National Archives Hosts Sixth Genealogy Fair, 
April 14–15, 2010

Free two-day genealogy fair to focus on “The World of Genealogy”

WHAT: The National Archives will host the Sixth Annual Genealogy Fair: “The World of Genealogy” on **April 14 and 15, 2010, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.** This year’s two-day program will showcase the diversity of Federal records located at the National Archives as resources for family history research. Speakers include National Archives staff, historians, and genealogy professionals. The fair will provide information and guidance for experienced genealogy professionals and novices alike. The fair is free and open to the public, and presented in partnership with the Foundation for the National Archives and with support from Ancestry.com. Sessions include workshops on records relating to minority and ethnic groups including African Americans, Chinese, German, Irish, Japanese, Native Americans, and women, as well as a session on DNA genealogy testing, and an evening program on the new genealogy-based TV series “Who Do You Think You Are?” National Archives staff will demonstrate how to use databases including the Archival Research Catalog (ARC) and Access to Archival Databases (AAD). Staff at the “Help! I’m Stuck” table will be available to assist researchers. See a full schedule of lectures and demonstrations at [www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair/).

WHERE: National Archives Research Center Lobby and Pennsylvania Avenue Plaza. National Archives Building, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. **Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue.**

Fair attendees will be given buttons at the Welcome Tent allowing entrance to the building. Government-issued photo ID or student ID is required to enter the building otherwise.

The closest Metro stop is the Archives/Navy Memorial stop on the Yellow and Green lines. The National Archives is fully accessible. To request an accommodation (e.g., sign language interpreter) please e-mail reservations.nwe@nara.gov or call 202-357-5000 at least two weeks prior to the event.

For more information, e-mail KYR@nara.gov.

WHEN: **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, April 14, 9 a.m.,** Pennsylvania Avenue entrance. Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero will cut the ribbon to open the fair.

**Genealogy Fair:** Wednesday and Thursday, April 14–15, 2010, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

WHO: Speakers include historian at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Zack Wilske; professional genealogists Susannah Brooks, Elizabeth K. Kerstens, Marie V. Melchiori, and Thomas Shawker, M.D.; and National Archives experts Patrick Connelly, Rebecca Crawford, Damani Davis, John Deeben, Claire P. Kluskens, Trevor Plante, Constance Potter, Mary Frances Ronan, Rebecca Sharp, Katherine Vollen, and Reginald Washington. Guest exhibitors include the Library of Congress; Washington, DC, Family History Center; FamilySearch; Federation of Genealogical Societies; and local county genealogical societies.

BACKGROUND: The National Archives holds the permanently valuable records of the Federal Government. These include records of interest to genealogists, such as pension files, census records, and Freedmen’s Bureau materials. For information on National Archives holdings see [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov).
This newsletter is designed to provide you with the most up-to-date information needed to conduct research at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, and the National Archives at College Park, MD. For more information, please visit [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov).

### Features

1. Sixth Annual Genealogy Fair, April 14–15, 2010
2. Communication Plan
3. Meet Our Staff
4. Did You Know?
5. Topics Entertainment Releases *A Century of War* DVD Pack

### New Publications

6. Archives Library Information Center (ALIC)
7. New Microfilm Publications
8. Staff Publications

### Online Databases and Tools

9. Extra Features on the Access to Archival Databases (AAD)
10. Online Reservations for Exhibits
11. Footnote.com WWII Collection
12. National Archives Social Media
13. U.S. Navy “Flag Files” *(available in Archival Research Catalog [ARC]*)

### College Park, MD, Building

15. Nixon Library Move

### Washington, DC, Building

16. Microfilm Research Room Changes

### Know Your Records Program

17. About the Program and Schedules
18. Know Your Records Lectures
19. Ongoing Genealogy Programs
20. From the Records Book Group

### Bulletin Board Announcements

- Contact Us
- Follow Us Online
- Genealogy Fair – Reminder!
- Monthly User Group Meeting Dates
- Research Room Holiday Closings
Communication Plan by Diane L. Dimkoff

We are listening to you!

We are very pleased to announce our expanded communication plan. You have had many questions about the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and we are now establishing a framework that will keep you more informed and that will respond to your questions more completely and efficiently.

We hope our efforts at transparency meet your needs.

First, we need to hear your comments on initiatives that are in place; your suggestions on further improvements; your ideas on what reference services should be like in the future; and how we can continue to improve two-way communications.

Here is what we are doing:

✓ We have opened a new discussion group on the NARAtions blog (http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/) for Washington, DC, area researchers. This became effective on February 12.

✓ We will continue our e-mail account Research@nara.gov for comments and suggestions.

✓ We will continue Researcher News in print and online.

✓ We will create a new NARA Research web page that provides up-to-date news and announcements of events with at least weekly updates.

✓ We will hold monthly user group meetings with agendas set by researchers and staff. Agenda items should be sent to Customer Services Division Director Diane L. Dimkoff at diane.dimkoff@nara.gov. The agendas will be distributed in advance on www.archives.gov and NARAtions. We will include managers from all areas on the meetings’ agenda. We will alternate meetings between our Archives I (Washington, DC) and Archives II (College Park, MD) building. Researchers from all media and all research rooms are welcome. Staff will prepare reports of the meetings and post the reports on www.archives.gov and link from NARAtions.

