



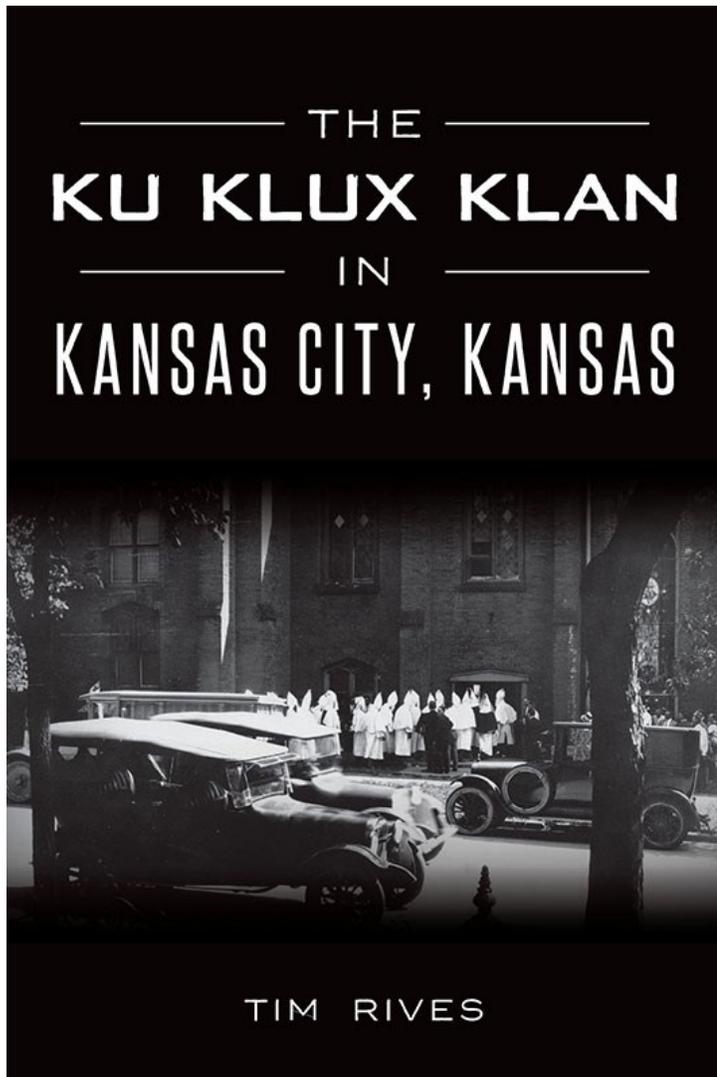
# National Archives *at* Kansas City Newsletter

## Tim Rives to Discuss *The Klu Klux Klan in Kansas City, Kansas*

On **Tuesday, September 10 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives will host author **Tim Rives** who will discuss his book *The Ku Klux Klan of Kansas City, Kansas*. This program will take place at the National Archives, 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.

The Ku Klux Klan kicked off a nationwide revival in 1921 and took Kansas City, Kansas, by storm. The majority white population--alarmed by the influx of immigrants, Catholics and Jews--joined the Klan in thousands. The Klan held picnics, drawing crowds of 25,000 people and parades up Minnesota Avenue with thousands of Klansmen, electric lights and robed horses. They also intimidated African Americans, vandalized Catholic cemeteries and censored "offensive" books from public library shelves. Its members fed a political machine, electing more than one hundred Klansmen to local offices, from the district attorney to the mayor. Rives shares this troubled and little-known story, where the men of the Klan's inner circle ruled the city for nearly thirty years.

Copies of Rives's book will be available for purchase and signing. Requests for ADA accommodations must be received five business days in advance.



### September 2019

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#### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

- **SEPT. 2** - FACILITY CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
- **SEPT. 10** - 6:00 P.M. AUTHOR LECTURE: *THE KU KLUX KLAN IN KANSAS CITY, KANSAS* BY TIM RIVES
- **SEPT. 11** - RESEARCH ROOMS CLOSED
- **SEPT. 12** - 6:30 P.M. EVENING LECTURE: *CAN AMERICA HAVE A SUCCESSFUL FOREIGN POLICY?\**

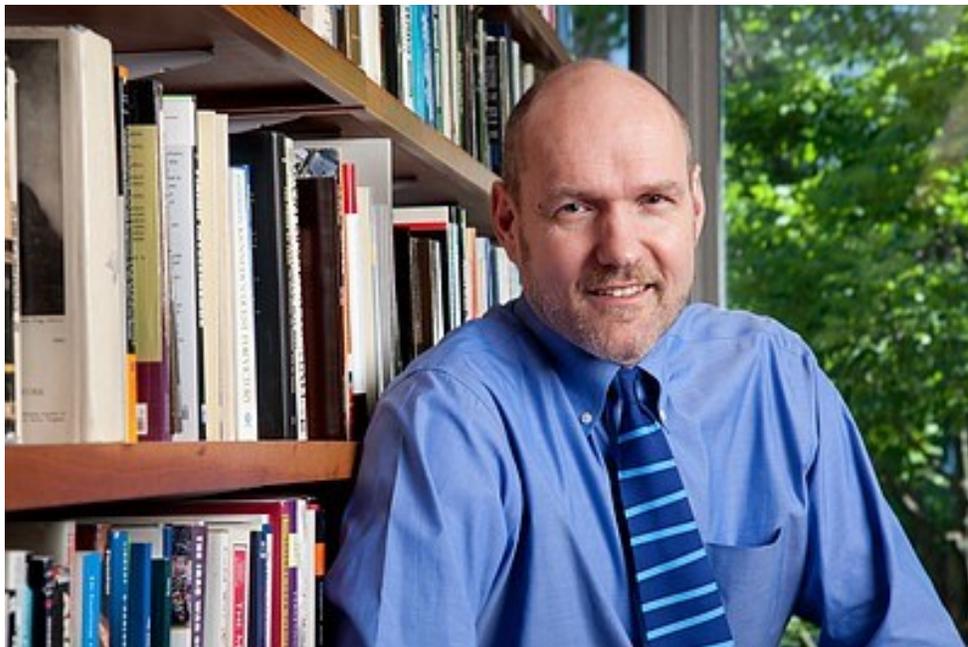
\*DENOTES ACTIVITY IS OFFSITE.

#### Upcoming Facility Reminders

- **Monday, September 2** - Labor Day Holiday - facility closed.
- **Wednesday, September 11** - Research rooms closed.
- **Monday, October 14** - Columbus Day Holiday - facility closed.

## 27th Annual Dr. Jerzy Hauptmann Lecture at Park University: Dr. Stephen Walt to Present *Can America Still Have a Successful Foreign Policy?*

On **Thursday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with Park University, will host **Dr. Stephen Walt** who will present a lecture titled ***Can America Still Have a Successful Foreign Policy?*** This program will take place in the Jenkin and Barbara David Theater at Park University, 8700 NW River Park Drive, Parkville, MO. [Reservations](#) are requested for this **free program**.



Walt's presentation will be the focus of the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Dr. Jerzy Hauptmann Lecture. Walt is the Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Affairs in the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Walt's lecture will examine how U.S. foreign policy veered off-course and what must be done to get it back. He will explain the sources of recent foreign policy failures and offer an alternative grand strategy that would be better for the U.S. and the rest of the world.

Walt was appointed to his current position in 1999, and he also served as academic dean of the Kennedy School of Government from 2002-06. In addition, he has been a contributing editor of *Foreign Policy* magazine since

2009 and serves as co-editor of the *Cornell Studies in Security Affairs*. In 2005, Walt was elected as a fellow into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and he received the International Studies Association's Distinguished Senior Scholar award in 2014. His latest book, *The Hell of Good Intentions: America's Foreign Policy Elite and the Decline of U.S. Primacy*, was published in 2018.

The Hauptmann lecture series is named in honor of the late Park University professor emeritus of political science and public administration, Jerzy Hauptmann, Ph.D. Hauptmann taught at Park for more than 50 years, and launched the University's first graduate degree program in 1982. In 2001, Park's School for Public Affairs was renamed the Hauptmann School of Public Affairs in honor of this remarkable educator. The Hauptmann Lecture brings outstanding scholars to the Kansas City area to address topics related to Hauptmann's three areas of study: international politics, public administration and democracy. *This program is presented in partnership with Park University and the International Relations Council.*

### Are you connected to the National Archives at Kansas City?



We encourage our patrons to use electronic mail and social media to connect with us. Our Facebook address is [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity). In addition, you can find us on Instagram @kansascity.archives or tweet us via Twitter @KCArchives or #KCArchives.



All information about upcoming events and programs is emailed to patrons through our electronic mailing list. If we do not have your address on file, please send an email with your preferred address to [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto: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 special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.

# Hidden Treasures from the Stack

## Apocalypse Cow

Few figures in the history of the American film industry enjoyed careers as successful and iconic as Marlon Brando, Jr. The winner of two Oscars for Best Actor and nominated for six additional Academy Awards, Brando was legendary for his brand of “method acting.” Though Brando made a name in such films as *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Godfather*, and *Apocalypse Now* - he also pursued, and failed spectacularly - in a completely different type of venture: cattleman.

Marlon Brando, Jr. began his career in acting in New York in 1944. Brando’s talent led to a quick rise on Broadway, with his 1947 debut in the play *A Streetcar Named Desire* cementing his place as a rising star. As his acting career took off, Brando looked for secure investments for his earnings, and in 1948 purchased the first cattle for a herd in Nebraska. Brando’s parents moved to a property Marlon, Jr. had purchased in Custer County, Nebraska, which he named *Penny Poke Ranch*. Marlon Brando, Sr. was placed in charge of his son’s Nebraska investments, and was given power of attorney to manage the cattle business.

Penny Poke Ranch, Inc. was founded to serve as a capital gains tax haven. Marlon sent his acting earnings to his father, who funneled the cash through Penny Poke Ranch, Inc. to purchase cattle. Starting in 1949, the cattle were ranged on rented land owned by Black Ranches Inc. The Brandos paid a per head fee for their cattle at the Black Ranches, who in turn were contracted to ensure for their care.

From a financial perspective, Black Ranches, Inc. fared poorly and Marlon Brando, Sr. responded by increasing his involvement with the business. With Black Ranches, Inc. strapped for cash, the Brandos forked over \$37,814.16 to cover winter feed expenses. Still unable to meet costs, Black Ranches, Inc. took out two separate mortgages from Marlon Brando, Jr., one for \$40,742.41 in 1952, and another for \$36,761.01 in 1953. Meanwhile, Marlon Brando, Sr. served as president and general manager of Black Ranches from April 1952 until he was relieved of these duties in April 1953.

At this point, Marlon Brando, Jr.’s money was all that kept the business from failing as he provided advances to the ranch to cover expenses. His investment in the cattle business had grown to the point that in 1952 the Brandos had 1,047 head of cattle on Black Ranch land. The land was overstocked with other cattle in addition to Marlon’s MB branded cattle. Feed bills exceeded cash flow, and despite the wealthy benefactor, Black Ranches, Inc. was forced to file for bankruptcy in 1955. The Brandos appealed some of the rulings of the bankruptcy court, and the legal battle went to the Eighth Circuit of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

The records from the Eighth Circuit Court reveal an opposite trajectory when compared to Brando’s sky-rocketing movie career. Exhibits filed in the case show Brando’s film income in 1952 as \$135,114.38. At the same time he had a net loss of \$58,615.77 with the ranch. His film income was \$161,292.57 in 1953, \$197,451.57 in 1954, \$201,000 in 1955, and finally \$304,000 in 1956. This correlates with the highest point of his film career: Marlon Brando, Jr. was nominated for Best Actor in 1952, 1953 and 1954, finally winning his first Oscar in 1955 for his leading role in *On the Waterfront*. Meanwhile, his investments proved disastrous, losing him hundreds of thousands in the cattle business. Marlon Brando, Jr. claimed he did not know all his father had done with his money, and though the court proceedings did award him over \$100,000, he still claimed that his father’s mismanagement of his money cost him a fortune.

The appeals case file for the Black Ranches, Inc. is part of the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City, as cases #17,990, 17,991, 17,992, and 17,993 from the series Briefs and Appendices, 1891-1975. (NAID 5899821)

The National Archives at Kansas City is home to most of the accessioned Court of Appeals records in the National Archives, with appeals records from 1891 through the mid-1990s. For more information about court records visit the National Archives [Catalog](#).

Labor hired	\$ 7,289.14
Feed purchased	21,200.85
Supplies purchased	2,069.98
Cost of repairs	493.18
Veterinary and medicine for livestock	94.98
Gasoline, fuel, oil for farm business	760.40
Water rent, electricity and telephone	11.03
Rent of farm, part of farm, or pasturage	13,983.00
Attorney's fees	2,050.00
Payment of note to Dean Sack	13,325.00
Advanced for travelling expenses	500.00
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Total	\$ 61,777.56

Taxpayer does not own this ranch. The failure of the former operator to feed and care for cattle made these expenses necessary.

No taxable income from ranching (farming), except the sum of \$3,161.79 above mentioned. Net farm loss \$58,615.77. Total film income is \$135,114.38.

*Exhibit No. 2* (Marlon Brando, Jr. deposition): Federal income tax return of Marlon Brando, Jr. for 1953. Shows receipt of \$430.54 for cows sold, and farm expenses as follows:

Labor hours	\$ 4,116.70
Feed purchased	7,918.09
Cost of repairs	1,400.72
Veterinary and medicine for livestock	5.00
Gasoline, fuel, oil for farm business	1,898.03
Water rent, electricity and telephone	67.20
Attorney's fees	2,538.50
Board	972.00
Miscellaneous	470.94
Installments and interest on operator's mortgage	6,300.00
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Total	\$ 26,198.49

Total film income is \$161,292.57.

*Exhibit No. 3* (Marlon Brando, Jr. deposition): Federal income tax return of Marlon Brando, Jr. for 1954. Shows receipt of \$23,603.83 for cattle sold, and farm expenses as follows:

Labor hired	\$ 7,816.76
Feed purchased	8,825.95
Cost of repairs	3,093.71
Gasoline, fuel, oil for farm business	1,671.48
Miscellaneous	1,306.41
Board	1,385.65
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Total	\$ 24,099.96
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Total film income is \$197,451.57.

*Exhibit No. 4* (Marlon Brando, Jr. deposition): Federal income tax return of Marlon Brando, Jr. for 1955. Shows receipt of \$39,162.60 for cattle sold, and \$6,060 for 101 cattle sold, and farm expenses as follows:

Ranch salaries	\$ 1,518.39
Legal expense	2,999.13
Telephone	26.95
Feed—protein	430.50
Supplies	60.00
Cattle maintenance.	6,950.78
Insurance	182.60
Taxes	3,694.79
Business bad debt	17,500.00
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Total	\$ 33,363.14
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Total film income is \$201,000.00.

*Exhibit No. 5* (Marlon Brando, Jr. deposition): Federal income tax return of Marlon Brando, Jr. for 1956. Shows receipt of no income from cattle sales or ranch income, and following:

# Free Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

## ***Penpals from the Past: American Indian Schools in the United States***

**Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Schools for Native American children and youth have existed since before the Revolutionary War. Although encouraged by the U.S. Government, schools between 1776 and 1879 were run primarily by religious institutions and, as a result, are not usually represented in National Archives holdings. In this webinar, we will learn about Indian Boarding and Day School records created primarily after 1879 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and see some examples of class schedules and student work from then until today. *This webinar is part of our Native American professional development series. Each program features new resources for locating and using Federal records related to American Indians and Alaska Natives.* [Registration](#) is required.

## ***An Introduction to Docs Teach***

**Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Join us for an introduction to [DocsTeach.org](#), the online tool for teaching with documents from the National Archives. Discover how to find primary sources for teaching history and civics topics. Explore the 12 different document-based activity tools and learn how, with a free DocsTeach.org account, you can create your own activities or modify existing activities to share with your students. This webinar is suitable for all educators. [Registration](#) is required.

## ***Native Communities and the Vote: Teaching about American Indian Voting Rights through Documents***

**Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Join us and learn how to incorporate primary sources related to American Indian voting rights into your lesson plans. We will share activities and resources from the National Archives, and explore how to include discussions of evolving rights over time as relating to Native Communities and the right to participate in federal elections. [Registration](#) is required.

## ***Teaching the Bill of Rights***

**Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**

Get ready for Bill of Rights Day (December 15) by exploring resources from the National Archives for teaching the Bill of Rights in your classroom. Discover primary sources that show the Bill of Rights in action on DocsTeach.org, check out lesson plans and the Congress Creates the Bill of Rights app from the Center for Legislative Archives, and learn about our free distance learning programs on the Bill of Rights. This webinar is suitable for all educators. [Registration](#) is required.



NATIONAL  
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KANSAS CITY

GENERAL INFORMATION: The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108. The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Tweet us @KCArchives or #KCArchives. Find and follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity).