

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

January 2012

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Tragedy of Leo Frank

Records in the National Archives can often be more compelling than anything one can see at the movies or on television. Often there is no need to embellish the original source; the voices speak for themselves and far better than anyone else can. Such is the case with Leo Frank. So much has been written about Leo Frank, but his words reveal so clearly—in all its terrifying aspects—his tragic experience. His petition, contained in the court case *Leo M. Frank against C. Wheeler Mangum, Sheriff of Fulton County, Georgia*, is one of the most riveting documents in the holdings of the National Archives at Atlanta.

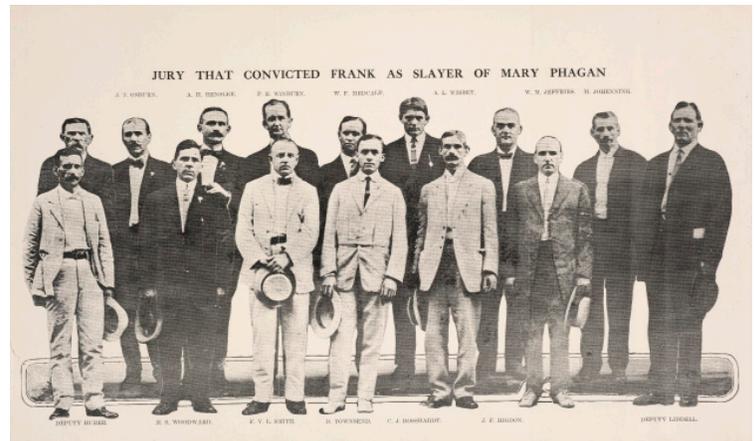
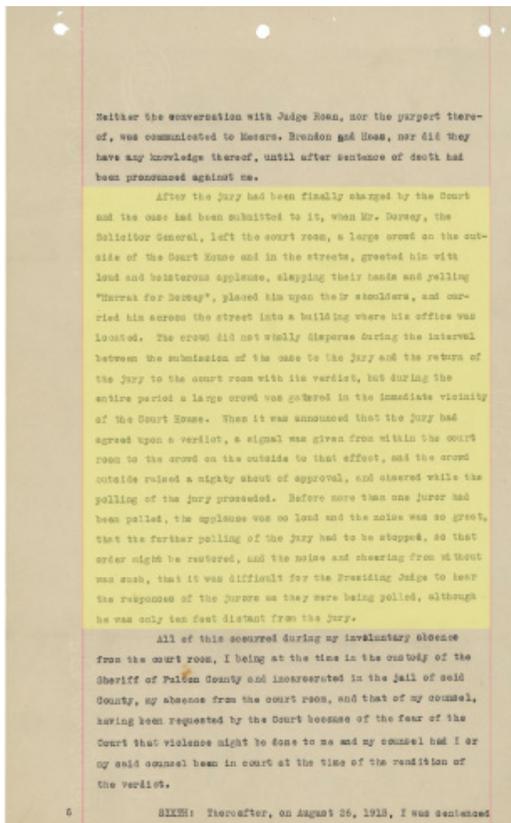
Leo Frank, a prominent Atlanta Jewish businessman, was convicted of murdering Mary

Phagan, a young female employee of his business, in 1913. His trial in Fulton County, Georgia, was an emotionally charged event with a circus-like atmosphere. Frank was found guilty and sentenced to death by hanging, but when the verdict was announced, he was not present in the courtroom.

He filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus with the U.S. District Court in Atlanta in which he asserted that the trial was “dominated by a mob which was hostile to me.” His petition includes a graphic description of the events in the Fulton County courtroom the day the verdict was read. The Federal court rejected his petition.

The governor of Georgia, convinced of Frank’s innocence, commuted his sentence from death to life in prison. A short time later, Frank was seized from the Georgia State Prison by an angry mob. He was taken to Marietta, Georgia, where he was lynched.

In the aftermath of the Leo Frank lynching, the Jewish Anti-Defamation League was founded.



Above: Jury that convicted Leo Frank.

Left: Petition of Leo M. Frank. *Leo M. Frank against C. Wheeler Mangum, Sheriff of Fulton County, Georgia*. U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (Atlanta).

NARA WestCoast January 2012

**President Harding at Metlakahtla, Alaska,
July 8, 1923**
Collection WME: Sir Henry Wellcome Collection,
1856-1936
National Archives at Anchorage



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Seattle, WA "Brick Wall" Genealogical Discussion Group 11:30 A.M. - 1 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115		Seattle, WA The National Archives Online 10 - 11:30 A.M. General Public Workshop 206-336-5115 Seattle, WA Overview of the National Archives 1 - 2:30 P.M. General Public Workshop 206-336-5115
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
						Ventura, CA Many Facets of the National Archives Web Site 1 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 951-956-2000
29	30	31	<p>Exhibit: Seattle, WA "Faces of the Pacific Northwest" 9/1-12/11</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 January 2012

Courthouse, Jefferson City, TN, 1938
Records of the Tennessee Valley Authority,
Record Group 142
National Archives at Atlanta



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Waltham, MA Census, Passenger Lists, & Naturalization Records 2 P.M. General Public Workshop and Tour 866-406-2379	4	5 Waltham, MA Research Methods: 1803 Salem Customs Records 6 P.M. K-12 Teachers Workshop 866-406-2379	6 Philadelphia, PA First Friday Genealogy Open House Noon Genealogists Open House 215-606-0100	7 Morrow, GA Happy Birthday Elvis 12:30 P.M. General Public Reading 770-968-2555
8 Monmouth County, NJ 1940 Census Time TBD Genealogists Conference 866-840-1752	9	10	11 Philadelphia, PA Genealogical Resources at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Noon Genealogists Workshop 215-606-0100	12	13 New York, NY New York's National Treasures (Federal Hall) Noon – 2 P.M. General Public Workshop 866-840-1752	14
15	16 Morrow, GA Home School History 10 A.M. K-12 Students Guided Group Research Visit 770-968-2530	17 Morrow, GA Home School History TBD K-12 Students Guided Group Research Visit 770-968-2530	18	19 Waltham, MA They Came from Ireland 6 P.M. General Public Workshop and Tour 866-406-2379	20	21 Morrow, GA Martin Luther King, Jr., Film Festival 2 P.M. General Public Film Screening 770-968-2555
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Exhibit: Philadelphia, PA “Libro Curio: Reconstructing the Book” 9/27/11–3/31/12		Exhibit: Boston, MA “Documented Rights” Ongoing	

The National Archives at

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 2012

Buffalo Bill, General Miles, Capt. Frank Baldwin, and Capt. Marion P. Maus (l. to r.) viewing hostile Indian camp near Pine Ridge, South Dakota, January 16, 1891. Photo by John C. H. Grabill
Records of District Courts of the United States,
Record Group 21
National Archives at Chicago



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Exhibit: Chicago, IL "Becoming American: Immigrants, the Federal Courts in Chicago, and the Expansion of Citizenship, 1872-1991" Ongoing					Fort Worth, TX Introduction to Genealogy Noon - 1 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 817-831-5620	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Herington, KS Black Codes to Jim Crow 12:15 P.M. K-6 Students Interactive Distance Learning 816-268-8000	Lawrence, KS Presidential Pets 9 A.M. K-6 Students Interactive Distance Learning 816-268-8000		Kansas City, MO Using Federal Census Records to Find Your Ancestors 10 A.M. Genealogists Workshop 816-268-8000	Chicago, IL The Journey for Civil Rights 9:30 A.M. K-12 Teachers Workshop 773-948-9010
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Kansas City, MO "Saddle the Pale Horse: A Novel of the Invasion of Missouri, 1864" 6:30 P.M. General Public Lecture 816-268-8000				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				Kansas City, MO Immigration Records: More Than Just Passenger Arrival Lists 1 P.M. Genealogists Workshop 816-268-8000		
29	30	31	Exhibit: Kansas City, MO "Divided Loyalties" 12/27/11-4/28/12		Exhibit: St. Louis, MO "Documented Rights" 10/3/11-4/15/12	

The National Archives at

Chicago
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chicago.archives@nara.gov

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

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