✓ We will hold quarterly open forums with the Archivist. The date, time, and location will be announced on www.archives.gov and NARAtions.

✓ We will conduct regular on-site surveys of researchers in all research rooms.

Who can participate?

► On-site researchers – professional, one-time, and special media
► Off-site potential researchers
► Off-site researchers who do not intend to visit in-person
► Government agencies – records creators and users
► Professional societies
► NARA staff and managers
► Oversight organizations

Monthly User Group Meeting Dates

Mark your calendar for the following dates and times:

- Friday, April 23, at 1 p.m., Room G-24 at Archives I
- Friday, May 21, at 1 p.m., Lecture Rooms B&C at Archives II
- Friday, June 25, at 1 p.m., Room G-24 at Archives I
- July – summer break

We are very pleased to announce our expanded communication plan. You have had many questions about the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and we are now establishing a framework that will keep you more informed and that will respond to your questions more completely and efficiently.

We hope our efforts at transparency meet your needs.

First, we need to hear your comments on initiatives that are in place; your suggestions on further improvements; your ideas on what reference services should be like in the future; and how we can continue to improve two-way communications.
Constance Potter by Constance Potter

Constance Potter walked into the National Archives in September 1971 to research her master’s thesis in history about the formation of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Archivist Donald Mosholder, wearing his accountant’s green shade, gave her a tour of the stacks, showing her the different series for RG 129, Records of the Bureau of Prisons. When she first walked into the Central Research Room, she took her purse, notebook, coat, and, who knows, maybe her lunch. On a busy day, she saw about six other researchers in the room. She hesitated to work until the 10 p.m. closing, as she was not eager to wait for the bus in front of the Hickory House at 9th and Pennsylvania. Since that September day 39 years ago, Connie has seen many changes at NARA.

Hired first by the Trust Fund as a publications specialist in 1983, she became an archivist in 1986. She worked as a consultant in Room 203, the Central Research Room. After a stint as supervisor for both research rooms, she became the subject area expert in genealogy in February 1993.

Her first week in the Central Research Room, a researcher arrived with a computer—one of the first computers brought into the room—a huge thing that had to be set up every day. Connie also pushed carts to and from the hold area in high heels. She was much younger then.

She has seen research go from one computer in Room 203 to computers at nearly every researcher’s desk; from a Central Research Room to a merging of the diplomatic and military research rooms into one research room; from shared manual typewriters to computers on each desk; and from the National Archives and Records Service (NARS) to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Not only have the research rooms changed, so has NARA’s approach to genealogy. The genealogy staff now lecture at national and local conferences, take part in the annual Genealogy Fair, write articles for the “Genealogy Notes” column in Prologue, work on appraisals of Federal records, write the Family Tree Friday blog posts for the NARAtions, participate in the “Know Your Records” lectures, and help prepare for the opening of the decennial censuses.

Lisha Penn by Lisha Penn

Lisha was born and raised in Roanoke County, Virginia. She completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in History from Virginia State University. In 1988, she began her career as an archives technician with NARA, and most recently worked as an archivist in the Initial Processing/Declassification Division (NWMD), where she managed the Department of Justice Litigation Case Files Project (DOJ Project) for eight years.

Lisha authored and co-authored (with Dr. Walter B. Hill, Jr.) two finding aid publications pertaining to African American resources at NARA: Records of Military Agencies Relating to African Americans from the Post World War I Period to the Korean War (RIP 105) and Federal Records Relating to Civil Rights in the Post-World War II Era (RIP 113). She has given presentations about records described in RIP 113 at several professional conferences and NARA-sponsored programs such as “Know Your Records.” African American history is one of her favorite areas of interest.

In May 2009, Lisha became the new Assistant Branch Chief of the Archives II Research Support Branch (NWCC2), where she manages the retrieval and refiling of textual records requested for research by scholars, historians, and others; manages Microfilm Research Room operations; directly supervises full-time staff of more than 30 full-time and part-time student employees; enforces access restrictions and actively participates in safeguarding the physical condition and the arrangement of records; and provides for security protection and records review to ensure that classified records or privacy-protected information found in records are not released inappropriately for research use. Lisha loves her new job as NWCC2’s Assistant Branch Chief—she enjoys working with staff members and interacting with the general public.

She is currently president of the Afro-American History Society at NARA and is a past president of the National Archives Assembly. Lisha is a member of the Society of American Archivists (SAA), the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC), and has been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for more than 25 years.
### Online Databases and Tools

#### Interesting Facts and Tips About the National Archives

- **Ancestry.com, Footnote.com, and Heritage Quest Online** are FREE and available with unlimited access from all National Archives facilities nationwide:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ancestry.com</td>
<td>Available from all National Archives computers at <a href="http://www.ancestryinstitution.com">www.ancestryinstitution.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Quest Online</td>
<td>Available from all National Archives computers at <a href="http://www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/">www.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Archives Library Information Center (ALIC) has a genealogy page on its web site. You can find it at [www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/genealogy.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/genealogy.html). You'll find that it has links to interesting web sites dealing with ethnic history, vital records, general genealogy, and databases.

