

October 2011

Finding Your Family History: Genealogy Fair

On **Saturday, October 15** the National Archives at Kansas City will host Finding Your Family History, a day-long genealogy fair featuring workshops and local genealogical groups onsite. Below is a schedule of workshops. Attendees are asked to select either the morning **or** afternoon session.

Morning

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. -- Registration

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. -- Session Choices: *Introduction to Alien Files (A-Files)* or *Introduction to Genealogy*

9:30 - 9:45 a.m. -- break/vendors

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. -- Session Choices: *Naturalization Records*; or *Military Records*; or *African American Genealogy*

10:45 - 11:00 a.m. - break/vendors

11:00 - Noon -- Session Choices: *Preservation for Genealogists*; or *The 1940 Census*; or *Introduction to Fold3* (formerly Footnote.com)

Afternoon

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. -- Registration

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. -- Session Choices: *Introduction to Alien Files (A-Files)* or *Introduction to Genealogy*

2:00 - 2:15 p.m. -- break/vendors

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. -- Session Choices: *Naturalization Records*; or *The 1940 Census*; or *African American Genealogy*

3:15 - 3:30 p.m. -- break/vendors

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. -- Session Choices: *Preservation for Genealogists*; or *Military Records*; or *Introduction to Fold3* (formerly Footnote.com)

Seating is limited and reservations are required. To make a reservation for this free event, call 816-268-8072 or email kimberlee.ried@nara.gov This event is presented in partnership with Kansas City Public Television.

Janet Reed to discuss *Excelsior Springs: Haunted Haven*

On **Tuesday, October 25, at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives at Kansas City will host author **Janet Reed** for a discussion and signing of her book *Excelsior Springs: Haunted Haven*. A **6:00 p.m. reception** will precede the event.

Excelsior Springs: Haunted Haven takes the reader back to a time when miracle cures were the stuff of legend. In the late 1800s, rumors of healing mineral water springs spread faster than wildfires, and the growth of a city was ignited by mankind's obsession for health. Practically overnight, Excelsior Springs grew from a farming community to a luxury resort town known as "America's Haven of Health." Ghostly tales surrounding this area have been carefully researched and are presented as a legacy to the town's founding fathers, their descendants, and current residents who still welcome visitors from around the world.

To make a reservation for this free event, call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov.



Inside this issue

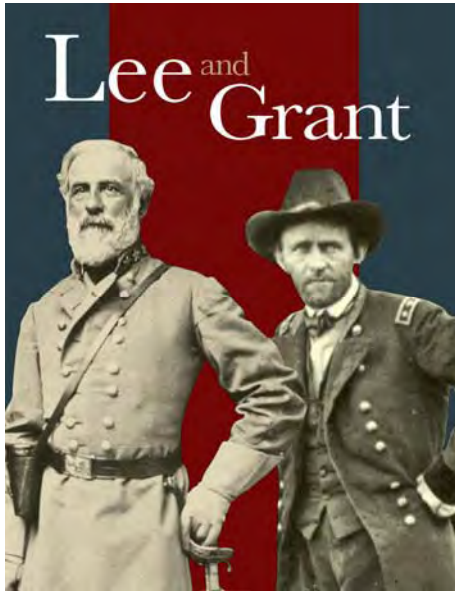
AUTHOR EVENT	1
LEE AND GRANT CONCLUDING PANEL	2
EDUCATOR EXTRAS	2
NEWS AND NOTES	2
HIDDEN TREASURES	3
PICTURE THIS! EXHIBITION	4

Upcoming Events

All events are held at the National Archives 400 West Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- OCTOBER 15 - 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. FINDING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY: GENEALOGY FAIR
- OCTOBER 19 - 6:30 P.M. LEE AND GRANT CONCLUDING PANEL: A CONVERSATION ON LEE AND GRANT
- OCTOBER 22 - 5:00 P.M. EXHIBITION CLOSING: LEE AND GRANT
- OCTOBER 25 - 6:30 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: JANET REED, *EXCELSIOR SPRINGS: HAUNTED HAVEN*

