

THE CIVIL HISTORY

The Regional Newsletter of
The Friends of the National Archives and
National Archives Southeast Region

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VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION CEREMONY

DID YOU KNOW?

- NARA has diplomatic and military records from the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf War.
- More than 34 million Americans have military files in the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis.
- Each year the NPRC staff of 600 responds to more than 2 million requests.
- The NPRC holds the World War II Official Military Personnel Files of George H.W. Bush, John F. Kennedy, Gen Douglas MacArthur, Adm. Chester Nimitz, Ted Williams, and Jackie Robinson.



Regional Administrator James McSweeney presents Col. Leroy C. Bryant with the Military Service Record of actor Clark Gable.

In honor of veterans and their families, the National Archives hosted a

variety of activities at all NARA locations throughout the country, including the Southeast Region in Atlanta.

On November 10th, over 75 individuals, including thirty veterans (ten of whom are NARA staff members) attended an Open House and Recognition Ceremony in

Morrow. The session featured workshops on regional and national NARA military holdings and resources. Veterans in attendance represented military service in every major conflict from World War II to the present.

The keynote address was delivered by Colonel Leroy C. Bryant, State Judge Advocate, First U. S. Army – Ft. Gillem. The highlight of the ceremony was when all veterans came forward to identify themselves, their years of service, and branch of the military.

An additional highlight was performances by Clayton State University musicians and singers.

Many veterans and their families stayed until closing (5:00 p.m.) for guided research assistance and two

viewings of "War Letters," a film featuring accounts of famous battles and personal correspondence between soldiers and their loved ones.

In honoring our veterans for their heroism, inspiration, and sacrifice, we gratefully acknowledge the support of local businesses. Rainwaters Old Country Store, Wal*Mart, and Chick-Fil-A donated food and refreshments. In addition, Highwoods Properties provided American flags for distribution to all attendees.



Recognition of NARA veterans

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INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS "JAZZED" ABOUT WORLD WAR I

Englishman Mike Meddings is part of a renowned international team of researchers that goes to great lengths to maintain the meticulously impressive website www.doctorjazz.co.uk.

The site showcases articles on significant figures in the early history of jazz music and has begun to feature the digital images of World War I Draft Registration Cards from the

Southeast Region.

Mr. Meddings, an expert on Jelly Roll Morton, first contacted NARA staff in the fall of 2005 seeking help in locating Morton's card. Through the diligence of two dedicated student employees, the card was found. The grateful and appreciative Mr. Meddings popped into Morrow's research room unannounced in September

2006 with a list of more than 200 names. Archives Specialist Guy Hall took the lead in assisting him along with Henry Smith and Aaron Mountain.

He was sincerely inspired by the idea of handling these original documents that were once held by his musical heroes.

NATIVE AMERICAN RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The annual meeting of the Friends of the National Archives Southeast Region will be on January 27th and will focus on records in the National Archives related to Native Americans.

We are pleased that the program will include a video conference with the Archival Operations staff in NARA's Southwest Region in Fort Worth, the custodians of an

unusually large collection of Native American records.

A highlight of the meeting will be a presentation by Anita Finger, a specialist in Cherokee genealogy. She will speak on records held by the Tribe and assistance they provide to family historians.

This combination of speakers will offer two perspectives on Native American records—

records held by the National Archives and records held by the Eastern Band of the Cherokees.

The National Archives has many records relating to the Indians who maintained their tribal affiliation. The original records of the headquarters of the Bureau of Indian Affairs are in the custody of the National Archives in Washington, DC. These records often contain information about specific tribal members.

Original records created by the various field offices and Indian schools are among the holdings of the regional archives. Most of the records, arranged by tribe, are dated 1830-1940. They include the following:

Lists of Indians (chiefly Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Creek) who moved west during the 1830-1846 period.

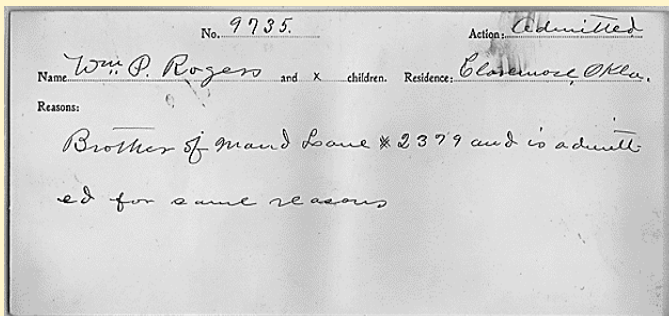
Annuity payrolls, 1841-1949.

Annual census rolls, 1885-1940.

Application for enrollment and subsequent allotment of land to individual tribal members of the Five Civilized Tribes.

Eastern Cherokee claim files, 1898-1914. These usually contain for each applicant the name, residence, date and place of birth, name and age of spouse, names of father and mother and children, and other genealogical information.

For those whose ancestors were members of a tribe in the southern United States, most family historians start with the enrollments from the period 1898-1914, known as the Dawes Rolls. The video conference with the Southwest Region will focus on this subject.



Eastern Cherokee Application of Will Rogers for a share in money that was appropriated for the Eastern Cherokees by Congress on June 30, 1906.

**You do not have to be a member of the FNAS to attend.
Everyone is Welcome!**

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Question: What is an Eastern Cherokee?

Answer: At the time of the Treaty of New Echota, 1836, some members of the Cherokee nation decided not to agree to the removal to the west. They fled to the mountains of North Carolina and

Tennessee and became known as the Eastern Band of the Cherokee.

Question: What is an Indian name?

Answer: A family or tribe gave a name based on some characteristic particular to the person. The name often

came from the tribal language, however, there are Indian names that used English words to express the same characteristic.

Question: What is an Eastern Cherokee application:

Answer: Eastern Cherokee applications are claims for

Compensation arising from the judgment of the U. S. District Court of Claims on May 28, 1906, for the Eastern Cherokee tribe. Applicants were required to provide sworn evidences of identity.

RG 4: U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Several members of the Friends of the National Archives Southeast Region have been working on a project related to the Records of the U. S. Food Administration.

The goal of the project is to describe the contents of the records of a little-known Federal agency which, during its short life, impacted the lives of ordinary Americans in extraordinary ways.

Established in 1917 in response to America's entry into World War I, the agency's mission was to assure the supply, distribution, and conservation of food during World War I; facilitate the movement of foods and prevent monopolies and hoarding; and maintain governmental control over foods chiefly by means of voluntary agreements and a licensing system.

Led by Fred and Susana Munguia, the Friends work project participants include Peggie Sides, Ed Combs, Annie Atkins, Helen Lissimore, and Susie Boyd.



Making soap from the drippings of meat is the practical war work of Mrs. O. O. van den Berg of Washington, D.C., who is seen at her task in the uniform of the U. S. Food Administration.



"The drippings of all kinds of meats are saved until six pounds have accumulated. This with one can of lye will make fifteen cakes of hard soap, delightful for the bath, excellent for washing fine fabrics or laces."

The fruits of their labor will be compiled in a finding aid for researchers. We also hope to persuade them to share their experiences and insights gained

on this agency in a public program.

The agency is a fascinating one, and countless scholars as well as family historians are interested in knowing more about it.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Date & Time	Event	Location
January 18, 2007 7:30 P.M.	Clayton State University's Annual MLK, Jr. Celebration featuring Taylor Branch	Clayton State University Spivey Hall
January 18, 2007 4:30 P.M.	Workshop: "Researching the Civil Rights Movement in the Records of the National Archives"	National Archives Southeast Region
January 25, 2007 3:00 P.M.		
January 16, 2007 Noon		Clayton State University
January 18, 2007 3:00 P.M.	Film Screening: "At the River I Stand"	National Archives Southeast Region

Call (770)968-2555 for more information

FNAS Annual Meeting

Native American Family History Resources

January 27, 2007 9:00 A.M

Videoconference with NARA's Southwest Regional Office

Anita Finger, specialist in Cherokee genealogy, will discuss records held by the Eastern Band of the Cherokees.

Everyone is Welcome!

Back by Popular Demand!!!

Researching the Records of the Freedmen's Bureau

Reginald Washington, Presenter

February 10, 2007 10:00 A.M.

Reginald Washington is an archivist/genealogy specialist with the National Archives in Washington, D.C. He speaks frequently on African-American genealogical research and was the featured speaker at last years Atlanta Black Family History Day.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FRIENDSNAS.ORG

The Friends of the National Archives Southeast (FNAS) is a volunteer service organization dedicated to serving the research needs of the southeastern population of the United States as well as the preservation activities of the National Archives and Records Administration, Southeast Region, located in Morrow, near Atlanta. This region covers the eight states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

We also support the Archives by using our dues and donations to purchase microform records, research aids, and equipment to assist patrons and archivists.

The FNAS is incorporated under the laws of the State of Georgia. In addition, it is recognized by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a 501c(3) tax exempt organization; so all contributions to it are fully deductible. We hold an annual meeting in January.

We warmly welcome new members at any time.

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FNAS Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 27, 2007