

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

# October 2010

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

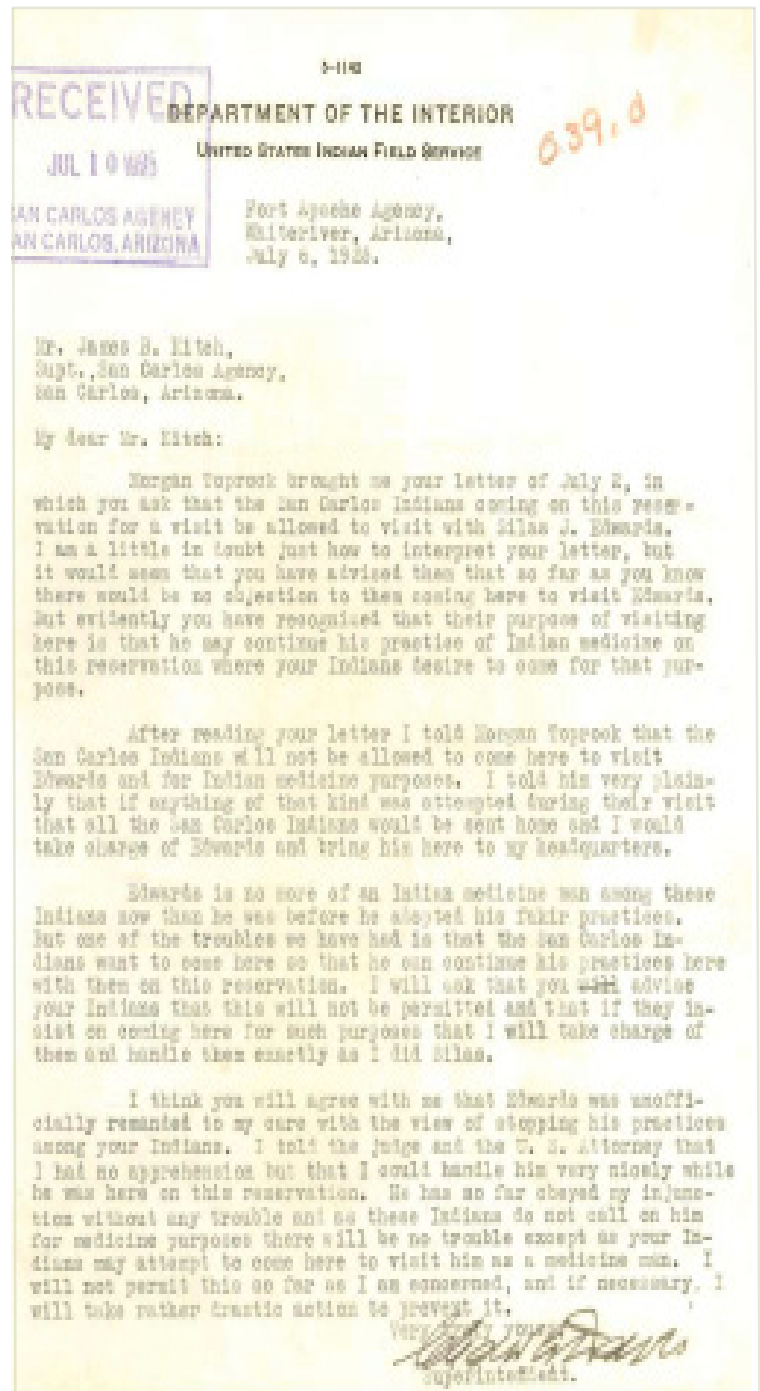
## *A Melding of Cultures: The Silas John Cult*

When Lutheran and Catholic missionaries came to the Apache, they brought new ideas, new values, and a new way of living. In 1904, God came to an Apache Indian in a dream giving him prayers and a written alphabet to record those prayers and their associated motions. His name was Silas John Edwards. The Silas John Cult, later known as the Holy Ground Church, blended Christian practices with new ceremonies based on Apache culture and was condemned by both traditional Apaches and Christian missionaries. Edwards had been influenced greatly by the story of Moses and the brazen serpent, and incorporated the handling of snakes into his religion. He focused on morality and rejected traditional curing practices. Silas John urged his followers to abstain from drinking and fighting and using traditional Apache witchcraft.

The superintendents of both the Fort Apache and San Carlos Indian Reservations were concerned over the growth of this cult as Edwards gained followers in the 1920s. They banned Edwards from practicing and limited his gatherings, expressly stating that no "snake dances" were permitted. In 1925, Edwards was completely banned from San Carlos by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Despite the focus of his religious faith, Edwards was continually arrested on charges of assault, rape, and Prohibition violations. In 1933, he was accused of murdering his wife. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison, which he served at the U.S. Penitentiary, McNeil Island, in Washington State. Throughout his incarceration, Edwards, as well as religious leaders, missionaries, and tribal members, contested his conviction. Their arguments were based on their own eyewitness accounts and misinformation about tribal customs that was presented in court. He was eventually released in 1954 on parole and relocated to the San Carlos Reservation to again oversee his church.

*Right:* A July 1925 letter from the Fort Apache superintendent stating that he will ban San Carlos Indians from visiting Silas John Edwards. San Carlos Agency, Central Classified Files, 1913–1952, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75. Courtesy of National Archives at Riverside.





# NARA WestCoast October 2010

"Growing pumpkins under the Interstate Canal, Dutch flats", August 30, 1907  
Record Group 115  
Courtesy of National Archives at Denver



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
<b>October is officially Archives Month!</b>						<p>Richmond, CA <b>NPS World War II Home Front Festival by the Bay</b> 11 A.M. Information Booth and Exhibit General Public 650-238-3478</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p><b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Seattle, WA</b> <b>"Faces of the Pacific Northwest" Ongoing</b></p>				<p>Boise, ID <b>Idaho Council of History Education</b> All-Day Lecture K-12 Teachers 206-336-5115</p>		<p>Edmonds, WA <b>Washington State Council of Social Studies</b> All-Day Lecture K-12 Teachers 206-336-5115</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Oakland, CA <b>Chinese American Family History Conference</b> 9 A.M. Information Booth and Exhibit Genealogists Lecture 11 A.M. 650-238-3529</p>			<p>Denver, CO <b>Workshop for Colorado Christian University</b> 10 A.M. Workshop and Tour Undergraduate Students 303-407-5749</p>	<p>Seattle, WA <b>"Brick Wall"</b> Genealogical Discussion Group 11:30 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 206-336-5115</p> <p>SeaTac, WA <b>Washington Library Media Association</b> All-Day Lecture K-12 Teachers 206-336-5115</p>	<p>SeaTac, WA <b>Washington Library Media Association</b> All-Day Lecture K-12 Teachers 206-336-5115</p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		<p>Willows, CA <b>Primary Sources</b> 3:30 P.M. Workshop K-12 Teachers 650-238-3478</p>	<p>Willows, CA <b>Primary Sources</b> 3:30 P.M. Workshop K-12 Teachers 650-238-3478</p>	<p>Fort Collins, CO <b>Presentation to Fort Collins Genealogy Society</b> 6:30 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 307-407-5749</p>	<p>Anchorage, AK <b>Federal Building Exhibit at U.S. Citizenship Ceremony and Speaker</b> Time TBA Exhibit General Public 907-261-7800</p>	<p>Denver, CO <b>Black History Heritage Fair</b> 9 A.M. Information Booth and Exhibit General Public 307-407-5749</p> <p>Seattle, WA <b>Museum of History &amp; Industry Lecture</b> All-Day K-12 Teachers 206-336-5115</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<p>Pueblo, CO <b>Pueblo County Library Cultural Event-BIA Records</b> 6 P.M. Symposium General Public 307-407-5749</p>					

The National Archives at

Riverside  
951-956-2000  
riverside.archives@nara.gov

San Francisco  
650-238-3501  
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

Denver  
303-407-5740  
denver.archives@nara.gov

Seattle  
206-336-5115  
seattle.archives@nara.gov

Anchorage  
907-261-7800  
alaska.archives@nara.gov





# NARA EastCoast September 2010

**Norris Dam during Regatta on Labor Day, 1939.**  
Record Group 142  
Courtesy of National Archives at Atlanta



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Boston, MA</b> <b>"Photographs from the National Youth Administration, 1935-1943"</b> <b>Ongoing</b>					Philadelphia, PA <b>First Friday Genealogy Open House</b> Noon Genealogists 215-606-0100	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Philadelphia, PA</b> <b>"Stand Up and Be Counted!"</b> <b>Ongoing</b>						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		New York, NY <b>Finding Family: Introduction to Genealogy</b> 12:30 P.M. Workshop and tour General Public 866-840-1752	Lenox, MA <b>Beginning Your Genealogy at NARA</b> 2 P.M. Lecture General Public 413-236-3600 <hr/> Morrow, GA <b>Home School History</b> 10 A.M. Lecture K-12 Students 770-968-2530	Ellis Island, NY <b>Family History Game Show</b> 1 P.M. General Public 866-840-1752	Federal Hall, NY <b>New York's National Treasures</b> Noon General Public 866-840-1752 <hr/> Waltham, MA <b>Know the Constitution</b> 10 A.M. Workshop Federal Employees 866-406-2379	Williamstown, MA <b>Life In the Past Lane VII</b> 8:30 A.M. Conference Genealogists 413-236-3604 <hr/> Morrow, GA <b>Ancestry Day</b> 9 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 770-968-2555
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>New York City, NY</b> <b>"The Ringling Bros and Barnum Go to Court"</b> <b>Ongoing</b>			Waltham, MA <b>We The People</b> 9 A.M. Workshop and tour K-12 Teachers 866-406-2379			Morrow, GA <b>Genealogical Society of Clayton and Henry Counties</b> 9:30 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 770-968-2555 <hr/> Salisbury, CT <b>Genealogy on the Internet</b> 10 A.M. Lecture Genealogists 413-236-3604
26	27	28	29	30		
		Lancaster County, PA <b>Willow Street Retirement Community</b> All Day Information Booth Genealogists 215-606-0108				Buck's County, PA <b>Hidden Treasures at the National Archives</b> Genealogists 800-236-2825 <hr/> Morrow, GA <b>Afro American Historical Society</b> 11 A.M. Public Reading General Public 770-968-2555

The National Archives at

Pittsfield  
413-236-3600  
pittsfield.archives@nara.gov

Boston  
866-406-2379  
waltham.archives@nara.gov

New York City  
866-840-1752  
newyork.archives@nara.gov

Philadelphia  
215-606-0100  
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

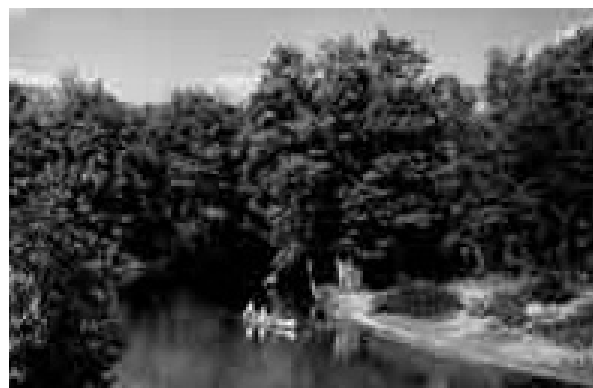
Atlanta  
770-968-2100  
atlanta.archives@nara.gov





# NARA Midwest October 2010

Boys Camping on White River, August 1962  
Record Group 95  
Courtesy of National Archives at Chicago



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>Exhibit: Chicago, IL</b> "Becoming American: Immigrants, the Federal Courts in Chicago, and the Expansion of Citizenship, 1872-1991" Ongoing			1 Wheaton, IL <b>The March to War: Civil War Symposium</b> 9 A.M. Symposium General Public 773-948-9001 2 Topeka, KS <b>Native American Records</b> 12:15 P.M. Workshop General Public 816-268-8000
3 <b>Exhibit: Gladstone, MO</b> "Nothing for Something: Oscar Hartzell and the Sir Francis Drake Estate Con" 7/1-10/1/10	4	5	6 Webb City, MO <b>Researching and Local History</b> 1 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	7	8	9 Chicago, IL <b>Introduction to Research</b> 9 A.M. Workshop K-12 Teachers 773-948-9001
10 <b>Exhibit: Excelsior Springs, MO</b> "Nothing for Something: Oscar Hartzell and the Sir Francis Drake Estate Con" 7/17-10/31/10	11	12	13	14	15 Lenexa, KS <b>Introduction to the National Archives</b> Noon Lecture General Public 816-268-8000	16 Wichita, KS <b>Genealogy Resources at the National Archives</b> 11 A.M. Lecture General Public 816-268-8000
17 <b>Exhibit: Kansas, MO</b> "Abraham Lincoln: Lincoln Lives On" 8/27-10/30/10	18	19 Lawrence, KS <b>Bureau of Indian Affairs Records</b> 2:30 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	20	21 Kansas City, MO <b>Lincoln and His World</b> Author, Richard Lawrence Miller 6 P.M. Lecture Book Discussion General Public 816-268-8000	22	23 Kansas City, MO <b>Girl Scout Day</b> 9 A.M. Workshop Multiple Activities K-12 Students 816-268-8000
24	25 Derby, KS <b>Docs Teach: Activities and Documents from the National Archives</b> 2 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	26 <b>Exhibit: Chicago, IL</b> "James B. Parsons: More Than a Judge" Ongoing	27	28	29 Kansas City, MO <b>Searching for Your Family Roots at the National Archives</b> 9 A.M. Lecture General Public 816-268-8000 Kansas City, MO <b>Genealogy 102</b> 10 A.M. Workshop Genealogists 816-268-8000	30
31						

The National Archives at

Chicago  
773-948-9001  
chicago.archives@nara.gov

Kansas City  
816-268-8000  
kansascity.archives@nara.gov

St. Louis  
314-801-0850  
Archival Programs Division

Fort Worth  
817-831-5620  
ftworth.archives@nara.gov

