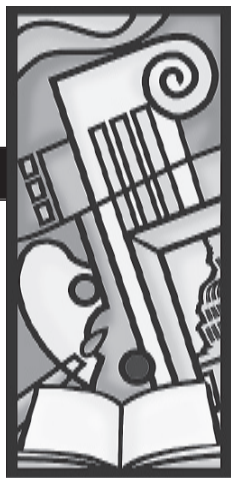


West Virginia Archives & History NEWS

VOLUME VIII, No. 11 JANUARY 2008



WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF
CULTURE & HISTORY

From the Editor:

In addition to History Day on February 21, the Archives and History Library will be participating in Library Day at the Legislature on January 17, 2008. If you are in the Capitol on that day, please stop by our table. On January 18 in The Cultural Center, we and the West Virginia Library Commission Library will be co-hosting a Launch Celebration for our new online public access catalog, Voyager® by Endeavor®. Also on January 18, the Archives and History Library is having an Open House for visiting librarians from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. For more information, call Susan Scouras at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

History Day at the State Capitol on February 21

The 12th annual West Virginia History Day will take place at the State Capitol Complex in Charleston on Thursday, February 21, 2008, during the regular session of the West Virginia Legislature. Local historical groups are expected to provide displays and reenactments in the Rotunda of the State Capitol. Groups with an interest in West Virginia's history are invited to provide exhibits featuring historical documents, photographs, artifacts and publications. Other attractions will include reenactments of events in the state's history, music, and storytelling. Applications from groups interested in setting up displays on history-related projects are due by January 28, 2008. "History Hero" awards will be presented to people nominated by local historical, genealogical, preservation and other similar groups to honor those who have made significant grass-roots contributions to the preservation of local or regional history.

Authorized by the Legislature, West Virginia History Day commemorates local groups' efforts to

preserve, protect and promote the study of the Mountain State's past. Organizers of this year's efforts are the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, West Virginia Archives and History Commission, West Virginia Historical Society, West Virginia Historical Association, Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, West Virginia Humanities Council, West

Virginia Association of Museums, Friends of West Virginia Culture and History, and the Mining Your History Foundation. All West Virginia History Day events are free and open to the public. Anyone interested in the history of West Virginia and West Virginians is urged to attend.

2008 Annual "Hoot Owl" Night in the Archives

The Mining Your History Foundation will be conducting its 9th annual "Hoot Owl" overnight research in the West Virginia Archives and History Library from 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4 through 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 5, 2008. Registered researchers will be "locked in" for events planned to include tours of the Closed Stacks and Processing areas of the Archives. Both beginning and experienced researchers will benefit from advice and assistance from recognized West Virginia genealogy experts. Participants are welcome to bring pillows and sleeping bags, but most actually

stay awake all night! Registration with a \$25.00 check or money order must be postmarked by March 28, 2008. Late registration, if space is available, will be \$35.00. Photocopy service for books and change for self-service microfilm printers will be available. For additional information or registration, contact Joe Geiger, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230, joe.geiger@wvculture.org, or Wes Cochran, MYHF, (304) 422-1774, wescochran@juno.com.

Do You Know Anything Odd About Records for a West Virginia County? Your Help is Requested!

In preparation for an updated *Archives and History News* article on West Virginia County Court records, editor Susan Scouras would like to hear from any researcher who has found something out of the ordinary in county records, such as records filmed out of order, years missing in a listed span (for example, a microfilm title page states 1844-1870, but 1863 is missing), records missing or unavailable on microfilm but available at the courthouse (or vice versa), mis-titled or mis-numbered ledgers, etc. To learn about some of the known situations in county records, see *West Virginia Archives and History News* for the following dates: February 2001, August 2001, May 2003, May 2004, October 2004, January 2006 and April 2006. Paper copies of the newsletter are available for reading in the Archives and History Library, are held in various West Virginia

libraries, and are kept by some local historical and genealogical societies. All issues are available online at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>.

