Public Archives Symposium to be Held at KDLA

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. will sponsor the twenty-fifth annual Public Archives Symposium to be held on October 29 at 2:00 p.m. in the Activity Room of the Clark-Cooper Building, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

We are very pleased to announce that Deirdre Scaggs will be the featured speaker at the Archives Symposium. She is the Associate Dean of the University of Kentucky Special Collections, and, with Andrew McGraw, is the co-author of The Historic Kentucky Kitchen: Traditional Recipes for Today's Cook. The volume contains recipes, commentary, and photographs describing more than one hundred dishes as prepared by nineteenth and twentieth century cooks. Ms. Scaggs will offer insight into the sources used in writing the book, which include out-of-print cookbooks, diaries, and scrapbooks.

Throughout its history, the Symposium has been held at a variety of venues, most recently at Shaker Village in 2011 and at Georgetown College in 2012. In an effort to reduce costs and enable more participants to attend, this year’s event will be hosted by the Public Records Division at KDLA and will not include a luncheon, although light refreshments will be offered.

Please join us for this delicious program.
Research Opportunities: WPA Photographs in e-Archives

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) providing online access to the Kentucky Work Projects Administration (WPA) collection of photographs, created in the early 1940s to document life in Kentucky. KDLA digitized over 800 photographs, now available in KDLA’s online access repository, the e-Archives. Textual descriptions, often written by the photographers themselves, are also included. The purpose of the WPA photo project was to create illustrations for Writers’ Project publications. The majority of photographs are black and white images, depicting many different subjects, including the arts, recreation, agriculture, architecture, people, rivers and bridges, caves, monuments and memorials, coal mines and coal mining, tobacco farming, parks, and horses and horse farms.

To browse by subject in the e-Archives, enter “WPA” as a search term in the search box. If you want to browse by subject, click the series name “Photographic File - State Agency Activities (M0047) - WPA.” Then select the “subject” browse button.

Photos depicting everything from harvesting sorghum to a tour of Mammoth Cave can be found in this treasure trove of visual history! Marion Post Wolcott and the Caufield and Shook photo studio are among the photographers. Artwork by Mildred Waltrip is also included.

KDLA’s Beth Shields Receives National Award

Beth Shields, an electronic records analyst in the Public Records Division of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), recently received a prestigious national award at the 2013 joint annual meeting of the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) and the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in New Orleans.

The CoSA, a national organization of directors of state archival programs in the 50 states, the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia, chose Shields for its highest award. CoSA President and Indiana State Archivist Jim Corridan presented the CoSA President’s Award to Shields at the opening plenary session, with an audience of over 1,600 archivists from around the country.

Corridan cited Shields’ outstanding work as co-chair of CoSA’s State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI). Corridan also outlined Shields’ other achievements with the SERI program, including managing a self-assessment process for all 56 members; helping direct two grant projects totaling $500,000; and helping design and coordinate a series of continuing education programs for all CoSA members.

“Beth’s contributions to CoSA’s SERI project are central to this large undertaking involving state government archives programs in all the states and territories,” said Barbara Teague, State Archivist and Records Administrator and Public Records Division Director at KDLA. “Beth’s knowledge of electronic records management and digital preservation, her management skills, and her steady leadership are ensuring the ongoing success of this project.”

Archives Institute a Success

The twenty-ninth annual Kentucky Archives Institute, held on June 21, 2013 at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), featured speaker Nancy Richex of the Special Collections Library at Western Kentucky University. She provided an informative presentation on “Beginning African American Genealogy.” Kandie Adkinson, Secretary of State’s Land Office, gave an introductory overview of Kentucky’s historic land records. In addition, KDLA staff members Walter Bowman and Kari May presented information on researching veterans’ bonus claims and naturalization records, respectively. Many of the forty attendees also participated in a tour of the State Archives. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this year’s Kentucky Archives Institute such a complete success.

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Kentucky archival and manuscript repositories throughout the state will observe October 2013 as Kentucky Archives Month, in conjunction with American Archives Month. The theme is *Folklore and Superstitions*, in honor of Kentucky’s folk traditions and rich cultural heritage.

Nearly 300 archival and manuscript repositories in Kentucky preserve archival and manuscript records that provide a rich and varied picture of the history of Kentucky. Their collections include personal papers, photographs, bibles, diaries, and government records, such as marriage certificates and wills. Many institutions host special programs, open houses, exhibits, and speakers during the month, to highlight historical materials available for research. A list of these events is on the Kentucky Archives Month website [http://archivesmonth.ky.gov](http://archivesmonth.ky.gov).

The Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) will present two Certificates of Merit to commemorate Kentucky Archives Month. Margaret Merrick, recently retired records manager for the Presbyterian Church (USA), will receive a Certificate of Merit for Significant Service as an Archivist, for her thirty-three year career in several Kentucky archival repositories, including the University of Louisville and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Dr. Samuel Thomas, Louisville historian and author, will receive a posthumous honor, a Certificate of Merit for Writing or Other Production for his book, *The Architectural History of Louisville 1778-1900*.

Please check the website for events that will be held throughout the state in celebration of Kentucky Archives Month. Kentucky Archives Month is sponsored by the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, the Kentucky Council on Archives, the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. For further information, call 502.564.8300 x 246.
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Yes, I would like to renew my membership in become a member of the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

My check for ____________ made payable to the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is enclosed. Membership benefits include a biannual newsletter, a membership pin, and invitations to workshops, special events, the Kentucky Archives Institute, the Public Archives Symposium, and the annual meeting. Gifts to the Friends beyond the basic membership are tax deductible.

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State: __________________ Zip: __________
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Email Address: ____________________
Membership levels: $15 Individual/Family $25 Libraries, Genealogical and Historical Societies $500 Life $250 Life $50 Sustaining $1,000 Corporate 
Gift to the Clark Endowment

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is a not for profit membership organization of private citizens concerned with helping the Public Records Division of Kentucky’s Department for Libraries and Archives fulfill its role as a vital information link between people and government. The Friends’ organization supports the records management, preservation, and use of Kentucky’s historic public records and serves as an advocate for the Kentucky State Archives, which the division manages. For further information, contact the Friends at P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, KY 40604.
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“Mountain woman and grandchild sitting on the porch of their home, up Frozen Creek, Breathitt County, Kentucky.” September, 1940.