

# Friends of Kentucky Public Archives

Volume V, Number 1

January 1989

## Local Officials, Citizens Invited to 10th Local Records Seminar

Local government officials and citizens from Ashland and the surrounding area interested in the preservation and improved management of Kentucky's local government records will want to attend the Friends' 10th local records seminar, scheduled for April 14, 1989, at the Quality Inn—Ashland Plaza.

The latest in a series on this subject, the Ashland meeting will deal with the concerns of local officials who manage public records and of citizens who use these materials for research. The all-day event will feature panel discussions, video tape presentations and lectures by specialists.

The program has met with a warm reception from Kentuckians across the state. Registration and program information will be made available shortly. Plan now to attend!



Local Records Regional Administrators from the Public Records Division will take part in the Ashland seminar.

## State's Threatened Public Records Focus of 1988 Annual Meeting

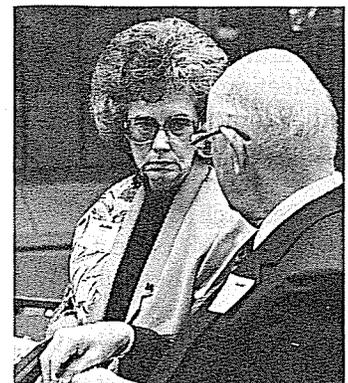
Preserving and protecting Kentucky's documentary heritage was the focus of the 1988 annual meeting of the Friends. The November 3rd event, featuring the annual business meeting at the Department for Libraries and Archives and a dinner at the Capital Plaza Hotel, underscored the importance of efforts of citizens and public officials, together with the Public Records Division's staff, in preserving Kentucky's public records.



With Cecil Goode, left, presiding, treasurer Porter Harned presents the financial report. Background photos depict disasters where public records were damaged.

At the business meeting, President Cecil Goode reviewed activities of the past year, noting the considerable increase in participation in Friends' Local Records Seminars and the annual summer Archives Institute. State Archivist Richard Belding reported that 1988 had been a very busy year for the division, marked by diminished resources and growing service demands. Record increases in activity were noted in all division program areas, and Belding paid special note to the efforts of the division's Document Preservation Laboratory. Attendees viewed an exhibit of

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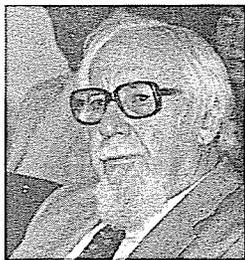


Friends Board members Mrs. Mary Doyle Johnson and Dr. David M. McMurry.

## Annual Meeting *(continued)*

oversize photographs portraying a variety of Kentucky natural disasters in which division staff had rendered aid to local officials. Photographs also documented the variety of technical activities carried out in the Preservation Laboratory.

Dinner guests heard internationally recognized document conservator George M. Cunha issue a challenge to all Friends to work to preserve Kentucky's endangered library and archival heritage. Cunha reviewed the threats to paper records



and provided an update on the development of mass treatment facilities for deacidification around the country. Several private vendors are now designing, building and selling mass deacidification chambers at prices within the reach of state agencies. Cunha urged Friends to back efforts to purchase such a system for the Department for Libraries and Archives and, if it can't be secured with state funds, he challenged Friends to find those funds from private sources.

## Friends Award Grant for RLIN Project Equipment

In separate action at the Friends' Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors voted a grant of \$2,000 to the Public Records Division for the purchase of a computer terminal and printer for use in the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) project. Earlier this year, the Public Records Division received a \$51,000 federal grant for participation in the multi-state national project. Kentucky's archival and manuscript resources will be made known nationwide through this national bibliographic utility.

## Summer Archives Institute Set for July

The fifth annual Kentucky Archives Institute will be held at the Department for Libraries and Archives on July 14, 1989. The event will feature a number of sessions devoted to describing the variety of Kentucky public records available for research and commenting on their nature and potential uses.



The use of land and probate records will be among the topics covered at the Archives Institute.

Speakers will include staff of the Public Records Division, as well as special outside guests from the National Archives and other public agencies and research institutions in the state. A humanities speaker will also be featured. The all-day event, which includes a catered lunch, has been very popular in recent years. Plan now to put it on your calendar and mention it to a friend.

## Grawemeyer to Chair Clark Endowment

H. Charles Grawemeyer of Louisville was elected chairman of the board of the Thomas D. Clark Endowment at the Annual Meeting of the Friends. Mr. Grawemeyer will be joined in his duties by George M. Cunha, Endowment president, and regional vice presidents Mrs. Jean Calvert, Charles H. Jett III, Mrs. Margaret Trevathan and Cecil E. Goode. The Clark Endowment is a

non-profit organization operated exclusively in support of the Public Records Division and is concerned with the maintenance, conservation, research and promotion of the public archives of Kentucky. It has provided notable support to the division through the unique Clark Internships in Archival Administration, which prepare young professionals to work in this field. The Endowment Board met in mid-January to set its agenda for the year.

## Division Issues New Publications

*The Guide to Kentucky Archives and Manuscript Collections, Volume I* and *The Register of Vietnam War Casualties from Kentucky* were released in late October.

The *Guide* is the most recent in a series of publications providing access to the manuscript and archival holdings of Kentucky repositories. This volume, the first in a series of collection-level guides, describes those in repositories in cities with names beginning with A and B and includes holdings from more than 28 different repositories, including Berea College and Western Kentucky University.

The *Register of Vietnam War Casualties from Kentucky* is a complete listing of those who died in the Vietnam conflict, as well as those listed as missing in action. Release of the *Register* coincided with the dedication of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial adjacent to the Department for Libraries and Archives.

The *Register* and *Guide* are both available for sale through the Archives Research Room.