- ALIC subscribes to some great genealogical periodicals. The National Archives Building (Archives I) has *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, *NGS Magazine*, *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, and more. We also have other titles of interest, such as *Civil War Times* and *American Heritage*.

---

#### Topics Entertainment Releases

**A Century of War DVD Pack**

by Nancy Mottershaw

*A Century of War*, a 24-DVD pack containing a mix of new and previously packaged films and featuring conflicts from WWI through the Vietnam War, was released in September by NARA partner Topics Entertainment. Already an impressive seller at the wholesale clubs and other retailers, this compelling collection of more than 85 films includes recently released and rarely seen films of the attack on Pearl Harbor and the Nuremberg trials, as well as historical newsreel footage and documentaries shot and narrated by top Hollywood enlistees John Huston, John Ford, Charlton Heston, and Ronald Reagan, among others.

Staff can purchase copies of the set in the Archives Shop in the National Archives Building, or online at [www.estore.archives.gov](http://www.estore.archives.gov), for 20 percent off the retail price of $89.99 ($71.99) or at major retailers such as Sam's Club and Costco.
The following is a partial list of items recently acquired by the Archives Library Information Center. A more comprehensive list is on the NARA web site at www.archives.gov/research/alic/books/.

- Borgh, Frederic L. Sea service medals: military awards and decorations of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, c2009. xii, 180 p. UB 433 B66997 2009
- Christensen, Svend Aage. The Marshal’s baton: there is no bomb, there was no bomb, they were not looking for a bomb. Copenhagen, Denmark: Danish Institute for International Studies, c2009. 278 p. U 264.5.G83 C47 2009
New Microfilm Publications
by Claire Prechtl-Klusken and Rebecca Crawford

The National Archives continues to process accessioned microfilm that provides information about arrivals into the United States and to make available new microfilm publications. Staff recently completed the following National Archives microfilm publications:

These are listed by Record Group (RG) then by microfilm publication number.

Record Group 24, Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel
- M2134, Logbooks of the USS Cumberland, October 1843–September 1859 (4 rolls). 35mm.

Record Group 76, Records of Boundary and Claims Commissions and Arbitrations
- M2132, General Claims Against Russia, 1807–1881 (1 roll). 35mm.

Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service
- M2133, Correspondence of the Superintendent of Vicksburg National Cemetery, 1879–1880 (1 roll). 35mm.

Record Group 85, Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service
- A3395, Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Del Rio, Texas, June 1906–July 1953 (15 rolls). 16mm. Contains over 105,000 manifests.
- A3450, Records of Aliens Pre-Examined at Saint John, New Brunswick, ca. 1917–ca. 1942, Prior to Admission at the U.S.-Canada Border (7 rolls)
- A3453, Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Boston, Massachusetts, 1921–1949 (4 rolls). 16mm.

- A3466, Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Presidio, Texas, ca. 1911–1955 (10 rolls).
- A3478, Certificates of Identity Issued to U.S. Citizens Pre-Examined at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Who Entered the United States at Noyes, Minnesota, and Pembina and Walhalla, North Dakota, 1917–1929 (2 rolls).
- A3812, Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at South Haven, Michigan, May 1957–October 1959 (1 roll). 35mm.
- A4025, Manifests of Alien Arrivals by Airplane at Houston, Texas, December 1946–April 1954 (1 roll). 16mm.

Record Group 260, Records of U.S. Occupation Headquarters, World War II

* Descriptive pamphlet available

For a listing of microfilm publications from 2000 to the present, visit www.archives.gov/genealogy/microfilm/2010.html.

Through Order Online! you can request reproductions of certain types of records and pay for your order with most major credit cards. Visit www.archives.gov/order/.
New Publications by Staff

Periodically, staff publishes articles in order to expand research community awareness of the National Archives’ holdings. By targeting state and local historical and genealogical societies with articles about the agency’s holdings, we hope to reach people who otherwise would not think of the National Archives as a resource for their research. During the past few months, the staff has published the following:

Claire Prechtel-Kluskens and Jo Ann Williamson (published):


Claire Prechtel-Kluskens (published):


Rebecca Sharp and Nancy Wing (to be published):

- “‘He laid upon the ground apparently dead. . .’: Documenting Civil War Medicine,” The Watermark: The Quarterly Publication of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, Vol. 33, No. 2 (Spring 2010).

John Deeben (published):


Rebecca Sharp and Nancy Wing (to be published):

- “View of Fort Pierre,” Dakota Territory, 1855, a watercolor by Frederick Behman of the Chouteau Fur Trading Company, was given to the War Department. (Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, RG 92)
Online Reservations for Exhibits

The convenience fee for online reservations is $1.50 per person, and admission to all of the National Archives Experience exhibits is free.

- Visitors to the National Archives Experience exhibits can make reservations by accessing the National Archives Experience web site at www.archives.gov/nae/visit/reserved-visits.html.
- Reservations can also be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) web site: www.recreation.gov, Call Center: 1-877-444-6777, Group Sales Reservations: 1-877-559-6777, or TDD: 1-877-833-6777.

Advance reservations will allow visitors to avoid the exterior portion of the line to see the Charters of Freedom during the height of the tourist season (mid-March through Labor Day) and during holiday seasons such as the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s.

Online Databases and Tools

Extra Features on AAD

by Lynn Goodsell

With the National Archives' Access to Archival Databases (AAD) resource, not only can one search and view electronic records, but one can also read a description of the records and access additional materials about the records.

For information about the series in AAD that you are searching, click on the red “(info)” or “View the FAQs [Frequently Asked Questions]” links available on the Fielded Search Page, Display Partial Records Page, or Display Full Record Page for a file unit of that series. The FAQs provide some background on the records and may include search hints or information on related photographic, textual (paper), and microfilmed records.

There is additional information about the records under the “File Unit Information” drop down menu, located toward the top of the Fielded Search Page, Display Partial Records Page, or Display Full Record Page. Move the mouse over the “File Unit Information” menu to display links to the “Data Layout” and “FAQs & Technical Information.” The “Data Layout” lists all the fields available in the record, with links to any code lists and field notes. For some series, the scanned technical information may include the agency instructions for compiling the data, field descriptions, code meanings, or agency reports.

AAD provides online access to a selection of NARA’s electronic records from archival databases. Some of these electronic records include World War II Army Enlistment Records; casualty records from the Korean War and Vietnam War; Vietnam War operational records; some 19th-century passenger records; State Department electronic telegrams for the years 1973–1975; and records relating to securities transactions.

AAD is accessible via NARA’s web site at www.archives.gov/aad.

Please contact the electronic records staff at cer@nara.gov with any questions about AAD.
Footnote.com announces the release of the largest interactive WWII collection on the Web, including the Interactive USS Arizona Memorial. The collection is accessible with a Footnote.com subscription. Featuring over 10 million records, documents, and photos from the National Archives (NARA), this collection helps family members and historians better understand the people and events of WWII.

Included in this exclusive collection is the Interactive USS Arizona Memorial. This online version allows people to view the actual wall of names and search for those they know. An interactive box for each name on the wall features additional information about each veteran and includes a place where anyone can contribute photographs and stories. View the captain of the USS Arizona, Franklin Van Valkenburgh, on the interactive wall.

It’s estimated that a little over two million WWII veterans are still alive in the United States today. However, thousands of veterans are passing away every month taking with them many of the stories from WWII. Footnote.com is making an effort to help preserve these stories by digitizing documents from NARA and providing interactive tools to help people connect with each other.

The World War II collections include:

- Missing Air Crew Reports
- Pearl Harbor Muster Rolls
- U.S. Air Force Photos
- Submarine Patrol Reports
- Japanese Air Target Analysis
- Army JAG Case Files
- Navy JAG Case Files
- Naval Press Clippings
- Allied Military Conferences
- Holocaust Records

Other collections available at Footnote.com include:

- a new digitization project from NARA and Footnote: The Native American Collection
- an update of the NARA/Footnote Holocaust Collection of Digitized Records
- an interactive Vietnam War Memorial
The social media projects begun by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in 2009 continue to develop and gain traction throughout the agency. In 2010 NARA’s Social Media team looks forward to increasing awareness of the Archives’ valuable collections and rich variety of educational events and services provided around the country. Members of the public continue to participate in dialogues and keep up-to-date with NARA events and research opportunities through the NARAtions blog and our family of Facebook pages. Images uploaded on Flickr introduce both classic and lesser-known historical photographs to new audiences every day. A listing of NARA social media projects is online at www.archives.gov/social-media/. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas about NARA’s work with social media, please contact us at socialmedia@nara.gov.

**NARAtions Blog:** With 51 posts and over 290 comments from members of the public and NARA, the NARAtions blog has provided new interactive opportunities for online research and discussion. The blog is updated three times weekly on average and checked daily for comments and feedback. Most posts average between three and six comments, though our very first entry garnered 37 responses! Since debuting in October, Family Tree Friday posts are popular with genealogy-minded members of the public. In February we introduced a new category of posts related to news and concerns of DC-area researchers. We have been excited to hear from you. NARAtions has also proven to be a valuable venue for discussions about choosing content for our other social media outlets like Flickr and Twitter. Visit the National Archives blog at http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/.

**Facebook:** Research at the National Archives (“the Red page”) provides information on NARA’s holdings, links to highlighted ARC records, and research tips to users on Facebook. Currently we have over 860 fans who use the page to ask research questions, find the latest NARA news, and share favorites from the Archives. The Red page is part of an ever-growing family of NARA units, regions, and libraries with a presence on Facebook. The Red page also allows us to alert fans to insights, images, and user-friendly information highlighted across the spectrum of NARA’s social media channels. Visit the National Archives on Facebook at www.facebook.com/researchatusnationalarchives.

**Flickr:** From holiday photos of a winter wonderland to Mathew Brady’s documentation of the Civil War era, NARA’s home on Flickr has generated much enthusiasm and interest from members of the public. In February we joined the Flickr Commons, a web site for cultural institutions to share their photograph collections with the public. Over 4,000 images are currently live on the site and have collectively been viewed over 520,000 times. The addition of more than 300 user-add tags allows for broader searches and a better understanding of how our posted photographs are viewed and remembered, as well as creating an opportunity for users to share what they know about our records. Thus far, Flickr members have marked 857 of our images as favorites, left comments on more than 250, and added 41 to special interest groups focused on subjects ranging from vintage snowmobiles to coal art. Visit the National Archives on Flickr at www.flickr.com/usnationalarchives.
The National Archives announces the opening of its new online Print Shop in partnership with Pictopia, Inc., the premier photo commerce provider to some of the world’s top media companies and educational and cultural institutions. Prints of more than 1,200 historical and contemporary photographs, World War I and II posters, drawings and sketches, maps, and ship plans are now available for purchase at http://gallery.pictopia.com/natf/. These striking images have been painstakingly reproduced on archival paper from digital files housed at the National Archives.

**Highlights of the introductory collection include**

- Portfolios of some of the nation’s finest photographers, including Ansel Adams, Mathew Brady, Lewis Hine, and Dorothea Lange
- Photographs of the American City—its development and its people and their way of life from the early 19th century to recent times
- Meticulous drawings of early sailing ships from the Charles Ware collection
- Beautifully rendered architectural drawings of Cape Hatteras, Cape Canaveral, and Execution Rocks lighthouses among others
- Unusual patent drawings for household products, design trademarks, and curious inventions
- Photographs and elegant watercolor sketches of famous American monuments, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the Statue of Liberty
- Colorful watercolor illustrations of 19th-century landscapes of the American West
- Rarely seen World War I and II posters from the records of the U.S. Food Administration and the Office of Government Reports

Customers can order a print, custom-framed or unframed, in a variety of sizes, as well as gift items such as mugs, ornaments, and puzzles that feature the image of their choice. New images will continue to be added to the collection regularly.

Mark Liebman, CEO of Pictopia, said, “Pictopia is pleased to partner with The National Archives to expand its web site features and make a selection of its vast holdings accessible in new ways. Our strategic partnership will make it possible to offer high-quality, innovative products and superior customer service. Working together we will achieve new revenue to help support the programs of the National Archives and grow our respective enterprises.”

For more information, please visit www.pictopia.com.
U.S. Navy “Flag Files”
Records of Naval Operating Forces, 1942–1951

by Patrick Osborn

During the year 2009 archives staff began to process well over 10,000 cubic feet of the U.S. Navy’s so-called “Flag Files,” which are part of Record Group 313, Records of Naval Operating Forces. This article features a few highlights from what was processed through the end of 2009. The Archival Research Catalog is available at www.archives.gov/research/arc.

The Flag Files are so named because the records originated with “flag rank” commands; that is, they were commanded by officers with the rank of at least Rear Admiral. The Flag Files represent the last great and largely untapped resource for researching the operations of the Navy during the World War II era. There are, generally speaking, two kinds of Flag Files: “Red” and “Blue.” The “Red” records were largely maintained by commands that oversaw the largest geographic areas or operational theaters, such as the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet (CINCPAC). The “Blue” records were largely those of lower-level commands, such as Service Forces, Pacific Fleet (SERVPAC).

Although the Flag Files have long been known to be an extremely rich resource, they have largely been avoided by archivists and researchers alike because they are so difficult to work with: many files were purged by the Navy shortly after the conclusion of the war; the boxes were renumbered multiple times; and by the time the records were accessioned by the National Archives, the inventories created by the Navy were often wildly inaccurate. Starting last spring, we began the daunting task of making these records more accessible by thoroughly processing and describing them.

Records of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
We started with the records of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, a Navy-controlled command that administered many widely scattered islands of the Pacific that had been wrested from Japanese control during the war, such as Guam, Tinian, Saipan, Truk, and Yap. (Responsibility for the Trust Territory shifted to the Bureau of Insular Affairs in July 1951.) The 11 series of Trust Territory records contain a great deal of documentation relating to the rebuilding of infrastructure; reestablishment of agriculture, commerce and trade; and various forms of assistance provided to local populations. Red 340, General Administrative Files of the Deputy High Commissioner, 1944–1949 (ARC ID 2570407) also contains a number of detailed lists of Japanese prisoners of war that have been digitized and posted online.

Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet (SUBFORPAC) Records
Nine series of Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet (SUBFORPAC) records provide very valuable documentation on the operations of submarines against Japan during the war. Blue 468, Top Secret General Administrative Files, 1942–1946 (ARC ID 3164765), for example, contains a large number of documents pertaining to the use, maintenance, and performance of several weapons systems, particularly the Mark 24 (“Cutie”) acoustic torpedo and the Mark 27 (“Fido”) acoustic mine. Blue 439, Confidential, Restricted and Unclassified General Administrative Files, 1944–1946 (ARC ID 2843330), not only contains submarine patrol reports, it also features SUBFORPAC officer observations and recommendations on those reports as well as corrections that were gathered after comparing them with captured Japanese naval records. Comments from submarine division and squadron commanders on war patrol reports are also found in Blue 440.

