From the Editor:

The Archives and History Library was very fortunate to be able to obtain many titles new to our collection from the West Virginia Library Commission Library when space constraints made reducing the size of their collection necessary. We have expanded and strengthened the Archives and History collection in several subject areas, particularly in colonial, Civil War and reconstruction era histories, biographies and memoirs. We have been able to place modern photographic reprints of 19th and early 20th century works on the Reading Room shelves and to move the original editions to Closed Stacks for preservation. These older volumes are still listed in the Union Catalog and are available for viewing by Library patrons upon request.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SURVEY AND PLANNING GRANTS AVAILABLE

Applications are now being accepted for historic preservation survey and planning grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Approximately $80,000.00 is earmarked for this grant program, which is funded with money appropriated by the U. S. Congress through the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund. State or local government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, for-profit firms or organizations, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. Eligible projects include architectural and archaeological surveys, preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, heritage education programs relating to preservation activities, pre-development activities, and comprehensive planning documents and development projects. Funded projects must be completed by June 30, 2005.

Grant funds are awarded on a matching basis. A competitive process is used to determine the recipients, with the final decision being made by the West Virginia Archives and History Commission. The Commission selects projects that best meet the established priorities and criteria. Development projects will be considered only when all of the justifiable funding needs of eligible projects in other categories have been addressed. All grant monies must be administered in accordance with federal and state requirements. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2003. Program descriptions and application packets, including funding priorities and selection criteria, are available by contacting Pamela Brooks, at (304) 558-0220, Ext. 720, or by writing: SHPO, West Virginia Division of Culture and History,
The Cultural Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., Charleston, WV 25305-0300.

(Press release courtesy of Ginny Painter, Director of Public Information, Division of Culture and History.)

**“VIRGINIA’S FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS”**

The Virginia Genealogical Society and Fairfax Genealogical Society are presenting “Virginia’s Friends and Neighbors,” a one-day conference in Herndon, Virginia, on October 25, 2003. Lectures on Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia and Kentucky will be offered. Participants may choose from one of three lectures in each time slot. Registration is $35 for members and $40 for non-members. To register, send your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address, with a check payable to “Virginia Genealogical Society Fall Conference” to the Virginia Genealogical Society, Suite 115, 5001 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230-3023. (This information was published in Missing Links, Vol. 8, No. 23, July 27, 2003, accessible at http://www.petuniapress.com/.)

**ENLIGHTENING OBITUARY**

An educated guess has been validated! Archives and History Library staff frequently explain to researchers whose kin lived in the more remote areas of West Virginia that many times births and deaths in certain types of locations were reported weeks or even months after the events occurred, or not reported at all. (The Library being located in Kanawha County, we most often make this explanation for the Cabin Creek area.) Frequently the informant is not from the immediate family. While we have no statistical proof, anecdotal evidence appears to show a higher error rate in reporting from these areas, such as incorrect day or month given, probably due to the lapse of time following the event, and/or the fact that a close family member did not make the report. While the majority of the state had reliable, consistent birth and death records by 1930, other locations continued to experience spotty reporting up through World War II.

Now we have proof! The following obituary was found in the course of staff research in the Logan Banner, March 16, 1937:

“Oldest Resident In Mingo Is Dead”

WILLIAMSON, March 16–(AP)–Visitors coming in from isolated Carter’s Branch brought word today of the death of Mrs. Martha Chestman Starr, 109 years old, Mingo county’s oldest resident and probably the oldest in the state. She died February 25, but no one had made a trip out of the mountainous region since then.

**NEW TITLES**

Attention Archives and History Library visitors: Beginning with June’s new titles and continuing for at least the next month, only selected titles will be placed on the designated New Book shelves in the Library Reading Room for browsing. We have received a sizeable number of private donations recently, and have acquired a very large number of books transferred from the West Virginia Library Commission Library, resulting in too many new books to place them all in the New Book area. If you do not find the new title you seek in the New Book area, please check the on-line Union Catalog for the call number, and proceed accordingly.

From the Editor: Have you ever read our New Title List, seen books such as Country Music Superstars or Artists in Ohio, and wondered why in the world the West Virginia Archives and History Library would ever want that type of work in its collection? We have books about country music, sports or other non-history subjects because they contain information about West Virginians such as Kathy Mattea, Jerry West or Mary Lou
Retton. Other works which seem to have little or nothing to do with West Virginia are accepted for the collection because the author, illustrator, publisher, or other contributor to the work is a West Virginian.

**Beyond the Civil War Synthesis:** Political Essays of the Civil War Era: Robert P. Swierenga, 1975.

**Basic Writings of Thomas Jefferson:** Philip S. Foner, 1944.

**The Civil War:** Bruce Catton, 1987, c1960.

**Anthony Wayne, a Name in Arms:** Soldier, Diplomat, Defender of Expansion Westward of a Nation: The Wayne-Knox-Pickering-McHenry Correspondence: Richard C. Knopf, 1960.

**Disrupted Decades:** The Civil War and Reconstruction Years: Robert H. Jones, 1973.

**Attack on Quebec:** The American Invasion of Canada, 1775: Harrison Bird, 1968.


**The Glorious Hour of Lt. Monroe:** Richard Hanser, 1976.

**The Siege of Boston:** An On-the-Scene Account of the Beginning of the American Revolution: Donald Barr Chidsey, 1966.

**Where and How the War was Fought:** An Armchair Tour of the American Revolution: William J. Casey, 1976.

**The War of 1812:** John K. Mahon, 1972.

**Lincoln’s Lost Speech:** The Pivot of His Career: Elwell Crissey, 1967.

**The United States in the Mexican War:** Don Lawson, 1976.


**Andrew’s Raiders:** Roberta Strauss Feuerlicht, 1967.

**Prelude to Civil War:** The Nullification Controversy in South Carolina, 1816-1836: William W. Freehling, 1966.

**A Treasury of Civil War Humor:** Sylvia G. L. Dannett, 1964.

**War Between Brothers:** Time-Life, 1996.

**Brothers in Arms:** The Lives and Experiences of the Men Who Fought the Civil War—in Their Own Words: William C. Davis, 1995.

**Campfire and Battlefield:** The Classic Illustrated History of the Civil War: Rossiter Johnson, 1978, c1894.

**Picture Book of the Continental Soldier:** C. Keith Wilbur, 1969.

**An Album of the Civil War:** William Loren Katz, 1974.

**The Civil War:** Strange and Fascinating Facts: Burke Davis, 1982, c1960.

**The Inner Civil War:** Northern Intellectuals and the Crisis of the Union: George M. Fredrickson, 1965.

**Roads to Gettysburg:** John W. Schildt, 1982, c1978.


**North American Indian Wars:** Richard H. Dillon, 1983.

**The Black Book:** Middleton Harris, et al, 1974.

**V is for VICTORY:** American’s Home Front During World War II: Stan Cohen, 1991.


**Landscape Turned Red:** The Battle of Antietam: Stephen W. Sears, 1983.

**Black Power, U.S.A., the Human Side of Reconstruction, 1867-1877:** Lerone Bennett, Jr., 1967.

**The Night the War Was Lost:** Charles L. Dufour, 1960.

**Salmon P. Chase:** Albert Bushnell Hart, 1980.


**The Long Surrender:** Burke Davis, 1985.
Mr. Lincoln’s Inaugural Journey: Mary Kay Phelan, 1972. [Juvenile]
Forms Adapted to the Practice in Virginia, Volume I: Containing Forms in the Courts of Law in Civil Cases: Conway Robinson, 1841.
Dick’s Trip Through Virginia on Horseback: 1899: William Dickey Oglesby, 1899. [Trip starts in Ohio, crosses the river near Pt. Pleasant and moves through West Virginia to Virginia and back.]
Troopers with Custer: Historic Incidents at the Battle of the Little Big Horn: Earl Alonzo Brininstool, 1994, c1952.
The Indian Wars: Richard B. Morris, 1985. [Juvenile]
The Story of the Trail of Tears: R. Conrad Stein, 1985. [Juvenile]
Mad Anne Bailey: David A. Bice, 1980. [Juvenile]
Son of the Morning Star: Evan S. Connell, 1984. (Biography of George Custer)
Constructing the Mountain Dulcimer: Dean Kimball, 1975.
Tecumseh: Zachary Kent, 1992. [Juvenile]
Folk-songs of the South: John Harrington Cox, 1963.
Traditional Ballads and Folk-songs Mainly from West Virginia: John Harrington Cox, 1964.

Annals of the American Pulpit; or, commemorative Notices of Distinguished American Clergymen..., Volumes 3 and 4: William Buell Sprague, 1857-[69].


Souvenir Program of the One Hundred Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Founding of Romney, 1762-1937: Romney Anniversary Commission, [1937?].


Daring and Suffering: A History of the Great Railroad Adventure: William Pittenger, 1982, c1893. [This is a reprint of the first edition. We have copies of two later editions, all of which vary somewhat in content.]


Campaigning with Grant: Horace Porter, 1994, originally published 1897.


The Civil War: Philip Clark, 1988. [Juvenile]


She Rode With the Generals: The True and Incredible Story of Sarah Emma Seelye, Alias Franklin Thompson: Sylvia Dannett, 1960.
After the Civil War: A Pictorial Profile of America From 1865-1900: John S. Blay, 1960.
Sherman’s March: Burke Davis, 1980.
And Tyler Too: Donald Barr Chidsey, 1978.
Charles Sumner and the Coming of the Civil War: David Herbert Donald, 1989, c1960.
Vincennes: Portal to the West: August Derleth, 1968.
Favor the Bold: Custer: The Indian Fighter: D. A. Kinsley, 1967-68.
Louisiana Purchase: The Story of the Biggest Real Estate Deal in History: Donald Barr Chidsey, 1972.

LEWIS & CLARK BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

Part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the expedition of Lewis and Clark is a re-enactment of the Eastern leg of their trip. For information about the Eastern Legacy and a Schedule of Events for the Discovery Expedition in our area, visit the West Virginia Tourism site: http://www.callwva.com/lewis-clark/index.cfm
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOTE: CALENDAR BASED ON KNOWLEDGE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2003. BUDGET CONSTRAINTS MAY LEAD TO CHANGES AFTER PUBLICATION.

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 1: The Library will be closed.


LEWIS AND CLARK DISCOVERY EXPEDITION (WHEELING), SEPTEMBER 4-9: Heritage Port, Wheeling.

LEWIS AND CLARK DISCOVERY EXPEDITION (RAVENSWOOD), SEPTEMBER 16-17: George Washington Riverfront Park, Ravenswood.

LEWIS AND CLARK DISCOVERY EXPEDITION (HUNTINGTON), SEPTEMBER 19-21: Huntington.

COLUMBUS DAY, OCTOBER 13: The Library will be open.*

*Only the Archives Library will be staffed--all other Archives offices will be closed. The State Museum will be open any time the Archives Library is open. The West Virginia Library Commission Library in The Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY STAFF

Fredrick Armstrong: Director
Debra Basham: Archivist (photographs, special collections)

Constance Baston: Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archive)
Greg Carroll: Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
Dick Fauss: Archivist (microfilm and moving images collection)
Elaine Gates: Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)
Joe Geiger: Assistant Director (Historian, Web page)
Ed Hicks: Photographer (archival photography, darkroom)
Mary Johnson: Historian (West Virginia History)
Terry Lowry: Library Assistant (Civil War)
Cathy Miller: Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
Sharon Newhouse: Secretary
Harold Newman: Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
Pat Pleska: Manager of the Veterans Memorial Archive
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: Office Assistant
Working on special projects: Allen Fowler.
Intern: Jill Hall.
Volunteers: Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, Angela Tolbert, Bob and Lucile Foster, John McClure and Carol de la Riva.

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Nancy P. Herholdt, Commissioner

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