If you have found any similar problems with West Virginia County Court records, please call, write or e-mail the specifics to: Susan Scouras, West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E, Charleston, WV 25305-0300; (304) 558-0230; susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

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

West Virginia Vital Research Records Update

More records have been added to the West Virginia Vital Research Records (WVRR) database effective January 1, 2008. County birth records for 1907 have been added to the counties initially entered in 2007 with birth records through 1906, and West Virginia Dept. of Health Vital Registration state death certificates for 1957 have been uploaded. West Virginia Vital Research Records are found on the West Virginia Archives and History Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx. Before searching, we suggest you read the explanatory article about the database linked from the WVRR introductory page.

Quick Guides Now on Web Site

The Quick Guides for West Virginia birth, death and marriage records that were included in the recent series of *Archives and History News* articles are now available on our Web site as part of our Staff Research Guides feature. Each has been re-formatted into a one-page handout, with a citation at the bottom for the full newsletter article (available online at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/ahnews/ahnews.html>). You will find Staff Research Guides listed on the Archives page of our Web site at <http://www.wvculture.org/history/wvsamenu.html>. Feel free to print copies for your own use and to distribute to fellow researchers. If a society would like to reprint one or more of the guides in a society newsletter, permission is granted with the usual stipulation that the source of the material be correctly cited.

Historic Landmark Training by SHPO

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, in collaboration with Preservation Alliance of West Virginia and the Wheeling Historic Landmark Commission, is offering a historic landmark commission training session on Saturday, January 12, 2008. The free session will be held at the first State Capitol

Building, 1413 Eoff Street, Wheeling, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Members of historic landmark commissions, interested government officials and the general public are encouraged to attend. The program will explore how cities and counties can encourage preservation in their communities through historic landmark commissions. Topics of discussion will include certified local government designation, available grants, National Register of Historic Places, local historic district designations, design review, roles and responsibilities of historic landmark commissions, financial incentives and tax credits.

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.

Registration is required by January 7, 2008, for the Wheeling session at the first State Capitol Building. To

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.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1, 2008: Archives Library will be *closed*.

"EARLY WEST VIRGINIA ART HISTORY," January 15: John Cuthbert, speaker,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

LIBRARY DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE, January, 17: The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

VOYAGER® LAUNCH CELEBRATION, January, 18: The Great Hall, The Cultural Center, Charleston.
Co-hosted by the West Virginia Library Commission and the West Virginia Archives and History Library,
the event is free and open to the public, 12 P.M., and refreshments will be provided.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY, January 21: Archives Library will be open.*

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN," February 12: Kevin Barksdale, speaker,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

PRESIDENTS' DAY, February 18: Archives Library will be open.*

HISTORY DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE, February, 21: The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

"CIVIL WAR," February 12: Peter Carmichael, speaker,
The Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

**9TH ANNUAL "HOOT OWL" RESEARCH IN THE ARCHIVES,
April 4-5:** Sponsored by Mining Your History Foundation,
West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Capitol Complex, 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.

register, contact Jeremy Morris at the Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation at (304) 232-3087, or by e-mail at jmorris@wheelingheritage.org. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2008. This training session is the second of several regional workshops for historic landmark commissions throughout the state. Anyone interested in sponsoring a workshop should contact Chris Knorr, certified local government coordinator for the SHPO, at (304) 558-0240, or by e-mail at chris.knorr@wvculture.org.

The West Virginia Division of Culture and History, an agency of the West Virginia Dept. of Education and the Arts, brings together the state's past, present and future through programs and services in the areas of archives and history, the arts, historic preservation and museums. Its administrative offices are located at the Cultural Center in the State Capitol Complex in Charleston, which also houses the state archives and

state museum. The Cultural Center is West Virginia's official showcase for the arts. The agency also operates a network of museums and historic sites across the state. For more information about the Division's programs, visit www.wvculture.org. The Division of Culture and History is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

*West Virginia Division of Culture and History press release,
December 17, 2007.*

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
 The Cultural Center
 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
 Charleston, WV 25305-0300

West Virginia
Archives & History
NEWS



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.

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 Constance Baston Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
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 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, periodicals)
 Sharon Newhouse Secretary
 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
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This newsletter is a publication of : The West Virginia Division of Culture and History
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