Lee and Grant Concluding Panel: A Conversation on Lee and Grant



On **Wednesday, October 19, at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives at Kansas City will host historians **Dr. Greg Hospodor** and **Dr. Ethan Rafuse** from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth for *A Conversation on Lee and Grant*. The discussion will be moderated by **Dr. Bryan LeBeau** of the University of Saint Mary. A **6:00 p.m. reception** will precede the event. Attendees are encouraged to view the *Lee and Grant* exhibition prior to the lecture.

Lee and Grant's accomplishments and shortcomings were tied to the values of the regions that bred them. They lived through eight decades of incredible change. By 1870, the United States was a different country than it had been before the Civil War. It was a larger yet in some ways a smaller country, united in ways that it had never been before. The nation was no longer a loose configuration of states. The power of the central government was confirmed and strengthened. African Americans were free and former slaves were now acknowledged legally as citizens of the United States. This panel of scholars will reassess and discuss the lives of Lee and Grant within the context of their time and accomplishments.

To make a reservation for this free event, call 816-268-8010 or email

kansascity.educate@nara.gov. The *Lee and Grant* exhibition closes on October 22, 2011.

Educator Extras

- **MO Council on Social Studies workshop** - Are you an elementary teacher looking for authentic approaches to combining literacy and the social studies? The Missouri Council for the Social Studies is offering a day of workshops designed to offer the elementary teacher real strategies for the classroom. Using literature to teach local government, adding primary sources to your communication arts curriculum, and finding great stories to motivate your students are just a few of the strategies you will learn. The MCSS workshop will be **Saturday, October 22** from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the National Archives at Kansas City. Register for a day filled with strategies and techniques designed to weave your social studies and literacy together. The fee is \$25 per person which includes membership to the Missouri Council for the Social Studies. Space is limited to 60 teachers. Register online at www.mosocialstudies.com
- **Interactive Distance Learning** - Teachers across the nation have the opportunity to bring the National Archives at Kansas City into their own classroom. By using Interactive Distance Learning, educators can choose from twenty lessons taught by the education specialist from the National Archives at Kansas City. Journal entries, correspondence, artifacts, and other documents help personalize history to the students. The interactive and document-based lessons are suitable for a wide range of ages. For more information, visit www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city/education/interactive-distance-learning.html or call Mickey Ebert, Education Specialist, at 816-268-8013.

News and Notes

- **America I Am exhibit** - Opening October 22 - January 8, 2012, at Union Station, *America I Am: The African American Imprint* is a traveling exhibition celebrating nearly 500 years of African American contributions to the nation through artifacts, documents, multimedia, photos, and music. Twelve galleries encompassing 13,000 square feet take visitors through a journey from struggle to triumph. The exhibition includes more than 200 artifacts, such as the doors to the Cape Coast Castle in Ghana, Alex Haley's typewriter used to write *Roots*, personal effects of Malcolm X, the door key and stool from the Birmingham jail cell that held Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and sports memorabilia from Michael Jordan, Arthur Ashe, and Muhammad Ali. The National Archives at Kansas City is one of several area organizations that will be loaning materials to Union Station for this exhibition.



Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Death in the Dakota Territory

On October 17, 1885, Charles A. Wood shot and killed George Fleury at Fort Buford, near present day Williston, North Dakota. At the time of the shooting, Wood was a private in the United States Cavalry and Fleury served as a scout and the fort's interpreter. Abandoned in 1895, the fort is best known for being the site of the 1881 surrender of Chief Sitting Bull. Fleury was the interpreter at that event.

The evening of October 16, 1885, began with Fleury, his wife, Wood, and a mutual friend, Mary Clyde, attending a dance. The dance concluded around two o'clock the next morning, and Clyde was escorted home. Upon returning the Fleury's residence, an argument ensued in the bedroom. Roughly a half hour after returning to the quarters, Wood fired a revolver killing Fleury.

When the trial began in March 1886, Mrs. Fleury testified that her husband escorted Clyde home while she and Wood returned to her residence. Wood went into their bedroom while she went to the kitchen. She eventually went into the bedroom, and Wood confronted her about her refusal to dance with him. George then came home and told the two to stop arguing. Wood continued, and she tried to get him to leave. Wood told her he would "make her suffer for it" and pulled out a revolver. She yelled as she ran out of the room, "Look out for yourself, George!" As she was leaving the house, the fatal shots were fired. Wood caught up with her with revolver in hand and made her follow him as he went to speak with the fort's commander.

When the defense began their cross examination of Mrs. Fleury, they moved to have her testimony disallowed because she was a "half-breed" Assiniboine Indian and therefore "not a competent witness" in matters off Indian land. When her testimony was allowed, the defense tried to enter into evidence her past "life and character." She was married at the age of 13, and the two had never properly divorced. She then lived with another man for several years until he became jealous, shot her in the cheek, and believing she was dead, killed himself. She then moved in with George and lived with him for several years before formally marrying him just months before his death. The court rejected this evidence.



The above diagram was entered into evidence as Exhibit "A" and used in the trial for witnesses to confirm their testimony.

From the start Wood claimed innocence by reason of self defense. Wood testified that he and George Fleury returned to the residence as Mrs. Fleury escorted Clyde home. While it was just the two men, a verbal confrontation quickly began. Fleury stated, "When I was down in Bismarck...a man told me that you had been committing adultery with my wife every night..." Wood asked if Fleury could prove it, and Fleury replied that he didn't need to. After this exchange, Mrs. Fleury returned home and George threatened Wood, "You son of a b----, I'll blow your head off." George jumped off the bed and began to load his rifle. Mrs. Fleury ran out of the room as Wood jumped to avoid the aiming Fleury. Wood hit the sewing machine table, saw a revolver in a basket, picked it up, fired indiscriminately, and fled the house unsure as to Fleury's fate.

When the trial concluded, Wood was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on July 23, 1886. The case was appealed and went before the Dakota Territory Supreme Court in February 1887. The majority opinion wrote because the only witnesses to the crime were the defendant and Mrs. Fleury, the witnesses' character needed to be evaluated in determining guilt or innocence. Upon the re-trial in September 1887, Wood was acquitted and released from custody.

For more information on Record Group 21, Records of District Courts of the United States, please consult Online Public Access at www.archives.gov/research/search/index.html or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.

Picture This!: One Hundred Years of Photography from the National Archives through December 31



This Dorothea Lange image is titled "Members of the Mochida family awaiting evacuation bus. Identification tags were used to aid in keeping a family unit intact during all phases of evacuation. Mochida operated a nursery and five greenhouses on a two-acre site in Eden Township." In 1942 Executive Order 9066 mandated the removal of 110,000 civilians of Japanese descent, including 71,000 American citizens from the western United States, placing them in internment camps. Taken 1942, Hayward, CA.

Additional Information - The exhibition will be available for viewing at the National Archives at Kansas City through December 31, 2011. To schedule a group tour, call Mickey Ebert at 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.

Are you on the National Archives at Kansas City mailing list?

If the answer is "no," then send us an email with your U.S. postal mail information to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or call 816-268-8000. By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about upcoming exhibitions, special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.



The National Archives at Kansas City is a regional facility that serves as a repository for more than 50,000 cubic feet of historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by nearly 100 Federal agencies. Serving the Central Plains Region, the archives holds records from the states of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. These records are available for public research and use. The facility is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108.

HOURS OF OPERATION

RESEARCH ROOMS: Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

EXHIBIT GALLERIES: Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, visit our web site www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity