



Documentary Heritage Program News

Summer 2007

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Archives MONTH 2007

For over a decade, archival repositories in New York State have been celebrating Archives Week. The week has become so popular that it has been expanded to Archives Month. That's right, the entire month of **October 2007** will be an Archives Extravaganza!

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, which serves archivists from eight states from New York to Virginia, has declared "Exploring New Worlds: Archives in Our Lives" as the theme for Archives Week/Month 2007. New York State is adopting that theme to help plan our festivities. However, do not feel limited by the theme. We encourage any event related to archives and historical records in the region.

The Capital District DHP will once again be collecting information on archives-related events and publishing a calendar of events, posting events on our web-site and the State Archives web site, and sending out press releases. (Last year we received some good publicity about Archives Week events in local newspapers.) We are happy to include events and exhibits you already have planned for October. You do not need to plan a completely new event.

The enclosed flyer provides more information about Archives Month. If you're still not sure what sort of event you would like to host, you may want to look at last year's calendar of events for ideas. The calendar will be posted on the DHP web page (address in box at right) until early September when we will begin posting events for 2007.

To submit information about your Archives Month event, use the online form on the DHP web page. If you are unable to access this form and would like to submit information, please contact Susan D'Entremont (contact information in box at right). Information must be submitted by **September 6** to guarantee inclusion in our publicity.

Archives Dinner

Save the date! The Capital Region Archives Dinner is a great way to kick off Archives Month. This year's dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2007 at Longfellows Inn in Saratoga Springs. The speakers this year will be Joseph W. Zarzynski and Peter Pepe who will make a presentation on underwater archeology in Lake George. The two presenters are part of a team that created the 2005 award-winning documentary "The Lost Radeau: North America's Oldest Intact Warship." They are currently working on a documentary about French and Indian War shipwrecks in Lake George. For more information or to reserve tickets, contact Susan D'Entremont, Regional Archivist.

Money Available for Professional Development

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) offers several awards to provide assistance to attend MARAC-sponsored events: the Marsha Trimble MARAC Meeting Scholarship of \$400 to defray costs for attending a MARAC conference, including associated workshops; the MARAC Workshop Scholarship, which covers the registration fees for MARAC workshops; and the MARAC Meeting Travel Assistance Awards of up to \$250 to fund travel to a MARAC conference. The deadline for applying for awards to apply to MARAC's November meeting in Williamsburg is **September 10, 2007**. For more information and application instructions, visit www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/ and click on Awards/Scholarships.

MARAC offers affordable, practical

The Documentary Heritage Program's **Regional Archivist**, Susan D'Entremont, is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She can be reached at:
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development. The conferences are a great way to meet others in situations similar to yours and to talk to accomplished archivists in a friendly, informal setting. The Capital Region DHP encourages those working with historical records, especially those who have never attended a MARAC conference, to consider applying for one of the awards.

Local Celebrity

Virginia (Ginny) Bolen was featured in an *Albany Times Union* article on July 6, 2007, and she appeared in several photographs on the newspapers web site. Ginny is the local history librarian at the new Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library. The article highlights an enlarged copy of an 1866 Beer's Atlas map that now hangs near the main entrance of the library. The map has attracted patrons and prompted them to realize that this modern suburb has a lengthy history.

If your repository has been featured in the media, please let us know. We love to hear about good publicity for archives!

NYS Newspaper Project

The New York State Newspaper Project, housed at the New York State Library, has ceased operation. For almost 20 years the Project located, cataloged and preserved newspapers held by libraries and other institutions in New York State. Over the course of the Project, over 22,000 distinct newspaper titles were cataloged.

Information about the newspapers in the State Library's collection and a searchable list of newspapers available throughout the state are available on the State Library's web site at www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysnp

The list can be a useful aid for archivists and librarians who have newspapers in their collection and are trying to make decisions about what to do with them. If a full run of a newspaper is available in one or more location, especially if it has been microfilmed, then it may be advisable to refrain from spending resources on those newspapers. Conversely, if your institution owns a newspaper that is not preserved elsewhere or issues that are missing from other institutions' holdings, you will probably want to make efforts to

copy and preserve those items. If you hold one or two issues that are missing from another institution's larger run of a paper, you are encouraged to offer copies to that institution so that researchers have as complete a run as possible in at least one location.

Upcoming Conferences

New England Archivists Conference, October 12-13, 2007, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. The title of this fall's conference is "Dialogues: New Directions for College, University and School Archives." The conference will explore the new and old challenges facing college, university and school archivists in the rapidly changing world of higher and secondary education. The complete program will be available soon at www.newenglandarchivists.org.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, November 1-2, 2007, Williamsburg, VA. The theme of the conference is "Celebrating Virginia's 400th and MARAC's 35th Anniversaries." More information about the conference will be available by the end of the summer at www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/.

Workshops

Managing Digitization Projects, Monday, September 10, 2007, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. Country Inn and Suites, Cortland, NY. \$35 (includes lunch). This workshop is aimed at managers of digitization projects. The workshop will outline the steps for managing a digital project from initial planning to the project's end including planning, digitizing and evaluation. Topics will include mission and objectives, user needs, budgets, standards, workflows, project evaluation and public service impact. The instructor is Peter Verheyen, Digital Access and Preservation Librarian, Syracuse University Library. For more information or to register, visit www.lakenet.org or contact the South Central Regional Library Council at (607) 273-9106.

Scanning and Imaging, Friday, September 21, 2007, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, Country Inn and Suites, Cortland, NY. \$35 (includes lunch). This workshop will present participants with an introduction to the use

of digital imaging technology within the context of planning digital initiatives. Topics will include digitization terminology, roles for staff, document analysis and attributes, material preparation, introduction to imaging hardware and software, scanning, processing image files, and quality control methods. For more information or to register, visit www.lakenet.org or contact the South Central Regional Library Council at (607) 273-9106.

Basics of Archives, Monday, October 29, 2007, 9:30 am-4:00 pm, Capital District Library Council, Albany. \$15 (includes lunch). This is an introductory full-day workshop for those who work with historical records but are not trained archivists. Participants will learn about basic practices for collecting, protecting, and helping people use archival resources. For more information, contact Susan D'Entremont, Regional Archivist (contact info on front).

State Archives Workshops

The workshop listed below may be of special interest to historical records repositories. To see a complete listing of the many State Archives workshops offered this season or to register online, visit <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/> and click on workshops.

Preservation of Historical Records, Wednesday, October 31, 2007, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Washington County Municipal Center, Fort Edward. Free, but registration required. Where and how archival records are stored, and how they are handled, are key elements in prolonging their lives. This workshop will explore the fundamentals of preserving records. Participants will learn about appropriate environmental and housing conditions, proper handling techniques, and seeking professional conservation treatments. Participants may bring examples of records needing preservation for an open discussion period. To register, visit www.archives.nysed.gov. For more information, contact Denis Meadows at (518) 798-5717.