Top Secret Plans and Other Records of the 11th Amphibious Force, 1942–1945
Red 425, Top Secret Plans and Other Records of the 11th Amphibious Force, 1942–1945 (ARC ID 580950), contains an array of planning documents for operations in the Mediterranean and European Theaters of Operations, including the well-known invasion of Normandy in June 1944, Operations Neptune and Overlord. It also contains contingency plans for some operations that were not undertaken, such as Beneficiary (the possible occupation St. Malo, France), Buttress (an amphibious assault on Reggio-Sangiovanni, Italy), Chastity (the possible occupation of Belle Isle, France), and Hands Up (a plan for Gen. George Patton’s Third Army to assault across the Brittany Peninsula).

Records of Amphibious Forces in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters
The records of Amphibious Forces in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters have proven to be especially rich. Blue 148, Secret Correspondence Files of Amphibious Forces, Atlantic Fleet (PHIBFORLANT), 1942–1945 (ARC ID 3335525), contains documents on the training and operations of beach parties in operations in both Theaters, as well as the establishment of the Amphibious Training Base (ATB), Fort Pierce, Florida, where Underwater Demolition Teams (UDTs) received their training. Blue 160, Secret, Top Secret, Restricted, and Confidential General Administrative Files of Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet (PHIBSPAC), 1942–1945 (ARC ID 3668851), contains a great deal of documentation relating to the invasions of the Gilbert, Marshall, and Mariana Islands (Operations Galvanic, Flintlock, and Forager).
Top Secret and Secret General Administrative Files of PHIBSPAC, 1943–1945

Even more interesting is Blue 168, Top Secret and Secret General Administrative Files of PHIBSPAC, 1943–1945 (ARC ID 3799195), which contains previously unknown documents relating to Operation Olympic, the prospective invasion of Japan in the fall of 1945, including the projected assignment, organization, and anticipated assembly dates of various transport and amphibious vessels and aviation units. Some of these planning documents identify which Navy transportation squadrons were to carry which Army or Marine Corps infantry division to Honshu, and a number of them were annotated by PHIBSPAC commanding officer, Adm. Richmond K. Turner, or his principal subordinates. The series also contains a significant volume of documents relating to naval gunfire support and doctrine, and tactics against Japanese suicide (Kamikaze) forces.

These are just a few highlights. In addition to the above, series from the Marshalls and Gilberts (MARGILS), Submarines, Atlantic Fleet (SUBLANT), and Naval Forces, Philippines (NAVPHIL). This is just the tip of the iceberg. While processing the Flag Files can be both difficult and time-consuming, future processing will undoubtedly uncover even more extremely valuable documentation for researchers to use for years to come.

See how to search in ARC at www.archives.gov/research/arc/how-to-search.html.

Upcoming Know Your Records Presentation on World War II Records on Footnote.com

TUESDAY, May 4, at 11 a.m.
Room G-24
Research Center, Archives I
(Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue)

THURSDAY, May 6, at 11 a.m.
Lecture Room B, Archives II
College Park, MD

World War II Records on Footnote.com

In recognition of the 65th anniversary of V-E Day, Laura Prescott from Footnote.com will explore the World War II documents and photos now available online through the National Archives’ partnership with Footnote.com.
In spring 2010, the Nixon Library moves Presidential documents and most audiovisual materials from its stack areas in College Park, Maryland, to the Library campus in Yorba Linda, California. This move brings together materials from all phases of Richard Nixon’s political career.

On-site reference services on the Nixon Presidential textual and audiovisual collection in College Park, Maryland, suspended on Friday, February 26, 2010, to prepare the materials for delivery to California.

On-site reference on Nixon Presidential documents begins in Yorba Linda, California, in late June or early July 2010. The precise date of opening, depending on the arrival dates of the textual shipments, will be publicized as soon as possible.

As of April 5, 2010, the research room in Yorba Linda is closed until the Presidential collection re-opens at the facility in June/July 2010. E-mail, telephone, and mail assistance for researchers interested in the records currently in Yorba Linda continues on a limited basis from April until June/July.

Starting in June 2010, the Library campus in Yorba Linda has copies of all publicly released White House tapes. Eventually all opened tapes will be available online at www.nixonlibrary.gov. The research room at the National Archives in College Park will retain a reference copy of the tapes.

Construction and move timetable updates are available at www.nixonlibrary.gov. Please send any questions about the move or reference closures to nixon@nara.gov.
Contractors finished the wall within the existing microfilm research room over the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday weekend. The wall allows us to begin construction on several new offices for staff members, while maintaining the microfilm research room services. Although the contractors built the wall in only two days, the research room staff began preparations in late 2009. Staff discussed designs, evaluated various microfilm equipment, marked cabinets, and began moving microfilm into the new space.

In January, staff moved machines into place, hung signs, boxed up items, and moved furniture. This activity happened during the day; but the real fun began at night after the research room closed.

You never knew what to expect upon entering the research room each morning. The first day, contractors moved the staff desk and completed some rewiring. Next, they shifted census cabinets, removed surplus machines, and dismantled some of the existing cubicles. By week’s end, contractors had moved all of the public access PCs, relocated all of the microfilm cabinets, and placed a barrier between the revamped microfilm research room and the soon-to-be staff offices.

The microfilm research area is now equipped with 8 public access PCs, 22 microfilm readers, 8 reader/printers, and 2 reader/printer/scanners. For a limited time, we have procured two scanners for researcher use and feedback. Please stop by to check out the new room and the new equipment. Let us know what you think!
The National Archives Customer Services Division presents, Know Your Records. Free events about our holdings in Washington, DC, & College Park, MD. The Know Your Records program offers opportunities for staff, volunteers, and researchers to learn about the National Archives’ records through lectures, ongoing genealogy programs, book discussions, workshops, symposia, the annual genealogy fair, a genealogy tutorial, and editions of Researcher News.

We publicize our offerings in NARA’s Calendar of Events at www.archives.gov/calendar/ and on our home page at www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/

About The Program

Lectures describe National Archives records, explain how and where to locate them, and demonstrate how to use the records for research. Each one-hour lecture happens twice within the same week: Tuesdays in Washington, DC, and Thursdays in College Park, MD. Most lectures are taped and available for viewing by contacting us (contact information above).

Genealogy programs include monthly workshops and lectures from our highly experienced staff. We provide lectures on basic genealogical research and techniques and one-on-one assistance. Programs take place each month on the first and third Wednesdays and third Saturdays at the National Archives Building.

After the Genealogy Fair, we will return to our regular weekly lectures and monthly genealogy programs in May.

Program Locations
Events are held at the National Archives Building (Archives I), 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20408, and the National Archives at College Park (Archives II), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740.

Contact Know Your Records Staff
KYR@nara.gov
202.357.5333
National Archives and Records Administration
Customer Services Division
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC  20408-0001
The Annual Genealogy Fair takes place every April at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. The fair is a free, two-day open house, with guidance on a wide variety of genealogical research topics. This year’s fair takes place on April 14 & 15, 2010.

Symposia and Workshops are one- or two-day programs on specific genealogy research topics. Past topics included Hispanic and African American genealogy information and guidance for seasoned professionals and novices alike.

The From the Records Book Group is a two-part program from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in select months. At 11 a.m., a related presentation on the book topic provides background followed by the noon book discussion. Bring your refreshments to enjoy during the program in the Adams Room, National Archives Building, Washington, DC. Enter on Constitution Avenue, between 7th and 9th Streets, NW, via the Special Events entrance. The books are available for purchase anywhere and available at the Archives Shop (202-357-5271) with a special discount for book group participants.

Please visit the web site for schedule, speaker, and exhibitors updates at www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair. For more information, please contact us at KYR@nara.gov.
## ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE

### APRIL 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 7</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to Genealogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 14</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Sixth Annual Genealogy Fair: The World of Genealogy (Day 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 15</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Sixth Annual Genealogy Fair: The World of Genealogy (Day 2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAY 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, May 4</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>World War II Records on Footnote.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Wednesday, May 5</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to Genealogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, May 6</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>World War II Records on Footnote.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, May 11</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Declassified Records Process: Then and Now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, May 13</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Declassified Records Process: Then and Now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Saturday, May 15</td>
<td>10–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Beyond the Basics on Finding Aids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, May 18</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>From the Records Book Group Pre-Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Saturday, May 18</td>
<td>Noon–4 p.m.</td>
<td>“Help! I’m Stuck”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Wednesday, May 19</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Beyond the Basics: 1880 to 1930 Federal Census Schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, May 25</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Ancestry.com and Records Relating to Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Wednesday, May 26</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Archives Library Information Center “Walkabout”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, May 27</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Ancestry.com and Records Relating to Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### JUNE 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, June 1</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Social Media and the National Archives: Flickr and YouTube</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Wednesday, June 2</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to Genealogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, June 3</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Social Media and the National Archives: Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, June 8</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Social Media and the National Archives: Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, June 10</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Social Media and the National Archives: Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, June 15</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Fascinating Clues in Letterhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Wednesday, June 16</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Beyond the Basics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, June 17</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Fascinating Clues in Letterhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Saturday, June 19</td>
<td>10–11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>“Help! I’m Stuck”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Tuesday, June 22</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Privacy Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP Thursday, June 24</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Privacy Act</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program locations are held at the National Archives Building (Archives I), 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20408, and the National Archives at College Park (Archives II), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740.
Lectures describe National Archives records, explain how and where to locate the records, and demonstrate how to use the records for research. Each one-hour lecture happens twice within the same week:

Most sessions are videotaped and available for viewing. Please contact us to learn how at KYR@nara.gov or 202-357-5333.

TUESDAYS
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
National Archives Building (Archives I)
Washington, DC  20408

THURSDAYS
National Archives (Archives II)
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD  20740

MAY 2010

- **World War II Records on Footnote.com**
  In recognition of the 65th anniversary of V-E Day, Laura Prescott from Footnote.com will explore the World War II documents and photos now available online through the National Archives’ partnership with Footnote.com.

- **Declassified Records Process: Then and Now**
  Neil Carmichael, supervisory archivist with the National Declassification Center, covers a classified national security information life cycle—using the Berlin Crisis of 1961—within the executive branch of the Federal Government. He will compare the advantages of the new National Declassification Center in assisting in the declassification process.

- **Ancestry.com and Records Relating to Memorial Day**
  Sabrina Petersen of Ancestry.com discusses how to access National Archives records through Ancestry.com. In recognition of Memorial Day, the talk will focus on records relating to American veterans who have died in service to the nation.
Social Media and the National Archives: Flickr and YouTube
Staff from the National Archives social media team discusses how we are using various forms of Internet communication and how you can benefit. The first of a two-part series, this talk will focus on Flickr and YouTube. The second talk on June 8 & 10 will focus on Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis.

Social Media and the National Archives: Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis
Staff from the National Archives social media team discusses how we are utilizing various forms of Internet communication and how you can benefit. Second of a two-part series, this talk will focus on Facebook, Blogs, and Wikis.

Drink Up!: Illustrations of American Industry Found in Ornamental Letterhead
National Archives staff Kenneth Heger and Shawn Russell will use the ornamental letterhead of American industries to discover illustrations of life in America as an alternative to photographs. Examples will include beverage companies found among our records.

Privacy Act
Ramona Branch Oliver discusses provisions of the Privacy Act and how the statute affects public access to both archival and operational records at the National Archives.
Genealogy programs include monthly workshops and lectures from our staff archivists with extensive experience in genealogy. We provide lectures on basic genealogical research and techniques and one-on-one assistance. Programs take place each month on the first and third Wednesdays and third Saturday at the National Archives Building.

APR.

- **Wednesday, April 7, at 11 a.m.**  
  **Introduction to Genealogy**  
  Archives staff present a lecture on basic genealogical research in Federal records. This lecture is offered the first Wednesday of the month.

MAY

- **Wednesday, May 5, at 11 a.m.**  
  **Introduction to Genealogy**  
  Archives staff present a lecture on basic genealogical research in Federal records. This lecture is offered the first Wednesday of the month.

- **Saturday, May 15, at 10–11:30 a.m.**  
  **Beyond the Basics on Finding Aids**  
  Archives staff present a special hour-and-a-half “beyond the basics” genealogy research skills lecture on how to use National Archives finding aids.

- **Saturday, May 15, at Noon–4 p.m.**  
  **"Help! I’m Stuck"**  
  Not sure where to begin? Has a genealogical problem stumped you? Would you like to explore new directions in your research? On the third Saturday of the month, an archivist is available from noon to 4 p.m. to answer questions. Look for the “Help! I’m Stuck” sign at the Research Center desk.

JUNE

- **Wednesday, May 19, at 11 a.m.**  
  **Beyond the Basics: 1880 to 1930 Federal Census Schedules**  
  Archives staff teach “beyond the basics” archival research skills on the third Wednesday of the month. This month’s topic of interest will be 1880 to 1930 Federal Census Schedules.
The murder of Abraham Lincoln set off the greatest manhunt in American history—the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth. From April 14 to April 26, 1865, the assassin led Union cavalry troops on a wild, 12-day chase from the streets of Washington, DC, across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia. Manhunt is a fully documented work, but it is also a fascinating tale of murder, intrigue, and betrayal. A gripping hour-by-hour account told through the eyes of the hunted and the hunters—this is history as you've never read it before.

11 a.m. – Pre-Program
We have a related presentation on the book’s topic.

Noon – Discussion
We discuss Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2010, AT 11 A.M., LIBRARY
(Enter on Pennsylvania Avenue)

Archives Library Information Center “Walkabout”

Learn how the Archives Library Information Center (ALIC) can enhance your research with print and online materials during a “walkabout” with the Chief Librarian. Whether you are just beginning or an experienced researcher, this is the place to learn more about your topic. All are welcome to join us in the Library for this one-hour interactive tour.
RESEARCH ROOM HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

- Monday, May 31 Memorial Day
- Monday, July 5 Independence Day
- Monday, September 6 Labor Day

*July 4, 2010 (the legal public holiday for Independence Day), falls on a Sunday. Our offices and research facilities will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2010, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

SIXTH ANNUAL GENEALOGY FAIR
April 14 & 15, 2010 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MONTHLY USER GROUP MEETING DATES

Mark your calendar for the following dates and times:

- Friday, April 23, at 1 p.m., Room G-24 at Archives I
- Friday, May 21, at 1 p.m., Lecture Rooms B&C at Archives II
- Friday, June 25, at 1 p.m., Room G-24 at Archives I
- July – summer break

Agenda items should be sent to Diane L. Dimkoff at diane.dimkoff@nara.gov.

All are welcome!