cards can be re-charged with additional funds. Staff will still have a by-pass, so be sure to request Reference Desk staff to replace any poor copies for you, just as we do with the coin-operated machines.

The three coin-operated microfilm reader-printers formerly located

in the Reading Room have been moved into the Microfilm Reader Room. As always, quarters are readily available at the Security/Copy Desk, and assistance is provided by the Reference Desk staff. A half-hour limit is posted for use of these reader-printers, after which staff may ask a patron to give up a machine so a waiting patron can have a turn. New tables in the Reading Room and renovated counter space in the Microfilm Reading Room will allow us to add two new reader-printers in each room when funds allow. We expect all new machines to employ card reader systems.

## Capitol Complex Visitor Parking

While the employee parking garage is being repaired August 18 through November 30, employees with parking garage permits will be parking at Laidley Field as needed during this time. When the Laidley Field parking lots are being used for staff parking, they will not be open for visitor parking. Visitor parking will be available only at the meters on the Complex on those days.

*"Simpson" continued from page 2*

history researchers." He adds, "I particularly focus on resources that will be available at many public libraries, including free internet sources and the major commercial databases." This title comes highly recommended by experienced genealogy librarians and by library staff members and library science students who were newcomers to genealogy. For those with the time and the funds, Simpson also offers an online five-week Genealogy 101 class through the American Library Association [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/genealogy101/index.cfm>] for library reference staff and library science students. Offered periodically, the class will be available next in Spring 2009.

## Archives and History Calendar of Events Submissions

Archives and History publishes a calendar of events in this newsletter, and also lists selected events on our Web site under *Upcoming Events and Meetings*. If you would like your event or meeting speaker considered for inclusion in one or both calendars, please submit your information with a contact phone number and/or e-mail as soon as possible once your final decisions are made. Press releases usually come out too close to the event for us to be able to include them in the newsletter. We try to mail the newsletter by the first of the month, and we know that many organization members will not see it until their next meeting or next library visit, perhaps as much as a month or more after a newsletter issue was written. If an event occurs in the first week or two of a month, you need to get your information in at least six weeks before the event.

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For example, for an event occurring on February 7, for most readers to have an opportunity to see the announcement at least a week before the event, we need to know about it by December 15 so the listing will appear in the January issue. *Upcoming Events and Meetings* will also accept notices of regular meetings of historical, genealogical and preservation societies. For events to be considered for listing in the *Archives and History News* calendar, e-mail Susan Scouras, [susan.scouras@wvculture.org](mailto:susan.scouras@wvculture.org). For both events and regular meetings to be considered for listing online, contact Joe Geiger, [joe.geiger@wvculture.org](mailto:joe.geiger@wvculture.org). Either may be reached at (304) 558-0230.

## Web Sites of Interest

- The West Virginia Division of Culture and History has posted photographs of the **West Virginia State Museum's construction and fabrication** on its Web site so interested visitors can view the progress of the project. The photographs can be accessed at <http://www.wvculture.org/museum/renovate.html>. For more information about the renovation project, contact Deputy Commissioner Jacqueline Proctor at (304) 558-0220.
- Tampa Bay genealogy librarian Sharon Centanne has an online tutorial, *Librarian's Guide to Helping Patrons with Genealogical Research*, <http://home.tampabay.rr.com/centans/genguide.html>, that is an excellent source for both professional librarians and non-professional library staff to learn how to assist family history researchers. The site is newly updated, offers a site map Table of Contents, and has about 50 pages of information and links. If your local library has a

genealogy section, or if your society maintains a research library, suggest this Web site as a resource, especially for staff members unfamiliar with genealogy.

- **Live Roots**, <http://www.liveroots.com>, is a new genealogy search engine. Live Roots is a production of Genealogy Today, <http://www.genealogytoday.com>, a Web site that offers both free and fee-based databases. According to its homepage: "The concept behind Live Roots was to build a single resource that bridges the gaps between independent genealogy web sites, large commercial ancestry repositories, and many other printed family history materials yet to be digitized and

