

## Washington, DC, Area Research Room Security

*The National Archives Washington, DC, area research rooms are taking additional steps to protect original records and increase check-out efficiency.*



### Green Bags for All

Before researchers leave the Textual Research Room at either facility, National Archives staff must review their papers and lock them in green courier bags. These bags help distinguish

researchers' checked items from their unchecked items.

Researchers can now exit the building in a more efficient manner since staff inspect personal notes and copies once rather than twice, diminishing the time that researchers stand in line at the guard station before leaving. Whereas researchers used green bags on a voluntary basis in the past, their use is now mandatory.

The bags are for items used or produced in the research rooms such as reproductions of records and researchers' notes; this does not include items that researchers put in lockers. If you need a few pages of your notes, please ask NARA staff to stamp them so you can go back and forth between research rooms. Security will still check items that are not in the locked green bags.

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### Entry and Exit Security Procedures for All

Beginning Tuesday, January 18, 2011, Security officers will conduct inspections of the property of all individuals, including staff, entering and leaving the National Archives buildings in Washington, DC, and College Park, MD. Inspection policies are under review at our facilities nationwide, as part of a phased, comprehensive security plan.

**A Closer Look**

*The first in a series of articles exploring records in our holdings*

# Civil War Widow’s Certificate Digitization Project

by Jacqueline Budell

This past year, several significant milestones were reached in the Civil War Widow’s Certificate (WC) Digitization Project.

NARA launched the digitization partnership with FamilySearch and iArchives (Footnote.com) in 2007. The pilot stage consisting of the first 500,000 images was a great success. In April 2009, production was expanded. There are now four FamilySearch volunteer teams at the National Archives in Washington, DC (Archives I), digitizing the Case Files of Approved Pension Applications of Widows and Other Dependents, informally known as the “WC” series. The volunteers work at four digital camera stations located in a room adjacent to the Research Center. The digital images created there are presented online at Footnote.com by subscription. *Access to the images is free at any NARA facility.*

The WC case files are prepared for imaging by more than 60 NARA volunteers of the Civil War Conservation Corps (CWCC), which now operates five days a week. These dedicated volunteers each receive 10+ hours of archival and conservation training specific to the project, and then commit to a minimum of four hours a week year-round to the effort. Preparing a pension file for digitization includes assessing the documents for conservation and imaging concerns, identifying and arranging selected papers into a specific order at the front of the file to give researchers the *heart* of each

story, and abstracting key information onto a target sheet that is used to create the database that allows researchers to easily find the records they want on Footnote.com. The volunteers learned about Army organization and pension law in the process, and also learned what it was like for widows, children, parents, and siblings of Civil War soldiers to carry on after the fighting ended.

All involved with this project recognize that a series containing 1.28 million case files is not going to be completed within the year. However, great strides have been made in the past two years to streamline the process while improving accuracy. Each of the NARA units involved—from access services to textual processing, conservation, and digital preservation—has had to maximize efficiencies and maintain a constant workflow. The result can be seen in the year-end numbers:

- Since the project began, CWCC volunteers have prepped 69,000 WC case files from 2,130 boxes. In 2010, 943 boxes were completed.
- More than 1.1 million pages from 33,285 case files were imaged in 2010. The two-million image mark was passed this past year for the total project.

More than 33,000 complete case files are now indexed and available on Footnote.com. The files are imaged in sequential case file number order starting with WC #1. Each and every page, and each side of every page with any type of writing or notation, is captured in grayscale at 300 dpi. The goal is to create a complete digital access-copy of the original to ensure the long-term preservation of these fragile records. Once this is done, they can then be retired from research room use in segments. The first segment retired includes WC case files #1 through #30,000, which are available in their entirety on Footnote.com either by subscription or free at any NARA facility.

This project is providing easy access to a very large body of highly valuable textual records. Whether you are a genealogist, sociologist, or historian, we invite you to explore this collection online at Footnote. Great discoveries are made every week in these records. Not only will you learn much about the Federal process to secure a pension, but you will also gain perspective on just how enormous and valuable this collection is and, perhaps, feel the anticipation of what more is to come.

Is there a body of records you would like to hear about? Let us know and we will take a *closer look*! Contact us at [KYR@nara.gov](mailto:KYR@nara.gov).

## Access to Archival Databases (AAD)

### Records Relating to Government Spending on AAD

By Lynn Goodsell

There are more than 32 million records relating to Federal Government spending available for searching via the National Archives' Access to Archival Databases (AAD) resource. Nearly half of these records are about contracts awarded by the military and other Federal agencies. A small portion of the records relate to defense spending in and services provided to foreign countries. The remaining records about Federal Government spending document Federal funds distributed nationwide by various Federal agencies in the forms of grants, insurance, subsidies, loans, and other economic assistance programs.

Agencies created these electronic records in a database format with information extracted from contracts, grants, or other financial program material as a means to track, analyze, and prepare reports on the distribution of funds. Therefore, these records are not the original contracts, grant applications, etc., but contain selected information about them. Since original contracts and other financial applications are typically appraised as temporary records and as such are destroyed after a set period of time, these electronic records may be the only record of some of the transactions.

For example, in the Records of Prime Contracts Awarded by the Military Services and Agencies and in the Records of Contracts Awarded by Federal

Agencies, you can find records of various ice cream companies that had contracts with the military and other Federal agencies to supply them with ice cream and other frozen desserts. The Records About Grants, Insurance, Loans, Subsidies and Other Economic Assistance Awarded by Federal Agencies (also known as the Federal Assistance Award Data System (FAADS) contain a large volume of data ranging from grants for music and arts festivals to cooperative agreements for solar power projects to loans for small businesses. There are also records specific to monies distributed by the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Community Services Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other Federal agencies.

You can search the records about government spending at [www.archives.gov/aad](http://www.archives.gov/aad) via the link "Government Spending" in the Browse by Category box on the home page. Researchers interested in doing statistical analysis of the records may obtain copies of the full data files. Please contact the electronic records staff at [cer@nara.gov](mailto:cer@nara.gov) with any questions about AAD or to obtain copies of the files.

Please contact the electronic records staff at [cer@nara.gov](mailto:cer@nara.gov) with any questions about AAD.

# Upcoming and Ongoing Facilities Projects at the National Archives

By Donald Overfelt

*The National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) Facilities and Personal Property Management Division has many new exciting projects with most focused on saving energy. The Energy Team has successfully implemented significant infrastructure and operational changes at both the National Archives Building in Washington, DC (Archives I), and the National Archives at College Park, MD (Archives II). The team recently received the **2010 GreenGov Presidential Award of Lean, Clean and Green** from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The following are just a few of the current projects.*

## Cogeneration Units

Three 75-kilowatt cogeneration units (production of electricity using waste heat) will be installed at Archives II, and two units will be installed at Archives I. These power generators are fired by natural gas and will generate electricity that reduces NARA's greenhouse gas emissions and, as a by-product, generates exhaust heat. This heat, which most buildings just exhaust to the outside, will be used to reduce the current steam requirement at both facilities, thereby also saving energy.

## Kathabar Unit

We will be installing a Kathabar energy recovery unit to work in conjunction with one of the Laboratory air handling unit/exhaust fan systems.

At present, we exhaust heated air in the winter and cooled air in the summer from the Lab space. The Kathabar energy recovery unit will recover some of this energy and allow us to put it back into this space. This will reduce the amount of energy required to condition the Lab space. Once installed and evaluated for efficiency, a similar system could be designed for future NARA buildings and Presidential libraries.

## LED Lighting

As you may have noticed, we replaced several lighting systems with energy-efficient LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights. For example, all of the elevator interior lights at Archives II are now LEDs. Also, all of the lighting bollards around the entrance circle are now LEDs, and the Archives II entrance street lamps are in the process of conversion. At Archives I, the Constitution Avenue public entrance walkways have been converted to LED lighting as well.

*There are several other LED lighting projects in the planning phase, so keep watching for these and other energy saving projects.*

## National Archives Building, Washington, DC, Roof Gutter Replacement Project

Late January through March 2011, the roof gutter will be replaced on the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. A temporary partition will establish a safety zone near the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance, but will not affect entering or leaving the building. Please direct questions to the Facilities Management Branch at 202-357-5040.





## Preservation Tips

To help us protect the records . . .

If you ever need to step away from your work station for more than a couple minutes, help us protect the records by placing them back into the folder or container from which they came. Leaving materials out on the table unnecessarily—even for what we think is a short amount of time—exposes them to sunlight and other atmospheric conditions that can degrade them over time.

Although a document dated 1980 might look almost brand new right now, it will not in 500 years, especially if it is used repeatedly.

*Our goal is to preserve materials forever, while providing public access. We always try to keep in mind how our actions in the present may affect records centuries from now.*

Some blueprints, for instance, can literally fade within minutes, even though they have not been placed in direct sunlight. Such items must be used carefully but expeditiously, and then returned to their containers as quickly as possible.

### Sun Damage



Image 1



Image 2

These Preservation Lab images show the effect of fluorescent lights on light-sensitive blue prints. Image 1 shows a blue print with a paper covering a portion of the print; Image 2 is the same blue print one hour later with the paper removed. The test blue print is not an actual record. Note: The difference is clearer in the electronic version.

## Did You Know ?

### Interesting Facts and Tips About the National Archives

- Some materials, like blueprints, maps, drawings, photographs, etc. are particularly light-sensitive and prone to fading.
- The windows in the research rooms are treated to decrease UV rays and other damaging elements. However, standard ambient light in the research room can still have an effect upon certain items. So, when you put materials back into their containers promptly, you are actually doing a great service to their long-term preservation for future researchers.

#### NOTE

The windows at the National Archives at College Park have ultraviolet (UV) protection. Specifically, the Research Room windows on every floor have 18 percent daylight transmittance, 9 percent solar transmittance, 87 percent UV screening, winter time U value 0.31, and summer daytime U value 0.44 (U value is air-to-air heat transmittance through a material).

General type 1 is used throughout the building (except in the Research Room areas). Windows not in the Research Room areas have 63 percent daylight transmittance, 30 percent solar transmittance, 76.3 percent UV screening, winter time U value 0.31, and summer daytime U value 0.44.



## New Microfilm Publications

by Claire Prechtel-Kluskens

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 microfilm publication number.

- **A3455, *Permanent and Statistical Manifests of Alien Arrivals at El Paso, Texas, April 1924–September 1954* [85 rolls, 16mm]. Contains more than 210,000 manifests.**
- **A3467, *Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Calexico, California, March 1907–December 1952* [28 rolls, 16mm]. Contains more than 217,000 records.**
- **A3483, *Index to Nunc Pro Tunc Affidavits Taken at New York, New York, December 1911–June 1921, Relating to Aliens Who Arrived in the United States After June 29, 1906* [1 roll, 16mm]**
- **A3484, *Nunc Pro Tunc Affidavits Taken at New York, New York, December 1911–June 1921, Relating to Aliens Who Arrived in the United States After June 29, 1906* [12 rolls, 35mm]**
- **A3491, *Manifests of Alien Arrivals, January 1912–July 1924, and Citizen Arrivals, January 1912–December 1956, Arrivals at Noyes, Minnesota, and at Dunseith, Neche, Pembina, Saint John, and Walhalla, North Dakota* [4 rolls, 16mm]. Contains more than 17,000 manifests.**
- **A3975, *“Alien Certificates” Surrendered at San Francisco, California, April 1912–February 1946, by Aliens who had Arrived at Honolulu, Hawaii* [2 rolls, 16mm]. Contains 22,000 records.**
- **A4162, *Shipmaster Statements Regarding Changes in Crew of Vessels Departing from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1917–1920, for Which No Crew List was Available* [1 roll, 35mm]**
- **A4233, *Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at Fort Lauderdale (Port Everglades), Florida, December 1939–December 1945* [11 rolls, 35mm]**

For a listing of microfilm publications from 2000 to the present, visit [www.archives.gov/research/microfilm](http://www.archives.gov/research/microfilm).

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/research/order/orderonline.html](http://www.archives.gov/research/order/orderonline.html).

## National Archives Motion Pictures on DVD and Blu-ray

by Nancy Mottershaw

Three new products developed in partnership with Topics Entertainment were released in the fall.

- **FBI/CIA Films Declassified**

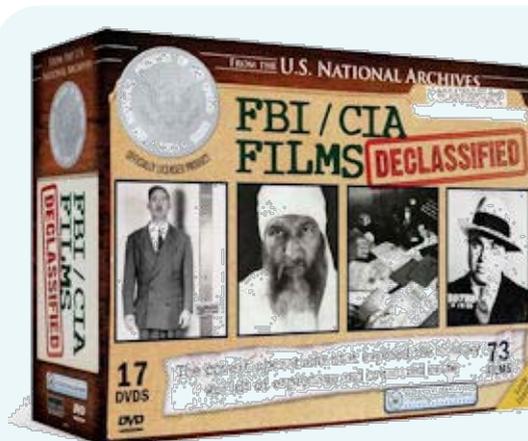
These films feature more than 29 hours of gripping historical FBI/CIA film footage on 24 DVDs that take the viewer inside the minds of some of America's most notorious criminals and into the files of covert operations and criminal investigations. MSRP \$89.99

- **America at War**

A 10-DVD pack developed specifically for Target stores, contains a selection of 32 films documenting America's involvement in World War II and Vietnam culled from the *Century of War* collection. MSRP \$39.99

- **WWII in Hi Def**

Our first Blu-ray product presents 10 riveting films in high definition selected from NARA's popular World War II series. Films include *Nuremberg*, *December 7th*, and John Huston's *Let There Be Light*. MSRP \$34.99



*This selection of historic documentary films from the CIA, FBI, and OSS takes you inside the shadowy and violent worlds of espionage and crime. Their images reveal the real betrayals and heroics, the sophisticated spy craft, and the covert operations that win wars, inform foreign policy, and bring criminals to justice.*

– Marcia Kolko, National Archives lead project archives specialist

Topics products are available at Costco, Sam's Club, and other major retailers nationwide, as well as in the National Archives, Washington, DC, shop and National Archives eStore at <http://estore.archives.gov/>.



# Additions to the Online Print Shop

by Nancy Mottershaw

## Historic Lighthouse Drawings, 1818–1933

This selection of 85 newly scanned lighthouse drawings from the cartographic holdings of the National Archives features artistic elevations and perspective views in pencil, ink, and watercolor of lighthouses in 27 coastal and Great Lakes states. Also included are colorful renderings of keepers' dwellings, sections and plans, decorative details, site plans of the lighthouse stations and depots, and maps of surrounding vicinities.



## New Stereographs Gallery



*Stereographs are two almost identical images of the same scene mounted side by side and viewed through a binocular device called a stereoscope to create a 3-D effect.*

The National Archives contains hundreds of these once-popular photographs on a variety of subjects. The stereographs in this collection include travel scenes of historic and cultural landmarks, landscapes, and native people. There are also images of American

military forces in Cuba, ca. 1899, and several of Filipino and American forces during the Philippine Insurrection of 1900. A small selection features tinted color stereographs of game birds and animals, ca. 1870.

Also available is a high-quality print on archival paper, custom-framed or unframed in a variety of sizes, as well as gift items such as mugs, T-shirts, and greeting cards that feature the image of your choice. Visit the Online Print Shop at <http://gallery.pictopia.com/archives/>.

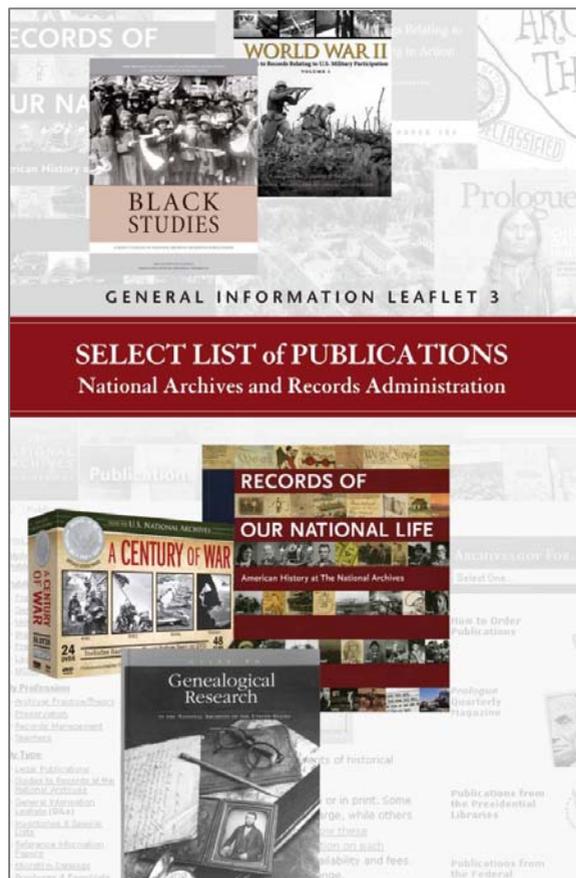
# General Information Leaflet 3: *Select List of Publications of the National Archives and Records Administration*

by Benjamin Guterman

**NEWLY AND SUBSTANTIALLY REVISED!**

This **major revision of GIL 3** by the Product Development staff catalogs the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) primary print, electronic, and multimedia publications, including all new titles since the 2001 edition. While many of the agency's guides, finding aids, and pamphlets have been revised and reprinted, many others have been made available solely online. In recent years, NARA, including the regional archives, Presidential libraries, and the Federal Register, has made extensive use of the Web for development of finding aids and guides to their holdings. This guide allows the researcher to instantly learn what publications exist nationwide and in what formats, ordering information, and current prices. It provides web sites and addresses for the regional archives and Presidential libraries.

For a free copy, contact Customer Service Center Research Center at [inquire@nara.gov](mailto:inquire@nara.gov) or 202-357-5000/866-325-7208



General Information Leaflet (GIL) 3



# Final Publication in the Holocaust-Era Assets Series

by M'Lisa Whitney

The National Archives has recently made available the final publication in the Holocaust-Era Assets series, "DN1929: Records of the Property Control Branch of the U.S. Allied Commission for Austria (USACA) Section." This publication, contained in 413 DVDs, includes the records of transfers held by the Property Control Branch covering the regions of Upper Austria and Salzburg. These include German-owned businesses, real estate, and machinery and individual properties held in trusteeship to the Austrian Government or Austrian citizens from 1945 to 1950.

## Examples of these records cover property owned by German businesses and organizations such as

- National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP)
- Deutsche Gold- und Silber-Schiedeanstalt ("Degussa")
- Steyr-Daimier-Puch

## Those interested in royalty will find records of the estates of

- Herzoge Ernst August zu Braunschweig und Lüneburg (Prince of Hannover)
- Prince Engelbert
- Prince Anton
- Prince Charles of Croy
- Princess Isabella of Bavaria
- Kurt Ferdinand von Pantz



Repairs are made to the Grand Hotel Zell am See near Salzburg, Austria, damaged during WWII.

## Items of particular interest to researchers include

- Property claims by Georg Ritter Von Trapp (of *The Sound of Music*) in his efforts to regain ownership of his manor house near Salzburg
- Claims filed by the German film industry
- Rothschild family claims
- Standard Oil Company of New Jersey claims
- Receipts and inventories of the gold from the Hungarian Werfen train delivered to the International Refugee Organization (IRO)
- Contracts and bids for the rehabilitation of the Bindermichl community located in Linz
- Property of Hermann Göring and the Wels Art collection claims
- Claims for the return of horses and other livestock

For a full description of this publication, and all other publications by the Holocaust-Era Assets team, take a look at the online pamphlets available at [www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/microfilm-publications](http://www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/microfilm-publications)

FROM THE

# ALIC Archives Library Information Center

by Jeffery Hartley



Photo by Jermaine Scott

National Archives Library, Washington, DC

## Free Nationwide U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection

The LexisNexis® U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection of U.S. Government publications is now available to the public free of charge in all National Archives and Records (NARA) research rooms nationwide. Compiled under a directive of Congress, the collection includes 9.7 million pages, 300,000 illustrations, and 56,000 maps. The earliest documents date from 1789. These documents include

- Congressional reports on public and private legislation
- Reports resulting from congressionally commissioned or conducted investigations
- Congressional journals, administrative reports, directories, manuals, and related internal publications
- Annually submitted reports from Federal executive agencies
- Extended series of survey, research, and statistical publications developed by executive agencies
- Selected annual and special reports of non-governmental agencies

A *Prologue* article discussing using the Serial Set for genealogy research can be found at [www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2009/spring/congressional-serial-set.html](http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2009/spring/congressional-serial-set.html).

## Other free online resources at National Archives (NARA) facilities include

[Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), [Footnote.com](http://Footnote.com), [JSTOR](http://JSTOR), Research Library by [ProQuest](http://ProQuest), [HeritageQuest](http://HeritageQuest), [Archive Finder](http://Archive Finder), [Digital National Security Archive](http://Digital National Security Archive), and digital [New York Times](http://New York Times) and [Washington Post](http://Washington Post), as well as EBSCO's [America: History and Life](http://America: History and Life) and Gale's [Biography and Genealogy Master Index](http://Biography and Genealogy Master Index) and [Declassified Documents Reference System](http://Declassified Documents Reference System).

*These resources provide free and open access to digitized NARA records as well as contextual information about NARA's holdings.*

For more information on these resources, see NARA's [Archives Library Information Center](http://Archives Library Information Center) and [NARA research centers nationwide](http://NARA research centers nationwide).



### About The Program

The National Archives Customer Services Division presents the Know Your Records Program. These are free events about our holdings in Washington, DC, and 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](#), an online [genealogy tutorial](#), and editions of [Researcher News](#).

### Program Locations

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

## SCHEDULE

**CP** = National Archives at College Park (Archives II)

### JANUARY 2011

	Tuesday, January 4, at 11 a.m.	Archives Library Information Center Walkabout	Tour
	Wednesday, January 5, at 11 a.m.	Archives Library Information Center Walkabout	Tour
<b>CP</b>	Thursday, January 6, at 11 a.m.	Introduction to Genealogy	Genealogy Lecture
	Tuesday, January 11, at 11 a.m.	Improving the FOIA Process: The FOIA Ombudsman's Perspective	Lecture
<b>CP</b>	Thursday, January 13, at 11 a.m.	Improving the FOIA Process: The FOIA Ombudsman's Perspective	Lecture
	Wednesday, January 19, at 11 a.m.	Beyond the Basics: Discharge Certificates for the War of 1812	Genealogy Lecture
	Saturday, January 22, at 10 a.m.	Beyond the Basics: Census Strategies and Search Tips	Genealogy Lecture
	Saturday, January 22, Noon-4 p.m.	"Help! I'm Stuck"	Genealogy Clinic
	Tuesday, January 25, at 11 a.m.	Alien Files (A-Files) for Genealogy Research	Lecture
<b>CP</b>	Thursday, January 27, at 11 a.m.	Alien Files (A-Files) for Genealogy Research	Lecture

# SCHEDULE (cont.)

CP = National Archives at College Park (Archives II)

## FEBRUARY 2011

	Tuesday, February 1, at 11 a.m.	Caribbean Immigrants: Using Federal Records to Locate Immigrant Ancestors from the West Indies, 1890-1930	Lecture
	Wednesday, February 2, at 11 a.m.	Introduction to Genealogy	Genealogy Lecture
CP	Thursday, February 3, at 11 a.m.	Caribbean Immigrants: Using Federal Records to Locate Immigrant Ancestors from the West Indies, 1890-1930	Lecture
	Tuesday, February 15, at 11 a.m.	From the Records Book Group – Pre-program	Book Group
	Tuesday, February 15, at Noon	From the Records Book Group – Discussion	Book Group
	Wednesday, February 16, at 11 a.m.	Beyond the Basics: Emancipation Records of the District of Columbia	Genealogy Lecture
	Tuesday, February 22, at 11 a.m.	Exploring the Ex-Slave Pension Movement	Lecture
CP	Thursday, February 24, at 11 a.m.	Exploring the Ex-Slave Pension Movement	Lecture
	Saturday, February 26, at 10 a.m.	Beyond the Basics: Immigration Records	Genealogy Lecture
	Saturday, February 26, Noon-4 p.m.	"Help! I'm Stuck"	Genealogy Clinic

## MARCH 2011

	Wednesday, March 2, at 11 a.m.	Introduction to Genealogy	Genealogy Lecture
	Tuesday, March 15, at 11 a.m.	From the Records Book Group – Pre-program	Book Group
	Tuesday, March 15, at Noon	From the Records Book Group – Discussion	Book Group
	Wednesday, March 16, at 11 a.m.	Beyond the Basics	Genealogy Lecture
	Saturday, March 19, at 10 a.m.	Beyond the Basics	Genealogy Lecture
	Saturday, March 19, Noon-4 p.m.	"Help! I'm Stuck"	Genealogy Clinic



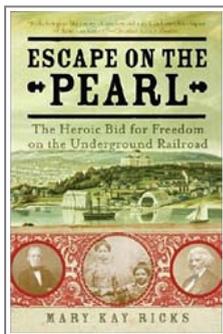
We publicize our offerings in NARA's *Calendar of Events* at [www.archives.gov/calendar/](http://www.archives.gov/calendar/) and on our home page at [www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/)

**From The Records Book Group and Lectures**



The *From the Records Book Group* is a two-part program from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Tuesday of 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 at the Archives Shop (202-357-5271) with a special discount for book group participants.



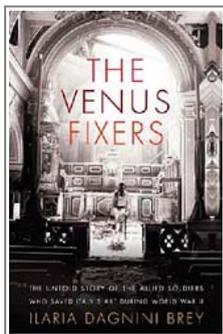
*Escape on the Pearl* by Josephine Pacheco (University of North Carolina Press, 2005)

**Tuesday, February 15, 2011**

**11 a.m.** – Pre-Program, Adams Room  
**Noon** – Discussion, Adams Room

In the spring of 1848, 76 slaves from the nation's capital hid aboard a schooner called the *Pearl* in an attempt to sail down the Potomac River and up the Chesapeake Bay to freedom in Pennsylvania. When inclement weather forced them to anchor for the night, the fugitive slaves and the ship's crew were captured and returned to Washington. Many of the slaves were sold to the Lower South, and two men sailing the *Pearl* were tried and sentenced to prison.

This harrowing tale, from the preparations for escape through the participants' trial, provides fresh insight into the lives of enslaved blacks in the District of Columbia, putting a human face on the victims of the interstate slave trade.

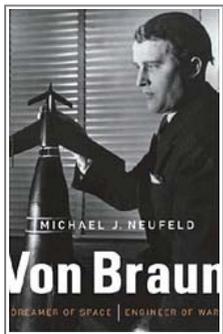


*Venus Fixers* by Ilaria Brey (Picador, 2010)

**Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

**11 a.m.** – Pre-Program, Adams Room  
**Noon** – Discussion, Adams Room

They were a gaggle of misfits—nerdy, old, bookish, and sometimes pompous and abrasive. Yet the group of Allied soldiers nicknamed the Venus Fixers believed that saving Italy's culture—from bombing, from Göring's coffers, from careless soldiers—was an essential component of the war effort. Initially, it was the Italians who tried to find safe havens for the art, and then the job fell to the Venus Fixers, who performed triage after an area was secured by the military. This is their story.



*Von Braun* by Michael Neufeld (Vintage, 2008)

**Tuesday, May 17, 2011**

**11 a.m.** – Pre-Program, Adams Room  
**Noon** – Discussion, Adams Room

Neufeld offers what is likely to be the definitive biography of Wernher von Braun (1912–1977), the man behind both Nazi Germany's V-1 and V-2 rockets and America's postwar rocket program. Neufeld describes the technical and human challenges von Braun faced in leading the U.S. space program and lucidly explains his role in navigating the personal and public politics, management challenges, and engineering problems that had to be solved before landing men on the Moon.

**Seventh Annual Genealogy Fair, April 20 & 21, 2011****Save the date!**

## Become Your Family's Detective

**WHAT:** The National Archives **Seventh Annual Genealogy Fair: Become Your Family's Detective**, will take place on April 20 & 21, 2011, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This two-day program showcases the Federal records located at the National Archives as resources for family history research. Speakers and exhibitors include National Archives staff, historians, and genealogy professionals. The fair provides information and guidance for experienced genealogy professionals and novices alike. **Reservations are not required. The fair is free and open to the public** and is presented in partnership with the Foundation for the National Archives.

Sessions include workshops on records relating to naturalization, census, military, immigration, land, and more. Exhibitors include National Archives staff and guest organizations who will demonstrate how to use Federal records and other resources for genealogical research.

**WHEN: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Wednesday, April 20, 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 20 & 21, 2011, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

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

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](mailto:reservations.nwe@nara.gov) or call 202-357-5000 at least two weeks prior to our events.

For questions about the fair, e-mail [KYR@nara.gov](mailto:KYR@nara.gov) or call 202-357-5333.

SEVENTH ANNUAL GENEALOGY FAIR

**Become Your Family's Detective**  
(See page 15)



**Save the date!**  
April 20 & 21, 2011

**OPERATING HOURS FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES RESEARCH CENTERS IN THE WASHINGTON, DC, AREA**

Archives I: 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC  
Archives II: 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD

Research Hours for both locations:  
Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

**Research Rooms Holiday Closings:**  
Monday, February 21 – Washington's Birthday

Check the Washington, DC, and College Park, MD, location information for records pull times and other important details.

 TDD: 301-837-0482. The National Archives is fully accessible. To request an accommodation (such as a sign language interpreter) for a public program, please call 202-357-5000, or toll free at 1-877-874-7616, or e-mail [public.program@nara.gov](mailto:public.program@nara.gov) at least two weeks prior to the event.

**WiFi**



**WiFi** is now available to DC area researchers

For account setup and password resets, visit the Customer Service Centers at either building or contact the Customer Service Team at [inquire@nara.gov](mailto:inquire@nara.gov).



**CONTACT US**  
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National Archives and Records Administration  
Customer Services Division  
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Washington, DC 20408-0001

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**2011 USERS GROUP MEETING DATES**

Please join us on the following Fridays at 1 p.m.:

- February 18 – Archives I, Room G-24
- May 20 – Archives II, Lecture Rooms B/C
- August 19 – Archives I, Room G-24
- November 18 – Archives II, Lecture Rooms B/C

Agenda items should be sent to:  
Susan Cummings at [susan.cummings@nara.gov](mailto:susan.cummings@nara.gov) or  
Diane L. Dimkoff at [diane.dimkoff@nara.gov](mailto:diane.dimkoff@nara.gov)

Visit [www.archives.gov/dc-metro/researcher-users-group/](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/researcher-users-group/)

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- World War I Draft Registration Cards
- Native American Records
- Census Pages

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Call 1-800-234-8861 for details. \* Some exclusions apply

**OPERATING STATUS & SCHEDULES**

Call 301-837-0700 for an announcement indicating if we are closed, opening late, or closing early. Call 202-606-1900 for the operating status of the Federal Government as determined by OPM, or check the operating status on the OPM web site ([www.opm.gov/Operating\\_Status\\_Schedules/](http://www.opm.gov/Operating_Status_Schedules/)).