



# WEST VIRGINIA Archives and History NEWS

From the Editor:

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**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)**

*The West Virginia Archives and History Library is often dubbed the "Genealogy Library"; however, providing resources and research assistance for family historians is only one of its many functions.* Now that more genealogical resources are available online than ever, remembering the main function and purpose of the State Archives is essential to encourage and support the preservation and accessibility of West Virginia documents and collections. The State Archives collects and preserves the essential documents, manuscripts, photographs, audio/visual records, books, pamphlets, ephemera, newspapers and much more that record and demonstrate the history and culture of West Virginia, while the Archives and History Library provides physical access and staff assistance in locating and interpreting that wealth of information and the multiple media formats in which it is recorded. Helping genealogists use those resources to research their personal family history is important, but collecting and preserving the materials from which our collective history as a state can be researched is vital.

## West Virginia Civil War Medals

Following the Civil War, the state of West Virginia authorized the minting of 26,099 medals in 1866 to honor veterans who served in West Virginia Union military units. Three different medals were struck in bronzed copper in the following award categories:

- "Honorably Discharged" for those who survived and left their military service through honorable discharge.
- "Killed in Battle" for those in service who were recorded as dying in the midst of battle.
- "For Liberty" for those who died of disease and wounds received in battle while still in service.

Each medal is unique, with the name of the individual service member, his rank, regiment and company engraved on the edge of the coin. The medals are still housed in their

original paperboard presentation boxes.

Most of the medals were distributed to living veterans or to

the families of deceased veterans soon after being minted. More were awarded periodically in later years  
*"Medals" continued on the next page*

## Civil War Ceredo To Be Discussed at May 6 Lecture

On May 6, 2014, Dr. Kenneth Bailey will present "Civil War Ceredo: A Northern Experiment" at the Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library in the Cultural Center in Charleston. The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Ceredo was part of New Englander Eli Thayer's project to end slavery by demonstrating that free labor was more efficient and profitable than slave labor. When the town was established in the late 1850s, it was Thayer's second effort (after a settlement in Kansas), and

he and others had high hopes that it would succeed in eliminating slavery without resort to war. Bailey's talk will focus on Ceredo as seen by Charles B. Webb. Webb was one of the early settlers, a newspaper publisher, and eventually a Civil War soldier who wrote of his experiences before, during, and after his residence in the community.

Bailey is a graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology, Marshall University, and The Ohio State University from which he received his Ph.D. He is author of  
*"Ceredo" continued on the next page*

*“Ceredo” continued from page 1*  
 four books and numerous articles on various aspects of West Virginia history. After serving in a number of faculty and administrative positions, he retired as Dean of the College of

Business, Humanities and Sciences at WVU Tech.

On May 6, the library will close at 5:00 p.m. and reopen at 5:45 p.m. for participants only. For additional information, call (304) 558-0230.

*[This article originally was prepared for the Archives and History Web site based on information provided by Ken Bailey.]*

*“Medals” continued from page 1*

as veterans or their family members learned of the medals and requested theirs, or as addresses were found to mail the medals to them. For a variety of reasons, almost 5,200 medals remained undistributed in 1984, when the Archives and History section of the Division of Culture and History renewed the effort to place the medals with proven descendants or other close relatives of the awardees. There are currently about 3,500 medals still available for claiming. For more information on West Virginia Civil War medals, a list of veterans whose medals remain unclaimed and instructions

for filing a claim application, visit the West Virginia Archives and History Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/medals.html>.

Terry Lowry, Archives and History historian, handles medal applications and answers

questions regarding the medals and the claim process. He may be reached at (304) 558-0230, ext. 736, or [terry.d.lowry@wv.gov](mailto:terry.d.lowry@wv.gov). Watch upcoming issues for an article about West Virginia Civil War medals, the men who earned them, and the oddities and curiosities about them.

**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>



<b>Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Conducted by:</b>	<b>Subject</b>
June 3, Tuesday	Robby Thompson	<i>“Slavery in Cabell and Wayne Counties”</i>
June 12, Thursday	Doug Woods and Nick Lozano	<i>“West Virginia Scenic Trails Association”</i>
June 19, Thursday	Carter Taylor Seaton	<i>“Hippie Homesteaders: Arts, Crafts, Music and Living on the Land in West Virginia”</i>

For information, call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail [bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov](mailto:bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov).

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

## The 7th West Virginia Cavalry Scheduled for May 15 Lecture

On Thursday, May 15, 2014, Steve Cunningham will present “Loyalty They Always Had: The 7th WV Cavalry in the Civil War” 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.

Raised and organized in the Kanawha Valley in 1861, the 7th West Virginia Cavalry (previously the 8th Virginia Infantry and 8th West Virginia Mounted Infantry) served during the U.S. Civil War in numerous battles, campaigns, and raids including the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862, Cross Keys, 2nd Bull Run, White Sulphur Springs, Droop Mountain, the Salem Raid, Cloyds Mountain, and the Lynchburg Campaign. At war’s end, they facilitated the paroling of more than 5,000 returning Confederate soldiers to the Kanawha Valley region. Cunningham will share from his research for his upcoming book on the unit, entitled *Loyalty They Always Had: The 7th West Virginia Cavalry in the U.S. Civil War*.

Steve Cunningham has been conducting research on the 7th West Virginia Cavalry for about 20 years, maintains an active Web site about the 7th, and has hosted several events for descendants of the unit. He

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

## Anestis Explains Societal Roles of Eastern Woodland Indian Women

On the Third Thursday of March, the 20th, Dianne Anestis explained much about “A Woman’s Touch: 18th-Century Eastern Woodland Indian Women as Architects of Social Conscience and Gender Balance.” The roles of Native American women of this time period in their families,

is a past president of Kanawha Valley Civil War Roundtable, where he was involved in the organization of the centennial rededication of the West Virginia monuments at Gettysburg, and co-authored the book, *Their Deeds Are Their Monuments: West Virginia at Gettysburg*. He also is the author or co-author of several articles on the Civil War, including “The 1st West Virginia Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign” for the scholarly journal *Civil War Regiments*. He was a contributor to the *West Virginia Encyclopedia* and has contributed research to several other authors’ books.

Cunningham created and maintains the Web site *West Virginia in the Civil War*, which receives 75,000 visitors each year, and is president and owner of 35th Star Publishing, which specializes in non-fiction titles on West Virginia history and culture. He holds a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering and operations research from Virginia Tech, and a master’s of business administration from the Marshall University Graduate College. He resides in Charleston and is employed by Charleston Area Medical Center.

For additional information, call (304) 558-0230.

## For Your Reference

*A monthly column discussing the Reference Collection of the West Virginia Archives and History Library*

### Mine Accident Books

The mine-related topic most researched by family historians is likely to be an injury or death in a coal mining accident involving a family member. Others are interested in the West Virginia Coal Mine Wars. For this reason the books most used for West Virginia mine disasters and accident reports that normally would be placed in Closed Stacks according to their Dewey Decimal System cataloging have been placed in the Reference Collection. Each book has a “Mine Ref” label on the spine, and is shelved on the lowest shelf below the “New Title” book shelves.

### Nationwide and Statewide

- *Historical Summary of Mine Disasters in the United States*, 3 volumes, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), 1998.
  - \* Volume I is a reprint of a Bureau of Mines bulletin: *Historical Summary of Coal-Mine Explosions in the United States: 1810-1958*.
  - \* Volume II contains reprints of similar documents for coal mines for the years 1959-1981 and 1981-1994. A third section is a reprint titled *Historical*

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*Documentation of Major Coal Mine Disasters in the United States not Classified as Explosions of Gas or Dust, 1846-1962.* The last section is *Summaries of Coal Mine Disasters Between 1958 and 1998*, a compilation of information from Bureau of Mines/MESA/MSHA final investigation reports on each disaster.

- \* Volume III consists of a reprint of a Bureau of Mines circular, *Major Disasters at Metal and Nonmetal mines and Quarries in the United States (Excluding Coal Mines), 1885-1943*, and a compilation of Bureau of Mines/MESA/MSHA final investigation reports entitled *Summaries of Metal and Nonmetal Mine Disasters, 1948-1998*.
- *Mine Disasters*: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 2000. Intended as MSHA training material, contents include a timeline, legislative history, mining disaster facts, charts listing mine disasters for coal and for non-coal mines, and reprints of news articles about 12 mine disasters, including four in West Virginia (Monongah No. 6 & 7, Eccles No. 5 & 6, Jamison No. 7, and Farmington).
- The most used book in the Mine Reference collection is *Fatalities in West Virginia Coal Mines 1883-1925, Extracted from the "Reports of Mine Inspectors,"* compiled and indexed by Helen S. Stinson, 1985. Stinson photocopied the fatality lists published by the West Virginia Chief Inspector of Mines for 1883, 1894-96, and 1897, then annually from 1900-1907; and the Fatal Accidents lists appearing in the Annual Report of the Department of Mines from 1907 to 1925.

Information includes name of mine, name of person killed, date of injury/death, nationality, length of experience, age, occupation, whether married or single, if a widow was left, if children were left, total dependents left, insured amount, how killed and whether there was an inquest. Stinson indexed all of the names in these reports, so this volume is usually the first place to check for a West Virginia mining fatality in 1925 or earlier. After 1926 the annual reports no longer listed fatalities by name.

### Disasters in West Virginia

- *Informational Report of Investigation Underground Coal Mine Explosion and Fire: Consol No. 9 Mine... Farmington, Marion County, West Virginia, November 29, 1968*: Division of Safety, Coal Mine Safety and Health, 1990.
- *In Memoriam: Mine Explosion and Mine Fire, Mountaineer Coal Company Consol No. 9 Mine, November 20, 1968*: Elmer C. Workman, 1968.

- *Notable Mine Disasters Fayette County, West Virginia*: Shirley Donnelly, 1951.
- *Raleigh County Mine Deaths, 1891-2000*: Jim Wood, 2000.
- *They Died for King Coal*: Lacy A. Dillon, 1985.
- *They Died in the Darksness*: Lacy A. Dillon, 1976.

### Coal Mine Wars

- *Report and Digest of Evidence Taken by Commission Appointed by the Governor of West Virginia in Connection with the Logan County Situation*: 1919.
- *Facts About the Armed March: Sworn Testimony Before U.S. Senate Investigating Committee by William M. Wiley*: Kanawha County Coal Operators Association, 1922.
- *Statement of Harry Olmsted, Chairman of the Labor Committee of the Operators' Association of Williamson Field, to the Senate Investigating Committee*: 1921.
- *The Blair Mountain War: Battle of the Rednecks*: G. T. Swain, 2009, 1927.

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## “Collis P. Huntington” through the Eyes of James Casto

As the First Tuesday lecture of the West Virginia Archives and History Library on April 1, 2014, James E. Casto presented “The Life and Times of Collis P. Huntington.” Casto, who portrays Huntington in costume for civic, school and other groups, outlined the events of Huntington’s personal life and business career, which included the founding of the town of Huntington, West Virginia, as the northwestern terminus of the C & O Railroad. Based on his knowledge of the man, Casto discounted the popular story that Collis

P. founded a new town, rather than selecting the town of Guyandotte for his railroad expansion, due to an insulting incident when visiting Guyandotte.



- *The West Virginia Mine Wars: An Anthology*: Edited by David Alan Corbin, 1990.
- *Thunder in the Mountains: The West Virginia Mine War, 1920-21*: Lon Savage, 1990, c1985.
- *When Miners March: The Story of Coal Miners in West Virginia*: William C. Blizzard, 2004.
- *The Goldenseal Book of the West Virginia Mine Wars: Articles Reprinted from Goldenseal Magazine, 1977-1991*: Ken Sullivan, editor, 1991.

We have much more on mines and mining, miners, mine disasters, labor history and related topics in the collections of West Virginia Archives and History. Refer to our online library catalog, Voyager, <http://archives.lib.wv.us/>; the collection guides listed on the State Archives Web page, <http://www.wvculture.org/history/wvsamenu.html>; and the History Center link from our main Web page, <http://www.wvculture.org/history> to fully explore the holdings of the Archives and History Library.



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## From the Archives and History Newsroom

You will find the “What’s Happening at Archives and History” link to the Newsroom at the top of the Archives and History homepage, <http://www.wvculture.org/history>. Current postings include:



On March 28, 2014, during the Hoot Owl Night at the Archives, Nancy Kirby presented West Virginia Archives and History Director Joe Geiger with a copy of her book *Kirby-Snyder Legacy*, co-authored with Robert Kirby.



On February 27, 2014, Bill Sheridan presented the West Virginia State  
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## New Titles

- Forgotten Warriors of the Aleutian Campaign**: Jim Rearden, 2005.  
**Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief**: James M. McPherson, 2008.  
**A Tall Ship, A Star, and Plunder**: Robert J. Krog, editor, 2014.  
**The Mortgage of America: The Early End of U.S. Independence**: William H. Rice, 2012.  
**Monroe County [and] Woodsfield, Ohio Observe Their 150th Anniversary**: 1964.  
**America’s International Relations Since World War I**: Wesley M. Bagby, 1999.  
**Kirby-Snyder Legacy**: Nancy Kirby and Robert Kirby, 2014.  
**Kirby-Snyder Legacy**: [Photographs on CD]: Nancy Kirby and Robert Kirby, 2014.

### Gifts of John Lilly, Goldenseal Magazine

**Legendary Locals of Wheeling**: Seán Duffy and Brent Carney, 2013.

### Gifts of C. Howard Capito

- Chessie, the Railroad Kitten**: Thomas W. Dixon, Jr., 2002, c1988.  
**Chesapeake & Ohio in the Coal Fields**: Thomas W. Dixon, Jr., 1995.  
**B&O Monongah Memories**: Louis Alderson, 1988.

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Archives with materials on the Putnam County site that became Eleanor (Randy Marcum accepting). The donation includes a 1920 map of Putnam-on-Kanawha, a photograph of the area before the establishment of Eleanor, and several deeds.



Hoot Owl 2014 was enjoyed by many. Researchers from all around West Virginia and several other states gathered in the West Virginia Archives and History Library for an all-night session of research and camaraderie from 6:00 p.m. the evening of Friday, March 28, into the morning of Saturday, March 29. The person traveling the farthest to attend this year was Jennifer Tolvar of McCleary, Washington. View more photographs in the Archives and History Newsroom, <http://www.wvculture.org/history/archivesnewsroom.html>.

## Spring Cleaning Reminders

If you are cleaning out old books, very old newspapers, letters, photos, city directories, telephone books, festival programs, etc., please check with the Archives and History Library before throwing anything away. You never know what may be desirable for acquisition for our collections. Contact Susan Scouras, [susan.c.scouras@wv.gov](mailto:susan.c.scouras@wv.gov), (304) 558-0230.

If you are cleaning a cemetery, be sure to visit the Cemetery Information section of the State Historic Preservation Office Web site, <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/cemeteries.html>, especially *Cemeteries 101: An Overview of Techniques for Basic Cemetery Rehabilitation*.

## 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.

### **BRIDGES TO THE PAST: HISTORIC PRESERVATION 101 AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION AROUND THE STATE, COUNTRY, & WORLD,**

**May 1:** Raleigh County Public Library, Beckley.

### **COAL HERITAGE LECTURE SERIES: THE MINER'S FREEDOM, May 6:**

Gordon Simmons, presenter, Erma Byrd Higher Education Center, Beckley.

### **REVISITING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION: WEST VIRGINIA AND BEYOND, May 13:** Michael Woods, speaker, Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Huntington.

### **LUNCH WITH BOOKS: ANNA JARVIS, FOUNDER OF MOTHER'S DAY, May 13:**

Kate Quinn, presenter, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling.

**PRIMARY ELECTION DAY, May 13:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

### **LUNCH WITH BOOKS: EAST WHEELING MEMORIES, May 20:**

Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling.

**MEMORIAL DAY, May 26:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

### **BRIDGES TO THE PAST: HISTORIC PRESERVATION 101 AND MINI WINDOWS WORKSHOP, June 2:** Whipple Company Store, Scarbro.

### **PRICKETTS FORT LECTURE SERIES: THE FIRST WEST VIRGINIANS PALEOINDIAN: LIFE ON AN ICE AGE FRONTIER, June 20:**

John Boback, presenter, Pricketts Fort.

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

**METHODISTS AND WEST VIRGINIA STATEHOOD, June 21:**  
Matthew Foulds, speaker, McGrew House, Kingwood.

**LITTLE LECTURE SERIES: A HISTORY OF CHARLESTON AS LIVED BY FOUR FAMILIES, June 22:** Brooks McCabe, speaker, Hubbard House, Charleston.

**BRIDGES TO THE PAST: HISTORIC PRESERVATION 101 AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PRESENTATION, July 1:** New River Gateway CVB, Hinton.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY, July 4:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**LUNCH WITH BOOKS: BLACK DAMP CENTURY, July 8:**  
Kerry George, presenter, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling.

**BRIDGES TO THE PAST: HISTORIC PRESERVATION 101 AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUNDING SOURCES, August 4:** Town Hall, Sophia.

**LABOR DAY, September 1:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**THE EARLY WOODLAND PERIOD OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND THE WEST VIRGINIA PANHANDLE: IS BIG REALLY BETTER?, September 25:**  
Mark A. McConaughy, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

**ROANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY GENEALOGICAL FAIR, September 27:** Heritage Park, Spencer.

**PRICKETTS FORT LECTURE SERIES: "A WAR WILL BE INEVITABLE": LORD DUNMORE AND THE CONQUEST OF THE OHIO COUNTRY, October 12:**  
Travis Henline, presenter, Pricketts Fort.

**COLUMBUS DAY, October 13:** Archives Library will be *closed*.

**PIONEERING ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE MOUNTAIN STATE: THE CAREER OF EDWARD V. MCMICHAEL, October 30:** Patrick D. Trader, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

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

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

**NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY AND RESEARCH IN WEST VIRGINIA, AD 1600-1800, November 20:** Greg B. Carroll, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville.

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](mailto:susan.c.scouras@wv.gov).

[www.wvculture.org/history](http://www.wvculture.org/history)

**Archives and History Staff**

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