It’s never too early to start preparations for History Day at the Legislature. Be sure to get your table registration and History Hero nomination in on time. For your History Day display in the Capitol, choose something eye-catching that will bring visitors to your table where you can talk to them about your organization. If your society sponsors an event, be sure you have complete information for those who consider attending, since they will be more likely to participate if you can tell them what, why, where, and when while you have their attention. Contact the delegates and senators from the districts your organization covers and invite them to come by your table, or make appointments to visit with them and tell them about your organization’s contribution to historical preservation and education.

Terry Lowry to Present “Researching Military History” on November 9

The First Tuesday evening lecture in the Archives and History Library will move temporarily to the second Tuesday of the month in November due to Election Day on November 2. On November 9, 2010, in recognition of Veterans Day, historian Terry Lowry will speak about “Researching Military History.” Lowry will discuss researching military records in all periods of United States history but will give greater attention to the Civil War and World War II. He also will cover the methods he used in researching his books. Attendees will have the opportunity to view military artifacts from Lowry’s personal collection that he rarely displays in public. He owns items dating from the Civil War to Vietnam, in particular from the Civil War and World War II periods. Lowry will discuss how artifacts can be used in research.


He is also the author of numerous magazine and newspaper articles.

All Archives and History workshop and lecture sessions are free and the public is invited to attend. On November 9, 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, by e-mail at bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov or at (304) 417-4006.

Continued on the next page

Audience Enjoyed “Yiayia’s Bundle” in October Presentation

On October 5, 2010, Pamela Makricosta of Weirton was the featured speaker for Archives and History’s First Tuesday event. Makricosta gave a presentation entitled “Yiayia’s Bundle: A Greek Experience in West Virginia,” using the actual bundle of items her yiayia (Greek for grandmother) carried with her as she fled Asia Minor, and then brought to West Virginia where she came to marry her fiancé and begin a new life. The bundle included clothing, needlework, slippers, linens, a Bible, an icon, a tapestry, and more.

Continued on the next page
Thanksgiving is Good Time to Interview Your Relatives

Thanksgiving is a good time to interview your relatives regarding family history. People usually think of their families around the holidays, remembering both good times and not so good times and sharing their stories with other family members. Even if you won’t be seeing them in person, you’ll probably be exchanging phone calls or e-mails expressing holiday wishes, and you can use that contact to start a conversation using your own recollections of the family. Your recounting of an event or comment on a relative’s personality will give you an opportunity to ask questions and perhaps learn something new that will fill in blanks or open a new research path for you. Family gatherings are also a good time to collect information on life events that have occurred since your last contact: births, marriages, divorces and deaths, as well as military service and new postal and e-mail addresses. If you have a scanner, invite family members to bring photographs and documents to share. Make photocopies of photographs you already have and ask for help in identifying people, places, time period, etc., allowing people to write directly on the copies. Remind those who are reluctant to participate that knowing your family history can be very important for medical history reasons these days. Most of all, do what you can to make your ancestors come alive for the younger generation by talking about the important historical events they would have experienced, or their way of life during war years, the depression, the economic boom of the 1920’s or their involvement in a particular industry in your area, such as automotive plants, coal mines, oil wells, timbering, farming, etc. Hopefully you will awaken an interest in history and genealogy in a youngster to whom you may someday pass the torch as the family historian.

SSDI Improved

The popular Social Security Death Index (SSDI) database has recently improved its search capabilities to allow advanced searches on any or all fields in the database, according to an article in RootsWeb Review, October 13, 2010, Vol. 13, No. 3 (you can subscribe or read online at http://rwr.rootsweb.ancestry.com/2010.html). SSDI is available through RootsWeb, free at http://ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi, free in libraries with Ancestry Library Edition, or as part of Ancestry.com’s subscription databases.
Vital Research Records Database Still Draws a Crowd

Although the West Virginia Vital Research Records (VRR) searchable database has been online for several years now, and was completed (with a few exceptions) about a year ago, both new and experienced researchers are discovering it for the first time, or still want explanations of what records are included and how to search them. A good crowd turned out in the Archives and History Library for the Thursday Evening Genealogy Club on October 14, 2010, to hear Debra Basham, Archives and History archivist and manager of VRR, discuss how the database was created, the records it contains, and tips for searching the three sections (births, deaths and marriages) of records. Photographs of the evening are posted at http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/2010octobergenclub.html. If you would like to learn more about the weekly Tuesday Morning Genealogy Club or the monthly Thursday Evening Genealogy Club, visit our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/genealogyclub.html, or contact library manager Robert Taylor at (304) 558-0230, or bobby.l.taylor@wv.gov.

Evening Workshops and Lecture Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conducted by</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Terry Lowry</td>
<td>Researching Military History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Jaime Simmons</td>
<td>Digging into the Draper Collection:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Researching the Settlement of Western Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>Dr. Bob Maslowski</td>
<td>A Primer on West Virginia Archaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Dr. Lois Lucas</td>
<td>The African American Experience in West Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Workman</td>
<td>The Forgotten Battles of the Mine Wars:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Fairmont Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Lloyd Lewis</td>
<td>An Introduction to the Railroad History of West Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Bobby Taylor</td>
<td>West Virginia’s Heritage Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>Dick Fauss</td>
<td>Archives and History Movie Night: Footage from the Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

2011 History Hero Nomination Time Near

History Hero nomination forms and registration forms for History Day 2011 will be going out around the first of November. If your organization has not received a packet by November 15, be sure to contact Mary Johnson, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230, mary.e.johnson2@wv.gov. If your organization has changed its mailing address or was newly formed after History Day 2010, contact her to be added to the mailing list for this year. This mailing list is also used for West Virginia Archives and History News, so if your group has been receiving the newsletter at your correct mailing address, you are already on the list.

As always, the deadline for postmarked deliveries is December 31, 2010. Hand-delivered entries can be accepted up through the end of the state government work day on Thursday, December 30, 2010. (Friday, December 31, is the state holiday for New Year’s Day, Continued on the next page
Archives and History Showcase in December 2009 that we decided to make it a yearly event. The second annual West Virginia Archives and History Showcase on Monday, December 6, is entitled “A Gathering Storm.” The Showcase will feature books, images, documents and other items from the Archives collections that fit the theme of the impending rebellion and early Civil War era of 150 years ago from which the motivation for creation of the state of West Virginia fulminated. In addition, popular gems from the collections shown last year that are outside this year’s theme will be displayed again. Photos of last year’s initial showcase may be viewed on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/showcase2009.html. If you are familiar with the Archives’ various collections and would like to suggest antebellum or Civil War items for display, please contact Genealogy Club Archives and History Library Every Tuesday Morning 10:00-11:00 a.m. Once-a-Month Second Thursday, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Archives 2010 Showcase Has Civil War Theme

Both the public and the Archives and History staff had such a wonderful time during our Archives and History Showcase in December 2009 that we decided to make it a yearly event. The second annual West Virginia Archives and History Showcase on Monday, December 6, is entitled “A Gathering Storm.” The Showcase will feature books, images, documents and other items from the Archives collections that fit the theme of the impending rebellion and early Civil War era of 150 years ago from which the motivation for creation of the state of West Virginia fulminated. In addition, popular gems from the collections shown last year that are outside this year’s theme will be displayed again. Photos of last year’s initial showcase may be viewed on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/history/workshops/showcase2009.html. If you are familiar with the Archives’ various collections and would like to suggest antebellum or Civil War items for display, please contact

Continued on the next page

Charleston.

Registration forms will be mailed around November 1 as well and are due February 3, 2011.

**New Titles**


From Then to Now and Evermore: Family Charts and Names: Lines Leading to and Including the Family of Wallace Crispin and Linnie (Ferrell) Hager: Richard Eugene Hager, 1999.

Roll Out the Carpet: 101 Seasons of West Virginia University Basketball: John Antonik, 2010.

The Whitlocks of Greasy Creek in Green County, KY: Patricia Finn Hunter, 2008.

Booker T. Washington and Education: John F. Wukovits, 2008 [Juvenile].


The Haunted History of the Ohio State Reformatory: Sherri Brake, 2010. [WV author.]


Genealogy of the Jacob and Mary (Connoly) Feather Family of Preston County West Virginia: Edna (Davis) Rogers, 1980.

The Ancestries of a Furl Family and a Moe Family: Michael Furl, 2008.


Everyday Philosophy: Phil Conley, 1944.


Bucktails [First Rifle Regiment, PR.V.C. Pennsylvania]: 1908.


Quotations from Addresses, Messages and Statements of Franklin D. Roosevelt: National Republican Committee, [1937].

“Quotations” from Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Republican National Committee, 1940.

Disaster on Buffalo Creek: A Citizens’ Report on Criminal Negligence in a West Virginia Mining Community: Citizens Commission to Investigate the Buffalo Creek Disaster, [1972].


History of Sewell Mountain, Fayette County, W. Va.: W. T. Lawrence, [1989].


They Came to Destroy America: Stan Cohen and Don DeNevi, 2003.

Continued on the next page
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.

**ELECTION DAY, November 2:** Archives Library will be open*.

**FRONTIER DAYS WEEKEND, November 5–7:** Museum in the Park, Logan State Park, Logan. For more information, visit http://www.wvculture.org/eventdetail.aspx?Id=1303, e-mail elizabeth.a.williams@wv.gov, or call (304) 792-7229. For more information about the park, visit http://www.wvculture.org/museum/MIPTmod.html.

**“NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM,” November 6:** Beverly Heritage Center, Beverly. $30 donation, advance registration encouraged. For more information, visit http://www.historicbeverly.org, e-mail info@historicbeverly.org, or call (304) 637-7424.

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


**“THE RESURRENCE OF ANIKITUHWA: LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL REVITALIZATION AMONG THE EASTERN BAND CHEROKEE,” November 18:** Travis Henline, speaker, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, Moundsville. For more information, contact Andrea Keller, (304) 843-4123, andrea.k.keller@wv.gov.

**THANKSGIVING DAY, November 25:** Archives Library will be closed.

**THANKSGIVING FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, November 26–27:** Archives Library will be closed.

**CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24:** Archives Library will be closed.

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

**NEW YEAR’S EVE, December 31:** Archives Library will be closed.

**NEW YEAR’S DAY, January 1, 2011:** 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.
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.
New e-mail: susan.c.scouras@wv.gov

Archives and History Staff

Joe Geiger .................................................................................................................................................. Director
Bryan Ward .................................................................................................................................................. Assistant Director
Debra Basham ............................................................................................................................................... Archivist (photographs, special collections)
Constance Baston ....................................................................................................................................... Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archives)
Kyle Campbell ................................................................................................................................................ Cultural Program Specialist (county records preservation project)
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 ................................................................................................................................................ Photo Archivist (archival photography, darkroom)
Ed Hicks ....................................................................................................................................................... Historian (Veterans records)
Mary Johnson ..............................................................................................................................................
Terry Lowry ............................................................................................................................................. Historian
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
Volunteers ............................................................ Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, James Wilburn, Larry McDonnell, Sue Shank, Charlotte Thurston, Patricia Richards McClure, and Ken Bailey

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