2019 Year in Review

What a year it’s been! As 2019 comes to a close and we prepare for a new decade, we are taking the opportunity to reflect on some of this year’s most memorable newsletter topics. We especially want to thank our community of citizen archivists for your participation and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Catch up on some of our favorite newsletters from the past year, and be sure to share with a friend! Here are some highlights from 2019:

This year we commemorated some important anniversaries:

75th Anniversary of D-Day
50th Anniversary of Apollo 11

We shared some new features and functionality to help navigate and explore the Catalog:

Discover a new pathway into the records with the Record Group Explorer

40th Anniversary of the Iran Hostage Crisis
Refine your Catalog searches by Record Group or Collection

- Record Group 79 (14287)
- Record Group 59 (1544)
- Collection WJC-TFNHC (1306)
- Collection WJC-OS (1071)
- Collection WJC-DPC (927)
- Record Group 75 (886)
- Record Group 220 (650)
- Collection WJC-WHORM (493)
- Collection WJC-FL (487)

show more...

Take advantage of improved search results with Optical Character Recognition (OCR)
And you transcribed many pages of historical records!

We reached a big milestone this year. In 2019, a total of 4,145 citizen archivists enhanced more than 230,000 pages of records in the National Archives Catalog, bringing the total number of pages enhanced to over 500,000!

This means 500,000 pages of historical records are now easier to find in the Catalog, thanks to your contributions of tags, transcriptions, and comments. Thank you for all of your contributions!

Here are the Top 25 Citizen Archivist contributors for 2019:

Gypsi        Dscruton85
SPIetro      Ceili
Smithal      EthanFromBellmore
lcahalan     DonnaDP
jamon49      Nightingale
SAO          Taleen
Hohioh       Conrad
ComfortablyNumb Garywysocki
Trumanvol    Avogadro
mwolfe       2kathleen
WVComp16     JDJDTX
Monicah      deka43
Sanbnx
We are grateful for all of our citizen archivists who help unlock history and make the records of the National Archives more accessible. Cheers to the next 500,000 pages!

*US National Archives Giphy*

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**Archives Cookie Exchange**

The holiday season is upon us, and we're baking up a storm. We love to find inspiration from historic recipes in our Catalog, and we're especially curious about Aunt Sammy's "Best Evers" cookie recipe!
For more delicious and historic recipes this holiday season, be sure to browse the Catalog for some historic cookie recipes! Have you tried this recipe, or any others from our holdings? Let us know how they turn out! Happy vintage baking!

Citizen Archivist Missions

Looking for a little escape this holiday season? Too cold to go outside? Warm up with a citizen archivist mission! Check out our Citizen Archivist dashboard for our latest tagging and transcription missions.
The Glandon family around the fireplace in their home at Bridges Chapel near Loydston[sic], Tennessee. Glandon’s wife plays both the guitar and the organ., 10/31/1933, National Archives Identifier 532689

Get started transcribing!

Happy New Year from all of us at the National Archives. Wishing you all the best in 2020!

Questions or comments? Email us at catalog@nara.gov.