## Preserve America Mini Grants for New Deal Projects

The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting applications for Preserve America mini grants, with approximately \$30,000 available for grant awards on a 50/50 matching basis. Applications must be postmarked by December 15. The grants are intended to support efforts associated with a Preserve America Grant from the National Park Service in cooperation with Preservation Alliance of West Virginia. Eligible projects include National Register of Historic Places nominations, rehabilitation projects, predevelopment projects, publications, audio-visual projects and equipment to assist in the marketing, education or interpretation of a specific resource associated with the New Deal/CCC Historic Trails or the Historic Theater Trails. For more information, visit <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo>, or contact Pamela Brooks, grants coordinator for SHPO, at (304) 558-0240, ext. 720.

published on the World Wide Web." While not all results will be in free databases, the search engine will be useful in helping researchers find a lot of references in a single search. [Editor's note: Don't forget that Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest are available free to patrons in the West Virginia Archives and History Library.]

## Attention, Book Buyers

Bookworm and Silverfish, a well-known bookseller specializing in Virginia and West Virginia materials, offers the following caution to book buyers who shop via the Internet: *With the recent proliferation of Internet auction sites and massive databases, it is more advisable than ever that you work with dealers in whom you have confidence. Watch for the insignia of the ABAA, the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America, and/or the ILAB, the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers. These organizations represent more than 50 years affiliation of leading booksellers worldwide. These organizations require their member booksellers to have a proven track record of experience, and to abide by a detailed code of ethics.*

## Records of Discharges Return to the Archives

The West Virginia Adjutant General's records of discharges for West Virginia soldiers in the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War and Viet Nam War, which were temporarily returned to the Adjutant General's office this summer during a digitization project, now are back in the West Virginia State Archives and are again available through the Archives and History Library.

## 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.

### 2008 BETSY L. MCCREIGHT LECTURE IN THE HUMANITIES

**“LINCOLN AT 200: THE MEASURE OF ALL PRESIDENTS,”** October 30:

Richard Norton Smith, speaker, Norman L. Fagan Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

For more information, visit <http://www.wvhumanities.org/mcreight.htm>, or call (304) 346-8500.

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION BOARD GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE, November 1:** Postmarked or hand-delivered to RMPB, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

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

**HISTORY OF NESSIE QUARRY, November 9:** Randy Anderson, speaker with slide show.  
Meeting of the Berkeley County Historical Society, Martinsburg.

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

**MINING YOUR HISTORY FOUNDATION CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING, November 15:** Jefferson Moak, archivist for NARA Mid-Atlantic Region, featured speaker. The Cultural Center, Charleston.

**GENERAL ALBERT G. JENKINS PORTRAYAL BY JOHN BELCHER, November 18:** Meeting of KYOWVA Genealogical Society, Huntington.

**THANKSGIVING DAY, November 27:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**THANKSGIVING FRIDAY, November 28:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**THANKSGIVING SATURDAY, November 29:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**INDEPENDENCE HALL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE, December 6:** Wheeling.

**CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24:** Archives Library is scheduled to *close at 1:00 p.m.* Call before coming.

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

**HISTORY HERO NOMINATION DEADLINE, December 31:** Postmarked or hand-delivered.  
Regarding hand-delivery, please note that The Cultural Center will be closing at 1:00 p.m. on December 31.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE, December 31:** Archives Library is scheduled to *close at 1:00 p.m.* Call before coming.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1, 2009:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**HISTORY DAY EXHIBIT/TABLE REGISTRATION DEADLINE, February 13, 2009:** Postmarked or hand-delivered.

**HISTORY DAY, March 5, 2009:** The West Virginia State Capitol and The Cultural Center, Charleston.

*\*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.

West Virginia Division of Culture and History  
 The Cultural 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.scouras@wvculture.org](mailto:susan.scouras@wvculture.org).

## Archives and History Staff

Joe Geiger .....	Acting Director (Historian, Web page)
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)
Ed Hicks .....	Photo Archivist (archival photography, darkroom)
Mary Johnson .....	Historian
Terry Lowry .....	Library Assistant (Veterans records)
Cathy Miller .....	Library Assistant (WV State documents)
Harold Newman .....	Library 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
Nancy Waggoner .....	Secretary
Bryan Ward .....	Acting Assistant Director
Part time .....	Matt McGrew
Volunteers .....	Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, James Wilburn, Sue Shank, Charlotte Thurston, Ken Bailey, and Mary Alice Johnson

This newsletter is a publication of : The West Virginia Division of Culture and History  
 Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner