

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

January 2011

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Nathan Bedford Forrest

“that Devil, Forrest . . . the most remarkable man our Civil War produced on either side.” — Union General William Tecumseh Sherman

Nathan Bedford Forrest. The name conjures up all sorts of stories, and there is much controversial information about Forrest—his background, the type of person he was, what really happened at Fort Pillow, and his postwar activities. Was he a genius or a villain? Or, both? Nevertheless, many on both sides ranked him as a military genius and the greatest general of the Civil War.

Forrest was born in Tennessee in 1821. He was not of the Southern aristocracy; his upbringing was more that of a frontiersman. He had little formal schooling, but he was not illiterate. Before the war he became a millionaire planter and slave trader in Memphis.

He began his military service in 1861 as a private in the Confederate army. By the time the war ended, he had risen to the rank of lieutenant general. His style was ruthless—hit-and-run guerrilla warfare—and his motto was simply “Get there first with the most men.”

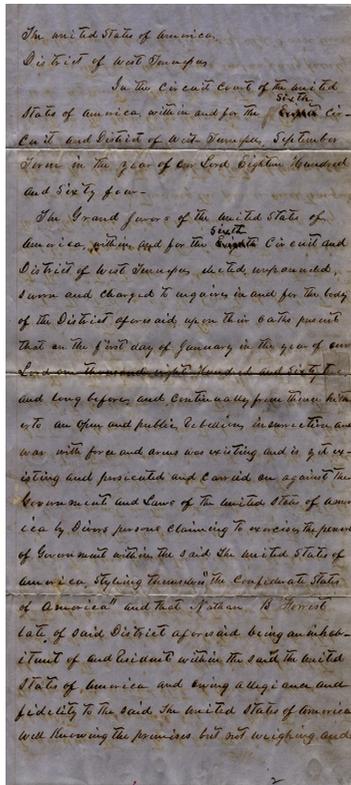
In September 1864 in the United States Circuit Court in Memphis, a grand jury declared that Nathan B. Forrest, “in open and public rebellious insurrection,” was a traitor against the United States, “wickedly devising and intending the peace and tranquility of the United States of America . . . engaged in a warlike manner, that is to say with guns, swords, pistols and other warlike weapons.”

A year later, in September 1865, acting under the direction of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Salmon P. Chase, the marshal of the District of West Tennessee at Memphis was ordered to “take the body of Nathan B. Forrest . . . [and] have him before the Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States . . . to answer the United States on a Bill of Presentment against him, for Treason.”

Forrest was never tried for treason. The marshal of the United States District Court, whose duty it was to arrest Forrest, simply wrote that “Defendant not to be found in my district.”

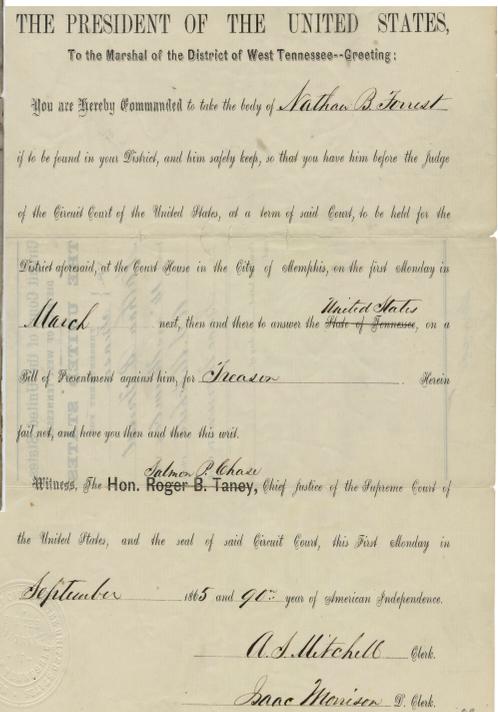
When historians discuss Nathan Bedford Forrest, they always mention that he was one of the founders and served as the first Imperial Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1869, Forrest personally dissolved the Klan. He died in Memphis in October 1877. The Klan was subsequently restarted in 1915 at Stone Mountain, Georgia.

The Civil War was an American tragedy. Although the war preserved the Union, the cost was tremendous, especially in human lives. Join the National Archives at Atlanta on April 16, 2011, for “America’s Long Struggle,” a Civil War symposium.



Left: Report from the Grand Jury, September Term, 1864; Criminal Case Files: United States Circuit Court for the Western District of Tennessee (Memphis); Records of District Courts of the United States, Record Group 21; National Archives at Atlanta.

Below: Presentment for Treason; United States vs. Nathan B. Forrest, issued November 14, 1865; United States Circuit Court for the Western District of Tennessee (Memphis); Records of District Courts of the United States, Record Group 21; National Archives at Atlanta.



NARA WestCoast January 2011

Postcard. View of buildings through high snow banks near Pine Ridge, South Dakota

Collection WME: Sir Henry Wellcome Collection, 1856-1936
Courtesy of National Archives at Alaska



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

								1
<p>Exhibit: Seattle, WA "Faces of the Pacific Northwest" Ongoing</p>								
2	3		4	5	6	7	8	<p>Seattle, WA National Archives Online Resources 10 A.M. Workshop General Public 206-336-5115</p> <hr/> <p>Seattle, WA Overview of the National Archives 1 P.M. Workshop General Public 206-336-5115</p>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
		<p>Seattle, WA Service Opportunity Fair 3-5 P.M. Information Booth Undergraduate Students 206-336-5115</p>	<p>Lynnwood, WA Using Footnote.com Genealogical Society 6:30 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 206-336-5115</p>	<p>Seattle, WA "Brick Wall" Genealogical Discussion Group 11:30 A.M.-1 P.M. Workshop Genealogists 206-336-5115</p>				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

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 January 2011

Roadside tourist signs, 1942
Records of the Tennessee Valley
Authority, 1918–2000, Record Group 142
Courtesy of National Archives at Atlanta



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

**Exhibit:
Philadelphia, PA**

“Blasting Through the Silence: The Allegheny Arsenal Explosion of 1862 and the Creation of Public Memory” Ongoing

**Exhibit:
Morrow, GA**

“Revisiting the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement Through an Activist’s Lens: A Documentary Photography Exhibit in Black and White” 12/18/10–2/28/11

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Waltham, MA
Census, Passenger Lists, and Naturalizations
2 P.M.
Lecture and Tour
Genealogists
866-406-2379

Waltham, MA
How Has Human Migration Shaped Our History?
6 P.M.
Workshop
K–12 Teachers
866-406-2379

Philadelphia, PA
First Friday Genealogy Open House
Noon
Genealogists
215-606-0100

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

Pittsfield, MA
Genealogy on the Internet
10 A.M.
Workshop
Genealogists
413-236-3600

**Exhibit:
New York City, NY**
“The Ringling Bros. and Barnum Go to Court” Ongoing

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

**Exhibit:
Boston, MA**
**Information Booth and Exhibit:
American Historical Association
1/6/11–1/8/11**

Morrow, GA
Home School History
10 A.M.
Research Visit
K–12 Students
770-968-2530

Morrow, GA
In Step with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
5 P.M.
Lecture
General Public
770-968-2555

Morrow, GA
2011 Lunar New Year Stamp Ceremony
11:30 A.M.
Lecture
General Public
770-968-2555

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

New York, NY
Archivist Roundtable
10 A.M.–Noon
Workshop
K–12 Teachers
866-840-1752

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

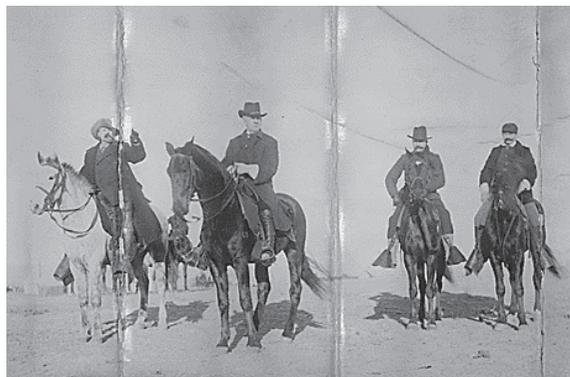
Philadelphia
215-606-0100
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

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



NARA Midwest January 2011

General Miles and Buffalo Bill viewing hostile Indian camp near Pine Ridge, South Dakota, January 16, 1891. Photo and copyright 1891 by Grabill. Records of District Courts of the United States, Record Group 21
Courtesy of National Archives at Chicago



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Exhibit:**Kansas City, MO****"1968 in America"****11/9/10-1/8/11****Exhibit:****Kansas City, MO****"Documented Rights"****11/2/10-3/19/11****Exhibit:****Chicago, IL****"Becoming American: Immigrants, the Federal Courts in Chicago, and the Expansion of Citizenship, 1872-1991" Ongoing**

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

Lawrence, KS
What Is at the National Archives?
3 P.M.
Workshop
Genealogists
816-268-8000

Chicago, IL
Becoming a U.S. Citizen
10 A.M.
Workshop
K-12 Teachers
773-948-9010

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

Exhibit:**Chicago, IL****"James B. Parsons: More Than a Judge" Ongoing**

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

Lecture:**Kansas City, MO****"Civil Rights in Kansas City" 01/27/11**

Kansas City, MO
Provost Marshal Records at the National Archives
10 A.M.
Workshop
Genealogists
816-268-8000

Overland Park, KS
Provost Marshal Records at the National Archives
10 A.M.
Lecture
Genealogists
816-268-8000

Kansas City, MO
"National Treasure"
1 P.M.
Film Screening
General Public
816-268-8000

23

24

Washington, DC
Alien Files (A-Files) for Genealogy
11 A.M.
Lecture/General Public
816-268-8000

25

26

Kansas City, KS
Introduction to the National Archives
7 A.M.
Lecture
General Public
816-268-8000

27

28

29

30

31

Kansas City, MO
Introduction to the National Archives
5:30 P.M.
Lecture
General Public
816-268-8000

Washington, DC
Alien Files (A-Files) for Genealogy
11 A.M.
Lecture
General Public
816-268-8000

Kansas City, MO
Leavenworth Inmate Case Files
10 A.M.
Workshop
Genealogists
816-268-8000

Kansas City, MO
"The Harvey Girls"
1 P.M.
Film Screening
General Public
816-268-8000

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

