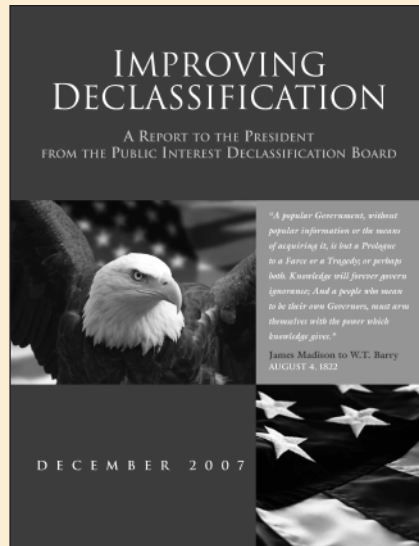


## IMPROVEMENTS TO DECLASSIFICATION PROPOSED BY PIDB

By William C. Carpenter

The Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB), an advisory committee established by Congress to advocate for the fullest possible public access to the records that document the national security decisions of the U.S. government, issued a report to the President in January 2007 entitled *Improving Declassification*. This report was simultaneously distributed to the committees and members of Congress with an interest in the topic as well as to the public at large through the board's web site hosted by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The report is a frank assessment of the state of the declassification system of the federal government, and is the distillation of the board members' experience in public policy, academia, and the intelligence community, as well as of the testimony before the board from historians, openness advocacy groups, federal agency declassification program managers, and the general public. The report identifies 15 areas of concern and offers 49 recommendations for structural and procedural improvements—some of which are far-reaching in scope—to the ways in which classified national security information becomes declassified, and is of interest to anyone concerned about access to the historical record of the U.S. government.

The board, established by the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-567), first met in February 2006 under the chairmanship of L. Britt Snider,



whose career includes service as the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency. In open and closed sessions held throughout 2006 and 2007, the board heard the concerns of advocacy groups such as the National Security Archive and the National Coalition for History and received briefings from the declassification and historical establishments of Executive branch agencies including the Department of State, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and NARA. The board found that Executive Order 12958, as amended, "Classified National Security Information," (the Order)—which in 1995 established the principle of the automatic declassification of

historical records once they are 25 years old unless those records are specifically identified as containing information exempted from automatic declassification—has clearly succeeded in effecting the declassification of an unprecedented volume of records. The success of the Order in prompting the review and declassification of over 1 billion pages of records since 1995, however, has not led to a coherent declassification system across the government in which the declassified records of highest interest to the historical community and the general public are being made available. The board states in its report, "Though the Government is committed, as a matter of policy, to making historically significant information available

See "PIDB" continued on page 3

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Lee Ann Potter

Last summer, I conducted a "Teaching With Documents" workshop as part of the week-long Eisenhower Academy in Gettysburg, PA. In preparation, I had assembled packets of document facsimiles from the holdings of the National Archives related to Dwight D. Eisenhower. These included a photo of him talking to the troops on D-Day; his "In Case of Failure" message; a letter he sent to the Archivist of the United States related to the Freedom Train; his father's "permission slip" allowing him to attend West Point; a 1910 federal census schedule for Abilene, KS, listing the Eisenhower family; and a few others.

I had three primary objectives for this half-day session: (1) to highlight the diverse format and content of government documents, (2) to illustrate that relevant government documents can be found in a number of Record Groups—in multiple National Archives facilities, and (3) to demonstrate some creative document-based teaching methods—ones designed to convey both historical content and reinforce historical thinking skills. I feel pretty confident that I achieved these three. But I did not expect to leave the workshop with a glimmer of two objectives for my term as President of SHFG.

I led the participants in some simple analysis activities and demonstrated some teaching approaches that could be used with each of the documents. One of the participants asked for more information, specifically on the history of the Census Bureau. Using the Internet, I accessed NARA's Guide to Federal Records and emphasized that the Guide provides administrative histories for all agencies, bureaus, and commissions. Next, I pulled up the Census Bureau's web site and pointed out its History section, and made a minor

reference to the history offices that exist in many agencies.

Well, at this point the reactions were not what I had expected. The two dozen participants were thrilled! Not one of them—nearly all of whom were classroom teachers—knew that federal agencies had history offices, or that a community of historians (with titles such as "curator," "education specialist," "public affairs specialist," "archivist," or any number of other interesting designations) exists.

So, all kinds of questions followed: What do they do? Would they respond to a question from me or my students? Do they ever speak at conferences? Do they all post information online? Can I really tell my students that if they study history, they might get an interesting job someday?

Also, in the dozens of other teacher workshops I have conducted over the past year, when asked if they were aware that a community of federal historians exists, 9 times out of 10, the participants responded with "I had no idea," or "It never occurred to me."

These repeated responses helped me form my SHFG presidential term objectives:

(1) to increase the visibility of this organization and the community of Federal Historians—particularly to the education community.

(2) to build a more formal learning community within SHFG, so that we are all more knowledgeable about the important work that we collectively do and how we do it.

As many of you are aware, this coming year, the Society will celebrate its 30th anniversary. I am confident that this occasion will allow us to embark on many exciting initiatives. At the Executive Council's planning meeting in July, we discussed plans for 2008–2009: the October 23 Hewlett Lecture, the upcoming publication of the *Guide to Federal History Programs*, our new online Journal (*Federal History*), the new-and-improved SHFG web site, our updated membership list, the holiday party, and our spring conference.

We also began discussion of launching a professional development program series—inspired by Dick Myers' discussion of SHFG's series in the mid 1990s, and some independent brainstorming that Ben Guterman, Dave Waltrop,

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and I had done. We are excited to move forward! Vice President Mike Reis, came up with a title for this professional development program series. In this silver anniversary year (commemorated with pearls), our series will be the "Pearls of Wisdom" series. Now, we need your pearls of wisdom in planning the sessions. We are thinking that we will host unique sessions in November, January, and May. The Executive Council will figure out the logistics. But, if you have specific ideas for program topics, we would welcome your suggestions.

I am pleased to be working with this year's outstanding Executive Council members: Bill Williams (immediate Past President), Mike Reis (Vice President), Anne Rothfeld

(Secretary), Peter Kraemer (Treasurer), Juliette Arai (Membership); Kathleen Franz, Ben Guterman, Matt Wasniewski, John Parascandola (Council Members); Bill Williams, Rick Peuser; Beth Boland (Nominating Committee); as well as Jennifer Lavasseur and Charles Downs (SHFG web site); Henry Gwiazda (Awards program); Terrance Rucker, Ben Guterman, John Roberts, and John Lonnquest (editors of *The Federalist*); John Roberts and Don Steury (past presidents).

Thank you for selecting me to serve as this year's SHFG President. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at Society events during the upcoming year!

### *PIDB, continued from page 1*

to the public as soon as it safely can do so, there is no common understanding among the agencies of what 'historically significant' information is, nor any common understanding of how such information will be treated once identified as such. Rather, it becomes part of a 'queue,' lost in the shuffle of automatic declassification reviews, FOIA [Freedom of Information Act] requests, specially mandated searches, and the like. What of historical significance is actually being declassified is unclear both to the public and to the Government." (*Improving Declassification*, p. 6) Most of the recommendations of the board are intended to remedy this disconnect between the resources expended on declassification and the ability of the government to release of records that shed light on the military, diplomatic, and intelligence activities of the nation in a way that the public can understand and value.

Specifically, the board recommends that the government recognize that all classified records are *not* created equal, and that records determined to be the most historically significant should be accorded priority in declassification review and release. The decision of what records are "historically significant" (as opposed to the merely "permanent" designation of the present system) ought to be decided by a new board, appointed by the Archivist of the United States, consisting of historians and former government officials. This proposed board would select topics of

particular historical significance, the records series containing these topics would be identified across government agencies, and those series will receive priority for review and release. This proposed process would augment, not replace, the current system of automatic and systematic declassification.

Another significant recommendation of the board's report is for the creation of a National Declassification Center under the auspices of NARA. This recommendation, which is reminiscent of that of the 1997 Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy that was chaired by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, calls for a single point of policy coordination for the many declassification programs across

the U.S. government. Under a proposed Deputy Archivist for Declassification Policy and Programs, this center would continue and expand upon the work of the National Declassification Initiative, an interagency effort already in place at NARA to evaluate and coordinate the review of classified records containing the information of many agencies. This recommendation is not intended to increase NARA's control of agency information, but to improve declassification efficiency by providing common services.

Many of the report's other recommendations support this theme of the coordination and prioritization of the declassification programs across the government. The board calls for expediting the release of Presidential records, clarifying the status of nuclear weapons information known as

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The executive branch needs to examine the declassification activities of the Federal Government as a whole, in terms of output, efficiency, and effectiveness. To begin this process, the Board recommends establishing by Executive order or by statute a National Declassification Program under the Archivist of the United States. The Archivist should be charged with annually evaluating the performance of the Federal declassification "system" with regard to, in particular, the declassification of information of historical significance.
2. A new National Declassification Center (NDC) should be established within the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to administer the program. The Archivist should establish a new position — Deputy Archivist for Declassification Policy and Program — to oversee all aspects of the NDC's operations. Funding for the NDC should be a separate line item in NARA's budget.
3. Departments and agencies should be required to consolidate all their declassification activities in one office or bring them under the control of one office. Additionally, agencies should be required to better coordinate their internal efforts related to declassification and release as these functions (FOIA offices and declassification review offices)

are entirely separate in some agencies. This will facilitate public access and make it far easier to assess and coordinate declassification decisions and activities and work efficiently with the NDC.

4. All departments and agencies should be required to record declassification decisions on a single computerized system, regardless of the agency by which declassification occurs, and within five years to make databases available to the public that contain at least pertinent information such as the titles of the documents and the locations where they are available.
5. All departments and agencies should report to the NDC at least annually what they have declassified. The format for these reports (e.g., by collection, topic, office files, or individual document) would be worked out with individual agencies, but the objective in every case should be to describe the information of historical significance that the agency has declassified during the reporting period in sufficient detail that the public is made aware of the action taken and is able to request copies of the declassified information. The NDC would, in turn, issue a comprehensive, governmentwide report advising the public of the historically significant declassification actions taken by the Government as a whole.





Formerly Restricted Data, establishing a program for the declassification of the classified records of Congress, and adequate staffing of NARA to facilitate the processing of declassified records for public access. Of particular interest to the members of the Society for History in the Federal Government is the 12th issue addressed by the board, on “Expanding the Uses and Roles of Historians and Historical Advisory Boards.” The three recommendations under this issue call for 1) the amendment of the Executive order on classified national security information to require each agency with significant classification activity to establish a historical advisory board of experts, reporting directly to the agency head, to advise the agency on declassification priorities; 2) for the appropriate funding for and staffing of historical programs in all agencies with national security responsibilities; and 3) for the declassification review of classified histories at a date 25 years after the events described in those histories rather than 25 years after the date the accounts themselves were written. One topic included in the report, concerning the declassification of electronic records and special media records such as video recordings, has attracted the special attention of the board and will be the focus of the board’s further investigation during 2008 under the chairmanship of Martin Faga, former director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

The report has generated considerable interest both within and outside the government. In February 2008, the Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management of the House Permanent Select Committee for Intelligence responded in general support of the board’s recommendation regarding the classified records of Congress. At an open meeting of the board on March 17, 2008, representatives of the National Security Archive, the American Historical Association, and Open the Government.org expressed their reactions to the report, drawing particular attention to the potential problem of forming a consensus on what constitutes “historically significant” topics and records for declassification priority. Most significantly, on January 29, 2008, President George W. Bush requested several Executive branch agencies with significant declassification programs to formally respond to the Assistants to the President for National Security Affairs and for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism regarding the advisability of implementing

the board’s specific recommendations. Whether or not the current or succeeding administration acts upon the recommendations of the board, the report stands as an informed evaluation of the successes and shortcomings of the current declassification system and as a visionary, if controversial, proposal for a new way forward.

*Improving Declassification: A Report to the President from the Public Interest Declassification Board*, as well as more information about the board, can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/declassification/pidb>

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## “ART, CULTURE, AND GOVERNMENT”: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SYMPOSIUM COMMEMORATES ROOSEVELT’S NEW DEAL

By Nancy Groce

On March 13 and 14, 2008, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the launch of Roosevelt’s New Deal, the American Folklife Center (AFC) teamed up with curators and divisions throughout the Library of Congress, prominent outside cultural organizations, and leading scholars throughout the United States to present a two-day public symposium entitled “Art, Culture, and Government: The New Deal at 75.” More than 200 audience members attended the free event to hear papers, panels, and discussions and attend a small exhibition of the Library’s New Deal treasures.

“Art, Culture, and Government” was produced by the American Folklife Center in collaboration with the Center for the Book, the John W. Kluge Center, the Prints and Photographs Division, and the Digital Reference Team, with assistance from the Manuscript Division, the Music Division, the Rare Books Division, and the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division. Additional assistance was provided by the National Archives and Record Administration (NARA) and the National New Deal Preservation Association (NNDPA).

Many New Deal cultural programs promoted the creation of new art, but many others undertook the documentation of traditional art and culture and mandated the collection of local, regional, and personal histories. As required, a huge amount of valuable documentary material generated by these groundbreaking New Deal cultural programs was submitted to the federal agencies that commissioned it, and, in time, much of this material found its way to the Library of Congress. Highlights of the Library’s New Deal holdings include over 2,300 ex-slave narratives; tens of thousands of iconic Farm Security Administration photographs; unpublished notes and letters by such literary luminaries and Works Progress Administration (WPA) employees as Ralph Ellison, Sterling Brown, Nelson Algren, Richard Wright, and Zora Neale Hurston; scripts, notes, and artwork for WPA theatrical productions involving such greats as Orson Welles and John Houseman; letters and musical scores by composers such as Aaron Copland and Marc Blitzstein; and thousands of audio recordings of traditional singers, fiddlers, banjo-players, instrumentalists, and other local performers recorded by WPA researchers throughout the United States.



*Panelists at the Library of Congress New Deal Symposium, March 14, 2008. (Left to right) John Y. Cole, Mindy J. Morgan, and Laura Katzman. Photo by Stephen Winick.*

### THE SYMPOSIUM

The conference events began in the Library’s Jefferson Building with a panel organized and presented by the National New Deal Preservation Association. Following welcoming remarks by ACF Director Peggy Bulger, Robert Saladini from the Kluge Center, and NNDPA’s Executive Director Kathy Flynn, political commentator Bill Press spoke on Roosevelt, his vision, and the enduring impact of the New Deal on American culture. Other presentations included reminiscences by Roosevelt’s granddaughter Eleanor Roosevelt Seagraves, Civilian Conservation Corps alumnus Walter Atwood, and papers by WPA artist Gertrude Goodwin, and New Deal historian Robert Leighninger.

The Library’s portion of the symposium began with a session entitled “New Deal Resources: Preserving the Legacy,” which primarily focused on the New Deal collections of individual Library of Congress divisions. Curators presented overviews of their holdings and how they were acquired, and highlighted some of their New Deal “treasures.” Following welcoming remarks by Associate Librarian for Library Services Deanna Marcum, the audience heard from Walter Zvonchenko of the Music Division, Alice Birney of the Manuscript Division, Mark Dimunation of the Rare Books Division, Ford Peatross from Historic American Building Survey, and Bryan Cornell of the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division. Speakers from other major New Deal repositories included NARA’s William Creech and Tom Wiltsey; Supervising Archivist Robert Clark from the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library in Hyde

Park, New York; as well as Andrea Kalin of Spark Media, who presented a brief preview of her upcoming documentary film *Soul of a People: Voices from the Writers' Project*, and folklorist Charlie Camp, who talked about the impact of the unpublished WPA manuscript "America Eats." A small exhibition of "New Deal treasures" from various Library divisions ran concurrently in an adjoining room.

### THE NEW DEAL LEGACY AND CONTEMPORARY SCHOLARSHIP

The symposium resumed early on March 14 in the Library's Madison Building's Mumford Room to explore "The New Deal Legacy and Contemporary Scholarship." An audience of more than 200 heard a keynote address by Georgetown University historian Michael Kazin on "The New Deal and the American People," which touched on the politics in the early years of the Roosevelt administration.



(Left to right) Former WPA artist Gertrude Goodwin, former WPA folklorist Stetson Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt Seagraves, and NNDPA president Glory Southwind, March 13, 2008. Seagraves is the granddaughter of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. Photo by Stephen Winick.



Library of Congress fieldworker Charles Todd at the recording machine, surrounded by a group of Mexican boys and men. El Rio F.S.A. Camp, California, 1941. Courtesy of Library of Congress.

Panel I opened with a short talk by John Cole, from the Library's Center for the Book on the Center's New Deal holdings. Mindy Morgan from the Department of Anthropology at Michigan State University examined the participation of Native American communities in Federal Writers' Project (FWP) programs. Next, Laura Katzman, Associate Professor of Art History at James Madison University, discussed the photographs of Edwin and Louise Rosskam who photographed Nationalist party activities and social conditions in Puerto Rico for *Life* magazine and the Farm Security Administration.

After lunch, Panel II was introduced by folklorist Catherine Hiebert Kerst from the American Folklife Center, who talked about the wealth of New Deal holdings in the AFC's Archive. Next, Massachusetts photograph historian and researcher Richard Remsberg and New York music scholar Henry Sapoznik presented a paper on documentary photography of American roots music during the Great Depression. Professor John Edgar Tidwell, from the English Department at the University of Kansas, gave a fascinating paper that traced the debates that poet Sterling A. Brown engaged in, including charges that his work was communist-inspired, and the proactive steps he took to document the participation of African Americans in order to create a truer mosaic of the social history of America.

In Panel III Beverly Brannan, Curator of 20th-century documentary photography in the Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, provided a quick glimpse of her division's vast New Deal holdings. Colleen McDannell, Professor of History and Religious Studies at the University of Utah, opened the final session with an intriguing presentation on "Religious America and New Deal Photography." The symposium's final paper, "Reconfiguring Race: The Jubilee Singers of the Buffalo Historical Marionettes," was presented jointly by two professors from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Beth Cleary, Professor and Chair of Macalester's Theatre and Dance Department, and Peter Rachleff, of the History Department, spoke on a little-known chapter of WPA history that, they contended, provides an important window into the relationships between art and politics during the Great Depression.

Following the panel presentations, the audience was treated to a firsthand account of collecting folklore for the New Deal from Federal Writers' Project alumnus Stetson Kennedy. Although the Florida native is best known for infiltrating the KKK and publishing a scathing 1955 memoir, *The Klan Unmasked*, Kennedy had previously established his reputation as a cultural documentarian when he directed the Florida Folklore Unit of the Federal Writers' Project between 1937 and 1942. Among the many folk-



lorists who worked under Kennedy's direction was the celebrated African American novelist and playwright, Zora Neale Hurston. The symposium concluded with remarks by historian Christopher Breiseth, Director of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park, New York.

#### ONLINE RESOURCES

The symposium produced two lasting legacies: First, the Library has launched an online web guide entitled *New Deal Programs: Selected Library of Congress Resources*. The extensive online guide, prepared by Laura Gottesman, from the Library's Digital Reference Team, is an exciting new resource that facilitates identifying, locating, and accessing important on- and off-line New Deal collections throughout the Library. The new guide can be found at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/newdeal/>

Another online New Deal resource, the American Folklife Center's web page for the symposium, contains a detailed program schedule, biographies of the symposium participants and paper abstracts, and a bibliography of publications on folklife, traditional music, and related topics based on the Center's New Deal collections. Webcasts of the panel presentations from both days of the symposium will be posted in the near future. The site is located at <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/newdeal/>

*Nancy Groce is a folklorist and folklife specialist with the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.*

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## LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN ORAL HISTORY FOR THE FEDERAL HISTORIAN

*By Pamela M. Henson*

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Oral history projects have been conducted in offices across the federal government since the early 1970s. Pioneered by World War II U.S. Army battlefield historians, oral history has proved an effective technique for documenting federal history beyond the official memo or report. But federal historians need to be aware of the legal and ethical issues that surround oral history, such as copyright, human subjects research, power relationships, defamation, and FOIA. Whether embarking on a project or an experienced old hand, the federal historian should be sure that he or she is familiar with the *Oral History Association's Oral History Evaluation Guidelines* ([www.dickinson.edu/oha/pub\\_eg.html](http://www.dickinson.edu/oha/pub_eg.html)) and John Neuen-schwander's *Oral History and the Law* (3rd ed, Carlisle, PA: Oral History Association, 2002).

Oral history interviews are governed by copyright law when the interview is fixed in a medium, such as a recording. Copyright is jointly held by the interviewer and interviewee(s). A federal employee or federal contractor does not own the copyright to the interview, since this is "work for hire," and the copyright, if any, belongs to the employing agency. It is generally agreed that the work of federal employees or a federal agency cannot be copyrighted, and, when not covered by national security or privacy considerations, the work of federal agencies is in the public domain. However, when an interview discusses the career of an individual employee, the interview can be covered by the privacy act and subject to restrictions. Early on, some

agency records managers ruled that interviews were personnel records, but work with the National Archives led to an agreement that interviews could be kept in an archives or agency library or history office as research resources. I usually interview Smithsonian employees after they have retired so they can hold the copyright to their interviews and place restrictions for specific periods of time. Federal historians, however, must be aware that any interview, even if restricted, can be subject to subpoena or the Freedom of Information Act.

Historians need to understand the concept of defamation. Cases are rare, and the standard is high, but they do exist. History offices that provide access to oral history interviews need to be aware that in a defamation case, both the speaker of the offending words and the person or organization that made the information available are liable. The information must be false, the person who uttered the words must know that the information is false and they must intend to harm the person defamed, and it must be clear who is being defamed. You cannot defame a dead person. If you suspect an interview contains defamatory material, consult your agency legal counsel and, if need be, close that section of the interview either permanently or during the lifetime of the person defamed.

Human subjects research review by Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) is a complex topic still in flux. When IRBs were created in the 1970s, many universities insisted that oral history projects undergo IRB review. This was a time-consuming process that produced very

unsatisfactory results, such as a ruling that interviews must be anonymous, in the social science tradition. The Oral History Association and American Historical Association worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) and in 2003 secured a ruling that oral history would not be considered “research” in the sense meant by the regulations. However, in 2007, the OHRP asked for comments on revised procedures that would subject oral history to IRBs again. Many historians argued that oral history should remain exempt from the IRB process or at least be subject to “expedited review.” Final regulations have not yet been issued.

There are many important ethical issues to consider before recording an interview. Most important is “informed consent”—full disclosure of the interviewee’s legal rights and how the interview will be used. Other ethical issues are power relations, such as between a federal

official and interviewees; traumatic topics; whether the interviewee is comfortable having their interview made available on the Internet; and the interviewee’s right to know and even influence how the interview is used. Historians should carefully review the OHA’s *Evaluation Guidelines* and think ethical issues through in advance.

Oral history interviews by federal historical offices have revealed day-to-day life in the committee rooms of Capitol Hill, traced the space race, and documented battlefield experiences in Vietnam. They are of great value in studying the impact of federal employees and federal programs. Federal historians who are competent to handle all of the relevant legal and ethical issues ensure that their interviews will be resources for generations to come.

*Pamela M. Henson is Director of the Institutional History Division at the Smithsonian Institution Archives in Washington, DC.*

## PRESERVING THE BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING’S PAST: THE HISTORICAL RESOURCE CENTER

*By Franklin Noll*

Recently celebrating its 17th anniversary was a little-known historical organization within the federal government, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing’s Historical Resource Center (HRC). The HRC of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) was established in 1991 to organize, preserve, and maintain the approximately two million objects held by the BEP relating to its past. This collection consists of primarily two-dimensional objects such as artwork, engravings, postage stamps, currency, revenue stamps, migratory bird stamps, debt instruments, and miscellaneous products. The HRC also maintains object-related correspondence, reference documents, and photographs.

From its founding, the HRC grew in scope and size, computerizing the collection catalog and acquiring image scanning technology. As a means of improving its understanding of the production of the objects in the collections and the history of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the HRC also began conducting oral history interviews with BEP employees. Shortly thereafter, the work of the HRC expanded to include a broad-based history program. By 2004, the HRC had acquired a wing of the BEP’s annex building and converted it to a secure working space and storage area to accommodate historic objects.

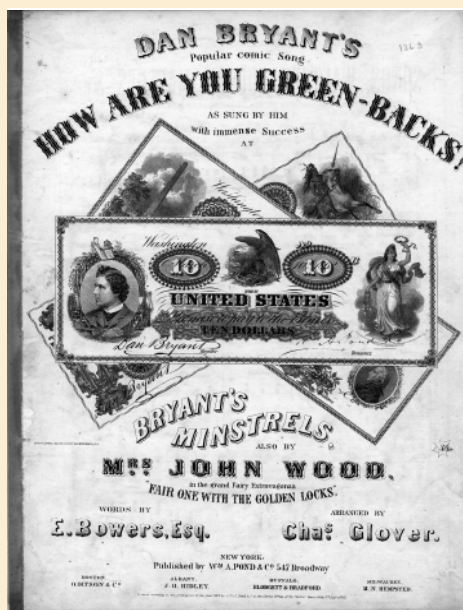
Today, HRC staff members not only manage the BEP’s collection but also perform independent research on the history of the BEP and its products. These findings are disseminated through short articles, research papers, timelines, exhibits, and other materials. Exhibits appear in the BEP’s facilities in Washington, DC, and Fort Worth, Texas. Staff members also give presentations to government and private agencies as well as various numismatic, philatelic, and academic groups on the history of the BEP. Additionally, the HRC addresses internal and external requests for historical information on the BEP and its products.

Examples of the work done at the HRC were offered at the recent annual conference of the Society for History in the Federal Government held at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. There, contract staff members of the HRC presented a panel on Civil War financing, counterfeiting, public culture, and the rise of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. What our research uncovered was that the rapidly escalating demand for wartime financing gave birth to the Greenback, which, in turn, brought forth a new government entity, new bank note designs, and a new way of thinking about the money in your pocket and the government that provided it.



I began the panel with a discussion of Civil War financing. In “Lincoln’s Greenback Mill: Civil War Financing and the Start of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 1861–1863,” I pointed out the government’s need to produce currency and securities in order to meet wartime financing goals. The inability of the old system of privately printing government currency and securities to satisfy the government’s needs led to the Treasury entering the printing business. The Treasury created a Bureau of Engraving and Printing to process Greenbacks and to print bonds in order to prevent the Union financing scheme from collapsing.

Barbara Bither, collections manager under contract to the BEP, presented “Green Ink, Blue Threads, and Gold Circles: The Bureau of Engraving and Printing’s Fight against Civil War Counterfeiting.” It discussed the design of the new currency. Once the U.S. Treasury got into the business of producing paper money, it had to worry about counterfeiting and the soundness of its currency. At this point, the new Bureau of Engraving and Printing began introducing design elements and cutting-



*Songbooks and other Civil War-era sources can be used to understand popular sentiment toward the federal government's monetary policies.*

edge technology into the government’s bank notes to deter counterfeiters.

No matter its design or producer, the new government currency was a revolutionary development. It radically changed the face of the Union’s monetary system while also altering the relationship of the government to its citizens. These points were developed by Margaret Richardson, a contract cataloger of the HRC’s collection, in her paper, “Dancing the “Legal Tender Polka”: Public Reaction to Currency Changes in Civil War America.” By examining editorials, cartoons, and other sources, she discovered that while people were cautious about the new Greenbacks, they patriotically supported the actions of their wartime government.

For more information on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Historical Resource Center, or its work, feel free to contact Franklin Noll at [Franklin.Noll@bep.treas.gov](mailto:Franklin.Noll@bep.treas.gov).

*Franklin Noll is a historian under contract at the Historical Resource Center, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, DC.*

## DOCUMENTING THE HISTORY OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

*By Diane Miller*

The National Park Service (NPS) commemorates and preserves the history of the Underground Railroad through the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom (NTF) Program, as mandated by Public Law 105-203 in 1998. The NTF extols the historical significance of the Underground Railroad in the eradication of slavery and the evolution of our national civil rights movement, and its relevance in fostering the spirit of racial harmony and national reconciliation. Through this partnership program, NPS coordinates preservation and education efforts nationwide, and is working to integrate local historical sites, museums, and interpretive programs associated with the Underground Railroad into a mosaic of community, regional, and national stories. NPS owns neither the resources associated with this movement,



nor the stories that it seeks to share. Like the Underground Railroad itself, modern commemoration is grass roots based.

The federal role in this collaborative effort is threefold. First, NPS is directed to educate the public about the significance and history of the Underground Railroad. We accomplish this primarily through our web site ([www.nps.gov/ugrr](http://www.nps.gov/ugrr)), though presentations at conferences and symposia, and through brochures. Second, NPS provides technical assistance to community partners as well as state and local governments who are involved with Underground Railroad history. This function involves NTF staff in a range of projects including research, documentation, historic preservation, curation of artifacts and documents, developing interpretive materials and exhibits, connecting with heritage tourism and economic

development initiatives, and capacity building for small non-profit organizations. Third, NPS maintains an evaluated list of historic sites, interpretive and educational programs, and interpretive and educational facilities with a verifiable connection to the Underground Railroad. Now 355 members strong (representing 31 states plus the District of Columbia), the Network to Freedom is the cornerstone of national efforts to commemorate the history of the Underground Railroad. Twice a year, NPS accepts nominations of sites, programs, and facilities to the Network. A public review meeting concludes the evaluation process, which involves all of the NTF staff. Once accepted for inclusion in the Network to Freedom, members may use the program's unique logo on their markers web sites, and publications. This professional, independent validation is often critical to the survival and success of struggling historic sites or interpretive programs and facilities.

Perhaps the biggest challenge facing the NTF staff and those who wish to document Underground Railroad sites and stories is separating myth from reality. One of the most persistent myths is that since the Underground Railroad was a secretive activity, we cannot know about it and it cannot be documented. This idea often sabotages Underground Railroad research before it even starts. Many stories and sites can be verified through painstaking research in local records and paying attention to the oral traditions passed down through families and communities. The NTF has developed guidance on how to document Underground Railroad stories using a variety of documentary and oral sources in connection with each other.

As these stories are documented around the country, a new picture of the Underground Railroad unfolds. Many enslaved people sought, and achieved, freedom unaided. Besides white Quakers, others who provided assistance included the African American community—both enslaved and free—Congregationalists, African Methodist Episcopal,

Presbyterians, and others. Canada was not the sole destination. Many fugitives, or “freedom seekers,” found refuge in northern states, in urban communities in the South, or on the frontier. Native Americans sheltered freedom seekers, sometimes incorporating them into their tribes. Spanish Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and California were also destinations. Despite its status as a free state, California was also a place of enslavement, where African American miners toiled in the gold fields. Through the NTF, which functions as a large public history project, a picture is emerging of a complex freedom movement that spanned decades, continents, and oceans, incorporating people of diverse races, religions, social classes, gender, and ethnicity.

In addition to documenting the history of the Underground Railroad, the NTF seeks to disseminate this information. In fall 2006, NPS brought an Underground Railroad exhibit to the Tulsa State Fair, reaching 12,000 visitors. A “Junior Ranger” booklet that provides learning activities for children was particularly popular among fair-goers. In fall 2008, NPS will launch an interactive Underground Railroad web experience for children. Lesson plans are under way to teach students about the Underground Railroad experience from the point of escape and from the point of a destination seaport city. Through partnership with the newly formed Friends of the Network to Freedom Association, an annual Underground Railroad conference has been initiated. In September 2008, the second annual conference will be held in Philadelphia, followed by Indianapolis in 2009, and Kansas in 2010. To facilitate the work of community partners, Congress authorized a matching grant program. To date, \$1.9 million has been awarded to 79 projects to support preservation, research and interpretive projects.

*Diane Miller is National Program Manager for the NPS National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program.*



*Inside the NPS Underground Railroad exhibit at the Tulsa State Fair, 2006.*

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

By Philip M. Teigen

### EXHIBITION “AGAINST THE ODDS”

The National Library of Medicine, opened a new interactive exhibition, “Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health” on April 17 in the Library’s Rotunda. Focused on how individuals, communities, scientists, advocacy groups, and local, national and international governments work to ensure global health, “Against the Odds” examines specific global health challenges and solutions: Hurricane Katrina, the Chinese barefoot doctors program, a campaign for oral rehydration in Bangladesh, and the Pholela Health Center in South Africa that inspired the community health center movement in the United States.

Using the best 21st-century information technology, “Against the Odds” engages visitors with text, graphics, and objects. For an online version of the exhibition, see <http://apps.nlm.nih.gov/againsttheodds/exhibit/index.cfm>. Hours are Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat. 8:30–2 p.m., and closings and holidays are posted on the holiday schedule.

### ADDITIONS TO PROFILES IN SCIENCE WEB SITE

We have also added the following new entries to the Profiles in Science homepage at <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/>

#### *Alan Gregg, Foundation Executive*

In a career spanning nearly four decades, Rockefeller Foundation officer Alan Gregg (1890–1957) became one of the most influential men in the world of medical education and research. From 1919 to 1922, he worked as a field officer in the foundation’s International Health Board, later becoming Associate Director of the Medical Education Division. He then served for 20 years as Director of the Medical Sciences Division before finishing his career as the foundation’s Vice President. During that time he oversaw the expenditure of millions of dollars to physicians, scientists, universities, and institutes engaged in medical training and research. In the process, he helped create the model of medical research funding that predominates in the United States today. His many achievements were honored by a special Lasker Award in 1956.

In collaboration with the Rockefeller Archive Center and Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, the National Library of Medicine’s History of Medicine Division, digitized and now makes available over the World Wide Web a selection of the Alan Gregg collections for use by educators and researchers. Individuals interested in conducting research in the Alan Gregg collections are invited to contact the National Library of Medicine and Rockefeller Archive Center.



*A Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) health worker teaches oral rehydration therapy, Balkh Province, Afghanistan, 2006. Courtesy of BRAC Bangladesh.*

#### *Arthur Kornberg, Biochemist*

Arthur Kornberg (1918–2007) was an American biochemist who made outstanding contributions to molecular biology through his research on enzymes. He was the first to isolate DNA polymerase, the enzyme that assembles DNA from its components, and the first to synthesize DNA in a test tube, which earned him a Nobel Prize in 1959. He later became the first to replicate an infective virus DNA in vitro. Kornberg was also the first chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at the Stanford University School of Medicine, which under his guidance became a preeminent center for DNA research, including recombinant DNA research.

#### *Maxine Singer, Molecular Biologist*

Singer (b. 1931) is a leading molecular biologist and science advocate. She has made important contributions to the deciphering of the genetic code and to our understanding of RNA and DNA, the chemical elements of heredity. She helped organize the landmark Asilomar Conference in February 1975, at which scientists agreed to impose restrictions on the new and controversial science of recombinant DNA, and to develop a framework for removing these restrictions as knowledge of the science advanced. From 1988 to 2002, Singer was president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, a position in which she not only reinvigorated the Institution’s scientific programs, but served as an effective champion of women in science, of improvements in science education, and of scientists who engage in public policy debates.

#### *Francis Crick, Molecular Biologist*

The name of Nobel laureate Francis Crick (1916–2004) is inextricably tied to the discovery of the double helix of



deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) in 1953, considered the most significant advance in the understanding of biology since Darwin's theory of evolution. Yet, during a research career spanning more than 50 years, theoretical biologist Crick also made fundamental contributions to structural studies of other important biological molecules through X-ray analysis; to the understanding of protein synthesis; to the deciphering of the genetic code by which hereditary information is stored and transcribed in the cell; and to our conception of consciousness. Through force of personality and intellect, readily apparent in this online selection from his papers, the Briton served as a one-man clearinghouse of criticism, ideas, and information for scientists the world over.

**Harold E. Varmus, Cancer Researcher and Scientific Administrator**

For nearly four decades, Harold Eliot Varmus (b. 1939) has advanced fundamental scientific knowledge at the inter-

section of virology, oncology, and genetics, both as a researcher and as Director of NIH and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. With his long-time collaborator J. Michael Bishop, Varmus developed a new theory of the origin of cancer, which holds that the disease arises from mutations in certain of our own normal genes. These mutations are triggered by environmental carcinogens or by naturally occurring errors in the course of cell division and DNA replication. As an expert on retroviruses he chaired the scientific advisory committee that in 1986 proposed the name human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) for the etiologic agent of AIDS. In 1993 he became the first Nobel laureate to head NIH.

*Philip M. Teigen is Deputy Chief of the History of Medicine Division, at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland.*

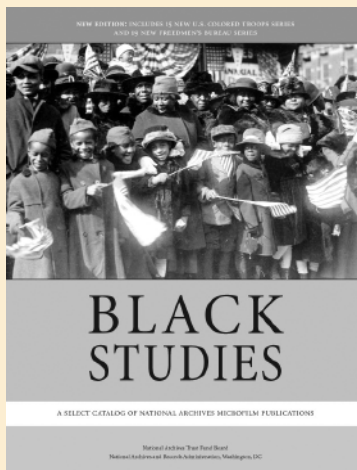
## REVISED BLACK STUDIES MICROFILM CATALOG NOW AVAILABLE

*By Benjamin Guterman*

It's been 12 years since the last printing of *Black Studies: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications*, and this new and substantially enlarged edition demonstrates the National Archives' commitment to and success in making records relating to African American history widely available.

This edition introduces 60 new and previously uncited microfilm publications of materials from nine record groups, with the majority reproducing field office records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1865–72, Record Group 105, and compiled military service records of soldiers from the United States Colored Troops (USCT), RG 94.

The records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau), 1865–72, have long been recognized as the best source of information about the unprecedented and difficult post-Civil War efforts to provide relief and promote self-sufficiency among freedpeople, and to help forge a social order based on racial equality and justice. Many of the records of the bureau's headquarters and state officers were filmed the 1970s, but historians and genealogists have urged greater access to the field office records. Filming these records was made possible through a grant of \$3 million from Congress through the Freedmen's Bureau Records Preservation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-444). The resulting five-year project com-



pleted microfilm publications covering 14 Southern and border states and the District of Columbia, in addition to a series of headquarters' marriage records, and records generated by the military in its pre-bureau relief efforts in Mississippi. These series reproduce approximately 1.2 million documents that are now available for purchase and study worldwide. There are affidavits from freed men and women on violence and raids by white gangs; requests for assistance with food, shelter, and clothing; hospital reports on efforts to contain smallpox; reports on establishment of freedmen schools and the progress of

black students; labor contracts; efforts to legalize black marriages; court proceedings; letters from state assistant commissioners and their subordinates, and much more. Sample documents can be viewed and downloaded at NARA's Freedmen's Bureau web page, <http://www.archives.gov/research/african-americans/freedmens-bureau/>

These records also extend the reach of black family studies. Documents such as local censuses, marriage records, and medical records provide freedpeople's full names and former masters; Federal censuses through 1860 list slaves only statistically under the master's household. Howard University is preparing an index to the headquarters marriage records, and other such indexes to these records will undoubtedly follow.

The project to film USCT service records is ongoing. Over 178,000 African Americans served in segregated Union volunteer regiments during the Civil War. These regiments were raised primarily from newly freed slaves as early as 1862, and included miscellaneous state units, and 7 numbered cavalry, 13 numbered artillery, and 144 numbered infantry regiments. The catalog includes roll listings for artillery units and infantry regiments through the 46th Infantry. Also described are the filmed records of the famed 54th Massachusetts Infantry, popularized in the film *Glory* in 1989. These service records contain enlistment papers, casualty sheets, discharge or disability certificates, copies of court martial papers, correspondence, deeds of manumission, and other personal information.

Several additional film series reproduce selected records from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (rolls of Cherokee Freeman, 1890–96), the District Courts of the United States (records relating to various cases concerning the Spanish

schooner *Amistad*), the Supreme Court (records of the *Amistad*, *Dred Scott*, and *Brown v. Board of Education* cases), the Department of Justice (letters received by the Department from the Southern States, 1871–1884), and the Federal Extension Service (annual reports detailing conditions among the rural black population).

The many new series in the *Black Studies* guide will enable researchers to add substantially to our understanding of such topics as slavery, black military service, Reconstruction, the black family, labor, education, legal and constitutional issues, race relations, and others. This guide can be ordered online at [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) or by telephone at 1-800-234-8861.

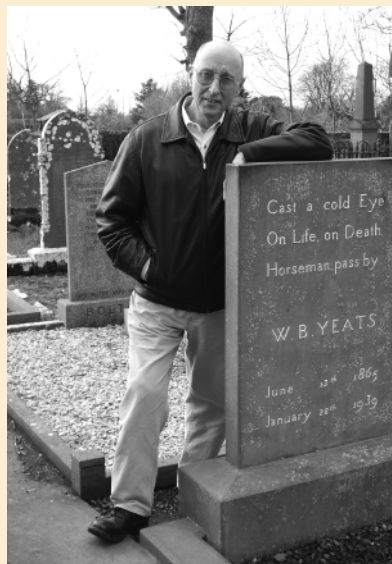
*Benjamin Guterman is a writer/editor in the Product Development Branch at the National Archives in Washington, DC.*

## LIFE AFTER FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

*By Fred Beck*

It's been an eventful 13 years since my retirement on the last day of 1994. Listing my various projects in the intervening years had not occurred to me, but the editors of *The Federalist* inquire now what a government historian does after leaving formal office. Depending on continued interest and energy, the business can engage someone well into his eighties. Erstwhile colleagues continue to knock on your door, and new subjects present themselves almost continually. Here are some highlights of the past decade or so.

- This newsletter continued under my hand until 2001, when the first book project described below inevitably claimed more time.
- The series *Occasional Papers*, initiated by Society president Rebecca Hancock Welch, began in 1997 and has run through a fifth issue appearing in 2005. The editing, layout, and design of these consecutive productions drew on my experience as editor of the Air Force history program.
- A heavily recast version of my Georgetown dissertation appeared in 2005 as *Hitler's Ambivalent Attaché*, with a paperback edition in late 2006. The publisher added Hitler's name to the title, supposedly for sales interest, and marketing departments override authors in these decisions.



*Fred Beck at the gravesite of William Butler Yeats in Drumcliff Churchyard, County Sligo, April 28, 2008.*

- There was some challenge to the layout, design, and typesetting of *The Occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina* in 1878, a DoD-sponsored translation of a Hungarian volume by László Bencze published in 1987. This study contributed to American military analyses of terrain and strategies that affected operations in the same area of the Balkans in the mid-1990s. The effort was completed in cooperation with retired JCS historian Frank N. Schubert; Irene Schubert prepared the index. The project was managed from Budapest, but was printed in New Jersey, and the books were distributed by Columbia University Press in New York in 2005.
- The basic design and camera copy for several issues of the *Journal of Korean Studies* also came from my laser printer between 1998 and 2003.
- The History Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, engaged me to add two substantive chapters on World War II, one on the entire Pacific war and a second on the war in Europe, to the Corps' ongoing comprehensive history. This enterprise incorporates the work of over 20 contributors and includes analyses of military events and civil works projects.
- More recently, demand arose for my illustrated lectures on the Luftwaffe and the Attaché story noted above.

These programs are promoted by life-long learning institutes associated with the Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University. An eight-hour series is under preparation comprising a survey of German history from unification to reunification, scheduled for its first presentation in Spring 2009.

Things to do: Sign up for OPM-sponsored retirement seminars soon. Putting your house in order early makes for

more time spent in professional pursuits later. Have grandkids; they're easily as much fun as research. Wear sunblock; many ills of later existence are avoidable with a little foresight.

*Fred Beck is a retired historian from the Air Force history program and a past editor of The Federalist.*

## CIA DOCUMENTS RELEASED

The National Archives (NARA) has opened for research 534 cubic feet or approximately 1.3 millions pages of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) records from the period 1946–1977. They were released in compliance with the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act (Public Law 105-246). The Act calls for an Interagency Working Group (IWG) to locate, inventory, recommend for declassification, and make available all classified Nazi war criminal records, subject to certain specified exceptions. The IWG tasked federal agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), to search its record holdings for relevant war criminal and war crimes documents responsive to personal name and subject terms identified by the IWG. In this release, its initial response to the Disclosure Act, the CIA selected and copied documents from the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

NARA's press release states that "These records are from the CIA's Foreign Documents Division, which provided translation, abstracting and research services on newspapers, periodicals and other foreign-language publications. The series consists of translations of newspapers, periodicals, and other foreign-language publications in verbatim, excerpt, and summary form. These documents cover all major types of open-source intelligence subject matter, including economic, scientific, political, military, and sociological topics, with particular emphasis on developments in the Soviet Union, Eastern European countries, and the Peoples' Republic of China."

These records, along with other CIA records, are available for research at the National Archives at College Park, MD. All records are catalogued and described in NARA's Archival Research Catalog (ARC) at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc>. ARC provides such identifying information as the ARC Identifier for the series, series title, Inclusive Dates, Coverage Dates, Scope & Content Note, Location, Access and Use Restrictions, Finding Aid Type, and Extent/Volume of the series.

## NARA'S CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION OFFICE

On May 22, 2008, Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein established the "Controlled Unclassified Information Office" (CUIO) within NARA. The office was mandated on May 9 by President Bush's Memorandum for the Heads of Departments and Agencies on the Designation and Sharing of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). The memo states that national security requires that there be wider and improved access to information designated as controlled but yet unclassified. New procedures are needed to encourage inter-agency cooperation in identifying and releasing such documents. Weinstein nominated William J. Bosanko, director of the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) to oversee the new office.

NARA, with its responsibilities for accessioning government records and providing government access to them, has been seen as the logical entity to bring together the various agencies with interests in improved declassification procedures. The office has several important duties, which include

- development of new CUI policy standards and controls on safeguarding and disseminating records.
- development of standards in accordance with "Specified Dissemination" requirements proposed by the heads of departments and agencies
- monitoring department and agency compliance with CUI policy, standards, and markings
- establishing a CUI training program for implementation by departments and agencies
- resolving complaints and disputes regarding proper designation or marking of controlled unclassified information
- working with departments and agencies to develop a process that addresses enforcement mechanisms and penalties for improper handling on CUI

For further information see the NARA website at [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

The President's memo is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/05/20080509-6.html>



## INTERNSHIPS IN FEDERAL HISTORY

The internship experience can be an invaluable one for students interested in the history profession. Students can gain hands-on experience with historical materials, learn critical professional skills and the workings of history offices, and build professional contacts. Interns can make valuable contributions to a program, and often these opportunities lead to permanent positions. Program opportunities in federal history offices are diverse and extensive. This column highlights a different history internship program in each issue. You can send information on your office program for future inclusion to [benjamin.guterman@nara.gov](mailto:benjamin.guterman@nara.gov)

### HERITAGE EDUCATION SERVICES, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

*Program Goal:* To provide graduate and undergraduate students with practical work experience, the acquisition of skills in the field of public history, and the opportunity to learn about cultural heritage tourism and heritage education.

*Intern duties:* Heritage Education Services (HES) welcomes students in public history, historic preservation, heritage tourism, or heritage education-related fields for for-credit/not paid internships. The intern will assist in preparing and posting National Park Service (NPS) Discover Our Shared Heritage travel itineraries and/or Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) lesson plans on the NPS web site.

The intern will have the opportunity to learn and practice computer software skills and possibly GIS mapping. He or she will work with a variety of organizations and professionals in partnership with the NPS to prepare travel itineraries and lesson plans: developing content, editing, and carrying out work to post itineraries and/or lesson plans on the Web. The intern also may also be asked to perform other duties relating to the work of the Heritage Education Services office.

The internship provides an excellent opportunity to learn about cultural heritage tourism and heritage education and how to develop web-based promotional products to market historic places as destinations and as tools for learning. The intern will research and use documentation on historic places listed in the National Register of Historic Places archives. The student will also gain an in-depth understanding of NPS cultural resources programs and the educational programs, products, and services provided by the NPS and its partners.

*Work location:* Work is done at the office of the NPS Heritage Education program, 1201 "Eye" Street, NW, Washington, DC. Hours are flexible.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

– Applicants must be registered students at a college or university. Schools may grant academic credit for internship work experience in subject areas related to the student's course of study. HES will work with the student's academic sponsor to design projects that will meet the needs of both HES and the student's coursework.

– Major or minor fields and/or some work experience in the study in history, American studies, tourism, education, or related fields are preferred. Experience in computer software such as GIS, Dreamweaver, Homesite, Photoshop, or Pagemaker is helpful but not mandatory, as some of these programs may be learned at the work site.

– Applicants should visit the HES office for an interview if possible, but otherwise will be interviewed by telephone.

*Web site:* <http://www.nps.gov/history/hes.htm>

*Contact:* For information and application, write to Chief, Heritage Education Services  
National Park Service (#2258)  
1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 354-2234 or 2238

### JOSHUA KITCHENS

Internships can provide students with diverse perspectives of the "history" profession. Internships allow glimpses into the subfields within the overall discipline, which help develop students' understanding of the field even if they don't end up working in that particular area. For instance, I came to the National Park Service Heritage Education Services (HES) with more experience in researching historical topics and preserving archival records. I honestly had little experience with historic preservation, but I was drawn to the National Park Service's Teaching with Historic Places and Shared American Heritage Travel Itinerary web-based programs (<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/index.htm> and <http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/index.htm>). I believed that I could use an experience at HES to further my understanding of different ways of presenting historical information to the public. Little did I know that this wasn't the only learning experience I would have.

So with this mission in mind, I embarked upon my journey through HES's lesson plans and travel itinerary web sites. From the beginning of the internship, I was exposed to how HES approaches using historic places to teach about history. The second week I was able to sit in on a session of educators who were discussing the whole process of teaching with historic places and how to help educators use these sites in their curriculum. Through working with various web design programs, like Dreamweaver, I learned just how complex website design and maintenance can be. While not directly related to history, this lesson has proven to be valuable.

Ultimately, I gained a new perspective on how to present history through using places and their power. I also walked away from this internship with an understanding of how technology plays into presenting history. This is a lesson that potential interns should seek to learn, and HES is a great place to learn this lesson.



**Josh Kitchens** just completed his *Masters of Arts in History*, with a focus on *Applied History*, from George Mason University. He begins a job as archivist at Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA, in the summer of 2008.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### SHFG FOUNDING DOCUMENTS

*Charles Downs, SHFG Archivist*

Not surprisingly, the oldest documents in the SHFG Archives relate to the Society's founding, which grew out of a Conference of Federal Government Historians held on September 13, 1979, at the Forrestal Building in Washington, DC. The conference was sponsored jointly by the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History and the Historian's Office, Department of Energy. The SHFG Archives has copies of the bright blue conference agenda. There are also several pages of signatures and addresses of those attending the conference, from which a mailing list was created. Discussions at this conference led to the creation of an ad hoc steering committee that became the Council on History in the Federal Government, chaired by Jack Holl (pictured). A letter proposing the creation of an organization that became the SHFG, signed by Holl, went out to prospective members, along with a questionnaire sounding out possible support for such an organization. Holl, a historian with the Department of Energy, became the Society's first President in 1980. For more information on SHFG archives, write to [cfdowns@earthlink.net](mailto:cfdowns@earthlink.net)

#### COUNCIL ON HISTORY IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Dear Colleague,

In order to further historical programs in the federal government, a Conference for Federal Historians met on September 13, 1979. On that occasion an ad hoc group proposed the formation of a steering committee to investigate the professional needs and organizational future of federal historians. This proposal was overwhelmingly approved by the approximately 150 conference attendees. Thereupon, on October 16, interested historians from various agencies and constituencies in the Washington, D. C., area organized themselves into a steering committee. A list of members is enclosed. The committee discussed the purpose, functions, membership, and structure of a proposed association to be known as the "Council on History in the Federal Government."

We believe that such an organization can engage in a number of activities within the federal government. In no particular order, possible activities include (1) educating both the general public and senior civil servants about the manner in which historical programs can contribute to governmental organizations (2) addressing the question of professional standards for governmental historians (3) seeking a larger role in professional historical societies (4) working with the Office of Personnel Management to rewrite the series of federal historians (5) recommending organization and operation of historical program (6) the identification and preservation of historical documents (7) serving as a clearinghouse for information for federal historians (8) publishing newsletter to exchange information of common concern, and (9) on a regular basis.

Whatever functions the organization undertakes succeed without strong support from a large, active steering committee considers that its first priority measure of support can be anticipated from those in the federal government. We recognize that to perform a wide variety of functions, including reference and consulting services; writing lists; public; preparing classified studies; preserving buildings, and artifacts; mounting exhibits; and proposals. Indeed, one of our aims is to identify within this great diversity. We would therefore would complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it by December 1, 1979.

We will use these questionnaires to learn the goals that potential members of the Council desire. The committee then anticipates calling a general meeting to be held in late winter or early spring, will be elected and working committees will be assuming sufficient interest, the steering committee articles of incorporation and by-laws for presentation.



8:00 - 8:45

#### REGISTRATION

8:45 - 9:30

#### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Ron Spector  
Center for Military  
History, Department  
of the Army

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Honorable Paul Simon  
House of Representatives

9:30 - 9:45

#### REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCE GROUP

Richard G. Hewlett  
Chief Historian  
Department of Energy

9:45 - 11:00

#### WORKSHOPS

I. "Consciousness Raising  
for Supervisory Historians:  
Working with the Personnel  
Office"

Todd White  
Personnel Specialist, Oak  
Ridge Operations Office  
Department of Energy

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1979

II. "Working With and For Non-  
Historians"

Elaine Pospisil  
Command Historian, U.S.  
Army Materiel Readiness  
Command, Rock Island, IL

III. "Contracting with the Federal  
Government"

Charles E. Morrissey  
Historical Consultant, Former  
Members of Congress

and

Monte D. Wright  
Director, History Office  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

IV. "Historic Preservation"

Peter King  
Executive Director, National  
Conference of State Historic  
Preservation Officers

V. "Interagency Access Agreement:  
One Year Later"

Neal H. Petersen  
Office of the Historian  
Department of State

11:00 - 11:30

#### BREAK

11:30 - 12:00

#### WORKSHOP REPORTS

12:00 - 1:30

#### LUNCH

Forrestal Cafeteria  
or  
L'Enfant Plaza Restaurants

1:30 - 2:30

#### REFLECTIONS ON HISTORIANS AND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Alan Weinstein  
Professor of History  
Smith College

2:30 - 2:45

#### BREAK

2:45 - 4:15

#### DISCUSSION

"Breaking Into the Establishment or  
Breaking Out"

(A discussion on relations with the  
profession as a whole)

Eugene M. Genovese  
Professor of History  
University of Rochester

# MAKING HISTORY

## ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY

New on the Center's web site is a downloadable version of David Cole's "Survey of U.S. Army Uniforms, Weapons and Accoutrements." The site notes that "the purpose of this study is to provide a quick reference for the identification of the basic uniforms, accoutrements and small arms used by the American soldier from the period of the American Revolution to the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan all in one source, rather than in seven or eight different books or websites."

## AIR FORCE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation's latest newsletter, Volume 5, Number 1, is online at <http://www.afhistoricalfoundation.org/aboutus/newsletter.asp>. It discusses the Air Force symposium held on October 16–17 at the Sheraton Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia., where awards were presented for contributions to *Air Force History*. The Foundation also plans an awards banquet in October 2008, featuring presentation of the second annual Spaatz and Holley Awards, and other Foundation awards. Also, the Foundation plans to develop new web pages for an archive of its journal, *Air Power History*, to cover the over 50 years of publication (available to members free of charge), and a membership database (controlled by members). The latest issue of *Air Power History* is posted at [http://www.afhistoricalfoundation.org/membership/Air\\_Power\\_History.asp](http://www.afhistoricalfoundation.org/membership/Air_Power_History.asp)

## ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Spring 2008 issue of *On Point: The Journal of Army History* is available. It features Paul Herbert's article, "The Battle of Cantigny and the Dawn of the Modern American Army," and Christine Wizda's review, "Fort Sam Houston Museum and U.S. Army Medical Department Museum, Fort Sam Houston, Texas."

## HISTORY ASSOCIATES INCORPORATED

Senior Historian James P. Rife of History Associates Incorporated (HAI) recently attended the 2008 annual U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Scientific and Training Symposium in Tucson, Arizona, in support of the U.S. Indian Health Service's ongoing "Gold Book" History Project. During the symposium, which was sponsored by the Commissioned Officer's Association, Mr. Rife assisted Project Coordinator Captain Alan Dellapenna, Jr. in presenting historical information and staffing a photographic and electronic media exhibit that highlighted the agency's achievements in elevating the status of Indian health since its 1955 transfer from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to USPHS.

In collaboration with HAI, the U.S. Indian Health Service (IHS) launched the *Gold Book History Project* in 2005 to commemorate its 50th anniversary and the 1957 publication of its groundbreaking comprehensive report entitled "Health Services for the American Indian," which established the agency's short- and long-term Indian health improvement agendas following in-depth studies of Indian health conditions on nine reservations. The report was bound with a gold cover and became commonly known as the "1957 Gold Book."

Throughout the *Gold Book Project*, Mr. Rife and Captain Dellapenna performed exhaustive primary historical and photographic research, not only in the Washington, D.C. area, but also in various federal and academic repositories in Arizona, New Mexico,

Alaska, Michigan and Oklahoma. Further, they identified and retrieved a large body of previously "lost" records from the personal collections of former IHS personnel, such as Dr. Emery A. Johnson, the agency's fourth and perhaps most influential director from 1969 to 1981. Additionally, Captain Dellapenna conducted over 50 oral histories with former and current IHS employees, including the past four agency directors and a number of other key individuals whose service extended back to the 1940s.

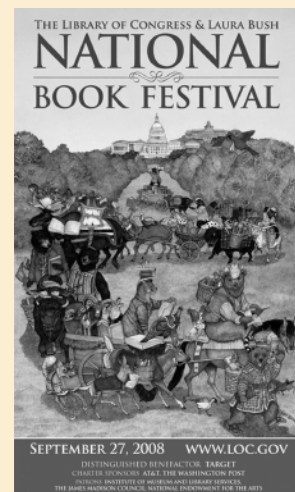
Based upon this three-year research effort, Mr. Rife and Captain Dellapenna have completed an illustrated history of the agency, entitled *Caring & Curing: A History of the U.S. Indian Health Service*, to be published by the Commissioned Officer's Association, with a forthcoming publication date of Fall 2008. For more information on the *IHS Gold Book Project*, see <http://www.ihs.gov> or contact Captain Dellapenna at (301) 443-0097 or [alan.dellapenna@ihs.gov](mailto:alan.dellapenna@ihs.gov). For more information about HAI, call 301-279-9697 or visit <http://www.historyassociates.com>

At the National History Day contest, SHFG's annual prize for the best entry in the field of the History of the Federal Government was awarded this year to students who designed a junior group exhibit entitled "The Santee Cooper Project: The Price of Progress." The exhibit was done by students Cameron Eddins, Laura Brabham, Alex Lanter, Rachel Marsh, and Rebecca Marsh from Long Middle School in Cheraw, SC; Debra Ballard is their history teacher.

The overall theme this year was "Conflict and Compromise in History," and the exhibit dealt with a major TVA-like project along the Santee and Cooper rivers in South Carolina during the Thirties and Forties.

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The 2008 National Book Festival, organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress and hosted by First Lady Laura Bush, will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., between 3rd and 7th streets from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The festival is free and open to the public.



## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The agency's announced forthcoming publication of "Read You Loud and Clear!" A History of NASA's Spaceflight Tracking and Data Network (SP-2007-4232), by Sunny Tsiao. New series of records are now available online through a database at <https://mira.hq.nasa.gov/history/>. The records include PDFs of press kits, press releases, mission transcripts, and Administrators' speeches.

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The exhibit "Running for Office: Candidates, Campaigns, and the Cartoons of Clifford Berryman" continues in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, through August 17. A new five-year agreement and partnership with The Generations Network (parent company of Ancestry.com) will enable the digitization of thousands of records in the areas of immigration and military serv-



ice. The digital files will be available on the company web site by subscription and free-of-charge at all National Archives research rooms nationwide. The original Treaty of Paris, which formalized the end of the American Revolution, will be on display at the National Archives August 29–September 3. It will be part the international exhibit “1783: Subject or Citizen,” which includes materials from the Library and Archives Canada. The exhibit showed in Canada first and will run in Washington from October 3 through January 25, 2009.

Kathleen Williams was appointed the new director of NHPRC in April. She had served as Deputy Executive Director. Karl Weissenbach has been named the new director of the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. He had previously served as director of the Nixon Presidential Materials staff in College Park, Maryland.

NARA's Great Lakes Region (Chicago) will hold its 11th Civil War Symposium and Reenactment on Sunday October 18, 2008 at the Cantigny First Division Foundation, First Division Museum, in Wheaton, Illinois. Presenters include Paul Finkleman on the Emancipation Proclamation, Harold Holzer on current Lincoln scholarship, Trevor Plante on Lincoln records in the National Archives, John Y. Simon on Lincoln and Grant, and Thomas Schwartz on Lincoln and the Copperhead Movement in Illinois. Fees \$40, students \$10. For information, call 773-948-9001 or e-mail [chicago.archives@nara.gov](mailto:chicago.archives@nara.gov)

## NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

The Council seeks proposals for its next conference on April 2-5, 2009, in Providence, RI, with the theme “Toward Broader Horizons.” Their web site states that “we look forward to proposals that connect local stories to international issues, capture the role of activism in public history and related disciplines (i.e., public anthropology, folklore, art, economics, and sociology), speak to social justice and environmental politics, commemorate individuals who have brought about change, and, more generally, innovative ideas in the content and practice of museums, historic sites, archives, and other public venues.” See <http://www.ncph.org/Conferences/2009/tabid/304/Default.aspx>

## NIH HISTORY OFFICE

The Office NIH History (ONH) has welcomed several new staff members over the past months. Director Robert Martensen, M.D., Ph.D. joined us in October. He has explored the origins of neuroscience in the Scientific Revolution, the development of nuclear medicine, and the scientific transformation of United States medicine that occurred during the Progressive Era, among other topics. In 2002, he received a Guggenheim fellowship to complete his book, *The Brain Takes Shape: An Early History* (Oxford University Press, 2004). His newest book, *The American Way of Illness: Tales from the Front Lines* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2008), is intended for general readers and contains eight linked tales drawn on

Martensen's experiences of caring for approximately 75,000 patients as an emergency physician.

David Cantor, Ph.D. became Deputy Director and Senior Research Historian in the ONH. His work focuses on 20th-century medical history, most recently the history of cancer. He is the editor of *Reinventing Hippocrates* (Ashgate, 2002) and *Cancer in the Twentieth Century* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008), and series editor (edited collections) of *Studies for the Society of the Social History of Medicine*. Medicine, Society and Culture published by Pickering and Chatto. He also works as a historian for the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the National Cancer Institute.

And most recently, Barbara Harkins, M.L.I.S. joined the staff as archivist, handling the document, photograph, and audiovisual collections. Previously employed as Special Collections Librarian and Archivist at Murray State University in Kentucky, she brings 20 years of experience working with special collections and archives in academic health science collections and university archives collections. Her research interests include history of medicine, archival administration, digital archival practices including metadata and content management as well as online searching methods and behavior.

This summer, the ONH has four student interns: Eddie Iglesia (Rutgers), Janelle Winters (Wisconsin), Emily Alden (Iowa), and Anna Parks (Yale). They are working on a variety of projects including a history of public health education movies and television shows on cancer (1944–2000) and the physician-researcher at the NIH during the 1950s–1960s.

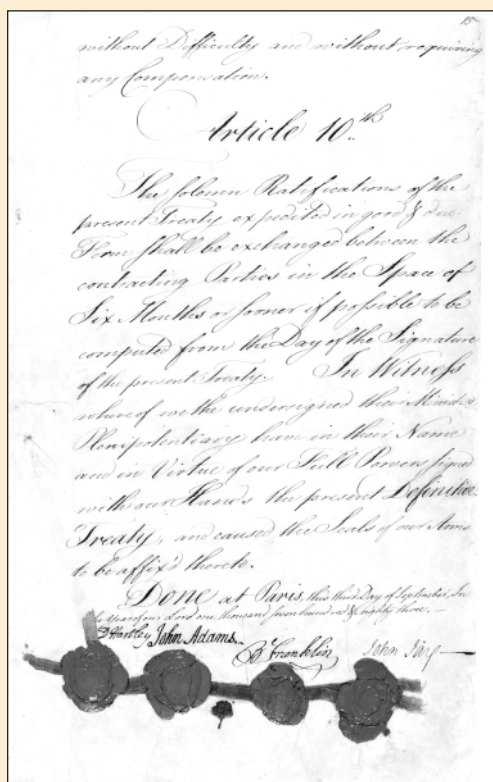
Soon the ONH will be welcoming new Stetten Fellows. These Fellows work with ONH and various NIH institutes during their stay. This year our Fellows are Doogab Yi (Princeton) who is researching the history of the NCI cancer virus program; Laura Stark (Princeton) who is investigating NIH policies to protect human research subjects; Eric Boyle (Wisconsin) who will be working on a history of the National Institute of Complementary and Alternative Medicine;

and Todd Olszewski (Yale) who will be investigating cholesterol research and the development of the concept of risk factors.

In addition to staff changes, the ONH has changed its address as a burst pipe forced a move into new offices (no damage done by the water). The phone numbers remain the same but the new address is Building 45, Room 3AN38, MSC 6330, Bethesda, Maryland.

## OFFICE OF HISTORY AND PRESERVATION, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Since 2002, the House of Representatives' Office of History and Preservation has been dedicated to commissioning works of art to fill gaps in the House Collection of Fine Art and Artifacts. The project began with replacing portraits of John Quincy Adams and James Madison that were lost in the 1851 Capitol fire. Subsequent portraits have included Members of Congress who broke barriers with their service, such as Joseph Rainey, the first African-American Member of Congress, and Jeannette Rankin, the first woman Member.



The official portrait of Dalip Singh Saund (1899–1973), the first Asian-American Member of Congress, (who served from 1957 to 1962), was unveiled at the U.S. Capitol on November 7, 2007. The new portrait, by artist Jon Friedman, depicts Congressman Saund in the Cannon Rotunda. The vertical frieze along the right side of the portrait illustrates Congressman Saund's life story, including his early years in Punjab, India; his role models, Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi and Woodrow Wilson; and his home district, the agricultural Imperial Valley in Southern California.

A remarkable quote from Congressman Saund, "There is no room in the United States of America for second-class citizenship," included beneath the portrait image, bespeaks Saund's tireless fight against racial discrimination and his work to achieve full citizenship rights for South Asian and other immigrants. The unveiling was attended by members of the Congressional Asian Pacific Americans Caucus, and many members of Congressman Saund's extended family. For more information about this and other House history projects, contact the Office of History and Preservation at (202) 226-1300 or visit [http://clerk.house.gov/art\\_history/index.html](http://clerk.house.gov/art_history/index.html).

The Office of History and Preservation announces the publication of *Black Americans in Congress, 1870–2007*. The volume contains biographical profiles on each of the 121 African Americans to serve in Congress, from Senator Hiram Revels of Mississippi and Representative Joseph Rainey of South Carolina in 1870, through the end of the first session of the 110th Congress. Contextual essays introduce four generations of Members, and 10 appendices provide information on a range of topics: African-Americans in Congress by state and by Congress; chairs of committees and subcommittees; and chairmen and chairwomen of the Congressional Black Caucus. *Black Americans in Congress* is accompanied by a Web site (<http://baic.house.gov>) that features additional artifacts from the House Collection as well as lesson plans and classroom activities based on the book for students and teachers. *Black Americans in Congress* will be available for sale through the Government Printing Office in late September 2008, and the web site will go live simultaneously. Additional books in this series include *Women in Congress, 1917–2006*, published by OHP in March 2007. For more information about this and other House history projects, contact the Office of History and Preservation at (202) 226-1300 or visit [http://clerk.house.gov/art\\_history/index.html](http://clerk.house.gov/art_history/index.html).

## U.S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

The 2008 issues (Vol. 33, Nos. 1 and 2) of the Division's bulletin, *Fortitude*, are available. Number 1 focuses on the Marines in Vietnam in 1968 and features a detailed chronology of Marine activities for that year. Division director Dr. Charles P. Neimeyer writes that the past year has been a busy one. Looking ahead, he notes the upcoming publication of Ken Estes's history of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, the start of a "developmental history" of the Corps from 1972 to the present on the "technological and doctrinal" changes in the Corps, and a comprehensive history of Marine aviation by the 100th anniversary (2012). Number 2 has articles on World War I. Readers can purchase a subscription to *Fortitude* from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office. The History Office has published a new volume titled *U.S. Marines in the Korean War*, edited by Charles R. Smith.

Also, the Marine Corps University Library has an enhanced web site at <http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/MCRCweb/library.htm>. Researchers can search the catalog, use databases, view a list of journals in the holdings, find research links, and use research guides. There is also a link to Archives and Special Collections, which includes personal papers collections.

## U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The Holocaust Museum's exhibition on The Nazi Olympics in Berlin, 1936, will run through August 24. The exhibition explores the issues surrounding the 1936 Olympic Games—the Nazis' use of propaganda, the intense boycott debate, the history of the torch run, the historic performance of Jesse Owens, and more.

## U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

The Postal Service maintains a history site at <http://www.usps.com/postalhistory/welcome.htm>

It provides brief histories on such topics as "Moving the Mail" and "Postal People," but also a list of and links to resources for research. A 31-page illustrated booklet titled "Sources of Historical Information on Post Offices, Postal Employees, Mail Routes, and Mail Contractors" can be downloaded. An illustrated history of mail carriers' uniforms is viewable at [http://www.usps.com/postal-history/\\_pdf/05uniform1868-present.pdf#search='historian'](http://www.usps.com/postal-history/_pdf/05uniform1868-present.pdf#search='historian')

## VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Historian Darlene Richardson's article on the history of the VA police force (which extends back to the soldiers' homes) will appear in the next issue of *Vanguard*, the VA's employee magazine. She is also working with the Library of Congress Veterans History Project to develop an oral history training video for the special oral history initiative known as the VHP-VHA Initiative, which will conduct and record interviews with VA employees—both veterans and non-veterans. Other current duties include work with the agency's Federal Preservation Officer and the National Cemetery Administration's history office to develop programs and materials for the forthcoming Civil War Sesquicentennial (currently in the developmental phase), and attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony for the first-ever VA/DOD joint medical facility in North Chicago on July 14.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Society for History in the Federal Government Online Journal

The Society seeks papers for its new online, peer-reviewed history journal to be published in fall 2008. The journal will promote scholarship on all aspects of the history and workings of the federal government, and of the developmental relationships between American society and the U.S. military or U.S. government, 1776 to the present. In addition, the journal will feature research articles on methodological developments in federal historical work, including the fields of history, archival science, historic preservation, public history, museum studies, web-based history, memory studies, and other related areas. The manuscript must be fully documented and follow the submission standards posted at our Publications link at [www.shfg.org](http://www.shfg.org). Send your manuscript, an abstract, brief biographical information, and information on available images to [editor-shfg-journal@shfg.org](mailto:editor-shfg-journal@shfg.org)

Society for History in the Federal Government  
Box 14139, Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044  
Web: [www.shfg.org](http://www.shfg.org)

## FEDERALIST CALENDAR

**Aug. 26–30, 2008. The Society of American Archivists (SAA)** Annual Conference, “Archival R/Evolution & Identities,” San Francisco, CA. Visit <http://www.archivists.org/conference/sanfrancisco2008/index.asp>

**Sept. 9–12, 2008. American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)** Annual Conference, “Discovering the Power of Transformation,” Rochester, NY. Visit <http://www.aaslh.org/anmeeting.htm>

**Oct. 15–19, 2008. Oral History Association (OHA).** Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. Visit <http://alpha.dickinson.edu/oha/>

**Oct. 18, 2008. National Archives–Great Lakes Region (Chicago).** 11th Civil War Symposium and Reenactment. Call 773-948-9001 or e-mail [chicago.archives@nara.gov](mailto:chicago.archives@nara.gov)

**Oct. 20–23, 2008. Association of Records Managers and Administrators,** 53rd Annual Conference and Expo. Las Vegas, NV. Visit <http://arma.org/conference/2008/index.cfm>

**Oct. 22–25, 2008. Western History Association 48th Annual Conference,** Salt Lake City, UT. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~wha/index.html>

**Nov. 6–8, 2008. Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC),** “Making History Local.” Silver Spring, MD. Visit <http://www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/conferences.html>

**Nov. 13–15, 2008. Historical Society of Washington, D.C.** 35th Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. For information, contact Yvonne Carignan, chair, [carignan@history-dc.org](mailto:carignan@history-dc.org) (202) 383-1850

**Jan. 2–5, 2009. American Historical Association (AHA).** Annual Meeting, “Globalizing Historiography.” New York, NY. Visit <http://www.historians.org/annual/2009/index.cfm>

**Mar. 26–29, 2009. Organization of American Historians (OAH).** Annual Meeting, “History Without Boundaries.” Seattle, WA. Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings/2009/call.html>

**Apr. 2–5, 2009. Society for Military History.** 76th Annual Meeting. “Warfare and Culture.” Murfreesboro, TN. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/conf.html>

**Apr. 2–5, 2009. National Council on Public History (NCPH).** Annual Meeting, Providence, RI. Visit <http://www.ncph.org/Conferences/2009/tabid/304/Default.aspx>

**June 25–27, 2009. The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR).** Annual Conference. Falls Church, Virginia. Visit <http://www.shafr.org/cfp.htm#SHAFR2009>

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